

## Kids Hope

St. Stephen's is an affiliate of KIDS HOPE USA. This is a mentoring program started in Michigan in the mid 1990's with over 1,000 church-school partnerships across the country. It is based on a series of one-to-one relationships. St. Stephen's partners with Loris Elementary School. Then, **one** student is matched with **one** mentor, sometimes lasting for up to 5 years. **One** meeting takes place each week and lasts for **one** hour. **One** mentoring relationship is paired with **one** Prayer Partner who prays for both the mentor and mentee during and after each session. Over the last 7 years more than 50 parishioners and associate members have enjoyed these mentoring relationships.



***BackPack Buddies*** is a ministry of Help4Kids. Those organizations pack small lunch bags of food that can easily be prepared or just consumed by children during weekends when school is not in session to provide students in need with breakfast and lunch. Help4Kids distributes these bags each week to many of the Horry County Schools including Loris Elementary School. Each Friday morning two St. Stephen's volunteers, many times with student assistants, distribute between 250-400 bags to all the classrooms. This requires lots of walking and some lifting but most of the hard work is done by the students.

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