

To the people of St. Stephen's and all our friends and family,

Sometime between last night and this morning a package bomb was detonated outside the church office building.

No one was on the campus at the time and no one was hurt by this explosion. Thanks be to God.

Our staff at the church and school worked perfectly to keep everyone safe, especially all of our young students. Law enforcement has closed the campus, which includes All Saints school, while they conduct their investigation. We cannot add additional comments at this time while law enforcement's work is underway. I will keep you all informed as I have additional news to share and have been cleared to do so.

I am grateful for everyone's kind words of support and fast offer for assistance. It is good to know our family across the whole church is holding us up in prayer.

I welcome you all to join me in offering up our prayers of thanksgiving that everyone is safe. I also ask for your prayers for grace and peace during this time that will be anxious for everyone. May God bless us all.

Yours in Christ,
The Rev. Steven M. Balke, Jr.