

Joys and Concerns

11.30.25

We celebrate with...

Kevin and Ann Hochman as they traveled to St. Louis to have Thanksgiving with Brittany. Billy Drummond got new glasses that are helping him tremendously in many areas of his vision. Michelle Carr celebrated having good friends here for Thanksgiving. Jen McDanel shared that Nora is recovering well from her emergency appendectomy last Sunday. She also shared that Nora was really happy with all the staff at Norman Regional Hospital. Becky LeClair enjoyed "bathing" in the forest in Bing, Oklahoma. Marci Corey was thankful for Rod Morrow for stepping in for Julie this week. John Moon celebrates his 67 birthday Monday, December 1st. Casey Collins got her Master's in Nursing Education! Crystal Cruz retired from her 33 year career in Public Service. Brenda Wheelock reported that her dad, Charlie, is doing well at his new living facility. Brenda also reported on the tremendous success of The Crop Walk. Over \$45K was raised and over \$10K came from St. Stephen's. Jen McDanel reported that St. Stephen's provided Thanksgiving meals for over 60 people from Reagan Elementary School. Elliot and Josie Stauffer are thankful for cookies! Lucas Moore is thankful for Rev. Jinx and his support in regards to Lucas' mother's health, recovery and living situation. Barbara Holtzclaw celebrates the final closing on her home. Betty Robbins shared that Dan and Katie Barwick-Snell had many Canadians, both adults and children, visiting from Canada for Thanksgiving.

We pray for...

Barb Drummond who is not feeling well. Michelle Carr's good friend, Lisa Kinzer, who passed away this week. Michelle also has a former student who is in ICU. Jen McDanel has a friend whose 3 year old child, Bella, has been diagnosed with cancer. Traveling mercies for Rick and Julie Sondag as they head back from Missouri. Teresa Capps shared that Lorraine Cosden has passed. She was a Head Start teacher here years ago. Marilyn Peil's son Matthew's mother-in-law passed away.

The (Weekly) Shield

The Weekly Newsletter

Sunday - December 7, 2025

Hear our children sing Dec. 14th!

Our children have been working on a Christmas anthem during their music time on Sunday mornings. They will get a chance to sing for the congregation at our Service of Lessons and Carols on December 14th at the second service. We will have an important run through in the sanctuary on December 7th during Sunday school time. I hope you'll add these dates to your calendar! The kids have been working hard and they sound beautiful!

Lunch Bunch

will meet on

December 16th.

(It's now on the

1st and 3rd Tuesdays.)

Please turn in

your pledge cards!



Needs of the NCRS:

1. Housing Chair & Housing Assistants
2. Prayers for the NCRS refugee families and volunteers
3. Family Liaisons
4. Drivers (dr. appts, etc.)

Contact Brent for more info at
bsmith103@cox.net.

Come join in the fun of our Bell & Instrumental Christmas Concert!

Calling all clarinet and flute players! I'm putting together a clarinet choir ensemble and Venita is helping to find a piece for a flute ensemble. If you have a flute or a clarinet and you can make some noise - you are invited to join in the fun! We have parts for all skill levels. I'd also love to have a variety of other instrumental solos and ensembles so if you're interested in playing for the concert, please let me know!! You can reach me at music@ststephensnorman.org or catch me at the church on Sunday.



Winter Coat Drive!

Shine Kids are collecting coats for families at JD McCarty Center, here in Norman. JD McCarty works to enrich the lives of children with developmental disabilities and equip them with resources and support to enhance their skills.

They provide medical care and physical, occupational, ABA and speech and language therapy for children on an inpatient and outpatient basis. They also offer specialized clinics for children and resources for families.

There is a sign up in the loggia and the deadline is December 11th.

Lessons & Carols

Come to enjoy Lessons & Carols

Sunday, December 14, 8:30 am & 10:50 am

Scan to Donate to
St Stephen's UMC



Dear St. Stephen's Family and Friends,

Each church in the conference is asked to remember our District Superintendent, Dr. James Kim, and his administrative assistant, Chanel Burdex, with a Christmas gift contribution. Dr. Kim and Chanel do a lot of work to help us succeed as a congregation. If you are able, please make a contribution by check or via the church website to thank Dr. Kim and Chanel. Deadline for this gift: December 15.



New position—Children's Music Director



We are hiring a part-time Children's Music Director! In January we will be expanding Sunday Night Live to a weekly program meeting each Sunday from 4 - 6 pm. With the expansion, our children get to experience fun, educational discovery activities with Miss Jenn and friends AND they'll get children's music programming as well! Know someone who might be just right for the position - apply online at indeed.com - search "Children's Music Director" in Norman, OK and you'll find the listing.

Spiritual Disciplines Sunday, December 28

There will be no Sunday School that day and only one worship service at 10:00 am. Come for a time of reflection and prayer! Come walk the labyrinth.

Caroling

Join us December 14 at 3 pm for Caroling! We'll meet at St. Stephen's.

Dear St. Stephen's Friends and Family,

At this time each year, we invite you to make a financial contribution so that our hard-working St. Stephen's staff can receive a Christmas bonus. You can leave a check with "Staff Bonus" in the memo line in the plate or in the Church Office, or give one to any SPRC member. You can also make an online gift and note the Staff Bonus in the "Note" section under "Donate" on the ststephensnorman.org website. Our staff include:

Jinx Barber, Senior Pastor	Jenn McDanel, Children's Ministry
Mary Moon, Care Ministries	Sharon Ringrose, Office Manager
Marci Corey, Music Ministries	Alyssa Miller, Youth Ministries
Grace Valentine, Youth Assistant	Mykhail Rybakov, Facilities Manager
Julie Sondag, Pianist & Choir Accompanist	

Thank you for thanking our staff in a meaningful way this holiday season. Please make your gift by Dec. 15 at the latest. SPRC Members: Valerie Underwood, Ron Mullan, Jackie Farley, David Wilson-Burns, Stephanie Parks, Martha Ogilvie, Robby Greenlee, Mary Gann, Cheryl Frech