

## Joys and Concerns

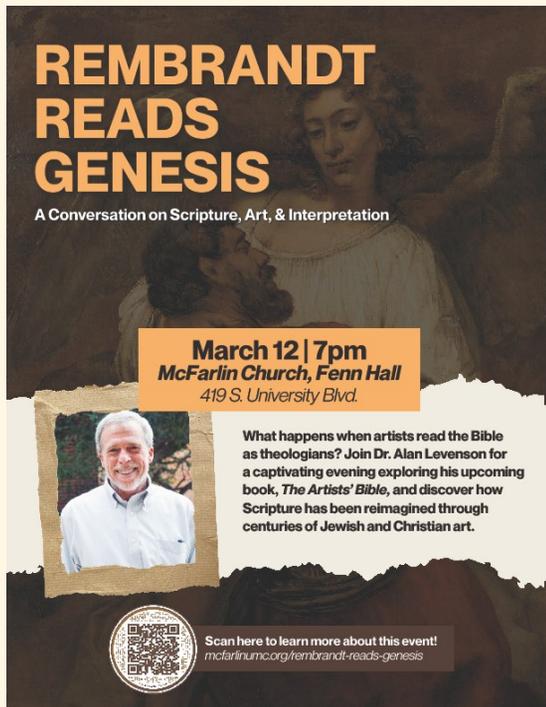
2.8.26

### We celebrate with...

David Wilson-Burns has written a novel which has been published entitled "Puccini's Kiss". It is available on Kindle and Amazon! Tim Duncan celebrates with his friend, Matt, who got married Saturday. Stephanie Parks shared her joy in attending "The Platinum Rule - Leadership for Changing Times" Seminar led by Rebekah Simon-Peter. Valerie Adair shared her joy in being able to drive all the way to Waco last week. Becky LeClair shared the wonderful news that her grandson, Zane, is now home and recovering. She also is thankful for the wonderful card she received from The Care Team at St. Stephen's. Julie Sondag reminds us all to VOTE this Tuesday!

### We pray for...

Velma Houses raises up those who are being denigrated and asks us to pray for our leaders to set a better tone. Marty Marks asks for continued prayers for Belamy. Traveling mercies for Brenda Wheelock as she is going to Tulsa to be with her mother, Sandy. Sandy is having corneal replacement surgery. The McDanel family as their dog, Minnie, is missing.



**REMBRANDT  
READS  
GENESIS**  
A Conversation on Scripture, Art, & Interpretation

**March 12 | 7pm**  
McFarlin Church, Fenn Hall  
419 S. University Blvd.

What happens when artists read the Bible as theologians? Join Dr. Alan Levenson for a captivating evening exploring his upcoming book, *The Artists' Bible*, and discover how Scripture has been reimagined through centuries of Jewish and Christian art.

Scan here to learn more about this event!  
[mcfarlinumc.org/rembrandt-reads-genesis](http://mcfarlinumc.org/rembrandt-reads-genesis)

# The (Weekly) Shield

The Weekly Newsletter

Sunday - February 15, 2026

**Lunch Bunch  
will meet on  
February 17th.  
(It's now on the  
1st and 3rd Tuesdays.)**

## Sunday Night Live

4:30—6:00 pm

Pre K to 5th grade

Join us for Music, Snacks and  
Discovery Time!

We will NOT meet March 15, April  
5, or May 10, 2026.

## Liturgists and Scripture Readers Needed

St. Stephen's UMC is looking for **Liturgists and Scripture Readers** for the 2026 Year and we are inviting you to sign up! Liturgists and Scripture Readers are needed at both the 8:30 and 10:50 Services. Please feel free to sign up as many times as you like. Thanks!

<https://tinyurl.com/mtyabzn2>

## Ad Council

February 16, 6:30 pm

Room 12

## Ash Wednesday Service

February 18, 6:30 pm



## Needs of the NCRS:

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

Contact Brent for more info at

[bsmith103@cox.net](mailto:bsmith103@cox.net).

Help us establish  
a free queer  
library at St.  
Stephen's UMC.

Donate now!



### What's the ask?

QueerLit Collective is a Tulsa based nonprofit organization with a simple mission: to establish unrestricted access to queer literature for the 2SLGBTQIA+ community and its allies.

As they grow and expand into OKC, we'd like to establish a FREE library at St. Stephen's United Methodist Church.

The total cost is \$2,500 to establish a new library.



### Show Your Support

The national and state political landscape is not supportive of queer Oklahomans. Take this opportunity to show your support for the 2SLGBTQIA+ community!



### Gain a New Perspective

One established, St. Stephen's library would be accessible at all hours the church is open. Books available will share the perspectives and experiences of queer authors as well as allies who have supported queer family members.

### Ready to Donate?



<https://tinyurl.com/Queer-Library>

[WWW.QUEERLITCOLLECTIVE.ORG](http://WWW.QUEERLITCOLLECTIVE.ORG)

St. Stephen's United Methodist Church  
405-321-4988

1801 W. Brooks, Norman OK 73069

[www.ststephensnorman.org](http://www.ststephensnorman.org)

[office@ststephensnorman.org](mailto:office@ststephensnorman.org)

Church services Sunday Morning 8:30 am & 10:50 am

### For our Youth!

Spring break retreat will be fast approaching. Our dates are going to be Thursday March 19th through Sunday March 22nd. Alyssa will need male sponsors for this trip, so if you are interested and have any questions, please reach out to her.

Save the Date!  
Church Work Day  
March 14  
9:00—1:00 pm

Adult Ed Meeting  
March 18  
12:30 pm

Please turn in  
your pledge cards!

Finance Committee  
February 23, 7:00 pm  
Room 12

Trustee's Meeting  
March 1, 2:00 pm  
Room 12



Have a green  
thumb?

We need a new plant care person. Please contact the church office if you can help!

Scan to Donate to  
St Stephen's UMC

