

Joys and Concerns

3.8.26

We celebrate with...

Venita McGorman as she shared that the First Native American Church's Wild Onion dinner was lovely. They also thanked the UMC for their support. They are also getting ready to build a new building. Linden Moore placed second in her dance competition. Jeannie Himes loves Daylight Savings Time. Jim Eller is thankful for Spring! Brion Antinoro visited in worship Sunday. Jenn McDanel is thankful for the support during the death of her father. David Wilson-Burns lifts up International Women's Day. Crystal Cruz's parents have moved to Rivermont and are enjoying all the positive aspects of living there. Marci Corey traveled to Tulsa Saturday for the Spring Ring.

We pray for...

Becky LeClair prays for all of the international chaos. Dan Snell has family members traveling in Turkey. Julie Sondag has two family members who were deployed this week. Rick Sondag lifts up the upcoming city council meeting with the OTA. Holly VanAuken lifts up her 9 year old neighbor, Ben, who will be having heart surgery Monday.

Maundy Thursday & Good Friday Services

The Maundy Thursday service is March 26 at 6:30 pm. Join us as we commemorate the Last Supper. This service focuses on the "New Commandment" Jesus gave his disciples: to love one another as he has loved us. We will gather to reflect on the institution of Communion and the humble act of service Jesus demonstrated by washing his disciples' feet.

The Good Friday service is March 27 at 6:30 pm. On this solemn evening, we gather for a service of shadows and scripture. Through music and readings, we will remember the crucifixion of Christ. It is a powerful time of quiet contemplation as we wait in the darkness for the hope of Easter morning.

The (Weekly) Shield

The Weekly Newsletter

Sunday - March 15, 2026

**Lunch Bunch
will meet on
March 17th.**

**(It's now on the
1st and 3rd Tuesdays.)**

**No Sunday Night Live
this Sunday, March 15th,
due to Spring Break**

Beginning Sunday March 1 we will be collecting candy and other small items (no eggs are needed) to fill eggs for our Easter Egg Hunt! Please drop your donations in the container in the loggia and let Ms. Jenn know if you have any questions!



Meet Our Refugee Families

March 28, 5:00—7:00 pm

Join us for a potluck meal and short program as our refugee families come to share their food and fellowship in Community Hall. Bring your dish to share in this international celebration of the NCRS families representing 6 countries: Afghanistan, Cameroon, Columbia, Guatemala, Ukraine and Venezuela.

**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>

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

St. Stephen's United Methodist Church
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1801 W. Brooks, Norman OK 73069

www.ststephensnorman.org

office@ststephensnorman.org

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

For our Youth!

Spring break retreat is 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.

Adult Ed Meeting

March 18, 12:30 pm

Room 12

We have raised \$1000 of the \$2500 needed for the free queer library! Thanks to those who have donated so far!

Church Work Day

March 14

9:00 am—1:00 pm

Peace Roundtable & Potluck Lunch

March 22, 12:30—3:00 pm

Community Hall

Dr. Sam Perry is our speaker for this year's Peace Roundtable. Dr. Perry will share his views on the dangers of Christian Nationalism to our democracy and how we can respond to it. Join us Sunday afternoon, after the second service, March 22, 12:30 -3:00. Potluck sign up sheets are in the loggia.

St. Stephen's is offering a **Contemplative Service** in the style of Taizé at 6:30 pm Thursday, February 26, and continuing most Thursday evenings during Lent. It will be a meditative service without a sermon. Instead, for roughly 40 minutes, we will gather quietly to sing hymns, listen to scripture readings, and offer silent and spoken prayers, as we meditate powerfully together on Jesus' final journey leading to his cross in Jerusalem.

Please turn in
your pledge cards!

Scan to Donate to
St Stephen's UMC

