

Joys and Concerns

3.1.26

We celebrate with...

Jena Barber's birthday! Ron House thanks Rick Sondag who asked him to speak with one of Rick's students on the Vietnam War. Velma House is happy to see Ash Mendoza in worship this morning. Becky Seay reports that her grandson and family made it home safely from the east coast winter storm. Sue Beard's son is also home safe from Mexico. Barbara Holtzclaw's 4th child celebrated their birthday today. Lucas Moore's mother, Sandy, is now living in Norman. Marci Corey is thankful for Rod Murrow and Lucas Moore for performing in worship this morning. Len Thomas reports that his mom is home from rehab and is doing well. Lindsey Vidrine reports that Grayson received a Superior rating at a music festival. Sally Mellon is recovering from West Nile and meningitis. Cathy Suttle is celebrating her 10th anniversary of her breast cancer diagnosis. Stacey Bedgood has a new grandkitten, Bug!

We pray for...

Becky LeClair prays for the people of Iran and all over the world. Melissa Duncan's daughter is facing minor surgery. Holly Van Auken's lawncare person, Jose, is preparing to self-deport if necessary. Jenn McDanel's father's (Herman Coleman) memorial service is Friday, March 5th at 10am at St. Stephens. Rita Petitt's sister in California is in the hospital and needs surgery. The Petitt's had to send their dog, Lucky, over the rainbow bridge. Peggy Risenhoover reports that Neal's knee surgery was more complicated than they anticipated. Neal is at home and is also recovering from Shingles. Jane Osborn reports that Jim's open heart surgery is Wednesday, March 4th. Alyssa Miller lifts up Amber Mathis and her dad. Alyssa also lifts up her sister who is having a breast biopsy Wednesday morning. Joan Berryhill starts chemotherapy on Monday. Don McGorman is getting a second opinion on eye surgery. Mary Moon has covid.

The (Weekly) Shield

The Weekly Newsletter

Sunday - March 8, 2026

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

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

Sunday Night Live

4:30—6:00 pm in Community Hall

Join us for Music, Snacks and
Discovery Time!

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

