

## Joys and Concerns

11.9.25

### We celebrate with...

Julie Sondag in the beauty of fall trees. Rick Sondag who was able to observe and talk to Buddhist monks with one of his classes as the monks created a mandala. The new food pantry built by Kent Von Barga and the expansion by using the former pantry as a place to put clothing, hygiene and other non-food items. All who helped with the fall clean-up event and especially the youth who participated after attending a lock-in the night before. Brent Smith as he anticipates a visit with his daughter and granddaughter in the near future. Dale Wares who will have a book signing this week in his hometown. Cheryl and Roger Frech who visited their daughter in New York and were able to visit with other SSUMC friends located in the East, Penny Hopkins, Evie Sondag and Chris and Sally Suit. Sue Beard's return from traveling in Spain and her recovery from Covid. Lesley Noble's fourth year working with NCRS and her joy at helping one of the women become a licensed driver. Holly Van Auker's reconciliation with a neighbor. Marci Corey's joy at participating with the youth in a lock-in and yard clean-up the next morning. Curt Bauer's playing the offertory music in service. Jackie Farley and Susan Arn's recent travel to visit friends and family. Elliot Hand-Stauffer's joy at a recent camping trip with his dad.

### We pray for...

Rodger Brown and family at the loss of Diane Brown, Rodger's wife. Phyllis Dawson who is now home and in hospice care. David Wilson-Burns' mother who is scheduled to have a procedure to relieve fluid pressure on her brain. Bryan McDanel who is experiencing a painful episode of gout. Those who administer and who use food relief programs as the shutdown continues and the demand for food increases. Jack Chinn who is scheduled to have back surgery at McBride on Tuesday. Don MacGorman who will have an eye procedure this week. Joan Hines who is not feeling well.

### Bell & Instrumental Christmas Concert (Continued)

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](mailto:music@ststephensnorman.org) or catch me at the church on Sunday.

# The (Weekly) Shield

The Weekly Newsletter

Sunday - November 16, 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!

### Needs of the NCRS:

1. Housing Chair & Housing Assistants
2. In-Kind Donations to supplement cuts in SNAP funding

Great Northern beans, Pinto beans, Flour. Vegetable oil, Basmati and/or Jasmine rice, canned tomatoes, canned tuna, pasta and gift cards for use at HomeLand/Walmart

3. Prayers for the NCRS refugee families and volunteers
4. Family Liaisons
5. Drivers (dr. appts, etc.)

### Lunch Bunch

will meet on

November 18th.

(It's now on the

1st and 3rd Tuesdays.)

### Shine Kids Announcements

- November 16th Sunday Night Live will be a movie night! Wear your jammies and bring your favorite blanket, pillow, stuffy!
- November 23rd immediately after 2nd service will be Acolyte Training for ALL current and new acolytes.
- November 30th morning we will decorate the Children's Hall for Christmas. Adults please come join us during the service you do not attend.

### 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  
(Continued on back)



**Pledge cards are ready!**

**Please pick up your pledge card and fill it out.**

**If you are going to change your online pledge,**

**you will need to fill out the bank draft info.**

**Turn them in by [Sunday, November 23.](#)**



St. Stephen's United Methodist Church

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

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

## 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](https://www.indeed.com) - search "Children's Music Director" in Norman, OK and you'll find the listing.

### \*\*\*Calling all bakers!\*\*\*

We are looking for several people who would be willing to bake and donate cut out sugar cookies for our intergenerational cookie decorating & crafts fun day on November 30th. Marci has a great recipe that you can use or you can use your own! We'd need to have them baked, cooled and ready to decorate by 4 pm on November 30th. You can use whatever fun Christmas or winter themed cookie cutters you have or Marci and Jenn can lend you some! If you have sprinkles or other fun cookie decorating items that you'd be willing to donate to the event we would be grateful to have those as well. You can email Marci at [music@ststephensnorman.org](mailto:music@ststephensnorman.org) or Jenn at [children@ststephensnorman.org](mailto:children@ststephensnorman.org) or catch us at the church on

## Mark your calendars!

Nov 16, 2:00 pm—Trustees Meeting

Nov 18, 12:00 pm—Lunch Bunch

Nov 23, 12:00 pm—Acolyte Training

Nov 24, 6:00 pm—Finance Committee

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St Stephen's UMC**

