Announcements

Upcoming Dates

TODAY
4:30 p.m.
Shine Kids will not meet due to Fall Break.

Oct. 18
Children's Sabbath
Crop Walk
Sunday Night Live will be off site on October 18th for the CROP Walk. Meet at 1:30 at the Adult Wellness Center, 602 North Findlay.

Oct 29 10-10:30 a.m.
Help Bridge Kids with trick-or-treating. Adults will line the hallways and the children will walk by each station and trick-or-treat. Bridge Kids will have some candy to pass out but guests are welcome to bring candy.

Nov.15, 12:30 p.m.
There will be a brief interment service for Carol Marks at the Columbarium.

Ongoing

Committees
If you would like to serve on a committee, contact Sharon in the church office.

New Carpet
Help us protect our new Sanctuary carpet. Only water in closed containers is allowed in the Sanctuary. All other beverages, please leave in the loggia during the services.

NCRS Refugee Needs
New Needs: please see Brent Smith for more info at bsmith103@cox.net.
• Donated or reliable used car (young Afghan couple, recent OU Geology grads need a car)
• Drivers (refugee families have recent driving permits and need practice driving, they have a car and car insurance, just need practice driving)

SHINE Kids
Shine Kids are collecting 1 gallon ziploc bags for the Crop Walk, which can be dropped off at the church before Oct. 18.

Bridge Kids
Bridge Kids is in need of an occasional volunteer Wednesdays, 8:45 a.m. - 1 p.m. Please reach out to Director Julie Morris at bridgekids@ststephensnorman.org for more information.

Joys and Concerns

We celebrate with
April Greenlee is so happy that her mother, Loretta Adams, joined St. Stephen's at the 8:30am service.

Pat Meirick and Christina McDougall celebrate their 35th wedding anniversary Monday!

Rod Murrow invites everyone to Carolyn's 80th Birthday Celebration this Saturday, October 10th from 10am-Noon in Community Hall! (No gifts please)

Becky LeClair is thankful for the rain and the flowers that have rebloomed.

Barbara Holtzclaw is joyful to be in attendance for both services Sunday!

Mike Thompson shared the wonderful article in the Sunday Oklahoma that featured the Reconciling United Methodist Church's in central Oklahoma. They interviewed Pastor Jinx and other ministers on what it means to be a church of joy, compassion and inclusion. The picture of him in our sanctuary is perfect!

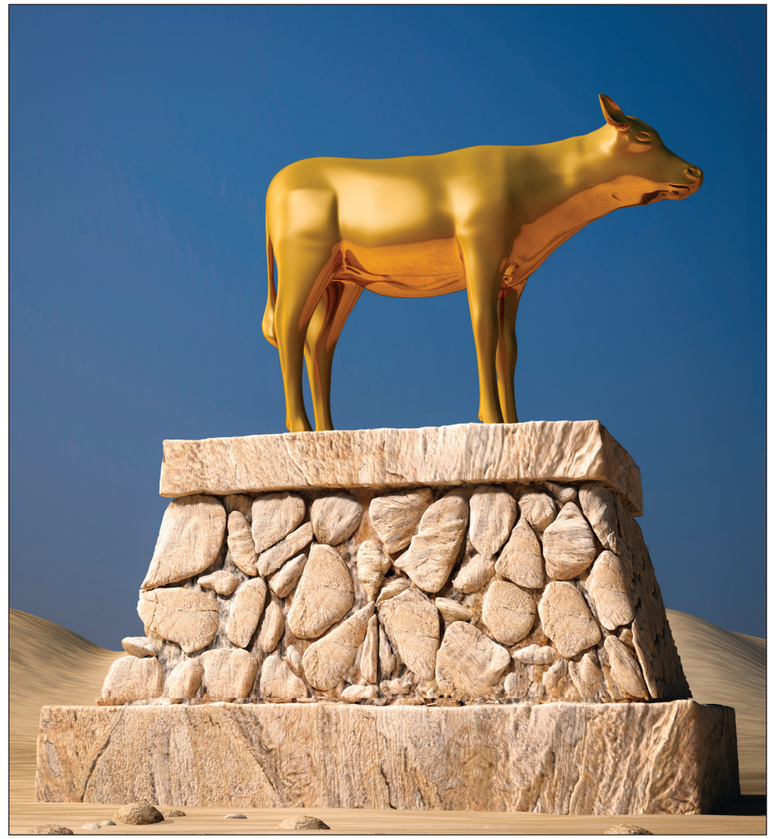
Jen McDanel shared that families from St. Stephens gathered for lunch on Saturday and then headed to the Grand Reopening of Second Chance Animal Sanctuary. They donated over 100 dog toys made from tshirts donated by our congregation!

Dale Wares shared the amazing recovery of his wife Kim from her recent stroke. Kim was also very impressed with Dale's culinary prowess during her recovery!

Brent Smith shared that, during his attendance at the Spero Dinner last week, they spoke of the gift of service to others and how important that is for each of us to remember in our daily lives.

Brenda Wheelock shared that Church World Services added 14 new immigrant/refugee ministers to the organization.

We pray with
Susan Arn as she fell last weekend and broke her rib. She will have to heal from this before beginning any cancer treatment.
Jeff Underwood as his only sister, Debra, is going through liver transplant surgery. This is her 4th attempt to have a viable replacement.
Rebecca Huskey's mom fell and fractured her pelvis. She is recovering in Rehab.
Velma House as she is undergoing tests for a health concern.
Crystal Cruz's mom has another small brain bleed. They are waiting for the surgeon to decide how to proceed.
Stephanie Parks dog, Teddy, was hit by a car on Friday night on Main Street (the driver left the scene).
He has 2 fractures on his hip and leg. They are hoping he will heal without surgery. Restricting his activity for 4-6 weeks will be a challenge.



The Golden Calf

October 11, 2026

"The price of anything is the amount of life you exchange for it."
— *Henry David Thoreau*

"The things you own end up owning you."
— *Chuck Palahnuik*

"What is essential is invisible to the eye."
— *Antoine de Saint-Exupéry*

St. Stephen's United Methodist Church is a progressive Christian church that is open and affirming of all ages, ethnicities, sexual orientations, gender identities, economic brackets and walks of life. We celebrate the diversity within our congregation, and see ours as a safe church for open thought.

Order of Worship
Sunday Monday

The Golden Calf | Twentieth Sunday After Pentecost

Welcome and Sharing of Joys

Passing of the Peace and Announcements

◊ Call to Worship
The Lord is good!
God's steadfast love endures forever.
Feasting on the Word

◊ Hymn *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing* Red Hymnal #400

Words in Music *Come to the Water*
arr. by Jack Schrader

Sing to Our Kids *Where Children Belong*
Black Hymnal #2233

Children's Time Jenn McDanel

Ministry Moment
8:30 Service Lena Frost
10:50 Service Jim & Jane Osborn

Offertory Prayer
Creator God, you are our provider.
We offer all that we have
and all that we are to you,
because we belong to you.
Bless these gifts, and empower us, your church,
that through the work of your Spirit
we may be a refuge for the needy in their distress,
a shelter from the storm,
and a shade from the heat.
Through Christ, our shield and our stronghold. Amen.
Feasting on the Word

Offering Ourselves, Our Tithes, Gifts and Prayers

Offertory

◊ Doxology Red Hymnal #94

Prayer for One Voice & The Lord's Prayer
Eternal Spirit,
Source of all that is and ever shall be,
Loving Parent in whom we discern heaven,
May knowledge of your holiness inspire all peoples,
And may your commonwealth of peace and freedom flourish on earth
Until all of humankind heed your call to justice and compassion.

May we find the bread that we need for today,
And for the hurts we cause one another
May we be forgiven in the same measure that we forgive.
In times of trial and temptation, help us to be strong;
When life seems overwhelming, help us to endure;
And thus from the yoke of sin deliver us.

May you reign in the power of human love,
Now and forever.

Amen. Anglican Church of NZ

◊ Hymn *Give Thanks* Black Hymnal #2036

Scripture Reading Exodus 32:1-14
8:30 Service Holly VanAuken
10:50 Service Rita Petitt

Sermon The Golden Calf Rev. Jinx Barber

Reflection

Hymn *When God Restored Our Common Life*
Remain seated. Black Hymnal #2182

◊ Benediction

◊ Sending Forth *We Are Marching* Black Hymnal #2235b

Postlude

Liturgists
8:30 Service Stephanie Parks
10:50 Service Rita Petitt

Altar arrangement is by Susan Arn.

◊ Stand in Body or Spirit

Nursery is available for children 4 years and younger.

Contact Us

St. Stephen's United Methodist Church

1801 W. Brooks St., Norman, OK, 73069

405-321-4988 | www.ststephensnorman.org

Sunday Worship 8:30 a.m. & 10:50 a.m.

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To donate to St. Stephen's UMC, use the QR code.

St. Stephen's UMC is a Reconciling congregation. To learn more, visit rmnetwork.org.