Announcements

Upcoming Dates

TODAY
4:30 p.m.
Shine Kids will celebrate World Communion by learning about Meals Around the World (fun new snacks to try!). Please join SNL 4:30 to 6 p.m. Children will continue learning music for the Children's Sabbath.

Oct. 10, 10 a.m.-Noon
ALL are invited to Carolyn Murrow's 80th birthday celebration. Community Hall. No gifts, please; only cards.

Oct. 11
No Shine Kids 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 "rick-or-treat. Bridge Kids will have some candy to pass out but guests are welcome to bring candy.

Ongoing

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
Jim Eller and Jeannie Himes celebrated two birthdays this week. Jim's niece just had a baby, Sophie, and the other birthday is their son's.

Jen McDanel shared that her mother will be celebrating her 81st birthday this week. She also shared that her granddaughter, Harper, is 15 months old today!

Rhonda Stock's dad, David, is celebrating his 92nd birthday.

Barb Drummond shared that Laundry Love had another successful event on Saturday. Barb also shared that Billy has 3 remote job prospects.

Brenda Wheelock shared that the Summit held a music fundraiser at Midway Deli Friday and they raised $1,100 for Crop Walk.

Marci Corey shared her praise and gratitude for St. Stephen's wonderful choir!

Vickie Wood shared that her granddaughter, Darci, continues to improve.

Brent Smith shared that Joseph, a high school age refugee, joined the choir at Norman High School and got to perform the National Anthem at a football game.

Holly VanAuken reported that the Annual PFLAG picnic was a lovely event and that Marles Bradley's bluegrass band performed.

Marles Bradley shared that she and Tony will be taking part in The Regatta on the Oklahoma River in a Dragon Boat this weekend.

Julie Sondag shared that she and Rick are glad to have Evie and Luke home visiting.

Rick Sondag shared the amazing event that was put on by The Oklahoma House of Music. They brought in the amazing jazz band, Everything Yes! They performed at Terre Verde in Julie's music class. To their surprise, Julie had prepared her students to perform one of their songs, with additional lyrics written by Julie. The band was verklempt! Julie provided a core memory for not only her students but for the band and the audience as well. Congratulations Julie!

We pray with
Susan Arn as she has been diagnosed with a very aggressive cancer.
Jackie Farley's brother, Jerry, as he is in the hospital in Topeka, Kansas.
Dale Wares' wife Kim suffered a stroke on Monday morning. Her rehab is going well and she will be released soon.
Crystal Cruz's mother suffered a brain bleed and had immediate surgery at OU Health. She is now in a regular room recovering.



1 Commandment

October 4, 2026

"The true meaning of life is to plant trees, under whose shade you do not expect to sit."

— *Nelson Henderson*

"For it is in giving that we receive."

— *Francis of Assisi tradition*

"The Earth is what we all have in common."

— *Wendell Berry*

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
World Communion Sunday
1 Commandment | Nineteenth Sunday After Pentecost

Welcome and Sharing of Joys

Passing of the Peace and Announcements

◊ Call to Worship
The heavens declare the glory of God!
The skies proclaim God's handiwork.
The day pronounces God's glory without a sound,
the night expounds God's knowledge without a word,
and yet their voice goes out through all the earth.
Let us join our voices with the voice of creation in declaring God's glory!

Feasting on the Word

◊ Hymn *In the Midst of New Dimensions*
Black Hymnal #2238

Words in Music *Communion*
arr. by Douglas Wagner

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

Children's Time Erin Moore

Ministry Moment
8:30 Service Marci Corey
10:50 Service Kevin Hochman

Offertory Prayer
As the bride offers all that she is
and all that she has to her bridegroom,
so we offer ourselves to you, our heavenly bridegroom.
May these offerings increase our joy
and reflect your glory. 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
Our father who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil,
for thine is the kingdom,
and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

◊ Hymn *Amazing Abundance*
Green Hymnal #3120

Scripture Reading Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20
8:30 Service Ron Mullan
10:50 Service Helen Flowers

Sermon 1 Commandment Rev. Jinx Barber

Service of Holy Communion Red Hymnal #13

Reflection

◊ Benediction

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

Postlude

Liturgists
8:30 Service Becky LeClair
10:50 Service Len Thomas

Altar arrangement is by Joan Berryhill.

◊ Stand in Body or Spirit

Nursery is available for children 4 years and younger.

Contact Us

St. Stephen's United Methodist Church
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Sunday Worship 8:30 a.m. & 10:50 a.m.

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