

# Announcements

## Upcoming Dates

### Today - Sunday Night Live

End of year party is 4:30-6 p.m. today.

### June 15-18 - Friendship Camp

The theme for this year's Interfaith Friendship Camp is "All You Need Is Love." Each day the camp will meet 5:30-8 p.m., with a family potluck at 5:30 p.m., June 18. To learn more or to sign up, check out the posters around the building for the QR code.

## Ongoing

### QueerLit Collective

St. Stephen's UMC is raising funds to provide a free queer library, which will be established to offer unrestricted access to queer literature for 2SLGBTQIA+ community members and allies. *A kind member has offered to match all new donations until we reach our goal!*

### Nursery Volunteers Needed

St. Stephen's needs volunteers to work in the nursery (ages newborn-4 years old) this summer. Please contact Jenn at [children@ststephensnorman.org](mailto:children@ststephensnorman.org).

### Liturgists and Scripture Readers Needed

St. Stephen's UMC is looking for volunteers for the 2026 year. Please sign up for the 8:30 or 10:50 service (or both!). Sign up as often as you'd like at <https://tinyurl.com/mtyabzn2>.

### NCRS Changing Needs

The NCRS needs drivers! Occasional appointments need drivers, but mostly drivers are needed to help new drivers practice driving. Several new drivers finished their Brown's Driving Course and need extra driving practice beyond what is provided in the course. New drivers have their own car and car insurance.

So, if you have some time during the week or weekends, please consider riding with a new driver.

### Senior Sunday

Senior Sunday is approaching, and we would love to celebrate your high school senior. If you have a student graduating this year, please contact Alyssa so we can make sure they receive the recognition they deserve.

Altar arrangement is by Becky LeClair.

# Joys and Concerns

## We celebrate with

Holly Van Auken is grateful for the rain.

Kay Antinoro shared that her grandson, Abraham Carr, competed at the USA Gymnastics National Championships this weekend as a Level 8 Junior Elite gymnast. Abraham will celebrate his 13th birthday this Saturday.

Kay Antinoro shared the news that Jeff and Diane Peters celebrated the birth of their granddaughter, Isabell, on Friday morning in Colorado.

## We pray with

Tim Duncan asks prayers for his mother, Fern Duncan, as she faces health concerns.

Jim Eller asks prayers for his brother and for their family.



## Why Are You Still Standing Around?

May 17, 2026

"We are made wise not by the recollection of our past, but by the responsibility for our future."

— George Bernard Shaw

"What we call the beginning is often the end. And to make an end is to make a beginning."

— T.S. Eliot

"The day the power of love overrules the love of power, the world will know peace.."

— Mahatma Gandhi

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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 Morning

Why Are You Still Standing Around? | Ascension Sunday

## Welcome and Sharing of Joys & Concerns

## Passing of the Peace and Announcements

### ◇ Call to Worship

Shout for joy; sing songs of praise,  
**for God reigns over all the earth!**

God has gone up with a shout!

**Sound the trumpets and sing songs of praise!**

*Feasting on the Word*

◇ **Hymn** *Crown Him With Many Crowns* UMH #327

**Words in Music** *Where There Is Love* by Karen Crane  
Arr. by Douglas Nolan

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

**Children's Time** Jena Barber

## Offertory Prayer

**O God of all glory and majesty,  
we give you thanks for the gift of your Son,  
and his power at work in our lives and our gifts.**

**Bless these gifts for the benefits they afford  
in bringing life to others in your name.**

**Bless our lives that we may be your witnesses to the end of  
the earth as we love and serve you, O God most high.**

**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** UMH #895

**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** *You Alone Are Holy* Black Hymnal #2077

**Scripture Reading** Luke 24:44-53  
8:30 Service Tim Duncan  
10:50 Service Helen Flowers

**Sermon** Why Are You Still Standing Around?  
Rev. Jinx Barber

## Reflection

**Hymn** *The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve*  
*Remain seated* Black Hymnal #2241

## ◇ Benediction

◇ **Sending Forth** *Sent Out in Jesus' Name*  
Black Hymnal #2184

## Postlude

**Liturgists**  
8:30 Service Melissa Duncan  
10:50 Service Dale Wares

◇ 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](http://www.ststephensnorman.org)

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

## Staff

**Rev. Jinx M. Barber, Senior Pastor**  
[pastor@ststephensnorman.org](mailto:pastor@ststephensnorman.org)

**Mary Moon, Care Minister**  
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**Alyssa Miller, Youth Minister**  
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**Grace Valentine, Youth Assistant**  
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**Morgan Magelssen, Children's Music Director**  
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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](http://rmnetwork.org).