

Announcements

Upcoming Dates

July 15

Adult Ed, 12:30 p.m.

July 24

Lex Danson's Celebration of Life, 4 p.m.

Aug. 30, Sept. 6 & 13

Reconciling Committee Silent Auction

Ongoing

Call for Silent Auction Items

The Reconciling Committee is now accepting donations for our Silent Auction benefiting Sisu Youth Services! If you're an artist or maker, we'd love to include one of your creations. We also welcome themed baskets, lessons or experiences, and other new or gift-quality items. If you know a local artist, maker or business that might like to contribute, we'd love your help making that connection! Reach out to Jena Barber or Carol Mason or email somethingmoveme@gmail.com to learn more, or drop off your gift at the office and make sure it's marked Silent Auction. We appreciate you!

OU Wesley Meal

Sunday School classes (and individuals!) have been requested to provide a burgers & hot dogs meal for Tuesday, Aug. 25. If you'd like to contribute, please sign up in the loggia.

Audio/Visual Volunteers Needed

We're in need of some tech-minded volunteers to help run our new state-of-the-art camera and sound equipment. You don't need to have any experience, just a willingness to learn. Reach out to Jinx or email office@ststephensnorman.org to learn more or to sign up.

Nursery Volunteers Needed

St. Stephen's needs volunteers to work in the nursery (ages newborn-4 years old) this summer, along with Sunday school teachers for K-5th grade. Please contact Jenn at 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/mtiabzn2>.

NCRS Refugee Needs

11 Large (19 inch) backpacks

This coming school year will include over 52 pre-K-12 NCRS refugee children in Norman Public Schools. St. Stephen's will partner with McFarlin UMC on the backpacks, and other NCRS places of worship will provide the other school supplies. Please help by donating one of these backpacks. Place them in the loggia under the sign "Refugee School Backpacks". Please see Brent Smith at bsmith103@cox.net if you have any questions.

Joys and Concerns

We celebrate with

Joan Berryhill's son, Collin, is celebrating his 24th birthday Monday!

We pray with

Joan Berryhill's friend, Angela, is going through lots of emotions and anxiety following a car accident where she was the driver.

Vickie Wood's granddaughter, Darie, who is recovering from heat exhaustion after their prolonged loss of power.

Robby Greenlee, as he continues to heal from his stroke. He is in rehab and hopes to be home in less than 10 days.

Little Thomas Collins, who is making great strides in his recovery from viral meningitis.



The Comfort and Challenge of Being Fully Known

July 19, 2026

"Be yourself. Everyone else is already taken."

— Oscar Wilde

"The curious paradox is that when I accept myself just as I am, then I can change."

— Carl Rogers

"We are all apprentices in a craft where no one ever becomes a master."

— Ernest Hemingway

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

The Comfort and Challenge of Being Fully Known | Eighth Sunday After Pentecost

Welcome and Sharing of Joys & Concerns

Passing of the Peace and Announcements

♦ Call to Worship

O Lord, Our Sovereign, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

You have set your glory above the heavens.

When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers,
the moon and the stars that you have established;
what are human beings that you are mindful of them,
mortals that you care for them?

**Yet you have made them a little lower than God
and crowned them with glory and honor.**

Feasting on the Word

♦ **Hymn** *Womb of Life* Black Hymnal #2046

Words in Music *Leaning On the Everlasting Arms*
Melissa Duncan, Vocals Tim Duncan, Banjolele

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

Children's Time Jena Barber

Offertory Prayer

**God of mystery and grace,
you have met us and blessed us with such abundant
promise.**

**In gratitude we offer what we carry in our hearts and our
pockets.**

**As we bring these worn and freighted offerings,
we pray that you would use us,
for we come in the name of Jesus
and by the movement of your Spirit in this place. 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

**Dear one,
Exalted one.**

**Our example,
Our friend.**

**Daily bread,
Open hands.**

**Forgiven people,
Grace shared.**

**Hard lessons,
Wisdom earned.**

**Your world,
Our inheritance,
Our responsibility.**

Amen.

♦ **Hymn** *Gather Us In* vs. 1, 2 & 4
Black Hymnal #2236

Scripture Reading Psalm 139:1-12, 23-24
8:30 Service Tim Duncan
10:50 Service Helen Flowers

Sermon The Comfort and Challenge
of Being Fully Known Rev. Jinx Barber

Reflection

Hymn *Mothering God, You Gave Me Birth*
Remain seated Black Hymnal #2050

♦ Benediction

♦ **Sending Forth** *Shalom to You* UMH #666
Postlude

Liturgists
8:30 Service Melissa Duncan
10:50 Service Rebecca Huskey

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.

Staff

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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.