

Announcements

Upcoming Dates

TODAY, 4:30-6 p.m.

Get ready to kick off a new season at our Fall Kickoff today! Bring a favorite dish to share, enjoy games and fellowship, and cool off with the foam cannon to end the afternoon. Invite your friends and join us for a fun start to the fall season.

Aug. 25, 5-9 p.m.

OU Wesley Welcome Week Cookout

Aug. 30, Sept. 6 & 13

Reconciling Committee Silent Auction

Ongoing

OU Wesley Welcome Week Cookout - Tuesday, Aug. 25

Please sign up in the loggia to contribute food items or volunteer.

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)
- Need 4-bedroom house to rent in Sep/Oct (under \$1,700/mo, must accept Section 8 housing; Overlook Apts. being sold, Afghan family lease ends Sept 30)

Silent Auction Recipient

The organization the Reconciling Committee is raising money for with the proceeds from the silent auction is Sisu Youth Services, found at sisuyouth.org. Sisu is a low-barrier, identity-affirming space in Oklahoma City where unhoused transition-age youth find the shelter and support they need to pursue the life they want. In a country where 40% of homeless youth identify as LGBTQ+, low-barrier shelters that explicitly affirm and protect trans and queer kids are tragically rare, making Sisu a literal lifeline and a model of care that few cities are fortunate enough to have. Help us raise funds by purchasing something in the silent auction on Aug. 30 and Sept. 6 and 13.

Joys and Concerns

We celebrate with

Becky LeClair's son celebrated his 39th birthday!

Melissa and Tim Duncan celebrate their 36th wedding anniversary!

Tim Duncan celebrates the diversity of all the folks in Norman he saw at The Art Walk this weekend.

Melissa Duncan was thankful for the birthday party Tim threw for her birthday!

Julie and Rick Sondag and The Mystery Dates performed at the Adult Wellness Center last week. Their fill in drummer was Reba McEntire's drummer!

Joe and Kay Antinoro celebrated their 61st wedding anniversary!

Barb Drummond shared that Billy starts his new job this Monday.

Jackie Shipp shared the fun she and Ron had at Ron's cousin's reunion.

Erin Moore reports that her mom, Venita MacGorman, continues to recover and may be back home in Norman next weekend.

Rod Murrow shared the delightful experience he had playing piano at a friend's memorial service. Her name was Glenda and she had requested that he play "Ding, Dong, the Witch is Dead". He honored her request and was even asked for an encore from a sweet little girl in attendance.

Robby Greenlee was in 2nd service and continues to recover and he looked fantastic.

Joy Hampton's cat has recovered from its illness. Joy also shared that this is her last week working. She will be going on vacation to celebrate!

We pray with

Rita Pettitt has a grievous injury and has had to switch to a new surgeon. She is also battling deep depression. It has been over 10 weeks of constant pain. She has really missed her church family.

Jackie Farley and Susan Arn raise up Jackie's cousin, Maxine. She is in the hospital with several health problems. She is 94 years old.

Tim Duncan's cousin, Stacy Blake Howell of Mustang, passed away. When their families spent time together, she was Tim's partner in crime.

Debbie Boatman as she continues to recover from hip replacement surgery at home.



Who Am I?

August 23, 2026

"If you don't know who you are, anyone can name you.."

— Michael Meade

"The privilege of a lifetime is to become who you truly are."

— Carl Jung

"Definitions belong to the definers, not the defined."

— Toni Morrison

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

Who Am I? | Thirteenth Sunday After Pentecost

Welcome and Sharing of Blessings

Passing of the Peace and Announcements

♦ Call to Worship

My house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples,
says the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Feasting on the Word

♦ Hymn

Everything That Has Voice

Green Hymnal #3126

Words in Music

Come to the Music

Marty Marks, Piccolo
by Joseph Martin

Sing to Our Kids

Where Children Belong

Black Hymnal #2233

Children's Time

Jenn McDanel

Offertory Prayer

Almighty God,
receive the fruits of our labor
and the dedication of our lives.
Make them an acceptable sacrifice in union with Jesus
Christ. 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

Parent of all, beyond border and sky,
Holy the breath in the vulnerable's cry.
Your kingdom is built by our hands, not our wait—
On Norman's cold streets and at empire's fenced gate.
Give daily bread now where inflation takes its toll,
Protect our immigrant kin from the border patrol.
Forgive our quiet when war drums arise,
And heal the deep rifts where our unity dies.
Lead us past apathy, comfort our grief,
Give strength to build justice, not merely relief.

For Yours is the sanctuary born in our stand,
To build up Your kingdom with love in our hand.
Amen.

♦ Hymn

As a Fire Is Meant for Burning

Black Hymnal #2237

Scripture Reading

Matthew 16:13-20

8:30 Service
10:50 Service

Velma House
Rebecca Huskey

Sermon

Who Am I?

Rev. Jinx Barber

Reflection

Hymn

Here I Am, Lord

Remain seated

Red Hymnal #593

♦ Benediction

♦ Sending Forth

As We Go

Green Hymnal #3183

Postlude

Liturgists

8:30 Service
10:50 Service

Becky LeClair
Virginia Awtrey

Altar arrangement is by Leslie Cornwell.

♦ 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

Rev. Jinx M. Barber, Senior Pastor
pastor@ststephensnorman.org

Mary Moon, Care Minister
care@ststephensnorman.org

Alyssa Miller, Youth Minister
youth@ststephensnorman.org

Marci Corey, Director of Music Ministries
music@ststephensnorman.org

Julie Morris, BridgeKids Director
BridgeKids@ststephensnorman.org

Sharon Ringrose, Office Administrator
office@ststephensnorman.org

Jenn McDanel, Children's Minister
children@ststephensnorman.org

Grace Valentine, Youth Assistant
youthassistant@ststephensnorman.org

Julie Sondag, Pianist
music@ststephensnorman.org

Morgan Magelssen, Children's Music Director
childrensmusic@ststephensnorman.org



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.