

Announcements

Upcoming Dates

TODAY, 4:30 p.m.

Shine Kids will go "camping" and will learn music for the Children's Sabbath.

Sunday, Sept. 27, 2 p.m.

The Trustees will meet in Room 12.

Saturday, Oct. 3, 12 p.m.

Children's Ministry will meet at The Garage for lunch and then head to the Grand Reopening of Second Chance Animal Sanctuary. Everyone is welcome, so please join the group!

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 old t-shirts of any size, color, condition that can be cut up for a service project. Please bring them to church when you have a chance. They are collecting 1 gallon ziploc bags for the Crop Walk, which can be dropped off at the church.

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.

Plant Caretakers Needed

Join the Plant Care Team! We're looking for someone to water our interior plants on a weekly or biweekly basis. Contact Holly for more information 405-326-1999.

Joys and Concerns

We celebrate with

Alyssa Miller is thankful for the adults who chaperoned the Youth Mission Trip. Chad Morris, Erik Paulson and Amy Prince! Velma House and Rod Murrow both raised how wonderful the Youth Stock Holders Dinner was Saturday. The Youth and their presentations were fantastic and Amy Prince's catering was delicious.

Kathryn Adkins was so happy to learn that her friend, from Mali, received her US citizenship! Her friend spoke so highly of the United States and that was so refreshing to hear during these current times.

Holly VanAuken was thankful for the rain that helped with the current bird migration through our state.

Becky LeClair got to visit with a woman who is using our pantry to help feed her kids and grandchildren. Her name was Nancy and she wanted to let the church know how much she appreciates our Little Pantry. Becky also reminds us to fill up the pantry as you can.

Rick and Julie had a fun trip to Illinois to perform in a music festival. 6 of 9 of Rick's siblings were able to attend. In an interesting chain of events...The Mystery Dates drummer came down with pneumonia, but Audrey's boyfriend was there and stepped in!

John Moon shared that he and Mary attended the OKC Horn Ensemble Concert Friday at the Catlett Music Center on the OU campus. St. Stephen's very own talented David Wilson-Burns performed on tuba. It was an exceptionally wonderful event. Vickie Woods reports that her granddaughter, Darci, has been moved from the OU Children's Hospital to the Bethany Children's Center. Darci continues to struggle but has some improvement as well.

Mary Moon raises the fantastic win for OSU against Oregon!

We pray with

Stacey Bedgood's mother has passed away.



Radical Grace

September 20, 2026

"Grace is not something for which I must look in my heart. It is in the heart of God."

— Karl Barth

"There is no one who is beyond the reach of God's grace."

— Adam Hamilton

"Generosity is giving more than you can, and pride is taking less than you need.."

— Khalil Gibran

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

Radical Grace | Seventeenth Sunday After Pentecost

Welcome and Sharing of Blessings

Passing of the Peace and Announcements

♦ Call to Worship

O give thanks to the Lord! The Lord hears the cries of the people.

Give thanks to the Lord.

The works of the Lord are great. Remember what God has done.

Give thanks to the Lord.

God has done miracles, and the Lord always remembers God's covenant.

Give thanks to the Lord. Glory and praise is due to the Lord!

Feasting on the Word

♦ **Hymn** *Here is Peace* Green Hymnal #3123

Words in Music *I Have Touched the Face of God*
by Noel Goemanne

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

Children's Time Erin Moore

Offertory Prayer

Lord, giver of all good gifts,
thank you for the resources gathered here.

Use these gifts for the advancement of your kingdom;
in Jesus' name we pray. 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** *Wounded World That Cries for Healing*
Black Hymnal #2177

Scripture Reading Matthew 20:1-16
8:30 Service Tim Duncan
10:50 Service Rebecca Huskey

Sermon Radical Grace Rev. Jinx Barber

Reflection

Hymn *Lord of All Hopefulness*
Remain seated Black Hymnal #2197

♦ Benediction

♦ **Sending Forth** On *Eagle's Wings* Red Hymnal #143

Postlude

Liturgists
8:30 Service Melissa Duncan
10:50 Service Susan Arn

Altar arrangement is by Becky LeClair.

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