



October 31, 2025

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StStephensOR.org

REGULAR SERVICES (Times only change if noted in a story below - **Sunday School** is between services unless otherwise noted.)

Sunday		Tuesday
8:00 AM Holy Eucharist Rite I	10:30 AM Holy Eucharist Rite II Live streamed on YouTube™	11:30 AM Holy Eucharist Rite I and Healing Service St. Alban's Chapel

ONGOING CHURCH EVENTS (Pending Weather Related Cancellations)

Tue	Bible Study	Pollard Room 10:00 AM
Wed	Men's Group	Pollard Room 8:30 AM
Wed	Choir Practice	Choir Room 6:45 PM
Thu	Contemplative Prayer	Via Zoom 4:00 PM

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS IS THIS WEEKEND

DON'T FORGET TO SET YOUR CLOCKS BACK!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Volunteers needed for "Claws for a Cause"!!

Saturday, November 8th is the date for our first community-wide Lobster Fest entitled "Claws for a Cause", co-sponsored by Evangelism, Outreach and Parish Life! Our goal is to raise \$10,000, which we will donate to children's charities. All funds will be split and used to support the ministries of Grace Point, the Family Resource Center and the Blossom Center. This is a huge endeavor with lots of moving parts, and we need a wide variety of volunteers of all ages: publicity, set-up, cooking, serving, clean-up, payment, receipts, traffic control, etc! Additionally, our volunteers will need snacks and drinks! Please contact Leah Bailey (leah.bailey@ststephensor.org) to volunteer.

And if you can't volunteer, you can always visit the "Claws for a Cause" site which is live and place your orders!

TUESDAY is the deadline for ordering. Please support this inaugural effort by pre-ordering lobsters. Our final total will be based on the number of lobsters that are ordered in advance--only a small number of additional lobsters will be ordered. The menu includes steamed, fresh Maine lobster (1.25lb), drawn butter, hushpuppies, potato salad and coleslaw. The cost is \$35 if you are taking your meals away, and \$40 if you are dining under the tent in the Grove (will include beverage and dessert). For more information, please go to www.ststephensor.org/claws.

Stewardship Campaign Is In Full Swing

We have launched our 2026 Stewardship campaign. As we enter this season, please pray and discern how you might continue (or, if you are new, to begin) supporting the ministry and operations of St Stephen's. As the Spirit guides us in our work, we are deeply grateful for the contributions all of you make to our common life.

Celebrate Feast Days With Morning Prayer

Have you checked out the recent uploads of Morning Prayer on our YouTube Channel? Each is an invitation into a contemplative experience with the words of the Morning Prayer liturgy supplemented by music and ethereal images. Recent offerings recognize The Feasts of St. Luke the Evangelist (October 18) and St. James of Jerusalem (October 23). The Feast of St. Simon and St. Jude will follow shortly on October 28.

Halloween at A.K. Bissell Park

The Evangelism Committee would like to extend a huge thank you to everyone who donated candy and volunteered at the Trick or Treat event at A.K. Bissell Park! Because of your generosity and enthusiasm, we were able to pass out about **2,800 pieces of candy** to local children and families. We had a fantastic turnout of

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volunteers and received a lot of community interest in our upcoming Lobster Fest. It was a wonderful evening of outreach, fun, and fellowship — we couldn't have done it without your support!

Fantasy of Trees

Molly Justice and Julie Webber will host a brief meeting on November 2nd in the Parish Hall following the 10:30 AM service to discuss the donation decorations, supplies and the vision for our 7-foot tree that St. Stephen's will be sponsoring at Fantasy of Trees. If you are unable to attend or would like to more information, please contact Molly Justice at Molly.webber16@gmail.com.

Breakfast in the Parish Hall

One of the goals of the Evangelism Committee is to help connect parish members of St. Stephen's with one another through fellowship and shared time together. To support this, two Sundays each month, different groups within the parish will host a small breakfast in the Parish Hall from 8:45–9:45 AM, **this Sunday, November 2nd**, the Daughters of the King will be hosting breakfast. Come enjoy good food, warm conversation, and a chance to strengthen our parish connections. If you are interested in hosting a future breakfast, please contact Brittany Shassere at Brittany.Shassere@knoxschools.org

Ecumenical Centering Prayer group

All are invited to an ecumenical Centering Prayer group that will meet in the chapel at 2:00 on the first Tuesday of each month, starting November 4th. We will begin with a brief time of introduction and checking in followed by a period of sitting in silence for 20 minutes.

For more information, contact Carol Gardner 865-304-2093 or gardnerwc73@gmail.com.

Christian Education Updates

This program year, our Christian Education team will be trying a different model for Sunday School teachers. We are looking for adults who love kids to help lead blocks of Sunday Formation for kids and youth for 4-to-6-week blocks.

For information on how you could help teach our youth, please check the website at <https://www.ststephensor.org/sundayschool25-6>.

Coming in November!

- Our Annual Parish Meeting will be November 16th immediately following the 10:30 service. After the Annual Meeting, we will have our Monthly Parish Potluck.
 - The Norman family will again be hosting our Thanksgiving Dinner (Nov. 27th) following the 10:00 Thanksgiving Day service. Be thinking about what side dishes you would like to bring--Parish Life will provide the Turkeys and the Hams. More information will be forthcoming.
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St. Stephen's to Join Oak Ridge Christmas Parade with "A Country Christmas" Float

Get ready for some holiday cheer — St. Stephen's Episcopal Church is joining this year's Oak Ridge Christmas Parade with a festive float that promises to turn heads and warm hearts! The parade will take place on Saturday, December 13th at 6:00 PM, celebrating the theme "A Country Christmas." And what's more "Country ... *continued from previous page*

Christmas" than Father Bailey riding in a Bass Boat? That's right — this year's St. Stephen's float will feature a Bass Boat, decked out in lights and decorations, spreading joy to paradegoers along the route.

The Evangelism Committee is inviting parish members to be part of the fun by walking in the parade and helping pass out children's books and candy. Instead of the traditional handful of sweets, St. Stephen's is adding a special touch — sharing the gift of reading with local children.

To make this possible, we will be collecting books, new or gently used books, on November 1st.

Parishioners are also invited to help decorate the float on Friday, December 12th at 5:00 PM at Ben and Brittany Shassere's home. It's a great opportunity for fellowship, creativity, and a little Christmas spirit!

If you'd like to volunteer to walk in the parade or help decorate the float, please contact Brittany Shassere at brittany.shassere@knoxschools.org. Let's make this Christmas parade one to remember — with community, kindness, and a boatload of Christmas joy!

Coming in December!

- Our annual Children's Pageant will be during the 10:30 service on December 7th.
- We will have a Cookie Exchange on December 7th following the Pageant. Please bring 5-dozen cookies, bagged 6-to-a-bag for swapping, a list of the ingredients, along with an additional dozen or two for sharing with all. We will take trays of holiday cookies to our shut-ins as well. This is a wonderful, and tasty way to celebrate our children and enjoy the company of your fellow parishioners!

ON-GOING CLASSES

Sabbath Brew

Join us in the fellowship hall between the services for a relaxed faith exploration over coffee - Sabbath Brew! We'll watch a very brief film from *The Work of the People* featuring spiritual leaders discussing faith, justice, and community, followed by organic conversation. No formal curriculum—just authentic dialogue and connection. Come as you are, grab a coffee, and see where meaningful conversation takes us.

- When: Sundays at 9:40
- Where: St. Stephen's Fellowship Hall

Lectionary Study

Lectionary Study meets each Sunday at 9:30AM in the Pollard Room to discuss the gospel from the days insert. Discussion is light but informative. Each class is led by a class member who volunteers. Volunteer leaders have included Jim Rousey, Emily Doane, Brittany Shassere, Roger Johnson, Pastor Steve Damos, Lola Estes and Fr. Bailey. Come experience how enriching this Lectionary class can be to your Bible study and understanding.

NOTES

Loose Plate Offering

This is a first Sunday of the month, so the **Loose Plate Offering** goes to the **Clergy Discretionary Fund**.

Blessing Box Requested Items

Thank you to everyone who is supporting the Blessing Box! Please remember the Blessing Box when you shop. This week, we are requesting donations of **peanut butter, saltines, snack bars**. They can be placed in the little red wagon in the narthex.

Do you have news for an upcoming issue of the St. Stephen's eNews?

Please send fully edited articles with all pertinent information, including dates, times, location(s), and contact information, to editor@ststephensor.org by **NOON** on **Wednesday**. Content for the eNews is determined in consultation with clergy and staff.

St. Stephen's Online Links

Website • Facebook • Instagram • YouTube

212 North Tulane Avenue Oak Ridge, TN 37830 · Phone: 865-483-8497

Office Hours: Mon – Thu 09:00 am – 2:00 pm