



212 North Tulane Avenue Oak Ridge, TN 37830
865-483-8497 www.StStephensOR.org

eNews for November 29, 2024

SERVICES

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

UPCOMING IMPORTANT DATES

Dec. 12th · Final Day to Sign Up for Carols & Dinner

ONGOING CHURCH EVENTS

Sunday · *After Both Services* · Coffee and Conversation
Parish Hall
Sunday · 9:30 AM
Lectionary Study for Adults · Pollard Room
Advent Study · Room 209
Sunday School · Aged Rooms
Tuesday · 10:00 AM · Bible Study · Pollard Room
Wednesday · 8:30 AM · Men's Group · Pollard Room
Thursday · 4:00 PM · Contemplative Prayer · Via Zoom

Adult Advent Study – Reflecting on the Names of the Messiah

Join Fr. Bailey for a continuation of his storytelling class from October as we listen and reflect on the names given to the Messiah by the prophet Isaiah: Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. This class will be loosely based on the book "Names for the Messiah: An Advent Study" by Walter Brueggeman. We will spend some time reading, praying, and writing about these names as they reflect our understanding of who Jesus is and what he is preparing us for in this Advent season. We will have some teaching, but most of the class will be conversation and reflection on the meaning of these names for us.

The class will meet each of the four Sundays in Advent beginning this Sunday, Dec. 1st at 9:30 in room 209.

Virtual Morning Prayer Coming for Advent!

Thanks to the leadership of Bonnie Bautz, St. Stephen's will be posting daily Morning Prayer on our website (www.StStephensOR.org) for the duration of Advent. Each day (with the exception of Sunday) you will be invited to join in praying with Bonnie or our leader for the day out of one of the daily office traditions in the Anglican tradition. We hope you will use this as a way to focus your day on the work Christ is doing to prepare us for His coming this Advent season.

Sign Up for Advent Lessons and Carols Dinner

On Sunday, December 15th, our choir will offer their annual Lessons and Carols Service at 6 PM. There will be a catered dinner at 5 PM in the Parish Hall prior to the service. The menu is Parmesan Herb Baked Chicken Breast, Herb Roasted Pork Loin, Redskin Mashed Potato Casserole, Sautéed Vegetable Medley, Rolls, and Cake. The cost is \$15 per person and \$45 per family. So that we may provide numbers to the caterer, please sign-up by December 12th. The link is on the website or call the church office.

Loose Plate Offering

Offerings for the remainder of November will go to Blanket+. Our special Outreach project has a two-part focus: Firstly, funding the Blankets+ Campaign conducted by Church Women United for Church World Service (CWS), and secondly, collecting new or clean gently used bedding for the Ecumenical Storehouse in Oak Ridge.

Every \$10 will buy a specially made large, durable blanket suitable for the recipients' climate. Collection plates on the second, third, and fourth Sundays will be dedicated to the Blankets+ campaign. You may also donate online (StStephensOR.org) or send a check to St. Stephen's through November; either way, please include the memo "For Blankets." Marked containers will be found in the Narthex and the hospitality area.

2024 Pledge Giving

Just a reminder that, as we enter this final busy stretch of 2024, please keep your pledge payments up to date! While we are still running a small surplus for the year, the surplus we project to have if all pledges are fulfilled will give us a great base to build a generous 2025 budget. Thank you as always for your generosity and faithfulness to the life and ministry of St. Stephen's!

Flower and Ambry Candle Charts

The 2025 flower and ambry candle charts are now posted on the bulletin board outside of the parish office. You may now sign up for the new year. Flower costs for two arrangements is \$85.00. The cost for ambry candle is \$5.00. This is a lovely way to contribute to our worship services.

Come to Lectionary Class

The Lectionary class at St. Stephens is unique in that it is a discussion each Sunday about the Gospel that is in that Sunday's bulletin insert. It is also unique in that the class is led each Sunday by a member of the class. Recent leaders have been Roger Johnson, Steve Damos, Emily Doane, Gary Drier, Mary Ellen Klots, Joseph Womble and Father Bailey. If you'd like a better understanding of the Bible (who doesn't), come to a Lectionary class on Sundays at 9:30 am in the Pollard library.

Compassion Tree Coming Soon!!!

In lieu of a December loose Offering, the Outreach committee will again be setting up the Compassion Tree for Christmas gifts and necessary items for children in Foster or Relative care.

There will be tags for types of requested gifts for children with the age and sex on the tags...ex: Barbie dolls, girls 6-10; Legos, boys 6-12, etc.

There will also be tags for necessities for children...Pajamas, girls, 12-24 months; Underwear, boys 4-6, etc. Tags for larger items needed...crib mattresses, strollers, car seats, etc. will also be available.

The tree will be up next week before Thanksgiving and available to pull tags then.

Blessing Box Requested Items

This week's requested items are: **Canned Soup, Ramen Noodles, Chef Boyardee Pasta in pop up cans.**

Do you have news for an upcoming issue of The St. Stephens's Messenger (e-News)?

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 Messenger is determined in consultation with clergy and staff.