



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

## eNews for December 27, 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

### ONGOING CHURCH EVENTS

Sunday · *After Both Services* · Coffee and Conversation  
Parish Hall  
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

### UPCOMING IMPORTANT DATES

Dec. 24<sup>th</sup> – Jan. 1<sup>st</sup> · The Church Office Will Be Closed

### Office Changes (for the season)

The St. Stephen's parish office will continue to be closed through January 1<sup>th</sup>. We will reopen on January 2<sup>nd</sup>. Our immensely hard-working team of staff and volunteers in the office will be around to some extent, but they will be taking a much-needed break from keeping regular hours through the first week of Christmas season. If there are any pastoral emergencies during that time, you may call Fr. Bailey directly at 865-323-1417. The deadline for eNews stories will be moved up to Dec. 31<sup>st</sup>.

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### End of Year Reminder

This coming Sunday, December 29<sup>th</sup> will be the last day for contributions to be deposited in the 2024 calendar year, to allow time for bank deposits to be made. We appreciate all contributions that have been received this year, and thank you for your support and generosity to our ministry and programs!

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### Winter Camp Registration

The Episcopal Diocese of East Tennessee is hosting Winter Camp at Grace Point next month over MLK weekend. Winter Camp ("Dub-C") is a fun weekend at Grace Point for high school students (9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade). Happening over MLK Weekend (January 17-20, 2025), this retreat will follow the format of a traditional summer camp session at Grace Point. Many of our summer staff will be there to lead programming for the weekend! Come get your Grace Point recharge to kick off the new year. We will offer a Dean's Program, play field games, hike, do arts and crafts, have a movie night, spend some quality downtime together, and much more!  
Officially, registration closes on January 3<sup>rd</sup>, but we will likely accept late registrations. The cost is \$300.

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### New Vestry Officers for 2025

First, we want to give a big thank you to our outgoing Vestry members Adam Cavender, Tom Clary, Emily Doane, and Beth Reed for their faithful service and leadership. We want to give a big thank you as well to Courtney Manrod, who has provided exceptional servant leadership as Sr. Warden over the last two years.  
The Vestry elected its officers for the upcoming year. We are deeply grateful for their willingness to serve (or continue to serve) in these capacities:  
SENIOR WARDEN - Leah Bailey  
JUNIOR WARDEN - Ben Shassere  
SECRETARY - Betsy Ellis  
TREASURER - Alan Liby

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**This week, the Open Offering goes to the Compassion Closet.**

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### **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.

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### **Coming in January!**

January 12<sup>th</sup> we will celebrate the Feast of the Three Kings in the Parish Hall after the 10:30 service. We will be serving the traditional New Orleans' style Kings Cake, a French Galette des Rois and a Mexican Rosca de Reyes. Come and join us as we begin the season of Epiphany!

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### **Ecumenical Storehouse In January**

It is St. Stephen's time again to volunteer at the Ecumenical Storehouse. The Storehouse volunteers will be needed again after the reopening on January 14, 16, 18, 21, 23 and 25. We have most shifts covered but always need reserve volunteers for service when someone is ill or otherwise unable to make their sign-up date. If you would like to volunteer on any of these dates, please contact Kathie Shearer at 865-660-0861.

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### **Blessing Box Requested Items**

This week's requested items are: **Cleaning Supplies.**

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### **Do you have news for an upcoming issue of The St. Stephens's Messenger (eNews)?**

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

**UPDATE -- For New Year's week, the deadline is Tuesday, December 31<sup>st</sup>!**