



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

eNews for August 8, 2025

SERVICES

Sun 8:00 AM Holy Eucharist Rite I
Sun 10:30 AM Holy Eucharist Rite II *
Tue 11:30 AM Holy Eucharist Rite I and Healing
Service in St. Alban's Chapel

* Live streamed on YouTube™

UPCOMING IMPORTANT DATES

(see stories below for more details)

Aug 10 Backpack Blessing
Aug 10 DOK Meeting
Aug 10 Celtic Service @ FUMCOR
Aug 24 Parish Potluck

ONGOING CHURCH EVENTS

Sun 9:30 AM
Lectionary Study for Adults · Pollard Room
Tue 10:00 AM · Bible Study · Pollard Room
Wed 8:30 AM · Men's Group · Pollard Room
Thu 4:00 PM · Contemplative Prayer · Via Zoom

Evangelism Committee Breakfast

One goal of the Evangelism Committee is to connect the parish members of St. Stephen's. In order to accomplish this goal, the Evangelism Committee will host a small breakfast this Sunday from 8:45-10:00 in the Parish Hall. Come join us for a sweet treat and fellowship. If you would like to help and host a breakfast, please contact Brittany Shassere.

DOK Meeting

The Daughters of the King (DOK) will host the first meeting of the "new year" THIS Sunday, Aug 10th, from 12-1 pm, in the Pollard Library. All Daughters are encouraged wear blue.

All women are invited to be involved with the Daughters of the King and meetings are open to all. If you would like to learn more about the ministry of DOK or consider becoming a part of the order, please contact either of their co-chairs - Rebecca Cavender (rebecca.m.cavender@gmail.com) or Beth Reed (brussellreed@yahoo.com).

Celtic Service

The Celtic Contemplative service will be held this Sunday, August 10th at 5 PM at First United Methodist Church. Please join fellow St. Stephen's parishioners along with those from the other "sponsoring" congregations for the Celtic service, First Methodist and Chapel on the Hill and other community members to dwell in the presence of God within this quiet and calm worship.

Virtual Morning Prayer Resumes!

We are excited that virtual Morning Prayer will resume this month! For those of you wondering what this is, our own Bonnie Bautz will lead recordings of Morning Prayer that will be posted to our YouTube channel for you to follow along and have as an option for weekday worship.

For the next few months, she will record Morning Prayer on major feast days in our church calendar, beginning with the Feast of Mary on August 15. We will post a calendar next week of other upcoming Morning Prayer videos. This is a great way not only to worship but to celebrate the major feasts of saints and significant events in the life of Jesus.

Christian Education Updates

This upcoming 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>.

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.

Inquirers Classes Beginning in September

Anyone interested in being confirmed, received, or simply learning more about the church is invited to participate in Inquirers classes which will begin on September 3rd. More information to come. If you are interested in learning more, please contact Fr. Bailey.

August Potluck

August 24th will be our Parish Potluck Breakfast from 9:00-10:15 in the Parish Hall. Please start thinking about what you can bring to round out the Parish Life menu of scrambled eggs, sausage, bacon and biscuits!

Acolyte Training

Would you like to be an important part of the service at St. Stephen's? Help lead the processional? Would you like to serve at the altar? St. Stephen's needs youth and adults to serve as Acolytes in our worship service. Currently serving and perspective new acolyte: torchbearers, crucifers andthurifers will be trained and retained on August 3rd after the 10:30 service. Please RSVP to the church office or to Acolyte Master Sandi Robertson at robertsonsandi@gmail.com. Lunch will be provided, so let us know if you will be there!

Coming in September!

- September 7 - the Ice Cream Truck is coming in honor of Grandparents' Day! Join us in the Grove at 11:45 for ice cream from Lolli and Bobo's. The first scoop is on Parish Life!
 - September 14 - Since our return to in-person worship after Covid, we have had many new individuals and families attending our services. If you have joined our congregation in the last few years, please come and be a part of the Newcomer's Luncheon at 11:45.
 - September 28 - We are saying Aloha to Summer and Aloha to Fall at our Monthly Potluck following the 10:30 service. Parish Life will provide pineapple ribs for this luau-themed event.
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Loose Plate Offering

The recipient of the loose offering in August is the Ecumenical Storehouse, a non-profit organization that helps the underprivileged by providing items needed for a home, except food and clothes. The Storehouse accepts, stores, and distributes almost every type of household good -- essentially everything a person would need to set up a small living quarter. Most of the clients served by the Ecumenical Storehouse live in Anderson County, but clients also come from Roane, Campbell, Morgan, Scott, and other area counties.

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Many of the clients are from among the vast number of Appalachian poor in the area; others have lost everything in a fire or storm; still others find themselves in abusive situations and need emergency assistance to establish a new home. All are in need, and they have nowhere else to turn for the service the Storehouse provides.

Clients must be referred by a church, a government or social services agency with knowledge of their situation. In 2024 the Storehouse served 300 clients and has already served over 150 this year. While helping those in need, this ministry has also kept thousands of pounds of re-useable household goods out of dumps, making it a very 'green' operation. The Storehouse was established in 1984, and is operated entirely by volunteers from 11 congregations on a rotating basis. The Storehouse is a member of the United Way of Anderson County and receives funds from that organization, grants from other agencies, and donations of household goods and funds from local churches and individuals.

St. Stephen's parishioners can help this wonderful organization to continue its meaningful ministry in several ways:

- Donate funds to help with ongoing expenses such as rent, utilities, insurance, and maintenance of the truck used to pick up furniture;
- Volunteer in the month of August (St. Stephen's month) to help with the loading and unloading of donated items, or work with the clients to pick out the items they need. If interested in helping, please contact Kathie Shearer at 865-660-0681

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 Canned Chicken, Meat or Tuna packs. 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.