



212 North Tulane Avenue Oak Ridge, TN 37830  
865-483-8497 [www.StStephensOR.org](http://www.StStephensOR.org)

## eNews for December 6, 2024

### SERVICES

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

### UPCOMING IMPORTANT DATES

Dec. 8 Daughters of the Kind Meeting after the 10:30  
service  
Dec. 11 Last WOW of 2024 - Will return in January 2025!  
Dec. 12 Final Day to Sign Up for Carols & Dinner  
Dec. 22 THE BISHOP IS COMING! (see below)

### 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

### Annual Children's Pageant THIS SUNDAY!

Our Annual Children's Holiday Pageant has been moved from Christmas Eve at the request of our young families, and will be held during the 10:30 service this Sunday. The children rehearsed last Sunday and are eager to share this with the congregation.

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### Holiday Cookie Swap

After the 10:30 service in the Parish Hall, there will be a holiday cookie swap. If you wish to participate, please bring five dozen holiday cookies 6-to-a-ziplock bag to contribute to the exchange. For every bag that you bring, you may exchange it for another bag prepared by a parishioner. Additionally, please bring an extra dozen or two to share with everyone! We plan on sharing some of the holiday goodies with our homebound parishioner as well. Please bring your cookies to the Parish Hall prior to the service. We will have a cookie decorating station set up for the children with shaped sugar cookies, icing and sprinkles. Even if you cannot bake, please come and join in the holiday fun!

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### 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 Brueggemann. 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.

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### Blessing Box Requested Items

This week's requested items: ***Boxed packs of Instant Oatmeal, Cream of Wheat, Grits, Canned Meats, Chef Boyardee.***

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## **Virtual Morning Prayer Coming for Advent!**

Thanks to the leadership of Bonnie Bautz, St. Stephen's will be posting daily Morning Prayer on 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.

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## **Lessons and Carols**

On December 15<sup>th</sup>, our choir will offer their annual Lessons and Carols service at 6 PM in the Nave. At 5 PM, there will be a catered dinner from Take Out Thyme for \$15 a person or \$45 a family. The menu is Parmesan Herbed Baked Chicken Breast, Herb Roasted Pork Loin, Redskin Mashed Potato Casserole, Sautéed Vegetable Medley, Yeast Rolls and Cake. Please sign up for the dinner on the St. Stephen's website by December 12<sup>th</sup>. The link is on the website.

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## **Loose Plate Offering Schedule**

Dec. 8 Compassion Closet

Dec. 15 Compassion Closet

Dec. 22 Bishop Discretionary Fund

Dec. 29 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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## **The Compassion Tree Is Up!!!**

The Compassion Tree is up in the Parish Hall and still has some ornaments on it to pull if you haven't been by yet. Please return unwrapped gifts to the Tree by December 18<sup>th</sup> so we can get them to Compassion Closet for the foster parents to pick out gifts for the children. If you prefer to make a financial donation, please do so as a Loose Offering on the second 12/8 or third 12/15 Sunday or by leaving a check in the office to St Stephen's with Compassion Tree marked in the memo.

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## **The Bishop Is Coming!**

Bishop Cole will join us for both services on December 22nd. We will have a Holiday Brunch between the services from 9:00-10:15. Please bring your favorite brunch dishes (quiches, casseroles, pastries, etc.) to share with your parish family. Parish Life will provide the ham and beverages. After the Confirmation service at 10:30, plan to join us in the Parish Hall for coffee and cake with the Bishop and our newest members of the St. Stephen's family.

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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 by NOON on Wednesday. Content for The Messenger is determined in consultation with clergy and staff.