



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

eNews for November 22, 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

Nov. 24th · Pledge Ingathering (see story below)
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
Inquirers Class · Chappel
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

Inquirers Class Concludes This Sunday!

Inquirers classes conclude this Sunday at 9:30 in the chapel. Whether you are a newcomer to St. Stephen's or looking for a refresher in your faith, the class is open to all to attend! *BEFORE YOU COME* - Please watch the video titled "How to Practice Our Faith" that is now up on our YouTube channel. It is an overview of some of the content we will be covering on Sunday. We will use this video as a springboard for discussion in our class on Sunday, so it will be extremely helpful for you to have watched or listened to the video (which is about 20 minutes long).

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.

Pledge Ingathering This Sunday

Thank you to all of our parishioners who have turned in their pledge cards for 2025! If you have not yet done so, we encourage you to turn them in on or before this upcoming Sunday, November 24th. We will bless the pledges that have been made that will go toward funding the work and ministry of St. Stephen's for the upcoming year. It will also spare you a friendly follow-up call from the Stewardship Team! If you have any questions about pledging or our budget for the upcoming year, please don't hesitate to reach out to Fr. Bailey, our Sr. Warden Courtney Manrod, or our Finance Chair Tom Clary.

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: **Peanut Butter, Peanut Butter Crackers, Regular Crackers and Canned Fruit.**

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.