



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

## eNews for January 3, 2025

### 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

January 12 – Feast of the Three Kings (*see below*)  
January 26 – First Monthly Parish Potluck of 2025

### 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

### Celebration of Epiphany

This week we will be celebrating the feast of Epiphany at our Tuesday Healing Service at 11:30 AM on Jan 7<sup>th</sup> (Epiphany is actually the 6<sup>th</sup>, but we can do it a day late!). Epiphany is a feast day in equal importance to Christmas but receives far less celebration. Our Healing Service, while an offering during the work week, is a special service in which we always make special prayers for those in need of physical, emotional, or spiritual healing. If you are able, we would love to have you join us for this special celebration.

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### House Blessings for Epiphany

During the season of Epiphany, it is very appropriate for the church to offer house blessings. House blessings go back to the ancient church in which the church actually met in people's homes before special places were consecrated for worship. Fr Bailey is delighted to come out and offer this blessing, both for the blessing itself and the opportunity to have fellowship with you in your home. It is appropriate for anyone, but it is especially fun for families with kids as we can include them in part of the service. If you are interested, please contact the church office or Fr Bailey directly at [rector@ststephensor.org](mailto:rector@ststephensor.org) to schedule a time for the blessing.

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### Feast of the Three Kings!

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. There will be crowns to decorate as well. Come and join us as we begin the season of Epiphany!  
Our first Monthly Parish Potluck of the year will be January 26<sup>th</sup> after the 10:30 service. Please bring one or two of your favorite potluck dishes to share with the parish family.

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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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## **Loose Plate Offering Schedule**

This is a first Sunday so the Open Offering goes to the Discretionary Fund

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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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## **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.

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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: **Canned Beef, Ham, Tuna or Chicken. Also Bar and/or Liquid Hand Soap.**

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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.