

MARCH 15, 2016

Oakbridge

WESTERN OAKS CHRISTIAN CHURCH

WOCC Whiz Kids Begins!

What an exciting day we had on Monday, March 7, when we hosted our very *first* WHIZ KIDS program at WOCC!! It was an absolutely awesome afternoon with everyone welcoming 19 students from Western Oaks Elementary School, all new to the Whiz Kids program. Everyone did a fabulous job! The kids were so happy and excited to be here, and so were all the volunteers. While there was a lot of work to get ready for the program, I can honestly say we did a bang-up job. Even the Whiz Kids program director and administrator complimented us on our kick-off, which of course, made me very proud and warmed my heart! We all owe a big thanks to Dick Cayton for introducing WOCC to this great program to assist children in our community with their social and reading skills.



As with most new programs, I could not have succeeded with the start-up session without the help of my church village and friends. Huge and grateful thanks go out to all of the volunteer tutors and substitute tutors (we have 19 tutors and 5 subs so far); to Jenna Droke, Charles Mohr and Mary Francis Hedrick for the snack that everyone ate up very quickly; to Rev. Julie for Club Time with the students; and to Rev. Daniel giving me the privilege of “doing my thing”.

Naturally, behind the scenes, were a host of people that not only assisted in so many ways, but helped me keep my sanity (some may wonder if that is true). Thanks to Fern Melton for making our amazing signs on a moment's notice before heading on vacation! Mighty builder, George Lunsford, made us an ever so cool and functional roll-around cabinet for the books and other educational material; it works GREAT! Rev. Daniel used his genius and quickly designed our logo (Oak Tree), which Dean Lunsford used to prepare the name tags (50+) for the lanyards; Janey Merry was “Janey on the spot” to help me set-up and assisted with a host of mundane administrative details. Danet Trivette agreed to “shadow” our first session, but she ended up helping so much with set-up details. Lacinda Green who jumped right in as the bus monitor and greeter upon the students’ arrival, plus she has volunteered to help with many administrative tasks yet to be completely defined. Special thanks also go to John Briscoe, Linda Fortin and family, and my daughter, Monet Ille, for rescuing me on the Sunday before March 7 to deal with the minutia/details of beginning the very next day, knowing full well my OCD had really kicked in!



If you have not yet learned about this new WOCC program, please talk to one of our volunteers, or I’m always available discuss any interest you may have in assisting with the program. We will finish out this school year with 19 students; however, we are looking forward to the fall, when we hope to double the program. There are so many students that need our help! I hope you will consider signing up for one of the best and rewarding experiences you will ever encounter! God is working miracles at WOCC, and I’m thrilled to be a part of it! When you see one of our tutors or substitutes listed below, please give them a big pat on the back for a job well done!

Tutors: Mary Bird, Margaret Blackerby, John Briscoe, Pat Brown, Julie Cable, Dick Cayton, Lura Cayton, Nance Cunningham, Jim Ellis, Ed Garrison, Mary Garrison, Jack Graham, TJ Johnson, Eunice Lassiter, Mary Pendley, Jean Sladek, Tricia Spencer, Gay Teter, and Rhea Todd.

Substitutes: Jenna Droke, Mary Francis Hedrick, Jacob Foster, Tom Jewell, Kay Jewell, Cathy Routon, and Andrea Teter.

Cathy Routon
WOCC Whiz Kids Coordinator

MARCH 2016



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
						*
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
*		*	*			*
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
*	*	*				*
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
*	*	*	*	*	*	*
27	28	29	30	31		
*	*	*				

19 Stamp Out Starvation 9:00am-3:00pm

20 Palm Sunday

Elders Meeting 12:15pm-1:15pm

Caring & Sharing Meeting 4:00pm-5:00pm

Soup for the Soul 6:00pm-7:00pm

21 Whiz Kids Meeting 2:00pm-3:00pm

Refuge Church 3:00pm-7:30pm

22 Admin Meeting 7:00pm-8:00pm

Outreach Committee Meeting 7:00pm-8:00pm

23 Bridge for Fun 1:00pm-4:00pm

Caring & Sharing @ Charleston's 5:00pm-6:00pm

24 Maundy Thursday Seder Meal 6:00pm-7:00pm

25 Good Friday Prayer Vigil 9:00am-3:00pm

26 Easter Egg Hunt 11:00am-2:00pm

27 Easter Sunday Sunrise Service 7:00am-8:00am

28 Easter Monday —Church Office Closed

29 Elders Prayer Breakfast 7:15am-8:15am



The Kiddie Art is from Mrs. Cook & Sarah Mueller's Sunday School Class.

Gratitude is our Attitude

"I want to thank Western Oaks Christian Church for the luncheon for Marie. It was wonderful. Also, to Daniel U'Ren, for the wonderful service. Marie was a beautiful girl. She will be missed. I loved her very much even though she did not think so with all her troubles. Thank you all again." —Twila Ballard

"Dear Church Family,

Thank you to everyone for all the kind notes, calls, and visits. Your prayers have been a comfort to me during my 'long' hospital stay. I still have a long journey but hope to join you soon. This is such a loving church family." —Shirley Kitchens

"Thank you for all the prayer and love for my recovery. Rehab is going great. What a wonderful church family!" —Ken Whitt

"Montana Mae had no added platelets or blood last week. She is still on nasal oxygen, but she is doing really well. Thank you for the prayers." —Cheyenne & Kristin Pursley

Children's Choir

Kids, aged 4 years through 5th grade: get ready to have fun singing next fall starting in August! Thanks to those who have been coming, but we are getting a fresh start in the fall. Watch for news in the church, the Oakbridge, and even your mailboxes! I look forward to making music with you. —Christine Wagner

Prayer Requests

- * Sebastian Digby's mother, Earlene Dearreal, has been diagnosed with lung cancer.
- * Tina Bayliff's 14 year-old nephew was diagnosed with leukemia in Arizona.
- * Cathy Routon's aunt, Rosemary, has been diagnosed with breast cancer.
- * Noland Harvey, T.J. Johnson's brother-in-law, has an unknown infection causing heart problems.
- * Pray for peace in our country.
- * Lori Slentz, Kelli Fearing's sister, is in the hospital for a blood clot in her leg & lung.
- * Carolyn Jenkins, friend of the Griffins
- * Cheyenne & Kristin Pursley's baby was born 13 weeks early & is in Mercy NICU.
- * Prayers for the baby, Rianna Marie McKinley
- * Bob Humphrey's sister, Mary Jane
- * Larry Digby, Martha Buchanan's son, is out of mental health hospital with medication.
- * April Gregory, the Wilkersons' friend, is going through chemo.
- * Heather Keaton, Christine Wagner's friend, for recovery from brain cancer surgery.
- * Danny O'Kert, friend of the Hills
- * Dorleen Gosnell, Cythnia Hill's mom
- * David Dixon, the Goodners' friend, will continue dialysis.
- * Lloyd Gosnell, Cynthia Hill's cousin, has cancer.
- * Joan Stamman, Jan Sills' cousin, has colon cancer.
- * Dick & Lura Cayton
- * Danny Cartmill, Marlene Word's nephew, has pancreatic cancer.
- * Lou O'Brien

April 29-May 1



YOUTH SOUNDBITE

We need to start thinking about church during the summer, because it is time to register for summer events. I started to make a list of all the reasons why it is important for individuals to participate in church events during the summer break. However, a list is unnecessary. One bullet point is all that is needed. It is important for individuals to participate in summer ministries because:

- *They will encounter God.*

Camp, mission trips, and retreats played a significant role in my spiritual life as I grew up. I learned to have a quiet time at camp. I learned to recognize God's spirit speaking to my heart during mission trips. I learned to work out my faith at these events. I learned to fellowship with new people about my beliefs. At some point, youth are going to make your faith their own or reject it. The choice cannot be made for them. That is why it is critical we give them every opportunity to grow in their faith along the way.

We often plan for boy scouts, baseball, and band camp. We budget for these opportunities and schedule family vacations around them, because we recognize the benefit of concentrated efforts in those areas. But, what would happen if we put as much effort toward our children's spiritual development? What if we gave them every opportunity to stretch the spiritual muscles in a safe and loving environment?

Summertime events are the perfect chance for youth to step into their own relationship with God. For a few days, they are not distracted by home life, sibling rivalries, or pressure from school. It's just them and God. Imagine what might happen when, years down the road, your child looks back on their experience and says, "I know God is real, because I met God several times at camp or on the mission trip."

Upcoming Events:

March 20th- ROCK Sunday 5-7pm

March 27th- No Youth (Easter Sunday)

April 3rd- ROCK Sunday 5-7pm

April 6th- Wednesday at Western Oaks 6-8pm

April 10th- ROCK Sunday 5-7pm

April 13th- Wednesday at Western Oaks 6-8pm

April 16th- Craft Show (Hot Dog Fundraiser) and Youth Sunday Rehearsal

April 17th- Youth Sunday

*Peace and Blessings,
Hope Lairson
Interim Youth Director*

Children Ministries

Worship & Wonder Final Meeting/Orientation April 2nd, 9:00am—11:30am

All storytellers and greeters should plan to meet Saturday, April 2nd, to finalize the schedule. As part of the meeting, we will do one more worship and discuss our roles. Look forward to seeing you there!



Thank you, George Lunsford!!! He made a focal shelf for Children Worship & Wonder to use each Sunday. What a blessing to have George; he took a crude drawing and turned it into a beautiful and very useful cabinet! The cabinet can be opened to display the Christ Candle, Bible, Nativity and Good Shepherd story for each Sunday's worship. Then, the cabinet can be closed and moved during the week when the Bethany YMCA use the room. **CHILDREN WORSHIP & WONDER RESTARTING ON SUNDAY, APRIL 3, 2016. We welcome all children from pre-k through fifth grade.**



CHURCH CAMP REGISTRATION AVAILABLE NOW:

- Discovery Camp (2nd & 3rd graders) Friday, June 17th to Sunday, June 19th
- Junior Camp (3rd—5th graders) Monday, June 20th to Friday, June 24th.

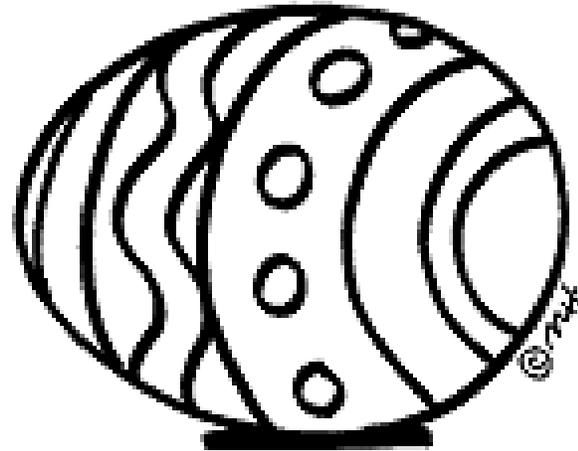
We would like to get everyone registered by Friday, April 15th to receive the discounted “early bird” registration rate.





Easter Egg Decorating

F Q N T X B E V Y U I N R J O
 A T I Q E G M P L E V A C T Z
 T F B Y G K Z C H M H O S B Y
 V Q O S O B S Q J C D P W M W
 B Q R A O D R A L E R E Q K B
 J B W N D I E O B I S Y R Q A
 U O K C F W V K N O T U L C S
 F C U Q R O Y G R C O S S I C
 E E N U I T S A C R O S S L L
 P S T V D K D J K M M O I J A
 V E G N A D B D F H Y S O F T
 Q Z L P Y T U U W C L P E J F
 R E T S A E N Q B Q O L T U W
 J L G Z W Q N C R N Y N J S X
 M J H K L F Y R U U B C B V R



AROSE	BASKET	BUNNY
CAVE	CROSS	EASTER
EGGS	GOODFRIDAY	JESUS

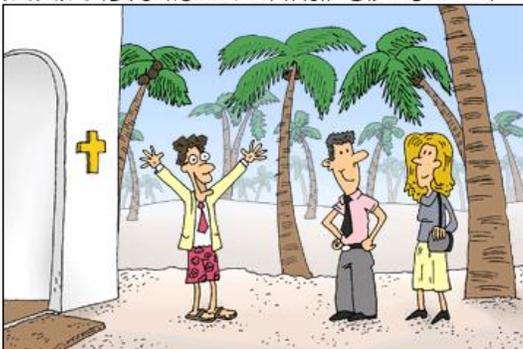
Unscramble the boxes to make this

Easter Morning Greeting

E	N	!	H	E	D	I	C	H	R	I	S	R	I	S	L	O	R	E	D	!
T	T	N	I	S	R	N	D	E	I	S	H	E	I	S	E					

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

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Thanks to Robert

04-18-2011

ON OUR ISLAND, EVERY SUNDAY IS PALM SUNDAY

March Madness Isn't Just Basketball

I really do not like the time change. Whether we “fall back” or “spring forward”, I do not care for the disruption to my circadian rhythms, also known as sleep patterns. It always throws the next few days off, because nothing seems correct in relation to time. We, of course, have Benjamin Franklin to thank for this, despite the fact that it was not instituted in the U.S. until President Woodrow Wilson signed it into law in 1918. People had encountered it in England, during the First World War, to help industries to conserve energy and to increase production. Canada was actually the first country to adopt it, then England and Germany, before we followed suit. We have good ole Ben to thank, because in 1784 he wrote an essay to the editor of “The Journal of Paris” titled, “An Economical Project for Diminishing the Cost of Light” in which he suggested they could save candles if people got out of bed earlier in the morning to make use of natural sunlight. So, as we struggle to get up an hour earlier, we can say thanks to Ben for trying to give us an extra hour of daylight in the morning.

But for anyone having trouble, I recommend a nap. As I was writing this, I was looking up Pi day thinking I might lift up the mathematical coincidence that today is the 14th of March, and therefore 3.14 which is pi to the second decimal. However, I discovered that today is also listed as National Napping Day. Perhaps that's because after the time change, we all feel like a good nap is in order. As a wise sage once said, toes up at two is code for going home to take a nap. Naps are good for health. So with that, I hope everyone has had a wonderful Pi day and a good nap, and by the time you are reading this you will be getting your green ready for Saint Patrick's Day and looking forward to Palm Sunday this coming Sunday.

*Shalom,
Daniel*

Easter Egg Hunt Is Coming!



The Easter Egg Hunt will be **Saturday, March 26th at 11:00am**. Outside the office you can pick up plastic eggs to stuff for the egg hunts. We are inviting the community again, so if you would like to purchase some eggs and stuff them with candy the Education Committee would appreciate your help!! Please return the filled eggs to the box by Sunday, March 20th. Thanks for your help!

—Education Committee

Articles for the next OakBridge will be due Monday, April 4, at noon. Please remember, articles must be 500 words or less.

Date	ATTENDANCE	
3/6/16	9:00 AM	57
	11:00 AM	93
3/13/16	9:00 AM	35
	11:00 AM	81

Date	GIVING	
3/6/16	General	\$8,836.89
	Blessing Fund	\$397.60
3/13/16	General	\$6,196.90
	Blessing Fund	\$110

Church Staff

Rev. Daniel U'Ren — Senior Minister (Daniel@woccdoc.org)

Rev. Julia Jordan Gillett — Associate Minister (Julia@woccdoc.org)

Hope Lairson — Interim Youth Director

Janey Merry — Administrative Assistant (Janey@woccdoc.org)

Dr. Ronald Manning — Music Director (ronald_manning@att.net)

Rosa McCroskey — Pianist

Verona Burke — Organist

Todd Newell — Praise Band Leader

Rosanne Rowe, Steve Powers, Hope Lairson, Jeff Newell & Brett Hawk — Praise Band Members

Vincent Pinazza — Sound Technician

Lawrence Johnson — Custodian

Samantha VanOsdol — Nursery Supervisor

Cynthia Mize & Kiersten Hamill — Nursery Attendants

Loving God and Serving Our Neighbor



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Western Oaks Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
8100 NW 23rd Street, Oklahoma City, OK 73127

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