

JUNE 30, 2015

Oakbridge

WESTERN OAKS CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Let's Get Started!

I can't say enough about how much I appreciate everyone who served on a committee last year as well as those who have pledged to serve committees for the coming year. I appreciate all the chairs, elders, deacons and officers of the church. I am so thankful for the leadership that Bob Melton provided this last year, and I welcome Wendy Wilkerson as our new Board Chair. I ask that you surround her with your love and support. The dedication of our committee chairs and leadership of the church is greatly appreciated especially in giving your Sunday afternoon to listen to me talk about my hopes and dreams for the coming year. We had a great discussion yesterday, and I watched and listened to many great ideas being lifted up as planning began for a new year.

There is so much to do and I really hope to revitalize our education department, but we need people to step up to be teachers for the children. I hope to see the youth program grow and expand, but we need to have the youth here and involved to help shape it. I hope to see new programs going on that get people excited about being here. I hope to see old ministries continue as well. We talked yesterday about several of those events that took place in the past that we still talk about fondly, and I asked why we don't still do them. The answer is: we need someone to get excited and head it up.

I have encouraged all committees to formulate goals and objectives to complete in the course of the coming year as well as to focus on those goals and objectives *around the lens of a visitor*. These goals are going to become a part of our toolkit for the church and for growth. Every toolkit needs a variety of things to get the job done; that's where all of you come in. I ask you to try walking through the doors with the eyes of a first time guest and evaluate what you experience. I also encourage each committee to get the people in the church involved and create enthusiasm for the various ministries. We are not alone here. We are CHURCH here, and I love this church! I hope you share that love.

Thank you,
Daniel

The Old & The New

As I mentioned during the Stewardship Moment last Sunday, June 30th marks the end of a three-year capital campaign. It is my understanding that a great deal was accomplished with the past campaigns. A new entrance and parking lot was created through a land purchase, and a new portecochere was added to keep us dry when dropping-off and picking-up. We also have replaced several air conditioners and so much more! It is my understanding that we did not accomplish *everything* on our wish list, but the most important and immediate things were accomplished. However, we have not collected everything that we need to zero-out this campaign. Estimates show we are roughly \$35,000 short of being able to pay off our debts. Another lingering cost on the horizon is that while we replaced some air conditioners, we have more on the verge of expiring. One that provides air to the Choir Room and the Rejoice & Serve Class has been worked on several times, and we are hoping it holds out long enough for us to start a "mini campaign" in August to create a fund to replace air conditioners. We have four that we foresee needing replaced in the coming years.

Shalom,
Daniel

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Committees
- Campaign
- Veterans
- Youth Mission Trip

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Calendar & Birthdays	2
Prayer Requests	4
Disciples in History	5
Youth News	7
Data & Info	7



JULY 2015

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	
*	*					

Schedule of Events

4th Royal Oaks HOA July 4th Party
11:00am-2:00pm

6th Church Office Closed

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

8th Bridge for Fun 1:00pm-4:00pm

12th Fellowship Committee Meeting
4:30pm-5:30pm

Fellowship Dinner—Honoring Our
Veterans 6:00pm-7:00pm

13th OakBridge article DUE

July 18—July 23 General Assembly

21st Elders Prayer Breakfast 7:15am-8:15am
Admin Meeting 7:00pm-8:00pm

22nd Bridge for Fun 1:00pm-4:00pm

26th Deacon Training 10:00am-11:00am

27th OakBridge article DUE

Aiden Harris 7/1

Linda Patzack 7/2

Nathan Ketola 7/2

Israel Ragle-Tullis 7/3

Ann Catlin 7/5

Jacob Foster 7/5

B.R. Gordon 7/7

Jane Spreier 7/7

Kadan Frank 7/8

Justin Gamble 7/8

Margo Thein 7/9

Katelynn Word 7/9

Eric Morrison 7/9

Mason Sharp 7/10

Lisa Sloan 7/11

Bill Parker 7/11

Jan Sills 7/12

Marlene Word 7/13

Jim Gervais 7/13

Jolene Schwind 7/14

Del Hamm 7/15

Joah Enevoldsen 7/16

Becky Buckley 7/17

Deana Smith 7/18

Erich Wagner 7/20

Cole Harrison 7/22

Lonnie Walker 7/23

Judi McDown 7/26

Kari Simmons 7/28

Ken Whitt 7/28

Jean Amos 7/31



July Birthdays

Property Update

Seth Nevel and George Lunsford replaced a valve on a toilet in one of the stalls in the ladies bathroom by the sanctuary. While completing the repairs, they noticed our shop vacuum had a major leak which will require replacing the machine. **Does anyone out there have one they would be willing to donate to the church?** That would be super. If not, Property will have to buy a new one. Please, let us know.

A big “thank you” goes to Jerry Cobb for eliminating two wasp nests outside the nursery. He also repaired the play gym.

A second big “thank you” goes to George Lunsford and Seth Nevel for repairing the toilet in the ladies bathroom by the sanctuary.

Thank you,
Jane Maytubby & George Lunsford, Property Co-Chairs

Youth Mission Trip 2015

This year, our youth will have an opportunity to stay local while making a global impact during the mission trip from **July 26th - 30th**! We will focus on different countries each day. We will learn how people live, what language they speak, and services they need. Then, we will cook a traditional meal from that country. After lunch, we will participate in a mission activity to help the people of that country. As always - we will dine, worship, and work together as a family! On our last day, we will celebrate all our hard work by going to White Water Bay! Don't miss out on this year's mission experience!

The cost of the trip is \$30 per person. This is due July 5th with the registration form.
If you have questions or concerns, please call me at **495-7167** or halairson@my.okcu.edu!

Thanks,
Hope Lairson
Interim Youth Director
Western Oaks Christian Church

Glory Among the Nations



*WCCC Youth Mission Trip
2015*

“Honoring Our Veterans”



Fellowship Dinner

July 12, 2015 at 6:00pm
(following the holiday weekend)



We are requesting that each veteran, or a member of a deceased veteran's family, bring memorabilia to be displayed for everyone to see. Each veteran will be recognized and honored for his/her service.

The Fellowship Committee will furnish fried chicken and dessert. We ask all guests bring a salad or veggie.

Please join us for this very special celebration evening!

Prayer Requests

- * Joni Burch's niece is in ICU in Enid.
- * Pray for understanding amidst SCOTUS decision.
- * Pray for those in need of food, health, & housing. Help us find ways to help.
- * Dennis Spencer, Karen Russell's brother, had a stroke.
- * Lisa Sloan's granddaughter, Nicole, had surgery.
- * Christine Wagner had knee replacement surgery.
- * Paula Schonauer, a friend of Nance Cunningham, has a teenage daughter, Joey, who has been diagnosed with stage 4 Hodgkin's Lymphoma.
- * Pray for Rev. Michael Canada & the new church.
- * Rev. Johnny Means, Jan Ketola's co-worker's father, had open heart surgery.
- * George & Alvin Lawson, friends of the Lunsfords, both have cancer.
- * Beverly Parker had a hip replaced.
- * LaRue Ingram is still having a lot of back pain.
- * Eric Lasseter, Mike & Karen Starr's son-in-law, has stage 4 melanoma.
- * The people of Nepal
- * Sharon Roemer, Martha Buchanan's friend in California, has been diagnosed with multiple cancers.
- * Lloyd & Paul Gosnell, Cynthia Hill's cousins
- * Renee Williams, friend of Martha Buchanan, is devastated by cancer diagnosis.
- * Joan Stamman, Jan Sills' cousin, has stage 4 colon cancer.
- * Jimmy Sills has a perforated ulcer.
- * Sharon Lutke, friend of Jan Ketola, dealing with recurrence of cancer.
- * Greg Morse, Linda Cobb's nephew
- * Dick & Lura Cayton
- * Danny Cartmill, Marlene Word's nephew, has pancreatic cancer & decreasing in health.
- * Dorothy Ferguson undergoing chemotherapy treatments.
- * Millman family
- * Bill Parker's cancer is in remission, & he will have a maintenance of chemo every 2 months.
- * Lou O'Brien

Disciples in History

As a young boy, Jeu Hawk heard stories in China about a place in the United States where gold was so plentiful you could just pick it up on the streets. So, traveling with his uncle, he came to America and when they landed at the “Golden Gate” nothing was as it was in the stories. He then spent every Sunday in Sunday School where he learned to speak English as well as so much more. Eventually, he would attend Drake University, a Disciples of Christ University, as their first international student and later attended the University of Oregon where he would receive an M.D. to become a physician.

Upon returning to Hong Kong in 1901, he was not allowed to practice medicine for some time due to the current laws forbidding the practice of “Western Medicine” in China and Hong Kong. Thanks to the pioneer in medicine Dr. Chung Boon-chor, who was accredited with bringing Western medicine into the deeply rooted conservative culture found in Hong Kong, Dr. Hawk would not only be able to practice medicine, but also one day replace Dr. Boon-chor. However, there was very little money to be made in the free clinic where he devoted himself to providing free healthcare to individuals.

Western medicine is not the only thing that Dr. Hawk would bring with him when he returned home; he also brought religion. While studying in the states, he not only received an education as a physician, but also became acquainted with the Christian Church. Upon returning to Hong Kong in the 1900’s, he talked with his patients about Christianity and soon established a Christian church there. This in itself was a great feat. In a letter to the “Christian Evangelist”, an early Disciples of Christ publication, Dr. Hawk wrote a letter describing the hardships he encountered upon returning to China, but at the same time describing the difficulties American Christian missionaries had in entering China. He reminded readers in his letter that they should not be surprised because the U.S. had a similar policy which prevented him as a Christian Missionary from China from returning to the U.S.

Together with others, he soon started establishing more churches throughout Hong Kong and beyond. Dr. Jeu Hawk dedicated his life to the pursuit of social justice, freely caring for the ill and lame, all the while telling them of the love of God. His life was an example of loving kindness and walking humbly with God.



Dr. Jeu Hawk



Daniel will be leaving July 13th for the General Assembly and will return July 25th. Rev. Parker Cross will be preaching on July 19th, and Mike Canada has asked to deliver the message on July 26th to share with you about the new church start in Oklahoma.



Gratitude is our Attitude

“Thank you for the prayers for Tate, Chris’ grandson.” —Mary Francis Hedrick

“Listening to the sermon and thinking (don’t let that scare you), I was feeling so blessed and reassured that even though I may not be the most money-wealthy person in the world, I feel quite certain I’m the richest, or close to it, when it comes to having a GREAT church and church family to serve and share with each day.” —Lacinda Green



301 NW 36th Street • Oklahoma City, OK 73118 • 405.525.6530 • 888.525.6530 • www.okdfd.org

ANNOUNCEMENT

The Oklahoma Disciples Foundation is excited to formally announce the Sam and Mary Howard Million Dollar Match program. Sam and Mary have both passed from this earth, but what they left behind will impact generations to come. Along with generous philanthropy and Christian example during their lifetimes, the Howards bequeathed from their remaining estate a significant amount of money to the Oklahoma Disciples Foundation.

The Board of Directors of the Oklahoma Disciples Foundation has earmarked One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000.00) of that money to be used as a matching fund for new endowments and for qualifying existing endowments. The earmarked funds have not been received yet, but as that process is being finalized, applications for the match are being taken.

Once the funds are received, churches, missions and ministries of the Christian Church in Oklahoma will be eligible to receive endowment matching funds on the basis of one dollar of match for every two dollars of endowment. Certain minimums and maximums as well as other terms and conditions apply.

This is a great opportunity for your church or mission to create a perpetual and reliable stream of income for your work in God's kingdom. The terms and conditions of the program, together with required details of your application, are attached to this announcement. If you have an interest, please contact us and we will answer any questions.

Eric Gray

Executive Director

Caring & Sharing

The Caring and Sharing Group met Sunday, June 21 at church. Margo Thein presented the program on how to help each of us through the changes in our life by opening our hearts to God. We have each been called upon to take the "road less traveled". God's blessing is that He is with us and will lead us through the difficult times.

EAT OUT TIMES:

JULY 8 th	5:00pm	Nina Family Restaurant	5001 N. Portland (located where the old Coit's used to be)
JULY 22 nd	5:00pm	Chili's	8445 N. Rockwell

YOUTH SOUNDBITE

Let's talk about prayer. According to Google, prayer is a solemn request for help or expression of thanks addressed to God or an object of worship. According to this definition, a simple "thanks" will suffice. Perhaps you enjoy the church camp/ Sunday School prayers about Johnny Appleseed or the Adams Family. A very wise mentor once told me that prayer is just a conversation between you and God. I think if we view prayer this way, it makes the practice easier. I find it easier to just start talking rather than to put together a proper request list or thank you list. Sometimes my prayers start with, "God, I am really frustrated. . .", "God, I am so happy. . .", or "God, please help that person. . ." For me, prayer is about building a relationship. Prayer is not a cure-all or a genie in a magic lamp. It should not be a daunting or scary task. It does not have to be perfect. It is about expressing yourself to God. You can do it with one word, a song, or tears. Just do it!

"Pray continually,"-1 Thessalonians 5:17

Upcoming Events:

July 26—30 Mission Trip

*Peace and Blessings,
Hope Lairson
Interim Youth Director*



Articles for the next OakBridge will be due Monday, July 13, at noon

Please remember, articles must be 500 words or less.

The new church year begins on July 1st, and the new committee chairs are already at work. Thank you to these folks who are leading our committees this year!

- Education** Jeff and Donna Nevel
- Evangelism** Barbara Johnson
- Membership** Pat Brown and Deana Smith
- Outreach** Dick Cayton
- Fellowship** Sandra Cook and Charlene Newkirk
- Property** Jack Graham and Jane Maytubby
- Stewardship** Robert Frantz and Andrea Teter
- Worship** Lura Cayton and Kay Lehman



Date	ATTENDANCE	
6/21/15	9:00 AM	52
	11:00 AM	86
6/28/15	9:00 AM	52
	11:00 AM	90

Date	GIVING	
6/21/15	General	\$3,711.25
	Capital	\$840
6/28/15	General	\$4,143.25
	Capital	\$1,195

Church Staff

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

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

Hope Lairson — Youth Interim Director

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

Rosa McCroskey — Pianist

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



«City»

«Address»

«Name»

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

Loving God, Serving Our Neighbors