

APRIL 5, 2016

Oakbridge

WESTERN OAKS CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Holy Humor 2016

When a minister begins a new calling to a church on April 1st, also known as April Fool's Day, you might expect the occasional hijinks or two. Some of which was to be found in Holy Humor Sunday. The Sunday after Easter has been called many things: "Low Sunday" because attendance does not compare to Easter Sunday, "Associate Sunday" because the associate usually preaches to give the senior minister a break after Holy Week, but I have come to be fond of "Holy Humor Sunday". This was an ancient tradition that some claim came out of an early (ancient) sermon about Jesus laughing at the devil or the idea of God's joke is laughing at death with an empty tomb. "Risus paschalis – the Easter laugh," was later banned by Pope Clement X in the 17th century, probably because they were having too much fun in the church.

But laughter is not something that should be banned. Nor is it something that makes light of our faith or of God. Even in the poem "Inferno: A Divine Comedy" by Dante, we read as he ascends "'Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,' all the saints now sing in unison. What Dante hears and sees is like the brilliant laughter of the universe. Oh, joy, oh ineffable gladness! Oh, life full of love and peace. Oh, wealth that breeds no greed!"

As we laugh together, there are also times when we weep together. But it is because we are together that we can get through the sad times as well as the glad times. I am proud to be celebrating two years of an active and productive ministry together. We have accomplished so much in these two years, from new and exciting outreach programs to getting excited about the new possibilities in Christian Education. I confess though, it was hard to believe it has *only* been two years, I feel like we have been together longer than that. I mean that in a good way! I hope that together we will share more jovial laughs in years to come.



*Live life, have fun, and be well,
Daniel*



Here are our two newly baptized church members: David Gillett and Mandie Howry. They made their confessions of faith on Easter Sunday.

APRIL 2016



| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
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| 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
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| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
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| 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |
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6 Bridge for Fun 1:00pm-4:00pm

Wednesdays at Western Oaks 6:00pm-8:30pm

10 Cabinet Meeting 12:15pm-1:15pm

11 Whiz Kids 3:00pm-5:00pm

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

CWF Meeting & Luncheon 10:00am-12:00pm

VBS Planning Meeting 7:00pm-8:00pm

13 Caring & Sharing Eat Out 5:00pm-7:00pm

Wednesdays at Western Oaks 6:00pm-8:30pm

15 Craft Fair Set-up 1:00pm-5:00pm

16 WOCC Spring Craft Fair 9:00am-3:00pm

17 Wedding Shower for Robert Early 12:15pm-2:00pm

Covered Dish Fellowship Dinner 6:00pm-8:00pm

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

18 Whiz Kids 3:00pm-5:00pm

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

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

Wednesdays at Western Oaks 6:00pm-8:30pm

24 Elders Meeting 12:15pm-1:15pm

Children's Picnic in the Park 12:15pm-2:00pm

25 OakBridge Article Due 12:00pm

Whiz Kids 3:00pm-5:00pm

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

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

27 Caring & Sharing Eat Out 5:00pm-7:00pm

Wednesdays at Western Oaks 6:00pm-8:30pm

28 Sue Halpain Piano Rehearsal 5:00pm-6:00pm

Dorothy Ferguson 4/3

Margaret Blackerby 4/5

Marge Evans 4/5

Carolynn Knowles 4/6

Dean Lunsford 4/6

Jan Ketola 4/8

Jack Frantz 4/10

Pam White 4/11

Katie Hall 4/11

Rita Norris 4/14

Lissa Foster 4/19

Chandler Sills 4/19

Isabelle DeKinder 4/19

Tina Bayliff 4/21

Tyler Bradley 4/21

Cassie Walker 4/22

Jenna Droke 4/22

John Millman 4/22

Max Patzack 4/22

Robert Humphrey 4/25

Donna Nevel 4/25

Jill Enevoldsen 4/26

Jordan White 4/26

Sebastian Digby 4/27

John Lassiter 4/29

Birthdays

Gratitude is our Attitude

“Ok, Ok, Ok, so I’m late in thanking the entire church for prayers for a safe surgery and a speedy recuperation. I’m doing so right now. I got so many cards and so many thoughts of well wishing for my health. Yesterday, my eldest child, Steve Wood, had a post on Facebook about procrastination. I wrote and told him at one time in my life, I’d been chair of the worldwide procrastination committee. Anyway, I’m thanking you all for thinking of me and all the well wishing you did, because IT WORKED. Thanks again.” —Duane Wood

“Dear Church Family,
Thank you for the notes and many prayers for my niece, Cami. She lost her earthly battle with cancer, but is now smiling as she has received her glorious reward in heaven. God is peace.” —Joni Burch & family

“Kudos to all those participating in the trip downtown to feed the homeless at Refuge Fellowship Church. Joining in the fun cooking: Judy Walker and Linda Patzack; loading and unloading at church: Steve, Steven Teter and Tony Majetic; serving and clean up: Judy Walker, Gay and Andrea Teter, Julia, Mark, Matt, and David Gillett, Rev. Daniel along with Aidan and Liam. Tom Russell was there with his Clean Socks Ministry. Pastor Noel Gray interacted with the congregation asking for testimonies and song presentations. Great time had by all and a meaningful encounter with a most appreciative crowd. Make plans to join us downtown May 9th for our next hosting at RFC.” —Charlene Majetic, Community & World Missions



BLESSING OF CHILDREN WORSHIP & WONDER

We are excited to reinstate the Children Worship & Wonder program during the 11:00 worship. We blessed all who participate, both the children and adults, as we move forward. Then, we took an Old Testament story, a New Testament story, our Christ Candle, the Bible we will use, the baby Jesus who was placed on our focal shelf so we remember Christmas all year round, and our offering basket. Each child placed one of the elements in our room as they entered.

Our Storytellers are: Jeff Nevel, Wendy Wilkerson, Julia Jordan Gillett, Andrea Teter and Gay Teter. Kristen Atwood will join us in the fall. The greeters are: Kelli Fearing, Jodie Conner, Deborah Griffith, Anika Gillett, Fern Melton, Marlene Word, and we welcome Lissa Foster who graciously said “yes” this past Sunday!! Lacinda Green and Andrea Teter have been gracious to offer to be substitute greeters.

We will meet parents at the fellowship time after worship, unless our worship runs a little long and then parents may pick the children up at the Children Worship & Wonder room. Thank you for your support and prayers as we start this new endeavor!!

Julia Jordan Gillett



SAVE THE DATE!
PICNIC IN THE PARK
Lake Overholser—Sunday April 24th

Let's have a picnic, play and fellowship at Lake Overholser by the playground. Any families with toddlers through 5th grade are invited! We will have hamburgers, hotdogs, and games.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL PLANNING MEETING
Tuesday, March 12th at 7:00pm for the leaders.



EASTER EGG HUNT A HUGE SUCCESS BECAUSE OF YOU!!!

A big thanks to all who helped stuff eggs, tape off boundaries for each age group, and those that placed the eggs for each age group!! Thanks to those who watched the bounce house, made cotton candy, painted faces, put on sponge tattoos, helped with the crafts, and gave away flyers about Vacation Bible School and Children Worship and Wonder.



Caring & Sharing

For the last meeting, Margo Thein and Charlene Majetic presented a very thoughtful program for Holy Week, and then we planned the "Eat Out" Calendar for April.

| | | |
|----------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| April 13 | Applebee's | 6020 SW 3 rd |
| April 17 | WOCC Meeting | 8100 NW 23 rd St |
| April 27 | Alisha's Southern Kitchen* | 2747 W. Memorial |

(*This is a new location for the restaurant at Cowboy Hall of Fame. It is the same wonderful food in a better more convenient location. Mary Beth had lost her contract after 20 years, but this is such a better place for her customers. Don't miss this meeting!)

Fellowship Dinner Hosted by CWF

**All Church Pot Luck Dinner!
Sunday, April 17 @ 6:00pm**

You will hear information about "Citizens Caring for Children". The CWF quilt will be given away, and PC West's Kailee Lovelady will be our guest musician for the evening. Bring your family, friends, and food to come for fun and fellowship!

WOCC Hosts Maundy Thursday Seder Dinner

A gathering of our church family and friends was celebrated at the Seder Dinner on Maundy Thursday at WOCC. A candlelight dinner of roasted lamb, Charoset, Maror (greens, radish), roasted eggs, roasted potato & Kapas was served to 67 guests in celebration of this Maundy Thursday feast. Reverend Daniel U'Ren guided the church family through this symbolic feast in anticipation of the risen Christ on Easter Sunday.

Charles Mohr and Jane Maytuby are recognized for serving as Chairpersons of the event with committee members: Kay Jewell, Jim Gervais, Jenna Droke, Marlene Word, Mary Garrison, Charlene Majetic, Okie Merry, Steve & Gay Teeter, Jerry Cobb, George & Joann Goodner, Rev. Julia Jordan, Mark, Matthew, Aanika, & David Gillett, Katherine Jordan, and Robert & Linda Frantz.

Let's Break the Record!

I am a member of the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution, Ft. Reno Chapter. We are trying to break the record for the number of letters sent to active duty military - we need 10,000 letters. If this is something you think you would like to participate in, go to www.dar.org/worldrecord to learn the rules (which are VERY specific) and to obtain addresses of military personnel (or if you know of someone who is on active duty you can send to them). You can forward the letters to me in person or put in the Property Box. A person from the Guinness Book of World Records will be at our Continental Congress in June to verify whether we have set a new record. One of the members of our chapter is going and will take our letters. I need to take to ours to the May 21st meeting. If you have questions, feel free to call me or see me at church. Thanks for your help!

—Jane Maytubby

Prayer Requests

- * Montana Mae Pursley weighs a little over 4 lbs & will get to go home on Thursday.
- * Pray for the mission partners as we travel to Rowlett, TX and work to rebuild after the tornado.
- * 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
- * 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, Cynthia Hill's son
- * 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

WOCC 7th Annual Spring Craft Show

We will have lots going on **Saturday, April 16th from 9:00 – 3:00**. Our church will be full of booths inside and outside for your shopping pleasure!

Our Youth will be hosting a Snack Bar with breakfast, lunch and snack items from 9:00 – 2:00. For dessert, you can stop by the Cafe Heaven Dessert Shoppe for a slice of cake and rest your tired feet!!!! Our vendors have donated wonderful Door Prizes that will be given away throughout the day. Please come join us for LOTS of shopping and delicious food!!!



PLEASE HELP US ADVERTISE THE WOCC SPRING CRAFT SHOW

If you would like to post a sign in your yard to promote our upcoming Craft Show we will have a table set up after both services on April 3rd and again on April 10th for you to pick up a sign.

All we ask is that you put your sign out the Sunday before the Show (April 10th) and leave in your yard through Saturday, April 16th. You can return your sign to us on April 17th.

If you can't put a sign in your yard but want to help in another way, we will have small flyers that you can give to friends, family and co-workers. We will also have signs if you know of a business that would allow us to post information about our show.

We appreciate everyone that can help us promote our show AND Western Oaks Christian Church. THANK YOU IN ADVANCE!!!!



Youth Sunday is coming up on **April 17th**! Please come show your support of WOCC's youth program and enjoy worship services led by our young friends.

Articles for the next OakBridge will be due Monday, April 25, at noon. Please remember, articles must be 500 words or less.

| Date | ATTENDANCE | |
|---------|------------|-----|
| 3/20/16 | 9:00 AM | 43 |
| | 11:00 AM | 100 |
| 3/27/16 | 9:00 AM | 105 |
| | 11:00 AM | 180 |
| 4/3/16 | 9:00 AM | 59 |
| | 11:00 AM | 93 |

| Date | GIVING | |
|---------|---------------|-------------|
| 3/20/16 | General | \$17,564.99 |
| | Blessing Fund | \$275 |
| 3/27/16 | General | \$5,085.21 |
| | Blessing Fund | \$187.50 |
| 4/3/16 | General | \$8,996.96 |
| | Blessing Fund | \$250 |

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)
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