

SEPTEMBER 13, 2016

Oakbridge

WESTERN OAKS CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Magic

What great fun we had at the Fellowship Dinner! I hope you had as much fun as I did with the Magic Show. Bill, “The Great Parsoni”, and I, “U’Ren the Unintentional” (as Matthew introduced me) demonstrated just a few of the tricks we have up our sleeves. It was fun even with the front row hecklers saying, “we know how you did that” which, if you did not hear them, followed up with “you cheated”. That is the fun of magic, everyone is trying to figure out how the trick is done. That is the fun of a trick, it is just that, a trick. But the real magic is watching the church come together as family: to eat together, to share in each other’s joys and sorrows, to laugh together, and to be there to help carry the heavy burdens. Western Oaks is truly an amazing place where people gather together, united by their love of God. It is no trick, but genuine compassion. How do we share that love with others such as our friends and neighbors? How do we invite them, and make sure they feel welcome here? I encourage you to continue to work the magic of Western Oaks rooted in the love of God.

*Shalom,
Daniel*

Eating with Scholars, Scribes & Friends

Several months ago I started something new, a Clergy Discussion Group. For me, this is an invigorating opportunity to gather with clergy from the surrounding area, and we share with one another what is going on in our lives and our ministries. This last week, we met for a special occasion, because we had the opportunity to sit down with a scholar, Dr. Joel Hoffman, who is considered an expert on the Dead Sea Scrolls. I was blown away with the depth of knowledge he shared at this lunch. He made the history and intrigue surrounding the discovery of the scrolls come to life. I was also amazed to learn how, in many ways, the discovery of these scrolls impacted our understanding of the Bible. For example, until these scrolls were discovered, the oldest surviving copy of the book of Isaiah was actually put on paper around 1,000 A.D., and it was missing parts. In the Dead Sea Scrolls, a more complete copy of Isaiah was discovered which dated to around 200 B.C. But the Dead Sea Scrolls were not without critics, there were many who refused to consider the validity of the scrolls for no other reason than it may challenge what they had believed and what had been handed down for centuries. Some were even ready to kill rather than to change. Others did not change the mistakes that were discovered, holding onto long held traditions, while others reveled in getting it right. For me, I greatly enjoy history and hope we get it right.

*Shalom,
Daniel*

SEPTEMBER 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	
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- 13** Elders Prayer Breakfast 7:15am-8:15am
 CWF Meeting & Luncheon 10:00am-12:00pm
 Admin Meeting 7:00pm-8:00pm
- 14** Bridge for Fun 1:00pm-4:00pm
 Caring & Sharing @ Nina's 5:00pm-6:00pm
- 18** Cabinet Meeting 12:15pm-1:15pm
 Retirement Party for Carol Allen 2:00pm-4:00pm
- 19** Whiz Kids 3:00pm-5:00pm
- 21** Caring & Sharing @ WOCC 4:00pm-5:00pm
- 24** Community Health Fair @ WOCC 10:00am-2:00pm
- 25** Reconciliation Sunday
- 26** Whiz Kids 3:00pm-5:00pm
- 27** Elders Prayer Breakfast 7:15am-8:15am
 Elders Evening Prayer 7:00pm-8:00pm
- 28** Bridge for Fun 1:00pm-4:00pm
 Caring & Sharing Eat Out @ Olive Garden 5:00pm-6:00pm

Gratitude is our Attitude

“I have been truly blessed through the prayers and thoughtful acts of kindness from the WOCC family and friends during my recent recovery process from back surgery. The outpouring of love and concern is deeply appreciated.”

—Charles Mohr

“Western Oaks Christian Church,
Thank you so much for the delicious breakfast you prepared and served PC West. Your thoughtfulness and generosity are greatly appreciated!”

—Becky Butkus, PCWHS Registrar

Mrs. Cook's Joys!!

THANKS for the recognition and reception for teaching Sunday School for over 30 years. It was always my JOY. The poster, pictures, and notes will be a treasure in my home. If I may, let me share just a few of those joyful memories with you:

When a new bride wants you to join her in her wedding pictures...when a teenager is with friends at the mall and comes over to you to introduce them and give you a hug...when a little ball player seeing you leaving the ballpark and says (in front of the grandstand!) “see you Sunday in church Mrs. Cook” ...when a child makes you a special necklace ...when a young child cries as he enters the classroom then crawls up on your lap and is ok (he now leads two missions trips a year to underprivileged countries spreading the word of Christ) ...when a kid home from college finds you and gives you a long hug ...when I chased 2 little lambs down the aisle as they raced out of the sanctuary during a Christmas play ...when a sub teacher (Eliz G.) asked the children to list their favorite things I came in 7th, but I was ahead of the dog! There is Hope, and where she is today in her faith! Finally, (but there are many, many more) when a young adult returns to the church for his grandmother's funeral and brings his 4 year-old daughter to see his classroom, then tells me “it smells the same ...just like crayons!”. Jerry Johnson wanted me to be a Deacon when Jimmy, Judi and I joined WOCC 40+ years ago, but I told him I would rather “cut/paste/color”. His reply was “what ages do you want to teach?” So, I guess I have come full circle from “color to crayons to markers”.

These years with the kiddies have given LIFE and JOY to me every Sunday morning. And, since kiddies can't drive, I truly appreciate all the parents, grandparents, uncle/aunts and friends that brought these children to church.

THANKS for the purple flowers on the cake and the special touches of children's books, etc. Thanks to each of you for your participation.

Zillion Hugs,
Sandra, a.k.a. “Mrs. Cook” xoxoxo



The upcoming Cabinet Meeting is Sunday following Worship and Coffee Fellowship. Also, we strongly urge all Committees to meet *prior* to the Cabinet Meeting, if at all possible, in order to have reports ready to offer the Cabinet.

Happy PC West Teachers

Following a WOCC tradition that was started around 15 years ago, we fed 128 teachers and staff at PUTNAM CITY WEST High School to a yummy breakfast. They are all smiles when they started down the serving line and ready to begin their new school year. Thanks were abundant.

Those baking casseroles were: Dorothy Uhl, Mary Garrison, Sandra Spillman, Linda Patzack, Andrea Teter, Deana Smith, Julia Jordan Gillett, Jenna Droke, Jane Maytubby, Danet Trivette, Charlene Majetic, Sandra Cook, and Candy, the PCW school secretary.

Helping with the serving and clean up (yes, we got to eat as well) were: Roy Avants, Marilyn Chalk, Steve Teter, Dorothy Uhl, Linda Patzack, Tony and Charlene Majetic, Sandra Cook and Rhea Todd.

Several of our youth attend PCW. The extra Danish pastries were delivered to the football team at their early morning practice.

Since Daniel was out of town due to a family funeral, Rhea greeted the teachers. After explaining her connection with their former PCW Band Leader (Don), they shared in our loss of Charmaine Hipp, who was their cafeteria helper. We ended the morning with the chant, "WEST IS BEST! WEST IS BEST! WEST IS BEST!" What a great tradition Roland Fishel started many, many years ago.

Charlene, Sandra and Rhea

Prayer Requests



**"Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God."
—Philippians 4:6**

- * Heal those who need it in body, mind, & spirit.
- * Bob Russell, Tom Russell's brother, in hospital for respiratory problems.
- * Mike Porter, Margo Thein's brother-in-law, had surgery for pancreatic cancer.
- * Jim Brisive, Margaret Blackerby's brother-in-law from Colorado, suffered a stroke.
- * Dorothy Ferguson is back on chemo.
- * Rocky Fleming, Lisa Sloan's son
- * Andrew Mitchell, Tobi Frank's nephew, is 1 year old & has been diagnosed with kidney failure & other health issues.
- * Bill Lassiter, John Lassiter's son, had a stroke; he's paralyzed but has had some movement on the right side.
- * Sebastian Digby's mother, Earlene
- * Dearreal, has been diagnosed with lung cancer.
- * Carolyn Jenkins, friend of the Griffins.
- * Larry Digby, Martha Buchanan's son, is out of mental health hospital with medication.
- * Danny O'Kert & Dorleen Gosnell, Cynthia Hill's son & mother.
- * David Dixon, the Goodners' friend, will continue dialysis.
- * Lloyd Gosnell, Cynthia Hill's cousin, has cancer.
- * Joan Stamman, Jan Sills' cousin, has colon cancer.
- * Danny Cartmill, Marlene Word's nephew, has pancreatic cancer.
- * Lou O'Brien

Children's Ministries

We had a great time Sunday at our first JYF meeting! We welcome anyone who would like to join us Sunday, September 25th. Angela and Daniel Farris have graciously offered to host the JYF and parents for a cook-out "Study & Swim" Party at their home. We will begin discussing our participation in the Children Sabbath on Sunday, October 16th.

Let Julia know if you plan to attend JYF, in order for us have food for everybody!! Call Julia's cell at 821-0108 or the church office at 789-8812. Thanks for your support!! We also want to thank Margaret Blackerby for preparing a light lunch that the children loved!! Anyone wanting to help prepare a simple lunch on the 2nd or 4th Sunday for JYF, please let Julia know!!



*Blessings,
Julia Jordan Gillett*

CHURCH-WIDE GARAGE SALE/BAKESALE **TO SUPPORT OUR YOUTH GOING TO INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS SEMINAR**

When: Friday, October 7th to Saturday, October 8th

Where: Youth Room

Time: Friday 9:00am—4:00pm & Saturday 8:00am—Noon

You may begin bringing donated items to the youth room anytime during normal business hours of the church or on Sundays. Thanks so much for your support!!

What is International Affairs? It is a week-long study tour with the theme "Who Is My Neighbor" during Spring Break of 2017. Associate Regional Minister Michael Davison explains: IAS gives juniors and seniors in high school an opportunity to study a topic that is relevant to being a citizen and a person that claims Christian faith and build friendships with other Disciples youth and sponsors across the Oklahoma Region and the Texas Region.

Churches with youth attending I.A.S. are encouraged to help the youth to raise the \$1,600 fee which pays for the plane ticket, meals, room and transportation around Washington DC and New York City. Congratulations to Samuel Atwood, Sebastian Digby, Jacob Foster and Matthew Gillett for being accepted to participate in International Affairs Seminar 2017!



Help Us Spread the Word

WOCC'S Health Fair is Saturday, September 24, 2016 from 10:00am – 2:00pm. There will be 25 health/wellness organizations here with useful information for all ages.

- OBI will accept blood donations
- OK Caring Van – immunizations for infants through age 18...free for families that qualify
- Nextgen Sleep – new sleep study information and equipment
- Walgreens – free flu shots while quantities last
- Alzheimer's, Cancer, Diabetes, Aging Services, Red Cross, Drug Safety, Dental, Vision, Infant Safety, Integris, Mercy Community Outreach (will do blood pressure checks), Bethany YMCA, Salvation Army, Arthritis, Hough Ear, Medicare Change Info

We will have a sign-up sheet for blood donors at church this Sunday!



Promoting Health and Wellness in our community.

September 24th

10:00 am—2:00 pm



8100 NW 23rd
Oklahoma City, OK 73127
(405) 789-8812
www.woccdoc.org

Health Screenings

Free Flu Shots

Caring Van Immunizations

Donate Blood

And more

Community Partners

American Diabetes Association

American Heart

Red Cross

Oklahoma Blood Institute

American Cancer Association

Oklahoma Alliance on Aging

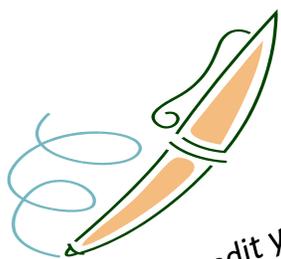
Walgreens providing Flu Shots

OK State Dept Health/Wellness

DCCCA Prevention

Bethany YMCA

And many more



Be sure to edit your church directory!

Contact Change

Danet & John Trivette
Email: Jndtrivette@att.net

**Whiz Kids is returning
September 19th!
We still need tutors!!**



Articles for the next OakBridge will be due Monday, **October 3, at noon**

Please remember, articles must be 500 words or less.

YOU'RE INVITED!

Carol Allen's Retirement Party

September 18, 2016
2:00pm to 4:00pm
Schwind Hall



Date	ATTENDANCE	
8/28/16	9:00 AM	53
	11:00 AM	86
9/4/16	9:00 AM	52
	11:00 AM	80
9/11/16	9:00 AM	53
	11:00 AM	81

Date	GIVING	
8/28/16	General	\$3,195.50
	Blessing Fund	\$225
9/4/16	General	\$7,327.87
	Blessing Fund	\$155
9/11/16	General	\$5,732.19
	Blessing Fund	\$200

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

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

Vincent Pinazza — Sound Technician

Lawrence Johnson — Custodian

Aanika Gillett & 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

Loving God, Serving Our Neighbors