

A Wise Heart

“So teach [us] to number [prepare] our days, that we may acquire [come into] a wise heart.” (Ps. 90:12)

In Psalm 90:12, the poet pleads that God will enable his people to take to heart the lessons which the brevity of life teaches us, that God will NOT suffer our lives to be both brief and bitter, but will redeem our lives into wisdom with great joy. And note this, that we are being asked to number our days and not merely count them in arithmetic fashion. For example, at 72 years, I have lived some 7.2 decades, some 26,280 days (plus 19 days to include leap years, 26,299) or some 630,720 hours (leap: 647,976) or some 37,843,200 minutes (leap: 38,878,560) or some 2,270,592,000 seconds (leap: 2,332,713,600). Add 57 days since my birthday on September 23rd, and I get 1,368 hours or 82,080 days or 4,924,800 seconds to add into the total. But, counting, as you can see, does not really tell us much about a lifetime. ‘A thousand years, writes the poet, in your sight are like a day that has just gone by (v4). So, too, the number of our years are, in the Lord’s sight, just like a day gone by. The count does not matter nearly as much as the consideration that our present day may be the last, and that we should never boast about tomorrow, but live in consideration of how short our lives really are. “The length of our days,” writes the poet is about 70 or 80 years, and [these] quickly pass.” (v10). With such short time lines, urgency is critical in living and learning, and sharing what we have learned.

And how then, do we measure a wise heart? How do we describe the wisdom of the heart that comes out of such a short time of living? We should first recognize that a wisdom of the heart differs significantly from a wisdom of the mind. A wisdom of the heart is interactive; we learn it from experience in the moment. We learn it in the trenches and not through books. Some have described this type of wisdom as cleverness rather than intellect, prudence rather than information. And it has an ethical and moral overtone; it is not just practical. Wisdom is often pictured metaphorically in the Bible as feminine. Sophia is her name; Chokmah in Hebrew. She is the embodiment of the Word of God (Proverbs 8), existing prior to creation with God, reflecting the feminine nature of God. As the Word of God, both *dabar* and *logos*, she is overflowing, interweaving, and fusing, shattering the neat but artificial separations of thought, speech and deed. In other words, Sophia is the real deal! She is the inspiration for all wise-hearts throughout time. Teach us, O Holy Wisdom, so that we too may gain wise hearts.

Grace & Peace

Pastor Randy

Sixteenth Discussion Question on Common Reading: Chapter Eight

Mark Deymaz (w/Harry Li) *The Coming Revolution in Church Economics: Why Tithes and Offerings Are No Longer Enough, and What You Can Do About it*

A quote from Mission Church of North Omaha NE.

“The moral of our story is this: dream big, think differently, and take risks.” P. 225

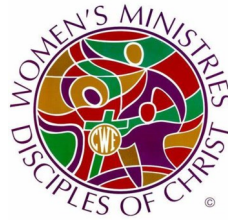
1) What is the moral of our WOCC story?

2) Can you sum up our story in fifty words or less?



Virginia Johnson donated an original painting to WOCC to hang over the coffee bar. The title of the painting is "Our Journey." Thank you so very much, Virginia! It is so very beautiful!

Pastor Randy



DWF Paint & Create Party December 8, 12:30 p.m.

Funds to be used for new ceiling tiles and other WOCC building repairs.



Sign up now for Salvation Army Kettle Brigade December 14.
Charlene Majetic

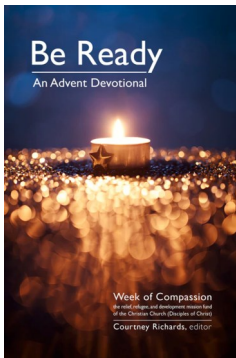
THANKSGIVING SPECIAL OFFERING




SUPPORTING HIGHER EDUCATION

Impacting the Church and World by Bringing Students and Resources Together





Please pick up an Advent Devotional in the narthex. The Title is: "Be Ready: An Advent Devotional", Courtney Richards is editor. Contributors work in some capacity for The Week of Compassion Mission Fund. This devotional supports the Week of Compassion.

Pastor Randy



Gretchen	Dolive	11/1
Fern	Melton	11/2
Virginia	Johnson	11/4
Skylar	Frank	11/8
Melanie	Ellis	11/11
Steve	Teter	11/13
Elaine	Baty	11/17
Dave	Brown	11/17
Darrell	Bradley	11/28
Debby	Newell	11/28

Pledge TODAY

Each year our congregation is asked to prayerfully consider how they will support the financial requirements of Western Oaks Christian Church.



The Annual Stewardship Campaign is how we get this information. Pledge cards will be provided for you to complete and return to the church allowing the building of the 2025 budget. In this way we will be able to continue to be a beacon of hope and love within our city and world.

Plant seeds for the continued growth and service of Western Oaks of Christian Church (DOC)

Faithful stewards do not appear with the morning dew as did manna for Israel in the Sinai Desert! Faithful stewards are grown in the soil of discipleship, and they bear the spiritual fruit of generosity that is developed through nurture and intentional practice. (DOC Website)

Job Opening: Church Nursery Attendant

Western Oaks Christian Church is accepting applications to fill the nursery attendant position. We are seeking a nurturing, caring, and patient caregiver to work with toddlers and infants Sundays, 8:30 - 12:30, during both worship services and the Sunday School hour.

Interviewing candidates will be subject to a background check. Send resumes to:

Western Oaks Christian Church
8100 NW 23rd St, OKC, OK 73127

Or email office@woccdoc.org

Play Practice for all participating will follow the Coffee Fellowship at 12:30p.m.

Sunday, November 24
Sunday, December 1
Sunday, December 8

Dress Rehearsal
Saturday, December 14, 10a.m.



Western Oaks Christian Church

**CHILDREN'S
MINISTRIES**



The Best Christmas Present

Coming Sunday, December 15th during the 11a.m. worship.

The Christmas party for our children with lunch, cupcake decorating, crafts and games followed by a special guest! Santa will come and we will end with some Christmas karaoke songs to end the day!

THIS IS THE WAY CHI RHO & CYF Fall Retreat at Canyon Camp, near Hinton, Oklahoma

Four youth attended the Fall Retreat: Faith Mendoza, Alorah and Adele Ross, and Jacob Sills. The weather was wonderful for our hike to the top of the canyon and the bonfire on Saturday night. All the youth enjoyed the event and are excited for the Midwinter Retreat in February as well as camp next year! Thanks for your support of the youth!



Church Staff
office@woccdoc.org



Interim Minister: Pastor Randy Hill
 Associate Minister: Rev. Julia Jordan Gillett
 Music Director: Andrew Orr
 Pianist: Rosa McCroskey
 Praise Band Leader: Ben Frantz
 Praise Band: Natalie Griffin and Zach Jones
 Nursery Attendant: Skylar Frank
 Admin Assistant: Cindy Cannon
 Sound Technician: Tobi Bessinger

Sunday, Nov 24 Thanksgiving Offering
 NO Thanksgiving Dinner
Monday, Nov 25 Admin Meeting

Upcoming Sermons

Series Theme: “Blessed to be a Blessing” (Gen. 12:2)
 November 24, 2024 Scripture: 2 Cor. 8:1-15
 Sermon Title: Week #4, “Rich in Kindness”
 Theme: Alone we can do little; together we can do much!
 (Helen Keller)

Advent Homilies:

December 1, 2024 (9 & 11 am) Scripture: Matthew 9:18-26
 Sermon Title: Hidden Hope
 Theme: Your hope is greater than your hopelessness.
 December 8, 2024 (9 am) Scripture: Malachi 3:1-4
 Sermon Title: Speaking Peace
 Theme: The message of Malachi represents a vision of serious peace in an age of challenging darkness.

Attendance	9:00 am	11:00 am	TOTAL Worship	Giving	General	Blessing Fund
10-27-2024	35	75	110	10-27-2024	\$1,080	\$30
11-3-2024	24	40	64	11-3-2024	\$7,650	\$30

“Loving God, Serving our Neighbors”



8100 NW 23rd Street
 Oklahoma City OK 73127

«Name»

«Address»

«City»