

## God's Rainbows

On our vacation this year, Susan and I 'drifted' over to Albuquerque, New Mexico, for a while. There are 19 pueblos still existing in the central and northern area of the state; we visited a few of them two years ago, after initially visiting the Pueblo Cultural Center to locate them. This year, we decided to visit the Chaco Canyon Cultural Park near Thoreau, NM. It is a World Heritage Site—a truly amazing place visited by people from around the world and has connections to the various Navajo and Pueblo tribes. Little did we know that we would be traveling over 20 miles of unpaved roads to get there, parts of which had stiffer rungs than great grandmother's washboard. Fajada Butte loomed large in the distance as we seemed to travel back hundreds of years in time for every mile we navigated. Ruby Ranch's fake longhorn watched over our journey as cattle on the property had right-of-way. And, wouldn't you know it, there were nicely paved roads in the park itself which made for an interesting contrast with the ruins.

On our way back home, we ate at the Pueblo Kitchen (attached to the Pueblo Center in Albuquerque); this was truly a wonderful delight! Susan and I had the roasted pinion triple berry salad with raspberry vinaigrette dressing. She drank Zia Ginger Ale and I had Zia Root Beer, both natively developed. After eating, we visited the local store. One of the books I found there was entitled: The Soul Would Have No Rainbow If the Eyes had no Tears. It is a book of Native American proverbs published by Guy Zona. I would like to share a few of those proverbs with you today.

"If we are to do something more than human, we must have more than human power."  
(Romans 8:26; 2 Corinthians 9:8)

"You must always be careful with something that is greater than you are." (Proverbs 9:10)

"The smarter a person is the more he or she needs God to protect them from thinking they know everything." (Psalms 27:5; Jeremiah 9:23-24).

"Our tears will eventually lead us to God's rainbows."

As we begin our Fall schedule this year, let's allow the Spirit of God to lead us, and pray for the power we will need to meet the challenges of our future and our world. If we all remember that our future depends on the Creator each and every day, then we should receive the rainbows that God has promised to those who are truly humble, joyful and tearful. Alleluia! Amen.

Grace & Peace,

Pastor Randy

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Ninth Discussion Question on Common Reading: Chapter Eight, Second question:

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

Third Space Coffee, Colorado Springs, CO

"Desiring to create a space where the diverse people of our community could gather, we decided to open a coffee shop. For us, it seemed a perfect contextual way to intersect our love for God and our love for our neighbors." P. 225

- 1) Does this apply to us?
- 2) How can we adapt this information for our own setting?

## Teacher Appreciation Breakfast Putnam City West High School

WOCC served breakfast to about 120 teachers at Putnam City West High School on Tuesday, August 13<sup>th</sup> as part of our “teacher appreciation” ministry. This ministry is famous for bringing smiles to the faces of faculty, staff and administration.

More than one person told us that they look forward to this breakfast each year as a high point of their year.”



**You're Invited**  
Sunday - September 8



Western Oaks Christian Church  
8100 NW 23<sup>rd</sup> St  
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73127

10:00 a.m. Meet & Greet  
11:00 a.m. Celebratory Worship  
12:30 p.m. Luncheon

**R.S.V.P. Catered Lunch by 8/26/24**

Email - [office@woccdoc.org](mailto:office@woccdoc.org)  
Phone - 405-789-8812

*“Celebrating”*

**Disciples Women Trailblazers and Mentors  
Awards Luncheon**

**THEME:**

*“Your Gift Will Make Room for You”  
Proverbs 18:16*

**Saturday, September 14, 2024  
Harvard Avenue Christian Church  
5502 S Harvard Ave, Tulsa**

**Doors open 11:15am (Central Time) - starts 12:00 noon**

Registration ends September 4th. Contact Julia for more information or questions.

# Mid-August Transition Update

## Roofing update

Roofing contract was signed with Elliott Roofing. We accepted their recommendation to replace the composite shingles with a color that closely resembles what is currently installed. The damage estimate from the assessor did not identify any damage to the membrane barrier that is the building's primary protection against the rain. Shingle replacement over Schwind Hall, the Sanctuary, the Burke Outbuilding, and the shake shingles over the north and east perimeter of the building is the primary focus of this project. No word yet as to when they expect to start work.

## Search Committee orientation

The Search Committee met with Interim Regional Minister Randy Kuss on August 4<sup>th</sup> following the second service. Search Committee members, along with a few interested congregants were in attendance. The pizza and salad were great! The first step for the committee is to develop the Congregational Profile. You can monitor the committee's progress on the easels in the Narthex.

## Coffee Bar

We are making progress on the Coffee Bar. The electric service has been completed. Wiring had to be pulled from three different circuits to avoid overloads. These coffeemakers are POWERFULL! The next step is to attach the base to the wall and install the cabinet doors in anticipation of the countertop.

## Thanks...

Once again, kudos to Administrative Assistant Cindy Cannon for her efforts soliciting bids and conducting building walkthroughs with roofers, contacting and managing HVAC contractors and scheduling plumbers as needed. This was in addition to her "normal" duties. She was out of the office for a week taking care of family and her absence was profoundly felt.


Bob Melton

WOCC Board Chairperson

*Western Oaks Christian Church*  
*gratefully acknowledges the following memorial gifts.*

In memory of Pat Brown's brother,  
**Loyd D. Healy, Jr. :**  
Charlene Majetic  
Gay Teter

In memory of Cindy Cannon's' Sister  
**Debbie Rodriguez:**  
Charlene Majetic  
Gay Teter



## CHRISTIAN WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

September is creeping in and hopefully bringing some cooler weather!

September 10 - Executive Meeting at the Church

September 17 - Business Meeting at Whipped at 10:00 am. Pastor Randy will be our guest speaker.

Mark your calendars and plan to attend.

Betty Singleton

Join us for an  
All - Church Fellowship  
**PAINT PARTY!**



**SUNDAY, SEPT. 29 at 12:15**  
**In the Youth Room**



Paint your own **MASTERPIECE** as you fellowship with friends, and enjoy tasty snacks. Kelli and Fern will lead in the **"ART OF LETTING GO"** utilizing different techniques in Layered Painting and Mixed Media Art.



**For ALL AGES & Artistic Talents!**

All Art supplies and snacks will be provided  
**YOU BRING THE CREATIVITY AND IMAGINATION!**  
\*An apron or old shirt is recommended to cover clothing.



**MENU:**

NACHOS  
CHILI SAUCE  
PIZZA ROLLS  
LEMONADE



CHEESE  
SALSA  
COOKIES  
WATER

**HOSTED BY THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

**Benevolent Fund Offering - September's 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday**

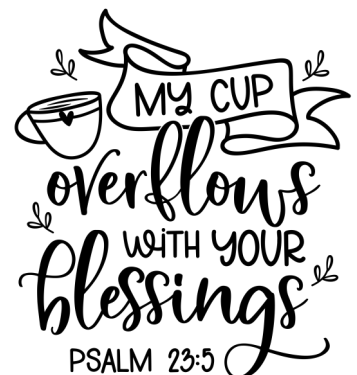
The loose offerings from the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of a month goes to support the WOCC Benevolent Fund. For the month of September, you are asked to think of and write a blessing daily on the back of the card that comes with your cup. Place your extra change in the cup to share your blessings with others. How quickly will your cup overflow? Please keep the cup as a reminder of our many blessings.

**Psalms 23:5**

My cup brims with blessings (MSG)      My cup runneth over (KJV)  
You fill my cup to overflowing (NCV)      My cup overflows (NASB)

5<sup>th</sup> Sunday offerings may be placed in the offering boxes on September 29<sup>th</sup>.

kindest Regards,  
 Stewardship Committee



## The Final Preparations


It's hard to believe we are now **less than two weeks away** from our 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on September 8! We will be having one combined Worship Service beginning at 11:00 AM in the Sanctuary, followed by a wonderful Banquet in Schwind Hall. Many hours have been spent to make this an extraordinary meaningful event for all, so if you haven't completed your RSVP, please do so ASAP by calling the Church Office.




I would like to say thank you to the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee, Lynda Gervais, Rev. Dr. Tom Jewell, Rev. Jim Ellis, and Ben Frantz for their assistance in the musical elements of this upcoming Celebration. Thank you also to those who submitted pictures and interviews for the Anniversary Video Production, which will be a treasure for Western Oaks for years to come.

The Chancel Choir, Bells of Praise, our Contemporary Service Praise Band, and Rosa McCroskey have been working diligently preparing for this event. If you see these folks, please encourage them and thank them for their joyful additions to our Worship. We are so thankful to have a flourishing Music Department at WOCC. This cannot happen without the dedication of these special members. With that being said, on **Saturday, September 7** from 10:00 AM-12:00 PM we will be having a "Dress Rehearsal" in the Sanctuary for all those serving in Worship on Anniversary Sunday. This includes all Musicians, Elders, Readers, etc. The purpose of this event is to ensure everything is working smoothly with technology, etc. before the big day. Those involved, please mark your calendars and plan to join us. We may even have Donuts...



 Always remember, if you are serving in Worship, or have announcements to share during the service, please kindly make your way to the Lectern or Communion Table, and speak into a microphone to ensure our online audience may also hear you.

Lastly, please subscribe to our YouTube Channel. This can be easily done for free by going to [www.youtube.com/@woccdocokc](http://www.youtube.com/@woccdocokc) and clicking "Subscribe". You can find us live there each week, as well as an ongoing archive of our services. We are also live on Facebook (search: "Western Oaks Christian Church"), and [www.woccdoc.org](http://www.woccdoc.org). Please take advantage of this opportunity to join us virtually. A large amount of time and effort go into to making this possible each week, so please feel free to also share with family and friends.



**Western Oaks Christian Church**  
@woccdocokc · 19 subscribers · 247 videos  
More about this channel ...more

We are Called as Partners in Christ's Service, and I look forward to celebrating with you on September 8.

Peace and Joy,

Andrew Orr

Director of Music



The second annual **Back to School Bash** was a smashing success. Again this year we invited our neighborhood schools along 23<sup>rd</sup> street, PC West, Western Oaks Middle School, and Western Oaks Elementary, to join us at Western Oaks Middle and Elementary schools on July 27, 2024. The schools, our neighbors, offered their larger facilities to hold the event. 36 community partners participated. This year our community extended from Enid to the north to Clinton to the west as well as closer neighbors down the street or east or south of us.

- Bar S (Clinton, OK) – Hot Dogs      Wendy’s – Chili      9 Barbers and 4 Braiders      Girl Scouts - Information
- Bethany Library – Book Giveaway and Library Card signup      Face Painting      Friends of the Library – Book Giveaway
- Foster Feet (Shoe Center) 96 pairs of shoes and socks      Crossland Rentals – Discount on table rental and delivery
- OKCC Health Department – Fresh produce and lots of information      PC West PTO - Donation for school supplies
- Putnam City Foundation – Information, Hygiene Kits, and treats      Oklahoma Disciples Foundation – Grant money
- Lion’s Club Vision Screening – Screening plus vouchers for free glasses      Santiago McDonald’s – Cookie and Coffee coupons
- Oklahoma Educators Credit Union (OECU) - A generous school supplies donation/grant; Information booth
- Regional Food Bank of Oklahoma – Food source information and treats      Total Wellness – Immunizations and Physicals
- Sam’s Club – Chips      Sprouts – Bags      Walmart – Hot Dog Buns      WOMS PTO - Donation for school supplies

Entertaining and/or informing us at the event were the PC West Pom squad, Cheer squad, Band Drum Line, Wrestlers, Student Council and National Honor Society members.

We gave away over 200 bags of supplies to elementary school students and 116 to middle school students. 50 backpacks went to high school students. We left 200 bags for counselors at the elementary and middle schools to distribute to students in need when school starts. 70 backpacks went to the high school for counselor’s use.

Volunteers? They abounded. Members and friends of Western Oaks Christian Church swooped in, creating a green wave of helpers in our special tee shirts! Teachers, administrators, and students from the schools stepped up, greeting and helping. During the spring and summer, those same educators gave their time to meet with us to advise, help plan, and contact potential partners. The custodial staff of WOMS and WOES were very helpful as well. Kudos to all.

The words of Sister Joan Chittister, American Benedictine Nun continue to inspire us. She says that “it is in community that we see our own emptiness filled up. It is community that calls us beyond the pinched horizons of our own lives, countries, and races and gives us the gifts we do not have within us individually.”



August 27, 2024



Please remember these friends in prayer:

Karen Russell	Israel - Palestine - Ukraine
Rocky Fearing	Duane Wood
Lyeal Amos	Lisa Sloan
Bill Cress	Kay Lehman’s brother, Gene
Montana Pursley & Family	Katherine Jordan
Dave and Nevonna Schroeder’s daughter, Taryn	Stuart Thorn

Verona Burke
Dean Lunsford
Deana Smith
Duane Wood
Dwayne Bradley
Eunice Lassiter
Katherine Jordan

LaRue Ingram
Lonnie Maytubby
Lyeal Amos
Margaret Blackerby
Rhea Todd
Shirlee Ruedy
Vera Ruffner

## Interfaith Youth Tour

September 22 - 1 to 5pm.

We must sign up by  
September 1<sup>st</sup>!

Please let Julia know so  
she can sign the group up  
this week.



Western Oaks Christian Church

# CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

## Attention Youth!

### COMING September 15<sup>TH</sup> YOUTH MEETING

Calling all junior and senior high school students. We will meet 12:30p.m. to 2:30p.m.  
Food, fun, fellowship and study. Tobi Frank is providing pizza for our first meeting!

### PROMOTION SUNDAY WAS A SUCCESS ON SUNDAY, AUGUST 11<sup>TH</sup>!

This was due in part to our wonderful cooks and decorations from Life Lessons Sunday School class: Roslyn Boyd, Charlie Conner, Kelli Fearing, Tobi Frank, Mike Jacobs, Fern & Bob Melton, & Reeca Young. I love this time of year when we celebrate our children and youth who continue to grow physically, mentally and in their faith. May this be a wonderful year for all our families!!!



**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**

**Saturday, Sept 7**  
**10:00 am - 12:00 pm**  
**Sunday, Sept 8**  
**Sunday, Sept 29**

Dress Rehearsal Combined 60th Anniversary Service  
 (Elders, all Musicians, Readers, Others) Sanctuary  
 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration  
 Benevolent Sunday  
 Reconciliation Offering  
 Fellowship Canvas Paint Party 12:30 – 2:30 pm

Attendance	9:00 am	11:00 am	TOTAL Worship
7/28/2024	27	68	95
8/4/2024	26	51	77
8/11/2024	30	43	73

Giving	General	Blessing Fund
7/28/2024	-	-
8/4/2024	\$4,046	\$30
8/11/2024	\$2,765	\$55

### Upcoming Sermons

Sep 1, 2024  
 Sermon Title: Shadows of Change  
 Scripture: James 1:17-27  
 Theme: Seeking the healing shadows of diversity and beauty.

Sep 8, 2024 Sixtieth Anniversary Celebration at WOCC

September 15th, 2024  
 Sermon Title: Rudderless  
 Scripture: James 3:1-12  
 Theme: Living in the Neutral Zone of Transition

*“Loving God, Serving our Neighbors”*



8100 NW 23<sup>rd</sup> Street  
 Oklahoma City OK 73127

«Name»

«Address»

«City»