



May 13, 2025



8100 NW 23rd Street Oklahoma City, OK 73127 office@woccdoc.org 405.789.8812

Keep the Light Burning

Happy May, everyone! As I was pondering a word for you this month, the Lord kept giving me the image of a lighthouse. May is the month for taking pictures under the rose arbor, or beside the Snow-ball bush, celebrating Mother's Day, Graduations, and Memorial Day. Sometimes, we have impromptu reunions of friends or family in the cemetery on what some used to call Decoration Day. May is also Mental Health Awareness Month as we seek to remind ourselves to be kind to others and spend some time in taking care of ourselves as well.

And so, lighthouse has become my image for May 2025. My wife, Susan, and I have framed large photographs and paintings of lighthouses from various places around our country and hung them in our bedroom. We love looking at the different kinds and shapes that have evolved over time. Sadly, they are disappearing from our common landscapes.

Lighthouses have been around since ancient times and before the birth of Jesus. Early mariners were guided by fires built on hilltops. Lighthouses were developed to 'raise the fire' so that it could be seen from a greater distance; their purpose was to provide an entrance marker to ports and a warning signal for dangerous reefs and irregular coastlines. Perhaps the most famous of lighthouses was that of the Pharos of Alexandria, Egypt, built between 280 and 247 BCE and was around 450 feet tall, easily regarded as one of the seven wonders of the ancient world. It was built with solid blocks of 'luminescent' limestone and became a model for all later lighthouses, with our English word "headlight" being derived from the Greek word "phara" meaning lighthouse. The designer of the Pharos lighthouse, Sostratus, inscribed the words "Savior God(s)" on metal inside the lighthouse as a dedication. I am reminded of how well the U.S. Coast Guard 'lighthouse keepers' kept up each lighthouse and the grounds around each lighthouse, always well-painted with white, the signal light sharp and clear. In a way, this was a religious and functional practice based on Luke 12:35: "Be ready for service and have your lamps lit." It is our Savior's call to us as well—Jesus is the Light of the World. Don't keep your light under a bushel basket. Share it with the world. Our hymns remind us:

"Keep your lamps trimmed and burning, The time is drawing nigh.
Children, don't get weary, 'Til your work is done." (African-American Hymn)

"There's a lighthouse on the hillside that overlooks life's sea.
When I'm tossed it sends out a light that I might see.
And the light that shines in darkness now will safely lead me home,
If it wasn't for the lighthouse, my ship would sail no more."

(Words and Music: Ronnie Hinson © 1971 Canaanland Music)

Grace & Peace

Pastor Randy

Twenty-eighth Question on Common Reading: 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

"Since 70 to 90 percent of church income is allocated for staff and building expenses, millennials choose to direct their financial giving and volunteer support to causes with better ROI (Return On Investment)" P. 222

1) What do you identify as WOCC's Return On Investment in 2025? Are we providing a good ROI recently?

CWF Dates

Executive Meeting - Tuesday, May 13th Business Meeting - Tuesday, May 20th.

This will be our final business meeting until September. We will have a pot-luck luncheon this month. Bring your favorite dish to share.



DWF Meeting

The 3rd Thursday
of each month

Thanks to everyone for
maintaining the
memorial garden.

I spent a lot of hours
there.

From Jane Maytubby



Current Directory Information

You can look up the latest updated information on the ShelbyNext app or if you would like a printed copy, Cindy can email or print a copy for you.



THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

CWF quilters send a big thank you for the quilting fabric left in the closet.

The fabric will be used in the quilts we donate to Citizens Caring for Children. Each foster child receives a quilt on the first visit to CCC.

This donation saves many dollars for our group!

Betty Singleton

Thank You for Giving

be·nev·o·lence: desire to do good to others; goodwill; charitableness

Thank you for making our March Fifth Sunday Benevolence Offering a success.

Faithful stewardship is demonstrated throughout the year at WOCC, and yet we continue to show, and hopefully grow in our practices of giving to our faith community.

Let us work together to display
"Loving God and Serving Our Neighbor."

Again, Thank you!

Fern Melton



Interim Update, Mid-May

Congregational Meetings May 18th

Mark your calendar and make plans to attend 1 of the 2 Congregational meetings that will be held May 18th after each worship service. Each meeting will be in Schwind Hall.

The meetings will provide information and discussion of a potential partnership with the OKC Center for Non-Profits with the aim of leveraging church assets to provide an income stream by housing and collecting rent from one or more non-profit organizations. Some of what will be discussed is based upon the work of the recent Ad Hoc committee that was charged with investigating how to expand our income possibilities by converting underutilized building space.

A useful background resource is the long-term Common Reading conducted by Pastor Randy these past months based on the book by 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". Chapters 5 and 6 are especially useful.

Chi Rho Camp June 2-6 [Canyon Camp](#)

31600 Camp Rd, Hinton, OK 73047

Discovery Camp June 13-15 [Camp Christian](#)

275 Camp Christian Ln, Chouteau, OK 74337

CYF Conference June 16-21

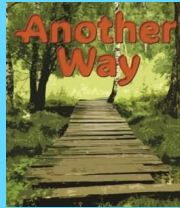
[Disciples Center at Camp Tawakoni](#)

8492 SW Tawakoni Rd, Augusta, KS 67010

Junior Camp June 23-27 [Camp Christian](#)

275 Camp Christian Ln, Chouteau, OK 74337

Please mail letters to the campers the week before each camp so kids can get the letters the week of camp.



Western Oaks Christian Church

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES



Vacation Bible School

June 9th to 12th



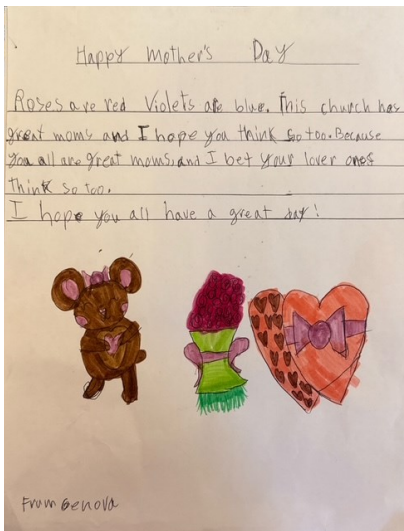
5:45p.m. to 8:15p.m. Dinner at 5:45p.m.

Come to Egypt and travel on Joseph's Journey from Prison to Palace. Visit the Marketplace.

ITEMS NEEDED FOR VBS:

STERILITE 6-Quart storage boxes. They sell them in sets of 10. We need 30 boxes altogether.

Orange or yellow fabric to make sashes



This picture was drawn by Genova Wage as an expression of her love for all the women of WOCC who serve as moms.

Genova is the 10 year old daughter of Sasha Wage.

Thank you for sharing this card Genova!

The card reads: "Roses are red violets are blue. This church has great moms and I hope you think so too. Because you all are great moms, and I bet your loved ones think so too. I hope you all have a great day!"

Youth Lock-in and Mystery Dinner



Friday, May 23rd 5:30 p.m. through Saturday, May 24th 9:00 a.m.

Children and Youth will come and eat, play games and paint with Kelli Fearing. The children will then go home and Chi Rho and CYF will stay to have a lock-in. **Bring a friend to join the fun!!**

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

Upcoming

EVENTS

Sunday, May 18 Senior Sunday
Friday, May 23 Youth Lock in
Sunday, May 25 Memorial Sunday
June 1 & 8 Pentecost Offering
June 9-12 Vacation Bible School

Attendance	Facebook	YouTube	Online	9:00 am	11:00 am	In House Worship	TOTAL
4/20/2025	3	0	3	31	82	113	116
4/27/2025	3	2	5	21	42	63	68

Current Giving	General	Blessing Fund
4/20/2025	\$2,005	\$30
4/27/2025	\$915	\$30

Upcoming Sermons

Fifth Sunday of Easter, May 18, 2025 Scripture: Acts 11:1-18
 Sermon Title: What God Has Made Clean ...
 Theme: Peter crosses the traditional boundaries between Gentile and Jew, extending the boundaries of who is qualified to be baptized by the Holy Spirit.

Sixth Sunday after Easter, May 25, 2025 (Memorial Day Sunday)
 Sermon Title: Preaching Peace to the Italian Cohort
 Scripture: Acts 10:34-48
 Theme: This is one of the first of Peter's Resurrection Sermons given in Caesarea before members of the Italian Cohort.

P.S. June 8, 2025 is Pentecost.

"Loving God, Serving our Neighbors"



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«Name»

«Address»

«City»