

Drilling Down, Looking Up

In 1974, the Lone Star Producing Company, in the process of drilling for oil in Washita County in western Oklahoma, created “The Bertha Rogers Hole,” a man-made marvel that reached over 31,400 feet (nearly six miles) below the surface of the earth and set a world record for the depth of drilling that held for five years. In 1983, Russia (Siberia) set a new record at 39,000 feet (and nine inches wide) into the Earth’s crust, and in 1989, the “Kola Superdeep Borehole,” reached 40,230 feet (7.5 miles). (It is estimated that the Earth’s crust is an average of 19 miles deep). I was surprised that Oklahoma held the world record for a while since I had not been aware of this while I was growing up in eastern Oklahoma. What experts learned when trying to drill down deep at these levels was that the heat at the lowest levels of the drilling (180 degrees centigrade/356 degrees fahrenheit) was hotter than anyone had anticipated, a full 80 degrees centigrade hotter. They realized that their equipment would not hold up under these conditions, so they shut down their drilling.

Corrie Ten Boom is credited with the phrase, “there is no pit so deep that God is not deeper still.” We have sought out, and found, our limits in the drilling process just as we have tried to dive to the bottom of the ocean and discover its depths, just as we have tried to explore other planets in our universe with robotics. In exploring the depths of our planet and the outer reaches of our universe, we have found that God is always beyond any marker we might place. We are always surprised by how far we can go in our discoveries, but we are also surprised by how much further we have to go after we have exhausted our resources. We will undoubtedly place new markers and set new records as time goes on, but we also know that we will never reach the edge of an endless journey.

Perhaps this “groping” after God (Acts 17:27-28), which seems to take place as if we are in complete darkness, reaching out like one who is fully blind, and feeling here and there after God’s presence, mostly unsuccessfully even though God is never far from each one of us, we find at the end of our search that God is the Holy Beyond in our midst, as we learn “to live and move and have our being” within this Holy Presence that is in every place (Prov. 15:3).” God invites us to discover to our heart’s content both the far and the near, the breadth and the depth of all creation realizing that there is no place we can go where God is not.

Grace & Peace

Pastor Randy

Twenty-ninth 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

“Pastors and planters must learn the why, how, and what of spending, saving, and leveraging church assets in pursuit of sustainability. . . . to do more for less.” P. 76

How is WOCC doing with regard to doing more with less? In what areas can we do better?



On Phillips Theological Seminary Awards Day on Tuesday, May 13th, Aanika Gillett received a book award for her service to the Student Senate this past year. Congratulations, Aanika!

WOCC sent out 17 **Church World Service Hygiene Kits** this month.

A Big Thank You to everyone who helped with this project!

CWS Kits
Filled with Hope. Packed with Love.



William Robert Compton

Bishop McGuiness Catholic High School

William is the grandson of Kari and Taylor Simmons.

William will be going to Oklahoma State University pursuing a Degree in Engineering.



Sasha Laine' Newkirk

Oral Roberts University/OSU Center for Health Sciences

Masters in Athletic Training

Sasha is the granddaughter of Charlene and Tony Majetic and daughter of Shawn Newkirk.

Last semester she was the athletic trainer intern for the track team at the University of Texas.



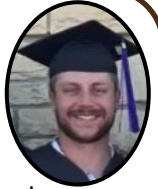
Joseph Thomas Mars

Southwestern College in Winfield, KS

Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration

Joseph is the grandson of Kay and Tom Jewell and the son of Sara and Joe Mars.

Joseph will return to Southwestern as a graduate assistant pursuing his MBA.



Rachel Helen Uhlig

SWOSU

Degree, Environmental and Organismal Biology

Rachel is the granddaughter of Jenny Johnson.

She plans to pursue a masters in research at SWOSU.



Aanika Jordan Gillett

Phillips Theological Seminary

Masters in Divinity

Aanika is the daughter of Rev. Julia Jordan Gillett and Mark Gillett.

Aanika has confirmed her ministerial calling as a chaplain while completing her Clinical Pastoral Education in 2025. She will begin her Residency as a hospital chaplain at Hillcrest Hospital in Tulsa in August 2025.

Aanika looks forward to her Ordination in Christian Ministry at Western Oaks Christian Church.



Volunteers Needed

The new Church year begins on July 1, 2025. And to continue our services and functions that we have always provided our congregation, we are in need of members of the congregation to volunteer to serve in various positions, or on various committees, to ensure we can continue to provide those same services. If interested, please let Mike know at wmmikemerry@aol.com or 405-226-2659.



Lyeal Amos
Garage/Estate Sale

Saturday, June 7

9 am - 3 pm

3213 Shannon Avenue

Chi Rho Camp Adele and Allorah Ross [Canyon Camp](#)

June 2-6 31600 Camp Rd, Hinton, OK 73047

Discovery Camp Jackson Gabriel [Camp Christian](#)

June 13-15 275 Camp Christian Ln, Chouteau, OK 74337

CYF Conference [Disciples Center at Camp Tawakoni](#)

Bailey Morris-Jacobs, Jacob Sills and Coun - Julia Gillett

June 16-21 8492 SW Tawakoni Rd, Augusta, KS 67010

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

275 Camp Christian Ln, Chouteau, OK 74337 Aaliyah

Boyd, Charlotte Gabriel, Leighton Sharp, and Genova

Wage Counselors: Jimmy Illi and Julia Jordan Gillett

Please mail letters to 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

Youth Lock-in and Mystery Dinner on Friday, May 23rd was Wonderful!!

Thanks to Charlene Majetic and Sandra Spillman for meal preparations! Those who also helped to serve and prepare the Mystery Dinner were Roslyn Boyd, Aanika Gillett, Mike Jacobs, Jan Sills and Sasha Wage. It takes a village!! All the children and youth enjoyed painting with Kelli Fearing. Games galore for children and 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

June 1 & 8 Pentecost Offering

June 9-12 Vacation Bible School

Saturday, June 28, 2025 Called Regional Assembly at First Christian Church in Edmond for final consideration and vote by the Assembly on calling Rev. Davison as Regional Minister for the Christian Church in Oklahoma.

Attendance	Facebook	YouTube	Online	9:00 am	11:00 am	In House Worship	TOTAL Worship
5/4/2025	5	1	6	25	36	61	67
5/11/2025	4	2	6	25	60	85	91

Current Giving	General	Blessing Fund
5/4/2025	\$3,525	\$30
5/11/2025	\$3,290	\$0

Upcoming Sermons

June 1, 2025 Seventh Sunday after Easter Scripture: Romans 8:26-27

Sermon Title: "Pneuma: Breath of God"

Theme: This is the 1st in a 3-series sermon on the Holy Spirit. In this one, we explore the theological implications of Breath (Ruach/Pneuma)

June 8, 2025 Pentecost Sunday Scripture: 2 Peter 1:16-19

Sermon Title: "Shekinah: Presence of God"

Theme: This is the 2nd in a 3-series sermon on the Holy Spirit. In this one, we explore the theological implications of Presence (Shekinah)

June 15, 2025 Scripture: John 16:12-15

Sermon Title: "Paraclete: Advocate of God"

Theme: This is the 3rd in a 3-series sermon on the Holy Spirit. In this one, we explore the theological implications of Advocacy (Paraclete).

"Loving God, Serving our Neighbors"



8100 NW 23rd Street
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«Name»

«Address»

«City»