

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

Prayer of Celebration

Posted outside my office at First Christian Church, Smith Center, Kansas, was a framed prayer hanging on the wall of the entryway entitled "A Prayer of Celebration." No author had signed it; the prayer was anonymous.

"To you I come; eager to know your will; God, to you I come; giving thanks for countless blessings; grateful for family and friends; conscious of your greatness; aware of my weakness; but acknowledging I also have strengths; God, to you I come; at the beginning of the day; at the close of another week; during hours of joy and grief; God, to you I come; asking that your love encompass; each and everyone."

December is a month of celebration. We celebrate the leadership of our youth. We celebrate the approaching New Year and the Epiphany it brings. We celebrate music in our caroling and singing. We celebrate all the elements of the season, hope, peace, joy and love. We celebrate the receiving and giving of gifts, and the humility and love which are such a part of this. Most of all, we celebrate the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. This divine birth within the human sphere (Incarnation & Emmanuel) is the reason for the season, the reason for celebration!

However, I was taught many years ago in the 1960s, that celebration is not just an expression of joy; it is also an expression of sharing the grief inside of joy, one with the other, remembering that, for many, Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's Day are anniversaries of grief and loss. So, we tread lightly through the holidays to give them the space they need to heal. Jesus is the embodiment of celebration in all its fullness, bearing life and light out of death and darkness. This month, let's truly celebrate in prayer and worship the fullness which is the heart and meaning of Christmas!

Grace & Peace,

Pastor Randy

Christmas Benevolence

Our Benevolence Fund helps local families with clothing, food, and toys for Christmas. We will be collecting money through Sunday, December 14.

If you would like to contribute to this fund providing for local families at Christmas, please mark donations as the *Christmas Benevolence Fund* or go to ShelbyNext and choose "*Christmas Benevolence*" under the fund tab.



December Church Events

- Dec. 6 Holiday Art Festivities 10 am - 2:00 pm
Make your own Christmas gifts to give.
- Dec. 7 **Sunday of Peace**
- Dec. 14 **Sunday of Joy**
"Choral Cantata" 11:00 am
by Joseph M. Martin
Christmas Play "Not to Worry" 6:00 pm
by Thomas R. Jewell
Holiday Tasting Party - Schwind Hall 7:00 pm
Bring your favorite "sweets" to share.
- Dec. 21 **Sunday of Love**
Children & Youth Christmas Play 11:00 am
"A Dress Rehearsal for Christmas"
Children & Youth Families - Christmas Party
- Dec. 24 Christmas Eve Candlelight Service 6:00 pm
Celebrate the coming birth of God's grace.
- Dec. 25 Season of Christmas begins
MERRY CHRISTMAS!

Church Staff Offering

This time of year we focus on the gift of Jesus to the world. One gift we share each year is our special love offering to our wonderful WOCC church staff. We are very grateful for their faithful support of our ministries!

There is no requirement or minimum monetary gift and you can mark your check or offering envelopes for "staff gifts" or give online through the Shelby app.

We request these gifts be turned in by December 14 to be presented to the staff on December 24.

Blessings,
Mike Merry



On behalf of the football program at PC West High School, we wanted to take a moment to say thank you for your continued support this year.

It's been a season full of ups and downs and too many Thursday night games. But the constant support by your congregation made it much easier to manage. And thank you for being so flexible with the changing schedule this past season.

The prayers, encouragement, and the physical and spiritual nourishment made a difference in our boys' experience. We hope you will continue with your involvement next season.

Again, thank you.

Rickey Lewis, Head Football Coach, Putnam City West High School

We are looking for Elves to help at our Gift making Event Saturday, December 6 from 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

You can help as long or short as you want.

We need someone to lead the Gift Wrapping Station, and others to be an extra set of hands to help the different stations.

If you are unable to help that day, we are needing donations of: Christmas ribbon, wrapping paper, holiday sacks-different sizes, and scotch tape. We will have a box in the foyer for donations.

If you have any questions, please contact Kelli Fearing by e-mail at fearings3@sbcglobal.net or text, 405-473-6938.



Not to Worry

A nativity comedy pageant in three acts is coming your



way on Sunday evening, December 16 at 6 pm in the Sanctuary, followed by the traditional Tasting Party in Schwind Hall!

CHILDREN AND YOUTH CHRISTMAS PLAY SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21ST



The play is "Dress Rehearsal for Christmas" and we will practice in November and December after the 11a.m. worship service.

Sunday, December 21st following the Christmas play, our children, youth, and their families are invited to eat together, have a craft, play a game, and visit from an important visitor!!



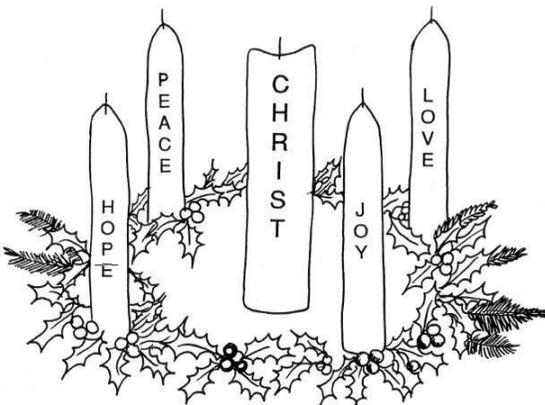
designed by freepik

Coming in January! MIDWINTER RETREAT
Chi Rho and CYF are invited! Registration due January 7th
Saturday, January 17th to Monday, January 19th
Oakridge Camp near Anadarko, OK

IT IS BEGINNING TO LOOK LIKE ADVENT We began Advent with Hanging of the Greens.

There are several planned events during the season of Advent either during worship or on a Saturday or Sunday evening. May we all find the spirit of giving as we welcome the Christ Child into our lives in new and old ways. May we also feel hope on this journey to Bethlehem.

Shalom,
Julia



Advent is a season of four weeks before Christmas that celebrates the arrival of Jesus, focusing on themes like hope, peace, joy, and love. Advent activities can include lighting an Advent wreath, singing songs, or making an Advent calendar.

These activities center on waiting and anticipation for Christmas and reflecting on the birth of Jesus.

Color these advent candles.

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, Dec. 6** Holiday Crafts 10:00 am - 2:00 pm
- Sunday, Dec. 7** Board Meeting
- Sunday, Dec. 14** Christmas Special Offering
Christmas Cantata 11:00am
Christmas Play 6:00pm
Holiday Dessert Party 7:00pm
- Thursday, Dec. 18** Disciples Women’s Fellowship 6:30pm
- Sunday, Dec. 21** Christmas Special Offering
Children & Youth Christmas Play 11:00am

Attendance	Facebook	YouTube	Online	9:00 am	11:00 am	In House Worship	TOTAL Worship
11/9/2025	3	0	3	26	40	66	69
11/16/2025	4	3	7	25	45	70	77

Second Sunday of Advent (Dec 7, 2025 – Peace Sunday)
Sermon Title: Enduring Peace Scripture: Romans 12:9-21
Theme: What does an enduring Peace look like?

Third Sunday of Advent (Dec 14, 2025 – Joy Sunday; Cantata 11 am)
Sermon Title: Leaping Joy Scripture: Luke 1:39-56 - 9 am
Theme: Joy Leaps through the music into our hearts. (Short Homily)

Fourth Sunday of Advent (Dec 21, 2025 – Love Sunday; Children’s Christmas Program)
Sermon Title: Quantum Love Scripture: 1 Cor. 12:31-13:13
Theme: Love beyond measure and understanding (Short Homily)

Current Giving Date	General Giving	Weekly Fund	Blessing Fund
11/9/2025	-	-	-
11/16/2025	\$28	\$0	\$0

November
Weekly Budget Needs
\$3,986.55

“Loving God, Serving our Neighbors”



8100 NW 23rd Street
Oklahoma City OK 73127

«Name»
«Address»
«City»