

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

Overwhelmed With Joy

As we enter February, we are celebrating the time in the Christian year between Epiphany (Jan 6, Manifestation, Mt. 2:1-12) and Candlemas (Feb 2, Presentation, Lk. 2:22-40), in the second week after Epiphany. John Bell of Iona has composed a song for this time-period entitled Song of the Epiphany. The lyrics reflect that, even though in plain sight, we do not always have the eyes to see him, to receive his manifestation. The light of the nations will be found in poverty, jeopardy, and obscurity.

“I sought him dressed in finest clothes, where money talks and status grows; but power and wealth he never chose: it seemed he lived in poverty. I sought him in the safest place, remote from crime or cheap disgrace; but safety never knew his face: it seemed he lived in jeopardy. I sought him where the spotlights glare, where crowds collect and critics stare; but no one knew his presence there: it seemed he lived in obscurity. Then, in the streets, we heard the word that seemed, for all the world, absurd: that those who could no gifts afford were entertaining Christ the Lord. And so, distinct from all we’d planned, among the poorest of the land, we did what few might understand: we touched God in a baby’s hand.” (Sing the Faith, Louisville, KY: Geneva Press, 2003)

The magi were reported to have been “overwhelmed with joy” at discovering the Christ Child, the bright star uncovering the mystery of this gift to the Gentiles (Is. 49:1-7; Jer. 1:5, Gal. 1:15) that Ezekiel had predicted: “I bring low the high tree and make high the low tree.” (Ezek. 17:24). Not the noble cedar on a high mountain where among its branches the birds of the air make their nests, but in the lowly mustard bush (Mk 4:30-32). A revelation that the Songs of Hannah and Mary both reflect (1 Sam 2:7-8; Lk 1:51-53). One of the most ancient songs in the Gospels describes Jesus as one who “humbled himself and became a servant to others,” who emptied himself of divinity to become human out of a selfless (kenosis) love (Phil. 2:5-8; Mk 10:44-45). As Jesus before him, Paul was homeless and hungry (2 Cor. 11:26-27; Mt 8:20). As I think about February on our calendar, Matt Maher’s anthem comes to mind: “Let all who thirst, come to the water, those who have nothing, let them come to the Lord ... let all who toil come, come to the water, all who are weary, come to the Lord, all who labor without rest ... let all the poor come, all who are laden, bring the children without might, easy the load and light, come to the Lord.”

Grace & Peace,

Pastor Randy

A Big Thanks for those who helped with the Christmas Decorations.

Okie Merry Nance Cunningham

Steve Teter Ladies of CWF Charlie Conner

Thanks, Jimmy Ille



Nomination Committee In preparation of the next church year which starts on July 1, 2026, now is the time we start to identify members to serve in various positions for that church year. But to begin this process, we must now form what is called a Nomination Committee, composed of congregation members who will canvas our congregation to search out members willing help out during the 26/27 church year. Ideally, a group of 5+ members is needed for this Committee.

So please, if you have the time and are available for this effort, please reply to this email. We will then inform you of our first meeting which should occur sometime at the beginning of February.

We appreciate everyone's effort. Thx

Mike Merry 405 226-2659

The Minister Search Committee has completed its effort. It is now time for them to inform the Church Board and the Congregation (in that order) of their effort and results, and to obtain approval at both of these levels. So the following will be held in order to do that:

Board Meeting - Feb 8, 2026 12:15 pm Rm 117

Congregation Meetings - Feb 15, 2026 Early Service (9:00) Traditional Service (11:00)

Let me know of any questions.

Mike Merry 405 226-2659

Church Camp 2026 The Commission for Children, Youth, & Young Adults is excited to announce the church camp dates for next summer. Plan to attend camp next June!

Chi Rho Camp @ Canyon Camp: June 1-5

Discovery Camp @ Camp Christian: June 12-14

CYF Conference @ Disciples Center at Tawakoni: June 15-20

Junior Camp @ Camp Christian: June 22-26

IT'S TIME FOR OUR ANNUAL WOCC CHILI COOK OFF

Date Change due to weather SUNDAY, February 1 ~ 12:15 pm

SIGNUP NOW in the west entry by Schwind Hall and in the Narthex by the Sanctuary.

You may sign up to bring a side dish (Dessert or Salad or Bread) and/or enter the Chili Cook Off competition .



Let's Register for the Regional Assembly Friday, March 6th and Saturday, March 7th!!

Youth may participate in the worship and help with Stamp Out Starvation!!

VALENTINE'S DINNER & DESSERT AUCTION

for Youth Camps and Mission Trip

Sunday, February 25th

Come and join us as the youth serve a yummy meal!!

We will have some wonderful desserts for you



CHILDRENS & YOUTH MINISTRY

Western Oaks Christian Church 



MIDWINTER RETREAT 2026

Chi Rho and CYF

A great time was had by all. We had six youth: Braylyn Clark, Bella and Charlotte Gabriel, Alorah and Adele Ross and Jacob Sills attended with Aanika Gillett on Saturday and Julia Jordan Gillett Sunday and Monday. Grace Dearhammer was the keynote speaker encouraging youth to realize our voice matters!! How we speak up at school, church and even at home. Regional Youth Council led the retreat and did a wonderful job. I am thankful we are preparing our youth to be leaders today!!



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, Feb. 1 Chili Dinner 12:15pm
Sunday, Feb. 8 Board Meeting 12:15 pm
Sunday, Feb 15 Week of Compassion Offering
 Congregation Meetings 9:00 am & 11:00 am
Sunday, Feb 22 Week of Compassion Offering

Attendance	Facebook	YouTube	Online	9:00 am	11:00 am	In House Worship	TOTAL Worship
12/21/2025	13	14	27	28	68	94	121
12/28/2025	16	0	16	23	37	60	76

Third Sunday after Epiphany (Jan 25, 2026)
 Sermon Title: Chloe’s Report Scripture: 1 Corinthians 1:10-18
 Theme: 1st person sermon “I am Chloe” – a narrative of her calling

Fourth Sunday after Epiphany (Feb 1, 2026 – Diversity Sunday/ Candlemas) Scripture: Matthew 5:1-12
 Sermon Title: Elliptical Blessings
 Theme: Find your blessing among the diverse gifts of the Spirit

Fifth Sunday after Epiphany (Feb 8, 2026)
 Scripture: Matthew 5:13-20
 Sermon Title: Barley & Salt – a meal for the ages
 Theme: What is the symbolism of barley and salt for our ministry?

Current Giving Date	General Giving	Weekly Fund	Blessing
12/21/2025	\$1,570	\$30	
12/28/2025	-	-	

January
 Weekly Budget Needs
\$4,874.74

“Loving God, Serving our Neighbors”



8100 NW 23rd Street
 Oklahoma City OK 73127

«Name»

«Address»

«City»