Southern Hills Christian Church (DOC)

The Sharing Tree

Vol: 25
Issue: 9
April 28, 2015

YOUTH SUNDAY IS COMING

Youth Sunday will be on May 10th, with Unified Worship at 10:45 am and Sunday school at 9:30 am. Our theme this year is "This I Believe." In Sunday school and youth group we have been working very hard learning about faith systems, and exploring what it is that we believe as individuals, as a youth group, as a church, as a community, and as part of the larger world.

On Youth Sunday we will also celebrate those graduating from high school, college, and other institutions. Our graduating high school seniors are Emma Duncan, M.G. Hirsch, Abby Treadway, and Trenton Willbanks.

If you, or a loved one, has graduated (or will graduate) this year, from anything…cooking class…Basic Training…college…clown school...whatever it may be, please let Amber or the SHCC front office know so that we may recognize you along with our seniors!

SAVE THE DATE

On Sunday May 31st, we will have a unified Worship service followed by our second quarterly congregational meeting and Luncheon. The schedule for that day is as follows:

9:30 - Sunday School
10:45 - Unified Service
12:00 - Quarterly Meeting
12:30 - Indoor Picnic Luncheon

FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Indoor Picnic - May 31st following the congregational meeting. Join us in fellowship hall for an indoor picnic. On the menu is BBQ pork sandwiches, potato salad, cole slaw, and baked beans with peach cobbler and ice cream for dessert. A suggested donation of $5 per adult, $3 per child or $15 per family is requested to cover expenses.

Outdoor Concert - June 13th - More details are coming soon, but mark your calendars now.

GARAGE SALE COMING SOON!

The outreach committee is sponsoring a garage sale at Floydette Seal's home on Saturday, May 2. Best sellers are kid-related things, in-season clothing, yard equipment, books, toys and games, furniture, and general household items. All items should be in working order and may be brought to Floydette's home on our set up day, Friday, May 1. We could use some help setting up on Friday and selling on Saturday. Please let Floydette know if you can help. All proceeds will go to our next mission trip. Thank you!

PASTORAL SEARCH UPDATE

We send out a special thank you to the Elders, who have been praying for the Search Committee in each service of worship. This is something we have shared with many of the potential candidates – SHCC are a people seeking to be led by God.

Also a special thank you (again!) to the staff for the work they are doing leading us all in this time of transition – Jenny, Jean, Janeé, Amber, Andrea, Jeanise, Suellen, Chuck, Bryant, Valerie and Carolyn.
And finally, did you know that there are two members of SHCC who – no matter when the search committee meets – provide refreshments for us? Their hospitality and thoughtfulness are much appreciated! Thank you Carolyn Lamiell and Mary Hirsch!

We are continuing with our interviews – please continue to pray for our work.

If you have a question or word for the search committee, please contact us in person or at searchcommittee@southernhillschristian.org

Abundant blessings,
Charles Hattendorf, Chair, Ellen Beer, Les Harness, Darrin Hill, Karl Hirsch, Nancy Hodgkinson, James Howell, Linda Lofton, Melissa Powers.

STEPHEN MINISTER COMMISIONING SERVICE

On Sunday, May 17th, our congregation will commission 8 new Stephen Ministers. These dedicated people are nearing completion of the 50 hours of training so that they may begin caring for people in and around our congregation. This ministry has been a vital part of Southern Hills Christian Church for 25 years. Join in the celebration and show your support for this caring ministry and these gifted people and for all our Stephen Ministers & Leaders, past and present.

ZUMBA CLASSES

Valerie White is offering a free Zumba class in Fellowship Hall on Saturday mornings at 8:30 am. Please contact Valerie at 388-7034 with any questions.

YOUTH NEWS

- **CHAOS:** We are rehearsing for Youth & Senior Sunday every Wednesday until it happens: 7-8:30 pm on April 29 and 5:30-8:30 pm on May 6! There will be two more CHAOS after that, with our last one for the school year on May 20.

- **YOUTH & SENIOR SUNDAY:** In addition to the times listed above, we will have a "dress rehearsal" on Saturday, May 9th from 10am-noon. On Y&S Sunday (May 10) please be at the church in the sanctuary at 9:30am.

- If you or someone you love is graduating from anywhere or anything, please let me know so that we can recognize them along with our seniors!

- As summer approaches, and camps are getting closer, please be on the lookout for packing lists, deadlines for Mission Claremore payments, and/or parent and camper meetings. Janee and I will get all this info to you as soon as we receive it. Thanks!

As always, I am here to help and support. Please feel free to come to me with thoughts, prayers, concerns, questions, or if you just need someone to talk to.

AMBER BROOKS
341-0766 (office)
amber@southernhillschristian.org
dryouthministries.wordpress.com/

ON THE PATH

As I write my newsletter article this morning, I can hear the gentle sound of rain falling outside my window. This type of weather always brings out the longing in me to find a quiet space to be still and present with God. I have been reflecting on the book, Leading a Life with God: The Practice of Spiritual Leadership by Daniel Wolpert, with which the Leadership Council and staff continue to study and pray. This month we are walking with Mary and exploring the radical openness that God called Mary into. Mary responded in openness to God by pondering what was in her heart, waiting and seeing, and ultimately following God in love. The events of this week have given us much to ponder. We have waited by our televisions, seen the fires burning in Baltimore, and watched people being dug out of the rubble in Nepal. As I have watched these events unfold, I have been reminded of a quote from Leading a Life with God; "Unfortunately our communal life often includes conflict and power and the spilling of blood either literally or metaphorically. The church supposedly embodies the opposite process, the process of healing, of reconciliation, of cleaning up the blood. Silent prayer engages this process for the individual and the community." We can, and should, respond to such events in our world through things like Week of Compassion, but we should respond with our prayers as well. Our prayers urge us to take on the mind of Christ, slow to anger, repond in mercy, and live in constant love. That mindset can change the world.

~Jenny

Upcoming Meetings

May 17th

- **Elder's Meeting** – 12:30 pm in Conference Room
- **Leadership Council** – 4:00 pm in Chapel (Open to all congregation)

May 31st

- **Quarterly Meeting & Luncheon** – 12:30 pm meeting in Sanctuary, followed by lunch in Fellowship Hall

PRAYERS

Please hold in your prayers: Jane Hellwege; Alice Smith; Barbara Livingston; Ann & Dennie Hall; Dorothy Messenger; Bob Plumlee; Mona Baird; Barry Lotspiech; Sarah Jones; John Hunteman; Barbara Ketch; the family of Emma Louise McEver; Art Christie; Karri Oertli-Pendleton; Barbara Jenson; Mark Caywood's mother, JoAnn Baldwin; Chuck Shinn; John Ham; Charles McDonald; Brent McClain; Cathy Schmidt; Byron Lofton; Dan Johnson; Rose Marie Smith; the Sr. Minister Search Committee; and the Stephen Minister trainees.

SHARING TREE MAILINGS

As a green chalice congregation, we continue to find ways to leave less of our footprint on the community. Effective June 1st, the newsletter will only be received through email or visiting the church website. Southern Hills is dedicated to keeping our church family informed by distrubuting the newsletter. We will ALWAYS print and mail a copy of the newsletter to those who do not use email or the website, but you must contact the church office to remain on the mailing list.

Blessings,
Communications & Technology Committee

KID'S CORNER

Our final Fun & Fellowship of the semester will be this Wednesday, April 29th. We will be recognizing our 5th graders that will be moving on to the youth program in the fall.

Got frosting?!?! Please bring your empty and washed frosting containers to my office. We will be reusing them in the Children's center. Thank you!

Keep your eyes open for VBS dates!

Summer is just around the corner and I will need volunteers to teach the Journeyland and Faith Travelers classes. Please check your calendars and sign up in the gathering area.

JANEÉ AUSTIN
Office Hours: Mondays, 9:30 am - 1:00 pm
341-0766 (office)
janee@southernhillschristian.org

DISCIPLE WOMEN OPPORTUNITIES

Fidelity Group - May 19 - Salad Luncheon at the home of Floydette Seal

Hope Group - May 18 - Dinner out at Louie's on Western, at 6:30 pm. There is no project for May. We will plan the activities for the next season. Any women interested in an evening group with a focus on service projects is welcome to join us.

Charity group - June 2 - We will not meet on Tuesday, May 19th as originally scheduled. Instead we will hold a fellowship/planning meeting for next year on Tuesday, June 2nd at 1:30pm in the Chapel at SHCC. We will enjoy light snacks as we plan service projects for next year. Charity group is part of the Disciples Women organization at SHCC. We currently meet once per month to complete a group service project. This year, we made snack packs and toiletry bags for Refuge Fellowship, shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child, and valentines for individuals in long-term care. We would love for more women to join us in these projects! For more information, see Jane Vogt, Teresa Lynn, or Melissa Powers.

RELIEF FOR NEPAL

The recent earthquake in Nepal has affected more than 8 million lives. There is a way you can help. Week of Compassion is the relief, refugee and development mission fund of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the United States and Canada. Our past Week of Compassion offerings are already at work through partner agencies in Nepal. This disaster will require many resources. if you would like to make a special gift to aid those affected, please write a check to SHCC with Week of Compassion on the memo line.

Volunteers work to remove debris at the historic Dharahara Tower in Katmandu, Nepal. (Photo: Niranjan Shrestha, AP)

NOTES OF THANKS

Dear SHCC Family,
It is hard to put into words just how much your calls, cards, hugs, texts and prayers have meant to us over the last months of my mother's illness and death. We are so grateful for all of them. A special thanks to Jenny, Suellen and Chuck for all your help with the service and to all those who provided the wonderful meal afterward. We are so blessed to be part of such a caring and giving church family.

With deep gratitude,
Ginger and Ron Walker and family

ELDER SERVING SCHEDULE

Month/ Day	Commun. Medita-tion 9:00	Commun. Prayer 9:00	Offering 9:00	Commun. Prayer 11:15	Search Comm. Prayer 9:00 and 11:15	Children's Moment	Liturgist
May 3		Nancy Hodgkinson	Sandy Jehle	Roger Hellwege	Georgia Shaw	Janeé Austin	Myrna Ranney
May 10	Unified Worship/Youth Sunday - Youth will be serving						
May 17		Nancy Hodgkinson	Sandy Jehle	Nanci Moll	Georgia Shaw	Steve Wynn	
May 24		Sandy Jehle	Nancy Hod-gkinson	Nanci Moll	Georgia Shaw	Janeé Austin	
May 31	Unified Worship - Nanci Hodgkinson - Offering Sandy Jehle - Communion Prayer						

MAY LECTIONARY

Sunday, May 3, 2015 Fifth Sunday of Easter

- *Acts 8:26-40
- Psalm 22:25-31
- 1 John 4:7-21
- John 15:1-8

Sunday, May 10, 2015 Sixth Sunday of Easter

- *Acts 10:44-48
- Psalm 98
- 1 John 5:1-6
- John 15:9-17

Thursday, May 14, 2015 Ascension of the Lord

- *Acts 1:1-11
- Psalm 47 or Psalm 93
- Ephesians 1:15-23
- Luke 24:44-53

Sunday, May 17, 2015 Seventh Sunday of Easter

- *Acts 1:15-17, 21-26
- Psalm 1
- 1 John 5:9-13
- John 17:6-19

Sunday, May 24, 2015 Day of Pentecost

- *Acts 2:1-21 or Ezekiel 37:1-14
- Psalm 104:24-34, 35b
- Romans 8:22-27 or Acts 2:1-21
- John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15

Sunday, May 31, 2015 First Sunday after Pente-cost

- Isaiah 6:1-8
- Psalm 29
- Romans 8:12-17
- John 3:1-17

PRAYING FOR CHURCHES

Please keep our sister churches in your prayers.

May 3	Ponca City-First Christian Church
May 10	Ponca City-Woodlands
May 17	Prague-First Christian Church
May 24	Purcell-First Christian Church
May. 31	Shawnee-First Christian Church

Southern Hills Christian Church
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May 2015

Location Key:

BK	Boka Keene	S	Sanctuary
BV	Bradford Village	YR	Youth Room
C	Chapel	GA	Gathering Area
CR	Conference Room	FH	Fellowship Hall
P	Parlor	TR	Toddler Room
		WW	Worship & Wonder

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Regular Wednesday Schedule 5:15p Southern Bells (MR) 5:30 Praise Team Rehearsal (S) 7:00 Choir Rehearsal (S) 7:00 CHAOS					**1**	**2** 8:30 Zumba (FH) Outreach Garage Sale 9 am - 3 pm
3 9:00a Traditional Worship (S) 10:15 Sunday School 11:15 Contemp Worship (S) 11:15 Worship & Wonder	**4** 4:30p Tai Chi (GA)	**5** 6:30p Soultending I (C)	**6** Regular Wednesday Schedule	**7** 4:30p Tai Chi (GA) 6:30 Stephen Minister Training (CR) 7:00 Stephen Ministers (P)	**8**	**9** 8:00a Men's Brkfst (CR) 8:30 Zumba (FH) 10:00 Youth Prac. (S)
10 Youth Sunday 9:30 Sunday School 10:45 Unified Worship (S)	**11** 11:30a Book Group (C) 4:30p Tai Chi (GA)	**12** Newsletter Published	**13** Regular Wednesday Schedule	**14** 4:30p Tai Chi (GA) 4:30 Food Co-Op (FH) 6:30 Stephen Minister Training (CR)	**15**	**16** 8:30 Zumba (FH)
17 Pentecost 9:00a Traditional Worship (S) 10:15 Sunday School 11:15 Contemp Worship (S) 11:15 Worship & Wonder 12:30p Elder's Mtg (P) 4:00 Leadership Council (C)	**18** 4:30p Tai Chi (GA)	**19** 10:30a DW Fidelity Grp (at Floydette Seal's) 6:30p Unified Svc Planning Mtg (C) 7:00 Outreach (BK)	**20** Regular Wednesday Schedule 7:00 Last CHAOS	**21** 4:30p Tai Chi (GA) 6:30p Soultending II (C) 7:00 Stephen Ministers (P)	**22**	**23** 8:30 Zumba (FH)
24 9:00a Traditional Worship (S) 10:15 Sunday School 11:15 Contemp Worship (S) 11:15 Worship & Wonder	**25 Memorial Day** Office Closed 4:30p Tai Chi (GA)	**26**	**27** Newsletter 11:30a WOW Lunch (Location TBA) 5:15p Southern Bells (MR) 5:30 Praise Team (S) 7:00 Choir (S)	**28** 4:30p Tai Chi (GA)	**29**	**30** 8:30 Zumba (FH)
31 9:30 Sunday School 10:45 Unified Worship (S) 12:00p Congregational Mtg (S) 12:30 Indoor Picnic Lunch (FH)						

LEADERSHIP COUNCIL NEWS

The monthly Leadership Council meeting was held on April 26, 2015 at 4:00 PM in the Chapel of SHCC with 13 voting members, 2 ex-officio members, and 4 observers in attendance. All are invited to attend. The main topics of discussion included:

- Approval of the Financial Report that showed a Year-to-date surplus of over $68,000 due in large part to the generosity of the congregational response to the budget appeal over the past two months.
- Designation of a committee to solicit bids for an auditor to conduct a comprehensive audit of the church's finances during the summer.
- Approval of a proposal to change the hours of church operation during the summer to 9:00 to 3:00 (currently (9:00 to 5:00). During this test, volunteers who had served from 3:00 to 5:00 pm will be asked to work during normal business hours to help office staff with specific projects to improve administrative functions. Signs will be posted on the church door to help visitors who come after hours.
- Approval of a Year of Supervised service for Lisa Wynn as a part of her Commissioned Ministry Training Program. She will assist the ministerial staff with pastoral care, development of spiritual programs, and other educational or administrative projects.
- A plea for volunteers to attend the General Assembly in Columbus, Ohio, July 18-22, 2015, as church delegates. The Council will approve 4.individuals to represent SHCC.
- Notice from the Property Committee and the CDC that bids are being requested for sidewalk repair to reduce risks of falls due to uneven pavement. To report specific problem areas, please call the church office.
- A request from Les Harness, who has assumed leadership for the Evangelism Committee, for individuals who are interested in helping to develop a new evangelism program for SHCC.
- Notice that all who wish to continue to have The Sharing Tree mailed to their homes, must call the church office to request that service by June 1.
- The Chi Rho and Youth groups will begin meeting separately due to the growth of the groups. Volunteers are needed to help with these group activities.
- Time & Talent Sheet results were distributed to Ministry Cluster Leaders. If you signed up for service, be prepared for a call!!!
- The following dates and activities were reported:
    - » **May 3** – Church garage sale at Floydette Seals' house to fund mission projects for the Outreach Committee
    - » **May 10** – Youth Sunday which includes a combined worship service.
    - » **May 17** – Commissioning of 8 new Stephen's Ministers
    - » **May 31** – Quarterly congregational meeting and luncheon (indoor picnic).
    - » **June 13** –Outdoor Concert
    - » **June 15** – Refuge Fellowship dinner
    - » **Early June** – a camping trip to Lake Arcadia sponsored by the Environmental Stewardship Committee

2015 GENERAL ASSEMBLY IS COMING!

The 2015 General Assembly of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) is set for July 18-22 in Columbus, Ohio and planning is well underway. If you've been before, you'll find a bounty of new worship experiences and learning tracks. If you've never been, there is a website with a wealth of information, including a page just for you. Go to ga.disciples.org to see the schedule, workshop offerings and register online. See you in Columbus! If you are interested in attending General Assembly, please contact Rev. Jenny or Les Harness.

SOAR!

VOLEZ! | ¡ELÉVATE! | 솟아오르라

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Sunday Service Times

9:00 am - Traditional Service
10:15 am - Sunday School
11:15 am - Contemporary Service

IMPORTANT DATES

- **5/10 - Youth Sunday Unified Worship** - 9:30 Sunday School, 10:45 Service time
- **5/17 - Commisioning of Stephen Ministers** - Two services at regular times
- **5/31 - Unified Worship** - 9:30 Sunday School, 10:45 Service time
- **5/31 - Quarterly Meeting & Luncheon** – Meeting immediately after service in Sanctuary, followed by lunch in Fellowship Hall

ATTENDANCE

Sunday School 4/19	107
9:00 AM Worship 4/19	125
11:15 AM Worship 4/19	64
Total Worship 4/19	189
Sunday School 4/26	94
9:00 AM Worship 4/26	144
11:15 AM Worship 4/26	56
Total Worship 4/26	200

SHCC STAFF

Associate Minister:	Rev. Jenny Wynn
Pastoral Assistant:	Jean Scott Gauldin
Children's Ministry Director:	Janeé Austin
Director of Youth Ministries:	Amber Brooks
Choir Director:	Andrea Hanson
Contemp. Worship Music Dir:	Jeanise Morton
Administrator:	Suellen Caywood
Dir. of Comm. & Technology:	Chuck Marshall
Accompanist:	Bryant Rains
Nursery Coordinator:	Valerie White

WOMEN'S GROUP

- Monday, May 11 - **Book Group** at 11:30 in the Chapel.
- Wednesday, May 27 - **WOW Lunch**, Location TBA