



CHRISTMAS FAMILY WORKSHOP

Come and join us this Sunday, December 13th, during the Sunday School hour from 10:15am - 11:00am. This event is for families with children up through 5th grade. We will be making several fun Christmas crafts with the

children. A fun time will be had by all while the children make soup, ornaments and various crafts to give as presents to loved ones. (Parents of children through PK are invited to join their little ones to help them make their crafts.)

CHRISTMAS MUSIC

Be sure to mark your calendars for special worship services on December 20th. We'll celebrate the season with our Christmas Cantata in Traditional Service and continue with Lessons and

Carols in the Contemporary Service. We hope you will plan to come enjoy these musical gifts of the season! (Services will follow the regular Sunday schedule.)



Windsong Chamber Choir presents:

Celtic Christmas

Featuring Bruce Robertson and fellow bagpipers along with other guest artists

Free Admission

Southern Hills Christian Church Sunday, December 13th, 4:00 pm

To inaugurate its 24th season the Windsong Chamber Choir will present a concert of Celtic Christmas music on Sunday, December 13th at 4:00 p.m., at Southern Hills Christian Church. The presentation is being given without charge, however, donations to the ensemble will be

gratefully accepted at the event and many popular recordings by Windsong will be made available. The concert will be conducted by Artistic Director Kerry Barnett and Associate Director, our very own Jeanise Wynn Morton.

ON THE PATH

Each year the mayor of Edmond invites 1st through 5th grade students to participate in the Mayor's Essay Contest. It is a Christmas-themed contest that has been an Edmond tradition for 32 years. This year the topic of the essay was based on the Flat Stanley children's book, *Stanley's Christmas Adventure*, in which Santa Clause has decided not to deliver presents anymore because he believes that there is no more good in the world. No one appreciates the giving spirit of Christmas. The participants were given this challenge: "If you could travel to the North Pole and visit Santa, what would you say to convince him that there is still good in the world, and that he should still deliver presents?"

Fourth grader Carter Marshall from Southern Hills Christian Church won 2nd place in this year's Mayor's Essay Contest. We are so proud of Carter and the words that he shared. His essay brought to life the importance of service to others. In the spirit of Christmas, we wanted to share his essay with you.

If I were to go to the North Pole and convince Santa that people still do good things, this is what I would say:

Some bad things are happening, but the weight of the good things completely crushes the bad things! My school did a food drive for another, poorer school. Some people at my school held a clothing drive, and will do another one in the spring.

Recently, my dad gave away his lunch to a hungry person in need. Also, recently, I walked three miles for

the CROP Walk, a yearly walk that raises money to end hunger. Sometimes my church donates money to the HOPE Center, an organization that gives food to the hungry. We also help at the Regional Food Bank.

There are programs like Breakfast on Boulevard that make food for hungry people. There are A LOT more than just that one though.

There is an organization that comes to my school sometimes that collects the tabs from sodas for a group in Africa that uses them to make purses, handbags and other personal items.

But then we come to the people living around others, in crowded cities, or the rural countryside. Such people are police officers, fire fighters and veterans. Police officers do their best to keep our country safe, and sometimes even die in their line of duty. Fire fighters travel as quickly as possible to get to a burning building to save lives. People in all branches of the military sacrifice their lives for our sake. So many people do even more good things. Every day, thousands of people work to make our lives better. Every day, people help others, they do good deeds, they save lives.

But you, the personification of all this, are caught up on the bad things?! It just doesn't make sense! Why did you even celebrate Christmas in the first place? For that exact reason. To spread joy and the knowledge of kindness around the world. Now get in that sleigh! You've got some presents to deliver!

YOUTH NEWS

Going through Sunday, December 20th, CYF youth Sunday school will be attending Jean Gauldin's Advent class, being held in the gym. Chi Rho will meet in the Youth Room.

Thanks to everyone who helped out with the Youth Christmas Play, "Finding Christmas." Thank-you to Janna Carr, Kara Gregory, and Jeanise Morton for directing, Travis Conaway and Miguel Hellwege for Stage Managing. And of course thank-you to all the youth for your hard work and brilliant performances!

I will be out on maternity leave through the end of December and the beginning of January. Please feel free to check in with me via email or Facebook, but for all things officially SHCC youth, please contact Jenny or Janee.

AMBER BROOKS
343-4195 (CELL); 341-0766 (OFFICE)
AMBER@SOUTHERNHILLSCHRISTIAN.ORG

LEADERSHIP COUNCIL NEWS

The Leadership Council met on November 22nd and agreed to take the following actions:

1. The 2016 Budget was presented and discussed. There will be no line item for an associate minister in 2016 because the Personnel Committee needs additional time to assess the church's ministry needs and determine appropriate staffing configurations as determined by the church's ministries, goals, and programs. The Council agreed that the budget should be presented for a vote at the November 29 congregational meeting. (The vote for approval was unanimous.)
2. The Council has accepted Jean Scott Gauldin's proposal that she help for a second year at SHCC. She will deal primarily with congregational care and will help in other ways as she is needed.
3. The chairs and benches in the sanctuary will be inspected and any that are not structurally sound will be replaced by ones that are sound. Extra chairs that are not used in the hallways or gathering area will be stored in the attic. The chairs that have been stored in the conference room will be moved into the Fellowship Hall corridor and chairs from the extra sanctuary

seating will be put in the conference room.

4. Southern Hills has received a request from Spring Church of Christ (formerly Quail Springs Church of Christ) to rent our building (sanctuary, gathering area, and a few classrooms) for their regular service either Sunday evening or Saturday evening beginning in January. They sold their building and are looking for a space to hold their service for 18 to 24 months. The Council agreed that Les Harness, Jenny Wynn, Karl Hirsch, Kurt Sampley, and Jeanise Morton meet with Spring representatives to see if acceptable terms and arrangements for building use can be negotiated.

The Nominating Committee is working on completing the slate of officers, elders, and deacons for 2016. A congregational meeting will be called to vote on the slate when it is complete.

Thanks to those of you who filled out evaluations letting us know how you think this first year of governing under the new structure has gone. The Council will be considering your comments and suggestions. If you have other suggestions, or if you would like to complete an evaluation form, contact either Les Harness or Myrna Ranney.

CHRISTMAS OFFERING

The Word from the church is to Believe in a Deeper Hope that moves beyond the "wrappings" of Christmas around us. We proclaim a Hope that brings Good News, Joy and Compassion for all of God's people. This deeper hope is made real in all of our regions as we:

- Assist congregations and leaders in claiming their unique mission and ministry, and provide resources and support.
- Call, commission and ordain new pastors, and support and equip all pastors for their ministries.
- Revitalize existing congregations and plan for new congregations.
- Connect Regional Disciples to give witness to ministries of justice, hope and compassion.
- Provide camps, conferences and retreats where children and youth find hope and Christ's love and a community of faith that embraces "everyone."



- Make visible the care for all of God's family through ministries of reconciliation and anti-racism.
- Call and equip passionate leaders for today's church.
- Provide pastoral care for clergy and congregations.

The Christmas Special Day offering supports all of these and many other ministries of our Region. Your generous gifts make a difference in our shared ministries in the Region.

Blue Christmas Service

Monday, December 14th, 7:00 pm

A special introspective worship service for those who are looking for a break from the “busyness” of the season. This service is also for those who find the holidays difficult due to loss and sadness. This service gives worshipers a chance to find a quiet place to reflect, meditate, and worship. A reception will follow in the Gathering area.

CONTEMPLATIVE WORSHIP

Contemplative Service is held every 2nd Saturday of the month. Join us Saturday, December 12th, 5:00 pm in the Chapel for this beautiful, meditative service of worship.

MINISTER OF CONGREGATIONAL CARE

On December 1, 2014, I submitted a proposal to Chuck Rolan for a new way of doing ministry at Southern Hills Christian Church– and you, the leadership and congregation, graciously approved this idea with the Leadership Council voting to approve my proposal. It was designed for one year for me to work under the supervision of the senior pastor to visit sick or struggling people, provide pastoral care, and to help in any way I can to care for our congregation. Well, that year is almost over and I have written another one-year proposal, expanding the responsibilities I would like to undertake. This

was approved by the Leadership Council. My title is now Minister of Congregational Care. Thank you for your confidence in me, for your encouragement and for your willingness to try something new and different. I look forward to additional ways of working with you to spread the Good News of Jesus Christ. I am available by e-mail or phone at any time, (209-4783, jean@southernhillschristian.org) and am in the church office Monday and Wednesday mornings.

Pastor Jean Scott Gauldin

IN THE EVENT OF BAD WEATHER

If bad weather on a Sunday morning threatens cancellation of the worship services, a decision will be made by 7:30 am and the word will go out in several ways. Information on church closings will be reported on the local news stations. The information will also be posted on the SHCC website and Facebook page. If bad

weather is in the forecast, look to one of these sources to see if we will have services as scheduled. If it is determined that worship will occur as scheduled, please use your own good judgment about attending, taking into account the weather conditions and your own mobility.



CHRISTMAS EVE

CANDLELIGHT SERVICE



6:00 pm Traditional Service - 11:00 pm Reflective Service

BOOKS CLOSING DECEMBER 29!!

The SHCC financial records will officially close on December 29, 2015 for the end of the year giving reports. Anything received after this date will be credited to the 2016 financial year. Please call Suellen in the office if you are unsure where your pledge stands to date (405-341-0766). Your help in meeting this deadline this will allow all monies to be

deposited with the bank before the end of the year. Please let me know if you have any further questions. Thank you for your continued support of SHCC and the many ministries provided by your gifts and your time.

Suellen Caywood,
Office Administrator

ADVENT COLORING DAY

As Christmas draws closer, the frenzy of shopping, to-do lists, and activities increase. When Christmas arrives, we often find ourselves worn out and ready to get back to a normal routine. If we get to Christmas and are so exhausted from *getting ready*

us for an active meditation, or moving meditation. Active meditation is very easy to practice. You simply chose a simple movement like, drawing, walking or even coloring to give you stronger focus. The repetitive motions act as a constant reminder to shift your attention back to the meditation. Come and take a break from the busyness of the holidays to join us as we meditate on the Advent season and the coming of the Christ child.



for Christmas, then we haven't really done the work of Advent. Advent is a time of joyful anticipation, waiting and preparing for the arrival of the Christ Child. Meditation is one way that we can enrich our Advent journey. We would like to invite you to join

Advent Coloring Day
All Ages Welcome
SHCC Chapel
Tuesday, December 22nd
10 am – 3:00 pm (Come and Go)

There will be coloring pages, crayons, markers, and colored pencils. You are also welcome to bring your own supplies. We will also have some cookies, cider, and hot chocolate to share. Come rest, renew, and COLOR!



The Edmond Community Thanksgiving Dinner was a great success! Did you know that it takes over 200 turkeys, 500 pounds of potatoes and much, much more to make the 3,000 dinners that are served? SHCC donated everything that was requested of us, and was helpful in making the dinner a great success! Thank you to all who participated!

The Outreach Committee

Thank you so much for all of your cards & care & Love & prayers & support during my mother's illness. We have been and continue to be blessed by you!! She is much better!

Love,
Cathy Schmidt

Thank you for all of your prayers and concerns for my daughter Julie Caughey. Her surgery went well and she is healing and feeling fine.

Ruby Huntman

To all of you who came out to and helped with our baby shower, to those who have given us gifts and cards, and to those who have (and continue to) give us your love, prayers, well-wishes, happy thoughts, and are just generally there for us, we thank-you. To raise a child truly takes a village and our family is so very blessed to be a part of the Southern Hills Village. Thank-you from the bottom of our hearts!

Love always,
Tim, Amber, Lauren,
Britton (and Xavier) Brooks

AMBER'S MATERNITY LEAVE

Amber Brooks will be out on maternity leave through the end of December and the beginning of January. Our thoughts and prayers will be with Amber and the Brooks family during the birth of "Baby X". Please feel free to check in with her via email or Facebook. For any official SHCC youth communications, please contact Jenny or Janee while Amber is out.

SPECIAL FUND FOR VALERIE WHITE AND FAMILY

Valerie White is currently undergoing rehab at Mercy following an extended stay in the hospital. The fund to assist with medical expenses is ongoing. If you would like to contribute to this fund, please send

your gifts to SHCC and memo "Valerie White" on the memo line. The funds collected will go directly to her medical expenses.

STAFF CHRISTMAS BONUS

Christmas is on its way and now is the time to think about Christmas bonuses for our wonderful staff. If you would like to contribute to that fund, put your gift in the offering plate and note that it is for the Staff Christmas Bonus. Gifts may be made through Sunday, December 20. Let's show our staff how very

much we appreciate them and all the work they do throughout the year!

Myrna Ranney
Personnel Convener

STEPHEN MINISTERS

The Stephens Ministers of SHCC want to wish you all a wonderful Advent Season and a joyous Christmas. We know that at some point in life, everyone faces periods of crisis, transition, or difficulty. During these times, people can receive great benefit from a caring relationship with someone who will faithfully listen, empathize, pray with and for them, and encourage them with Christ's love and care.

Family members and friends may be scattered across the continent. Neighbors rarely offer the support they once did. So when a crisis or challenge hits, many people have no one to turn to and end up facing it alone.

With Stephen Ministry, you no longer have to go through crises and difficulties alone. Instead

they have a Stephen Minister who will walk along side them for as long as necessary, providing the emotional and spiritual care they need.

In Galatians 6:2 the bible tells us to "Bear one another's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ."

We are committed to serving you and the caring ministry needs of our congregation. God Bless and Merry Christmas!

If you would like to talk with someone about having a minister, please contact Pastor Jenny or Sandy Jehle .

Sandy Jehle,
Stephen Leader

ADVENT SCHEDULE

Upcoming Events During Advent:

- 12/13: Christmas Family Workshop - 10:15 am
- 12/13: Windsong Christmas Concert - 4:00 pm
- 12/14: Blue Christmas - 7:00 pm
- 12/20: Christmas Cantata - 9:00 am
- 12/20: Lessons & Carols service - 11:15 am
- 12/24: Traditional Christmas Eve Worship - 6:00 pm
- 12/24: Reflective Christmas Eve Worship - 11:00 pm
- 12/27: Sweater Sunday Unified Worship - 10:45 am
- 1/10: Epiphany Party and Chili Cook-Off - 5:30 pm

KID'S CORNER

The children and youth did an amazing job with the drama performance "Finding Christmas". The play was extremely well done and laugh out funny!

Children's Choir

Practice from 10:00 - 10:15am in the Worship & Wonder room on 12/13, 12/20, and 1/3.

Performing both services on Epiphany 1/10.

DISCIPLE WOMEN

Activities for December:

- **WOW Lunch** - Wednesday, December 9th , 12:30 at Corner Bakery Cafe
- **SHCC Book Group** - Monday, December 14, 11:30 am at Sandy Quay's home. Book: The Christmas Train by David Baldacci
- **Disciple Women Fidelity Group** - Wednesday, Tuesday, December 15 - Lunch at 12:00 at Vintage Garden's Clubhouse.
- **Disciple Women Charity Group** - Tuesday, December 15th at 1:30pm in the Chapel

Sunday School Room Changes

Don't forget **Faith Travelers now meets in Room 101 and the Nursery/Little Lambs is in Room 112.**

What's Happening in December

- 12/13 - Christmas Family Workshop during Sunday School
- 12/20 - Cantata and Lessons & Carols Sunday
- 12/24 - Christmas Eve Services at 6pm and 11pm
- 12/27 - Unified Service at 10:45am – Sweater Sunday (NO Sunday School)

JANEÉ AUSTIN
OFFICE HOURS: MONDAYS, 9:30 AM - 1:00 PM
341-0766 (OFFICE)
JANEE@SOUTHERNHILLSCHRISTIAN.ORG

Southern Hills Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)



*Spirituality
Koinonia
Serving Others
Worship*

3207 S. Boulevard

Edmond, OK 73013

(405) 341-0766 | FAX (405) 341-7661

Email: frontoffice@southernhillschristian.org

Website: www.southernhillschristian.org

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Service Times

Sunday 9:00 am - Traditional Service

Sunday 10:15 am - Sunday School

Sunday 11:15 am - Contemporary Service

Sunday 3:30 pm - Communion at Bradford Village

2nd Saturday 5:00 pm - Contemplative Service

HOLIDAY OFFICE CLOSINGS

- **12/24 - Christmas Eve** - Office closes at noon
- **12/25 - Christmas Day** - Office closed
- **12/28 - Monday after Christmas** - Office closed
- **12/31 - New Year's Eve** - Office closed
- **01/01 - New Years Day** - Office closed

SHCC STAFF

Senior Minister:	Rev. Jenny Wynn
Minister of Congregational Care:	Pastor Jean Scott Gauldin
Minister of Spiritual Development:	Lisa Wynn
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

ATTENDANCE

Sunday School 11/22	87
9:00 AM Worship 11/22	124
11:15 AM Worship 11/22	73
Total Worship 11/22	197
Sunday School 11/29	76
Unified Worship 11/29	138
Sunday School 12/06	107
9:00 AM Worship 12/06	109
11:15 AM Worship 12/06	58
Total Worship 12/06	167

PRAYERS

Please hold in your prayers:
Barbara Livingston; Dorothy Messenger; Bob Plumlee; Mona Baird; Sarah Jones; Donna Huston; Felix and Karen Kay; Jane Hellwege; Evelyn Elliot; Andria Elliot; Natalie Thurston; Barbara Jensen; Nanci Moll; Don Moll; the Schmidt family; the White family; Kim Brown

