

The Sharing Tree

Vol: 29 Issue: 23 October 30, 2018

ALTERNATIVE CHRISTMAS

Mark your calendars to attend this year's Alternative Christmas event from 9 to 10:30 am, November 11 in Fellowship Hall. The theme is Festival of Nativities.

At the festival, you have the opportunity to have brunch, purchase cards representing 14 different non-profit agencies and purchase fair trade handcrafted items from around the world. Agencies represented are: Central Oklahoma Christian Camp,

Disciples Retirement Community of Oklahoma, Edmond Mobile Meals, Free to Live, Habitat for Humanity HEIFER Project, HOPE Center, Infant Crisis Services, Latino Community Development Agency, Positive Tomorrows, R.A.I.N. Oklahoma, Regional Food Bank of Oklahoma, SHCC Child Development Center, and SHCC Weekend Breakfast.

All proceeds will go to the non-profit agencies. Proceeds from the brunch will be donated to the Oklahoma Disciples Foundation who will match our donation to benefit Refuge Fellowship.

There will also be special entertainment for children.

We need the following:

 Nativities of all sizes to be used for decoration. Please label so it can be returned to you. If you have nativities for loan, contact Marilee Hattendorf.



FREE BREAKFAST UPDATE!

The Free Weekend Breakfast served 20 people on October 20, and 17 people on October 27! This is a wonderful program for the community so, please

check the signup in the Gathering Area. **We need volunteers for November!** If you would like further information, please contact Georgia Shaw.

FAMILY LIFE MINISTRIES

THANK YOU!

A big round of applause to all those who helped make Worship in the Patch and Trunk or Treat a success! By sharing the work, these two special events were fun for everyone. Thanks!

Fun and Fellowship resumes November 7

Our theme for the remainder of this semester of Fun and Fellowship is HOLIDAYS.

November 7 we will complete a service project for Alternative Christmas, begun in our Sunday school classes November 4. We are decorating gift boxes to be sold for \$5.00, to benefit Tomorrow's Promise, one of the recipients chosen by the Alternative Christmas committee. Thanks to Karl and Mary Hirsch for the awesome white boxes to decorate! Extra adult hands would be very welcome, either Sunday or Wednesday.

November 14 Holiday focus will be Thanksgiving. We will not meet on November 21, because the Edmond schools have designated the entire week as Thanksgiving break.(Plus, we'll all be busy making pies!)

November 28 – Advent December 5 – Christmas Party!

Alternative Christmas Sunday, November 11

During the "Festival of the Nativities" in the Fellowship hall, there will several Nativity scenes to admire, from all over the world. In addition, there will be a photo spot with a manger backdrop and costumes where children and families can dress up as the Nativity characters. Volunteers are needed to assist in bringing the backdrop pieces down from the attic, and sorting out costumes. Also, an assigned photographer would be great, but if not, your phone cameras can do the job.

Also during this time, grade school children are invited to halp staff the table selling our boyes and

Also during this time, grade school children are invited to help staff the table selling our boxes and the Positive Tomorrows cards. We will take turns so that everyone can tour the room, and take those pictures of course!

Las Posadas

Las Posadas is a Mexican Christmas tradition, reenacting Mary and Joseph's journey to Bethlehem and their search for shelter. "Posada" is the Spanish word for "Inn." This processional of Mary and Joseph, followed by the community (neighborhood, church or village) leads to a Christmas celebration! Singing along the way, the group stops at homes, asking for shelter, but are told "No room." Finally the processional arrives at the church or town square, where Mary and Joseph are welcomed, and a celebration begins!

From our Alternative Christmas Breakfast, the costumed children will lead us in a "Las Posadas" processional from the Fellowship hall, to worship in the sanctuary. All are invited to join in.

Sunday School

Thanks to Pam Camp for several weeks of teaching the Journeyland class. Allison will resume teaching, but volunteers are needed to be helpers, and to sub. Karl and Mary Hirsch continue faithfully teaching Faith Trevelers, and are almost never away! However, a few substitutes for them would be very helpful. These classes will meet together November 4 to begin decorating the boxes for Alternative Christmas. Not a day to wear your best dress clothes! Then, November 11, we will be working and playing in the Fellowship Hall. The nursery will not be available during Alternative Christmas, so that you and the nursery workers may have brunch together as a family.

FALL YOUTH PROGRAMS

Drama Team continues Sunday, November 4 from 4 - 6 pm. Janna Carr will leads our children and youth (grades 4-12) in preparing a Christmas Play to be performed in December.

Fall Fest November 9-11 - This weekend retreat is a chance for our youth to grow together in their faith and have some fun team building activities. Registration is open and we are super excited to be returning back to Oakridge Christian camp in Anadarko. Register your youth at: https://okdisciples.org/news-events/event-registration/

ALLISON LONGMAN
341-0766 (OFFICE)
ALLISON@SOUTHERNHILLSCHRISTIAN.ORG

WE WELCOME RICK CONNELLY, OUR BRIDGE MINISTER

As the search continues for our Interim Minister, Leadership Council has voted to call Rick Connelly as a "Bridge" Minister. This title indicates that Rick will give leadership and pastoral care in the remaining weeks until a chosen Interim Minister arrives. This may be 2-3 weeks or, 8-9 weeks. Because we do not know when that interim period will begin, the Council felt the need for some guidance in administrative tasks, some cohesive planning for worship in the busy season approaching, and especially someone to be "the ONE" to call with pastoral care needs. Rick will serve for us just like any part-time pastor, but will happily resume his retirement when we are ready!

We are lucky to have Rick's wisdom to lean on, with 40+years of experience, in a wide range of congregations. We have already benefitted from his terrific sermons and other help in the recent months. Rick brings a calm presence and an understanding of congregational life that will help us wait with patience.

Please feel welcome to contact Rick if you have pastoral care needs, so that the church can respond and help. You may call at ANY time. Phone numbers are: 405-562-4810 (Home), 580-775-1936(Cell) Email address: rimco66@hotmail.com

BOWLWARE BABY SHOWER

She's almost here! Little **Harper Wren Bowlware** will be here before we know it! Help celebrate with Mommy and Daddy at a Baby Shower, Sunday, November 18, 2:00 in the church parlor. Lacie and Ben have registered at Target for their baby needs. We've heard that the Grandmas have been enjoying shopping, so newborn items are covered. Start with 3 months or up please.

EDMOND COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING DINNER

What's 37 years old, consumes over 2,000 desserts, and takes a community to run? The Edmond Community Thanksgiving Dinner, of course! Tired of looking for #10 cans of green beans? Not sure where to find large bags of Pepperidge Farm Stuffing Mix? Don't have refrigerator space for 15 pounds of salted butter? No worries! The Outreach Committee would like to do the "heavy lifting" for you! Simply sign up to sponsor a food item, and then provide the monetary amount identified for the item. Sign-up sheets are in the Gathering Area. Please be sure to designate

your item, and the amount included. Payment may be made via Check to SHCC (please include "ECTD – (ITEM)" in the memo line) or cash.

On Sunday, November 18 your Outreach Committee will do the shopping, and deliver the food to the designated food drop-off! It's that easy! Your support is greatly appreciated. Sign-up sheets, volunteer forms, and general information is available in the Gathering Area. Please contact Kara Gregory with questions.

2018 THANKSGIVING OFFERING – NOVEMBER 18 AND 25

From the very beginnings of the movement, Disciples have founded institutions of higher learning, encouraging students in their intellectual pursuits. Currently, over 50,000 students attending our fourteen Disciples related colleges and universities or seven seminaries and divinity houses, are continuing the legacy. We can support that effort with our Thanksgiving Offering. We receive this offering November 11 & 18. An educated clergy is vital to an educated laity.



SHCC LEADERSHIP

A request was made to list the members of the following three groups so the congregation knows who to approach regarding different issues. We will also be making an effort to include this information on our website, which can be updated regularly as any changes to these groups occur.

Leadership Council: Brooke Plumlee (Moderator), Rick Stricklin (Vice Moderator/Personnel Chair), Karon Gregory (Deepening Spirituality), Ron Whitaker (Property), Alysha Dailey (Diaconate), Carolyn Lamiell (Service to Others), Gary Tears (Finance), Jarrett Austin (Communications & Technology), Jerri and Steve Bowlware (Worship), John Walters (Stewardship),

Kara Gregory (Fellowship), Karl Hirsch (Treasurer), Lisa Wynn (Secretary), Russ Wagner-Bark (Risk Management)

Vision Task Force: Stacie Alyea, Rick Connelly, Ann-Clore Duncan (co-chair), James Powers, Melissa Powers, Myrna Ranney, Dre' Sampley, Dave Schmidt, Russ Wagner-Bark (co-chair) and Ron Walker

Interim Minister Search Committee: Cole Abbott, Cheryl Aspy, Janee' Austin, Robyn Cowperthwaite, Les Harness, Jill Hill, Brooke Plumlee, Janella Tears, Riz Trauber-Hill, Steve Wynn.

MONTHLY LISTENING SESSIONS

Due to the high engagement and interest of so many church members, we are going to continue with listening sessions in October and November, to invite your comments on any portion of this survey or anything else you would like to share. The next sessions are scheduled for: **Sunday, November 4,10:15 am -11:15 am and 4:00 pm - 5:00 pm, in Fellowship Hall.** We hope you'll join us!

Vision Task Force: Rick Connelly, Ann-Clore Duncan, Russ Wagner-Bark

ARE YOU HAPPY IN YOUR "SKIN?"

Try to remember a time when you were truly happy and content and, felt truly satisfied. I remember as a child how happy I was when I found a shiny candy cane among the boughs of our Christmas tree. Or, the first time you held your newborn baby. What caused you to feel that way? For most of us, a sense of well-being comes their environment is just the way they want it, but that was not the case with the Apostle Paul. He learned to be content in every situation, good or bad.

What a lesson we can learn from him. It is impossible to avoid all of our difficult situations no matter how hard we try, so we might as well learn to discover how to face them with a tranquil, calm spirit rather than with frustration and anxiety.

Changing the situation may bring us short-term relief, but satisfaction based on our circumstances will always be short lived and fleeting. It is a matter of how you think, not what you have. The apostle's inner calm came from his mindset on Christ. By choosing to trust the Savior no matter what, he allowed the Holy

Christ caring for people through people



Spirit within him to rule over his emotions and shape his responses.

This isn't something we can learn from a book or sermon, because it is something that we must live out. Paul learned contentment---in persecution, suffering, and prison. The Lord used every difficulty to transform him. God will do this in us to produce contentment. When you are fed up with disappointment, and dissatisfaction, then you are ready to let the Lord teach you to live in joyous trust.

Here's praying you see your "shiny candy cane" and remember God loves you and so do we.

Sandy Jehle, Stephen Leader

Deck the Halls Sunday, November 25 After Contemporary Service

Join us for a pizza lunch on November 25, as we bring decorations down from the attic and Deck the Halls in preparation for the season of Advent, and the Hanging of the Greens service the following Sunday, December 2nd. Contact Jerri Bowlware for more information.

PUMPKINFEST

On November 28th, we held our annual Pumpkinfest. It was a fun time for our church and a wonderful opportunity for our community to come and meet us. Although it is difficult to get exact numbers of how many children come through, we stayed busy the whole time!

Many thanks to the Child Development Center and

their helpers for providing pizza, water, and for being there to make sure everyone was fed! Thank-you to those of you that decorated trunks so creatively and hosted games as well! Thank-you to the Hills for setting up a s'mores station complete with a campfire!



Thank-you to
Jarrett & Janee'
Austin, Robyn
Cowperthwaite,
Ben & Laura
Pollard, and
Kurt Sampley
for helping the
kiddos at the
bouncy house and
inflatable slide,
keeping everyone
safe! Thank-you

to everyone who provided candy (we used almost every bit of it)! Thank-you to those of you that stayed around to help us clean up! And last, but certainly not least, thank-you to Morgan Gregory for directing this year!

Every single bit of this event is a volunteerdriven group effort, and we are so very appreciative of how fun, creative, helpful, and kind our family here at Southern Hills is!

BAKE SALE TO FUND WEEKEND BREAKFAST

Anyone interested in helping with the Alternative Christmas Bake Sale, please come to the church kitchen at1:00 pm Saturday, November 10, the day before Alternative Christmas. We will cook, wrap and price the bake sale items in the kitchen while others are decorating for Alternative Christmas. We will make peanut brittle, little loaves of holiday breads and cookies. If you have a favorite recipe that you

think would go over well at the bake sale, get it to me in advance so that I can purchase the ingrediants, or feel free to make it at home and donate it to the bake sale if you prefer. We will have some spiced cider and cookies for everyone to sample.

Thank you, Georgia Shaw

WOMEN'S ACTIVITIES

WOW Ladies Book Club meets Monday, November 12, 12:30 in the Chapel.

Disciple Women's Fidelity/Charity Group meets Tuesday, November 20 at 1:30 pm in the Parlor for a study on Gratitude. Jan Little is the hostess.

DID YOU KNOW (FROM OCTOBER 9 LISTENING SESSIONS)

- 1. Worship and Wonder is now being held during the Traditional Service and will serve grades K-3.
- 2. Mary Hirsch is chairing the Contemporary Music Director Search Committee.
- 3. Cheryl Aspy and Les Harness are co-chairs of the Interim/Permanent Minister Search Committee. First interviews of interim minister candidates were held on October 11.
- 4. Funds raised through the CROP Walk benefit Church World Service. This organization is on the ground in Indonesia helping with the recovery following the tsunami.
- 5. 25% of funds raised through CROP Walk come back to Edmond to benefit local agencies.

AN ANNOUNCEMENT ABOUT WORSHIP ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Worship Committee discussed some time ago, ways to streamline our worship service time. You may have noticed that we have made some effort to reduce the time spent on verbal announcements at the beginning of each service. The result? On October 28, the 9:00 am service ended exactly on time, and the 11:15 service ended a few minutes early!

While we know announcements are an important part of our community of faith, we feel that our worship time could be spent in more beneficial ways.

We proposed that announcements be posted in a variety of ways: Facebook, e-mail, Sunday bulletin insert, Sharing Tree newsletter (which is mailed and e-mailed as well as posted on Facebook and Twitter), and on our church website (shccedmond.org). Announcements will also run on our large projection screens prior to the start of our church

service. A lot of important information can also be found on the **screen in the Gathering Area**, which is being updated weekly by Gary Tears.

It was our consensus that we can all be responsible for getting this information in one of these several ways rather than taking up valuable worship time. Should a last minute announcement arise, of course Allison or another staff member will make it as needed. We appreciate your understanding that we will no longer be turning the microphone over to others to make last minute announcements. As we moving into our Thanksgiving and advent seasons, may we focus on meaningful worship moments. Thank you for your cooperation as we try to streamline our service!

Jerri Bowlware Worship Committee Chair

OKLAHOMA DISCIPLES FOUNDATION, INC.

A permanent endowment fund established by the Region late last year benefits the work of **Refuge Fellowship-First Christian Church**(**Disciples of Christ) Inc.** in Oklahoma City which serves the homeless community of Oklahoma City. Rev. Noel Gray leads this ministry with the assistance of volunteers from local disciples'

churches. Every dollar, up to \$50,000, donated to the Refuge Fellowship -First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) Endowment Fund this year will be matched by the Oklahoma Disciples Foundation. Donations may be mailed to Oklahoma Disciples Foundation at 301 NW 36th Street, Oklahoma City, Ok. 73118. Please

make check payable to ODF and donate Refuge Fellowship Endowmenet in the memo line. Donations may also be made on the Foundation's website at www. ok.dfdn.org. From the donate page, select Refuge Fellowship-First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) Endowment Fund from the dropdown fund menu.

Southern Hills Christian Church

3207 South Boulevard Edmond, OK 73013 405-341-0766 www.shccedmond.org

November 2018

Location Key:

BK Boka Keene

BV Bradford Village

C Chapel

CR Conference Room

P Parlor

S Sanctuary YR Youth Room

GA Gathering Area

FH Fellowship Hall TR Toddler Room

WW Worship & Wonder

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				6:00p Girl Scouts (P) 6:30 Search Cmte. (BK)	2 2:00p Break- fast food prep	3 7:30 - 8:15 Free Breakfast
9:00a Traditional Worship (S) 9:15 Worship & Wonder 10:15 Listening Session (FH) 10:15 Sunday School 11:15 Contemp Worship (S) 3:30 Communion Service (BV) 4:00 Drama Team 4:00 Listening Session (FH)	5 9:00a Tai Chi (GA) 6:00p Plarn Workshop (BK)	6 Newsletter Deadline 7:00 Outreach Mtg. (C)	7 10:00a Bible Study (BK) 11:00a Overeater's Anon (C) 12:00 PLARN Workshop (BK) 5:30p Fun & Fellowship (LK) 5:30 Praise Team (S) 7:00 Choir Rehearsal (S)	8 6:30p Vision Task Force (BK) 6:30p Search Cmte. (C) 7:00 Stephen Min. (P)	9 2:00p Break- fast food prep Fallfest for Youth begins	10 7:30 - 8:15 Free Breakfast
9:00a Shopping and Brunch (FH) 10:45 Worship Service 12:30p Worship Committee Mtg. 3:30 Communion Service (BV)	9:00a Tai Chi (GA) 12:00p WOW Book Club 6:00 Big Theological Questions (The Patriarch) 6:00 Plarn Workshop (BK)	13 Newsletter Published	14 10:00a Bible Study (BK) 11:00 Overeater's Anon (C) 5:30p Fun & Fellowship (LK) 5:30 Praise Team (S) 7:00 Choir Rehearsal (S)	4:30p Food Co-Op (FH) 6:00p Girl Scouts (P) 6:30 Search Cmte. (BK)	5:00p Youth Lock-in 6:00 Breakfast food prep	17 7:30 - 8:15 Free Breakfast
9:00a Traditional Worship (S) 9:15 Worship & Wonder 10:15 Sunday School 11:15 Contemp Worship (S) 12:30p Vision Task Force (BK) 2:00 Bowlware Baby Shower (P) 3:30 Communion Service (BV)	9:00a Tai Chi (GA) 6:00 Plarn Workshop (BK)	20 Newsletter Deadline 1:30p DW Fidelity/Charity (P) 7:00 Caregiver's Support (P)	21 Newsletter Published 10:00a Bible Study (BK) 11:00 Overeater's Anon (C) 5:30 Praise Team (S) 7:00 Choir Rehearsal (S)	22 Thanksgiving Day Church Offices Closed Happy Thanksgiving!	23 Church Offices Closed 2:00p Break- fast food prep	24 7:30 - 8:15 Free Breakfast
9:00a Traditional Worship (S) 9:15 Worship & Wonder 10:15 Sunday School 11:15 Contemp Worship (S) 12:30p Elder's Meeting (CR) 12:30 Deck the Halls Lunch (GA) 3:30 Communion Service (BV) 4:00 Leadership Council (C)	6:00p Big Theological Questions (The Patriarch) 6:00 Plarn Workshop (BK)	27 Newsletter Published	10:00a Bible Study (BK) 11:00 Overeater's Anon (C) 5:30p Fun & Fellowship (LK) 5:30 Praise Team (S) 7:00 Choir Rehearsal (S)	6:30 Search Cmte. (BK)	30	

Southern HillsChristian Church (Disciples of Christ)



3207 S. Boulevard Edmond, OK 73013

(405) 341-0766 | FAX (405) 341-7661 Email: frontoffice@shccedmond.org Website: www.shccedmond.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

Office Hours

Monday - Thursday, 9:00 am - 3:00 pm

IMPORTANT DATES

- 11/04 All Saints Sunday
- 11/06 Newsletter Article Deadline
- 11/11 Alternative Christmas 9:00 am in Fellowship Hall
- 11/12 WOW Ladies Book Club 12:30 in the Chapel
- 11/16 Youth Lock-in 5:00 pm
- 11/20 Newsletter Article Deadline
- 11/20 DW Fidelity/Charity 1:30 pm in the Parlor
- 11/20 Caregiver's Support Group 7:00 pm in the Parlor
- 11/22 Edmond Community Thanksgiving Dinner (UCO)
- 11/22 11/23 Church offices closed for Thanksgiving
- 11/25 Deck the Halls 12:30 in Sanctuary (lunch provided)
- 11/25 Elder's Meeting 12:30 pm in the Conference Room
- 11/25 Leadership Council 4:00 pm in the Chapel

SHCC STAFF

Bridge Minister:
Interim Minister of Family Life:
Family Life Intern:
Director of Traditional Music:
Interim Director Choir and Bells:
Interim Director of Contemporary Music:
Director of Communications & Technology:
Church Office Coordinator:
Child Development Center Director:

Rick Connelly Allison Longman Morgan Gregory Bryant Rains Lacie Bowlware Ben Bowlware Chuck Marshall John Greer Suzanne Ray

ATTENDANCE

Sunday School 10/21	77
9:00 AM Traditional 10/21	85
11:15 AM Contemp. 10/21	34
3:30 PM Bradford 10/21	15
Total Worship 10/21	134

Worship in the Patch 10/24	34

Sunday School 10/28	
9:00 AM Traditional 10/28	109
11:15 AM Contemp. 10/28	42
3:30 PM Bradford 10/28	14
Total Worship 10/28	165

PRAYERS

Marie Byrkit; Mona Baird; Susie Park; Elsie Knight; Alice Smith; Joe Jones; Verna Manning; Curtis Fenner