



Southern Hills Christian Church (DOC)

# The Sharing Tree

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November 13, 2018



## 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.

**THANKSGIVING OFFERING**  
**NOV 2018**  
[www.DisciplesMissionFund.org](http://www.DisciplesMissionFund.org)

- Colleges & Universities of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
- Seminaries & Divinity Houses of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
- Higher Education & Leadership Ministries of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

# Deck the Halls

Sunday, November 25  
After Contemporary Service

Join us Sunday, November 25, following contemporary service, to Deck the Halls in preparation for the Advent and Christmas Season. We will be preparing the Sanctuary and Gathering Area. Pizza for lunch will be provided. On Sunday, December 2, join us for The Hanging of the Greens Unified Service at 10:45 am. Sunday School will be at 9:30.

## FAMILY LIFE MINISTRIES

### CHILDREN

**THANK YOU** to everyone who participated with the children, in preparing gift boxes to sell for Positive Tomorrows at Alternative Christmas, for helping us staff our tables and the Nativity photo spot, and those who shared in our Las Posadas Processional. We had fun, and I hope you did too. It is always my objective to involve our children in the service and worship of our congregation. (Thanks, also, to those who bought our stuff!) We will now return to our regular Sunday school schedule.



**On November 14, Fun and Fellowship will again meet in the little kitchen**, where we will cook our own dinner, and have some Thanksgiving projects to work on. Then we take a break again, to allow for Thanksgiving with our families. If you are traveling to be with loved ones, be safe, and if loved ones are coming to you, pick up your dirty socks! Blessings to all as they give thanks for family, God's gifts, and a bounteous meal to share. Remember, you always have an opportunity to be part of a HUGE family at the Edmond Thanksgiving Feast.

**Worship and Wonder** is underway during Traditional Worship. The seasonal events mean that we do not have it every week, so please refer to the church calendar. The next "off" Sunday is Nov 25. On those off Sundays, children K-1st will be able to go to the Nursery. As before, please keep them with you until after the Children's Moment. Some additional Greeter / Helpers to serve once a month- 6 weeks would be greatly appreciated. Please contact Allison.

### Family Life Committee Meeting

- It is time for us to gather again, to evaluate how programs are going, to identify needs or concerns and to plan for the new year. How about Monday, **December 3 at 7:00 pm** – or – you give some feedback about a better time. I'm open to suggestions. Sunday will be difficult because of Drama practice.

### YOUTH

#### Youth Lock-In - November 16, 5:00 pm

The Youth will be helping with the Weekend Free Breakfast. We ask that the Youth arrive as close to 5:00 as possible so we can begin prepping food right away. Afterwards, we will head to CiCi's pizza for dinner, and then return to SHCC for fun, games, and snacks. Please bring a game and a snack to share. In the morning the Youth will help serve the Weekend Free Breakfast. 10:00 am is the expected end time. see Morgan Gregory for details or checkout the CHAOS Facebook page.



**Drama Team continues Sunday, November 18 from 4 - 6 pm.** Janna Carr leads our children and youth (grades 4-12) in preparing a Christmas Play to be performed the evening of Sunday, December 9.



## LCDA TOY DRIVE



Southern Hills will once again participate in the Christmas Toy Drive for the Latino Community Development Agency, where Dr. Reniery Espana is employed. The agency is planning a Christmas party

for 300 children from infancy to 12 years of age. Unwrapped toys should be placed in the box in the Gathering Area. The deadline for donations is December 16.

## BOWLWARE BABY SHOWER

**Adding to the SHCC Family...** Little Harper Wren Bowlware will be here soon! Come celebrate with Lacie and Ben as we await her arrival with gleeful anticipation. A Baby Shower (for ALL!) is set for Sunday, November 18, 2:00, in the parlor. Lacie and Ben have registered at Target for their baby needs

and wishes. It sounds like the Grandmas have been having a lot of fun gleefully anticipating in shopping mode, so the suggestion is that clothing items might be 3 mos or larger. Ben will be there – so the rest of you guys come out and have some fun too! (We'll have good snacks.)



## FREE BREAKFAST UPDATE

The Free Weekend Breakfast served **22** people on November 3, and **15** people on November 10. This is a wonderful program for the community. We have one couple who has never missed a Saturday!

**We need volunteers for December, so please check the sign up sheet in the Gathering Area!** If you would like further information, please contact Georgia Shaw.

## DOOR LOCKS

If you have a key to the church and are showing up for meetings outside of business hours **PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE**, be sure you lock the doors correctly when you leave the building. Church and CDC staff are regularly arriving in the morning to find unlocked doors. This isn't what we mean when we say we are open to all! If you are unsure if you are locking up correctly, we will be glad to give a tutorial.

## WOMEN'S ACTIVITIES

**Hope Group** meets Monday November 19 at 2 pm at the home of Marilyn Walters. Alice Iddi-Gubbels from Ghana will give a presentation about the school that our Pambe Ghana purchases help to support.

**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.

**WOW Lunch group** will meet Wednesday, November 28, 12:30 pm at Blue Moon Restaurant, 1320 S. Broadway, in Edmond. Please RSVP to Caroline Christie.

## THANK YOU!

The family of Mona Holt Baird would like to thank our church family at Southern Hills for the many, many kindnesses and remembrances we have received upon the death of Mona. We are so grateful for all of the love, prayers, and support offered in so many ways.

In particular, we wish to thank all of the church staff, the diaconate who served, the Spiritual Journey Class, and members who hosted the reception. To all who contributed in any way at the time of Mona's Memorial Service, we say, "Thank You" most sincerely.

Beth (Baird) Gerardy and Family

## 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 - ADVENT IS COMING

During the season of Advent, we are hopeful Southern Hills will pause to reflect on the season and its meaning. The Vision Task Force and Minister Search Committee will not be meeting in December. We will also not hold Listening Sessions in December.

Listening Sessions, in possibly a different format, will return in January. If you have thoughts to share before January, the Task Force and Leadership Council welcome your comments and concerns.

## WHAT TO DO IN TOUGH TIMES

The Apostle Paul wrote his letter to the Philippians while he was in prison in Rome. (He spent a lot of time in prison.) Though he was under constant watch awaiting for trial, he wrote to encourage the Philippians, assuring them that his situation was being used by God. Wow-how awesome. He told them, "I have learned to be content in whatever circumstances I am."

Now watch here, he doesn't say he was always happy. Happiness depends on circumstances, but for believers, contentment is possible in any situation because it is anchored in God. Although Paul's imprisonment was uncomfortable and difficult, He scarcely mentioned the conditions. This letter is not filled with whining, but with rejoicing because he never took his focus off of God.

What's more, he saw great results during his time in prison. The entire Imperial guard heard about Jesus through his witness. It also had an opposite



*Christ caring for people through people*

# STEPHEN MINISTRY

effect of what his enemies had planned. Instead of driving Christians into hiding with fear, his example of contentment in the face of hardship made them bolder.

Like Paul, we can choose how we will respond to pain and hardship. If we choose to be bitter and resentful, our suffering will be wasted. But, if we see each situation as a wonderful opportunity for spiritual growth, we'll be able to learn contentment and peace and rejoice in the Lord through it all.

God's peace and blessings,  
Sandy Jehle  
Stephen Leader

## 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 Endowment in the memo line. Donations may also be made on the Foundation's website at [www.ok.dfdn.org](http://www.ok.dfdn.org). From the donate page, select Refuge Fellowship-First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) Endowment Fund from the dropdown fund menu.

## GOOD FOOD, GOOD FRIENDS, SHARING HEARTS

Thank you for coming to our 33rd annual Alternative Christmas festival! You turned out in force to purchase handmade Christmas cards to support our non-profit agencies, shop for fair trade gift items from all over the world, and to share some delicious food and fellowship around the tables. Thanks

to all of our card makers, table workers, kitchen helpers, food providers, cashiers, decorators, and our hardworking outreach committee. If you missed this event, we will have some of the cards on sale in the Gathering Area next Sunday, and a final total of money raised in the next Sharing Tree.

## CHRISTMAS MUSIC

Be sure to mark your calendars for two special worship services on Sunday, December 16th. We'll celebrate the season with our Christmas Cantata in Traditional Service and continue with special seasonal music 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 of 9:00 am Traditional Service, 10:15 am Sunday School, and 11:15 am Contemporary Service.

## ADVENT SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

### Upcoming Events for Season of Advent:

- 11/25: Deck the Halls -12:30 pm, after Contemporary Service
- 12/02: Hanging of the Greens - 10:45 am
- 12/09: Christmas Family Workshop - 10:15 am
- 12/09: Youth Christmas Play & Reception - 6:00 pm
- 12/16: Christmas Cantata - 9:00 am
- 12/16: Special Music service - 11:15 am
- 12/13: Blue Christmas Gathering - 7:00 pm
- 12/24: Christmas Eve Candlelight Service - 5:30 pm
- 12/30: Sweater Sunday Unified Worship - 10:45 am
- 1/06: Epiphany Party and Chili Cook-Off - 5:30 pm

## SAVE THE DATE - BRIGHT BLUE CHRISTMAS

Does the Christmas season get you down? All the shopping, the traffic, standing in long lines to check out. Not knowing what to buy for Aunt Mary and Uncle Herb because, "They have everything." The surprise dinner guests you didn't know your kids were bringing home from college along with their mountain of laundry for mom to do? Or maybe there will be an empty chair at the table this year. Whatever the reason, if you are down and really not excited about the "Holidays", come spend the

evening with us at Southern Hills. Let's celebrate the real reason for Christmas. The blessed birth of the Christ child. I can guarantee you will feel better.

December 13th at 7:00 pm in the Chapel. It is our prayer that we will see you there.

God's peace and blessings upon you,  
Your Stephen Ministers

# Southern Hills Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)



*Spirituality  
Koinonia  
Serving Others  
Worship*

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Website: [www.shccedmond.org](http://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

- 11/16 - 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
- 12/02 - Hanging of the Greens - One service at 10:45
- 12/09 - Youth Christmas Play - 5:00 pm in the Sanctuary
- 12/24 - Christmas Eve Candlelight Service - 5:30 pm
- 12/30 - Sweater Sunday service - 10:45, No Sunday School.

## SHCC STAFF

Bridge Minister:	Rick Connelly
Interim Minister of Family Life:	Allison Longman
Family Life Intern:	Morgan Gregory
Director of Traditional Music:	Bryant Rains
Interim Director Choir and Bells:	Lacie Bowlware
Interim Director of Contemporary Music:	Ben Bowlware
Director of Communications & Technology:	Chuck Marshall
Church Office Coordinator:	John Greer
Child Development Center Director:	Suzanne Ray

## ATTENDANCE

Sunday School 11/4	95
9:00 AM Traditional 11/04	100
11:15 AM Contemp. 11/04	53
3:30 PM Bradford 11/04	15
<b>Total Worship 11/04</b>	<b>168</b>
Sun. sch./Alt. Xmas 11/11	85
Combined Worship 11/11	138
3:30 PM Bradford 11/11	13
<b>Total Worship 11/11</b>	<b>151</b>

## PRAYERS

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