



# The Sharing Tree

Southern Hills Christian Church (DOC)

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March 3, 2020



## THE FAST WE SEEK

Over the past week or so, I have shared the following poem and prayer with several of you. The prayer written by Richard Rohr will be the conclusion of this writing. It speaks to our call as a community to share each other's glory and burdens. When we do so, our capacity to be a loving community is increased. The poem is taken from Wendell Berry's, This Day: Collected & New Sabbath Poems. I hesitate to share what I think the meaning of that poem is, as it changes daily. It most certainly speaks to how faith affects how we see and understand the world. Both of the writings speak to journey and community. As such they are appropriate 'prompts' for us as we journey deeper into the Lenten Season.

In worship we are discerning **The Fast We Seek**. For the purpose of this theme, we are defining the **We** as individuals, church and God. As you read, the poem and share in the prayer, please consider doing so with these questions in mind: What type of fasts are we called to this Lenten season? As the church, as individuals, what are we called to give up in order to make room for something else? What is the something else we are making room for? Are the fasts we seek, in keeping with what the fast God seeks for us (check out Isaiah 58 if you need a reminder)? What gets in the way of life, in the way

of relationships? What is getting in the way of the desires of God's heart? What about faith brings life and strengthens our relationships and communities?

### **1999, VI**

We travelers, walking to the sun, can't see Ahead, but looking back from the very light That blinded us shows us the way we came, Along which blessings now appear, risen As if from sightlessness to sight, and we, By blessing brightly lit, keep going toward The Blesséd that yet to us is dark.

*O Great Love, thank you for living and loving in us and through us. May all that we do flow from our deep connection with you and all beings. Help us become a community that vulnerably shares each other's burdens and the weight of glory. Listen to our hearts' longings for the healing of our world. [Please add your own intentions.] . . . Knowing you are hearing us better than we are speaking, we offer these prayers in all the holy names of God, amen.*

May God be our Shalom.  
See you Sunday.  
Rob



## Maundy Thursday - April 9, 2020

6:15 pm gathering time, 7:00 pm Service

Mozart Quartet K. 465

"Dissonance"

From dissonance comes harmony, from darkness comes light.

## HAM, GREEN BEANS, MAC AND CHEESE...

...and of course some yummy desserts! This is the menu for the meal SHCC will be serving our homeless friends at Refuge Fellowship on March 30. There will be a sign up sheet in the Gather-

ing Area if you want to help serve, furnish food, or donate funds to purchase the ham. If you choose to donate money, please write your check to SHCC with Refuge Fellowship Supplies on the memo

line and place it in the envelope with the sign up sheet. Of course, cash is always welcome, too. Thank you so much for your support!

[WWW.SHCCEDMOND.ORG](http://WWW.SHCCEDMOND.ORG)

## Camp Sunday - March 8

Bring a copy of registration and a check for ½ price summer camp! A table will be setup for any who need a computer for registration. Camp packet, dates, and cost are available outside the Family Life Office, or at <http://www.southernhillschristian.org/wordpress/camp/>

## OKC Zoo Snooze! - March 6

The Regional Youth Council and Commission for Children, Youth, and Young Adults invites families of all sizes to an overnight at the OKC Zoo. The event will be led by Zoo staff and Regional Youth Council.

- Cost: \$25 per person
- Family of 4: \$80
- Family of more than 4: \$80 + \$20 per additional child/youth

Register on Region's webpage: [okdisciples.org](http://okdisciples.org)

## Won't You Be My Neighbor?

Fun & Fellowship goes Inter-generational for Lent!  
March 11 & 25, and April 1 & 8  
5:30-7:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall

Join us for dinner and a study based on Mr. Rogers' Neighborhood

5:30 Dinner | 6:00 - 7:00 Inter-generational Study

## IAS Take Stock Shareholder Appreciation

March 29 from 12 - 1:30 pm  
Fellowship Hall

## It's time to collect Easter Egg Guts!

Bring individually wrapped candy or toys suitable for Egg-stuffing. A table is setup outside the Family Life Office

Spring Calendars: <http://bit.ly/jan-apr-2020>

**Announcing: VBS 2020  
TO MARS AND BEYOND!**  
June 8-11, 6-8pm  
Ages PK-5th grade

Register Your Voyager Today  
<http://bit.ly/shcc-vbs2020>



## OBEDIENT LOVE

It was on the night before Jesus was crucified that Jesus reminded His disciples of some very important things that were to happen. In John 14:21 He pointed out the connection between love and obedience, saying, "He who has My commandments and keeps them in the one who loves me." In other words, loving the Lord and obeying Him are inseparable.

You ask, what commands are we to obey? Jesus said, "Love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind." Also "Love your neighbor as yourself" (Matt.22:37-39). The Holy Spirit will show us how to live thee out. When we let go of our selfish attitude and put someone else first, when we show forgiveness instead of anger, or when we demonstrate a thankful heart in the midst of hard circumstances, we are expressing our love for Jesus.

Jesus' life on earth was one continuous expression of love for the heavenly Father (John 14:31). In order for



*Christ caring for people through people*

**STEPHEN  
MINISTRY**

us to follow His example requires a heart that desires to please Him, a will that is bent toward obedience, and a mind that consistently seeks direction from Him. Develop the habit of asking yourself two questions: What does obedience to God look like in this particular situation? and What can I do to obey God more fully? I guarantee your life will be much fuller and richer with happiness.

Till next time,  
Gods grace and glory be upon you,  
Sandy Jehle,  
Stephen Leader

## TWO LENTEN DEVOTIONAL OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE

The following devotional opportunities are available to choose from and will be available for pick up in the Gathering Area:

**40-Day "Love Builds Up" Lenten Family Challenge**  
SALT's "40-Day 'Love Builds Up' Family Challenge" is the perfect way for families of all shapes and sizes to strengthen spiritual muscles and emotional health during Lent. We could all use a little training - and a little practice!

Here's the challenge: For each of the six weeks of Lent, spend some time at the beginning of the week (Sunday night, maybe?) reading that week's Bible passage together. Talk as a family about the suggested topic, using the devotional's optional conversation prompts if you like. Commit to taking on an action or practice for that week - and then just watch as the Realm of God fills, strengthens, and beautifies your house and the world!

This devotional is for you and your family to do on your own. There will be no class for this devotional.

### **Wendell Berry and the Sabbath Poetry of Lent**

The whole earth is at rest, and is quiet: they break forth into singing. + Isaiah 14:7

In this Lenten devotional, biblical texts and simple, accessible practices walk hand-in-hand with Wendell Berry's poetic vision of sabbath and the natural world. All you'll need is your favorite Bible and Wendell Berry's *This Day: Collected and New Sabbath Poems*. Week by week, we'll walk through the woods together toward Easter morning, keeping sabbath as we go - with Wendell Berry as our guide.

Pastor Rob will lead this class on Sunday mornings during a portion of the Sunday School hour (10:20 - 11:00). The class will meet in the chapel and will engage Wendell Berry's Poetry and vision of the Sabbath by reading different poems aloud, as well as scripture before sharing in a time of reflection. Each class will begin and end with 5 minutes of silence. A brief introductory class, to include the reading of Poetry with limited reflection time will take place the evening of February 25, just prior to the Ash Wednesday service (5:55 - 6:25).

## PLASTIC BAG COLLECTION ON TEMPORARY HOLD

We have accumulated quite a lot of donated plastic bags for the Plarn mat project. Because of these generous donations, we have run out of room to store them. So at this time we are putting a temporary hold on anymore donations until we can get through what we already have. Please continue to collect

them and store at home. A notice will be put in the newsletter when the need for bags occurs again. Thank you for all your help in the process of making Plarn mats for the homeless of OKC. On another note, if you would like to help out, we need people willing to do all sorts of tasks that help make the mats. We meet

Monday evening and Tuesday mornings. Please see the calendar for times. We welcome new folks to help out! Could this be your way to serve?

Plarn team leaders,  
Nanci Moll and Carolyn Lamiell

## FROM THE FAMILY OF DAN CHEATHAM

"Why Church?" was answered for us during Dan's illness and passing. We will be eternally thankful for the gifts of love in so many forms.

Thank you, Rob, for spending time with Dan, and for the marvelous service made from our memories. You were superb and so kind.

Thank you, Chuck, for putting everything together for us. Bless your abilities, talent, and time.

Thank you, ladies, for our luncheon and the time allowed for our family to be together. Thank you to so many for your prayers, calls, texts, cards, condolences, beautiful flowers, and your presence.

Experiences such as these are "Why Church" on our personal level.

Janet Cheatham

## REPORT ON WEEKEND BREAKFAST

Beginning January 5, we began serving breakfast on both Saturday and Sunday. In the past eight weeks we have had 77 visitors come in for breakfast on Sunday compared to 152 visitors on Saturdays during the same time period. We see some of our "regulars" on Sunday, but there are also new people coming. All are very grateful for the meal.

I am concerned that not as many people volunteer for the Sunday meal. The "cook" position is always needed. If you are hesitant to volunteer to cook, please know that there is always a second cook and I am there to help. The whole thing does not depend on one person. Most of the "cooking" consists of heating things up or making simple items such as scrambled eggs. The most difficult items we

make involves mixing up pancakes or biscuits. We use a mix for those and just "improve" it a little.

So please consider volunteering on a Sunday morning in addition to a Friday or Saturday. It is worth the extra effort when we see the smiles on the faces of our visitors.

Georgia Shaw

## FOOD BANK VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

Help address hunger in Oklahoma with your church family by volunteering at the Regional Food Bank on Wednesday, March 18. Our shift is from 1:30 to 4:00 pm. Participants have to be at least 8 years old and anyone under 16 must be accompanied by an adult. The church bus will leave at 12:45 to arrive 15 minutes before our shift time.

Please sign up in the gathering area. If we have more than the bus can hold, we can carpool or meet you there, but still sign up so we know you are coming! If you want a job where you can stay seated, they have those too!

The Outreach Committee

## SEARCH COMMITTEE FOR A SETTLED PASTOR

Hello Congregation from your Settled Pastor Search Committee!! Let's begin with a brief summary. The church hired Pastor Rob as our Interim Minister in December of 2018 and in 2019, we began the process of defining who and what we needed in a Settled pastor, given that many changes had occurred in our membership and worship experiences. We developed and submitted to the church a questionnaire to determine what you thought was most important in a future pastor. We received 70 responses and summarized the results in a previous Sharing Tree article. Copies of the results are in the office if you wish to see them again.

In order to participate in the Search and Call process through the Regional office, we had to complete a church Profile that described who we are so that future applicants could review and determine if we were a church of interest to them. Completing this profile was labor intensive and we filed it with the Region in early November. Because Search and Call activities cease during Advent, we received our first applications at the beginning of February.

The search process requires that we carefully and prayerfully consider these individuals who have

applied and we have developed our process that will include de-identifying the applicants during the first phase of review and rating each one on the degree to which they meet the preferences you revealed in the questionnaire. Confidentiality is critical to this process so we are unable to tell you who has applied or how they have been rated. When we have agreed on a recommendation, we will send it to the Leadership Council and our work as a committee is done.

The decision about who is hired is the responsibility of the church, and a vote to hire the recommended person or not will be scheduled when a name has been submitted. We know the process seems slow, but we ask for your patience as we prayerfully work on your behalf. Please feel free to offer encouragement and advice. Together, we believe that we will find the right person to lead SHCC into the future.

Members of the Committee include: Cheryl Aspy, Janee Austin, Tim Brooks, Robyn Cowperthwaite, Les Harness, Jill Hill, Brooke Plumlee, Janella Tears, and Silas Traugber-Hill.

## THE SEASON OF LENT AT A GLANCE

3/08 - 2nd Sunday of Lent (Mark 10:32-52)

When we fast from self-serving behaviors, we create space for service to others

**Fasting from self-serving behaviors**

3/15 - 3rd Sunday in Lent (Mark 12:1-12)

When we fast from being right, we make room for right-relationships

**Fasting from being right**

3/22 - 4th Sunday in Lent (Mark 12:28-44)

Fasting from insincerity makes room for worshipping with integrity

**Fasting from Insincerity**

3/29 - 5th Sunday in Lent (Mark 13:1-8, 24-37)

Fasting from Apathy makes room for Love

**Fasting from Apathy**

4/05 - 6th Sunday in Lent - Palm Sunday (Mark 11:1-11)

Fasting from Fickleness makes room for authentic relationships grounded in mutuality

**Fasting from Empire**

4/09 - Maundy Thursday (Mark 14:22-24)

From dissonance comes harmony, from darkness comes light

**Mozart Quartet K . 465 "Dissonance"**

4/12 - Easter Sunday (Mark 16:1-8)

Fasting from Death Makes room for life

**Fasting from Death**

# Southern Hills Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)



*Spirituality  
Koinonia  
Serving Others  
Worship*

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Email: [frontoffice@shccedmond.org](mailto:frontoffice@shccedmond.org)  
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

- 3/18 - SHCC trip to Regional Food Bank - Leave SHCC at 12:45 for 1:30-4 pm shift
- 3/22 - Elder's Meeting - 12:30 pm in the Parlor
- 3/22 - Leadership Council Meeting - 4:00 pm in the Chapel
- 4/09 - Maundy Thursday Service - 6:00 pm in the Sanctuary

## ATTENDANCE

Sunday School 2/23	77
9:00 AM Traditional 2/23	95
11:15 AM Contemp. 2/23	68
3:30 PM Bradford 2/23	8
Total Worship 2/23	171

Ash Wednesday 2/26	65
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Sunday School 3/01	56
9:00 AM Traditional 3/01	85
11:15 AM Contemp. 3/01	46
3:30 PM Bradford 3/01	8
Total Worship 3/01	139

## SHCC STAFF

Interim Minister:	Rev. Dr. Rob Crawford	<a href="mailto:rob@shccedmond.org">rob@shccedmond.org</a>
Director of Family Life Ministries:	Rev. Sarah Combs	<a href="mailto:sarah@shccedmond.org">sarah@shccedmond.org</a>
Family Life Intern:	Morgan Gregory	<a href="mailto:morgan@shccedmond.org">morgan@shccedmond.org</a>
Director of Choir and Bells:	Lacie Bowlware	<a href="mailto:lacie@shccedmond.org">lacie@shccedmond.org</a>
Director of Contemporary Music:	Ben Bowlware	<a href="mailto:ben@shccedmond.org">ben@shccedmond.org</a>
Director of Communications & Tech:	Chuck Marshall	<a href="mailto:chuck@shccedmond.org">chuck@shccedmond.org</a>
Church Office Coordinator:	John Greer	<a href="mailto:john@shccedmond.org">john@shccedmond.org</a>
Child Development Center Director:	Suzanne Ray	<a href="mailto:cdcoffice@shccedmond.org">cdcoffice@shccedmond.org</a>

## PRAYERS

Marie Byrkit; Elsie Knight; Alice Smith;  
Joe Jones; Ruth Harness; Bud Kahmar;  
Julie Kruse; Amber Marcha; Dennis  
Marcha; Valerie White; Shirley Bibb;  
Mary Lou Pendleton; Roger Holiman;  
Marilyn Sykes; Kirk Holiman; Georgina  
Shaw; Lulu Zan