



CONNECT

CHURCH OF THE SERVANT'S MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



Pastor's PERSPECTIVE



 **Rev. Kyle Anderson**
Senior Pastor

Greetings Servant Faith Family!

"He is Risen!" And now you say (out loud or quietly to yourself, whichever you prefer), "He is Risen Indeed!" Happy Easter! As you read these words, we here at Church of the Servant have just concluded our journey through the Season of Lent. Lent is a time in which people of faith examine themselves and seek to renew their dedication to living as disciples of Jesus Christ. Here at Church of the Servant, we used this season to journey through Holy Week one day at a time, feeling the weight of Christ's final days. From his teachings and prayers to his ultimate sacrifice, we have journeyed with Jesus so that we might more fully understand the power of the cross and the Good News of the empty tomb this Easter.

Now, while we have concluded our journey through the Season of Lent, that does not mean our journey of faithfulness has come to an end. No, in some ways it has just begun. In the early days of the church, it was often on Easter Sunday that the life of faith began as new converts to Christianity were often baptized as the sun rose on Easter Sunday. It is with this in mind that I am reminded of those words from Paul's letter to the Romans, the sixth chapter, where he writes...

"Do you not know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? Therefore, we were buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we also might walk in newness of life." – Romans 6:3-4

I love that phrase, "newness of life." The power and the message of Christ's resurrection at Easter is not just Good News for life after death, but is Good News for our life here and now. We are called to live as an Easter people here and now!

That is what you will find here at Church of the Servant in the coming weeks and months. On Sunday mornings for the coming weeks, you'll be hearing stories of Jesus' followers and the early church after the resurrection. Over the next two weeks, we will live out the Good News by embodying our name, Servant, through Rise Against Hunger and Rebuilding Together. As you read through these pages, you will see opportunities for children, youth, and adult volunteers, such as Vacation Bible School and Church Camps. There are new studies being planned, fellowship events for women and men alike, and all of this in addition to the ongoing weekly ministries here at Church of the Servant.

Yes, we have just completed quite the journey together and can joyfully proclaim, Christ is Risen! But may our journey, our celebration, our faithfulness not end there. May we live as Easter people and walk in newness of life in the coming weeks and months, proclaiming to ourselves, one another, and the world that Christ's resurrection impacts more than just one Sunday out of the year: it has transformed our lives. I look forward to continuing this Easter journey with you next Sunday!

Blessings,

Pastor Kyle



Sunday Worship

10:00 AM

Join us for worship this Sunday. We will be gathering together to celebrate and give thanks, to connect with one another, and to seek guidance and inspiration for the week ahead.

Sunday service time is 10:00 AM and includes uplifting music, prayer, and a message that I believe will speak to your heart. Whether you are a longtime member of our community or are joining us for the first time, we welcome you and look forward to seeing you there!

SUMMER BIBLE STUDY

Life Changing Prayer
4-Week Study Beginning June 3rd
Led By: Pastor Kyle
4:00 p.m. & 6:30 p.m.

Join with the Servant faith family for a **4-week study** on **Life Changing Prayer** beginning **Wednesday, June 3**. There will be two sessions, one at our normal Wednesday evening time of 6:30 p.m. in Community Hall and an earlier time slot of 4:00 p.m. in classroom 12. We know that a number of our faith family enjoy participating in Choir, helping with children and youth ministries, participating in other Wednesday evening activities, or have difficulty driving after dark. With that in mind, we are offering this earlier time slot on a trial basis this summer in an attempt to meet the needs of as many of our faith family as possible. Plus, whichever session you join, dinner is available in our Community Hall from 5:00-6:30 p.m. for anyone looking for that additional fellowship opportunity.

OFFERING TWO SESSIONS:

- 4:00 PM in Classroom 12
- 6:30 PM in Community Hall

Why a study on prayer? As a reminder, here at Church of the Servant, our mission statement reads...



We serve with a heart for missions, commit to prayer that changes lives, teach a love of the gospel, and build a Christian community, starting with each individual.

But what does that mean “commit to prayer that changes lives”? What does the Bible teach about prayer, what are some effective ways to pray, and how does prayer change lives, including our own? Join with Pastor Kyle as together we seek to answer these questions and more. To sign up, email Pastor Kyle at kanderson@churchoftheservant.com, call the church office at (405) 721-4141, or sign up at the Welcome Center just outside of the Celebration Center.

CHURCH OF THE SERVANT

Savor the Savior

LADIES' FELLOWSHIP DINNER

ASHLEIGH ROBINSON
MISS OKLAHOMA 2021 | DEVELOPMENT MANAGER
AT BETHANY CHILDREN'S HEALTH CENTER



ServantOKC.org

TUESDAY, APRIL 21 @ 6:00 PM

Ladies of Servant, you're invited to a meaningful evening of connection, inspiration, and fellowship at our annual "Savor the Savior" Ladies' Fellowship Dinner. This special night will center on gathering around the table—sharing a delicious meal, building relationships, and reflecting on the hope we have in Christ.

We are honored to welcome special guest **Ashleigh Robinson**, who grew up right here at Church of the Servant. Ashleigh will share a powerful message of journey and hope, along with the inspiring story and mission of **Bethany Children's Health Center**, where she now serves. A passionate advocate and leader, Ashleigh brings a unique perspective shaped by her lifelong commitment to others—especially through her love and advocacy for her sister, Danielle. Her story is one of faith in action, resilience, and purpose, and her words are sure to encourage and uplift.

Whether you're new to Servant or have been here for years, this evening is a wonderful opportunity to slow down, be encouraged, and connect with other women in our church family. Make plans to join us—we would love to save a seat for you.

- **DATE:** Tuesday, April 21, 6:00 PM
- **TIME:** Doors Open at 5:45 PM. Dinner will begin at 6:00 PM.
- **COST:** \$25 (includes dinner)
- **DEADLINE TO REGISTER IS THURSDAY, APRIL 16.**



Ashleigh is a lifelong Oklahoman and fierce advocate for Danielle, her younger sister with Down Syndrome. Ashleigh received her education from Oklahoma City University and Cornell. She's an Oklahoma Partners in Policymaking graduate and member of Leadership OKC LOYAL Class XX. In 2021, she was crowned Miss Oklahoma and competed in the 100th-anniversary Miss America pageant. She has been widely recognized for her advocacy & leadership, receiving acknowledgments like the 405 Magazine HER Award, Journal Record Achievers Under 40, NextGen Under 30, and the Arc of Oklahoma Advocate Award. Her board service includes Goodwill Central Oklahoma, Friends of the Oklahoma History Center, OMRF, Oklahoma County Criminal Justice Authority, and the Oklahoma City Philharmonic. Ashleigh loves her church, St. Luke's, and leads services on Sundays and mentors students on Wednesdays. Professionally, she works at Bethany Children's Health Center, raising funds and awareness for its mission to maximize the potential of children of all abilities.

Register today at [ServantOKC.org/savor](https://www.servantokc.org/savor).

MEN'S DINNER

THE FAITH *that* CHANGED THE WORLD

Rev. Dr. Derrek Belase

TUESDAY, APRIL 28 | 6:30 PM

REGISTER TODAY!



The Faith That Changed the World

The Story of John Wesley

What can a preacher from the 1700s teach us about living boldly today? More than you might think.

Church of the Servant invites all **MEN** to join us for an evening of great food, meaningful conversation, and inspiring history at our upcoming Men's Dinner.

You may recognize the name John Wesley, but the man behind the Methodist movement was far more remarkable than most people realize. Wesley was a tireless traveler, a bold street preacher, and a passionate reformer who helped ignite one of the most influential spiritual movements in Christian history. His life was marked by deep faith, relentless dedication, and a refusal to settle for an ordinary Christian life.

At this special gathering, **Rev. Dr. Derrek Belase** will bring Wesley's story to life in a way that is both historically rich and personally relevant for our faith today. Whether you have been part of Church of the Servant for decades or you're newer to the community, this will be a meaningful evening to connect with other men while exploring the roots of our faith.

EVENT DETAILS

- **What:** Men's Dinner
- **When:** Tuesday, April 28, 2026, 6:30 PM
- **Where:** Community Hall
- **Cost:** \$20 (includes dinner)
- **REGISTRATION DEADLINE:** TUESDAY, APRIL 21

Register today at:

ServantOKC.org/events

ABOUT OUR SPEAKER

Rev. Dr. Derrek Belase serves as the Executive Director of Connectional Ministry for the Oklahoma Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church, helping churches across the conference strengthen their work of making disciples and building vibrant faith communities. A lifelong Oklahoman, Derrek has served congregations throughout the state and has a deep passion for discipleship, education, and leadership development. He holds degrees from the University of Central Oklahoma, Oklahoma City University, and Saint Paul School of Theology, and earned his Doctor of Ministry from Eden Theological Seminary.



FAMILY MINISTRIES



SERVANT KIDS

March was a month full of fun in Servant Kids! We took a journey through Jerusalem, waved palms, and ended our pickleball season!

April is sure to be a great time! We will be learning about what it looks like to have God's Spirit with us. We will dive into stories such as the Road to Emmaus, the Great Commission, the Ascension, and Pentecost! Children ages 3 through 5th grade join us on Sundays at 10:00 and 11:00 AM!

Wednesday nights are taking a turn from our journeys. We will begin learning about Kings and Queens from the Bible. We will learn more about Saul, David, Esther, Elijah, and of course, the greatest king, Jesus! Children are welcome to come to the children's area at 6:30 PM each Wednesday. Pick-up times are 7:15 or 8:00 PM.

Be sure to sign up for Summer Camp at <https://okcamps.org/canyon/>

Sign up for VBS at <https://vbspro.events/p/db6e27>

For more information contact Chris Ward at cward@churchoftheservant.com or 405-614-2333.





LOVE LIKE JESUS

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

June 1-4

Church of the Servant

Ages 3-12



Stories • Kindness • Faith • Fun

Kids will hear stories from local authors and discover how they connect with the teachings of Jesus. Through games, crafts, STEM activities, and snacks, children will learn how kindness and helping others show God's love in the world.

Sign up for VBS at [ServantOKC.org/events](https://www.servantokc.org/events)



July 6-8 for Grades 3rd-5th

Canyon Camp link - <https://okcamps.org/canyon/>



code SERV73142

Summer Camp for Grades 3rd-5th (as of August 2026)

Servant kids will be going to Camp Canyon in Hinton, OK, July 6-8. Cost is \$235 per camper (\$255 if you sign up after April 15th). Scholarships are available through the camp website; they are first come, first serve when you register. When you register your child, please use the code SERV73142. After you register, please let Chris Ward know (405-614-2333).

Canyon Camp link - <https://okcamps.org/canyon/>



Children's Choir

Children in grades Pre-K through 5th grade are invited to join the Children's Choir for the month of April. The children will sing in May! The choir will be led by Heather Anderson. Practice takes place on Sundays, 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM downstairs in the children's area. If you have any questions, please reach out to

Chris Ward at 405-614-2333 or cward@churchoftheservant.com.





TAKE US OUT TO THE BALLGAME!

Friday, May 8, 7:00 PM

Church of the Servant is going to Bricktown Ballpark on Friday, May 8, at 7:00 PM to see the Oklahoma City Comets play the Salt Lake Bees! Join us for a fun evening of fellowship! Tickets are \$20.00 per person, and you will receive a ball cap and a Braum's meal voucher. **Sign up before April 30 at [ServantOKC.org/events](https://www.servantokc.org/events).**



The 2026 Church of the Servant Easter Egg-stravaganza was a hopping hit!

Hundreds of children and families joined us for a day full of joy—egg hunts, games, crafts, face painting, bounce houses, sno-cones, and even a visit from the Easter Bunny! It was a beautiful day of laughter, community, and celebration. We're so grateful for the incredible volunteers who made it all possible. Happy Easter from your Servant family!







Photos by Carl Shortt



Monthly Update

YOUTH AT THE POINT

The Easter season was incredible, and our youth are carrying that momentum into a packed spring schedule! We're moving into a season of growth and fun, mirroring Pastor Kyle's sermon series on Sunday mornings (11:00 AM - 12:00 PM) to help everyone dive deeper into the Word. Plus, Wednesday nights just got a lot more exciting with our new Youth Movie Series (Wednesday Nights 6:30-8:00 PM) —so grab your friends, bring your favorite candy, and come hang out!

Our youth room is officially leveling up! Huge thanks to our amazing parishioners who recently donated a pool table, cozy couches, and even an arcade game. It's becoming the perfect spot to relax and build community.

We've had a blast recently exploring themes like "The Marriage Trap" and learning how to handle modern-day faith questions with grace. There is so much more in store, so stay tuned for more adventures.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

SENIOR SUNDAY

Join us on May 17 at 10:00 AM as we celebrate our graduating seniors! It's a special service dedicated to honoring their journey and looking forward to their bright futures. Please email Greg at GLacy@churchoftheservant.com to participate.

CLUE CAMP

July 20 - 24, 2026 for 6th grade to graduating 2026 Seniors

Calling all 6th graders through the Class of 2026 Seniors! Get ready for the best week of your summer. We're heading to Clue Camp for five days of adventure, worship, and unforgettable memories.

Cost: \$420 (\$400 Early Bird before April 15th). When you register, use the **code SERV73142**. After you register, please let Greg Lacy know. Canyon Camp link - <https://okcamps.org/canyon/>



CONFIDENTIAL

CAN YOU CRACK THE CASE?

CLUE CAMP

A Week of Mystery & Adventure

code SERV73142

TARGET: 6th Grade - 2026 Grads

DATES: July 20 - 24, 2026

LOCATION: Canyon Camp &
Conference Center
31600 Camp Rd, Hinton, OK



THE MISSION BRIEFING

Join us in the beautiful red-rock canyons for an unforgettable week! Experience the beauty of nature while bringing campers from all walks of life together for a meaningful week of spiritual awakening and growth.

- ▶ Swimming Pool
- ▶ Archery & Gaga Ball
- ▶ Red Rock Hiking
- ▶ Nightly Worship
- ▶ Campfires & S'mores
- ▶ Team Challenges

SECURE YOUR SPOT!

Scan the code for the registration portal.
Cost: \$420 (\$400 Early Bird before April 15th)

CODE: SERV73142



MISSIONS



Interested in Missions?

Church of the Servant participates in many ongoing missions, as well as various one-time mission opportunities. You can learn more about these and help choose and implement missions served by Church of the Servant by joining the COS Mission Team. The Mission Team, open to members of Church of the Servant, is seeking to fill 2-3 recently created vacancies. The Mission Team meets once a month on the second Thursday from 5:30-6:30 PM (sometimes a bit longer). If you would like to be a part of this decision-making working group, please email Mission Team Chair Amy Johnson at 99abjohnson@gmail.com or Pastor Kyle at kanderson@churchoftheservant.com to express your interest.



APRIL 19th **OBI.org**

Donate for the chance to win a \$100 gift card to Charleston's!

To make an appointment, call 877-340-8777, or visit obi.org.



**Donors Receive
Get Your Sticks
T-Shirt**

877-340-8777
www.ourbloodinstitute.org



**Our
Blood
Institute**

Church of the Servant Blood Drive

**Sunday, April 19
9 a.m. - Noon**

Join us in the Courtyard!





SKYLINE



SERVING OUR NEIGHBORS: SKYLINE URBAN OUTREACH

What a day to remember! On Saturday, March 21, our church family came together for Skyline Mission Day—and it turned into so much more than just volunteering. From bagging groceries and stocking shelves to sorting and organizing clothing, every small act made a big impact for families in our community. But what stood out just as much as the work was the connection. Serving side by side brought laughter, meaningful conversations, and new friendships. It was a powerful reminder that when we serve together, it changes us too.

One need we saw clearly: men’s clothing and shoes are in short supply. If you have gently used items, we’d love for you to bring them to church and place them in the blue Skyline bins. It’s a simple way to make a real difference.

We’re so grateful for everyone who showed up and served with such joy. It truly was a morning full of purpose, connection, and blessing.

CONGREGATIONAL VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY:

- **Saturday, June 20, 2026 | 9:00–11:30 AM**

Come serve, connect, and be part of building a healthier, more hopeful community—**one act of kindness at a time.**

Sign up today and help us serve our neighbors with compassion and grace.



MISSIONS



LOVE IS IN THE AIR AT WHIZ KIDS



You are chosen! You are wanted!
You are loved! You are a blessing!

Four statements that are reinforced weekly by tutors, drivers, substitutes, and our beloved Whiz Kids coordinators to each of our 39 Whiz Kids. It truly does take a village to create a space where elementary school students, needing a little extra help with school work, are safe to grow mentally and spiritually in a healthy Christ centered environment. It takes a village of caring adults who choose to share a bit of their precious time every Monday during the school year to positively impact the life of a child. Planting and nurturing seeds capable of thrusting a young life onto a positive path of learning and growth. Whiz Kids impacts not only the child's life, but the whole family, and our local community. The smiles illustrate the win/win of our Whiz Kids site! We would love to have you come by and see Whiz Kids in action! We meet at New Hope UMC every Monday after school during the Putnam City School year. Interested in learning more about it? Contact Shirley Rolston, (405) 850-7675, sdrolston@outlook.com, or Cindy Fast (405) 721-4141, cfast@churchoftheservant.com.



Donovan Woods, a former professional football player for teams such as the Pittsburgh Steelers, Dallas Cowboys, and Buffalo Bills, brought his official Super Bowl ring (won with the Steelers) to Whiz Kids. He talked with the children about staying true to their dreams and overcoming obstacles. He credits his parents for much of his success. He posed for photos and even let the children try on his ring! The children were thrilled to see a superstar in their Whiz Kids space! Donovan currently works for the Oklahoma State University Foundation in Oklahoma City.



Rebuilding Together OKC 2026

SATURDAY, APRIL 18, 2026

Get ready for a fun-filled day of fellowship and service on **Saturday, April 18**. Church of the Servant has been participating in Rebuilding Together Oklahoma City for over 20 years. Some of you may remember Christmas in April, which was the previous name. We will join Mayflower Congregational Church and work together to improve the home for a well-deserving person. Anyone can participate, regardless of age or skill level. We'll have a job to fit everybody!

Rebuilding Together Oklahoma City is a nonprofit organization dedicated to rebuilding lives and neighborhoods... making homes safe, warm, and dry. Volunteers and communities are brought together to improve the homes and lives of qualifying seniors in the Oklahoma City metro area.

REGISTER TODAY: ServantOKC.org/rtokc



JUNE 8-11

TRANSFORMING LIVES THROUGH RELATIONSHIPS

READING VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

SIGN UP AT THE WELCOME COUNTER
OR EMAIL PAT MCGARRITY AT
[PATRICIA.MCGARRITY@YAHOO.COM](mailto:patricia.mcgarrity@yahoo.com)



PROJECT TRANSFORMATION

Attention readers: Project Transformation is recruiting 10 readers to listen to 3-4 elementary children read, one at a time at Chapel Hill UMC, June 8-11 (Monday through Thursday), 10am-noon. Sign up for all four days to maximize your impact! However, you may volunteer for one, two, three, or four days. If you are ready to sign up, please contact Pat McGarrity at patricia.mcgarrity@yahoo.com or (405)990-2265.

If you are volunteering at Rise Against Hunger on April 12, Pat will also be there with the sign up sheet for PT readers. Be sure to see Pat to sign up or for more information about Project Transformation.

Project Transformation is an eight-week summer camp that emphasizes reading and is sponsored by the United Methodist Church. The elementary-age campers meet Monday-Thursday, 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM, and are led by college-age young people.

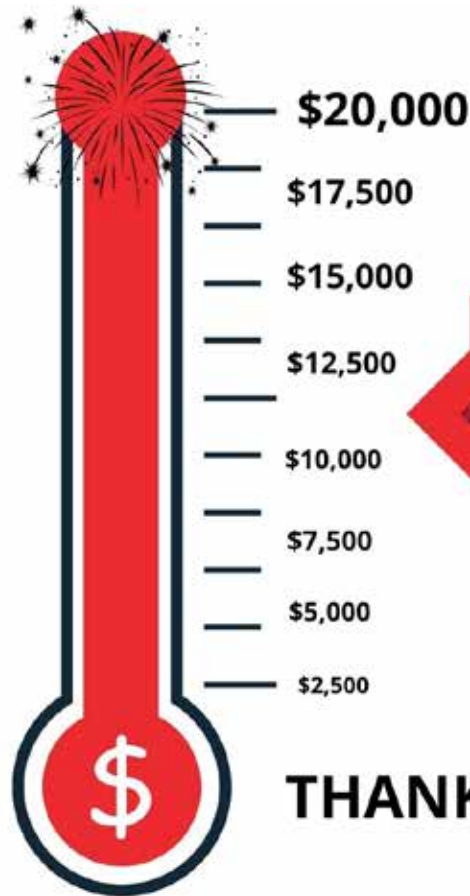
Patricia McGarrity



Rise

AGAINST HUNGER

APRIL 12, 2026
MEAL PACKAGING
EVENT



THANK YOU!



RISE AGAINST HUNGER We Did It—And More!

Once again, the Servant family of faith came together in a powerful way during this Lenten season—and we are thrilled to share that **we not only reached our goal, we exceeded it!** As of today, a total of **\$27,067.00** has been given to support Rise Against Hunger—well beyond our \$20,000 goal. Because of your generosity and sacrifice, we will be able to package **45,000 meals** for those facing food insecurity around the world.

Throughout Lent, many in our church family chose to give up small indulgences—coffee runs, meals out, entertainment—and instead redirected those funds to make a global impact. What may have seemed like a small sacrifice became something truly life-changing when we all joined together.

Thank you for your faithfulness, your generosity, and your heart for serving others. This is what it means to be the hands and feet of Christ.

SUNDAY, APRIL 12, 2026

Church of the Servant will host our annual meal packaging event at the church on April 12, 2026, beginning at 1:00 PM. We will have two shifts: 1:00-3:00 PM and 3:00-5:00 PM. We hope to have 100 volunteers (or more) to make the event fun and successful. This is a wonderful opportunity to gather in mission as a church. Invite your Sunday school class, Bible study group, family, friends, and neighbors to join us! All ages are welcome. Register today at ServantOKC.org/rah.

If you have packaged meals in the past and/or would like to serve on the leadership team for the event, please contact the church office at 405-721-4141, or Roger Cude at 405-919-8717 or rcude1@cox.net.

ServantOKC.org/rah

Ladies' Mission Day

Serve. Connect. Make a difference.

July 18, 2026 | 9 AM - 3 PM



Church of the Servant



Infant Crisis Services
No baby should go hungry

Helping provide food and essentials for babies in need.

Join us for a meaningful day of service and connection at our **Ladies' Mission Day** on **Saturday, July 18, 2026, from 9:00 AM–3:00 PM** at Church of the Servant.

We'll begin the day by assembling snack packs for the Infant Crisis Center, followed by lunch and fellowship. In the afternoon, we'll carpool to the Infant Crisis Center to serve hands-on—helping package diapers, assemble food boxes, and meet real needs for families in our community.

No experience needed—just come with a willing heart! Please register by July 6, 2026.

For more information, go to [ServantOKC.org/ladies-mission-day](https://servantokc.org/ladies-mission-day).

What to expect:

- **Serve alongside other women in a fun, meaningful way**
- **Enjoy lunch and fellowship together**
- **Make a real impact for babies and families in need**

What to bring:

- **Comfortable clothes & closed-toe shoes**
- **Optional: refillable water bottle**



SUPPORT INFANT CRISIS SERVICES!

Our Women's Mission Day this year will support Infant Crisis Services. On Saturday, July 18, we will assemble healthy snack packs for toddlers. We need your help! Please start bringing snack pack items to our dinner on Tuesday, April 21, and continue bringing items through July 18. Mark your calendars and plan to attend our Women's Mission Day on Saturday, July 18th! See more information about the healthy snack packs for toddlers on the church website at <https://servantokc.org/ladies-mission-day>

PRIME TIME

APRIL/MAY 2026

MAY

PRIME TIME LUNCHEON

Thursday, May 14, 10:30 AM

Community Hall

Special Guest: **SHERYL PRESLEY**

Join us for a meaningful and engaging **Prime Time Fellowship Luncheon** on **Thursday, May 14, at 10:30 AM**. This special gathering is a wonderful opportunity for fellowship, connection, and learning together.

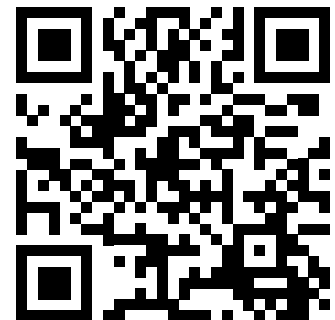
We are honored to welcome **Sheryl Presley**, TRIAD Coordinator for the Oklahoma City Police Department, as our guest speaker. Sheryl has served in this role since 1998, working closely with senior adults across Oklahoma City to educate and empower them on important issues such as safety, rights, and available community resources. With a background in criminal justice and years of service within the police department—including time in the Crime Information Unit—Sheryl brings both experience and passion to her work.

Her heart for serving others, combined with her engaging and informative approach, will make for a presentation you won't want to miss. Come enjoy a great meal, warm fellowship, and an encouraging time together. Invite a friend and join us!

ServantOKC.org/prime-time

DEADLINE TO REGISTER IS MONDAY, MAY 11th!

Michele Snow will provide us with a yummy meal that includes an entrée, vegetable, salad, bread, beverage, and dessert. The cost for the program and meal is \$15 (\$5 for program only).



SCAN HERE

APRIL

PRIME TIME LUNCHEON

Thursday, April 9, 10:30 AM

Community Hall

Special Guest: **MICHAEL KLEID**

Michael Kleid has been playing music professionally for over 40 years. He has performed in showrooms and casino lounges from Las Vegas to Atlantic City. He performs regularly on oldies music cruises. Michael specializes in 50's and 60's music. Prepare to have a good time when he takes you on a live, entertaining musical journey.



CHURCH OF THE SERVANT

LEADERSHIP TEAM UPDATE

Spring is in the air – I know because I’m sneezing more than ever! But also, we can see it with every new bud and leaf on the trees. The birds are singing more and boast brighter colors than just a few weeks ago. This is a time of anticipation and renewal. As Christians, we await Easter, the resurrected Christ, and the promise of eternal life.

But renewal means change, and I have to be honest – I don’t like change much. It’s hard and really uncomfortable. Yes, with spring comes a greener lawn, but we have to fight the weeds. Sure, flowers are on all the trees. And then the next week, our driveways are covered with spent blooms. The warmer weather allows for more dinners from the grill, but maybe for that neighbor of yours, spring means it’s time to debut his new cherub-themed fountain. Plus, did I mention the allergies?!

Over a decade ago, I was on the Administrative Council here at Church of the Servant. It was very similar to being on the Leadership Team. It was a group of people who care about the church who, through prayer, were chosen by another group of people who care about the church. We met in a classroom, mostly followed Robert’s rules of Order, and discussed and voted on issues the church was facing at the time. Our role, then and now, is not to micro-manage but to oversee, guide, and support the everyday workings of the church.

Several years have passed, and as a community, we’ve been through heartbreaks and changes, and recently we’ve seen renewal and promise. But man, was it uncomfortable! Now, I find myself on the Leadership Team again, and this year’s Chair, to boot. This position is not a comfortable one for me. I’m using every ounce of executive functioning I have to stay organized. I make mistakes, and I’m clumsy with Robert’s Rules of Order.

But much like trimming off this year’s beautiful roses so that next year will bring more, or feeling like you might die during a particularly rough workout, I know it’s good for me. I pray it makes me a better person and leader, and who knows – maybe it’ll even make me more organized after almost fifty years! But I know it’s where God wants me to be right now.

Church of the Servant has a long history of growth and change, from Dr. Norman Neaves going door-to-door to find members, to the building on Northwest Expressway, to moving our congregation to a remote area, before anything else was around. We’re used to growth and new faces. And these days, we are entering another phase of the life of the church... and sometimes it’s uncomfortable.

Some of the traditions we have come to know and love have disappeared: a favorite song, a favorite prayer, or even a family that’s now worshiping somewhere else. But other things we love about this church – the important things – are still here: hugs on Sunday mornings, the people, and the relationships we lean on for the good times and the hard times.

Just a year ago, the Children’s Moment consisted of two to three kids. Now, we see fifteen to twenty of the same sweet faces in front of us every Sunday. We’ve moved things around in the Celebration Center to make way for new kinds of music and ministry. And we’re seeing new people in seats next to us. Things are definitely changing, and I hope it feels like renewal.

So, this holy week, I’m sitting with my discomfort. I’m trying to remember that change is hard and frustrating, but Christ went through untold agony for all of us. He was reborn so that we can be renewed, again and again.

... cont. on next page

LEADERSHIP TEAM

Church of the Servant's Leadership Team governs the congregation's work and ministry. The Leadership Team has scheduled monthly meetings.

All Leadership Team meetings are open to the public. For more information about the Leadership Team, go to ServantOKC.org/leadership-team.

Leadership Team Meeting Highlights for March:

- Senior Pastor Update - Pastor Kyle wouldn't say so, but he's busier than usual. He's playing double duty while we wait to welcome our new Associate Pastor, Nathan Oney, in the summer. He's preached at Epworth Villa, he's teaching Disciple Bible classes, and he's keeping track of our steadily rising attendance (among many, many other things).
- Staff Highlight - Chris Ward came and spoke to us about the growth of the Children's ministry. Our numbers are only rising, but she reminded us that sustaining that growth takes many hands. Chris asked us to use our strengths and blessings to help in any way we can.
- Audit Subcontractor - In an effort to stay transparent, the team met with Steve Johns to discuss vetting a new subcontractor for our auditing services in the coming years. We're happy with who we are using now, but it's always good to be proactive.
- Listening Posts - In the past, we've held a town hall-style event called Listening Posts. The congregation is invited to come and listen to updates, give feedback, and find a place to pitch in. A team was assembled to continue this tradition for the next year.

An Open Invitation!

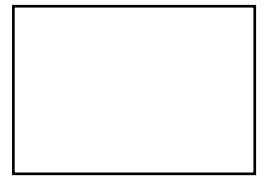
The Leadership Team strives to guide this church with the Vision, Mission, and Values in mind. You are welcome to attend any of our meetings! We have an agenda that is set in advance. We ask that visitors listen without commenting during our meetings. But we welcome feedback presented to your LT members individually, and at any of our upcoming Listening Posts.

In Christ,

Kara Mitchell

Church of the Servant Leadership Team Chair

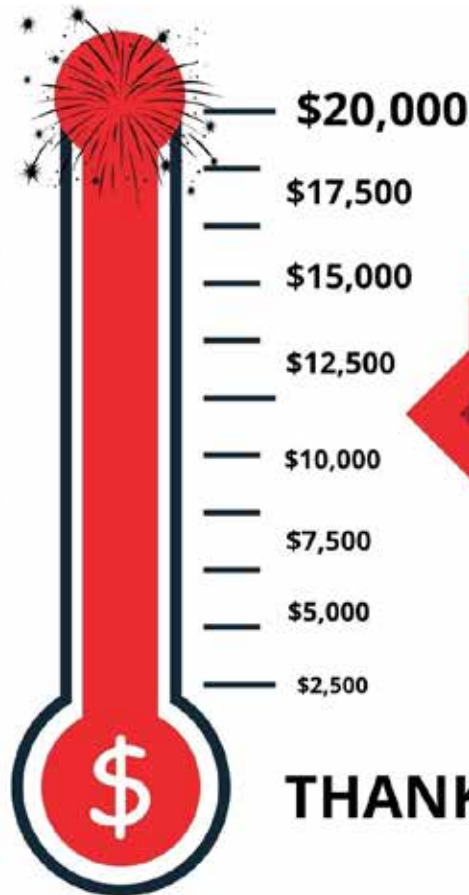
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APRIL 12, 2026
MEAL PACKAGING
EVENT



THANK YOU!



CHURCH OF THE
SERVANT

A United Methodist Congregation

WORSHIP TIME
SUNDAYS at 10:00 AM

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(405) 721-4141

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