

CONNECT

CHURCH OF THE SERVANT'S MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



Pastor's PERSPECTIVE



Rev. Kyle Anderson
Senior Pastor

Greetings Friends,

As I write this we are in the final days of July and the downhill stretch of summer. In the Anderson household our children are enjoying the final opportunities for late nights and mornings, trips to the pool, and trying to convince me to jump on the trampoline with them (why do they insist on wanting to jump in the heat of the day...let's get up and do so at 6:00 AM). All of this stems from the knowledge that August is upon us and, with it, comes a return to school.

While my children may not be overly excited about the changing of the calendar, I find myself eagerly anticipating it. Not because I'm particularly anxious to get my children back to school, though admittedly the routine does create a calmer household, but because the arrival of August is an exciting time in the life of the church. It's a time in which many of us settle into a faithful routine. Weekly

worship and Sunday School, connecting with that small group or Bible Study, participating in hands-on ministries, and more.

Here at Church of the Servant, we'll be providing a number of opportunities for longer term members and those new to the Servant family of faith to dive more deeply into their life of faith. Sunday, August 16th will be our second annual Ministry Fair where, following service, booths will be set up throughout the concourse highlighting missions and ministries you can participate in. Wednesday, August 19th will be our fall kickoff as we resume Wednesday night children's and youth ministries, midweek meal, and our Wednesday night Bible Studies. Throughout the month of August I'll be preaching a sermon series titled **The Desk of a Disciple** in which we'll discern how we as a people of faith, children and adults alike, can make growing in knowledge a constant pursuit.

In all these ways and more, the month of August brings with it an exciting and Spirit-filled season here at Church of the Servant. Whether you've been part of this family for decades or are just getting to know and become part of the Servant faith family, there are ample opportunities to grow closer to the Lord for you. I look forward to exploring and participating in those opportunities right alongside you this and every Sunday. See you soon!

Blessings,

Pastor Kyle



CHURCH OF THE SERVANT **MISSION AND MINISTRY FAIR**

Sunday, August 16th | 11:00 AM

Mark your calendars now for the Second Annual Church of the Servant Mission and Ministry Fair to take place in the concourse following Sunday morning service. Our concourse will be lined with booths representing the many Mission and Ministries carried out by your church. As you visit each booth, you will have the opportunity to learn about what that mission and ministry does, get information, and find out about how you can become more involved. Whether you are new to our family of faith or have been part of Church of the Servant for decades, this will be a Sunday you will not want

to miss as you get to witness firsthand the breadth and width of what God is doing in this place and discern just where God is calling you to be a part of it.

To the leaders of our various Mission and Ministries, we obviously want you to participate! From Sunday School Classes and Bible Studies, to ongoing missions, to various service teams, we need to hear from you. Please reach out to Belongings Coordinator Cindy Fast at cfast@churchoftheservant.com, and she will get you signed up for your own booth and share more information about how you can prepare for this important event.



DISCOVER SERVANT

Sunday, August 30th | 11:00 AM

FOLLOWING SERVICE | IN COMMUNITY HALL

Are you interested in learning more about Church of the Servant, its history, ministries, and how to become a more active participant or even a member? Join Senior Pastor Kyle Anderson and Belongings Coordinator Cindy Fast for lunch provided by the church in Community Hall following service on Sunday, August 30. This will provide them an opportunity to get to know you, for you to ask any questions you might have, and together discover if Church of the Servant might be the faith family for you! Let us know to expect you by emailing Cindy Fast at cfast@churchoftheservant.com.



Nathan's NOTES



Rev. Nathan Oney
Associate Pastor

I've been doing a lot of learning lately. Some of it is practical. I'm learning my way around Church of the Servant. I'm learning which closet holds the communion supplies, where things seem to disappear when I need them, and which staff member is the best person to ask for just about everything. I'm learning names and stories. I'm learning the rhythms of this congregation—some written down, many not. Every church has its own culture, and learning it takes time.

I'm learning in other ways, too. This summer I've also been learning what it means to be both a pastor and a dad. Those are two callings that I love deeply, and they both have a way of reminding me that I don't know everything. Some days I feel like I move confidently from one responsibility to the next. Other days I wonder if I'm doing either one particularly well. Maybe the most important thing I'm learning, though, is how to give myself grace while I'm learning.

Earlier this year, our son was learning to walk. Like every toddler, he fell—a lot. At first, every tumble was surprising. Then something changed. He would fall, look around for a second, and instead of crying, he'd laugh. He'd pop back up and try again. I don't know exactly what was going on in his little mind, but I like to think he had discovered something important: falling wasn't the opposite of learning. Falling was part of learning.

Somewhere along the way, many of us adults forget that. We expect ourselves to get things right the first time. We feel embarrassed when we don't know the answer. We assume mistakes are evidence that we aren't capable, rather than signs that we're growing. We'd rather avoid failure than risk looking inexperienced.

But that's not how God seems to work. Throughout Scripture, God calls people who are still learning. Moses had to learn to lead. Peter had to learn faithfulness. The disciples spent years misunderstanding Jesus before they began to understand his mission. Again and again, God met people not after they had mastered life, but while they were still figuring it out.

Perhaps that's where God is in our learning—not standing at the finish line waiting for us to get everything right, but walking beside us through every awkward step, every wrong turn, every new beginning, like a parent watching with joy the toddling first steps and first fall of their beloved child.

I hope I don't keep making the same mistakes over and over. But I suspect I'll continue making new ones as I grow into this season of ministry and parenthood. That's simply what learning looks like.

So if you happen to see me wandering the halls looking for a room, asking what may seem like an obvious question, or trying something that doesn't quite work the first time, thank you for your patience. I'm still learning.

The good news is that God hasn't stopped teaching any of us. And maybe, by God's grace, we can even learn to smile when we stumble, trusting that the One who began a good work in us isn't finished yet.

Pastor Nathan

PRIME TIME

SEPTEMBER 2026

SEPTEMBER

PRIME TIME LUNCHEON

Thursday, September 10, 10:30 AM

Community Hall

Special Guest:

PASTOR NATHAN & KRISTIA ONEY

Join us for Prime Time on **Thursday, September 10**, as we welcome **Pastor Nathan Oney and his wife, Kristia**, for a special time together. Nathan and Kristia will share their stories, reflect on the journey that led them to Church of the Servant, and talk about their excitement for ministry in the months and years ahead. Along the way, they'll have a few surprises in store that you won't want to miss! Come enjoy great fellowship, get to know your new pastoral family a little better, and be part of a fun and meaningful afternoon.

Come enjoy a great meal, warm fellowship, and an encouraging time together. Invite a friend and join us!

ServantOKC.org/prime-time

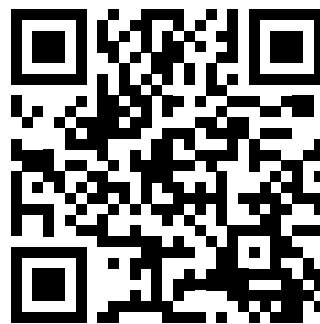
DEADLINE TO REGISTER IS MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 7th!

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 the program only).

Church of the Servant has an active group that was originally developed for Senior adults who participate in small groups, Bible studies, and other activities throughout the year. Now, adults of all ages are welcome!

All Prime Time activities are open to all ages!

There's no membership fee - just a warm invitation to anyone who would like to enjoy a great morning of fun, food, and fellowship! You can sign up any time at Guest Central in the concourse or online at ServantOKC.org/prime-time.



SCAN HERE

BIBLE STUDIES

PRECEPT CLASS

Do You Need Healing?

No Matter How Deep the Wounds, God Can Heal Your Hurts.

Everyone hurts. The pain runs deep, the scars never seem to fade, and the memories torment us. As a result, our growth is stunted, our walk crippled, our relationships infected. Will relief never come? Yes – when you put yourself in the hands of Jehovah-Rapha, the God who heals! No matter what you've done or what's been done to you, He wants to be your refuge. He loves you. And He offers healing for your deepest wounds. Discover how God can turn your sorrow into joy in *Lord, Heal My Hurts*.

If you are hurting in any way, be it physical, or spiritual this is the study for you. Come and learn how to apply the "Balm of Gilead" which is the Word of God to your life for healing of your hurts.

This study will guide you through the Scriptures so you can be set free from past hurts by the power of God. This powerful, insightful study will minister to you in deeply restorative ways. And these are truths you will want to share with others!

TWO OPPORTUNITIES FOR THIS CLASS

WHERE: ROOM 12

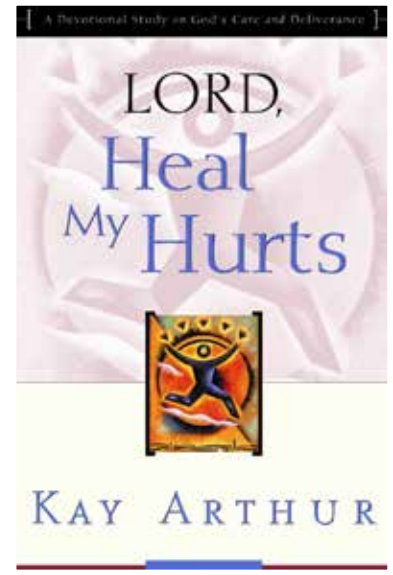
WHEN: WEDNESDAYS – SEPTEMBER 9 – DECEMBER 9, 2026 (In-class study)

WHEN: THURSDAYS – SEPTEMBER 10 – DECEMBER 10, 2026 (Zoom class)

TIME: 9:30 – 11:30 AM

LEADER: NANCY HARRIS

There is a commitment to read a weekly chapter, table discussion, video, and a presentation/review by the leader.



YOU MUST REGISTER FOR THIS CLASS ONLINE OR CALL THE CHURCH AT 405-721-4141

REGISTER AT:

ServantOKC.org/bible-studies#precept

DEADLINE TO REGISTER:
September 1st

PSALM 23

Thursdays, September 3 - September 24 | 5:30 PM

Welcome to Sheep "101". Please join me as we delve into the meaning of the 23rd Psalm from the viewpoint of the sheep, David the Shepherd, and a modern-day sheep rancher. Your journey will take you back to the time of David, to the wilds of Africa, and to a modern-day sheep ranch. It should be an informative, enlightening, and entertaining four weeks as we experience the parallels between sheep and humans. Come and be a part of the "flock".

Presented by Harli Reeves.



FALL KICKOFF AT SERVANT!

Wednesday, August 19 | 5:00 - 6:30 PM

Join us on Wednesday, August 19, as we celebrate the beginning of a new school year!

Enjoy a free, fun-filled dinner from 5:00–6:30 p.m. We'll be serving hamburgers, hot dogs, potato salad, and baked beans. Feel free to bring another side dish or dessert to share as we enjoy food, fellowship, and time together as a church family.

At 6:30 p.m., our regular Wednesday evening activities will begin, including Bible studies, youth group, children's activities, and choir.

Where do you belong? Visit our Ministry Fair on Sunday, August 16, after worship to learn more about the different opportunities available and discover where you might like to connect, serve, and grow.

You are loved, valued, and always welcome at Servant. Come fellowship with your church family and find a place where you belong!

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

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 19th!

BIBLE STUDIES, YOUTH, AND KIDS PROGRAMMING RESUME!

TUESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDIES

RESUMES AUGUST 18

Looking for a Bible Study? There is a seat for you on Tuesday morning! There's coffee and a donut, there's good company, and there's an open Bible on the table. It's an hour that sets the week down on a solid footing before it gets away from you.

We start back up on Tuesday, August 18, in the second half of Isaiah. This is the part of the book that turns toward hope — toward the Messiah who was coming. You already know one of its lines even if you've never opened Isaiah: "They that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles." We're going to spend the fall finding out what stands behind those words. There's nothing else quite like it in Scripture.

If you're new, this is the right morning to come. We open by walking back through what's come before, so no one starts out behind. You don't need to have read a page. Just come.

There are two sessions, same study, same morning.

- **Men's Buck and a Bible | 6:30 a.m.**
- **Women in the Word | 9:30 a.m.**

Bring a Bible. That's all you need. The dollar covers the coffee and the donut, and the fellowship is free.

We'll be in Isaiah through February, and then we take up the Gospel of Mark in the spring and finish it by summer. Come once and see how it sits with you. My guess is you'll be back.

We will meet in Community Hall for both studies.

Questions? Contact Eric Nance at enance@churchoftheservant.com



WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDIES

FOR WOMEN

A Study of Genesis 1-11

Beginning Wednesday, September 2, 2026

Classroom 4 | 6:30 – 8:00 pm

The opening chapters of Genesis teach us fundamental truths about God. We watch Him bring light after darkness, order after chaos, and rest after toil—all through the power of His Word.

Revisit familiar stories and historical figures, challenge your basic knowledge, and discover deeper meanings in the text. As God reveals Himself through Scripture, we can only begin to understand ourselves when we first glimpse the character, attributes, and promises of our Creator. For more information, contact Darla Bierig at bierigd67@gmail.com, Cathy Maxwell at Cmaxwell20012001@yahoo.com, or Miki Farris.

Footsteps of the Savior

Beginning Wednesday, September 2, 2026

Classroom 4 | 9:30 - 11:15 AM

The Bible Babes are back September 2nd! We welcome new friends and rejoice over those who are returning. This is a group of women who love the Lord, and we study His Word.

We will follow Max Lucado as we walk through the footsteps of our Savior. We hope you will join us in the Holy Land as we walk where Jesus walked and ponder the promises he made.

We will use the study guide, *In the Footsteps of the Savior*, written by Max Lucado. You can purchase this on Amazon. If you have any questions, please contact Patricia Hocker at 405-535-9121.



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!

ADULT CONFIRMATION BIBLE STUDY

Wednesdays, August 19 - November 18
4:00 PM & 6:30 PM

This Fall, join Pastor Kyle for a fourteen-week Adult Confirmation course. Much like the Confirmation class taught to youth, this study will focus upon understanding the Bible, Theology, and Discipleship from our United Methodist lineage.

Two sessions will be offered:

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

Whether you are exploring the Christian faith, new to the faith, or seeking an opportunity to be reminded of core aspects of the faith you proclaim, all are welcome! Sign up at the welcome tables outside the Celebration Center, by emailing Pastor Kyle at kanderson@churchoftheservant.com, or call the church office at 405-721-4141.

GROW IN FAITH.
DEEPEN YOUR JOURNEY.
BELONG TO THE CHURCH.

ADULT CONFIRMATION

This Fall

A 14-WEEK JOURNEY OF FAITH

Join Pastor Kyle for a fourteen-week
Adult Confirmation course.

THIS STUDY WILL FOCUS ON
THE BIBLE
THEOLOGY
DISCIPLESHIP
AND OUR UNITED
METHODIST LINEAGE.

Whether you are exploring the Christian faith,
new to the faith, or seeking an opportunity
to be reminded of core aspects of the faith
you proclaim, **all are welcome!**

Open Hearts.
Open Minds.
Open Doors.



FAMILY MINISTRIES



SERVANT KIDS

Servant Kids is about to be in full GO mode! Starting on August 9, we will bless backpacks in the morning service (parents, teachers, and kids bring your school bag!), and then have a back-to-school splash and foam party from 5:00 – 7:00 PM. Pizza will be provided! Bring a towel and some goggles (if you choose) and jump in the foam!

We will have Children's church on Sundays, 10:00-11:00 AM, and Sunday school from 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM. Children ages 3 years through 5th grade are encouraged to attend! We learn a Bible story, play games, work on crafts, and have a snack!

On August 19, Servant Kids will kick off the fall season with "Passport through the Bible." Each Wednesday night from 6:30 - 7:15 PM or 8:00 PM, we will take an adventure to a new part of the Bible. We will begin with creation. Activities will include music, Bible stories, STEM, and more! Don't let your child, ages 3 years through 5th grade, miss this exciting flight through the most important book!

In July, Servant Kids took 4 kids to Camp Canyon "Growin' in Grace" camp. The children had fun making new friends, worshipping, fishing, learning archery, and enjoying so many other camp experiences! It was fun watching these children go from full of nerves to confident and looking forward to going back! Camp helps kids grow. They kept saying they saw God in Nature. I saw God in them!

If you have questions about Servant Kids, contact Chris Ward at cward@churchoftheservant.com.



Back to School Splash

**On August 9,
from 5:00-7:00 PM,**

we will have a fun Back to School
Splash with lots of water fun
on the south lawn with **pizza**
and **cookies** for dinner!

Pizza

**Foam
Party**

Music

**Sno Cone
Truck**

**Bring your friends and neighbors
for a night of fun!**



Monthly Update **YOUTH AT THE POINT**

It has been a truly remarkable summer for our Servant Youth! We were blessed to have 10 students attend Church Camp, where they built lasting memories and strengthened their faith. The week-long camp was filled with relationship building, new experiences, and worship that brought some to tears! Let me elaborate – the youth became fast friends with those that they met at camp last year, as well as new friends. Each day, the youth went to worship time, and they went to workshops such as archery, fishing, prayer stations, arts and crafts, and writing their own psalms.

By the end of the week, the youth were so close that they would huddle and pray for each other. What a powerful moment to see the youth in prayer for one another! The camp ended with every single youth and leader arm in arm, singing and worshipping. A circle had been created around the entire room. No one was left out. Praise rang out for our God. What a sight! What a feeling! Let's do this again soon!

As we look ahead to the fall, we are thrilled to announce that our Wednesday Night Youth program will officially launch on August 19. We are excited to embark on a new adventure: "A Journey Through the Old Testament." This series will offer our youth a foundational understanding of the stories and promises that shape our faith today.

Our current Sunday morning group has been doing incredible work, diving deeper into the scriptures shared during our main services and engaging in meaningful fellowship. If you see any of our wonderful students around the church, please take a moment to ask them about what they are learning. Their insights and enthusiasm are truly inspiring!

If you have questions about Servant Youth, contact Greg Lacy at glacy@churchoftheservant.com.



August 9th

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS

Praying for our students, teachers,
parents and school staff!



As a new school year begins, we invite all students, teachers, parents, and school staff to bring their backpacks to worship for our annual Backpack Blessing on Sunday, August 9.

A backpack carries books, supplies, and everything needed for a day at school. During this special blessing, we pray that each backpack will also be a reminder that God goes with us wherever we go. Whether entering preschool, elementary school, middle school, high school, or college, we want every student, teacher, and parent to know they are loved, supported, and surrounded by the prayers of their church family.

Each participant will receive a tag to remind them that Jesus is always with them as they learn, grow, and share His love with others throughout the school year.

Join us as we celebrate a new beginning and send our students and educators into the school year with God's blessing, encouragement, and love!



At Church of the Servant, we want to faithfully support our church family in prayer—including those who are serving our country while deployed.

We are creating a list of service members connected to Church of the Servant who are currently on deployment so that we can remember them regularly in our prayers. If you have a family member, loved one, or someone connected to our church who is currently deployed, we'd love to include them.

Please send the following information to Rev. Nathan Oney at noney@churchoftheservant.com:

- **Service member's name**
- **Branch of service**
- **Relationship to Church of the Servant**
- **Approximate deployment location or region (if appropriate)**
- **Expected deployment timeframe (if known)**
- **Any specific prayer requests**

For the safety of our deployed service members, please do not include sensitive or operational details. Thank you for helping us care for those who serve and the families who support them.

Please email your information to Rev. Nathan Oney so we can include them in our ongoing prayers.





SPIRITUAL

Church of the Servant

Retreat



September 11-13, 2026

St. Crispin's Conference Center (Seminole County, Oklahoma)

ServantOKC.org/women-retreat



Women's Retreat 2026: *Still Waters*

"He leads me beside still waters; He restores my soul." – Psalm 23:2-3

Step away from the noise of everyday life and join us for a peaceful weekend of rest, renewal, and connection at our **Women's Retreat 2026: *Still Waters***.

Set in a beautiful lakeside lodge, this retreat is designed to help you slow down, breathe deeply, and reconnect with God in a meaningful way. Together, we will explore what it means to be led beside still waters—places where God restores our souls, renews our strength, and gently reminds us of His presence.

Throughout the weekend, you'll experience:

- **Worship and devotion** each evening and Sunday morning
- **Engaging teaching sessions** with meaningful discussion
- A guided **prayer walk by the lake and labyrinth**
- A relaxing and creative **craft experience**
- Unhurried **free time** for rest, reflection, and fellowship



Whether you come needing rest, encouragement, clarity, or simply time away, this retreat offers a sacred space to be still and receive what God has for you.

Surrounded by the beauty of fall and the quiet rhythm of the water, you'll be invited to lay down your burdens, listen for God's voice, and return home refreshed—carrying His peace with you into your everyday life.

Come and find rest. Come and be restored.

URGENT!! REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS AUGUST 16th!!!

Dates: September 11-13, 2026

Location: St. Crispin's Conference Center (36302 OK-9, Wewoka, OK 74884)

Cost: \$300 per person for double occupancy (includes accommodation, meals, and all activities)

Registration Deadline: August 16, 2026 – Register today! Space is limited!

GriefShare

Grief Support Group

A safe space to journey through loss together.
You don't have to walk this path alone.

Starts Thursday, September 10
1:30 - 3:00 pm

Facilitators:

Mary Garrett and Marge Carmichael

📍 14343 N MacArthur Blvd, OKC

🌐 ServantOKC.org



Have you experienced the death of a loved one? If so, we invite you to join our Grief Support Group, beginning on Thursday, September 10, 2026. We'll meet in person. The course will meet each week and continue through November 19, 2026. We'll meet each Thursday afternoon (1:30 - 3:00 PM) in the Library at Church of the Servant. The facilitators will be Mary Garrett and Marge Carmichael.

Perhaps it was just recently that you experienced the loss of a loved one...or maybe you've been on your journey of grief for a long time. Either way, we think you'll find it quite helpful to connect with others and benefit from mutual support. We utilize the GriefShare curriculum, which is Christian-based. There's a helpful video each time, and there's always plenty of time for sharing and discussion. There's no cost for the course, and each participant will receive a complimentary workbook.

If you'd like to register for the group, just call 405-728-4738 and speak to Vicki Roberds, our Coordinator of Care Ministries. Or you can email her at vroberds@churchoftheservant.com. Registration never closes, so you can join us for any or all of the meetings, and it's never too late to sign up.

RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE OPENS ITS DOORS!

Our mission partner, **Ronald McDonald House Oklahoma City**, is opening its beautiful new home just down the street from Church of the Servant! Join the celebration at the **Ribbon-Cutting Ceremony and Open House on Wednesday, September 23, at 9:00 AM.**

For families with seriously ill or injured children receiving medical care, Ronald McDonald House provides a welcoming place to stay, rest, and find support during a difficult time. We are grateful for our partnership with this incredible ministry and excited to celebrate this milestone with them.

If you're available, we encourage you to attend the open house and see this wonderful new facility firsthand. Shuttles will be running from our church parking lot.



2026 MID-YEAR STATISTICS

While we know that numbers are not what is most important in the church, tracking participation, financial generosity, and noticing trends can aid church leaders in discerning fruitfulness. Additionally, I know that many Servant members are curious about trends in these areas as well. So, I would like to share with you some mid-year statistics through the month of June of this year along with some comparisons to recent years where applicable.

ATTENDANCE

Through the month of June for the years of '24, '25, and '26, in-person Celebration Service attendance is as follows:

2024: 263

2025: 317

2026: 342

DISCIPLESHIP MINISTRIES

In 2026, we began more closely tracking attendance across our discipleship ministries. At the mid-year point we have:

- Adult Sunday School Attendees Identified: 183
- Adult Sunday School Average Attendance: 152
- Adult Weekday Bible Study Attendees Identified: 140
- Adult Weekday Bible Study Average: 104

FINANCIAL GENEROSITY

Total General Giving in support of the Servant budget through June:

2024: \$528,795

2025: \$731,922

2026: \$839,958



Like participation in Church of the Servant ministries, financial generosity continues to increase year over year. As many of you are aware, Church of the Servant leadership has elected to utilize funds from the Servant Foundation to offset any deficits in the budget. Through the first half of 2026, Church of the Servant has an operating deficit of \$82,123. This is obviously undesirable as the Servant Foundation resources are finite. That being said, we can celebrate because this deficit is less than what was anticipated through this point of the year and is less than the operating deficit experienced in 2025 up to this point. Our continually improving financial position is thanks to the hard work of our staff and leaders to be good stewards of the funds they've been given and thanks to the continual generosity of you Servant faith family! If this trend continues, we are not far from being able to financially support the work of Church of the Servant solely from congregational giving, all while not having to cut back on the great Kingdom work that is taking place.

If you have any questions about this information or anything related to trends we are witnessing here at Church of the Servant, know that I would be happy to schedule a time to meet with you to discuss more fully and answer your questions to the best of my ability. I hope you see what I see in these simple numbers: growth in discipleship, generosity, and most importantly, new individuals coming to embrace faith in Jesus Christ. It is apparent to me that God is nowhere near finished with Church of the Servant!

Blessings,

Pastor Kyle

SHARING CHRIST'S LOVE THROUGH MISSION

One of the greatest strengths of Church of the Servant is the generous spirit of our congregation. Throughout 2026, you have faithfully shared your time, talents, and resources to serve our neighbors locally and around the world. Together, we are living out Christ's call to love and serve others in tangible ways.

So far this year, our church family has **contributed more than \$45,000** to mission and ministry efforts (through Fish Appeal and other special donations) and **volunteered an estimated 2,250 hours** serving others. Every dollar given and every hour served represents lives touched with the love of Christ.

Your generosity has supported ministries such as:

- **Rise Against Hunger (\$22,000)** – Packing meals that help feed families around the world.
- **Whiz Kids (\$7,163)** – Tutoring and encouraging elementary students through caring relationships.
- **WINGS (\$3,773)** – Providing support and hope for families in need.
- **Meals on Wheels (\$2,450)** – Delivering nutritious meals and friendly visits to homebound neighbors.
- **Rebuilding Together Oklahoma City (\$2,500)** – Helping make homes safer and more livable.
- **The Salvation Army (\$1,100)** – Assisting individuals and families facing difficult circumstances.
- **Women's Mission Day (\$1,000)** – Serving together through hands-on mission projects.
- **Infant Crisis Services (\$563)** – Providing diapers, formula, and essential items for babies and toddlers.
- **Afghanistan Families (\$334)** – Offering practical support and hospitality to families building new lives.
- **Ronald McDonald House Charities (\$4,275)** – Caring for families whose children are receiving medical treatment.

These numbers tell an incredible story, but they don't tell the whole story. Behind every meal packed, every child tutored, every home repaired, and every family encouraged is a church member who chose to make a difference. Together, we are sharing hope, building relationships, and reflecting the love of Jesus in our community and beyond.

Thank you for your faithful generosity. Whether you have given financially, volunteered your time, prayed for these ministries, or encouraged those who serve, you are making an eternal impact.

As we look ahead to the rest of the year, we invite everyone to continue finding ways to serve. Together, we can keep being the hands and feet of Christ wherever God calls us.

Penn Avenue UMC Silent Auction Fundraiser

Support the ministry of Penn Avenue United Methodist Church at their Silent Auction Fundraiser on Thursday, August 7, from 5:00–7:00 PM. Dinner will be provided, along with music, fellowship, and an inspiring program at New Hope Methodist Church (11600 N. Council Road).

WHAT AN INCREDIBLE LADIES' MISSION DAY!



Together, we spent the day serving Infant Crisis Services, assembling healthy snack packs and packaging diapers for babies and toddlers in our community.

Because of the generosity and hard work of our volunteers:

- ****359 babies and toddlers**** will have diapers for an entire week.
- ****More than 800 babies and toddlers**** will receive extra healthy snacks to take home.

What may seem like a simple act of service can make a life-changing difference for families facing difficult circumstances. Thank you to every volunteer who gave of her time, energy, and heart to help care for Oklahoma's littlest neighbors.

Together, we are living out Christ's love—one snack pack, one diaper, and one act of kindness at a time.



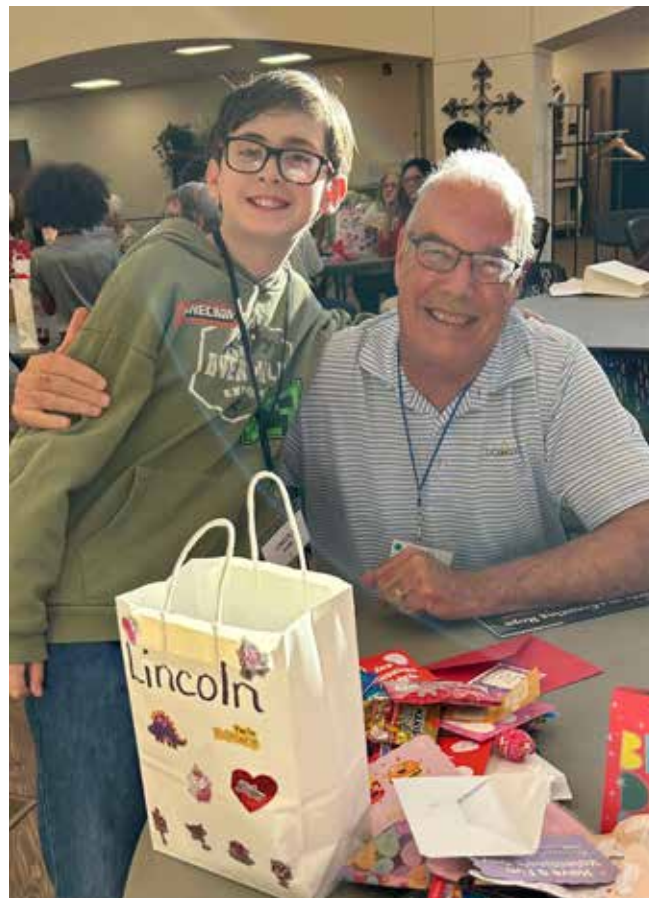
MISSIONS



WHIZ KIDS

YIPPEEEEEEE — WHIZ KIDS starts August 31st!

Join Us! Come make a HUGE difference in the life of a child! Come be AMAZED at how spending time with our Whiz Kids, and the friendships that blossom with the other volunteers, impact your life! It is simply a beautiful ministry — not sure who benefits the most from Whiz Kids — the child or the volunteer. Let's find out together! Contact Cindy Fast, (405) 721-4141, cfast@churchoftheservant.com, for more Whiz Kids scoop!



 **August Fish Appeal**

Whiz Kids

Help a Child Learn to Read.

One-on-one tutoring. Lifelong impact.

Your support helps students build confidence, improve reading skills, and discover their potential.



WE NEED:

- ✓ Tutors
- ✓ Volunteers
- ✓ Financial Support



91% of Whiz Kids students improved their reading scores last school year.



Our Fish Fund for August 2026 will go to support:

WHIZ KIDS

For more than 15 years, Church of the Servant has partnered with Whiz Kids, a faith-based tutoring and mentoring ministry that helps elementary students improve their reading skills while building confidence and meaningful relationships. Since 2010, our church has welcomed students each week, pairing them with caring, consistent volunteers who encourage them academically, emotionally, and spiritually.

Each Whiz Kids afternoon begins with snacks and Club Time, where children learn about God and develop positive character traits. Students then spend one-on-one time with their mentor reading together, playing educational games, and growing in both literacy and self-confidence. For many children, these relationships become just as important as the reading skills they gain.

This August, our Fish Appeal will support the Church of the Servant Whiz Kids ministry. Your gifts help provide weekly snacks, birthday gifts, Star of the Week celebrations, educational supplies, and other resources that make each child feel welcomed, valued, and loved.

Whiz Kids also depends on volunteers. Whether you serve as a tutor, substitute tutor, bus helper, snack volunteer, or assist with setup and cleanup, every role helps create a place where children can thrive. As one volunteer shared, "If you are looking for a meaningful way to make a difference, I think Whiz Kids is right for you."

Together, we can help children discover the joy of reading, the confidence to succeed, and the hope found in a community that believes in them.

We invite you to prayerfully consider giving to the mission's **Fish Fund** this August. Your generosity helps ensure this long-standing, life-giving ministry continues to nourish both bodies and spirits in our community. Give by filling out the donation form at ServantOKC.org/fishfund.

CHURCH OF THE SERVANT **LEADERSHIP TEAM UPDATE**

TOGETHER, WE MAKE A DIFFERENCE

A year ago, your leadership team participated in a strategic planning session to establish three areas for the church to focus its attention: Youth Ministry, Family Ministry, and Community Partnerships. This past Sunday, we met again to review and assess our progress over the past year. Pastor Kyle reported the advances the church has made over the past year, and we, as a team, discussed the areas in which we can improve. And you know what we discovered? This past year has been an abundance of blessings!

It's fitting, then, that on Sunday our (NEW!) Associate Pastor, Nathan Oney, reminded us to take time to celebrate—that every celebration is a small act of hope.

So, let's celebrate a little, shall we?

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE PAST YEAR

- We welcomed our new Associate Pastor, Nathan Oney!
- The (amazing) Cindy Fast was brought on as our Belongings Coordinator.
- (Saint) Greg Lacey was hired as a part-time Youth Director to guide our teens and preteens.
- We have an active and growing group of youth who meet for class on Sundays and for youth worship and activities on Wednesdays.
- We've welcomed several new families, and attendance is steadily growing!
- A group of students just returned from church camp at (the always magical) Camp Canyon.
- We're working with Spring Creek Elementary this year. We collected donations and school supplies for their teachers and students.
- We continue our long-standing tradition of partnering with Project Transformation.
- Servant has partnered with the Ronald McDonald House. Their board is holding meetings in our building while theirs is being built, and our kiddos raised money for them throughout the week of Vacation Bible School.
- Starbright and Warm World continue their excellence in providing quality education for preschoolers and kindergarteners. Together, these folks offer a bright spot in the lives of so many children in our surrounding community!
- Wednesday night Bible classes have been well attended and continue to grow. (Check them out!)

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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.

NOMINATE A SERVANT LEADER

We're receiving nominations for church leadership! During the month of August, you'll find leadership nomination forms at the entrances to the Celebration Center. If you know of a member of Church of the Servant who you believe the nominating committee should consider, please share their name, the committee they would be a good fit for, and why you're nominating them! The 2027 slate of leaders will be presented for approval at our annual Church Conference on November 8th!

We are looking for individuals to serve on three formal committees:

- **Leadership Team:** *Provide overall strategic visioning and leadership of the church*
- **Servant Foundation:** *Stewardship of Church of the Servant financial investments*
- **Nominations & Leadership Development:** *Recruit and prepare leaders*

If you know of an individual who would be a good servant leader on one of these committees, please fill out the form and turn it into the church office or place it in the offering basket. We look forward to seeing who the Spirit guides towards leadership here at Church of the Servant in the coming year!

THINGS TO LOOK FORWARD TO

- In 2027, the Church of the Servant will confirm a new class of United Methodists.
- On August 9, Servant will host a "Back-to-School Splash." There will be fun, games, and food!
- Mission activities and opportunities are planned for our youth over Fall Break.
- We will continue to partner with surrounding schools and organizations to offer a place for meeting and fellowship.
- We are planning additional partnerships with surrounding corporations to provide care and support.
- The church will be offering more opportunities for families to fellowship and worship together. Stay tuned!
- In September, the women of the church are invited to "step away" from the hustle and bustle and explore God's presence in a new way.
- Finally, on August 16, we'll have our annual Mission and Ministry Fair during the service. You'll get to see all the wonderful things the church is doing (that I haven't even mentioned)!

In his first sermon at the Church of the Servant, Pastor Nathan shared his favorite story: Jesus at the wedding in Cana. He spoke about the joy of celebrating a wedding, the importance of celebration, and how celebrations are acts of hope. Hope and joy point us to Jesus, and Jesus is where heaven and earth meet! After that list of celebrations, it's obvious Jesus is watching over Church of the Servant.

Pastor Nathan also reminded us that, in the Book of John, the wedding host had run out of wine, and Mary asked Jesus to help. While some of our fears and worries may seem trivial, they matter to Jesus because they matter to us. Pastor Nathan encouraged us to be bold in our prayers.

So, please continue to pray for Church of the Servant. Believe that we will continue to be blessed so that we can be a blessing to our community.

Kara Mitchell, Chair

Church of the Servant Leadership Team

Church of the Servant
14343 North MacArthur Boulevard
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73142-9725



CHURCH OF THE
SERVANT
A United Methodist Congregation

WORSHIP TIME
SUNDAYS at 10:00 AM

CONTACT US
14343 N MacArthur Blvd.
Oklahoma City, OK 73142
ServantOKC.org
(405) 721-4141

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