

# this week

## Sunday, May 17 - Graduation Sunday

- 8:30 a.m. Worship
- 9:40 a.m. Sunday Bible Study - All Ages
- 10:50 a.m. Worship
- 12:00 p.m. Student Handbells, High School Senior Graduation Luncheon
- 12:15 p.m. 2026-27 Ministry Financial Plan Q & A
- 4:00 p.m. VBS Teachers Meeting
- 5:00 p.m. Evening Worship
- 6:00 p.m. Advisory Council

## Monday, May 18

- 10:00 a.m. Meals on Wheels
- 11:00 a.m. Joe Phillips Memorial Service
- 6:30 p.m. GriefShare, Men's Game Night

## Tuesday, May 19

- 10:00 a.m. Moms in Prayer
- 5:30 p.m. Momentum ABKA Karate

## Wednesday, May 20

- 4:45 p.m. Fellowship Dinner
- 5:30 p.m. PreSMAK Leadership Planning Meeting
- 5:45 p.m. Bible Study and Prayer
- 6:00 p.m. Student Worship/Prayer, Men's Bible Study, Women's-Lead Me Holy Spirit
- 6:30 p.m. SMAK & SMAK Jr Leadership Meeting, Young Adults Picnic at the Park
- 6:45 p.m. Worship Choir & Orchestra Rehearsal

## Thursday, May 21

- 10:00 a.m. Adult Game Day
- 12:00 p.m. Weaving Ministry

## Friday, May 22

- 10:00 a.m. Meals on Wheels

## Saturday, May 23

- 8:00 a.m. Gideon's Meeting
- 5:00 p.m. FIT Class Parties/Date Night

## WEDNESDAY FELLOWSHIP DINNER

May 20, 2026

Hamburgers, cheeseburgers, French fries, onion rings, dessert, and beverage.

Adults \$5.00, children (12 & under) \$3.50.

Please make your dinner reservations [online](#) by Tuesday at noon. Questions? Call the church office (918) 299-0904.



Sharing the Good News about Jesus in our community and around the world

10310 S Sheridan Rd | Tulsa, Oklahoma 74133  
918.299.0904 | [southtulsa.org](http://southtulsa.org)

## more

**WELCOME GUESTS** - We're glad you joined us! We would love to get to know you and/or pray for you. Fill out the form and submit prayer needs at [southtulsa.info](http://southtulsa.info). If you're worshipping with us today, we invite you to stop by our Welcome Area for Guests, adjacent to the Welcome Center, after the service to meet a member of our team and receive a welcome gift.



**GRIEFSHARE** - You don't have to go through the grieving process alone. GriefShare is a friendly, caring group of people who will walk alongside you as you grieve the death of your loved one. Our group gathers on Mondays, 6:30-8:30 p.m. in the South Tulsa Conference Room.

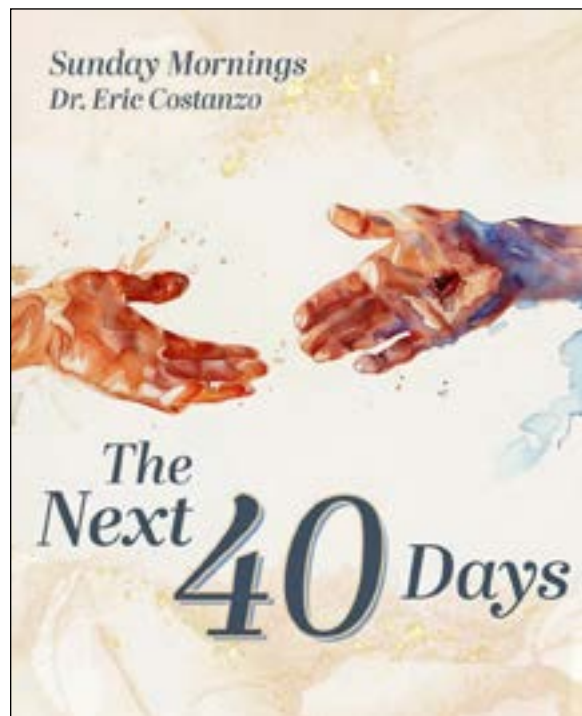
**YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY EVENTS** - **Wednesday, May 20**, 6:30-9:30 p.m. we will meet at the Gathering Place for a Picnic at the Park! Bring a blanket and your own food. Please RSVP on GroupMe.

**VBS TEACHER'S MEETINGS TODAY** - There are meetings this afternoon at 4:00 p.m. for everyone helping with VBS. Elementary teachers will meet in D172, Preschool teachers will meet in D165. We will distribute curriculum and review all the details for a successful VBS!

**SUMMER MUSIC ACTIVITY FOR KIDS PLANNING MEETINGS** - If you are helping with SMAK, SMAK Jr, or PreSMAK please attend a leadership meeting this **Wednesday, May 20**. PreSMAK leaders meet at 5:30 p.m. in D268-269; SMAK/SMAK Jr leaders meet at 6:30 p.m. in D268-269.

**JOIN OUR WEAVING MINISTRY** - Each Thursday at noon, the ladies in the Weaving Ministry take plastic grocery bags and make sleeping mats and pillows for the underprivileged. They would love to have you join them as they serve the community!

(For more information about upcoming events, please go to [southtulsa.org](http://southtulsa.org).)



# the channel

05.17.26

volume XXXVI, no. 20  
[southtulsa.org](http://southtulsa.org)



## 8:30 AM Worship

- Call to Worship** Romans 8:38-39 Michael Ware *Christus Victor (Amen)*
- Welcome** Kim Hayes
- Old Testament Reading** Genesis 12:1-5
- Graduate Recognition and Video**  
High School Seth Spoo, Dani Jones  
College/Graduate School Laura McFarlin
- Prayer**
- Worship in Giving and Children's Offering**  
*Lord, I Need You*
- Announcements** Zack Hudson
- Greeting Time**
- Scripture Reading** Matthew 28:16-20 Cash Curry
- Message** "The Next 40 Days" Eric Costanzo
- My Response** *We Have Heard the Joyful Sound*
- New Commitments - New Members**
- Blessing**

## 10:50AM Worship

- Call to Worship** Romans 8:38-39 Lara McKinney
- Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine*
- Amazing Grace! How Sweet the Sound*
- Prayer & Welcome** Kim Hayes
- Old Testament Reading** Genesis 12:1-5
- Graduate Recognition and Video**  
High School Seth Spoo, Dani Jones  
College/Graduate School Laura McFarlin
- Choral Worship** *Bless That Wonderful Name*
- Worship in Giving and Children's Offering**  
*Hallelujah, What A Savior!*  
Sean McKinney, Bob Baker
- Announcements** Zack Hudson
- Greeting Time**
- Scripture Reading** Matthew 28:16-20 Cash Curry
- Message** "The Next 40 Days" Eric Costanzo
- My Response** *We Have Heard the Joyful Sound*
- New Commitments - New Members**
- Blessing** - *Bless That Wonderful Name*



# The General Fund

Phillip White  
On June 7, we will be voting



as a church family on our Ministry Financial Plan (MFP), or church budget, for the 2026-27 fiscal year. In the Channel and online, you'll see this referred to as the General Fund. Giving to the General Fund is the most direct way you can financially support our church's ongoing ministries. We cover the process to develop our church budget in prayer at every step, seeking the Lord's guidance in where His church should prioritize funding and casting vision for the next year. Budget areas originate from each ministry area or associated committee, are reviewed and approved by our staff and Stewardship Committee, then are reviewed and approved by our Advisory Council totaling more than 60 people consisting of committee chairs, deacons, staff, and church officers, and lastly goes to the church body for final approval. It's an extremely intentional and thoughtful process, and we want our church family to have full confidence in how their tithes are being used.

With that budget, we fund the various ministries here at South Tulsa as we serve alongside you. The General Fund supports vocational ministers and staff who serve alongside our church family daily, lead out in discipleship across all ages, and respond to families and community in crisis. It keeps our facilities ready to host 80-100 internal and external events every week. Our community and global mission partners, such as The Ministry Center, Jenks CarePoint, Bixby and Jenks school food ministries, missions in Guatemala, India, Malaysia, Ukraine, and Venezuela, and many more are funded through the General Fund. A perfect display of this is our English as a Second Language (ESL) program, which we host out of our church building. It provides hospitality and excellent teaching for every student, and funds teachers that engage the 180 students from 31 nations represented. The General Fund supports everything detailed in our Ministry Financial Plan, all while remaining debt free through our Capital Reserves account. In all of these ministries, our commitment remains

to carry out the Great Commission set forth in Matthew 28:19-20 and share the Good News of Jesus Christ.

As we begin our new fiscal year on July 1, we invite you to give to the General Fund as an expression of faith that serves as an act of gratitude and dependence on God, supporting the many ministries that happen here at South Tulsa. Giving to the General Fund is the purest form of the ten percent tithe that we are given a model of in Malachi 3:10, as the Lord calls us to give generously of our first fruits to Him and His church.

We encourage you to attend our final Q&A today (5/17) at 12:15 p.m. in the Chapel if you have any questions about the new budget. Printed copies of the plan are available at the Welcome Center for you to pick up and review. View a digital copy [HERE](https://www.southtulsa.org/church-resources) or online at [southtulsa.org/church-resources](https://www.southtulsa.org/church-resources).

## 10th Anniversary Celebration



On Sunday, May 31, we will celebrate Pastor Eric's 10th anniversary at South Tulsa. Join us as we honor the past, celebrate the present, and look forward to the future. Special recognition will take place in the morning worship services at 8:30 & 10:50 a.m., followed by a reception in the Commons at noon. Let's show our love and appreciation to Eric, Rebecca, and their family for a decade of faithful leadership, service, and spiritual guidance! A basket for cards is located at the Welcome Center.

## Bridge Builders Luncheon

Join us for our next luncheon on Tuesday, June 2, at 11:15 a.m. in the South Tulsa Chapel as we honor our fathers. Our special guests will be Cowboy Buck and Elizabeth. Enjoy a wonderful lunch and a great time of fellowship. Everyone is welcome to attend. Please make your reservations soon, [southtulsa.org/events](https://www.southtulsa.org/events).

## Advisory Council

The Advisory Council will meet at 6:00 p.m. tonight in Fellowship Hall.

## Summer Fun

Registration is open at [southtulsa.org/events](https://www.southtulsa.org/events)!

### Summer Music Activity for Kids:



PreSMAK is June 1-3, 10:00 a.m. to noon for preschoolers age 3 years (by 9/1/25) - kindergarten. The cost is \$30.



SMAK & SMAK Jr are June 1-5, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. SMAK is for 3rd-6th grade and the cost is \$50. SMAK Jr is for 1st-2nd grade and is \$40.



### Vacation Bible School:

VBS is June 22-25, 9:00 a.m. to noon for kids who have completed kindergarten - 6th grade, and it's free!

## Summer Volunteers

Our summer kids programs are some of the biggest outreach events we host. Each summer we meet and welcome dozens of new families from our community. Our teachers are a vital part of this outreach opportunity. We are still looking for teachers for both PreSMAK (June 1-3) and preschool and elementary Vacation Bible School (June 23-26). Please talk to Rebecca Johnston if you are interested in serving!

## Falls Creek 2026

Falls Creek camp is June 15-19 for students in grades 7-12. Our in-cabin theme is Set Apart, where we'll explore what it means to be set apart for holiness by God and how that shapes the way we live every day. It's going to be an incredible week packed with fun—volleyball, kickball, tons of ICEEs, and plenty of time to hang out. But more than anything, it's a chance to grow in your faith, spend meaningful time in community with other believers, and dive deep into Scripture together. The cost is \$225, registration is open, [southtulsa.org/events](https://www.southtulsa.org/events).

## Be a Falls Creek Adult Sponsor

Join us for a week of AWESOME! If you have a heart to serve and disciple students to grow in their faith and have a total blast while doing it, we want you to join us as a sponsor at Falls Creek, June 15-19. Please email [students@southtulsa.org](mailto:students@southtulsa.org) with your information. Save the date: Sunday, May 31 for our Adult Sponsor Meeting at 4:00 p.m. in the Student Room.

Caring for Each Other

## CEO Widows Ministry

The widows of South Tulsa are invited to "Faith, Freedom & Fellowship" on Saturday, June 13, from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Enjoy a light lunch, celebrate Flag Day, and our nation's 250th birthday! Please RSVP by June 10, at [southtulsa.org/events](https://www.southtulsa.org/events).

## In the Word Jen Wilkin Event

September 25-26, 2026

Our Women's Ministry will take a group of 20 women to First Southern Baptist Church in Del City, Oklahoma to attend the Jen Wilkin event - In the Word. A Friday evening and Saturday morning event where we'll explore the Lord's Prayer with fresh eyes and renewed purpose. Learn more and register at [southtulsa.org/events](https://www.southtulsa.org/events) or scan the QR.



Summer Family Gathering

## Celebrating America 250

Join us on Sunday, July 5, from 6:00-8:00 p.m. as we gather on the back lawn with church family and our community to honor the Lord and celebrate America's 250 years of independence! We'll enjoy great food, special music, fellowship, and lots of fun! Begin inviting others to join us for this wonderful evening. Watch for more details and registration coming soon.

# last week

### GIVING

MFP Actual Receipts . . . . . \$3,932,133  
Ministry Financial Plan . . . . . 3,896,841  
General Fund . . . . . 89,133

### SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY

Adults . . . . . 449  
Students . . . . . 64  
Children . . . . . 81  
Preschool . . . . . 65  
Unclassified . . . . . 10  
Total . . . . . 669

### THE MINISTRY CENTER

Volunteers . . . . . 38  
People Helped . . . . . 149  
Showers . . . . . 42  
Hot Meals . . . . . 102  
Church . . . . . 16  
Accepted Christ . . . . . 3  
Needs: Vienna sausages, tuna, and ravioli.

### JENKS CAREPOINT

Volunteers . . . . . 70  
People Helped . . . . . 216  
Needs: toys/games, children's shorts.

### WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Olga Nsigui . . . . . by statement  
Jeneane Lukenbach . . . . . by statement

### MINISTRY STAFF

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| Dr. Eric Costanzo, <i>Pastor</i><br>eric@southtulsa.org                                    | Dani Jones, <i>Student Ministry Associate</i><br>dani@southtulsa.org                                      |
| Phil Dark, <i>Minister to Senior Adults &amp; Pastoral Care</i><br>phil@southtulsa.org     | Kara Lee, <i>Director of Jenks CarePoint</i><br>kara@jenksarepoint.org                                    |
| Julie DeYoung, <i>Minister to Families with Preschoolers</i><br>julie@southtulsa.org       | Laura McFarlin, <i>Associate Minister to College Students &amp; Young Adults</i><br>lauram@southtulsa.org |
| Lisa Fuller, <i>Director of The Ministry Center</i><br>lisa@ministry-center.org            | Sean McKinney, <i>Music Ministry Associate</i><br>sean@southtulsa.org                                     |
| Kimberly Hayes, <i>Director of Creative Ministries</i><br>kim@southtulsa.org               | Karen Pirtle, <i>Minister of Missions and Mobilization</i><br>karen@southtulsa.org                        |
| Dr. Zack Hudson, <i>Associate Pastor &amp; Minister to Families</i><br>zack@southtulsa.org | Seth Spoo, <i>Minister to Families with Students</i><br>seth@southtulsa.org                               |
| Jesse Johnston, <i>Pastoral Care and Chaplaincy</i><br>jesse@southtulsa.org                | Michael Ware, <i>Minister of Music</i><br>mware@southtulsa.org  |
| Rebecca Johnston, <i>Minister to Families with Children</i><br>rebecca@southtulsa.org      | Phillip White, <i>Minister of Administration</i><br>pwhite@southtulsa.org                                 |

### ON THE COVER

Young Adult Ministry - Backyard Worship