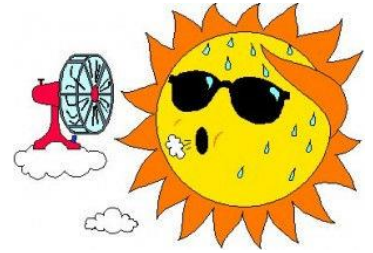




The Illuminator

a publication of
South Grand Lake Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)



Sizzlin' Summer Edition

July-August 2023

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Issue 7-1



"Here's the church. Here's the steeple.
Open the doors. See all the people."

Some of us learned this rhyme in our younger years. Some of us taught it to our children and grandchildren.

The steeple that sits atop South Grand Lake Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Langley, Oklahoma was designed by architect and member, Joe Wilkinson. A friend of the church, Leonard Kaufmann, made it. Several members, including Chet Smith, were present the day it was put in place atop the church building.

"Here is the church. Here is the steeple.
Open the doors ... imagine all the people ..."

who, throughout twenty some years of ministry have answered the call to be messengers of God's good news from our doorsteps to the ends of the earth.

Some things have changed over the course of the last two decades for this family of faith. Some of the ministry opportunities that were born here are alive and well. Some have run their course. Some are in the imagination phase as we move on in ministry.

We are now a "phygital" church in that we have a physical church building and we continue being and building church in the digital world. We livestream worship and have as many people with us online as in person. We have members who live in Langley and other cities across the country. We have meetings that are both in person and via zoom.

As stewards of the physical space of church, we find ourselves at a place to decide about the steeple. The roof around its base has been leaking for some time and there is apparent damage. Several possibilities have been explored regarding leaving, removing, and/or repurposing the steeple.

A group of church members are prayerfully putting together a plan that is sensitive to our history and our future. Board Chair, Jim Owens, sent an email on [June 22](#) encouraging everyone to think about this issue before it is discussed and most likely decided upon at the [July 16th](#) General Board Meeting. We will continue to say, whatever the decision,

"Here's the church with prayer and vision.
We open our hearts and go out in mission."



on the calendar ...

July 06 – Blood Drive, 2:30 - 6 pm

July 10 – Sr. Food Distribution, 11 am

July 12 – Elders Meeting, 4 pm

July 15 – Executive Committee, 10 am

July 16 – General Board, 11 am

July 18 – Blue House Meeting, 11:30 am

July 23 – Linger Longer Luncheon

July 29 – August 1st - General Assembly
Louisville, Kentucky

General Assembly 2023

For the first time since the COVID pandemic, the General Church of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the U.S. & Canada will hold an "in person" assembly this summer. We're grateful to have Bob & Mary Shell represent SGLCCDC as voting delegates to this important gathering. Those assembled in Louisville, KY will be worshipping together, attending workshops, conducting business, and discussing current issues facing the church and world today. A list of the resolutions for consideration has been distributed by email by the Shells who are happy to hear from you should you have any questions or comments regarding the docket. Printed copies of these materials are also available in the church office.

KINDOM OF GOD WITHIN US AMONG US

GENESIS 11:1-9 • LUKE 17:20-21 • 2 PETER 1:3

July 29 - August 1, 2023 • Louisville

board meeting

Hospitality Ministry

Sincere thanks are due to all who rallied to offer extravagant hospitality to the family of Lou S. on the day of her memorial service. We estimate that the church had nearly 100 guests that day. This gracious response has created an awareness that it would be helpful to create a ministry team that could be called upon anytime the church hosts a family at a time of loss. If you're interested in volunteering for food prep, table setup, greeting or serving, please contact Pastor Gina or Kitchen Coordinator, Lynne Kennedy.



Important General Board Meeting – July 16th

The Officers, Trustees, Elders, Diaconate, and Committee Chairs will hold the third General Board meeting of 2023 after worship on July 16. Deciding what to do regarding the steeple and the adoption of a new Social Media policy are among the items for discussion at this important meeting. Everyone is welcome to attend and share their insights on these topics.



Like many churches working to be relevant in our world today, SGLCCDC has expanded its online presence over the past few years. Just as we have become aware of the importance of safety on our church property, we also feel it's important that we protect our community from unwelcome online threats. We appreciate the leadership of Elder John Baird and members of our website committee in crafting a policy regarding the safe and appropriate use of social media. A digital copy of the proposal will be distributed by email prior to the meeting. If you prefer a printed copy, please contact Pastor Gina.

The Blue House

a basket for dough to buy bread is located in the lobby ...

A graphic showing a light blue t-shirt with the text "Life is Better with blood donors" and a palm tree logo. Below the t-shirt are three museum tickets: Science Museum, Frontier, and Hurricane Harbor, each labeled "ONE FREE ENTRY".

Each donor receives a vintage Life is Better T-shirt* and their choice of free entry to Science Museum Oklahoma, Frontier City or Hurricane Harbor!

SGLCC – July 6
2:30 - 6 pm

The logo for Our Blood Institute, featuring a heart and hands.



Shane Ailey, Michael Ailey,
Mary Allen, Rick Atkinson,
John Baird, Robert Lee Collins,
Louise Compston, Louise's Niece,
Stephanie, Bob Coombes,
Ted Coombes, Calvin Cross,

Dianne & Larry Farmer, Cindy & Gary Fest, Bill Gilpin,
Jennifer Haines, Karen Hendrix, Bill Ivy, Ron Jackson,
Wes McKee, Jennie Maynard, Marty Mitchell,
Riley & Reed, Vickey Rose, Christy Rowell, Alena Thibert,
Chris Tribble, Lois Weitzel, Patty Wolfe, Jeanne Woods,
Mike Yancy, caregivers, first responders, Armed Forces,
national and world leaders, those affected by acts of
violence, addiction, mental illness and natural disasters.



JULY

06 John B.
09 Gina J.
11 Kay P.
12 Ted C.
24 Imogene A.
26 Randy D.
26 Gene H.
27 Tony H.
28 Vickie M.

AUGUST

04 Sharon H.
05 Landon W.
08 Lynda H.
14 Louise C.
18 Lisa G.
19 Shannon E.
28 Bill I.
29 Bob S.
31 Danny T.

✓ **NEXT LINGER LONGER LUNCHEON – July 23rd**



July - 03 Jim O. & Vickey R.
August - 04 Gene & Sharon H.
13 Harold & Jean T.
15 Jim & Diana S.

Date	General Fund	Quarters	Designated	Total
5/31/23	\$9,347.28	\$49.54	\$1,105.00	\$10,591.82
6/30/23	\$8,872.00	\$97.38	\$2,152.90	\$11,122.28

Blessing Quarters	
Balance Forward	\$288.62
May & June	\$146.92
Year To Date (for 2023)	Grand Total \$435.54

Attendance				
Date	Members	Visitors	in Person	Online Views
06-04	28	6	34	65
06-11	34	7	41	62
06-18*	21	4	25	70
06-25	33	15	48	76
*Power Outage 6/18				