



The Illuminator

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



Spring Edition

May/June 2023

Mail: Box 387 Langley, Oklahoma 74350 - GPS: 446205 E. 350 Rd., Vinita, OK (918) 782-4463



Butterflies hold a special place in my heart. When one flutters by, I feel a special presence and am often reminded of my deceased father and other loved ones gone before me. My forever friend, Belinda Jane, and I share admiration for the wonderful, winged wonders. Our dearly departed Mary C. would often include "butterfly kisses" in her texts.

I was recently drawn to Rev. Dr. Marcia McFee's worship series called "Emerge" with a butterfly as the prominent symbol. Attention is given to the metamorphosis moments of crawling caterpillar to chrysalis (or cocoon) to colorful creature. From the series we are reminded or learn that...Within a caterpillar are "imaginal discs" – amazing groupings of dormant cells that have all the information needed to move ahead and form and perform as a beautiful butterfly.

It takes 10-14 days for a butterfly to fully form inside a chrysalis, and then the casing splits open and the new creature must begin to emerge. The butterfly's struggle to push out of its confines produces a fissure that cannot be undone. There is no going back, the journey to what comes next has begun.

Some might say that butterflies look ugly when fresh out of the chrysalis. They appear wrinkled in the way our skin wrinkles when it is submerged in water for a period. They certainly cannot fly yet. The butterfly must allow air to dry out its wings and for the wings to expand. A fascinating thing to notice in the emergence of a butterfly is how much larger it is when it is done unfolding. It's much larger than the chrysalis that encased it.

Imagine the metaphorical messages or questions the literal life of a butterfly might have for us personally and collectively as followers of Jesus...

What "imaginal discs" are already within us that can move us into the next phase of life?

Are we cocooning, contemplating? Is there a crack in our chrysalis? Is it time to emerge and expand?

Upcoming dates ...

May

- 04 OBI Blood Drive 2:30-6:00
- 08 Senior Food Distribution
- 10 Elders @ 6:30
- 20 Executive Committee @ 10:00
- 21 Rev. Michael D. preaches
- 28 Pentecost Sunday
Church Picnic

June

- 11 Worship Committee
- 14 Elders @ 6:30
- 17 Executive Committee



May 28th - Fried Chicken - You're invited to bring sides or desserts.

Ongoing opportunities ...

- | | |
|-----------|---------------------------------|
| Sunday | Women's discussion group – 9:00 |
| | Coffee – 9:15-9:45 |
| M, W & F | Meals on Wheels |
| M, W & F | Happy Feet - 8:30 |
| Wednesday | Bible study - 10:30 to noon |



Social Media Policy Under Construction

This week the SGLCC(DOC) Social Media team gathered to craft a policy that will offer guidance for our online practices. In response to our deliberations, you will notice in this newsletter that pictures of minors, last names, birthdates and other personal information have been omitted. These measures are designed to protect the privacy of members of our family of faith. Recommendations for a formal policy regarding these issues will be presented to the Executive Committee and General Board.



We're excited to welcome our Associate Regional Minister, Rev. Michael D. as our guest preacher on Sunday, May 21st!

What a joy!

What an incredible blessing to have our Pastor Emeritus, Rev. Dr. Bob & Elder Emerita, Lois here for Holy Week.! We owe an enormous debt of gratitude to these 2 for all they've done for our church.



Reaching beyond our walls ...

We're excited to welcome Myrl H. to our church family! She regularly attends worship online from her home. It was a delight to have her in church as she formally placed her membership with SGLCC(DOC).

We are so very grateful for the faithful folks who worship each week via the livestream broadcast. Is there anyone you know who might be blessed by worshipping online? If so, please consider inviting them to church at www.sglcc.org.



A representative from Compassus Hospice recently met with the pastors, Outreach Chair, and interested members to discuss volunteer opportunities with their mission to provide services for families across 7 counties in northeastern Oklahoma. Pastor Gina and 2 volunteers from SGLCC(DOC) expressed interest. Many compassionate individuals are needed to serve families who are caring for loved ones with terminal illnesses or grieving the recent loss of those dear to them. If you are interested in learning more about this opportunity, please contact Pastor Gina or Susan M.

In our prayers ...

Marty from Speedy's, Shane A., Michael A., Mary A., Rick A., John B., Fred B., Jill B., Robert Lee C., Louise C., Bob C., Ted C. Calvin C., Dianne F., Gary & Cindy F., Bill G., Christie G., Kitty G., Jennifer H. Karen H., Bill I., Ron J., Wes M. Brian R., Vickey R., Christy R., Lou S., Jan S., Susan S., Alena T., Chris T., Lois W., Patty W., Mike Y., caregivers, first responders, Armed Forces, national and world leaders, those affected by acts of violence, war, addiction, mental illness, and natural disasters.



May

Forb P.
Pat G.
Buddie M.
Donna B.
Meredyth P.
Dave M.
Gloria B.
Teena M.
Luke M.
Beverly L.
Jim S.

June

Lilly H.
Dianne F.
Diana W.
Jo S.
George L.
Joyce W.
Mary S.
Ron M.
Jeanne W.
Dale C.

2024
Assembly at Sea

OK Regional Assembly
July 11-15, 2024
info: www.okdisciples.org

Come sail with us! We would love to have you and your family join us on the 2024 Assembly at Sea for Oklahoma Disciples. This is a unique opportunity for fun, fellowship, and worship!



May

Phil & Jenny W.
Randy & Carla D.

June

Curt & Lisa G.
George & Kathy L.
Glen & Kay P.

Coming this summer ...
KINDOM WITHIN US
OF GOD AMONG US
Louisville, Kentucky, July 29 - August 1, 2023

Thank you for your continued support of our breadbasket for the Blue House located in the lobby!



Tithes & Offerings

General Fund Offerings: March \$ 9,065.50 Designated Gifts: \$2,280.00
April to date \$ 9,060.00 \$3,897.95

Blessing Quarters: March & April to date: \$142.19
Year To Date: \$288.62

April Attendance				
Date	Members	Visitors	in Person	March Online
04-02	42	9	51	63
04-09	40	33	73	72
04-16	40	13	53	72
04-23	34	10	44	85