

MISSION MINISTRY CLASSES

Getting Dirty for Jesus • 9:45

➤ **Instructor: Tom Russell**

“Getting Dirty for Jesus” is an opportunity to take a look at what we can do in local missions and abroad for opportunities for hands on mission ideas. There are a number of things we can do that might require getting dirty and sweaty, from swinging a hammer to filling bags with food. There are many ways we can show the love of God through the sharing of our time and talents.

Disaster Preparedness: How to Prepare Your Church’s Response • 9:45

➤ **Instructor: Rev. Mary Hughes Gaudreau**

Many of us are not prepared for when a disaster happens in our lives or our community. There are many things that we don’t think of having prepared ahead of time that when something like a crisis occurs we wish we would have been better prepared. Rev. Mary Hughes Gaudreau will lead a discussion on how to best prepare the church to respond to times of crisis and disaster.

211 Heartline: Crisis Response Phone Services • 9:45

➤ **Instructor: Claudia Cardoni**

Heartline, Inc. has been serving Oklahoma since 1971 and provides suicide prevention outreach programs, compassionate listening, information and referral services, and crisis intervention services. Call specialists are available around the clock answering HeartLine’s various helplines. Representatives from Heartline will be here to discuss how they can help us to help others and the various services they provide and the ways that they help people to get in contact with service providers and those who can help in various situations.

Local Missions: Chain Reaction & Disciples4Water • 9:45

➤ **Instructors: Rev. John Malget and Janet Helms**

Churches and individuals are often trying to find ways to make a bigger impact on the world around them, and two great ways that is happening here in the Metro area are through the Chain Reaction Ministry and Disciples4Water. Chain Reaction rebuilds bikes and then gets them into the hands of those in need of transportation to and from work. Disciples4Water works towards bringing clean drinking water to those in need by not just building wells, but training people how to build wells. Come hear more on these wonderful opportunities and how you can help these groups or start a similar ministry in your church. The bike room at FCC will be open for anyone wanting to help work on bikes during LTS.

Disciples4Water - Janet Helms, founder of Disciples4Water, and member of First Christian Church Edmond, experienced an emotional calling from God in 2014. This moment changed her life completely and was the beginning of the Disciples4Water ministry. Janet was an active member of the church but it was not in her life plan to do anything overseas or any type of

mission work abroad. God's calling was loud and clear and Janet took a leap of faith and started organizing the Disciples4Water program (D4W). This partnership was 2 years in the making. It is now a successful ministry partnering with Water4 and Global Ministries.

The current area of concentration is the Democratic Republic of the Congo. They have successfully installed over 30 wells in this area. Two mission trips have been made to Mbandaka, DRC with a third planned for 2017.

T.E.E.M. – Breaking Cycles of Incarceration and Poverty • 9:45

➤ **Instructor: Lance Evans**

TEEM takes a three-pronged approach to breaking cycles of incarceration and poverty in Oklahoma by providing individuals with education, social services, and job training and placement. We holistically prepare our participants for employment by incorporating mentorship, life skills training and confidence building into our program. By giving a hand up, we help our participants refine their skills and achieve their goals. Lance Evans will be leading a discussion on how churches can better assist individuals reintegrating into society through supporting T.E.E.M.

How to Bring a Mission Camp to Your Community • 10:45

➤ **Instructor: Rev. Charles Ragland**

Pastor Charles Ragland and others of First Christian, Claremore (approx. 150 active members) will offer their up-close and personal pictures of how they prepared for and then brought the significant gift of Mission Camp to their neighbors in need. In 2015, 118 Oklahoma Disciples youth and their accompanying sponsors from 15 Disciples churches gathered in Claremore to repair, improve, and clean up for 4 helping agencies, one school, and 16 homes of grateful elderly and disabled individuals, to God's glory! Later afternoons and evenings were devoted to significant worship experiences and fun activities. In 2016, Oklahoma Disciples youth and their accompanying sponsors will be hosted by FCC, Guthrie for the seventh Mission Camp summer of major experiences sweating for Jesus--putting their faith into significant action to bless lives!

Homeless Alliance: Rallying to End Homelessness • 10:45

➤ **Instructor: Dan Straughan**

The Homeless Alliance is a nonprofit organization dedicated to rallying our community to end homelessness in Oklahoma City through collaboration with service providers, city government, and local businesses. Dan Straughan will be joining us to discuss ways we can better assist with the homeless population through supporting the efforts of the Homeless Alliance.

Reaching Out to Vets: Understanding PTSD • 10:45

➤ **Instructor: Chaplain John “Dale” Potter**

Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder is a very real and long lasting issue for many veterans. John “Dale” Potter, Chaplain at the VA Hospital will be conducting a workshop on PTSD and Moral Injury and helping us to better understand what churches can be doing to better help veterans.

About Chaplain Dale - Chaplain Dale Potter currently serves as a staff chaplain at the Oklahoma City Veterans Affairs Medical Center. He retired from the Army as a Lieutenant Colonel in August of 2013 after over 27 years of active duty military experience as a Chaplain.

Hands-On Mission: Care Packages for T.E.E.M. • 10:45

➤ **Instructor: Penny Hampton**

We have an opportunity for a hands-on project while attending LTS this year. Please check out the list of items needed and please bring items with you whether or not attending this workshop. This workshop will be putting together First Night Out bags complete with everything a person leaving prison will need that first night out trying to reintegrate themselves into society. These care packages will be donated to T.E.E.M.

Hearts for Care: Being the Church to the Community • 10:45

➤ **Instructors: Rev. Devon McAnally and Sally Wheeler**

Rev. Devon McAnally and Sally Wheeler will introduce Hearts for Care (a ministry of the Disciples Retirement Community of Oklahoma) and this ministry for aging adults is moving in ways they never expected.

About Hearts for Care - Hearts for Care is a non-profit organization that seeks to provide Oklahoma residents the practical means and support to remain in their own homes and neighborhoods while continuing to live the best and fullest lives possible, as they grow older. Our goal is to make available services that are needed to keep people independent, part of the community and secure in their homes. Villagers can simplify their lives by contacting Hearts for Care volunteers in their neighborhood for assistance.

New Church Starts: How Your Church Can Help Them Grow • 11:45

➤ **Instructor: Sean Shenold**

There is more to starting a new church than just putting up a sign with an arrow saying “meet here”. Sean Shenold, president of the Christian Church Commission of Oklahoma will share with you the dream of creating more church starts and ways that congregations can help others to be planted and grow.

Interpreting This Present Age • 11:45**➤ Instructor: Rev. Don Gibson**

Powerful forces are at work resisting the common good. Some say the human species is on a suicidal trajectory road. Jesus challenges us: "Do you not know how to interpret this present age? This session seeks to provide a framework for this task. See: Luke 12:56; Micah 6:1-8.

Kid's Café: Learn How to Partner with Regional Food Bank • 11:45**➤ Instructor: Rev. Dave and Linda Jones**

Kid's Café is a program partnered with the Regional Food Bank to prepare snacks and a meal for kids three days out of every week. The group meets with kids to provide them food but also an opportunity to have not only their nourishment needs met but their emotional and spiritual needs as well.

No Boundaries – Human Trafficking • 11:45**➤ Instructor: Dr. Lori Basey**

Human Trafficking is a very real problem here in Oklahoma and is a devastating problem. No Boundaries International addresses issues of human trafficking as well as other forms of devastation around the globe.

Devastation has two faces: the first face is evil in human form and can be seen in natural and man-made disasters, the affliction of oppression and abuse, as well as poverty, sickness, hopelessness, and pain. The second face is the personification of good in human form. No Boundaries International strives to be good personified in the most challenging areas of the world, bringing the healing of Christ to the devastated man, woman, or child. Dr. Lori Basey is here to talk to us about what churches can do to help fight human trafficking and ways we can be better support the ministry of No Boundaries International.

Caminante: Mission in the Dominican Republic • 11:45**➤ Instructor: Rev. Don Johnson**

The Disciples of Christ in Oklahoma partners with 'One Who Walks the Path', a non-profit organization who helps with children's education and programs, vocation for young adults, family counseling, and advocacy for child and human rights. This workshop will introduce you to the work that goes on at the weeklong mission trip to Caminante, Dominican Republic.

SPIRITUAL GROWTH CLASSES

Understanding Homosexuality: The Clobber Scriptures (3 sessions) • 9:45, 10:45, 11:45

➤ **Instructor: Rev. Dr. Lisa Davison**

The so called "Clobber Scriptures" have often been used by many to condemn those who are different and especially those who are homosexual. Many of these passages have been misused due to misunderstanding the texts, poor translations or losing the understanding of the historical context of the passage. Rev. Dr. Lisa Davison will help us think carefully and critically about these passages in order to gain a better understanding of their possible meanings.

About Dr. Davison - Rev. Dr. Lisa W. Davison is the Johnnie Eargle Cadieux Professor of Hebrew Bible at Phillips Theological Seminary in Tulsa, OK. A native of Radford, VA, Dr. Davison has a BA (Religion & Spanish) from Lynchburg College; an MDiv from Brite Divinity School (TCU), and an MA from Vanderbilt University. Dr. Davison received her Ph.D. in Hebrew Bible from Vanderbilt. She is ordained in the Christian Church (DOC) and has served congregations in Texas & Kentucky.

Do All Lives "Really" Matter: Searching for the needle of reconciliation in a haystack of hate (3 sessions) • 9:45, 10:45, 11:45

➤ **Instructor: Rev. Jesse Jackson**

In the wake of 2015 and hearing voices crying out the question, “does my life matter” or “does the life of my child matter” and how the answer can appear to be associated with the color of skin or socioeconomic status, we need to find better ways of seeking reconciliation. Rev. Jesse Jackson will lead a discussion on reconciliation and ways in which we can come together to be a voice against racism. Rev. Jackson has started a program called “Occupy the Corner” to help educate individuals on how to show respect to police officers even in bad situations.

Loving Your Neighbor: A Jewish Perspective • 9:45

➤ **Instructor: Rev. Dr. Bill Tabbernee**

Bridging the gaps of understanding who our neighbors are we will have presentations followed by question and answer time to discuss the Abrahamic faiths. Learn more about Islam, Judaism and how we can all better respect and understand one another. Each workshop will be presented by a religious leader of the corresponding faith.

Who We Are As Disciples • 9:45

➤ **Instructor: Rev. Bethany Albrecht**

We need to keep in mind our rich history which continues to define who we are still today. From Barton Stone and the Campbells, a great deal has happened to give shape to our identity. This class will take a closer look at the history of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and how that history shapes our identity today.

Family as Sabbath • 9:45

➤ **Instructor: Lisa Engleton**

Sabbath is keeping a day sacred for God. We need to remember to keep our families sacred as well, and one way we do that is keeping alive our beliefs within the family and sharing throughout the week the sacredness of God's love. Lisa Engleton will be leading a workshop on how we can better pass on the sacredness of God's love to our children.

Loving Your Neighbor: A Muslim Perspective • 10:45

➤ **Instructor: Rev. Dr. Bill Tabbernee**

Bridging the gaps of understanding who our neighbors are we will have presentations followed by question and answer time to discuss the Abrahamic faiths. Learn more about Islam, Judaism and how we can all better respect and understand one another. Each workshop will be presented by a religious leader of the corresponding faith.

Surviving the Election Years • 10:45

➤ **Instructor: Robert Frantz**

Sometimes it can be difficult to get along in church when we don't all see eye to eye, but this can be exacerbated during an election year. It is one of the two things we are sometimes cautioned not to discuss to keep friends, politics. But during an election year how do you deal with these inevitable conversations, comments, derogatory advertisements and bumper stickers? Robert Frantz will be leading a discussion on how to survive the election years.

Nonviolence Towards Yourself and Others • 10:45

➤ **Instructor: Rev. Don Heath**

Nonviolence is what the spiritual life is all about. We live in a violent culture and have internalized the violence that we have suffered. We use violence in talking to others; we have been taught to communicate with each other by using a war model for conversation. The nonviolent life begins with healing ourselves of the violence within us and learning to talk to others non-violently. We will draw on the writings of Richard Rohr, John Dear, Marshall Rosenberg and Sharon Strand Ellison to help us learn how to become more nonviolent.

About Don - Don Heath has been minister of Edmond Trinity Christian Church since 2007. He received a Masters of Divinity degree in 2009 from Phillips Theological Seminary. Don is also an attorney and has practiced law for 33 years in the Oklahoma City area. He has taught classes and attended workshops on nonviolence.

Loving Your Neighbor: A Christian Perspective • 11:45

➤ **Instructor: Rev. Dr. Bill Tabbernee**

Bridging the gaps of understanding who our neighbors are we will have presentations followed by question and answer time to discuss the Abrahamic faiths. Learn more about Islam, Judaism and how we can all better respect and understand one another. Each workshop will be presented by a religious leader of the corresponding faith.

Healthy Congregations • 11:45

➤ **Instructor: Latricia Morgan, M.Ed.**

The Certified Healthy Congregation was created in 2014 to recognize all faiths that are working to improve the health of their members and/or attendees and staff by providing wellness opportunities and implementing policies that lead to healthier lifestyles. One's spiritual life is part of the healing process when experiencing conditions that affect physical health such as cancer, heart disease, high blood pressure, diabetes, and obesity. As a result, congregation environment provides an excellent opportunity to promote health and wellness among members and/or attendees and staff. Latricia Morgan from the Center for the Advancement of Wellness at the Oklahoma State Department of Health will present on the Certified Healthy program and how congregations can get involved in promoting healthier choices.

About Latricia - Ms. Morgan works with the Oklahoma State Department of Health, Center for the Advancement of Wellness as the Disparities and Faith-Based Initiatives Manager. In this role, she is responsible for program development, trainings, and providing content expertise in disparities related to wellness as well as management of local programs through contracts with tribal nations and community-based organizations. Ms. Morgan also oversees Certified Healthy Congregations, which is part of the statewide Certified Healthy Oklahoma program.

Feeding Your Spirituality • 11:45

➤ **Instructor: Rev. Dr. Mady Fraser**

There are many ways we can get in touch with our spirituality and to build an awareness of our Spiritual life. This workshop will help you realize the several ways you can grow spiritually from working in a garden, using Labyrinths, keeping journals and enhancing prayer life. There are many ways that we can feed our spirituality in our everyday life.

The Mango Tree • 11:45

➤ **Instructor: Pastor Sondra Ladd**

Our session will include stories from previous mission trips including the recent Young Adult Regional Mission Trip. This course will provide insight and inspiration for anyone considering or interested in International mission work.

For 25 years, American Caribbean Experience has been serving the people of Jamaica through education; health care, enterprise and discipleship. From teaching children to read to pulling

teeth, to financing small businesses, to training the island's future chefs and teachers, ACE has taken every measure necessary to 'love their neighbors.' Mango Tree Gospel is a story about a particular place and its people. It's also a story about us. How God works through broken people and in broken places to do beautiful things.

About Sondra - Sondra Ladd is the associate minister at First Christian Stillwater. She has served as trip leader for multiple mission trips at home and away, including nine trips to Jamaica. These experiences served as the inspiration for our Regional mission camps, which began at FCC Stillwater. Original trips were focused on youth however have expanded to serve all ages. The youngest participant was 7, the oldest 83. The most recent trip (Jan. '16) included 18 college students.

PRACTICAL MINISTRY CLASSES

Worship and Wonder • 9:45

➤ **Instructor: Julia Jordan Gillett**

An exciting way of approaching faith formation with children is the best way to describe Children Worship & Wonder. In Children Worship & Wonder children have the opportunity to hear Bible stories and form responses out of their own life experiences. They learn the meaning of church traditions and participate in worship practices. Children Worship & Wonder is a Montessori-influenced program and is often effective with children who have attention deficit problems. It can be used with children as young as three years old. It can be either a children's church or children's church school program.

Food Bank: How Your Church Can Address Food Insecurity • 9:45

➤ **Instructor: Ryan Abernathy**

The Regional Food Bank of Oklahoma, a member of the Feeding America network of Food Banks, is the largest private domestic hunger-relief charity in the state - providing enough food to feed more than 116,000 hungry Oklahomans every week, 37 percent of which are children. One in four children and one in six adults struggle with hunger, never certain where their next meal will come from or if there will even be a next meal. This workshop will help us learn more about food insecurity in Oklahoma and what we as churches can do to feed the hungry and how the Food Bank can help.

Drama Ministry • 9:45

➤ **Instructor: Pastor Johnny Melton**

There is not enough drama in church! No, not that kind of drama, but the dramatic and theatrical ways of enhancing worship and sharing the love of God with others through song and plays and everything drama. Come and here about the wonders that can be brought into your church through the use of a drama ministry.

Remembering Your Church in Your Will • 9:45

➤ **Instructor: Eric Gray**

Your church is a wonderful ministry to the community it serves, you know this and it is what you love about your church. But what happens to the church if tragedy happens in your life? Many of us plan ahead for such scenarios to make sure our loved ones are taken care of after we are gone. The church is one of those loved ones that we may not think to include in our will. Eric Gray with the Oklahoma Disciples Foundation can help you with ways to keep giving through gift annuities, wills, trusts and endowments.

About Eric - Eric Gray is the Executive Director of the Oklahoma Disciples Foundation. The Foundation exists to provide an enduring financial basis for Christ's ministry in Oklahoma. The Foundation receives and stewards through prudent investment, endowment and custodial funds benefiting the Oklahoma church and its related missions and ministries. In his current position, Eric is responsible for the day to day activities of the Foundation and frequently makes presentations to individuals and groups on a wide variety of topics related to the work of the Foundation. He is a State of Oklahoma, Department of Securities, registered issuer agent for the Foundation.

Supporting Pastors in Church Administration • 9:45

➤ **Instructor: Rev. Micah James, CCA**

More and more, pastors are called upon to lead in expanding roles beyond the pulpit and pastoral care. Can the minister effectively be the administrator? Can best business practices be well integrated into the life of the church in ways that are also seen as spiritual? Does this place clergy in any conflicts and how can this be resourced and resolved? Churches now look for all this in a single person. Is that possible? How can the church support pastors in the ministry of administration?

About Micah - Micah is a lifelong Disciple of Christ, with ministry experience at all levels of the denomination. Micah has a background as a middle school teacher, graduating from TCU in 2005 with her Bachelor of Science in Education. Micah graduated with her Masters of Divinity from Brite Divinity School (TCU) in May 2012, and during her seminary career received The Barbara and Curtis Keith, Jr. Student Ministry Award (2011) and The Colby D. Hall Award (2012) given to a promising Disciples graduating senior.

HELM - Preparing for College • 10:45

➤ **Instructor: Chris Dorsey**

Preparing for college can be stressful and it is never too early to start planning. But did you know that the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) has 14 undergraduate universities affiliated with the church spread out across the nation and not just Texas Christian University. Many of which have special grants and scholarships for members of the church and especially for those active in the church and other regional youth activities. Now is the time to start planning for college and Chris Dorsey with Higher Education and Leadership Ministries will help you get started.

Creative Worship • 10:45

➤ **Instructor: Rev. Jenny Wynn**

It is time to add something new to spice up that worship service and Rev. Jenny Wynn has some fresh ideas about how to breathe new creativity to that worship service you know and love.

Life is Too Short for Long Meetings • 10:45

➤ **Instructor: Penny Hampton**

We have all been there, gazing at the clock on the wall daydreaming of all the things you could be doing rather than sitting here in this meeting that could have accomplished everything in 5 minutes but has taken 2 hours. Life is too short for meetings like that and this workshop will help you to keep meetings on track and on point to get everything accomplished quickly and efficiently.

The Joy of Puppet Ministries • 10:45

➤ **Instructor: Rev. Paul Ragle**

Sometimes we think that someone is pulling our strings like a marionette, but a puppet can really bring to life a worship service in so many ways. Rev. Paul Ragle is a master with puppets from creating his own to giving voice and animation to these little creations to bring a smile to faces of young and old alike.

Table Talk: Tips for Elders and Deacons • 10:45

➤ **Instructor: Rev. Arnold Nelson**

So you are an Elder or Deacon, or even the minister and you are standing at the Lord's Table with bread and cup. Now what? What do you say and when do you say it? What do you pray? Should it be a long prayer for everything under the sun or a few words blessing the bread and cup? Join in the discussion of the most important discussions you might have around the table.

Music in Worship: The Music Wars • 11:45

➤ **Instructor: Dr. Matt Schinske**

Whether your music is a traditional hymn accompanied by an organ and piano or a praise song performed by a band, chances are there have been times that you have heard "Why did we sing that". With all the music available these days it can be difficult to meet the tastes of everyone and in places where diverse worship services occur or where some dare to blend the types, sometimes we hear the rumblings of the music wars. Dr. Matt Schinske is here to discuss how we can deal with those, and maintain the love for music.

Media and Technology in the Church • 11:45

➤ **Instructor: Frank Gresh**

PowerPoints, Easy Worship, Media Shout and so much more can confuse the worship service and those trying to enhance worship by including digital media. But there are so many more ways that technology can be effectively utilized in worship beyond just putting hymns and praise songs on a screen. This workshop will explore some best practice ideas for implementing technology and media in the church.

How to Set Up a Trust or Endowment • 11:45

➤ **Instructor: Bobby Hawley**

Bobby Hawley is vice president of the South Central Zone of the Christian Church Foundation. He is responsible for assisting members, congregations, regions and other entities of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) discover the joy of sharing their resources to further the work of Jesus Christ in the world. Bobby's workshop will cover the broad range of services provided by the Christian Church Foundation:

- Inheritance/legacy planning, tax laws and charitable giving;
- Training clergy and lay leaders about the role of planned giving and the need for sound permanent fund policies
- Helping congregations manage their permanent funds over the long haul, providing an opportunity for growth of principal while distributing dollars for ministry.

Join Bobby to learn more about the Christian Church Foundation and its mission of "Helping Disciples Make a Difference."

About Bobby - The Reverend Dr. Bobby Hawley is the vice president of the South Central Zone of the Christian Church Foundation. He joined the Foundation in November 1998 as assistant vice president in the South Central Zone, having earned his bachelor's degree in social work from Texas Christian University, Fort Worth, his master of divinity from TCU's Brite Divinity School, and his doctor of ministry from Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary, Austin, Texas.

The Table: Creatively Decorating for the Lord's Supper • 11:45

➤ **Instructor: Rev. Kathy Bryant**

The communion table is the centerpiece and the focal point of our worship services and yet sometimes we are afraid to do anything with the table other than put bread and juice on it. Looking for some creative ways to dress up the table and still be liturgical? Come to this workshop to explore your creativity in decorating for the Lord's Supper.