INTRODUCING a Future Full of HOPE

Vision 2020: Focusing On Our Future is a capital expansion and refurbishment program designed to address key areas of current need and future growth at Church of the Servant. The campaign kick-off will take place on Sunday, November 17, 2019 at all four services.

Scope of Projects – Addressing our Strategic Needs in PHASE ONE

- **New Modern Worship & Multi-Use Ministry Space** – The construction of a multi-use facility to be located on the south end of campus for modern worship, Servant Student activities, special events, and so much more throughout the week!
- **Servant Students** – A complete remodel of the youth area providing a cohesive flow integrating the new multi-use facility.
- **Outdoor Sports Court** – So much more than a gym! A full-size outdoor basketball/sports court located adjacent to the new worship/multi-use facility that will enable larger church and community gatherings throughout the year!
- **Celebration Center** – A complete overhaul of the Celebration Center sound system including a “Hearing Loop” for individuals with hearing loss.
- **Main Concourse and Hospitality Areas** – Updating of the Main Concourse including wayfair signage, guest services meet and greet space, and a new, more functional coffee shop.
- **Servant Kids** – Continued renovations of the lower level Servant Kids area including Warm World, Starbright (Mother’s Day Out), and the Nursery.

“Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see.”

*Hebrews 11:1*
Greetings,

As you begin to read this newsletter, I want to invite you to one of three important meetings taking place very soon. On Sundays, October 27, November 3 and November 10, Church of the Servant will host a series of meetings where we share a vision for the future. This vision has been carefully developed over the past year and a half. With input from members of our church family, lay leadership and the staff, I am excited to introduce Vision 2020: Focusing On Our Future.

At these meetings, you will have an opportunity to learn more about the 2020 ministry budget, building renovations, and future mission and ministry hopes and dreams for Church of the Servant. As we each begin to pray and prepare for what is next, I want to share part of a text I received last week from one of the moms in our congregation. This mom is very involved at Church of the Servant. She had attended a community event at a large church in our community, and this is what happened when she returned home after the event and began to tell her husband about the event, the facilities, and the hospitality of the church.....

My daughter overheard me and immediately yelled from the other room, “Ours is better!” It just made my heart smile. We walk around the church looking at what is tired and needs updating, and my daughter still thinks it’s the best church ever! A good reminder of what it’s all about. So thank you for your endless efforts to make our church “the best!”

Paint and new floors will never make the church what it is called to be, but being good stewards of what we have and putting our best foot forward helps to tell others that we really want them to be part of our Church family. I cannot tell you how many Warm World parents and frequent guests have mentioned to me how excited they are about the recent updates in the Servant Kids areas downstairs. Do you want to hear even more great news? Last Wednesday night, over 100 middle school and high school students gathered for Wednesday night programming; forty-three children participated in our first Sunday of children’s choir; and on the last Sunday in September, ten adults joined the church!

I am excited about our future! Please join me as we begin focusing on our future and finding God’s vision for Church of the Servant in 2020!

Dr. Matthew Mitchell
Senior Minister
VISION 2020
FOCUSING ON OUR FUTURE

MULTI-USE FACILITY
- Modern Worship
- Special Events

NEW YOUTH AREA
- Larger Classrooms
- Cohesive Flow

PHASE ONE
ADDRESSING OUR STRATEGIC NEEDS IN PHASE ONE

- The construction of a multi-use facility to be located on the south end of campus for modern worship, servant student activities, and special events. A complete remodel of the servant students area providing a cohesive flow integrating the new multi-use facility.

- A sports court for hosting outside events.

- Updating of the main concourse including a new, more functional, coffee shop and hospitality area.

- Continued renovations of the lower level servant kids area including Warm World, StarBright (Mother’s Day Out), and the nursery.

- A complete overhaul of the celebration center sound system including a “hearing loop” for individuals with hearing loss.
Week after week as we gather on Sunday morning at Church of the Servant for worship and fellowship, it is easy to look past all that is required of our congregation to keep the doors open and the lights on. As we step into the building, it is important to realize we have over 150,000 square feet under the roof on our campus: a space equivalent to fifty houses in the neighborhoods nearby. When the doors swing open, dozens of large-scale commercial heating and cooling units on the roof, two boilers and an industrial-sized chiller in a basement, ninety-eight flushing toilets, and literally thousands of light bulbs all need to be operational and ready to shine with the flip of a switch. From any angle, Church of the Servant is a large operation requiring a significant ongoing investment on the part of our Church family to ensure the ministries of the congregation will be available for future generations yet unseen.

When we think about our gifts, tithes, and offerings, we might have an image in our mind of how we are investing our money in lofty service within the Kingdom of God. But the reality of our shared ministry together, much like our day-to-day experience of life in the world, is often much more pedestrian and mundane. The electric bill, paint on a wall, and copier paper are the tools of ministry in our world. These things, along with a thousand others, make possible our Gospel outpost presence at 14343 North MacArthur Boulevard.

This fall as we look together toward the future of Church of the Servant, there are two proposals standing before us. The first is the funding of the operating budget for the congregation in 2020. Each year Church of the Servant invests almost $4 million in ministry and outreach. As mentioned above, much of this is very ordinary and possibly even uninspiring—but it is also extremely necessary. Your giving to these efforts are the building blocks leading to every baptism, every youth retreat, and every profession of Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior that comes about through our work together. In ministry as in life, God is working to transform even the most commonplace things into eternal treasures kept in heaven. We are grateful for your prior support in these efforts even as we prayerfully ask that you continue to shoulder with us the load of week-to-week ministry!

Looking beyond the short-term of the coming year, in Fall 2019 Church of the Servant is launching a Capital Campaign to fund some very strategic improvements in our facility. Over the past two years, the Trustees and the Administrative Leadership of the congregation have studied our needs and have determined that now is the time to move forward with five critical developments: the installation of a state-of-the-art sound system in the Celebration Center; renovations of our main concourse and entrance (including a relocation and expansion of our coffee shop and hospitality area); continued cosmetic upgrades to our downstairs Servant Kids Ministry area; an overhaul of our Servant Students’ Ministry area; and
the construction of a flexible multi-use space optimized for Modern Worship. The total cost of these five pieces is estimated to be $4.5 million.

The commitment of the leadership of the congregation is not to begin construction on this project until financial pledges on the part of the congregation are made to underwrite the full cost of the renovations. Our goal is to incur no long-term debt. Pledges made toward this project will extend for forty-eight months (approximately June 2020 until June 2024). Such improvements are essential as together we seek to secure the future of Church of the Servant in the decades to come. More information on the scope and scale of this project will be available at a series of congregational meetings set for Sundays at 6:00 p.m. on October 27, November 3, and November 10. Come and be a part of these important gatherings as we map out our shared ministry future.

Rev. Randy Shrauner
Executive Minister

A TWO-FOLD PLEDGE CAMPAIGN

1. Stewardship Campaign for 2020 Operating Budget – The 2020 operating budget is projected to be approximately $3.8 million.

2. Capital Campaign for VISION 2020: Focusing On Our Future – We are committed to raise $4.5 million over four years to fund Phase One of Vision 2020. Elements of that plan include: a new multi-use facility for modern worship and special events; renovations of the Servant Students area; renovations of the upstairs concourse, 13:2 coffee shop and hospitality areas; the installation of a state-of-the-art sound system in the Celebration Center; and a continuation of the facelift underway in the lower-level Servant Kids areas.

Church of the Servant’s Lay Leadership and Executive Staff have agreed to proceed with Phase One only on the condition the project is FULLY pledged. Our goal is to complete this project without incurring ANY long-term debt.
THE MAIN CONCOURSE

Church of the Servant has wonderful common areas and hospitality space! We can gather together on the coldest and windiest days, or if it is hot outside, we have space to accommodate fellowship and the building of relationships in tremendous ways. When the dust settles and the project is complete the main concourse will have all new flooring, new paint and additional sound dampening. No longer will the church have to maintain carpet as commercial grade floors will be installed just like that which was recently installed in the lower level commons area.

SERVANT CONNECT

TAking the current location of 13.2 coffee shop and repurposing that space for guest services and connections - a space designated for guests on Sunday mornings, so that visitors to Church of the Servant can take the next steps in finding their place in the Church of the Servant family.
NEW CAFE´
A NEW AND MORE FUNCTIONAL COFFEE SHOP, ENABLING MORE PEOPLE TO BE SERVED!

THE COURTYARD
A SPACIOUS AND OPEN GATHERING AREA FOR MANY.

EARTHGLOW GIFT SHOP
NEW FLOORS AND NEW PAINT!
Isaiah 25:1 – “Lord, you are my God; I will exalt you and praise your name, for in perfect faithfulness you have done wonderful things, things planned long ago.”
A BRAND NEW MODERN WORSHIP & MULTI-USE FACILITY

This will be the only new construction of this entire project. By adding this strategic space, Church of the Servant will be able to put our best foot forward and provide an engaging worship space. A level floor, state-of-the-art sound system, and room acoustics designed with worship as the key design feature, but built in a way that allows it to be a flexible space to use for youth and children activities, large banquets, concerts, conferences, and other special events. This will open the doors to our community in ways we never thought possible!
**STUDENT FACILITY**

- Better and more flexible meeting space in the current youth areas.
- Updated fellowship space.
- Complete overhaul of youth offices.
- Direct access to new modern worship and multi-use facility.
- Direct access to outdoor sports court.
- Providing flexible space for many different types of youth activities.

**OUTDOOR SPORTS COURT**

So much more than a gym... the OUTDOOR sports court and activity area will be roughly the size of a full-court basketball court. This space will be designed for games of all shapes and sizes. This dedicated outdoor space will enable multiple ministries to enjoy God’s creation outdoors throughout the year, while keeping our children and youth protected from the traffic and busyness of the parking lots. This space will be used for Fall Fest, Easter Egg Hunt, Back-to-School Bash, Walk Through Bethlehem, and many other events. The possibilities are endless!
Psalm 119:105 states, “Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path.”
We can all agree the youth of our community need a lamp for their path.
VISION 2020 will spend a great amount of energy enhancing and restructuring the youth facilities.
Over the past several weeks you are sure to have noticed a surge of activity in our downstairs areas leading to our Servant Kids Space and Choir Room, as well as the tarps covering the main waterfall in the concourse. All this is a function of our congregation’s commitment to these vital ministries.

These renovations are focused on three necessary features. First, a “deep cleaning” and necessary maintenance to the main waterfall. This wonderful feature has been in continuous operation since Church of the Servant first opened its doors at our North MacArthur location in 1993. It was time that we reset and replace planters and plants, repair small leaks, give the surface a bath and a scrub to remove two generations of hard-water mineral accumulation, and work on refinishing the surface of the waterfall to its original beauty. Interestingly, this is one renovation that came with its own internal fund-raising effort. We found a significant amount of “small change” had missed the offering plate and had instead been tossed over the railing into the lower pool! Every dime counts!

Secondly, we are replacing all the carpeting in the lower concourse with a new floating LVT floor. This new flooring, while being both beautiful and exceptionally durable, has the advantage of being easy to clean and maintain. As anyone with a basement in central Oklahoma understands, flooding and water damage are an ever-present possibility. This flooring is designed to withstand short term water damage and bounce back without the mold and mildew possible with traditional carpeting. As an added bonus, the two staircases leading to the lower level will be resurfaced with a non-slip rubberized flooring intended to enhance safety as well as minimize ongoing maintenance.

And finally, we are taking this opportunity to upgrade the “check-in” area to Servant Kids. As a first point of contact between guests, their children, and Church of the Servant, this area needs to be bright, inviting, and functional. A new bank of computer touch-screens—one of which will be dedicated to assisting families new to Church of the Servant—as well as kid-friendly furniture, and wall graphics that are both informative and engaging will provide a new look and feel to a ministry vital to our ongoing success.

Funding for this project is coming from two sources. Over the years through careful management Church of the Servant has been able to accumulate excess funds from the operation of Warm World and Starbright (our Mother’s Day Out program). On any given year this accumulation of funds might be small, but much like a savings account, small deposits over time can make a big difference! These earnings are now being put to use in a repair and renovation project which will directly impact and improve these two cherished ministries. The rest of the funds are coming from a generous advance gift for the larger planned church improvements we hope to begin in 2020. These repairs are a small part of the proposed updates planned for VISION 2020!

Rev. Randy Shrauner
Executive Minister

Jesus said, “Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these.” – Matthew 19:14
God’s love is seen and experienced by people every day through the simplest of ways. Church of the Servant is filled with people who serve and show God’s love! There isn’t enough space to write all of the stories, but here are two stories of how God’s love impacts people.

THROUGH READING A BOOK…
Nine years ago, I started volunteering with Whiz Kids in which Church of the Servant is a partner. My goal then was simply to help an elementary-age child improve his or her reading skills by reading with the child after school each Monday. Little did I know then that improving reading skills would be a secondary result of my time with each child. More importantly was how I saw God acting in the world by using the simplest of activities such as spending time with a child reading a book. Many of the children in our program have experienced family trauma such as homelessness, family break-up, incarceration of a parent, or extreme poverty. I’ve seen how having a faithful, dependable tutor for the school year can be a very positive experience for both the student and the tutor. It soon became clear to me that having a loving tutoring experience is one way of how God chooses to show his love for the children who sometimes lead stressful lives.

I was touched when a Whiz Kid student sent me a valentine card in which she wrote “I love my tutor”; when my student told me that her favorite day of the week is Monday so she can go to Whiz Kids; when my student told me it makes her sad when I am gone and a substitute fills in for me; when my student ran up to me to give me a big hug when she saw me come to her dance recital; and when my student asked me to explain the meaning of a certain Bible verse about how God and Jesus are acting in the world. These experiences show me how God uses both students and tutors to show his love.

I believe these relationships can be as impactful on the student and tutor as improving reading skills. Yes, God’s love is evident in the world – even through the simple act of reading a book.

Written by Marilyn Staats, Church of the Servant Member and Whiz Kids Tutor

THROUGH FURNISHING AN APARTMENT…
Dale and June Krumme, members of Church of the Servant and the TLC Sunday school class have volunteered to be our liaison between the church and the Exodus House for the past ten years. The Exodus House offers opportunities for ex-offenders to have a healthy, nurturing, and accountable environment where they may begin their life again. It is a six-month temporary residential project. These are small apartment complexes where people newly released from prison can live with their families while they re-enter life successfully outside prison walls. Leaders say those who take this route rarely return to prison.

Over the past ten years, Apartment #5, the apartment that is adopted by Church of the Servant, has been completely renovated, furnished with furniture and refurnished many times. The latest project was the building of a central patio for families to enjoy. Dale and June have loved volunteering many hours and serving the Exodus House mission, because they knew without a doubt it made a difference in the lives of families that needed help getting back on their feet. It was a simple way of showing others God’s love.

Recently, Church of the Servant received a thank-you note from Ben Sowell, a resident at the Exodus House:

Dear Church of the Servant,
I want to thank your whole congregation for the generosity, prayers, and donations to our Exodus House. I want to thank June and Dale Krumme for reaching out to me in a time of need with cleaning supplies. Your help and involvement in our program here truly saves lives like mine! We love you all and look forward to a long-lasting future at Exodus House.

Sincerely,
Ben Sowell

Dale and June have recently retired from this role as liaison, but will always treasure the time they served. I want to welcome Donna Powell, a member of Servant and the MVC Class, as our new liaison with the Exodus House.

From reading a book to a child, to furnishing an apartment for families, it is amazing how God’s love is shared with others in the simplest of ways. Let’s keep sharing God’s love!
MARK YOUR CALENDARS!
VETERANS SUNDAY IS ON NOVEMBER 10, 2019!

At the 9:30 a.m. service, we will be honoring our Veterans with a parade of Veterans into the Celebration Center. The Celebration Choir and Worship Orchestra will be playing each service's song as they enter the sanctuary, and the Oklahoma City Highlander Pipe and Drum Corps will also be in attendance to add their cinematic musical flare to the event.

Veterans, we are gathering at 8:30 a.m. in Community Hall for coffee and fellowship. If you plan on participating in the parade this year, we ask that you arrive no later than 9:00 a.m. as we will begin assembling the group at this time to prepare for the parade.

Also, we will create a slideshow again this year, and we would like to have you bring in one recent photo and one photo from when you were on duty back in the day. We need to have these by Sunday, October 27, so our team has sufficient time to do their magic.

Veterans Sunday should be another outstanding event, and we look forward to each and every one of you being here.

A STORY FROM ONE OF OUR VETERANS

As an NCO at the hospital, I tried to set a positive example for other soldiers and sometimes provide guidance for them. We had a young, lower-enlisted man who had caused several problems, which in turn caused him to be placed on extra duty details. Knowing the soldier was sweeping the basement hallway, I went down to straighten him up. I called him by name to get his attention. I congratulated him on his pending promotion, causing him to perk up since he was obviously not aware of any promotion. I told him I was sure he had to be getting a promotion because the First Sergeant said the young soldier would not be keeping his current rank much longer. I then departed, there were no future problems by the soldier, and after a period he did get a promotion.

Bill White
Spec. 5, United States Army
Active Service Dates: December 1980 to February 2005
A STORY FROM ONE OF OUR VETERANS

I graduated from college in 1961 and completed graduate school in the Spring of 1962. Since I had graduated from college, I was now subject to the draft, and I didn’t want to be sloshing around in the mud and blood in the Army, so I applied for Navy Officer Candidate School (OCS) and was accepted. The country was in the middle of the Cuban Missile Crisis at the time I was in OCS. I considered OCS more mental than physical, but we still only graduated 600 of the original 1300 candidates that started the class. Upon graduation, I became an “Officer and a Gentleman” in the Navy making a whopping $222.30 a month plus $47.88 subsistence allowance (I was rolling in the dough).

I was sent to communications school and upon completion, reported abroad my ship, the USS Valley Forge, an Amphibious Assault Aircraft Carrier and was assigned to the Radio Division. I was the Division Junior Officer, and because of a circumstance beyond my control, I was made Division Officer much earlier than usual. I wanted to qualify as an Officer of the Deck (OOD) and kept asking and asking, and they finally sent me to ship handling school where I graduated First in my class and qualified as OOD in the Spring of 1964.

On our cruise to the Western Pacific, I was coming on the bridge to take the watch at 3:30 a.m. on August 2, 1964, during the Gulf of Tonkin incident. We spent the next three months steaming up and down the coast of North and South Vietnam. Our ship returned to Long Beach California in November 1964, and I was sent to shore duty in Newport Rhode Island on the Admiral’s Staff.

My obligation to the Navy was completed in October, and I came home in late 1965.

Thanks to the Navy I learned excellent leadership skills and how to react positively in stressful situations. Serving was a great experience.

John Farr
Lieutenant, United States Navy
Active Service Dates: June 1962 – October 1965
War/Conflict Served: Vietnam
EARTHGLOW MARKET – NOVEMBER 9
Earthglow Gift Shop sponsors a market each fall, which includes gifts, holiday and home décor, both handmade and commercial. Proceeds from booth and table rental, food/bake sales, as well as the proceeds from the Gift Shop, go to local missions. Over our history, Earthglow has donated over $859,000 to various missions in our community. Your participation in our Earthglow Market has made a valued contribution to this effort!
If you would like to be a vendor at Earthglow Market, go to ServantOKC.org/EarthglowMarket for more information and to reserve your booth space.

THE CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL – DECEMBER 7TH & 8TH

SERVANT ACADEMY OF THE ARTS: Servant Academy of the Arts is located at Church of the Servant and offers some of the finest instructors in the area. Our instructors provide quality lessons and are reasonably priced in private and group instruction. We are currently offering lessons and/or classes in: Violin, Viola, Cello, Piano, Guitar, Trumpet, Brass, Voice, and Ballroom Dance. For more information and to sign up for lessons and/or classes, go to ServantOKC.org/ARTS.
For the past five years, people representing 30+ churches from 9 states have gathered together along with our Kenyan hospital friends to share experiences, hopes, and dreams for Maua Methodist Hospital. This year for the first time the Gathering will be held outside of Texas at Church of the Servant! Several strategic collaborations have resulted from these Gatherings. The most exciting plan, which has been three years in the planning, will give the hospital property potable water throughout the campus. We hope the final costing will be completed soon. The cost won’t be cheap, but with contributions from many churches, we hope to accomplish it in 2020. This means untreated river water will no longer be used anywhere on the 19-acre hospital compound!!

Friends of Maua Hospital (FOMH) is also collaborating with African Mission Healthcare (AMH) (https://africanmissionhealthcare.org/) to provide accurate costing of specific surgeries. Why is this important? Without knowing how much a particular surgery (like a C-section) costs, an accurate price to the patient which includes all factors (doctors time, OR time, cost of surgical equipment needed, etc.) is not possible. AMH is working with several mission hospitals in east Africa to examine costs, provide expert efficiency services, and ultimately offer top-notch care for the poorest of God’s children.

We hope that in the near future, we can offer a way for people to pay online for surgery to be performed at Maua Methodist Hospital. AMH has determined that at MMH an elective C-Section costs $485. This would be scheduled, for example, if a woman had a previous emergency C-section making a normal birth more difficult and potentially dangerous for the mom and child. Another example is repairing a broken hip that costs $872. There has been a considerable increase in the number of trauma surgeries due to the influx of Chinese motorcycles and lack of driver training.

The Gathering is open to all! While many people cannot plan a trip to Kenya, in this case, Kenya will be coming to us! We hope that if you are curious at all about our work in Kenya, you will come to hear first-hand all about it. Below is the registration link. If you have questions, email Ann Knutson at annknut@gmail.com.


Ann Knutson
Lay Leader of Kenya Mission

friendsofmaua.org
SERVANT HIGH SCHOOL

STUDENTS! MARK YOUR CALENDAR ON NOVEMBER 8-10 FOR OUR ANNUAL FALL RETREAT! ALL 9TH-12TH GRADE STUDENTS ARE INVITED TO COME! JOIN US FOR THIS WONDERFUL WEEKEND FILLED WITH WORSHIP, BIBLICAL TEACHING, SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION, GAMES, HIKING, AND SO MUCH MORE! REGISTRATION IS AVAILABLE ONLINE AT SERVANTOKC.ORG/EVENTS AND IS DUE BY OCTOBER 28. CONTACT SANG NGUYEN AT SNGUYEN@SERVANTOKC.ORG IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS!

SERVANT STUDENTS’ TESTIMONIES

W orking with Church of the Servant High School students on Sunday mornings has brought such joy and fulfillment to my life. I began this experience to share this time with my daughters and found so much more. My walk in faith has become stronger because of every one of these fearfully and wonderfully made students. Seeing the love and hunger they have for the word of GOD is what makes the experience so much more fulfilling than I could have ever expected. I pray each week that I am able, through the word of GOD, to give these high school students a little of what I receive while getting to know them, and they leave each Sunday always knowing they are loved for who they are. I will always be thankful I was asked to participate in high school ministries – what an amazing experience!

Carrie Wichert
High School Sunday Morning Leader
love the Servant Middle School programming and small groups a lot because I love the people. The relationships built between the kids, leaders, and small groups are hard to be broken because of the bond we make when we are together. Whether it’s Sunday morning, Wednesday night, a summer activity, or a serving day, we are always praising God in the best way we can. I think it is imperative to find your brothers and sisters in Christ to help you walk through life, and Church of the Servant Middle School is one of my favorite ways to grow with my brothers and sister by my side.

Caroline Flurry
8th-Grade Student

Servant Middle School Wednesday night is some of my favorite 2 hours of the week! Being one of the small group leaders for the 7th-grade girls is a huge blessing to me. The investment in these students today could bear much fruit tomorrow! We may not see the fruit until we get to heaven. But we will have all of eternity to enjoy the dividends of serving these students!

Wendi Humes
Servant Middle School
Wednesday Night Leader

I have enjoyed Sunday mornings with the high school youth group because of the discussions we have when we split up into groups. Sang delivers a message each week, and we solidify its meaning within our small groups. The lesson is often more impactful because of the variety of perspectives in a group. But it is the adult leaders, who are consistent even when I am not, that make Sunday mornings special. Their commitment to each one of us is evident in the hour they have with us each week. Finally, I would like to thank everyone who has made an impact on my relationship with Christ.

Jack Carter
Junior

Servant OKC.org

Servant OKC.org

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CHANGING LIVES!

Each week when we open the doors for programming, we always have several students waiting to come in. They say youth is their safe place, their fun place, and even their second home. They can be loud and messy, but they also love Jesus and share His love. They ask how they can help, they say thank you for pizza, donuts, and sometimes just for being there. We watch 6th-grade boys become 8th-grade men who are respectful and kind. We watch 6th-grade girls become 8th-grade young ladies who include others and love deeply. These students are changed because of their weekly leaders caring about them; they are changed because they hear and experience the love of Jesus; they are changed because of Servant Middle School. What a blessing it is to watch their lives be changed and transformed for the Kingdom.

Jenna Smith
Director of Servant Middle School

SERVANT MIDDLE SCHOOL FALL RETREAT “NEXT” IS NOVEMBER 1-3. ALL 6TH-8TH GRADE STUDENTS ARE WELCOME TO JOIN US FOR OUR ANNUAL FALL WEEKEND RETREAT TO CANYON CAMP!

VISIT SERVANTOKC.ORG/EVENTS FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO REGISTER.

CONTACT JENNA SMITH AT JSMITH@SERVANTOKC.ORG IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS.
I still remember what it was like dropping our oldest daughter, Hillary, off at Warm World for her first day of Pre-School. I had the typical parental responses at this moment – I couldn’t believe how fast time was flying, praying that she would be protected and safe, wondering if she had the right outfit on (not really... Andi knows what she’s doing in that department), and worrying if the other kids would accept her. Would they tease her? Would every child and adult there know how wonderful she is? As is the case with most concerns and worries, they were unfounded, and she had a phenomenal experience at Warm World with excellent teachers and made great friends.

But, as with any parent with young kids, those feelings and prayers repeated themselves each year when my other two daughters, Megan and Rachel, began their experiences at Warm World. Those same anxieties kept popping in my head and yet, they too had amazing experiences at Warm World.

Unfortunately, those feelings didn’t end with Pre-School. They only became more intense with each stage of my daughters’ lives, and that was certainly true as they entered High School and began attending our High School Ministries led by Sang Nguyen. Even though they had had wonderful experiences in Children’s and Middle School Ministries, I still worried. Would they be accepted? Would they know how loved and valued they are?

I can say that my dreams for my children in this way have been realized and my fears have been left at the curb. In High School Ministries, my daughters have seen Christ in their leaders, their hearts and minds have been shaped as they served the most vulnerable in our community and in the communities of many other cities. They have been discipled to, loved on, cared for, valued for who they are, accepted, and have met countless new friends. As a parent, is there anything more important? Down deep, is there a greater wish that you would have for your kids than to be accepted, feel secure, loved, and cared for? For me, there is not! For me, those worries and concerns that most every parent experiences have been put to rest by the love of Christ through Sang Nguyen and all of the adult leaders. My daughters have a place they call “home” in Church of the Servant’s High School Ministries, and Andi and I are grateful for the profound impact this ministry has had on the hearts and lives of our daughters.

Todd Neaves
High School Parent
FAMILY PICNIC
On September 8, our kids and their families were invited to stay after church for a picnic. We had a great time! We had lunch, a sno cone truck, games, inflatables, and more! The best part was that families got to spend time with each other and with their friends. We loved having the opportunity to connect with our church family!

JAM AND J-STEM KICK-OFF
Servant Kids and Music Ministry are excited about a new program that launched in September! From September 22 until November 10, kids have the option to attend JAM (Jesus, Arts, Music) or J-STEM (Jesus & science, technology, engineering, and math) class on Sunday mornings from 11:15-12:00. JAM is led by Chuck Weatherford and the music ministry team, and J-STEM is led by our kids’ ministry team and small group leaders. Our Servant Kids have had a great experience in both elective options and are learning about Jesus in unique ways!

THIRD GRADE BIBLE SUNDAY WAS SEPTEMBER 29
Church of the Servant celebrates our third graders each year by presenting them with their own Bible. These celebrations took place in the 9:30 Celebration Center Service and 11:00 Modern Service in the Centrum, which allowed us to share this beautiful milestone with the congregation.

SERVANT 45
We kicked off our fourth and fifth grade programming on Wednesday nights last month and have had a blast! The kids have spent time with their friends, played games, and studied the Bible. Join us each Wednesday night from 6:30-8:00 downstairs. Bring a Bible and a friend! (We will not meet on Fall Break – October 16).
TALENT SHOW: BRAVE THE STAGE
EVERY SUNDAY MORNING IN OCTOBER
GRADES 1-5

This month, we will be learning about the connection between courage and God’s character, as shown through God’s big story. Courage is being brave enough to do what you should do, even when you’re afraid. Throughout our lives, God may ask us to take risks or do something we may not feel prepared to do. But God will also give us the courage we need to face that challenge. We see this as Jesus faced death on the cross. He chose to be brave and follow through on God’s plan.

Our memory verse this month comes from Joshua 1:9B and says, “Be strong and brave. Do not be afraid…for the Lord your God goes with you.” We will discuss how you can do what you should even when you don’t know what will happen next. We will also talk about how you can do what you should even when others are afraid. You can do what you should even when things seem impossible. You can do what you should even when others are afraid.

Join us for a new session each Sunday morning this month!

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA!
WE POST UPDATES, INFORMATION, PICTURES, AND MORE,
SO DON’T MISS OUT! GO TO @SERVANTKIDS ON FACEBOOK,
INSTAGRAM, AND TWITTER!
SIGN UP FOR TEXT ALERTS
BY TEXTING @SERVANTK1
TO 81010.

SUPER KIDS
EVERY SUNDAY MORNING IN OCTOBER
AGES 3 YEARS THROUGH KINDERGARTEN

We all want to be strong and courageous. We all want to say we would be brave when faced with fear. But how? What can help us be brave? How can our preschoolers be strong and courageous Super Kids without capes and super powers we see in the movies? This month, we plan on giving preschoolers the answers to all these questions. We want our preschoolers to grow up knowing that they can be brave because God is with them. How awesome would it be if preschoolers began thinking, ‘God can help me be brave;’ when they are afraid to walk into the dentist office or talk to a new friend at school. Rather than shy away, they can go for it! And, they don’t even need a cape or a mask!

Our memory verse this month comes from Deuteronomy 31:6 and says, “Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid...for the Lord your God goes with you.” We look forward to seeing you on Sunday mornings in October!

OCTOBER HAPPENINGS...
HONK HONK!!

SAVE THE DATE FOR SERVANT FALL FEST!

Servant Fall Fest and Trunk-or-Treat is back! Join us on Friday, October 25 from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. for Church of the Servant’s annual family-friendly Fall Fest. Again for this year, Servant Fall Fest will include a trunk-or-treat, where kids can safely trick-or-treat and play games in our parking lot. Guests will also enjoy favorites like inflatables, face painting, balloon animals, a cakewalk, therapy dogs, the Hot Dog Cafe, cotton candy and popcorn sales, and a bake sale. In case of rain, all activities (other than the cars) will be moved indoors. A fireworks show will conclude the evening.

The excitement and outreach generated from Fall Fest last year was incredible! Can you help us continue that success? Please stop by the Servant Fall Fest table in the concourse on Sunday to sign up to lend a hand – or a trunk! You can also register online at ServantOKC.org/FallFest. We need Sunday School classes, Bible study groups, small groups, families, groups of friends, and individuals to commit to providing a car and passing out candy during Servant Fall Fest. We welcome decorated trunks and costumed volunteers, and there will be prizes awarded! We also need hospitality volunteers during the event, help with set-up and clean-up, donations of baked goods for the bake sale and cakewalk, and donations of bags of individually-wrapped candies. (Candy can be placed in any of the drop boxes around the church by Sunday, October 20.) For group or individual volunteer opportunities, contact Kourtney Aller at 728-4715 or kaller@servantokc.org.

WEEKLY DEVOTIONALS
FOR FAMILIES AND KIDS

On our website, we have a section on the KIDS page (ServantOKC.org/KIDS) with weekly devotionals. These devotionals include activities that go along with the lesson learned on the previous Sunday morning. We would like to encourage you to spend a few minutes each day with your child(ren) reinforcing what they have learned about that week during Total Group and small groups. We also post Bible readings, reflection questions, and more each day on Instagram and/or Facebook. When the church and family work together to enforce the concepts and lessons, we will have the greatest impact on the lives of our kids!

KANAKUK KAMPOUT

Mark your calendars now for the return of Kanakuk Kampout next summer! The dates are August 3-7 and the cost is $275 per kamper. Registration available early 2020; we will let you know when it’s time to register!
Each year for the past 20 years, Church of the Servant has worked with community agencies that have identified local families needing a little extra love and care at Christmas. Christmas Grace is well underway in preparing for Christmas this year. We will have over 150 families and individuals who need help. Christmas Grace tables will be in the Concourse each Sunday in November. They will be located in the North Concourse and outside the Centrum door near the Courtyard with the list of families and individuals for you to choose from.

Plan now with your family, as well as your classes and study groups to sponsor some individuals and families. This is such an important mission right here in the OKC area!

Ladies! It’s time for Autumn Bunco!

This time we’re changing things up a bit. We will meet on Thursday night, October 17, beginning at 6:30 p.m. Please bring a dessert to share (no dinner this time) and a $5 donation for the Infant Crisis Center for their Winter Coat Drive, “Bundle Up, Baby.” This will help to purchase coats for children sizes Newborn through 5 Toddler. If you would like to bring a coat in addition to the $5 donation, you are encouraged to do so. Childcare is available by reservation (deadline for childcare is October 11). Join the fun! Bunco is a fun evening and provides a great way to meet new people. Best of all, THERE ARE PRIZES!!! Register online by Monday, October 14 at ServantOKC.org/Events.
Church of the Servant
14343 North MacArthur Boulevard
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73142-9725

SUNDAY MORNING SERVICE TIMES
8:15 • 9:30 • 11:00

CONTACT US:
14343 N MacArthur Blvd.
Oklahoma City, OK 73132
ServantOKC.org
405.721.4141

LIVE STREAM
Sunday Mornings @ 9:30 & 11:00
churchoftheservant.churchonline.org
Also on Facebook

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SERVANT FALL FEST
OCTOBER 25
6-8:00 PM

DRESS UP IN YOUR FAVORITE
SEASONAL COSTUME!

CHURCH OF THE
SERVANT
A United Methodist Congregation

SERVANT KIDS
INFLATABLES
FIREFRWORKS
GAMES
FOOD
trunk-r-treat