

DCC NEWS

Disciples Christian Church

(918) 333-1372

Web Site: dccbville.org

E-Mail: office@dccbville.org

Our core values: **Welcome. Grow. Serve.**

Greetings, DCC!

We've had a busy start to 2024! The Christmas decorations are stowed, and the winter sermon series, "Color Courageous Community: Following Woke Jesus," is underway. We hosted a concert that benefited Martha's Task, where we listened to great jazz, ate wonderful food, and had the chance to purchase items Martha's Task's clients created. In addition, the 2024 DCC Board had a short retreat and were treated to soup, salad, bread, and dessert prepared by some very generous folks.

At that retreat, we listened as DCC staff shared their goals for 2024. Look for those inside this newsletter. One of the goals I will be working toward this year, along with the Board, is developing a five-year+ plan, which we hope to present to the congregation this fall. At the retreat, we began that process by brainstorming what we think the world will be like in 30 years. Our answers were a mixed bag.

In 30 years:

- the population will be older
- cold fusion will be perfected
- the wealth disparity will be greater
- there will be less in-person gathering
- Artificial Intelligence (AI) will play a greater role
- the U.S. will have universal healthcare
- the U.S. will have had a female president
- climate change will be a greater threat

We acknowledged that some of what we think will come to pass is exciting, and some is frightening. After making this list, I asked the Board to tell me what they *hope* the world will be like. Here are some of those responses.



MODERN LIT CLASS

Modern Lit is finishing reading *In Defense of Kindness* by Bruce – Reyes Chow and will soon begin *Becoming Sage* by Michelle Van Loon.

Anna has books in the office.

Be a part of the discussion and study at 9 am or 11:15 am on Sunday mornings!

Disciples Christian Church
5800 Douglas Lane
Bartlesville, OK 74003



Disciples Christian Church



February Service Calendar

Counter: Margaret Bouvier

Hospitality Team:

Feb. 4: Bon Bennett

Feb. 11: Josh Waddell

Feb. 18: Evan Zorn

Feb. 25: Adam Dorris

Deacons:

Feb. 4: Bon Bennett and Jamie Bennett

Feb. 11: Linda Bracken and Carl Jenkins

Feb. 18: Nickole Cunningham and Casey Williams

Feb. 25: John Weston and Dianne Crow

Elders:

Feb. 4: Bret Prideaux and Larry Cowan

Feb. 11: Maggie Humble and Mary Helen Buttman

Feb. 18: Mike Bouvier and Dee Lynd

Feb. 25: Kris Zorn and Scott Taylor

In 30 years, we hope:

- people will be able to retire comfortably
- food insecurity and homelessness will no longer exist
- schools will be safe
- the world will be safe
- there will be clean water for everyone
- people will do more listening
- the wealth disparity will be less
- there will be unity on the important things

In a nutshell, the world we hope for is a world where everyone experiences Shalom. As we begin to create a plan for DCC, we will do so keeping both lists in mind, probably adding to both lists along the way. We are going to do our best to prepare for whatever the future is like (the good, bad, and ugly), and we are going to work for Shalom because we choose to believe it is possible. I will be updating the congregation on the Board's progress as we move along. In the meantime, what do you think the world will be like in 30 years? What do you *hope* the world will be like? I'd love to add your answers to the ones the Board shared.

What I know for sure about the future is that we will always be better together.

Peace,

Kelley (she/her)

Lunches with Love this month is **February 17, 2024**. We will pack and deliver lunches to our neighbors at Torrey Place. There is a sign-up list online on the DCC webpage under the Outreach tab.

CONCERN Needs

Food: peanut butter, complete pancake mix, single serve protein. Place all donations to CONCERN in the gray plastic containers by the office window.



Your generosity makes our shared ministry possible. You can contribute monetarily by going to the church website and clicking the green "GIVE" button. dccbville.org, or by mailing a check to the church:
5800 Douglas Ln.
Bartlesville, OK 74006

- | | |
|------------------|-------------------|
| 3 Sue Fish | 8 Clark Dorris |
| 4 Kay Martin | 9 Anna Hubbard |
| 4 Bret Prideaux | 12 Travis Hubbard |
| 7 Hunter Nickels | 18 Emma Thitte |



LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR
JOIN US TO DECORATE VALENTINES, FILL TREAT BAGS, AND DELIVER THEM TO OUR FRIENDS AT BROOKDALE NORTH.
 February 11th
 2-4pm
 Disciples Christian Church



Happy 2024 DCC!

Connections is back up for the spring semester, and I am really looking forward to what we have planned for the year with help from the Bartlesville Community Foundation. DCC was generously awarded the Geraldine Hicks grant in the amount of \$3,000 to support our youth programming. We also received a grant from OKEQ-Bartlesville in the amount of \$1,200 for both Connections AND Open Table! I'm so grateful to these wonderful community resources for their support.

Some goals I have for the Youth and Young Adults programs for 2024 are:

- grow Open Table into a ministry that really fits the needs of the Bartlesville community.
- widen the pool of Connections volunteers so that our current sponsors can have a break if they'd like one. Having safe adults in our students lives is very important.
- implement more intergenerational activities for Connections so it feels like they're more connected to the life of the church. Coming to a Sunday worship service isn't an option for some of the students, for various reasons, but I'd still like for them to feel as though they are a part of the DCC community as a whole. I think that the adults in the church would like to see and know the students, and get a good picture of the ministry at work.

I'm thankful for your continued support and am excited for what 2024 will bring for both of these programs! Thank you for all you do to encourage and support me, and the students and young adults in our community!

Allie (she/they)



Hi everyone!

Our year in music is underway, and I wanted you all to know what is happening! This year, we hope to build a few changes into our music ministry to make it more meaningful and accessible to our congregation. We will be planning our anthem schedule around our sermon series, so the music and the sermons will complement each other more intentionally. I also will be working on transcribing our DCC lyrics to our various congregational songs into one primary songbook to make sure we have print resources for musicians that line up with the core values of our church.

In addition, we will be trying to build our Spirit Singers numbers for anthems for special services and liturgical themes. If you have wanted to join us but can only commit to a few weeks here and there, this is the year for you! There is no expectation that you commit to rehearsals for a whole year at a time. We will be announcing the anthems for specific Sundays about 4 weeks in advance, so if you can join us for just a month or so at a time, we would love to have you while we can!

Last, we are working to provide song-teaching time during worship to build up your confidence in singing along. After all, congregational singing is ultimately about lifting our voices together, and we would like to remove as many barriers to that as we can. Making music with and for you is an honor, and I look forward to getting to know more of you and seeing new faces at our choir rehearsals on Wednesdays at 6:00 pm!

Peace,

Ben (he/him)

Cindy Bennett's family is looking for a female live-in caregiver for Cindy and are hoping to exchange care for rent free living. If you are interested in this, please contact Kevin Bennett, 918.331.8388

Disciples Christian Church
Financial Summary
December 31, 2023



DCC's financial position is adequate for 2023. A few key points regarding DCC's financial position as of 12/31/2023 is as follows:

- Total Giving consists of Estimated Giving from last year's Stewardship Campaign plus Other Income, which includes rent received from Paths to Independence for use of DCC facilities.
- DCC's year-to-date giving totaled \$221,489 just shy of budget by 1.1%, or \$2,341.
- In 2023, expenses totaled \$238,402, exceeding budget by 1.6%, or \$3,829.
- Commissions at year end:
 - Total Administration – Under budget by \$3,186, or 1.8%.
 - Education – Utilized \$114 of the \$300 budget.
 - Family Ministry - Under budget by \$484, or 23.1%.
 - Fellowship - Under budget by \$65, or 0.8%.
 - House & Grounds – Over budget by \$1,883, or 6.8%.
 - Outreach – Remained on budget through year end.
 - Worship – Under budget by \$316, or 10.4%.
- As of December 31, 2023, DCC had a net deficit of \$15,230, more than the budgeted year-end deficit of \$10,743, above budget by \$4,488.
- Although currently in a deficit position, DCC still remains in an overall adequate financial position as we enter 2024.
- DCC maintained \$101,776 in cash or cash equivalents in our checking, savings, CD's, and DCC Perm Fund accounts, a decrease of \$14,140.
- In May 2023, DCC purchased the following Certificates of Deposit:
 - 7 month CD earning 5.00% Annual Percentage Yield (APY) with a current balance \$15,332.
 - 14 month CD earning 5.25% APY with a balance of \$33,742.
- DCC Perm Fund maintained a market value of \$12,402.52 as of 9/30/23.

Drew Ames, Treasurer (he/his)

Happy January DCC! Family Ministries has so many exciting things happening this month; we hope you will get all the fun events on your calendar and plan to attend!

This year the whole Family Ministries Team (Anna, Allie, and Alex) are going to work together to bring multi-generational events that focus on our core values – WELCOME, GROW, and SERVE. This month we will be hosting a Valentine card event, called “Love Your Neighbor”, where we will make cards and then deliver them to all our friends at Brookdale North. We are excited to get kids and adults together to SERVE our neighbors and learn the importance of sharing ourselves and our gifts with others.

In **Worship and Wonder**, we have new teachers and new greeters. As a reminder, this ministry is for K-2nd grade and teaches our young elementary kids how to worship so they can join us in worship once they hit 3rd grade. If this is an age group or a ministry you have interest in, we could always use more hands, and we really love our children building relationships and having exposure to all our fun adults!

Joyful Path continues to meet monthly on the second Wednesday of each month from 6:30-7:30 pm. This is for elementary aged kids (3rd – 5th grade). This program focuses on spirituality, connection, and fun! Note that in February we are meeting on the third Wednesday, February 21st.

In **Worship** we are implementing new ways for the kids to get involved. We always need a candlelighter to bring in the light, and starting in February kids will bring in the communion elements at the beginning of worship. Alex Buckner, will continue to host an activity in the Playground area for older kids during the sermon. My goal is that the kids start to continue to see worship as something they participate in and not just something they watch.

Please feel free to reach out if there is anything you'd like to see Family Ministries do or if you want to get involved in the action!

Anna (she/her)

FEBRUARY

				1	2	3
4 9:00 am Modern Lit 10:15 am Worship 10:30 am Worship and Wonder 11:15 am Modern Lit	5 1:00 pm Prayer Group	6	7 12:15 pm Yoga 6:00 pm Spirit Singers 6:30 pm Connections	8	9	10
11 9:00 am Modern Lit 10:15 am Worship 10:30 am Worship and Wonder 11:15 am Modern Lit 2:00 pm Love Your Neighbor Event	12 6:00 pm Outreach Commission	13 12:00 pm Stewardship/Finance	14 11:30 am Ashes to Go 12:15 pm Yoga 6:00 pm Spirit Singers 7:00 pm Ash Wednesday Worship	15 11:30 am Lunch Bunch at Remi's	16	17
18 9:00 am Modern Lit 10:15 am Worship 10:30 am Worship and Wonder 11:15 am Modern Lit 11:15 am Lunches with Love	19 1:00 pm Prayer Group	20 6:15 pm Pub Theology	21 12:15 pm Yoga 6:00 pm Spirit Singers 6:30 pm Connections 6:30 pm Joyful Path	22	23	24
25 9:00 am Modern Lit 10:15 am Worship 10:30 am Worship and Wonder 11:15 am Modern Lit	26 6:30 pm Board Meeting	27	28 12:15 pm Yoga 6:00 pm Spirit Singers 6:30 pm Connections	29		