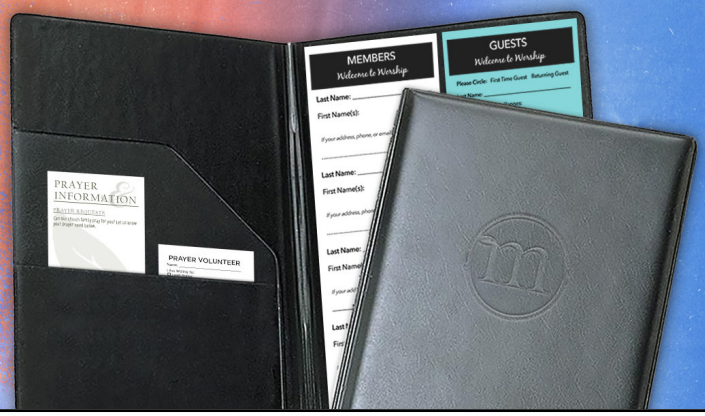
memorial road
CHURCH OF CHRIST

SHARING GOD'S LOVE TO TRANSFORM PEOPLE INTO FULLY DEVOTED FOLLOWERS OF CHRIST

Nov 12 2023

THANKS FOR JOINING US TODAY!



Please take a moment to sign the Welcome Book, located in your pew. Members, please greet any guests seated near you.

If you're joining us virtually, sign easily at ***mrcc.org/welcomebook***.

Please Join Us For First Cup

First Cup is an opportunity for newcomers to learn more about MRCC

Every Sunday at 9:35 a.m. in the Welcome Center

Visit mrcc.org/firstcup for more details

WELCOME MUGS AND BASKETS

These simple gifts are available at Information Central. Mugs are intended for first-time, local guests to MRCC, while baskets are for newcomers to your neighborhood. Deliver a mug or basket today!

FEATURED ITEMS

Foster Care & Adoption Ministry

Calling all foster, adoptive, & kinship families! Join us on today, from 2-3:30 p.m. in A105|106 for a focus group as we prepare to launch a new foster care and adoption ministry. We need your voice and insight! Childcare provided. For more info. contact Michael Mitchell at *mmitch05@gmail.com*.

CHRISTMAS GIFT PROJECTS

For Luther, Second Chances,

Capitol Hill, and MRCC families can be picked up TODAY. Take as many as you like. Please mark the packet chosen on the signup sheet. Gifts are due back Dec. 3.

Visit *mrcc.org/holidaygiving* for more details

MINISTRY UPDATES

holiday events

International Thanksgiving Dinner
November 19

A DELICIOUS THANKSGIVING MEAL, PREPARED HALAL TO WELCOME ALL CULTURES. INVITATIONS ARE AT INFO CENTRAL. SCAN QR CODE TO SIGN UP TO HELP.

Magi Project
November 19

SUPPLIES CHRISTMAS GIFT BOXES TO CHILDREN IN AN ECONOMICALLY SUPPRESSED PART OF THE WORLD.
SCAN QR CODE FOR INSTRUCTIONS.

Thanksgiving Day in the City
November 22

ASSEMBLE MEALS TO HELP THOSE WITH LIMITATIONS THAT KEEP THEM FROM HAVING A TRADITIONAL HOMEMADE MEAL FOR THE HOLIDAY.
SCAN QR CODE TO HELP OR RECOMMEND A RECIPIENT

Christmas Gift Projects
December 3

PICK UP PACKETS NOVEMBER 12 FOR CHILDREN OF LUTHER, SECOND CHANCES, CAPITOL HILL, AND MRCC.
GIFTS DUE BACK DECEMBER 4.

Second Chances Thrift Store

IS IN NEED OF WINTER ITEMS. VISIT THE LINK BELOW FOR MORE DETAILS AND DROP OFF LOCATIONS.

visit ***mrcc.org/holidaygiving***
for more details

women's ministry

Quilting Connection

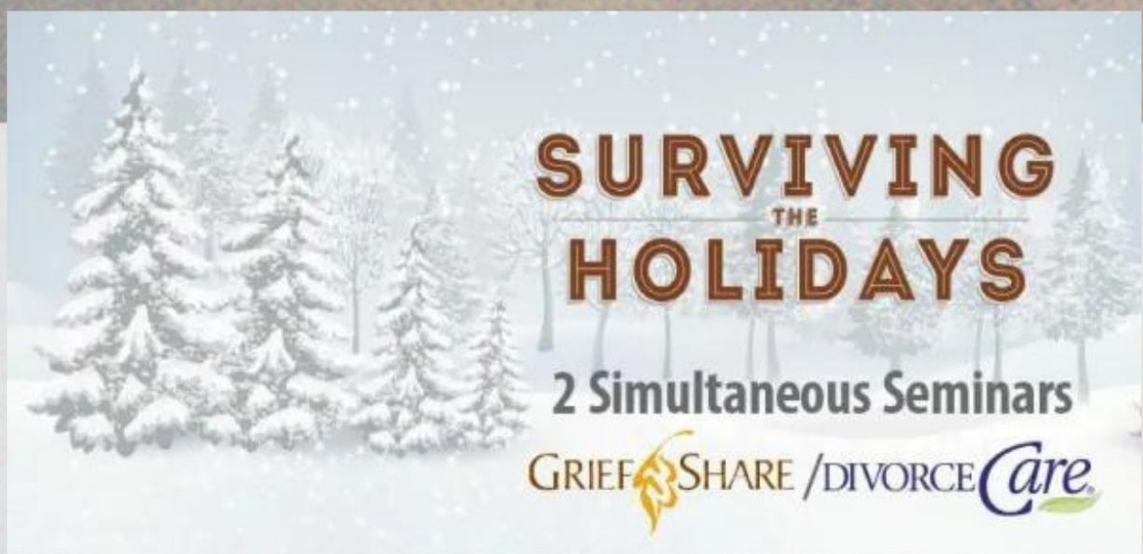
will not meet in November and December but will resume January 18, 2024

NEST for Widows

meets Monday, Nov. 13, 6:30-8 p.m. in A105-106. All widows are welcome, and details are at ***mrcc.org/nest***.

CARE & COUNSELING MINISTRY

Visit ***mrcc.org/care*** for details
on all our CARE Ministry offerings



The holiday season can be especially painful if you're going through the heartache of grief, separation, or divorce. *GriefShare* and *DivorceCare: Surviving the Holidays* are two seminars that will help you discover how to deal with emotions, what to do about traditions, helpful tips for surviving social and family events, and how to find hope for the future. These programs are tailored to the needs of participants as the holidays approach. Both programs are offered the morning of Sat., Nov. 11, at the building. Pre-register at *mrcc.org/care*.

Beginning in January, we will offer our annual weekly *GriefShare* support group on Wednesday

evenings. All are invited to join us! Learn more and register at *mrcc.org/care* or call Tasha in the Care & Counseling ministry office at 405-607-6411.

ALZHEIMER'S CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP

If you're the caregiver of a loved one with Alzheimer's, please consider joining us:

Tuesday, Nov. 14 | 6:30 - 8 p.m. in A119

Led by Dawn Hemphill and Mary Jo Jones

Groups are led by trained facilitators who each have been shaped by how this disease has impacted their families.

CELEBRATE RECOVERY

MEETS EVERY FRIDAY

6 PM - DINNER

1ST TIME GUESTS EAT FREE!!!

7 PM - LARGE GROUP

A TIME OF WORSHIP FOLLOWED BY PERSONAL

TESTIMONY OR RECOVERY LESSON

8 PM - OPEN SHARE GROUPS
GENDER AND ISSUE SPECIFIC SMALL GROUPS

9 PM - COMMON GROUNDS
FELLOWSHIP, COFFEE & DESSERT

PARTICIPANTS RECEIVE
FREE CHILDCARE 6:45-9:15

MRCC.ORG/CR
celebraterecovery@mrcc.org

New Ministries & Ministry Leaders

In multiple letters to churches, the apostle Paul speaks powerfully about the church as a body, where every member has a unique and valuable purpose. If parts of the body aren't performing their function, the body can't reach its full potential as a vessel for sharing good news and doing good deeds. There are so many outlets to serve at Memorial Road; if you don't have an active role, it's time to find one! Below are highlights of several ministries that are either brand new or assuming new leadership. Contact any of these leaders to explore how you can volunteer in that area. You can also see the full landscape of MRCC ministries at ***mrcc.org/ministries*** or contact Involvement Minister, **Andy Lashley**, to work on finding your place to serve.

Foster Care & Adoption Ministry
Directed by Michael Mitchell

For years, the number of MRCC families involved in the vital and godly practice of fostering and adopting has been steadily rising. In addition, our Imagine campaign that eliminated the church's debt has positioned us to do more in this area, which the congregation submitted as one of our primary Imagine dreams. Now, we are at the point where we want to implement a formal ministry that aims to provide fostering, adopting, and kinship families with support, tools, and resources. Michael Mitchell is perfectly positioned to lead this effort. In his vocational work for the Christian Alliance for Orphans, Michael works to equip churches and organizations to care effectively for vulnerable children and families. What a blessing to have him as a member here, taking on this crucial volunteer role! To get involved in the Foster Care & Adoption Ministry, contact **Michael** at ***michael.mitchell@cafo.org.***

Children's Homes Ministry
Directed by Richard Yahola

This is another newly minted ministry that formalizes a rich history of support for children's homes in Oklahoma and beyond. We currently support a number of homes financially through our regular and special giving, and we regularly send groups to work at various homes on short-term mission trips. Now, Richard Yahola will head up an official Children's Home Ministry as we seek to build awareness of these ministry partners and provide more involvement opportunities. Richard has a deep love for the essential support system that children's homes provide and years of direct experience working with them. In fact, he has already been serving as a coordinator for our various giving efforts that benefit our partner homes. His servant-minded volunteer leadership will be a great fit and a great blessing. To get involved in the Children's Home Ministry, contact **Richard** at ***ryaholalpc@gmail.com.***

Leadership Training for Christ
Directed by Chris & Jeana Clark

After multiple decades of exemplary service as leaders of our LTC Ministry, Don & Janie Leftwich have handed over the mantle to Chris & Jeana Clark. Thank you, Don & Janie! The Clarks will be outstanding successors, having volunteered with the ministry for many years already. They bring a joyful spirit to this important (and fun!) ministry, which gives children in grades three through twelve all kinds of creative outlets to develop their Bible knowledge, leadership abilities, and hearts for servanthood. To get your kids involved in LTC, or to get involved as a volunteer, contact **Chris & Jeana** at ***twiceaneagle@yahoo.com.***

Community Benevolence

Directed by Heath Wiederstein & Chris Clark

We want our church to be known as a place of light, hope, and help. Our Community Benevolence Ministry plays a key role in that pursuit, coordinating assistance for people in need through outreach to Luther, sharing rooms, and more. We're pleased to have Heath Wiederstein and Chris Clark stepping in as new volunteer directors for the ministry. Heath and Chris both have hearts for service and for helping those on the margins, making them ideal for this assignment. To get involved in the Community Benevolence Ministry, contact **Heath** at ***hwiederstein@gmail.com*** or Chris at ***twiceaneagle@yahoo.com.***

OTHER NOTES

In John 17:20-21 Jesus says, *"My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me, and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me."* This is something we may know as believers in Jesus, but it is increasingly more difficult to live out.

This past weekend our Worship Planning Team (WPT) was blessed to attend the Agape Conference in Little Rock, Arkansas, hosted by United Voice Worship. "United Voice Worship is a diverse group of Jesus followers, passionate about honoring GOD through song AND seeing people come together as one." Our WPT is Christie Wood, Alasha Maxwell, Andrea Rieger, Lee Langdon, Phillip Maple, Eric Hamilton, and Stephen Maxwell. [Lee and Alasha were unable to attend this year.]

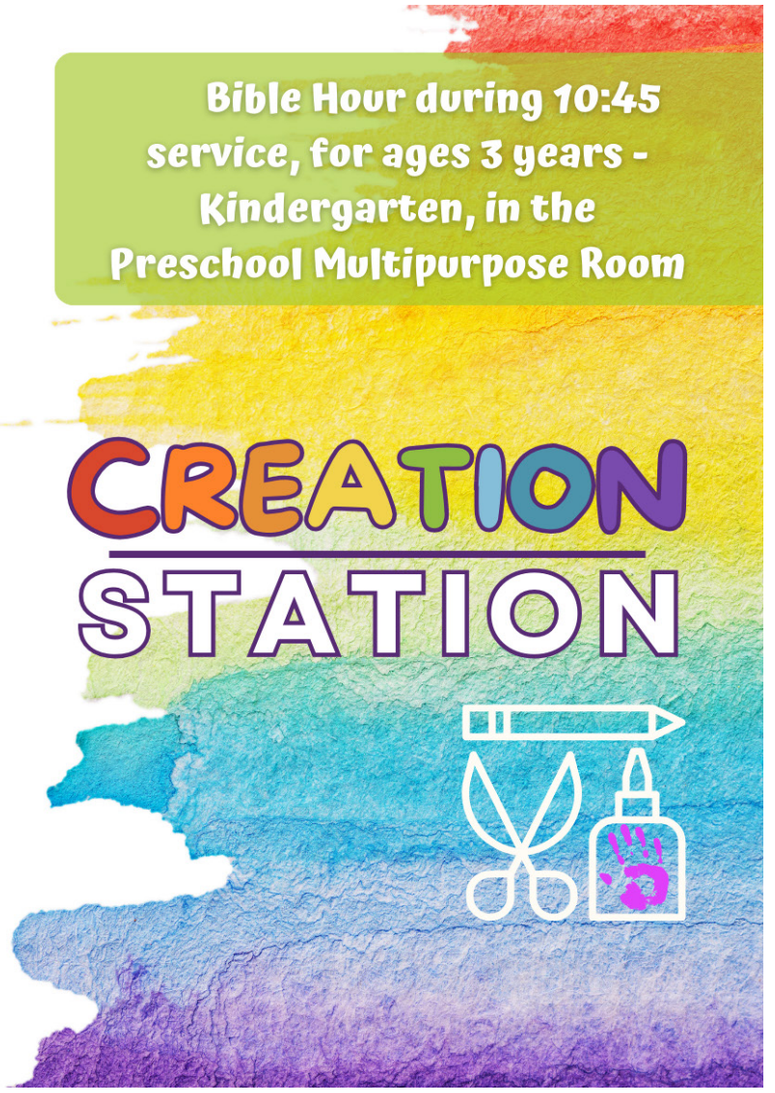
The heart of the Agape Conference focuses on listening, learning, and living out a life that honors others above ourselves (Romans 12:10). The theme was *Put On Love* from Colossians 3:14, and the featured keynote speakers were Eugene Cho, Anthony Walker, and Dr. Jerry Taylor.

Memorial Road's WPT had an opportunity to get to know each other better, while being encouraged to intentionally work toward loving our neighbor in an effort to foster unity in the kingdom of God. There was a pre-conference session for learning new music and becoming better leaders that promote the unity Jesus prayed for in John's gospel. The messages of the keynote speakers were well crafted and expertly delivered, reminding us that love is the virtue that will bind us to God and to one another.

The WPT came back spiritually full and encouraged, excited to continue our work here at Memorial Road. God is doing amazing things through the Agape Conference, and we look forward to using what we learned to bless our church family and community here at Memorial Road. ~Stephen Maxwell

MINISTERS' RETREAT 2023

Last week, the MRCC ministers drove down to Brownwood, Texas, for a three-day retreat to pray, worship, and fellowship together. We devoted that time to plan ministry opportunities, strategize for the big picture, and brainstorm solutions to recurring challenges. We came back refreshed and unified in the mission to serve and lead this church. We're so grateful to serve at a church that consistently encourages its staff and makes essential opportunities like this possible! ~Mitch East



STAY CONNECTED & INFORMED

Watch live or previous broadcasts of worship, sermons, or WOW at *YouTube.com/memorialroad*.

Download the MRCC App (for iOS and Android) for easy access to all our resources. Check it out today!

SERMON INFO

FOLLOW ME

THE WAY OF THE CROSS

Today, Phil will continue our mini series *Surrendering Self*. In this final sermon, Phil will explore the concept of freedom in Galatians 5. Every kind of freedom carries with it certain limitations; no one is free in the sense of having absolutely no constraints or boundaries. We choose our limitations whether they be desires on the inside or rules on the outside. Paul puts forth the Holy Spirit as a compelling version of freedom for the disciple.

HOPE *in a* TROUBLED WORLD

What good is grace if it's not shared with anyone? And if it is shared, what should be the response of the recipient? Join us tonight as we look at "Honoring Grace" from 1 Peter 5:5-11.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

If you would like to dig deeper into the sermon or Sunday class discussions, check out the MRCC App or visit *mrcc.org/dq* for supplemental material.

FAMILY UPDATES

11-12-23

Prayer Requests

Chris McKeever is scheduled for knee surgery this coming Tuesday at Mercy Hospital South.

An ongoing Prayer List, updated at the beginning of every month, is available at Information Central and digitally at *mrcc.org/prayerlist*.

Sympathy

Our sympathy is extended to . . .

The **Mike Hancock** family on the death of his father, Frank Hancock, Friday, Oct. 27, in Derby, Kansas.Showers

Showers

Baby Girl Shower for **Emma Axtell Welch** will be next Sunday, Nov. 19, 2-4 p.m., at Judy Branch's (9925 Hidden Hollow Lane, Edmond). She is registered at babylist.com.

Thank You

I want to express my heartfelt gratitude to each and every one of you for your unwavering support and encouragement following the passing of my beloved sister, Carlene Maddox. Your kind words of sympathy, genuine care, and expressions of love have been a source of solace and strength for me. Your presence and concern reflects the true essence of heav-en on earth, and I am grateful to have you as my sisters and brothers in Christ. Thank you from the bottom of my heart. ~Sincerely, **Catherine Jordan**

Thank you for all the phone calls, texts, cards, and visits following and during my mother's illness. We are blessed to be part of such a loving Christian family who encourages us to see beyond this life. We appreciate everything you have done for us. ~**Cathy Earnest**, for the Taylor, Zajac, and Earnest families

Ways to give

mrcc.org
mrcc app
text amount to:
884.311.2333

Prayer Requests

We would love to pray for you. Submit your prayer requests at ***mrcc.org/prayer***, or on the MRCC App.

Weekly Budget: $106,147 | Avg Weekly Offering: $104,170 | YTD Budget Deficit: $88,952