PROJECT TRANSFORMATION SUMMER JOBS STILL AVAILABLE!

Summer is quickly approaching, which means Project Transformation Oklahoma 2018 is almost here!

Six college-age young adults are needed to work as Project Transformation coordinators this summer at the Tulsa, Bartlesville, Enid, Muskogee, and Mangum sites from May 20 to July 26.

Housing, most meals, $1,800 living stipend and an $1,200 education award are included.

If you know of a service-minded college student in need of a summer job, please send them our way as soon as possible!

The application is available at projecttransformation.org/oklahoma.

Contact Kelsey Ricks at kricks@okumc.org with questions.

PROJECT TRANSFORMATION
HOW YOU CAN HELP

It's almost time for Project Transformation! As we prepare to serve our community through this summer literacy camp, there are a few things we still need.

Snacks: Every summer, more than 2,000 snacks are served to campers. The snack drive this year will be May 13 - June 10. Our snack wish list includes: cheese crackers, whole grain crackers, microwave popcorn, popsicles (we'll freeze them!), goldfish crackers, granola bars (no nuts, please!), animal crackers, and teddy grahams. Donated snacks may be placed in one of the baskets at each of the main entrances to the church.

Readers: Every summer, PT campers log more than 1,500 hours reading with adults. This is the key component to their success. Volunteers to read with campers are needed from 10 a.m. - noon every Monday-Thursday of summer. Sign-ups are available on the north counter in the Atrium and on our website. At least 18 reading volunteers are needed each day, so the campers get the one on one time they need to succeed in reading!

Bus Drivers: Many of the children who need the summer academic support the most do not have transportation to First Church, so we provide it for them! Two bus drivers and two bus monitors are needed daily. Bus drivers and monitors should be at church at 8:30 a.m. to pick up children and 3 p.m. to take children home. Sign-ups are available on the north counter in the Atrium and on our website.

Dinners: It is our responsibility to feed the seven college-age summer staff members that come to serve the campers. We are their church family for the summer! If you are interested in having them to your home for a dinner, taking them out for dinner, or providing them with a gift card to eat dinner together. Sign-ups are available on the north counter in the Atrium and on our website.

JANE PHILLIPS ELEMENTARY SUPER KIDS DAY

Super Kids Day is an end of school celebration at Jane Phillips Elementary on May 18. This will be an outside event (weather permitting) with food and various outside activities.

First Church volunteers are needed to make this event possible. Ten volunteers are needed for each of the following times:

- Morning sessions - 9 - 12 p.m.
- Afternoon sessions - 12 - 4 p.m.

END OF YEAR CELEBRATION

Our End of Year Celebration will be on Wednesday, May 23 at 5 p.m. Hot dogs, hamburgers and cookies will be provided. End the school year with a celebration for the whole family.
I only have a couple more opportunities to write in this venue, so please indulge a longer-than-usual column. This is from a devotional I shared with the church staff recently and is based upon the apostle Paul’s writings in 1 Corinthians 12. That, you may recall is the chapter in which he speaks of how the church might be compared to the human body – with various and very different parts but all part of the whole.

The devotion itself is geared toward church staff members, but I trust you will be able to translate the ideas into church “departments,” “age groups,” or “types of members.” Here goes:

Church staff members need to be a team. Of course, we each think our own department or ministry area is especially important (and it is). After all, we understand the complexities of our work area(s) in ways that the other team members don’t. It’s not uncommon for those who work in one area of ministry to be somewhat indifferent to others and their ministries. In some dysfunctional situations there can even be competition between different departments and staff members. Where resources or support are in short supply, it can even reach the point where one staff member tries to undermine or diminish the status of another staff member. But like the powerful Biblical image of the human body given in 1 Corinthians, we need to appreciate the way that the other parts of the body we call “Church” are vitally important – not only because they complete the congregation, but in symbiotic fashion are needed for each individual area’s success in ministry. Football extra-point kickers may be taken for granted until a last-second field goal is needed for the entire team to advance to the next round of the playoffs. Then the entire team – and all the team’s fans who are watching – understand “hey, this guy and his holder are pretty important!”

Nursery workers are essential. Yes, they must change diapers and comfort crying babies and maybe even clean up vomit, but no one is more important than them. If they aren’t on the team, the parents of those children can’t attend worship (or serve on committees, if the child care is not provided for those occasions). The elementary children’s department should rejoice in the gifts and graces exercised by nursery workers, because those babies are often the younger siblings to children who would not be part of the church and its activities if mom and dad aren’t there, or if little brother/sister doesn’t like the nursery. The youth minister with vision will assist and celebrate the ministry of the elementary children’s department, because in just a few short years, those kids will be her or his youth department.

If the college-age leader is smart, that person will pay attention to the youth minister’s impact and teachings. While some of the church’s youth will go away to college, others will remain – and the youth minister and college-age minister deal with an especially turbulent and trendy age group. They need to support and encourage one another since senior ministers and church boards often fail to appreciate how pivotal these years are for either establishing faith or the church losing connection with these adolescents and young adults. Teens and college age kids are notorious for being broke or for contributing very little to the church’s financial coffers. But lose or alienate them, and you’ve alienated those who will be the young-marrieds or young parents ten years hence.

Preachers who think they can attract people to church solely on the merits of insightful and compelling preaching are fooling themselves. The choir director, ushers, and the person the whole church depends upon – the custodian – are essential to people coming back to hear those great sermons. The landscaping and grounds crew’s efforts – whether paid or volunteer – will determine whether people ever give the church a chance. A neglected, needy-looking exterior is enough for some passers-by to decide – accurately or not – that “that church is barely hanging on”.

We need each other. Like the brain needs lungs and blood, like the eyes need care and protection, like the teeth that need preventative and ongoing care, so every member of the church staff or leadership team is important. Once we see the interconnectedness of our interdependence, it becomes not only easier but smart to become a team that cares for all its members.

See you Sunday,
Kevin Tully

**SANCTUARY FLOWERS WERE GIVEN:**
- In loving memory of Bob Jardine, by Mary Lou Jardine and family.
- In gratitude to the Sanctuary Choir, Susan Mueller, Callie and Alex Rivera, by Celeste Barrett.
- In honor of our 41st wedding anniversary, Jon and Betsy Geibel.

**OUR CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY IS EXTENDED TO:**
- Reyes and Mickey Remirez on the death of Mickey’s father, Lloyd Crawford, who passed away on April 20.
- Luke and Cheryl Cowles on the death of Cheryl’s brother-in-law, Tom Schwererock of Kewanee, IL, who passed away on April 29.
- Donna Barclay Burman on the death of her brother, Roy Quattlebaum, who passed away on May 1.

**CONCERN FOOD PANTRY NEEDS**

- **May**
- Canned meats: spam, tuna, chili, and chicken
- dry milk
- Jiffy corn muffin mix
AGAPE MISSION
“...I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink...’Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.’ -Matthew 25:35, 40

Sandy Singleton has graciously allowed me to coordinate Bartlesville First Church volunteers for the Agape Mission. I have been involved with Agape for several years, and as you all know, it’s a great place to share our talents with those in need. Bartlesville First Church’s regular volunteer day is the lunch shift on the first Friday of each month. Volunteer times are 11 a.m.-2 p.m., and can be shorter to fit your schedule. Since we are such a large congregation and have many people who may not even know about Agape, I’m encouraging each of you to think of someone (or more) that might be interested in helping and reach out to them. They can contact me or I’ll contact them. Either way, the more the merrier! It’s a fun place to meet other church members and help our community. As you may already have guessed, I’ve got a passion for this mission and would like to expand our days of service to at least one more day during the month. I know it’s a commitment, but isn’t this what we are called to do?

Look forward to hearing from you. Peace be with you!
- Wayne McClain

UMW INVITE YOU TO TOUR MUTUAL GIRLS CLUB NEW FACILITY
The women of Bartlesville First Church invite you to join them as they tour the new MUTUAL Girls Club facility and learn about the exciting plans for the future. Attendees will meet at Mutual Girls Club South, 3401 Price Rd. on Thursday, June 7 at 11:30 a.m. A light lunch will be served by the girls of MUTUAL. RSVP to Paula Barnes by Friday, June 1 at coordinator@mutualbartlesville.org or 918-336-9151.

CPR AND FIRST AID TRAINING
Project Transformation and Kanisa Camp staff will attend a CPR and First Aid class on Wednesday, May 30 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The class still has room for more participants. The cost is $75 per person. Lunch will be served during the training. If you would like to participate please contact Felicia Bumgarner at felicia.bumgarner@bartlesvillefirstchurch.com.

BOX TOPS COLLECTION
Box tops is a program that helps schools collect money to provide new materials for their students. We will have a small box out to collect Box Tops for Jane Phillips, the collection box will be at the coffee bar in the atrium. For more information about Box Tops or what exactly to look for visit www.boxtops4education.com.

MIDWEEK MENU

May 16
Potato Bar
Steamed Broccoli
Salad
Bread Sticks
Lemon Cookies

May 23
End of Year Celebration
Hamburger and Hotdogs
Cookies

Suggested Donation:
Adults - $5
Children under 12 - $3
Family of 4 or more - $15

MAY 13 - MAY 20

Minister-on-Call: 918-914-9001
If you need to speak with one of our ministers, there is a minister-on-call.

Van Ministry:
May 13
Bob Tull and Jordan Tomlin
May 20
Scott and Grace Farmer

Children’s Moment:
May 13
Javier Pollock
May 20
Felicia Bumgarner

Ambassadors:
May 13
8 a.m. - Scott and Grace Farmer
10 a.m. - Frank and Karel Riehart
May 20
8 a.m. - Steve and Linda Gregory
10 a.m. - Joe Todd and Jimmie Lee Stark

Flower Delivery:
May 13
Connie Ellis
May 20
Patti Kerr and Susan Comito

Green Country Village Vespers:
May 13
Bob Farmer
May 20
Tom Graves
CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED ON MONDAY, MAY 28

OUR NEWEST MEMBERS

MEMORIAL DAY

Al and Cathie Laurent