

Ponca City Christian

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
210 North Fifth Street
Ponca City, OK 74601
580.762.1667 www.fccponcacity.com

Seeking, Serving, Sharing
July 16, 2023



Devotional Christian

Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

Without good soil, seeds cannot flourish. The seed that lands where the soil has become hardened just sits on the surface, waiting to become food for the birds. The seed that falls on rocky soil can't take root. The seed that falls on the thorn covered ground must compete with the well-established, invasive plants and stands little chance. But the seed that falls on the good, prepared soil will thrive.

While the parable of the sower appears to be about the seed, maybe it's really about the soil. We are the soil. We are shaped by our environment. People who have been walked on over and over again often develop a hardened exterior to protect themselves. Rocky soil represents fearful people who retreat when faced with hard times. The thorns symbolize the many alluring distractions that hinder the shallow believer. Seeds have no freewill of their own and their fate is attributed to their destiny. God gave us freewill. We can choose our soil. Faith in God and acceptance of His word is the only nourishment our "soil" needs.



Ice Cream Social

ICE CREAM!
SNACKS!
GAMES!

July 16th at 6pm in
the Fellowship Hall



Marland Place needs a hand. MP is having a Family Fun Day, August 5. Part of the fun is FREE BACKPACKS for school for the foster kids, their siblings and all kids who

attend Family Fun Day. Last year, over 200 children participated!

Marland Place has asked FCC to collect 50 new and empty school backpacks for Fun Day, 2023. Will you help? We will be collecting them Sunday, July 16 through Sunday, July 23.

Look for the Marland Place tub outside the Church Office to leave your donation. Call Becky Davis, 714 1632, for questions. A kid, Marland Place and we thank you!

-Becky Davis



Join Oklahoma Disciples for 2024 Regional Assembly on a 4-day Caribbean cruise July 11-15, 2024, sailing from Galveston, TX. Make your deposit today!

Prayer

Lord, help us nurture the good soil and grow our faith. Amen.



Giving in Review

As of May 31, 2023
Income Received YTD
\$125,876.20
Actual Expenses YTD
\$135,946.11
Budgeted Expenses YTD
\$136,875.00

On Sunday, July 16th, our 11 AM worship will be held in the Fellowship Hall. We are asking people to not use the elevator due to a faulty exhaust fan. We have switched off the fan, which happens to be connected to the lights. We apologize for this inconvenience. If you need to access the church without using steps, please use the east entrance on 5th Street.



"Oh, Happy Day!" An Evening of Spirituals

Saturday, July 15th - 7:00 PM
Ponca City Schools Concert Hall

Proceeds fund a Po-Hi Chorale Student Scholarship

Presented by:
Robert E Moore
& the Po-Hi Chorale Alumni
Free Admission
Donations Welcome