

# First Christian Church Oklahoma City

Love  LL the People



Fall Edition 2019

## Welcome to First Christian Church!

Our Vision for Ministry is **Love! Live! Give!**

LOVE God, love self, and love each other unconditionally.

LIVE into our faith journey, shepherding one another.

GIVE of ourselves to make a difference in our world.

## SERMON SERIES: The Welcoming Table

Oct 6	Tables or Walls?	John 1:35-51	Rev. John Malget
Oct 13	East Sixth Street Christian Church (11 am)		Rev. Dr. Teri Owens
Oct 20	Black and White	1 John 4:19-21	Rev. John Malget
Oct 27	Poor Man Lazarus	Luke 16:19-31	Rev. John Malget
Nov 3	A Table Transcending Time	Hebrews 12:1-2	Rev. Tom Harrison
Nov 10	One Bike at a Time	James 2:18	Rev. John Malget
Nov 17	For Everyone Born	Galatians 3:25-28	Rev. John Malget
Nov 24	Clothe Yourselves in Love	Colossians 3:12-17	Rev. John Malget

We come around the Welcoming Table on Wednesday evenings to share fellowship around a table of love. We enjoy a meal together, and enjoy one another's company. But the idea of the Welcoming Table encompasses so much more.

The world is filled with so many different types of people in every social and economic level. There are people of different races and ethnic backgrounds. People have varied belief systems, both different kinds of Christians, and people of other faiths. There are straight people, gay, lesbian and bisexual people, even some who are transgendered or gender non-conforming. We are all very different, yet all of us have been made in God's image.

Over the next 8 weeks, we will explore what it means to welcome everyone at the table. "For everyone born, a place at the table!"



Sunday Mornings  
@ FCCOKC

Bible Study 9:30

Worship 10:30

Fellowship 11:45

### Pastoral Staff

#### John Malget

Senior Minister

RevJMalget@fccokc.org

Cell 713-560-3632

#### Tom Harrison

Minister of Technology

Harrison.T@fccokc.org

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#### Carol McDonald-Walley

Chalice Kids Director

Administrative Assistant

McDonald.C@fccokc.org

#### Larry Batten

Chain Reaction Ministries

Program Coordinator

Cell 405-479-3809



[www.fccokc.org](http://www.fccokc.org)



First Christian  
Church of OKC



@1stChristianOKC

First Christian Church  
(Disciples of Christ)  
3700 N. Walker Ave.  
Oklahoma City, OK 73118  
405-525-6551



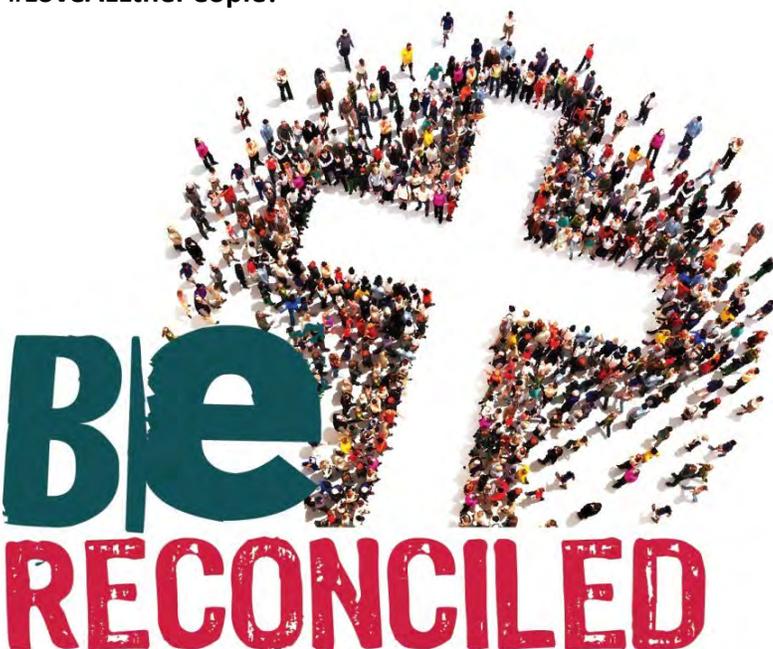
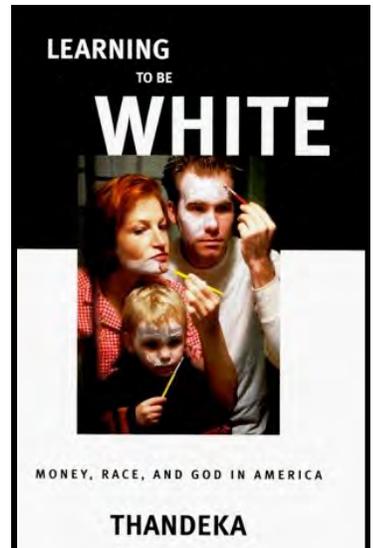
# Malget's Musings: Build Us a Table

Back when I was in seminary, I took a class called LOVE, POWER AND ABUSE. We explored relationships among abuse, power and dominant religious and cultural conceptions of love. What I particularly remember about that course was working through a book entitled, *Learning to Be White: Money, Race and God in America*. It was by an African-American author named Thandeka. Throughout the book, she helped us understand the history of race and racism in the United States.

About this same time, I was having racial tensions in my vocal music classroom. I knew that I had to deal with it in a way that would bring my students together. One of the things that Thandeka suggested was an exercise on reality. We often refer to someone as "my black friend Theresa," but with those white friends, we just say "friend." So the exercise began. Everyone in my classroom, and only in my classroom, had to use phrases such as: "my white friend Raylene," "my Hispanic friend Maria," or "my white friend Jimmy." If they didn't use these terms of description, I would stop them and make them go back and use them. EVERYONE was called by their race or color of skin. We did this for several weeks, and my "white students" figured out how awkward it really was. We spent a great deal of time in a discussions investigating racial issues.

Towards the end of the school year, 4 of my African-American female students were singing a *capella* with the most beautiful harmonies. As my final project for my seminary class, I asked them to accompany me to my class. They sang a number of songs for the class, and then talked to a bunch of white folk about what it is like growing up black in rural Oklahoma. It was eye opening for all of us. We all took for granted things that these young women had to struggle with because of the color of their skin. I had never heard of the term "White Privilege" back then, but they helped me understand it.

We, as a people of faith need to spend time understanding that down deep, we are all the same, all created in the image of God. But we are also all different. We come from different cultures, different races, different understandings of God. As we study about the "Welcoming Table" this fall, I hope we can have those in depth discussions to understand our differences and our sameness. No matter who each of us are, we are called to LOVE our God and neighbor. Called to LIVE into our faith journey together. Called to GIVE of ourselves daily. Called to #LoveALLthePeople!



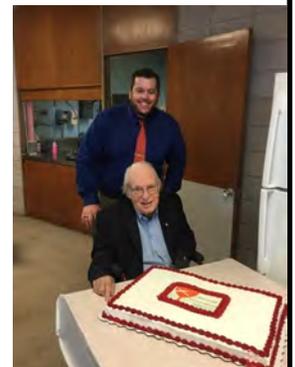
Move Together Heal Together Bound Together

DISCIPLES Called to be Together in Christ.



## A WORD OF THANKS

I just wanted to take some time to tell you how much your love, support, and gifts meant to me! Thank you so very much for the money! It helped me to get to Ireland so that I could share my research and share the message of love with people. And thank you for the amazing gifts of my Grandpa Jeff's robe and stoles. That gift was more than I could have ever asked for. It truly means the world to me! Your love is my blessing,



Love all the People!  
Bradley Wayne Havenar

# Music Is in the Air before Worship

Our musical ministry has been challenged lately by the circumstances of Dwayne Vallandingham and Steve Dryer. Dwayne had a stroke recently and is still recovering and in therapy. You may recall that back in 2017 these two started our pre-worship music. We started with a single Wednesday night session of much greater length. It took place in the Dining Room after dinner. I remember playing guitar and singing that night.

John Malget and I loved it, and we felt it would make a great addition to Sunday mornings. Without a fuss, we began to sing every Sunday at 10:15 before Sunday Worship. People began to notice, and started coming in earlier for it. They have continued to lead in that segment of our Sunday morning experience. It's become quite popular and enjoyable for many.

Dwayne helps me to choose the songs for Pre-Worship. Dwayne has usually been our vocal leader when we sing on Sunday. Dwayne has experience of working as a music director in the public schools for years, so leading music is nothing new to him. He keeps us hopping with his inspired modifications, which often times take place "on the fly" during performance. He has a great ear for creative medley.

Steve plays piano during the pre-worship time. We do all kinds of music, which keeps things interesting. Steve has played in churches for many years, but he has done so primarily playing by ear, reading the melody line and chording and improvising the rest. He does a fantastic job of it, as I'm sure you've noticed. His arrangements are always innovative and exciting, and he brings a lot of enthusiasm to our services. We often use him as the piano player for the final hymn of Sunday Worship, so we can send you out the door tapping your foot. Steve's "day job" is working as a beautician here in OKC, and he does a fantastic job of that, as well.

These two fine musicians have been such a blessing to us over the past three years. We hope they will be able to continue in the near future, because we miss them greatly. Thanks to them for all they have done already! We are so blessed with them as well as Allen Johnson, Daniel Willsey, Julianne Annesley, and Ezra Mann.



**Rev. Tom Harrison**  
Minister of Technology  
iTomHarrison@gmail.com

# Chalice Kids

The Chalice Kids are super excited to begin the fall session of Worship and Wonder! During the summer of 2018, we received very generous donation of Worship and Wonder sets from Northwest Christian Church as they were closing. They provided us with all of the materials needed for us to work through the first book in the Worship and Wonder series.



As we begin using the second book in the series, we would like to send a huge thank you to Denny Boswell for making all of these wonderful figures and settings for our Worship and Wonder program. Because of the labor of love from Denny, we have sets that tell the stories from Christmas to Easter with many of the parables in between! This is truly a gift of love and the children are very grateful.

Children's Worship and Wonder is faith formation, worship centered approach that incorporates storytelling, ritual, and fellowship that helps our children deepen their relationship with God. We learn all of the stories from the bible using this approach, and then the kids can play with the figures and help "set" the story in their minds. They get to play and wonder things like "Does this sheep have a name?" or "How many people can fit in this boat?" Our children love being able to play with the figures and use their imagination to worship God.

Chalice Kids meets on the third floor in room 308 from 9:30 am to 11:30 am every Sunday. Please come and join us!



**Carol McDonald**  
Children's Ministry  
Administrative Assistant  
McDonald.C@fccokc.org



# Jewel Box Theatre

Jewel Box Theatre is a proud ministry of First Christian Church of Oklahoma City. As Oklahoma's oldest continuously running community theater, with over 1,800 season ticket subscribers, a variety of plays are offered in an unique "in-the-round" venue.

We'd like to welcome Darron Dunbar as our new Production Manager. Darron grew up in the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), and has Jewel Box in his blood with Pat Tweed being his aunt and Chuck Tweed his uncle-in-law. (Sort of, but that's the easiest way to explain it.) Darron first worked at Jewel Box as Prop Master in 10<sup>th</sup> grade for his then drama teacher Deborah Franklin who was directing *Ten Little Indians* at the time.

Since that time, he went on to get his BA in Theater from The College of Santa Fe. Along the way to the Jewel Box, Dunbar has directed and acted in *Greater Tuna* and *A Tuna Christmas* for the Santa Fe Playhouse. He has also worked on television, write and hosted his own travel type show for the now defunct network QTN.

He has appeared on TV shows like *Nash Bridges* and most recently on *Murder Made Me Famous* portraying John Wayne Gacy. He has acted in such movies as the horrible *The Year One*, and in *The Shadow Effect* with Deepok Choprah and Oprah Winfrey. He has just finished shooting *Dinosaur World*. The comedy *Whaling* in which he appears alongside Tom Felton (Draco Malfoy from the *Harry Potter* films), just made its world premier at the Boston Film Festival.

Dunbar is extremely excited about the this wonderful opportunity. He enthusiastically said, "Theater is my first and greatest love. I would put a cot in the back of a theater and live there if I could." We here at Jewel Box Theatre are excited to welcome him as we take the Jewel Box Theatre into the future in Oklahoma City.

Our 62<sup>nd</sup> season is well underway with the successful run of *Arsenic and Old Lace*. Rehearsals are in full swing for the opening of *A Raisin in the Sun* on October 3, 2019. We hope you will plan to attend this groundbreaking drama of the Younger family from the south side of Chicago in 1959. Auditions for our third show of our mini-season, *Little Old Ladies in Tennis Shoes* directed by afore mentioned Deborah Franklin, are September 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> from 2 pm to 5 pm. This heartwarming comedy will take the stage on November 14<sup>th</sup> and run through December 8<sup>th</sup> with no show on Thanksgiving Day.

Tickets run \$25 for adults; \$20 for students and seniors 65 and older. However, if you have not already purchased a season ticket to our Fall Mini-Season, you can still see the final **2 shows for \$30**. For more information how to purchase a season ticket, go online to [JewelBoxTheatre.org](http://JewelBoxTheatre.org) or call our box office at 405-521-1786. As an added bonus we can now accept credit cards at the box office. To keep up with the latest news, follow us on Facebook at [Facebook.com/JBTheatre](https://www.facebook.com/JBTheatre).



Darron Dunbar  
Jewel Box Theatre  
Production Manager  
[info@jewelboxtheatre.org](mailto:info@jewelboxtheatre.org)

**Come enjoy the thrill of live theatre-in-the-round!**

EDMOND 2019

PRIDE

Love Live Be

Worship

Friday, Oct 11<sup>th</sup>  
6 pm

Southern Hills Christian Church  
3207 S. Boulevard



Festival

Saturday, Oct 12<sup>th</sup>  
11 am-6 pm

Hafer Park  
240 S. Bryant Ave

# Chain Reaction Ministries

Chain Reaction Ministries serves God by serving the least and the last among God's children. We repair and give away donated bicycles to those in need so they can have life-changing transportation. To that end, we have given away over 3,200 bikes.

## 3,200 Bikes Given Away

In Early September, we gave away our 3,200<sup>nd</sup> bicycle to Joshua Goodin. I have been totally amazed at what God has done with this ministry. Our first bike was presented to a homeless veteran at Refuge Fellowship Church on the first Monday of



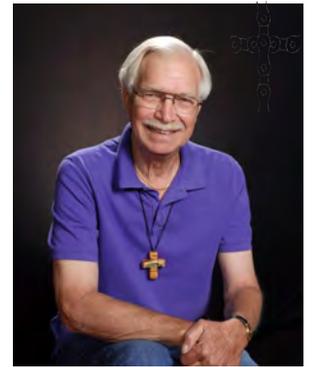
November 2013. Six years has gone by so quickly. I could never have fathomed that we would have given away over 3,200 bikes in under 6 years. I never dreamed that over 1,100 of those bikes would go to vets being served by the Veterans Administration who distributes them all over the state. God is Good!

First Christian Church, and our ministry, is known throughout the Oklahoma City area as a place that helps the homeless and the working poor get transportation to get to work or to find jobs. Besides the VA, we are currently working with about 20 different social agencies in providing

bikes to those that need them. The amazing part is that we have not purchased one single bicycle in almost 6 years. Every one of them has been donated by those who want to pay it forward. We have received bikes from Norman to Edmond, from Enid to Ada, from Stillwater to Lawton, and beyond.

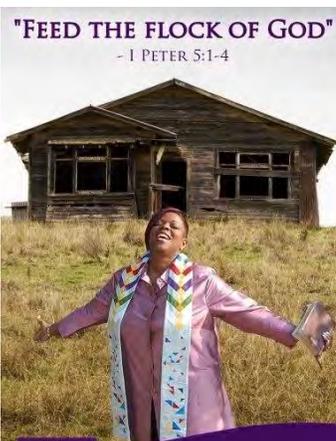
I do not know what God has in store for Chain Reaction Ministries-OKC in the next six years. All of us that are involved with the ministry are more than willing to do whatever God asks us to do. We pray that we can continue to be of service to those in need of the transportation in the Oklahoma City area. As we say here at First Christian Church of Oklahoma City—Love ALL the People!

We continue to have an ever increasing demand for adult bicycles as this ministry continues to grow. If you, your neighbors, your friends, or your family members have any adult bikes that can be donated, please call the church at 405-525-6551 or my cell phone at 405-479-3809. If you don't have a bike, but wish to make a financial contribution, please make checks out to First Christian Church and send it to the PO Box on the back of this newsletter. If you prefer to use a credit/debit card, you may go online to [www.fccokc.org](http://www.fccokc.org) and click the **GIVE** button at the top of the page. May God continue to bless all those that have given and continue to donate bicycles to Chain Reaction.



**Larry Batten**  
Chain Reaction Coordinator  
(405) 479-3809

## Still Changing Lives One Bike at a Time!



Join us!  
Monday,  
October 28<sup>th</sup>  
5:30 pm  
Worship  
and



Refuge Fellowship Church

Rev. John Malget has challenged us to take 25 people to worship and eat a meal with Pastor Noel and the members of Refuge Fellowship!



First Christian Church of OKC will be worshipping with our sister congregation, East Sixth Street Christian Church on Sunday, October 13<sup>th</sup> at 11 am as they celebrate their 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary as a congregation! Preaching that day will be our General Minister and President, the Rev. Dr. Terri Hord Owens! Plan to join us!

# The Welcoming Table!

The Welcoming Table is a Wednesday evening fellowship which includes an amazing meal for a suggested donation of \$5, but no one will go hungry if you cannot contribute.



Following dinner, we have a chance to talk about how our faith impacts our lives in a time of informal discussion, but there is no pressure to stay and chat. Each and every person who walks through our doors is welcome.

We know you have heard it before, but we are endeavoring to make this a reality here in Oklahoma City. Whether or not you have been a believer your entire life, or you don't know what you believe, or even if you believe, you are welcome here. Whether you are young, old, conservative, liberal, black, white, Asian, Hispanic, gay, straight, or questioning, it doesn't matter because you are a beloved child of God!

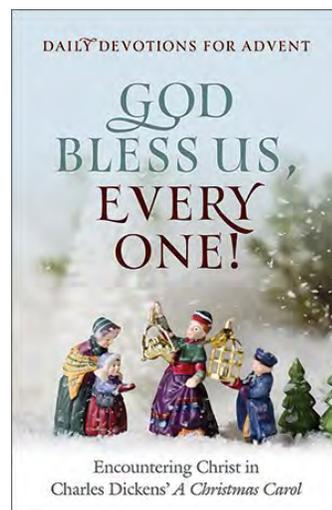
First Christian Church of Oklahoma City is a place of unconditional love, a place to come and ask the hard questions of faith in a judgment free zone. There is a seat at the Welcoming Table just for you.

**We believe that ALL means ALL! ~ And ALL includes YOU!**

## Advent Devotional Booklets

Available November 10, 2019

Reflect on passages from *A Christmas Carol* by Charles Dickens in a way that ties the redemption and transformation of Ebenezer Scrooge to our journey of faith. In the same way that Scrooge moves from curmudgeon to kindhearted gentleman, revealed most clearly in his change of heart toward Tiny Tim, so we move from enemies of God to friends through the birth of the Lord Jesus, who came to save us from our past and present that we might be blessed in all our future days. These daily devotionals will go hand in hand with our Advent Theme: The Redemption of Scrooge.



*Thanksgiving Sunday Church Wide Worship and Fall Party*

*Sunday, November 24, 2019*

Celebrated at David & Lois Malget's Home  
813 S. Boundary, Perry, OK

Carpooling will leave FCC at 9:30 am  
Returning around 3:00 pm

Be sure to sign up  
to ride or provide rides for the carpool.

*Worship at 11:00 am*

Followed by a dinner of Ham, Turkey,  
all the fixins, games, prizes, and fun!

RSVP to the church office (405) 525-6551  
or Rev. John Malget (713) 560-3632  
or Lois Malget (580) 370-5080

Graciously hosted by  
David and Lois Malget

Higher Education & Leadership Ministries  
of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

Colleges & Universities  
Seminaries & Divinity Houses

Thanksgiving Offering 2019



## Thanksgiving Offering 2019

The Thanksgiving Offering benefits the Colleges, Universities, Seminaries, and Divinity Houses affiliated with the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). Higher education has been an important focus for Disciples since the very beginning of the movement. Throughout our history, Disciples have founded institutions of higher learning to educate students and form leaders to make a difference in the world. The Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) is still committed to higher education. Your gift to the Thanksgiving Offering helps support the education of thousands of students at our fifteen colleges and universities as well as our seven seminaries and divinity houses including Phillips Theological Seminary in Tulsa.



Virginia Nolen  
Preschool Director  
nolen.v@fccokc.org



Hello everyone! the preschool is having so much fun learning about science. As you can see in the pictures the Green Gator class science project was making rain clouds. You can see by their faces that they were having a blast! Now the preschool is looking forward to our annual Halloween parade which will take place on Tuesday October 29<sup>th</sup> at 10 am. On Tuesday, November 26<sup>th</sup>, the preschool will be preparing for their Thanksgiving feast. As always, thanks for your ongoing support for our Preschool and Children's Day Out.



**CHILI COOK OFF**

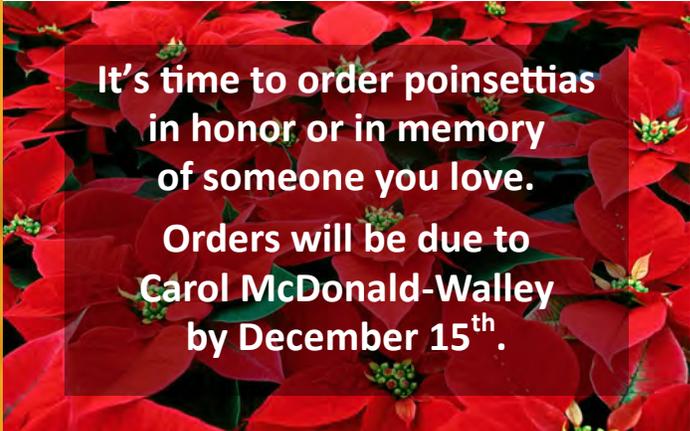
Will your recipe win it all?

Sunday October 4<sup>th</sup>

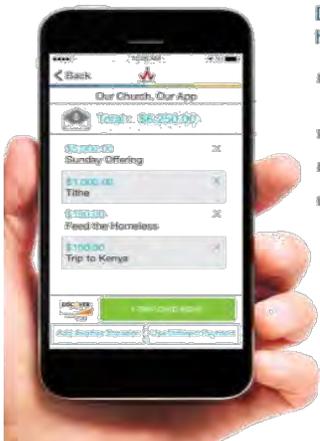


It's time to order poinsettias in honor or in memory of someone you love.

Orders will be due to Carol McDonald-Walley by December 15<sup>th</sup>.



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  - Track your donations
  - Free to download and use

Make us your home church on Givelify



**Givelify** is an online giving platform that allows First Christian Church to receive offerings electronically. It is so easy to use. You can download the "app" on an iPhone or Android device, and give from your phone. You may also go to [www.fccokc.org](http://www.fccokc.org) and tap the **GIVE** button at the top of the website, or simply tap **DONATE** on our church's Facebook page. This will allow those who do not carry check or cash, or those who have to miss worship on a Sunday to continue to give to the ministries of First Christian Church of Oklahoma City!

First Christian Church  
(Disciples of Christ)

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web: [www.fccokc.org](http://www.fccokc.org)

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Don't Forget the Time Change  
**November 3**

### Important Dates @ FCC

#### Weekly Activities

##### Sunday

Sunday School	9:30 am
Worship	10:30 am
Fellowship Coffee	11:45 am

##### Monday

Staff Meeting	10:30 am
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##### Wednesday

The Welcoming Table	
Dinner	5:30 pm
Discussion	6:30 pm

For a complete calendar visit our website:  
[www.fccokc.org](http://www.fccokc.org)

Church Board Meetings	Oct 2 — 5 pm
Room 104 (1 <sup>st</sup> Wednesdays)	Nov 6 — 5 pm

Jewel Box Performance	
<i>A Raisin in the Sun</i>	Oct 3 — 27
Thursday-Saturday	— 8:00 pm
Sunday Matinee	— 2:30 pm

Chili Cook-Off	Oct 4 — 11:30 am
Dining Room	

Refuge Fellowship Church	Oct 28 — 5:30 pm
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Thanksgiving Worship	Nov. 24
and Lunch in Perry, OK	

Jewel Box Performance	
<i>Little Old Ladies in Tennis Shoes</i>	Nov 14 — Dec 8
Thursday-Saturday	— 8:00 pm
Sunday Matinee	— 2:30 pm