



A few months ago, Ariel Koerner, our Minister for Young Families, approached me about a crazy idea she and the children came up with. They wanted to do an entire worship service led by the children. They already had so many ideas and dreams about what they wanted it to look like. I never dreamed it would be as meaningful and magnificent as it turned out to be. I'll be reflecting on that service for a long time to come.

There are so many parts to the service that I treasure. First, I love how many people showed up to support

our children! We had more people in worship on Sunday than any other Sunday all year. What a testament to the way we value children in our church! Many of the children were feeling nervous before the service and I heard so much encouragement coming from the congregation as you entered the sanctuary. I really do feel like we have the very best church. Second, I love that the choir sat on the front few rows to be able to smile and sing loudly back at the children to give them confidence. That was incredibly loving. Third, the baby dedication was so meaningful. To have new families stand up and show us by example that they are committing to raising their children in the church is inspiring. It is a sign of hope rising up all around us. (\*\*Also, I keep making babies cry!)

Fourth, the children were SO well prepared. They sang each word to our worship songs and did so beautifully. It takes a lot of courage to stand up on that platform and speak into a microphone. I could not do it when I was their age! The first time I spoke in 'big church' as a college student, I could barely get the words out and I could hear my heartbeat in my ears. The sweet girls who lead us in our responsive reading and the little blond buddies who prayed over us did so powerfully. Perhaps one of the best parts of the service was watching children take up the offering. I was dying! It occurred to me that most of them had never seen it done before. You missed the best part when they dropped the money at the back and had to scramble around picking it up. Priceless!

For me personally, it was really special writing a sermon with my son Luke. Every word he spoke were words that he prepared. Luke often wonders if he might be called to be a pastor or a missionary. Who knows. What I know is that he felt safe enough and loved enough in this place to preach his very first sermon. Thank you for being the kind of church that believes in the next generation. You are shaping the future of the church by how you love others and lead by example. I will treasure that day for many reasons, but mostly because the heart of the church was on display. Blessings upon blessings to you all.

~Sarah

# FIRST FAMILY ANNOUNCEMENTS

**ATTENTION**

Quarterly business meeting is April 24th at 6:00pm in the dining hall.

**\*\*Please grab a bite before you come\*\***

FBC OKC

## Work Day

MAY 11, 2024

Please come and join us on May 11th at 9:00am to spruce up the flower beds.

\*LUNCH AND CHILDCARE WILL BE PROVIDED\*

PLEASE CONTACT JUSTIN TO SIGN UP!

405-968-5962



## Strength In What Remains Behind

*A Concert of Remembrance and Hope ~ featuring **Threnody** for choir and orchestra by Nancy Hill Cobb*

Conducted by Stephanie Keegan-Moring  
University of Oklahoma DMA student

April 19, 2024, 7:30 p.m. ~ 1201 N Robinson Ave, OKC  
Free Admission ~ Reception with composer following



CARE4OKC

## SOCK DONATIONS NEEDED

\*\*Please place donations in Care4OKC box near South door.




We are so excited for you to meet our new administrative assistant Meagan Lassiter! If you have a chance, come by the office and meet her. She likes to garden, cook, sing and dance. She is the youngest of six daughters and has twenty nieces and nephews. Her favorite movie is "Forrest Gump" and she loves all shades of pink. ~Toni

## SAVE THE DATE

# Kids Off Broadway

## Back to the 90s

30th Anniversary  
June 10-14

FBC OKC



Kids Off Broadway Auditions

Sunday, April 28th

1pm

FBCOKC Theatre



# FIRST FAMILY ANNOUNCEMENTS



## Kids Lead Worship



April 14, 2024



## CARE4OKC WORK DAY

Please consider joining us to hang clothing for the clothing closet. This is a great opportunity to grow closer together and serve your community!

April 27th from 10am-12pm

## UGANDA INFORMATION MEETING, APRIL 21<sup>st</sup>

Everyone interested in the possibility of joining our mission trip to Uganda is invited to a Uganda information meeting after worship on Sunday, April 21<sup>st</sup>. The meeting will take place in the conference room across the hall from the church office. Come learn the details regarding service opportunities, dates, costs, and more.



## New Ministry Opportunity

### NEIGHBOR BAGS

The second is this: "Love your neighbor as yourself."

There is no commandment greater than these.  
[Mark 12:31]

Rarely have cash when you see someone with a sign on the street corner?  
Wish you had something you could give them, other than a smile?

We are beginning a new ministry called Neighbor Bags!

(Could they be called Blessing Bags? Yes, It's the same idea!)

For the month of April, we will collect basic items identified as most needed by the Homeless Alliance. Once assembled, these bags will be available in The Commons for you to take and keep in your car. So, the next time you see someone in need, you can hand them this reusable drawstring backpack filled with items they can use.

#### Items to donate:

- Lip Balm
- Deodorant
- Socks
- Protein bars
- Tuna to-go kits / packets (no cans, please)
- Rehydration powder packets (e.g., Gatorade, Pedialyte)
- Band-aids / first aid kits
- Reusable water bottles
- Feminine hygiene products



Right now, we are only collecting these items. No monetary donations at this time, please.

