

THE FLAME



July 28, 2025



Monday, July 27

Stephen Ministry Meeting 9
Weight Loss Group 3:30
Friendship Feast 5
Scouts 6:30
FPC Bible Study 7

Tuesday, July 28

Coryell Cupboard 8
Men's Coffee Group 8:30
Intercessory Prayer 9

Coryell Cupboard 4

Wednesday, July 29

Project Transformation
Bible Study Via Christi 10
Youth 6

Thursday, July 30

Mary Williams going away lunch

Sunday, August 3

Sunday School 9
Church Service 10
Communion Sunday
Caring Fund Sunday

Picture This: You're in the Directory!

Don't be a missing face! Sign up for our church directory photos today and help us capture our wonderful community. It's quick, easy, and a fantastic way to remember all the friendly faces. Sign up at www.ucdir.com, select Church code OK529.

Photography Session Sign-Up

Church password photos. Select your day, reserve your time. We'll do the rest!

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost



• *Luke 12:13-21 (NRSV)*

Project Transformation Field Day







*Thank you for the beautiful music!
Men's Ensemble & Kay Anthony*



Sunday School 9am Worship 10am
First United Methodist Church & First Presbyterian Church 200 S 6th 580-762-1681
Where First United Methodists & First Presbyterians worship together!

*The longer we avoid the feeling,
the more delay our healing.*
@LysaTerKeurst

Circle of Care report from Annual conference: In 2024, we remained steadfast in our mission to offer help, healing, and hope to those in need, while bringing new life to our re-imagined vision statement: Seeing and serving the wholeness of people to empower thriving individuals and families across Oklahoma. This year, we broadened our approach, addressing not only the immediate needs of individuals in crisis but also the deeper, long-term challenges faced by families—particularly those navigating the complexities of the child welfare system.

Our partnerships with the United Methodist Church and other community organizations grew stronger than ever. We engaged with congregations, Sunday School classes, men's and women's groups, mission committees, and youth groups throughout the state. Our deepest gratitude goes to our supporters, especially the United Methodists across Oklahoma. Your unwavering support fuels our mission, enabling us to create lasting, meaningful change for the people of Oklahoma. Together, we are making an enduring impact, and with the hope and guidance of God, we look forward to an even brighter future for Circle of Care, Inc. and the families we serve.

2024 Highlights

- Recognized as a Best Christian Workplace® for the fifth consecutive year.
- Hosted three successful Friends of Children events in Oklahoma City, Tulsa, and Woodward.
- Launched two new programs: BEYOND, supporting post-adoptive families, and Fathers empowered, encouraging fathers in eastern Oklahoma.
- Partnered with the Reach Hurting Kids Institute, supported by the Petree Foundation, to provide free trauma training to churches.
- Facilitated the reunification of 76 children with their families.
- Secured funding to launch an Infant Mental Health program in Tulsa.

Impact in 2024

- Served 802 unique clients across five programs: Pearl's Hope, Preparation for Adult Living (PAL), Parent to Parent, and Counseling.
- Certified 67 new foster homes.
- Facilitated permanency for 42 children through adoption into Circle of Care homes.
- 100% of PAL clients obtained essential documents (birth certificates, Social Security cards, and driver's licenses or IDs).
- 1 PAL client earned their GED.
- 1 PAL client graduated from high school.
- 12 Pearl's Hope children were reunified with their mothers through trial reunification.
- Pearl's Hope clients collectively achieved 3,435 days of sobriety.
- Counseling services reached 235 clients, with 89% being new clients who were not served by any other Circle of Care program.
- 12 Parent-to-Parent clients were reunited with their children. In 2024, we made tremendous strides, but we are just getting started. Together, with your continued support, we are changing lives and strengthening families throughout Oklahoma. The future holds even greater possibilities as we continue to fulfill our mission with faith, dedication, and hope.

Respectfully submitted,
Keith Howard

Book Review: It's Not Supposed to be This Way

By Lysa TerKeurst



In *It's Not Supposed to Be This Way*, Lysa invites us into her own journey of faith and, with grit, vulnerability, and honest humor, helps us to:

- Stop being pulled into the anxiety of disappointment by discovering how to better process unmet expectations and other painful situations.
- Train ourselves to recognize the three strategies of the enemy, so we can stand strong and persevere through unsettling relationships and uncertain outcomes.
- Discover the secret of being steadfast and not panicking when God actually does give us more than we can handle.
- Shift our suspicion that God is cruel or unfair to the biblical assurance that God is protecting and preparing us. Know how to encourage a friend and help her navigate hard realities with real help from God's truth, the Bible.
- Whether you're dealing with little disappointments or devastating heartbreaks, this book will help you honestly deal with your pain before God. Lysa doesn't sugarcoat anything. She tells it exactly like it is: messy, conflicting and tough to face. You may not have fixed the problem after your talk, but you feel uplifted and stronger afterward. She uses interesting metaphors to get her points across. You'll never look at dust, tan feet, or the Garden of Eden in the same way after reading [It's Not Supposed to Be This Way](#). And you'll be better for it!

To unsubscribe, please send an email to fumcpc.business@gmail.com. Flame articles should be submitted by 5 p.m. Sunday evening.

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