



## *2015 Highlights*

The Oklahoma Conference of Churches connects, motivates, and empowers the witness of Christian communities and individuals throughout Oklahoma on issues of faith and justice. It also facilitates worship services, conferences, and projects aimed at greater Christian unity and cooperation and builds respect, understanding, friendships and tolerance in the greater faith community.

Highlights for 2015 included:

- OCC announced the Very Rev. Justin Lindstrom as new Board President (January 2)
- Co-sponsored first *Evening of Listening*, St. Paul's Cathedral, OKC (January 9)
- Emotional and Spiritual Care (ESC) Local Spiritual Care Provider training session (January 15)
- Promoted and participated in *Week of Prayer for Christian Unity* (January 18-25)
- Participated in OK-VOAD (Voluntary Organizations Active in Disasters) meeting and activities (January onward)
- Participated in and provided leadership for Long-term Area Recovery Committees, especially in connection with Emotional and Spiritual Care (January onward)
- Co-sponsored Jewish/Muslim Film Institute events (January onward)
- Produced and distributed OCC's monthly electronic newsletter "*CONNECT*" (January onward)
- Shelley Regan served as Event and Communications Coordinator from February 1 through June 30
- Pastor Marilyn Knott designated to spearhead OCC's Social Justice Ministry Network (February 1)
- Monitored bills on poverty, education, immigration, criminal justice, and the environment and wrote letters to legislators about some of these bills (February–May)
- Promoted and participated in OLC Labor and Religion Breakfast (February 12)
- ESC Basic Level Training session conducted at Joy Lutheran Church-Tulsa (February 15)
- Participated in Solidarity with Muslim Neighbors "Standing Together" at State Capitol (February 27)

- Presented panel discussion event “Islam, Christianity and Oklahoma” in Tulsa (March 3)
- ESC Intermediate Level (Deployed) Training Session conducted in OKC (March 4)
- “Ending Violence Forum on Police Conduct” at Langston University featuring OCC Board President Justin Lindstrom (March 7)
- ESC Basic Level Training session conducted at Living Water United Methodist Church, Tulsa (March 10)
- OCC ESC Team Leader training conducted in Tulsa (March 11)
- Hosted 32<sup>nd</sup> Annual *Day at The Legislature* at the Oklahoma State Capitol (March 23)
- Presented the OCC Advocacy Award to the Rev. Jeff Hamilton-First Christian Church OKC (March 23)
- OCC Emotional and Spiritual Care Team Leader training conduction in OKC (March 26)
- OCC’s Annual Ecumenical Good Friday “Stations of the Cross” service (April 3)
- Religious and Cultural Competence training session for ESC Intermediate Level taught by Dr. Tabbernee in OKC (April 8)
- Co-Sponsored Interfaith Academy, with Prof. Scott Alexander, at St. Paul’s Cathedral (April 8)
- Hosted and conducted OCC’s first Norman Interfaith Tour “One Community–Many Faiths” (April 12)
- Presented *Evening of Listening* “Islam, Christianity and America” at St. Paul’s Cathedral (April 14)
- Participated in and promoted 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Bombing Memorial Concert (April 19)
- Promoted and conducted third annual OCC Benefit Breakfast “Rise & Shine” (April 21)
- ESC Training session “Psychological First Aid” (May 7)
- Co-sponsored Cool Zones for OKC metro area (June–August)
- Local Spiritual Care Responder Training Session, OKC (June 10)
- Local Spiritual Care Responder Training Session, Lawton (June 19)
- Laurel Redding joined OCC support staff as Database and Annual Fund Specialist
- “Caring of our Community” workshop conducted at Kingston’s United Methodist Church (July 10)
- Conducted “Getting to Know OCC” Luncheon hosted at Central Christian Church, Enid (July 21)

- Conducted Social Justice Ministry Network information meeting at Central Christian Church, Enid (July 21)
- Local Spiritual Care Responder Training, OKC (July 23)
- Conducted “Getting to Know OCC” Luncheon hosted at First Christian Church, Norman (August 3)
- Conducted Social Justice Ministry Network information meeting with Marilyn Knott at First Christian Church, Norman (August 3)
- Co-sponsored National Disaster Spiritual Care Summit in Chicago (August 10-12)
- Presented Panel on Islamophobia at St. Mary’s Episcopal Church in Edmond (August 25)
- Promoted *Feed the Children’s* “Love OKC One Day” event (August 29)
- Conducted third annual Benefit Art Auction and Reception at St. Paul’s Cathedral (September 1)
- Janet Boone joins OCC staff as (part-time) Assistant Disaster Response Coordinator (September 1)
- Conducted “Getting to Know OCC” Luncheon hosted at Crown Heights Christian Church, OKC (September 16)
- Conducted Social Justice Ministry Network information meeting at Crown Heights Christian Church, OKC (September 16)
- *Evening of Listening* “America’s Changing Religious Landscape” with Carla Hinton, St. Paul’s Cathedral (September 17)
- Promoted *Safe Sleep Sunday* jointly with the OKC-County Health Department (September 20)
- OCC bids “farewell” to former Board President Rev. Nathan Allen of Joy Lutheran Church, Tulsa (September 20)
- Hosted and conducted annual Interfaith Youth Tour (September 20)
- Presented Panel on Islamophobia at First Presbyterian Church, Norman (September 27)
- Presented Panel on Islamophobia, Camp Canyon, Hinton (October 5)
- Co-sponsored “Interfaith Prayers of Compassion for Syrian Refugees” service at OKC Bicentennial Park (October 18)
- Conducted “Getting to Know OCC” Luncheon hosted at St. Bernard of Clairvaux Catholic Church, Tulsa (October 28)

- Conducted Social Justice Ministry Network information meeting at St. Bernard of Clairvaux Catholic Church, Tulsa (October 28)
- Assisting opening of Stillwater “Care & Community Resource Center” following parade disaster (November 2)
- *Evening of Listening* “Climate Change is Real” (November 5)
- Hosted OCC Annual Dinner, with special speaker Professor Martin Marty, at St. Luke’s United Methodist Church (November 12)
- Presented the OCC “Bishop Floyd Schoenhals Distinguished Ecumenist Award” to Prof. Martin Marty (November 12)
- Presented the OCC “Interfaith Award” to Adam Soltani of CAIR-OKC (November 12)
- Presented the OCC “Community Service Award” to Commissioner Terri White of Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse (November 12)
- Launched OCC Endowment Campaign (November 12)
- Co-sponsored Interfaith Academy with Prof. Martin Marty at St. Paul’s Cathedral (November 13)
- Participated in annual Peace Festival at the OKC Civic Center (November 14)
- Held Board Development Retreat in OKC (November 17)
- Co-sponsored the showing of “This Changes Everything” film (December 1)