

*Touch a Life
Today...
and
Tomorrow*

November/December 2013
Volume 10, No. 4



Oklahoma Disciples
FOUNDATION, INC.

Oklahoma Disciples Foundation
888.525.6530 • 405.525.6530
www.okdfdn.org

What is Oklahoma Disciples Foundation? ■ Part 2

Oklahoma Disciples Foundation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation whose mission is:

... to sustain an enduring financial basis for Christ's ministry through the prudent investment of funds to ensure a legacy of Christian principles and institutions.

As explained in our October-November '13 newsletter (online at <http://okdfdn.org/about-us/news>), named endowments form the core of the Foundation's assets. While the majority of the named endowments are permanent funds, there also exists within the named endowments a group termed *custodial funds*. These have been

Custodial Fund Participants

(as of 11/30/13):

Central Christian Church, Enid
Christian Church Commission
First Christian Church, Chandler
First Christian Church, Edmond
First Christian Church, Kingfisher
First Christian Church, Lindsay
First Christian Church, Midwest City
First Christian Church, Moore
First Christian Church, Yukon
Harvard Ave. Christian Church, Tulsa
New Hope Christian Church, Oklahoma City
Northeast Active Timers (NEATs), Tulsa
University Place Christian Church, Enid

A complete list of named endowments is online at: <http://okdfdn.org/giving-opportunities/named-endowment-list/>

established by congregations and church-affiliated organizations to

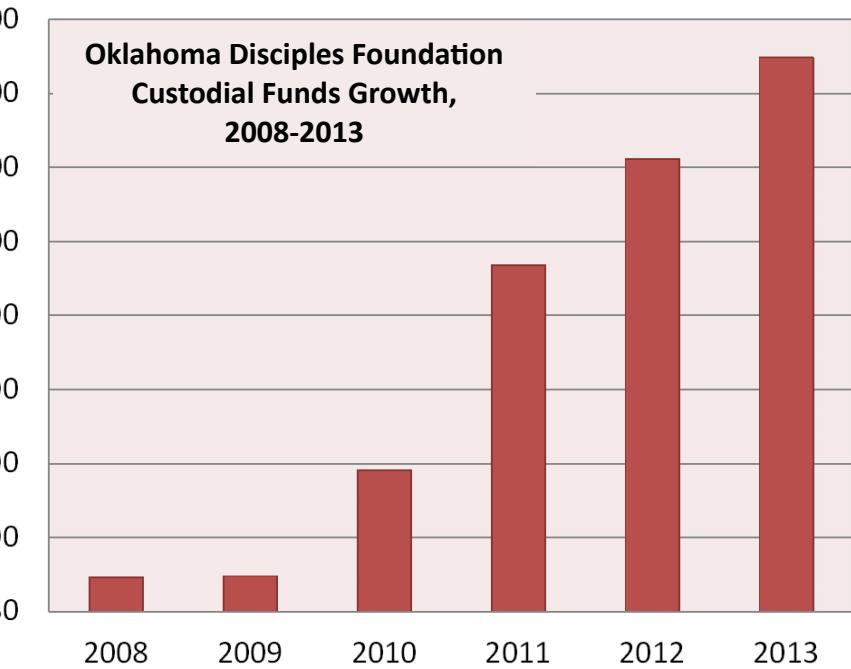
participate in the investment returns of the named endowment pool. The ability to provide such an investment vehicle was studied and approved by the Foundation's board of directors and implemented in 2007 under the guidance of the Foundation's CPA and only after ensuring full compliance with Oklahoma Department of Security laws and regulations.

Launching such a program entails change — never simple or easy. However, by meeting the challenges involved in initiating the custodial funds program, the ODF board and staff was inspired by the Foundation's mission to provide a unique investment option. As you can see from other articles in this newsletter, more changes are taking place at Oklahoma Disciples Foundation. Guided by our governing documents and ever-mindful of our mission, we are confident the legacy will endure.

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*This is the second of a series of articles outlining Oklahoma Disciples Foundation, its purpose and operations. Subsequent installments will cover details about ODF's board of directors, how distributions are calculated, and other aspects of the Foundation.*

**Disclaimer:** Past performance is not indicative of future results. The custodial fund investment option is not available to individuals; only churches and church-affiliated organizations may participate.



## **ODF Seeks New Executive Director**

***Kyle Maxwell to retire after ten years of faithful service***

*Signed by the president of the Foundation's board of directors, a letter was recently mailed to over 150 pastors in Oklahoma as well as over a dozen pastors and colleagues at the national level:*

"As you may know, the Oklahoma Disciples Foundation is an independent non-profit that solicits, receives, invests, manages and disburses endowment funds and custodial funds for the benefit of the churches and organizations of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Oklahoma. Often we are confused with the Christian Church Foundation or as being an arm of the Regional Church in Okla-

homa. We are an independent foundation with a separate board of directors and an independent staff. From time to time we work closely with the Christian Church Foundation and the Region but our endowments are maintained by us for the benefit of the many programs of the denomination in Oklahoma. More information can be obtained from our website, [okdfdn.org](http://okdfdn.org).

After ten years of faithful service, our current Executive Director is retiring and we are undertaking a search for a new Director." [A job description was en-

closed] "...detailing the skills, qualifications and experience desired in prospective candidates...."

Qualified candidates should submit a cover letter, resume and references to the Chairman of our search committee either electronically or by mail. Please submit the requested information by 12/16/13 to:

**Oklahoma Disciples Foundation  
Attn: Executive Director Search Committee  
301 NW 36th Street  
Oklahoma City, OK 73118**

## GENEROSITY, UNLEASHED

**Generosity** has been a major focus of Oklahoma Disciples Foundation for the past several years. The Foundation has sponsored workshops (May & October 2010, September 2012, September 2013) featuring nationally-known speakers from such organizations as the Lake Institute on Faith and Giving and the Center for Faith and Giving of the Christian (Disciples of Christ) Church. More workshops are imminent (see sidebar) during which generosity will be a major theme. ODF staff and board meetings invariably include discussions of generosity as we review our work and conduct strategic planning.

The concept of philanthropy is expanding to include crowdsourcing and justice-centered discourse, according to the moderator of a TED radio hour broadcast in May 2013. This "Giving it Away" episode (listen online at: <http://www.npr.org/2013/05/06/181684003/giving-it-away>) explores the effects of giving – giving not just money, but time, love, and actions both small and large. The broadcast addresses the question "how can we give in better and smarter ways?" and describes "how we, on a grassroots level, can give in new ways."

Here is a synopsis of the broadcast:

"Volunteer firefighter Mark Bezos kicks off the hour with a story of a small, seemingly insignificant act of heroism. Through a tiny act of

kindness, he realizes the dozens of possibilities we have in a day to be heroes in our own humble ways. Next, self-named "renegade ecolutionary" Ron Finley describes the garden that he began on the sidewalk in front of his house in South Central Los Angeles, meant for anyone to eat from. Finley expresses the importance of the yin and yang of giving and receiving – one cannot simply take, but must create a cycle of giving.



The second half of the show continues with Dan Pallotta, who wonders why we are so much more willing to invest in a private company's enterprises than we are to donate to a non-profit. Pallotta stresses the paradigm shift that we need to enact – away from viewing non-profits as things that must produce results in the here-and-now to seeing them as organizations that can grow and thrive on long-term

investments. Amanda Palmer closes the show, sharing her experience as a musician in a budding economy built on trust. As she talks, she emphasizes the importance of the simple act of asking when you need something – and the joy that comes from the connection found through mutual support."

Source: <http://blog.ted.com/2013/05/17/giving-it-away-ted-radio-hour-examines-generosity-and-philanthropy/>

### Coming Attractions ~ ODF Workshops ~

#### Women & Philanthropy March 14-15, 2014 • Oklahoma City

Women control over 51% of the personal wealth in the United States—over \$14 trillion, a figure expected to grow to \$22 trillion in the next decade.\*

This workshop will explore women's philanthropic capacity, as well as how to work with female donors to clarify their philanthropic vision and values.

\*Source: <http://familywealthadvisorscouncil.com>

#### Building a Cathedral for Your Soul April 25-26, 2014 • Tulsa

Generous people are reflective people who take inventory of their souls. Building a cathedral for your soul has to do with tomorrow as well as with today, with how we choose to be remembered, and with the kind of spiritual legacy that we are crafting by the way we live.

If you have received this newsletter in error, or no longer wish to subscribe, please email [prose@okdfdn.org](mailto:prose@okdfdn.org) or call 888.525.6530

## My Enduring Gift

I/we wish to make a perpetual gift to the Oklahoma Disciples Foundation, Inc.

Please select the endowment fund(s):

- Camps & Programs
- Senior Adult Care
- Pastoral Care
- ODWF       ODMF
- Disc. Scholarships & Institutions
- Regional Ministries
- Other \_\_\_\_\_  
(Full list at [www.okdisciplesfoundation.org](http://www.okdisciplesfoundation.org))

Disciples Club  
Annual Gift \$\_\_\_\_\_

#### Tax-Deductible Gift Enclosed:

Check \$\_\_\_\_\_ Cash \$\_\_\_\_\_ Pledge \$\_\_\_\_\_ # \_\_\_\_\_ installments @ \$\_\_\_\_\_

(Gifts are recorded in the calendar year.)

Credit Card \$\_\_\_\_\_ MasterCard  VISA  Discover

Name on Credit Card \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Card #\_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Return to:  
Oklahoma Disciples Foundation  
301 NW 36th  
Oklahoma City, OK 73118

#### Donor Information:

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Please list my/our donor name(s) as: \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

I/we attend \_\_\_\_\_ church in \_\_\_\_\_