

Bison Hill anticipates Christmas chapel fellowship, joy



THE BISON/COURTESY PHOTO

The most wonderful time of the year: OBU students and employees anticipate Christmas chapel every year. Join us next week for holiday celebration and worship. Photo taken by OBU Marketing and Communications during last year's chapel.

LILY JORNOD
Contributing Writer

As the holidays arise and the stockings start to hang, Oklahoma Baptist University has several events around campus that include all students.

Whether students are staying on campus or leaving for the break, there is always something to do while being at OBU during the holidays.

The significant events around campus are decking the halls in residential buildings, Christmas gatherings and other holiday events.

The biggest event at OBU is their Christmas Chapel and the student body fellowship with each another.

While some students can not go home for the holidays, residential buildings are available to those who need somewhere to stay.

Faculty have made it available for students over Thanksgiving break to connect with others and give them a sense of Thanksgiving while staying at OBU.

Oklahoma Baptist's website, under

"Celebrating the Holidays at OBU," details the love and affection OBU brings to the table and how you can be involved in staying on campus.

"Each year, various faculty members will welcome students into their homes to spend the holidays with their families."

Bruce Perkins, associate vice President for enrollment management, is one of the OBU staff members who opens his home to students during holidays.

"We consider our home a gift from the Lord," Perkins said on the OBU website.

"So we believe hosting students in our home is a faithful stewardship of His blessing."

While OBU has multiple things going on campus during the Holidays, students love the many events they provide and set up.

Ruby Dilts, a sophomore at OBU, goes into detail about her favorite moments and events that OBU hosts during the Christmas season.

"I love Christmas chapel! It's

amazing to see everyone come together during the holidays and be so excited about chapel! The giveaways are so fun, and the Gospel presentation is always neat and very powerful," she said.

"Also, the campus-wide Christmas party is fun. Last year, they had puppies and reindeer! It's just a fun time to take a study break, hang out with other students, and enjoy the holidays," Dilts said.

While the holiday season is approaching, all students and faculty are getting in the spirit. The most important part of the season is to have fellowship with one another.

This can be going with friends to Christmas chapel, lunch on the weekends or even just being in other people's presence.

Piper Bush, a freshman at OBU, said she looks forward to the Christmas season at OBU.

"I am most excited for Christmas Chapel!! I've always heard really good things about it, and I am excited to experience it this year. I also think

it's great how they are allowing prospective students and the community to come to the Christmas Chapel. I think it is a great way to show future students and the community. It also shows what OBU is about is all about and the community that is established here!"

However, some may find the holiday a time of stress-free relaxation and time with one another.

Some find it challenging to feel this way; students may be going through a hard time during the holidays.

Some associate the holidays with grief and sadness.

They also could be dealing with stress and anxiety because the season creates so much stress in the family.

During this time, students should be aware of other classmates and faculty who could be having a hard time during this season.

Reaching out to others and inviting friends to OBU holiday events cheer them up for the upcoming holidays and impact them this Christmas and in the years to come.

Native American Student Association serves campus

ASHTIN WITT
Contributing Writer

The Native American Student Association allows students, who are Native American, to be a part of a club that celebrates their heritage.

The Native American Student Association at Oklahoma Baptist has been around for about four years.

This year's president is senior communication studies major Mary McKey and vice president is Kulson Yates.

McKey said she loves being a leader of NASA because "it gives Native American students something to be a part of," she said.

Yates said this aspect of

fellowship is his favorite part of being a leader in NASA is because "it allows him to connect with people he might not have been able to otherwise."

The club allows students and non members to learn more about Native American Culture.

November is Native American Heritage month, and the club hosted students not in NASA to participate in some traditional Native American crafts and activities.

A couple of these activities included a craft on Wednesday November 8th, to make corn husk dolls.

There was also an opportunity to experience worship at a Native American church in

Seminole.

The students also toured the Potawatomi National Cultural Heritage Center Wednesday November 15.

For the club's craft of corn husk dolls, any students could participate.

Native Americans made dolls from corn husk because it is one of the cherished three sisters; these are corn, beans and squash.

From the Cayuga Museum of History and Art it is said that traditional corn husk dolls don't have a face because one of the spirits made a doll with a face so beautiful that the spirit became very vain, and the Great Spirit decided to take her beauty away.

So from then on they could not put faces on the dolls.

QUICK TUTORIAL:

To make your own corn husk doll you will need corn husk and yarn.

You will then start off by laying your corn husk into a pan of water.

Start off by laying four corn husk on top of each other.

Then cut yarn as thick and long as you prefer and place it into the center of the four husk.

Then roll up the corn husk. Next tie a piece of string around the top of the corn husk roll about an inch from the top.

After that flip the corn husk

roll inside out.

Take another piece of string and tie it around the top by the yarn used for hair to create a head.

Then take another corn husk and get it wet and tear it into fourths.

Take two fourths together and roll them up to create two arms.

Then take a piece of string and tie it at both ends and in the middle to make hands.

Push the arms in between two halves of the corn husk doll.

Take a piece of string and tie it around the doll to make her waist.

Ta-da your doll is done!

COURTESY PHOTO/THE BISON

While OBU recognizes and honors Native American Heritage Month on campus, the organization, NASA, serves students year-round.

NATIVE AMERICAN
HERITAGE MONTH