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For immediate release

Ouachita's Elrod Center to host Fall 2018 Tiger Serve Day on Sept. 22

By Brooke Woessner

September 21, 2018

For more information, contact OBU's news bureau at newsbureau@obu.edu or (870) 245-5280



Ouachita Baptist University's Elrod Center for Family and Community will host Tiger Serve Day on Saturday, Sept. 22. The event is held in every spring and fall semester of the school year and creates a space for students, faculty and staff to serve the community.

The theme for this year is "Lending a Hand" to highlight and encourage the genuine servanthood that the Elrod Center and Ouachita strive to promote.

"Tiger Serve Day is a completely unselfish day focused on meeting the needs of others," explained Judy Duvall, associate director of the Elrod Center. "It is an others-centered day and that is so refreshing in this day and age."

"My favorite thing about Tiger Serve Day is the opportunity to see people's perspectives on service change and watch our campus serve those right here in Arkadelphia and understand that service truly is a way of life," said Molly Boone, a senior dietetics and nutrition major from Maumelle, Ark. Boone serves on the student-led Tiger Serve Day Leadership Team that helps plan and coordinate the event each semester.

"I love to see the connections made between our campus and the community," Duvall said. "Help is given, stories are shared and relationships are formed. As a result, we experience a bond of friendship and realize that we are not alone."



This semester's event will be particularly poignant for members of the university community due to the recent passing of Ben and Betty Lou Elrod, namesakes of the Elrod Center. Dr. Ben Elrod served as Ouachita's 13th president from 1988 to 1998 and served as chancellor from 1998 to his passing in August 2018. Mrs. Elrod passed away the following month. In a document Dr. Elrod wrote, he illustrates the beauty behind the center's mission of servanthood: "It is the simple attitude, characteristic and act of giving yourself for the benefit of others."

"Tiger Serve Day was important to the Elrods because they loved Arkadelphia and took delight in the fact that people were being helped in a practical way," noted Ian Cosh, Ouachita vice president for community and international engagement and director of the Elrod Center. "They understood that when you serve you experience transformation and growth."

For more information on Tiger Serve Day, visit obu.edu/serve, or call the center at (870) 245-5320.

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