

Volume 8 Issue 6 October 2021

#### **Infinitely More**

Something really exciting is afoot here at Oak Park... a whispering of the Holy Spirit, a sense that God has important work for us to do, a stretching of our vision for what it means to be a church community and a community church... a conviction that, as much as God has already done among us, He wants to do *infinitely more*!

As co-chairs of the *Infinitely More* campaign, we have been encouraged to see God's hand at work among our pastoral team, elders, board and membership to bring about a shared vision for the expansion and refitting of our building to align with our mission of "Loving God, Loving Others, and Serving the World." Over several years, the church has undertaken to solidify our ministry goals and strategic direction, becoming more unified and intentional about our ministry impacts. We have also undertaken a process to evaluate our current building infrastructure and its ability to support existing and future priority activities. In the final analysis, agreement has been reached that some key improvements are required to enable us to fulfill our shared desire to truly be a community church that can welcome our neighbours in and meet their needs while also attending to the spiritual development of our church family, now and for future generations.

We took advantage of COVID restrictions and limited traffic in the building to upgrade our sanctuary and add a dedicated prayer room. God's provision for that project through the generosity of our church family has given us confidence to step forward in faith to fulfill the dream of a fully functional community kitchen space, larger, more welcoming entry, foyer and washroom facilities, dedicated youth space, a larger nursery to accommodate our young families and a more secure and functional church office area. But *Infinitely More*, at its heart, is not a building project. It is a dream for enhanced outreach, church growth, souls won to Christ, lives transformed, and our children and youth being deeply rooted in faith, connected to the mission of our church and equipped to lead. It will help us enhance building use during the week in support of the increasing outreach God has been calling us to through our various ministries, such as Bridge of Hope, Clothing Rack, Food Bank, as well as mentoring, life and support groups. This project will enable us to do *infinitely more* to build God's kingdom within a purposefully planned multipurpose footprint.

A study was undertaken in 2020 to determine whether the church could realistically support such a large building improvement initiative. Several households that are part of the church were interviewed, and it was determined that we have the capacity within our congregation, through faith and by the work of the Holy Spirit, to successfully undertake the project. We are grateful to God that our church membership, just this past Sunday, has captured the vision and said "yes" to moving forward in faith to raise the funds required for such an undertaking.

So, what's happening now? Ambassadors are being recruited and trained to contact the individuals and families of our church and meet with them about the project. Information packages have been prepared that describe the project, provide renderings of the building improvements and explain the financial need, along with a prayer guide for everyone to use as they seek God's direction for how they will contribute.

We are asking every household within our church to prayerfully consider a fiveyear pledge to the campaign. Please respond warmly when the ambassador calls to set up a meeting with you and take full advantage of the opportunity to ask questions and better understand the initiative and the financial need. A document is being maintained of frequently asked questions with corresponding answers, and this is available at <u>https://www.oakpark.ca/assets/</u> <u>general/FAQ\_v3.pdf#asset:7017@1</u>

Building permits have been sought and, as long as we are able to secure the necessary pledges by the end of December to move forward, we anticipate that construction will begin in the spring or summer of 2022. We hope that all will be completed by the end of 2022, Lord willing. What a time of rejoicing it will be when we see what God has done and we are able to give "...all glory to God, who is able, through his mighty power at work within us, to accomplish infinitely more than we might ask or think." (Ephesians 3:20)!

By Julie Kerr, Michael Kerr and Rob Beingessner

#### **Capital Campaign Chairs**



#### **Julie Kerr**

#### **Michael Kerr**





**Rob Beingessner** 



#### New sermon series starts November 7th



WE ARE EXCITED TO ANNOUNCE ...

# THE Congregation Voted yes!

Watch for more information about our new Capital Campaign Infinitely More!





#### ARIST U WORShip DOTTA e VIIII E VIIIII E VIIIII E VIIIII E VIIIIII E VIIIII E VIIIII E VIIIIII

#### **JUST DO IT!**

Oak Park Women! Gather to pray & worship the Lord!

#### 10:00 - 11:30am

### **November 27th**

Please Register: www.oakpark.ca

Bring your own water bottle, tea or coffee, Bible, journal, etc.

Contact the church office for more information.

#### Long Range Planning Committee Update

This summer, the City of Calgary approved our development permit application for our planned facility expansion and upgrade. That doesn't complete the regulatory process to proceed with the project, but it moves us a giant step forward. That approval means the City agrees with, and approves in principle, our planned design.

The other two City regulatory steps to complete are 1) Development Site Servicing Plan (DSSP) and 2) construction drawings.

The DSSP is a sister document to the Development Permit application and is currently near completion. The Development Permit specifies the planned changes to the building; the DSSP address city services like water, sewage and site drainage for snow melt and rainwater. The first draft of the DSSP was submitted to the City in September and we're currently working on feedback from the City to address adequate parking lot rainwater handling. We expect DSSP approval later this fall.

Assuming we proceed with the project following a successful capital campaign this fall, the next step is to prepare detailed engineering (civil, structural, mechanical, electrical) and construction drawings, starting in December. This will be a 3 to 4-month process and will give us the detailed drawings, which the City also needs to approve, that will guide or direct the actual construction.

Following completion of the construction drawings and the related detailed engineering, tentatively early next spring, the steps would then include:

• Firming up the project cost estimate which can be done to finer detail with construction drawings.

- Bidding construction contracts.
- Sourcing long lead time material.

Actual construction would then occur during the summer and fall of 2022. So far, the architect and construction contractors we've talked to believe we'll be able to continue to use our building, with some restrictions of course, during construction.

Detailed development permit level drawing packages remain available at the church office for anyone who doesn't have a copy yet or would like another set of drawings.

Please direct any questions or suggestions to Lane, Martin or me at any time.

Doug Walker, Chairman Long Range Planning



Eat Well. Spend Jess.

#### Any one can order one or more Good Food Boxes.

Boxes must be pre-ordered and paid for in cash (exact change) on or before the order by date. You can pre-purchase your next box when you pick up your order. Boxes must be picked up, before 6pm. (Note: Boxes not picked up will be donated - no refunds will be given.)

Good Food Boxes come in the following sizes:

LARGE	40 lbs	\$35.00
MEDIUM	30 lbs	\$30.00
SMALL	20 lbs	\$25.00



2021	
ORDER BY	DELIVERY DATE
January 18	January 27
February 15	February 24
March 8	March 17
April 12	April 21
May 3	May 12
May 31	June 9
September 6	September 15
September 27	October 6
October 25	November 3
November 29	December 8

For information call Oak Park Church office at (403) 251-5150 or email office@oakpark.ca



Thank you to all who packed meals and volunteered on Saturday, October 16th. What a great accomplishment and blessing to those in need.



#### Oak Park Missions Update Norm Weatherhead - Pioneer Bible Translators



On October 22<sup>nd</sup>, Norm flew to Dallas, Texas to continue translation work at the International Linguistic Centre. The warmer weather there is much better for his inherited muscular disease which causes fatigue, pain, and weakness. Also with Covid being more widespread in Papua New Guinea, he will have to wait a little longer before returning there. His wife Jill will remain in Calgary

working part time as a nurse and part time building an online business. Norm will continue daily online Zoom sessions with the Akukem team as they complete the translation of the 1151 verses in the book of Luke. Just imagine the challenge of describing a biblical concept from a 1<sup>st</sup> century Judeo-Christian culture to a 20<sup>th</sup> century Papua New Guinean living in a remote jungle village. That's a challenge, and that's on top of the challenge of just learning to work with a new language and correctly translating the Scriptures.

#### **Oak Park Missions Update**

#### Vienna Moilliet - Refuge of Hope

Vienna is back in Canada until January of 2022. It was wonderful to have her at Oak Park on October 17<sup>th</sup>. She was able to share a very informative and inspiring update of what is happening at Refuge of Hope. They now have 11 girls staying at the home and the possibility of 2 more soon. A huge 'thank you' to those ladies at Oak Park who, on very short notice, agreed to buy Christmas gifts for all the girls. Vienna will mail them so they are there in time for a wonderful celebration. We pray our part will help the girls to know how significant they are and how much they are loved by their Heavenly Father. The second down payment has been made on the land purchase and, with much excitement, plans have already been drawn up for the future new home. As the number of girls at Refuge of Hope continues to increase, so do the costs and your support is greatly needed and appreciated.







## **OAK PARK YOUTH GROUP**

Friday Nights 7-9 pm



Did you know Oak Park has an app? Download to your smartphone to access online sermons & event information. You can also follow us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. 11263 Oakfield Drive SW Calgary, AB T2W 4M2 Phone: 403.251.5150 Email: office@oakpark.ca www.oakpark.ca

