

Thirteen Years of Joy and Blessing

I would like to begin this article by saying (and I can honestly say this without a shred of hesitation), that Oak Park Church is the best church Angela and I have ever been blessed to be a part of. From the day we first stepped through the doors around 15 years ago we have known that we are loved here, and we continue to feel God's grace through the people of Oak Park each and every week. When I think back to those earlier days, it's hard to believe that I have been on staff as Associate Pastor for 13 years. There has barely been a day, if at all, that I have not enjoyed and felt fulfilled by the things my role entails. The Lord's hand has clearly been at work, and I am humbled that He has chosen to do some of that work through me.

All of that has not made the decision I've wrestled with for many months any easier to make. Nevertheless, following much prayer, soul searching, and conversations over tea with Angela, I feel it is time for me to step down from my role on staff at Oak Park.

Both Angela and I are excited about the future of our church, and we still want to be part of what God is doing here. Therefore, we will continue to attend as congregation members and be involved in various capacities as the Lord leads. After all, you have become our family and friends over the years, and it would break our hearts to leave you and try to start over somewhere else!

There's no doubt this will be an adjustment for all of us. But with God's everlasting grace, I know we will get through this transition together and begin to see His hand in it. Especially given the capability of the remaining leadership and staff at Oak Park, whose eyes and ears are always turned to the Lord and ready to follow His leading as He guides us into the future.

As for what happens next, well, this will be as many things are in our walk with the Lord, another step of faith. Over the spring and summer Lane and our Elders will evaluate who and what our church needs going forward and make decisions based on those findings. For me,

I'm quite excited about using, once more, the carpentry and renovation skills the Lord has given me. This too is something of a step of faith, but the Lord has brought me this far and I have no reason to question His faithfulness now. One thing is for sure however, I will never forget my time on staff at Oak Park and I will always give thanks to the Lord for having had this opportunity to serve his kingdom in this way.



Thank you all for your support and encouragement over the years. Much of what I have done I feel we have done together, and I have been deeply blessed because of it. You have truly made it a joy to serve our church.





Pastor Martin (or is it now Carpenter Martin?)







Save the Date!

We are having an appreciation potluck for Pastor Martin on Sunday, May 29th following the service. Bring a dish and come on out to celebrate!





STATIONS OF THE CROSS



Good Friday Interactive Service - 9:30-12:30 (come and go)



- 9AM SERVICE
- 10:30AM BAPTISMS
- 11AM SERVICE



EASTER
RESURRECTION SUNDAY



ESTHER

Seeing an Unseen God

New Series in Esther starting April 24th

The book of Esther is not a book that is preached on often. There are obvious reasons for that - after all, it is the only book in the Bible that doesn't explicitly mention God! However, there are also less obvious reasons - touchy subjects of rape, murder, genocide, and revenge. Despite the heavy subject matter, the book itself is filled with subtle (and not-so-subtle) humour and follows a riveting plot. The truth is, when we really engage and pay attention to this book, God is EVERYWHERE. This spring, join us as we explore the book of Esther in order to See an Unseen God.

Keening for the Dawn

Lament, Hope & Yearning for God

June 4, 2022 - 10am-4:30pm

A one day conference for church and ministry leaders presented by Vision Ministries Canada



Free Grade 1-12 Tutoring



Register @ oakpark.ca/tutoring



Thursdays from 6-7:30pm



11263 Oakfield Dr. SW



Community Tutoring

AT OAK PARK CHURCH OF CHRIST



Meal Pack

SATURDAY, APRIL 23

10am-12pm

OAK PARK



Long Range Planning and Construction Committee Report

The first place to start this update on the planned ministry expansion project is with two key points made at the recent AGM:

- No commitment has been made to actually proceed with construction, and
- Our recent fund-raising shortfall in last winter's pledge drive creates project uncertainty.

To resolve this uncertainty, we've completed detailed construction drawings and specifications this past winter. We've also interviewed and selected four General Contractor candidates for the planned project. This work will allow us to obtain firm pricing to determine if we can afford to proceed.

Bid documents, including those detailed construction drawings and specifications, have been issued to all four General Contractors and they are all currently reviewing the project documents and preparing their bids. Bids are due Tuesday, April 26.

We've asked the General Contractors to submit their bids based on two project phases – separating the new construction from the renovation portion of the project. It's hoped that by segmenting the project in two phases at least one of them will be able to proceed in light of the pledge shortfall.

Once the bids are received they'll be reviewed and evaluated with the Board and Elders in late April and early May, following which a recommendation on next steps will be taken forward to the congregation for consideration, likely sometime in late May.

A couple of other reminders on the project status:

- The City of Calgary has approved the Development Permit and Site Servicing Plan. This is an approval in principle only. It clears the way for the project, subject to obtaining a building permit, but does not commit Oak Park to anything.
- If Oak Park decides to proceed with the project following receipt of the bids and review with the Board, Elders and Congregation, the next step would be to award the construction contract and proceed to obtain a building permit from the City of Calgary.
- Approval in principle is also in place for long term mortgage financing from the Churches of Christ Development Fund (CCDC).
- The earliest construction is likely to start, if we do proceed, is July.

Finally, a reminder to anyone that hasn't submitted their pledge yet, there is still time to do so. Please direct any questions or suggestions to Lane, Martin or me at any time.

Doug Walker, Chairman
Long Range Planning



ART in the PARK

Friday, May 13, 2022 ♦ 7-9pm ♦ 11263 Oakfield Dr SW
Art, live music & refreshments!
Entry free or by donation.

Art in the Park

This year Covid restrictions have been lifted and we finally get to host Art in the Park as an in-person event! Come on out and celebrate all the artistic talent Oak Park has to offer. Sit and enjoy live music in our foyer or peruse our gallery of artists in the sanctuary! God has blessed our congregation with abundant creativity, you won't want to miss this!

Oak Park Missions Update

Lifeline - Ricot and Mandy

A wonderful time of celebration was held on the weekend of March 26th and 27th, it was a convention weekend. 8 baptisms were performed, a couple of weddings, 6 services, a youth rally, and a meal reception. Fuel is available now and again and Ricot stocks up as much as he can for his motorcycle and generator. He now has a pump for the well so they have a good water supply. A protest group burned one of the Agape planes on the runway in Cayes which has closed the airport. However Ricot says flights can still get into another airport in the city of Jeremie, which is a blessing as supplies, mail, and people can still get in that way.



Refuge of Hope

Yeah! We thank the Lord. The gifts that Oak Park families purchased for the girls have finally arrived. Vienna says, "There were so many smiles and so much happiness. Thank you to all the families who gave to us. The children were so thankful!"





May Family Camp - May 20-23

Ladies Retreat - June 10-12

High School Camp (entering Grade 10 - 2022 Grade 12 graduates) - July 3 - 8

Leaders in Training (entering Grade 10 - 2022 Grade 12 graduates) - July 12 - 15

Rookie Camp (entering Grade 1 - 3) - July 12 - 15

Junior High (entering Grades 7 - 9) - July 17 - 22

Junior Camp (entering Grades 4 - 6) - July 24 - 29

Deeper Life (Young Adults; Graduated Grade 12's and up) - August 26 - 28

September Family Camp - September 2 - 5

Mens Retreat - September 23 - 25

Snow Camp (Grades 7-12) - December 27 - 30

Register for Camp at pinelakechristiancamp.com



Send a kid to camp!

Did you know?

We provide bursaries to families whose children want to go to camp but cannot afford it!

If you would like to contribute to the Next Gen Fund where the bursaries come from, you can do so by marking your donation "Camp Bursary".



Eat Well. Spend Less.



2021

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

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



oak park
CHURCH OF CHRIST

Clothing Rack Ministry

Open for *FREE* Business
Thursdays from 9-12



oak park
CHURCH OF CHRIST

MEN'S PRAYER MORNING

Wednesdays @ Oak Park
6:30-7:30am
Coffee Provided

What Your Giving Can Do - Food Bank

Since the very first Food Bank event at Oak Park back in December of 2016, all expenses have been paid entirely from donations to the Food Bank account, an internally designated fund specifically for this ministry. The amazing congregation at Oak Park, along with our more recent partner, Hope For Life Church, have ensured that this ministry has been entirely self-sustaining and has not used donations from any other church funds. The support has been incredible, and in 2021 alone, your giving enabled us to serve over 200 people with non-perishable goods, fresh meat and produce, holiday meals, and gift cards for other essentials.

As with most things in the world, the Food Bank has had to adjust to accommodate all the new rules and restrictions that Covid-19 brought our way. Besides food donations, we now rely heavily on monetary contributions to the Food Bank.

Rising costs of food, fuel, and supply chain issues are now impacting how far our Food Bank dollars can go. To ensure that those in need (from our congregation and our neighbourhood) continue to be loved by this ministry, please consider making a designated donation. You can do this at any time during the year by writing "Food Bank" on your offering envelope, or in the Notes/Remarks section of interac e-transfers emailed to donate@oakpark.ca.

By Kerry Grant

when did
we see you
hungry?
Matthew 25:35-40

OAK PARK
**FOOD
BANK**



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



oak park
CHURCH OF CHRIST