



oak park
CHURCH OF CHRIST



Volume 9 Issue 6 August 2022

Welcome Alvin Ram and Family!

Our family is so excited to join your community! Over the years we've gotten to know Oak Park from a distance, through Lane and Chantelle, and it's a joy to join the good work that God has been doing through all of you.

I'm sure you're probably wondering who this stranger is that's joining our church. Well, here's a little bit about me. I enjoy long walks on the beach, mild winters, and mediocre sports teams. I think Calgary's going to be a great fit.



In all seriousness, I'm someone who cares deeply about helping people access and understand faith. I find it strange and beautiful that God chooses ordinary people, just like you and me, to play a role in his world. Being someone who did not grow up in the church and someone who did not have plans to be a pastor, I've come to see the church and faith through a different lens. My journey as a follower of Christ is constantly growing and evolving, and as I arrive at Oak Park, I'm excited to continue that growth by learning from all of you.

Amber and I are excited for the opportunity to serve in such a vibrant community. Josiah (6) and Aaliyah (5) are very much looking forward to life in Calgary, which is largely due to their excitement of being closer to their cousins.

As you can imagine, we're in the middle of a lot of boxes and logistics, and we look forward to the future when we'll feel a little more settled.

We couldn't be more thrilled for this new chapter in our lives and look forward to getting to know each of you.

See you soon!

Alvin, Amber, Josiah & Aaliyah



Our fall kick-off series begins September 18th!

The other day I was struggling to understand what my two year old daughter was trying to tell me. It was only when she kept sticking her tiny hand in my face that I realized she was saying, "pinky promise." Not sure which one of her older siblings is feeding her the info, but I can assure you that she had no idea what she was actually saying (though I had to suppress how adorable it was to remind her that we don't "pinky promise" in our house). That's part of the problem with promises, isn't it? We simply don't know the full scope of what we are getting ourselves into and subsequently, in part because of our lack of understanding, our track record in keeping them is abysmal. Marriages fail, relationships fade, and that thing you have your heart set on just never seems to arrive. But God knows exactly what He's getting Himself into when He makes a promise. And better yet, His track record is unblemished. There are hundreds of God-given promises in Scripture, many of which pertain to us and our lives. We need to hear these promises again and again as we live our lives to be reminded of God's faithfulness and the assurance of His presence.

By Pastor Lane



Come on out to our Aquaball event! Join us Saturday, September 10th for the game followed by a barbecue. We will meet at the church and then cross the street to play in the field. All are welcome! If the weather is chilly we will play a game of kickball instead. See you there!



Capital Campaign Update

God Continues to do *Infinitely More*

It may seem like the Infinitely More campaign is on hiatus over the summer, but nothing could be further from the truth! Ever since we announced that the amount of pledges did not meet the increasing building costs and that we would need to re-evaluate the project plans, there has been an amazing amount of prayerful work happening by the Building Project Committee, Church Board and pastoral staff to see what may be possible with God's leading.


Our faith has been rewarded, and God has blessed us with the skills and passion of a retired engineering executive who is donating his time to find considerable cost savings and an innovative approach to phasing the building work in a way that would prioritize and meet the most pressing ministry facility needs as efficiently as possible. As well, with the support of the Board, the Building Project Committee, spearheaded by Doug Walker, submitted a grant application to the Government of Alberta for Community Facilities Enhancement Program funding, which would augment our pledged giving to support the project, enabling us to increase our support to our surrounding community. Please pray that these two big pieces of work will be fruitful and will provide us with a planned way forward that may meet with Board and congregational approval as soon as this fall.

These developments have sparked hope and excitement among the Board, the pastoral staff and the committees leading the project. We want to be ready, if and when the time comes, to move forward with the building work, for the good of our community and the furthering of God's kingdom. To that end, we are encouraging the congregation to begin honouring their pledges so that we will have the resources in place to proceed in a timely way. To those who have already started their campaign giving -- thank you! May God increase your faith and bless your generous obedience to the Holy Spirit's prompting!

Stay tuned and be much in prayer, "being confident of this, that He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus" (Philippians 1:6). These are exciting times for us at Oak Park, and we are waiting with anticipation to see how much more God is going to do in and through us than we could have imagined when this campaign began!

Many blessings,

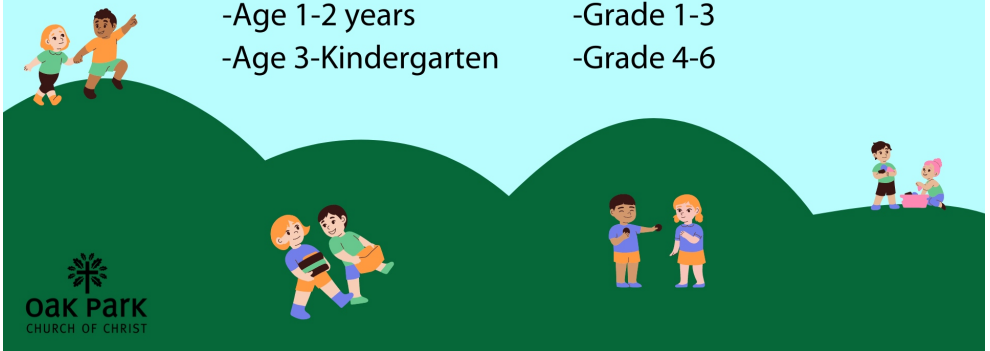
Julie Kerr and the Infinitely More Campaign Committee



Fall Classes Begin September 18, 2022

Classes:

- Age 1-2 years
- Age 3-Kindergarten
- Grade 1-3
- Grade 4-6



Oak Park
CHURCH OF CHRIST




**Community
Tutoring**
AT OAK PARK CHURCH OF CHRIST

- Free tutoring for Grades 1-12
- Thursdays 6:00 - 7:30 pm
- Register @ oakpark.ca/tutoring
- Begins September 29, 2022





OAK PARK CHURCH CHRISTIAN EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP

Purpose: To help pay tuition for Biblical post-secondary education

Candidates: Any Oak Park Church of Christ Member

Application Deadline: September 30, 2022

Application Process: Write a letter (1-2 pages) answering the following:

- Why are you choosing to attend Bible College?
- What do you hope to gain from your education?
- What do you hope to gain from this experience?
- Where is your relationship with God right now?
- Do you have any long term goals that stem from your education? (ie: future ministry desires)
- Please outline your financial need

Submission: Email your letter to the Oak Park Church Board at: office@oakpark.ca

PRAYER LIFE GROUP

Mondays 7-9pm

"For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them."
Matthew 18:20 (NIV)

Beginning September 19. Please sign up at the Info Centre.

Oak Park Food Bank

We have been so blessed by your giving this year that we were able to hold two extra Food Banks this summer! We look forward to two more in the fall. Please continue your generosity by giving financially and donating plastic bags.

July Food Bank

16
Families



60
People



Thank you!



December 2016

CELEBRATING

20

FOOD BANKS

July 2022



Long Range Planning Committee Update

Folks will recall this spring we put the church and ministry expansion project on hold for two reasons:

- Fund raising came in short of expectations, coupled with,
- Bids from general construction contractors that came in higher than expected.

Folks will also recall that in late May we submitted an application for project support to the Government of Alberta's Community Facilities Enhancement Program to help address that gap. Funding from CFEP is not guaranteed, even if a project meets all the qualifications, as CFEP receives requests in excess of their budget every year. Still, the program administrators acknowledged that our project met the community service standards and we had widespread and strong community support, so we were encouraged to submit our application.

There is no news from CFEP yet and there won't be until December of this year.

As there is no assurance we will receive CFEP funding, over the summer we've also been working with a former construction project manager, Norm McLennan, who has experience in church renovation projects and knows the construction industry very well. Norm has been helping us reimagine the expansion and renovation layout to determine how many of our project deliverables could still be achieved with a different design.

Norm has also been working with the General Construction Contractor we would use if we proceed, to find alternate construction methods or materials that could further bring costs down.

What we've come up with is a reduced and phased plan that could work as follows:

- The lobby expansion to the north would be deferred to a future project.
- The new offices and reception would go in the NE corner.
- The kitchen and nursery would move to the NW corner where the offices currently are.
- The expanded and accessible bathrooms would go where the kitchen currently is.

There are also changes to how we would handle city services (water, sewage, storm water).

We're excited about this approach as it still gives us most of what we wanted to achieve but in a way that fits what we can currently afford. It also preserves the possibility of a future lobby expansion and other elements, should we receive CFEP funding, if we can find further cost savings, or succeed in a future supplemental funding drive.

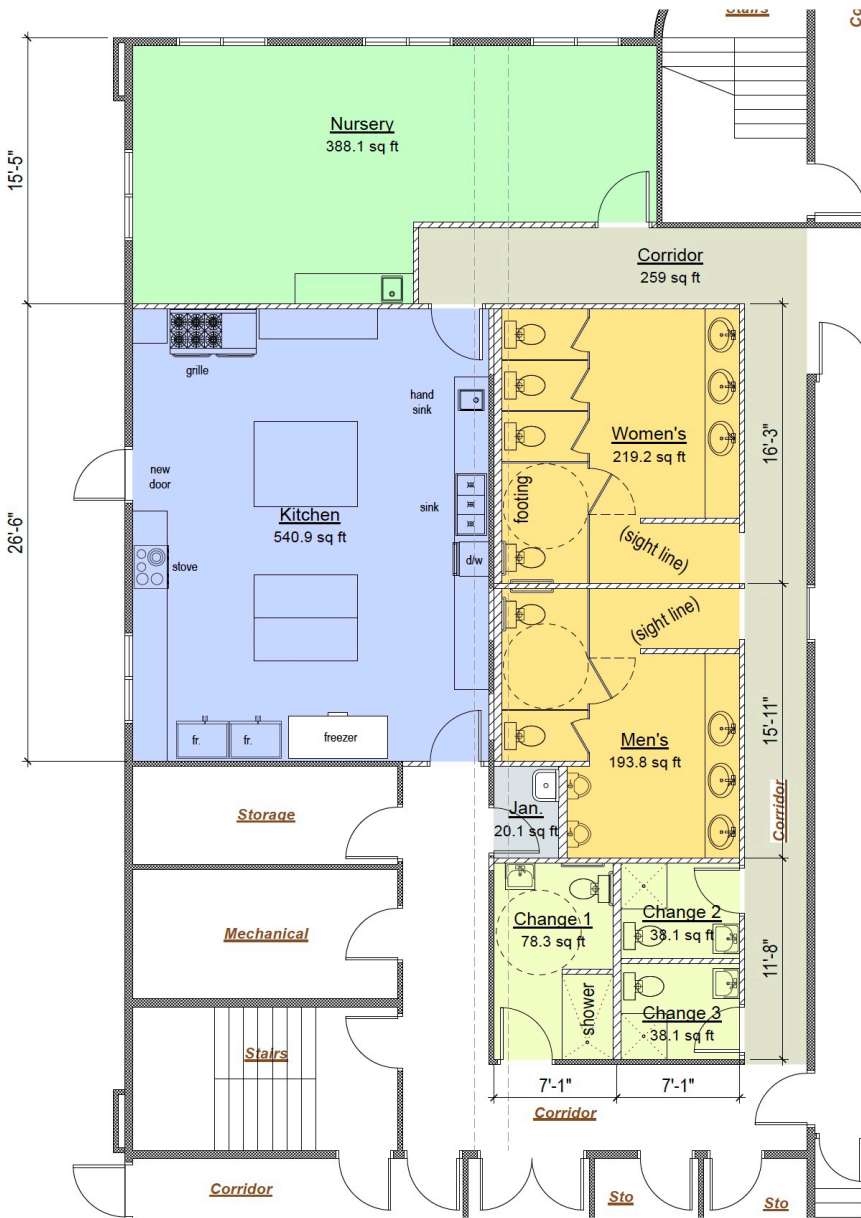
Both the Board and Elders are similarly excited with this possibility and gave us the direction to refresh our development permit application with the City of Calgary this summer. Because the building footprint and city services would change, a new development permit is required, which we're currently working on.

Further information will be provided this fall – both on the re-design and next steps. If we proceed with this approach we could see renovation and expansion occur as early as the spring and summer of 2023.

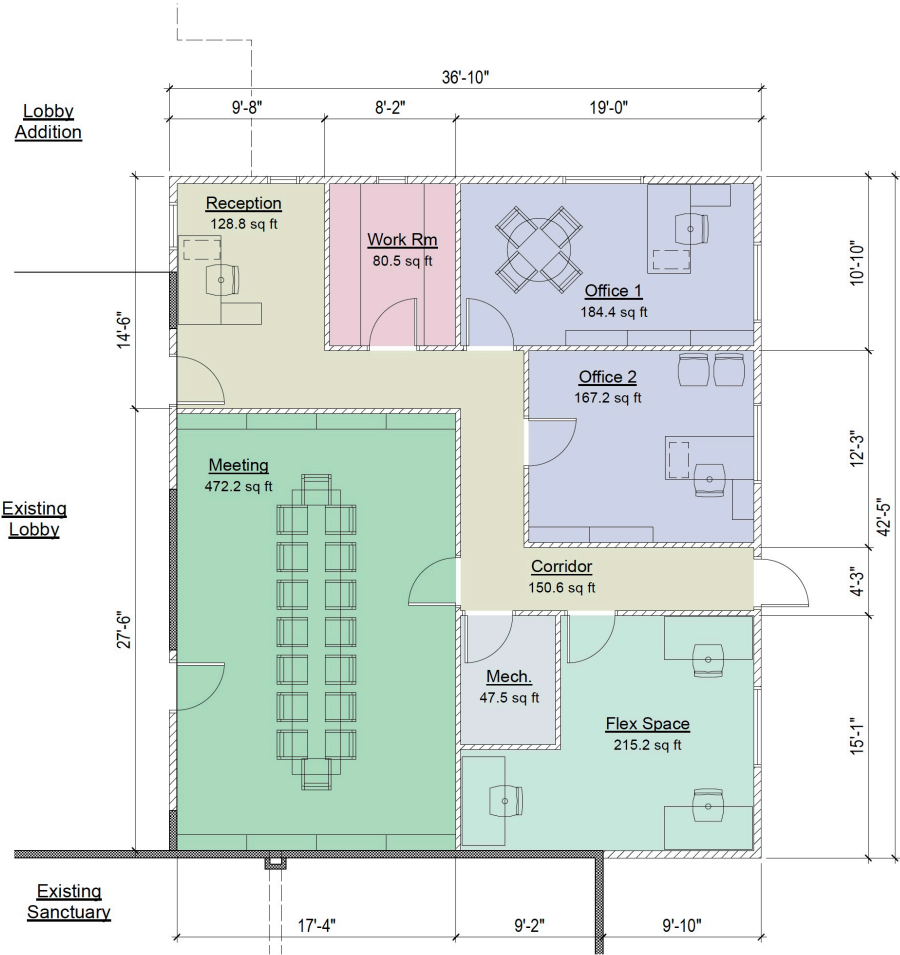
Look for that additional information this fall and in the meantime please do let me know if anyone has any questions.

Doug Walker, Chairman
Long Range Planning & Construction Committee

Main Floor West Redesign



Main Floor East Addition*



*Configuration of this space is still being worked on.

Oak Park Missions Update

Refuge of Hope - Vienna Moilliet



Exciting news!!! Vienna is engaged to a Philippine pastor and plans to be married November 29. Lets keep them in our prayers as they make plans for their big day and their future serving the Lord together. The recent earthquake in the Philippines was in an area 10 hours north of their location so it did not affect them so that

was very good news. Vienna's mom was able to visit for the 2nd anniversary of Refuge of Hope and she was able to teach the girls the basics of sewing. Since then we have acquired 2 sewing machines to send to Vienna. At the end of August we will be packing a large box of items the shelter needs so we ask that you check out the list and see if there are any items you could help out with. We also have volunteered to purchase Christmas gifts for 4 of the girls, 1 staff person, and 1 staff child. If you would like to help in this way please talk to Mary Davis for details.

Wish List:

- Nix lice removal kit
- Liquid IV electrolyte replacement
- Chewable Vitamin C
- Arts and craft supplies
- Coloring books, word puzzles, etc.
- Children's books
- New or gently used DVD's of Veggie Tales, Adventures in Odyssey, Superbook, etc.
- Sewing supplies
- Funding for a van and to begin construction of the new building



Oak Park Missions Update

Lifeline Ministries - Ricot Leon

Ricot, Mandy and family plan to return to Calgary for September and October and will be giving an in-person update at some point. While they are home we hope to organize a fund raising event to support their ministry. If you would like to have a part in putting this event together please let someone on the church staff know.

A photograph featuring a pair of teal and white sneakers with white laces and soles, resting on a black suitcase. In the background, a globe is visible against a brick wall. The text is overlaid on the left side of the image.

Senior High Mission Trip

Informational Meeting

Sunday, September 11 @ 11:30am

Save the Date!

Plan  to Protect[®]

Orientation

At Oak Park Church of Christ
Sunday, September 11, 2022 @ 12:30 pm

Computer Volunteers Needed



We are in need of volunteers to run our computer for Sunday services. If you are interested please contact shelley@oakpark.ca



Eat Well. Spend Less.

 **OAK PARK**
CHURCH OF CHRIST

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

January 18
February 15
March 8
April 12
May 3
May 31
September 6
September 27
October 25
November 29

DELIVERY DATE

January 27
February 24
March 17
April 21
May 12
June 9
September 15
October 6
November 3
December 8

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



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Clothing Rack Ministry

Open for *FREE* Business
Thursdays from 9-12



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MEN'S PRAYER MORNING

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



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.

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