



Volume 9 Issue 2 February 2022

What Your Giving Can Do - Missions Fund

As a church we have taken very seriously Jesus' instruction "you shall be my witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth". When the media covers international news they tend to focus on disasters and serious economic or political problems, leaving us feeling extremely helpless and sad or maybe totally disinterested. However, those of us who have experienced a relationship with Jesus realize he is the One who goes with us through life and its challenges by guiding, protecting, strengthening, and encouraging us. Believers long for others also to have that same support, direction, and joy in their lives, because it is a lasting and lifelong blessing rather than a temporary quick fix like so many other things in our world. The "Missions Ministry" at Oak Park Church provides an opportunity for you and others to directly care for Mission projects that share the "good news of the Gospel" both here at home and "to the ends of the earth."

Every year Oak Park Church budgets a specific minimum amount of funds to each of our supported Missions. For 2021 the amounts were as follows: Norm Weatherhead (Pioneer Bible Translators) \$1300, Graceland Ministries \$1500, Terri Scruggs (Wycliffe) \$500, Vienna Moilliet (Tabuk Refuge of Hope International) \$500, Pine Lake Christian Camp \$1500, and Alberta Bible College \$1500. For 2022 we hope to increase these amounts even more, and it is our hope and prayer that we can continue to increase our support for these Missions year over year. In addition to those mentioned above, there are five other Missions our church will direct funds to if you designate your gift is for them. These are Lifeline Christian Mission (General), Lifeline Christian Mission (Ricot and Mandy Leon), Healthcare+ Ministries, Streetlight Ministries, and the Mustard Seed. When you donate to Oak Park you can designate a portion of your gift to "Missions" where these amounts will go toward helping us meet the budgeted goals we have set.

You will find monthly updates on our supported missions in our newsletter - the ParkBench, on the bulletin board in the church foyer, on our Facebook page, Instagram, and Twitter. Most importantly, please pray for the mission partners. They long to know they have the prayers of God's people with them. "The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective." (James 5:16)

If overseas or local Missions is something that is close to your heart, we would love for you to join our Missions Committee and be actively involved in this exciting frontline ministry. Just call the church office or talk to one of our pastors and we'll get you connected.

By Mary Davis









Mentoring at Oak Park Men's Mentoring - Radical Mentoring

Radical Men's Mentoring has opened my eyes and my heart to a much clearer understanding of what it really means to live as a man in God's Kingdom today. We live in a world and culture today that bombards men with unhealthy images and messages of what it means to be truly masculine. We are told to be independent and strong, and never rely on anyone else for our needs. We are expected to perform and produce results at very high levels, and yet be compassionate and supportive of those who depend on us. No wonder we get feeling insecure and uneasy when we don't think we measure up. Radical Mentoring has helped me discover that men are stronger when they can trust and depend upon one another according to Jesus' plan and design. I've learned to be a better husband and father, a better worker, a better friend, and a better church member by exploring my faith deeply with this small, but committed group of Christian men.

By Rob Beingessner



If you or someone you know is interested in baptism, we would love to meet with you and discuss that commitment. Contact anyone on staff and we'll connect with you about the possibility of being baptized on Easter Sunday.

Mentoring at Oak Park Women's Mentoring - Known Collective

I recently had the opportunity to be a part of the Known Collective Women's mentoring program led by Julie Kerr and Amanda MacDonald. It was a chance for 8 of us women to intentionally deepen and strengthen our faith. The ladies would read a carefully chosen book over the course of a month and we would connect with one another while participating in growth challenges. We also were assigned memory verses; once per month we would get together as a group to share the successes and challenges that we faced with the topics, and with our faith. All the while, we were deeply connecting with one another. For me personally, connecting with these special women was life changing as I began to discover that I didn't need to earn God's love, I already had it! As the group came to a close, I felt compelled to facilitate another Known Collective group, alongside Janel Prasad, in order for other women to be blessed by this program. I pray that all of our women at Oak Park would have this amazing opportunity for deep connection and intentional growth that I have been so thankful for

By Kim Beingessner









Attend our AGM either in-person at the church or via Zoom!

All materials, and Zoom links, will be emailed to Oak Park's voting members* before our Pre-AGM Q&A Session (via Zoom on March 20th at 12:45pm)

*Not sure is you are a voting member? Please contact the church office.



Save the Dates:

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



CAMP COUNSELLOR (4 POSITIONS AVAILABLE)

- Dates Hired: June 26-August 12, 2022
- Be with campers in all aspects of camp life
- Lead various activities and cabin groups
- Help to create a memorable experience for our campers
- Support the LIT's and other volunteers

LIFEGUARD

- Dates Hired: June 26-August 12, 2022
- Must have National Lifeguard Certification
- Our lifeguard also has the position of being one of our 4 Camp Counsellors
- Must be 18+

KITCHEN ASSISTANT (2 POSITIONS AVAILABLE)

- Dates Hired: June 26-August 12, 2022
- Work with our Head Cook to provide nutritious meals for our campers

MAINTENANCE ASSISTANT (1 POSITION AVAILABLE)

- Dates Hired: June 26-August 12, 2022
- Work with our Camp Managers to keep the facility clean and maintain the grounds

VISIT OUR WEBSITE TO APPLY:
PINELAKECHRISTIANCAMP.COM
PLEASE EMAIL IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS:
SUMMERCAMPS@PINELAKECHRISTIANCAMP.COM

Oak Park Youth Group Update

This year the Youth Group has asked for more of a focus on diving into scripture, implementing more community projects and activities, and getting the youth back to camps and other events where they are able to interact with youth their age. The youth have had a great start to the year expressing their drawing and acting skills through competitive games of pictionary and charades, jamming out with the Oak Park Worship Pastor, fighting for gold medals in the Oak Park Youth Winter Olympics 2022, learning through the Praxis Series about relationships, and having some fun in the community by lacing up their skates for some hockey across the road from the church. We are a few weeks out from the first PYPA youth conference in two years, and we can't wait! Thank you to our wonderful youth leaders who continue to take the time to shape and lead our next generation. Stay tuned to Oak Park weekly emails for more fun youth events to come this year!

Please reach out to Ray-ann or Mitch Bradley at youthopcc@gmail.com if you are interested in volunteering for the Youth Group this year.







Oak Park Missions Update

Vienna Moilliet - Refuge of Hope

Vienna has returned to the Philippines but they are still waiting for Ellora to get permission to join them. Please continue to pray for her. The girls are having a wonderful time enjoying outings to the new land, which was fully paid for in December. They call it the "Promised Land." The picture shows them enjoying a picnic and doing some gardening. Funds are slowly coming in for the building which will be their new home. Vienna has started teaching piano and someone else is teaching guitar so this is another wonderful opportunity for the girls. After lots of love and attention, 2 of the girls who arrived unable to read are now making good progress. So exciting! Unfortunately the Christmas gifts from Oak Park got delayed due to shipping problems on the coast. Please pray they will arrive safely on the scheduled date, March 3.





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 Bo	oxes come in the fo	llowing sizes:
LARGE	40 lbs	\$35.00
MEDIUM	30 lbs	\$30.00
SMALL	20 lbs	\$25.00

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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

What Your Giving Can Do - General Fund

All financial gifts received by the church that are not designated to go to another specific ministry or fund are charitable donations toward our General Fund. This fund, as you might expect, is the largest and most active of all of Oak Park's funds. Although we sometimes joke that this fund is what "keeps the lights on," that is, of course, only part of the story. Operational expenses, such as utilities, minor repairs, insurance, and supplies, are indeed covered by this fund; however, so are staffing resources and many ministry-related expenses. Additionally, this fund is used to ensure we meet our ministry commitments to our Missions budgets and to cover any shortfalls for ministries like Bridge of Hope, Food Bank or Benevolence. Most people tithe to the General Fund.

We often think of the General Fund as being a pretty set and consistent amount to budget for, but much like we have all noticed the impact of the increase in cost of living on our personal expenses, our church costs have also escalated sharply over the past two years: our insurance is up more than 25% since 2020, and we are anticipating similar increases in utilities and office expenses. We are prayerfully anticipating that we can count on increased donations in our General Fund to keep pace with these escalating costs this year and in the years to come.

By Pastor Lane











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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