

## **Long Range Planning Committee Update**

As discussed in the March AGM, Oak Park's ministry expansion plans were refreshed in 2019 through extensive consultation with all of Oak Park's ministries to reflect current staff and congregational priorities following our recent leadership transition.

While Covid put the building campaign on hold this past year, we took advantage of the pause to make several sanctuary upgrades last summer and to commission a study by the Verger Group, experts in church expansion and funding, to conduct a feasibility study on our planned expansion. We brought in Verger for two reasons: 1) they are experts in this field and were able to give Oak Park an informed and unbiased view of the expansion feasibility, and 2) to keep individual feedback confidential by conducting the interviews at arm's length and providing only aggregated responses to Oak Park's planning team.

Through a two-phase process (this past fall and winter) Verger consulted with 35 families and 63 individuals representing a cross section of new and long-term members at Oak Park. A questionnaire was also sent to a further 115 families of which 24 responded.

The response from those 87 families include:

- High church community awareness of the project.
- Strong support for the project – 88% of families interviewed say they will support the project financially.
- Our financial targets are likely to be met, providing fund raising proceeds once the Covid situation is largely behind us.
- All of the details of the expansion appear well targeted to augment Oak Park's many current ministries.

The responses also indicated the proposed ministry expansion fits nicely with Oak Park's overall strengths, which include:

- A welcoming and supportive environment.
- Strong pastoral teaching and preaching, and
- Strong focus on outreach, mission and ministering to many communities and groups. (Continued on page 2)

(Continued from page 1)

Based on this feedback the committee and Board elected to proceed with the development permit application with the City of Calgary this spring and summer, for the following reasons:

- Completes that regulatory step while there is still ample time before any future construction starts.
- Allows us to discover if there are any city requirements that will affect the design that have not already been considered.
- Avoids any potential complications from changes to the City's planning processes following this fall's civic election.
- The development permit is good for 3 years, and there is no commitment to proceed, only the approval to when Oak Park is ready.

Preparation of the development permit is currently underway and will be submitted later this spring, likely in late May. City approvals are expected to take up to 3 months after the application is submitted.

There is no financial impact on the church for this development approval process as several families stepped up and committed sufficient funds to cover the costs associated with this application.

While the current plans already reflect input from all of Oak Park's many ministries and the staff and congregation, this development permit phase gives us one further opportunity to solicit any additional thoughts or suggestions from folks.

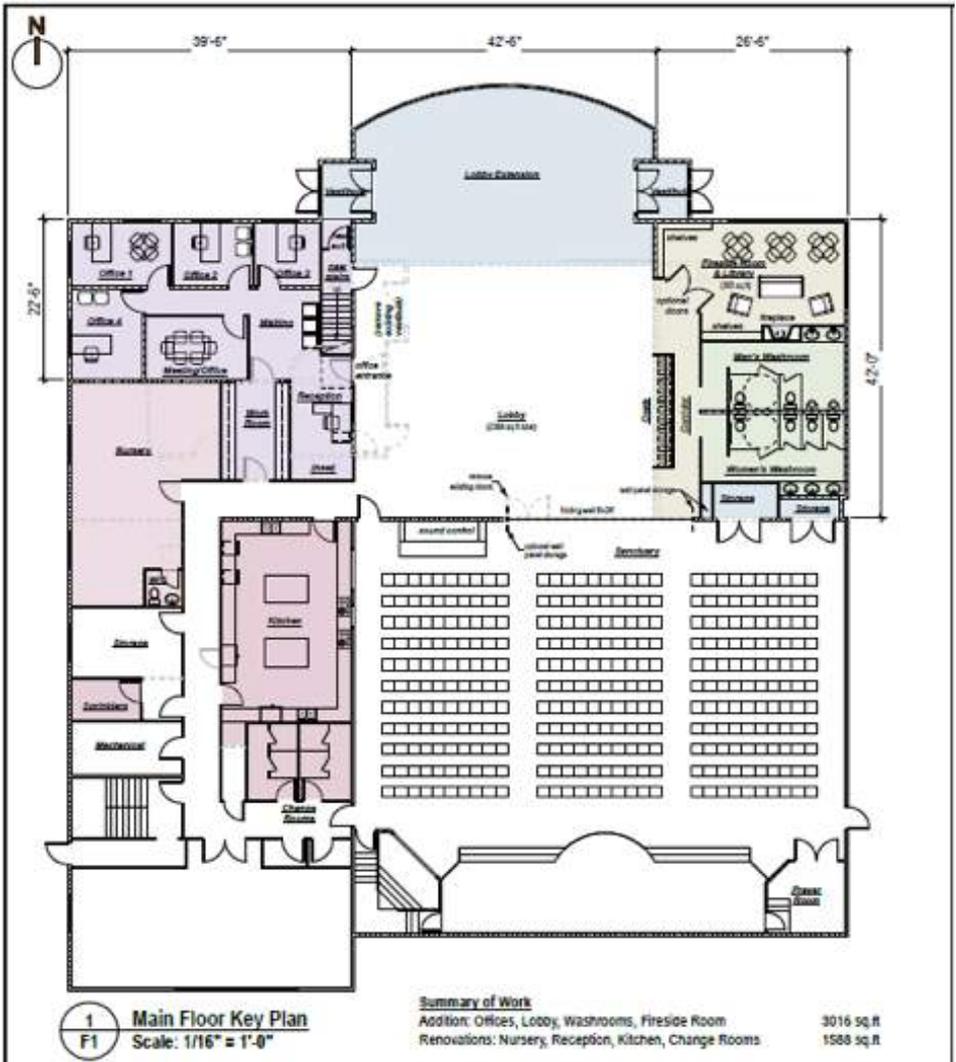
Copies of the current design's drawings are available at the church office and at the Information Desk in the foyer before or after church.

We will also be holding a Zoom Open House on Monday, May 17th at 7:30 PM. Here is the link for the zoom meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85143316597>

Any questions or suggestions can also be directed to Lane, Martin or myself at any time.

Doug Walker, Chairman  
Long Range Planning Committee

# Planned Upgrades and Expansion - Main Floor Plans



# ONLINE TOWNHALL

Long Range Planning Committee Update

Zoom Q&A Session

May 17, 7:30pm



A poster for an art event. The background is a vibrant, abstract painting with shades of blue, green, yellow, and red. The text is overlaid on black, brush-stroke-like shapes. At the top, the word "ART" is written in large, bold, blue letters. Below it, the text "On Oak Park's YouTube Channel" is written in white. In the middle, the words "IN THE" are written in large, bold, blue letters. At the bottom, the word "PARK" is written in large, bold, blue letters. Below "PARK", the text "Saturday, May 8 - 7pm" is written in white. In the bottom right corner, there is a logo for "oak park CHURCH OF CHRIST" featuring a stylized tree icon.

**ART**  
On Oak Park's YouTube Channel

**IN THE**

**PARK**

Saturday, May 8 - 7pm





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A teal heart shape with a white cross inside, positioned in the center of the graphic.

**JUST DO IT!**

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

**10:00 - 11:30am**

**June 5th**

**Registration Required**

**Bring your own water bottle, tea or coffee, and please wear a mask.**

Social distancing and Covid-19 protocols in place. Contact the church office for more information.

# Sabbatical Announcement from Dawn Driediger

With my 10 year anniversary on staff coming up in September, I am a bit past due for my sabbatical... but just the thought of leaving you all for even a couple months has been something I've been putting off. So, with a push from Lane, the Board and Elders, I will be off for eight weeks in June and July. During this time away from Oak Park, I will spend four weeks studying online: Racism and Christian Identity (Regent College), Indigenous Canada (University of Alberta), as well as Fundamentals of Counseling. On either end of these four weeks, I will spend two weeks with family, getting things ready for my dad's funeral, as well as some much needed R'nR. I will miss you all very much.

-Pastor Dawn

**Would you pray about bringing the next generation of our church family's children to deeper faith in Christ?**

**KidsPark really needs class leaders and helpers, 1or 2 times per month.  
No previous experience needed...**

**Hearts that love the Lord, and kids, are what we need.**



Contact the church office, or talk to any of our pastors if you are able to help or have questions.

Sermon Series Starts May 23!

**BETTER TOGETHER**



# OAK PARK FINANCE UPDATE



Church family, we continue to be amazed at your level of generosity and commitment to the mission of our church. Thank you!

## YEAR TO DATE GENERAL FUND

After three months of 2021 we are tracking just below our budgeted giving with almost \$85,000 donated. This does not include our designated gifts or rental income.

97%

\$9000

## BENEVOLENCE FUND

Our benevolence giving continues to be strong and allows us to help folks within our church family and community

## UNDER ON EXPENSES

We continue to be conscientious in our expenditures. We have some significant expenses in the next few months, but currently we are underspending our budget.

-8%

\$2500

## TRANSFERS

We continue to transfer \$2500 each month to reserve funds (severely depleted over the past few years). These funds help prepare us for larger capital expenses.

## OVERALL BUDGET TRACKING

We are slightly in the red at this point of the year, but the deficit is less than \$500 total and includes the invoice for the recently completed Financial Review.

-\$500

**THESE NUMBERS ARE VERY ENCOURAGING. THERE IS A CHALLENGE AHEAD OF US, BUT WE HAVE REASON TO CELEBRATE AND THANK GOD FOR HIS PROVISION!**



*Eat Well. Spend Less.*



**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:

<b>LARGE</b>	40 lbs	\$35.00
<b>MEDIUM</b>	30 lbs	\$30.00
<b>SMALL</b>	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](mailto:office@oakpark.ca)



**NOW HIRING**  
**HEAD COOK**  
**Contact**  
[INFO@PINELAKECHRISTIANCAMP.COM](mailto:INFO@PINELAKECHRISTIANCAMP.COM)

**PLCC**



**Work**  
**Bee**

**Pine**  
**Lake**  
**Christian**  
**Camp**

**May 8**  
**May 15**

**Registration**  
**Required**

Register at [pinelakechristiancamp.com](http://pinelakechristiancamp.com)

# Oak Park Missions Update

## Graceland Ministries

Graceland continues to come up with amazing ideas for class topics and online discussions and they are looking for people from Canada who would like to participate as conversation partners with them. Their teen classes "CyberQuest" and "Veritas Project" focus on truth and absolutes, while adult classes "Turning Point" and "Poet Warrior" focus on seeking God. The "LOOK OUT!" and "Couch Potatoes" pop-culture classes focus on building relationships with God and with each other. Their newest endeavors are online classes with new immigrants to Canada and a discussion class with university students in Mongolia. They are virtual world travelers and are eagerly looking for suggestions on expanding their online classes to other countries as well as improving overall online experiences. The following comment of theirs is good advice for us all: "We are



more in love with our mission than our methods. Our methods must change so the mission may continue." Please continue to pray for Colette. Her surgeon feels she needs surgery immediately if she is to ever walk again. The plan is to

implant titanium screws into her lumbar spine, however due to the severe COVID restrictions in Poland all "elective" surgeries have been cancelled indefinitely. If you have suggestions for the Graceland team or would like to join an online group, contact [jay@gracelandcentrum.com](mailto:jay@gracelandcentrum.com).

## Oak Park Missions Update

### Refuge of Hope

Refuge of Hope had asked for prayer for Pastor Rod's health. We are glad to report he does not have cancer but he does have abdominal TB. This is being treated with antibiotics for the next 9 months and he is starting to feel a little better each day. Refuge of Hope's facility is attached to his church so his support is very significant to them. Please continue to pray for him and his family as well as for Vienna.



### Streetlight Ministries

Streetlight is very excited as they are taking the ministry in a somewhat new direction. The youth they were seeing indicated that the downtown area was not a safe area to meet so Streetlight is now expanding their work in Forest Lawn. They are partnering with Eastside Victory Church and they will connect with youth by providing a hot, healthy meal and mentors to hang out with them. They also will be running an after school drop-in program, helping with homework and life skills!



Regarding the Coldest Night of the Year Walk, Carissa says to Oak Park, "Thank you so much for your support! It got me very close to my goal which was amazing in such a short amount of time!"

# DISCOVERY

**JUNE 6TH - 8TH 2021**

**CALGARY, AB.**

**WHERE MIGHT GOD BE  
LEADING YOU TO SERVE?**

Early-bird registration until May 10th: \$75/person  
Students: \$20/person  
After May 10th: \$100/person



**Learn more:**

**[PioneerBible.ca/Discovery](http://PioneerBible.ca/Discovery)**



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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 **oak park**  
CHURCH OF CHRIST