

What Oak Park Means to Me

The first thing that comes to mind when we think of Oak Park Church is "family." Terri has been attending Oak Park for almost 30 years, and Ben started attending a few years later. We have seen many changes during that time, but the one thing that never changes is that Oak Park Church is full of loving, compassionate people - many of whom we have had the joy of working with during our time serving in different ministries over the years. If you want to really get to know people in our church, just sign up for one of the many ministries that are available. There's nothing like doing mountains of dishes and preparing food together to really bond people!

It takes a lot of people to make a Sunday Service happen each week and we are so appreciative of everyone who takes part. This is what makes Oak Park so very special. As soon as you walk through the door you are made to feel welcome by our warm and friendly Connections Team. Richard, who was for many years the first person you saw when entering the church, left big shoes to fill. Tom however, seems to have size twelves because he is doing a great job.

We would like to say a big Thank-you to Laurel and Keith, our Café ministry gurus, who head up a wonderful team of people who make sure we have delicious coffee and treats available every Sunday. Our new worship pastor, Shelley (great guitar and vocals), and her team do a magnificent job leading us into the spirit of worship with beautiful and inspirational music. If that isn't enough to inspire you, we are then further blessed to have Lane as our pastor – a football aficionado and amazing preacher. We are very excited to have the Scruggs family at Oak Park Church. They are a wonderful addition and we're still trying to figure out how Lane and Chantelle seem to somehow remember everyone's name!



We want to express a big "Thank-you" to our associate pastor, Martin (who Ben likes to call "my favorite Martin"). He is always there with a smile and has stepped up to the plate, time and time again over the years. If you need something done, Martin is your man! We also have Ron and Ricot, who on a regular basis (Cont'd on page 3)

Missions Workshop

MAY 25, 2019 ~ 9 AM - 12 PM

This Saturday morning workshop, facilitated by Lifeline Christian Mission, is for everyone! No sign-up required, coffee and snacks provided.



Camp Dates

2019

Work Bee	.....	Saturday, May 4, 2019
Work Bee	.....	Saturday, May 11, 2019
Family Camp	.....	May 17 - 20, 2019
Senior's Day	.....	Wednesday, May 29, 2019
Ladies' Retreat	.....	June 7 - 9, 2019
Staff Training	.....	June 23 - 28, 2019
Sr. High Camp	.....	June 30 - July 5, 2019
L.I.T. (Leaders in Training)	.....	July 7 - 12, 2019
Jr. High Camp	.....	July 14 - 19, 2019
Jr. Camp	.....	July 21 - 26, 2019
Rookie Camp	.....	July 28 - 31, 2019
Family Camp	.....	August 2 - 5, 2019
Deeper Life Camp	.....	August 23 - 25, 2019
Senior's Day	.....	Wednesday, September 11, 2019
Men's Retreat	.....	September 27 - 29, 2019
Snow Camp	.....	Date TBA, 2019

pinelake
christian camp

(Cont'd from page 1) contribute to our Sunday morning preaching experience.

Which brings us to pastor Dawn, who does so many things, including: office administration, children's ministry, and First Nation's outreach. Dawn is always upbeat, positive and incredibly talented! Our children are very blessed to be nurtured by her and her team. Our youth pastor Sara is doing a great job leading our junior and senior high youth, and we so appreciate what she does. Youth can easily fall through the cracks but with Sara and her team loving them, they are in very good hands. The list of people to thank for keeping our church running is a long one. Communion preparation, Sunday morning ushers, and our finance team (a special thank-you to Gerry and Shirley Hiebert for their many years in this ministry), and many others who serve behind the scenes, all play a crucial part.

Oak Park Church certainly embodies its mission to "Love God, Love Others, and Serve the World." There is prayer available after the service and during

the week if anyone needs it. Our seniors enjoy amazing luncheons headed up by Doris MacKinnon (known for her hats and prize-winning relish) and her team. Many of the seniors who come to this are from the communities surrounding the church, making our senior's ministry a wonderful outreach with growing numbers in attendance. In addition to all of the above, the people at Oak Park Church also support many missions (with our Senior High Youth going to Haiti this summer). There is the Lovin' Spoonfuls ministry led by Christa McKergow, ensuring moms with new-born babies and the sick have hot meals delivered to their homes. There is also the Food Bank, Life Groups, and free Cobs Bread.

The people and ministries mentioned here are just the tip of the iceberg. The impact the wonderful people at Oak Park Church have on each other and our community truly do make it a special place. Oak Park Church is ready to be part of your family!

By Terri and Ben Flegel



Oak Park - Tsuut'ina Bridge of Hope

Upcoming luncheon dates:

May 13 & June 17



We would be thrilled to have you participate in this ministry! You can help by donating a pot of hearty soup, assisting with set-up and/or clean-up, and having lunch at a table to visit with some of our guests.

Oak Park Senior High Mission Trip

Thank you Oak Park. Due to your generosity we were able to raise a grand total of \$17,000.00 towards our missions trip. We are continuing to collect bottles and we are accepting cash donations through the offering. We do not have any more specific fundraisers planned at the moment. We are excited to be starting to plan our VBS that we will run in Haiti. As the trip draws closer we will be focusing on team building and development. Please join us in praying that God prepares us for the work that he has for us and the hearts of the people who we are going to be ministering to.

The Bottle Drive Fundraiser is still happening! Save your empties and drop them off at the church, right up to the end of July 2019!



Eat Well. Spend Less.



Anyone can order. This is a truly a great value and everything is very fresh!

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 21, 2019	January 30

February 25	March 6
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March 25	April 3
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April 29	May 8
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May 27	June 5
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June 17	June 26
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September 16	September 25
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October 21	October 30
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November 25	December 4
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Food Bank Update

Dear volunteers,

We can't thank you enough for your enthusiasm, tireless energy and support of this ministry. The willingness of so many in our church family to pitch in to help others is truly inspiring and encouraging.

With your hands-on help as well as donations of food and money, we were able to bless 9 families with food and clothing, just in time for Easter. The excitement and joy on the faces of our volunteers as they contribute is so wonderful to see, and it is reflected in the faces of the people (especially the children!) who were recipients of your generosity. They were all overwhelmed with the quantity and quality of the food provided, and very grateful for that as well as the 300 items of clothing and household goods and toys that the Free Clothing Rack ministry provided.

Our diligent shoppers were excellent stewards of the donations and kept us under budget, so we have a good head start for the next Food Bank. Our next event will be in early fall, before Thanksgiving. Stay tuned!

With grateful hearts,
Kerry and Mike Grant



Long Range Planning Committee Report

Background:

The Long Range Planning Committee was formed in 2015 with the goal of planning future building modifications to enhance Sunday worship and Oak Park's many ministries.

To assist in that planning, extensive consultation was held with most of Oak Park's ministries in 2015. Based on that feedback, several preliminary options for expanding and modifying were investigated with Parker Seminoff Architects (specialists in church buildings) and those drawings were reviewed by the Board, Elders and Staff.

Depending on the nature of a future expansion different land use zoning might be required, so in 2016 the LRPC worked with the City of Calgary to rezone the land on which Oak Park resides to pave the way for future building modifications. That rezoning does not commit Oak Park to anything, it merely resolves one regulatory step in case, or for when, we proceed to expand.

Long range planning was then put on hold during the Sr. Pastor transition process before being reactivated last fall.

Recent LRPC Efforts:

Last fall a vestibule was added to the church entrance to comply with City of Calgary escape egress requirements for Happy Time Day Care. These modifications were paid for by Happy Time.

This winter and spring the committee began reviewing options to segment the previous draft expansion plans into smaller, more manageable stages. Given the elapsed time since the initial consultations in 2015 and 2016, a new round of consultations was held this winter and spring with the following committees:

- Care of the Family
- Neighborhood Outreach
- Building Facility
- Finance
- Governance

These committees have representatives from the Board, Elders and Staff and represent the many individual ministries at Oak Park, so this approach allowed broad feedback on our current building needs and priorities.

This latest round of consultation yielded the following feedback:

High Priorities:

- Expanded and upgraded kitchen facility.
- Designated youth space.
- Expanded and upgraded restrooms.

Medium Priorities:

- Additional community space.
- More storage space.
- More café / foyer / open space.
- Expanded and updated nursery.

Lower Priorities:

- Designated prayer space.
- Medium chapel / flex space.
- Laundry / showers.

Examples of comments and feedback:

- The kitchen needs to be expanded and modernized with newer appliances, especially stove and oven.
- Improvements to main floor washrooms, especially the ladies. Include handicapped access.
- Improvements to the KidsPark washrooms.
- Expand the kids worship space as the church grows and more children come.
- Update and modernize the library – could be included in a new flex space or chapel?
- New flooring in KidsPark worship room.
- Soundproofing between that room and the Fireside Room below.
- Multi-use space addressed through scheduling.
- Larger communion preparation area.
- Prayer space would be nice but would it sit idle most of the week?
- Concerns with laundry and showers – who would have access? Does it expose Oak Park to liabilities? Less need for on site laundry without Inn From The Cold.
- Sanctuary expansion can be deferred until attendance grows more.
- What are the costs and when will the church be able to afford renovations?

This last point is one the LRPC and church leadership team is acutely aware of. No modifications would begin until we are sure the church can afford them and a solid financial plan for them is in place.

In the meantime however, we want to continue the planning work so we can be ready when the time is right. (Cont'd on page 8)

(Cont'd from page 7)

Next steps:

There have been three extensive consultation rounds to date:

- Initial needs assessment in 2015.
- Board/Elders/Staff reviews in 2015/16.
- The above recent committee reviews.

However it may be that individual congregation members would also like direct discussion on the potential future plans so the following open houses are also scheduled:

- Sunday, May 26 immediately after church.
- Thursday, June 13 at 7:00 PM.

Following those open houses, the LRPC will take all of this most recent feedback to our architect to update the draft drawings and cost estimates. We will then identify the costs and benefits of various components to further prioritize how many of the requests and recommendations can be accommodated, and in what order. From there we will develop financial and funding models to determine how the potential modification cases could be accommodated.

Again, none of the above work commits OPCC to conduct any of this work. We are taking advantage of the time currently available until OPCC is in a stronger financial position to ensure we're ready when the time is right.

Long Range Planning Committee Members:

- Pastor Lane Scruggs – representing the Staff
- George Graffunder – representing the Elders
- Rob Beingessner – representing the Board
- Tom Barnett – Financial Modelling
- Doug Walker – Chairman

Doug Walker, Chairman
Long Range Planning



The logo features the words "Plan to Protect" in blue and orange. Above the "to" is a yellow handprint with a heart in the center. To the right of "Protect" is a blue handprint with a heart in the center. Below the main title is a yellow banner with the text "Refresher and New Volunteer Training." In the bottom left corner, there is a small circular icon with a cross and the word "Faith".

Sunday, June 2
12:00 pm to 2:30 pm
Potluck Sunday - Bring Something to Share



UPDATE ON SOME OF OAK PARK CHURCH'S SPONSORED MISSIONS

Norm and Jill Weatherhead



Norm started the year in Dallas doing research for his doctorate. His topic will help in the choosing of new translation projects in Papua New Guinea. At the end of January he headed back to PNG in time for the AGM and the completion of his 6 years as director of Pioneer Bible Translators in PNG. This has given him more time to work on his major project which is the consultant checking of the book of Luke in the Akekem language. Jill joined him in PNG and was able to get the 'shell' books (literacy story books) for three different language groups onto the computer Paratext program. When there was an urgent need for a casket for a relative of his translators, Norm was able to assist with that. Over the weekend, his

translators then made the long trip to the village transporting the body and by Monday they were back and able to continue with their work. Amazing commitment!

Norm asks if there are people who might be interested in donating towards solar powered computers so their national translators can work in their villages.



Norm and Jill are now both back in Calgary continuing their work from here for the next few months. They were thrilled to be in Calgary for the arrival of a new grand-daughter, Dakota Joy. They have a conditional offer on their home and are praying that the sale will go through. They found a basement suite to rent as of June. Please keep Norm and Jill in your prayers.

Bags Needed!

The Free Clothing Rack Ministry is in need of bags, plastic or cloth, of various sizes for people to take clothes home in. If you have any to donate please give them to Doris MacKinnon or drop them off at one of the church offices!

May 27

SENIORS

LUNCH



The Biegel Family

MUSICAL ENTERTAINMENT INFUSED WITH JOY, HOPE AND ENCOURAGEMENT

-- SIGN UP AT THE INFORMATION CENTRE --

IT'S A
POTLUCK!

BRING A FAVORITE
DISH TO SHARE

Sunday June 2nd

after the morning service

Oak Park
Coming
Events

Oak Park
CHURCH OF CHRIST

Women's Ministry

Join our FaceBook group:
Oak Park Women's Ministry

Your Giving Matters! April Financial Update



Well now that our series on Money is over, we don't need to think or talk about it again for a while, right? My hope is that our 7-week Lenten Series instilled in us all the understanding that money has a unique and vital connection to our faith. Everything is connected, no matter how much we try to "silo" our lives, so we cannot neglect what our view and use of money says about how we worship and follow Jesus. Remember, money is like dynamite in our life of faith – it has incredible potential for good and a dangerous tendency to do unwanted destruction. Thank you to those of you who engaged in the series and have stepped up to answer the challenge of trusting God more with your money and your giving. Let us make 2019 a year we intentionally think about what it means to be an asset manager of God's money, because he owns it all!

DELIGHT

"TAKE DELIGHT IN THE LORD,
AND HE WILL GIVE YOU
YOUR HEART'S DESIRES."
PSALM 37:4

LADIES RETREAT 2019

PINE LAKE CHRISTIAN CAMP
JUNE 7 - 9

SPEAKER: ANDREA BYE

Andrea was a Pastor of Women's Ministries at RockPointe Church, where she ran a group which fostered women's spiritual growth. Andrea is very excited to be joining us this year and looks forward to bringing fun, laughter and encouragement to those who attend.



If you would like to be included in any of these, please contact the church office:

- phone directory
- prayer chain
- eNews



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CHURCH OF CHRIST