

Summer of Construction



When COVID-19 came into our lives last spring, it brought with it an abrupt change to our familiar routines and cancellation or postponement to many of our summer plans. Yet the familiar saying, “when God closes one door, He opens another” proved to be true for our church this summer as we were able to embark

on a few renovation projects - projects that would have been impossible to tackle under normal circumstances.

Among these were: a freshening of our foyer space, new paint and décor in the men’s washroom, a complete makeover of the KidsPark worship room upstairs, and largest of all - major alterations to our sanctuary. This last project allowed us to fulfill a long-awaited desire for a designated Prayer Room, create significantly more (and very much needed) storage space, update and improve the stage lighting and sound system, and bring the Cross forward to a more prominent position above the Baptistry. (Continued on page 2)



None of this could have been accomplished without the help of our congregation. Some felt led to give to these projects financially while others volunteered a few hours or even a few weeks of their time to move these projects forward. All of this is very much appreciated, and I want to express a big 'Thank you' here to everyone who contributed.



Included are a few pictures of the sanctuary project in progress but if you want to see it finished, we hope you will join us when our Sunday services resume for a firsthand look!

By Pastor Martin





UPCOMING SERMON SERIES ON THE BOOK OF ACTS



O U T O F C O N T R O L



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Sunday, October 25th
11:45 AM

Due to Covid-19 our March 2020 AGM was postponed and will now be held on October 25th. As such, updated AGM Materials will be distributed to Oak Park's voting members.*

A Pre-AGM "Q&A Session" will be held October 18th via Zoom.

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

READY TO LAUNCH?

WE ARE!



LAUNCH INFO

- MUST register to attend @ oakpark.ca.
- Arrive EARLY... we'll have questions, lots of questions (plus temperature taking).
- Wear a MASK and clean your hands.
- NO food... period.
- We NEED volunteers for our launch pad, if you can help, call or email the office.
- If you are unwell, PLEASE join us online.



The Launch of In-Person Worship Services

Sunday, October 4th

BE HERE!



KidsPark & Youth Launch Info

- Ages 3-Grade 6* can ATTEND KidsPark.
- Under 3 must stay with parents in SANCTUARY.
- Youth can Volunteer or REMAIN in Sanctuary.
- MUST register to attend @ oakpark.ca .
- Arrive EARLY... cutoff for KP at 10am.
- Wear a MASK & clean your hands!
- Take kids to toilet BEFORE going to KidsPark.
- * Kids must be able to wear a mask & follow rules.



Oak Park Youth Group

7:00 pm - 8:30 pm
 @ Oak Park Church of Christ
 Begins Sunday, October 4, 2020

*Masks will be required to attend in compliance with Calgary Bylaw 26M2020

KidsPark Is Coming . . .

Beginning @ 10:00 am
 on Sunday, October 4, 2020



AMAZED



GOD OF



MIRACLES

Ages 3 - Grade 6*

*Children must be able to wear masks and comply with the physical distancing guidelines that our KidsPark team have put in place.



For many of us the last seven months or so have been lived in varying degrees of isolation from our friends and family members. While this has been a necessary and wise thing to do, it does not negate the fact that God has created us to be social beings who thrive best when surrounded by supportive and loving people. Speaking personally, not being able to gather with my church family on Sunday mornings has been particularly difficult for me and I long for the time when hugging and handshaking becomes acceptable once more.

For the time being, however, social distancing is going to be with us for the foreseeable future. Yet that doesn't mean that we can't gather in a sensible and respectful manner with a group of like-minded friends to talk about faith and life.

Oak Park Life Groups is a place where you can do exactly that. Be it in someone's home, another gathering place, or over a Zoom like platform, Oak Park Life Groups can provide a place where our social and spiritual needs find fulfilment through sermon-based discussions, Bible/book studies, or faith centred courses.

If you are done with being isolated and would like to be part of a Life Group, please email Pastor Martin at martin@oakpark.ca or call the church (403-251-5150) to find out how you can get connected.

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

By Pastor Martin

Why Create A Breeze Account?

Breeze is our new church management software. By creating a Breeze account you will be able to:

- Register online to attend church services (when we resume meeting in person)
- Sign up for events happening at the church
- View the church calendar online
- View the church directory online
- Help keep our database up to date by updating your own information
- View scheduling for volunteers

How to Create Your Breeze Account

Step 1

Enter this link: <https://oakparkchurch.breezechms.com/login/create> or click on the "Create Account" link in the email we

Create Account

have sent you. This will take you to a "Create User" screen. (Note: If you did not receive an email from us, or you are having trouble finding the Create User page, please call (403-251-5150) or email (office@oakpark.ca) the church office so that we can assist you)

Create User

Create your user account:

	<input type="text" value="segely"/>
	<input type="password" value="*****"/>
	<input type="password" value="*****"/>

Create User

Step 2

Fill out the information: create a username and password. For your username we recommend first initial and last name. For example: Sara Egely's username would be segely.

Step 3

Click on the "Create User" button. This will take you to the account created page.

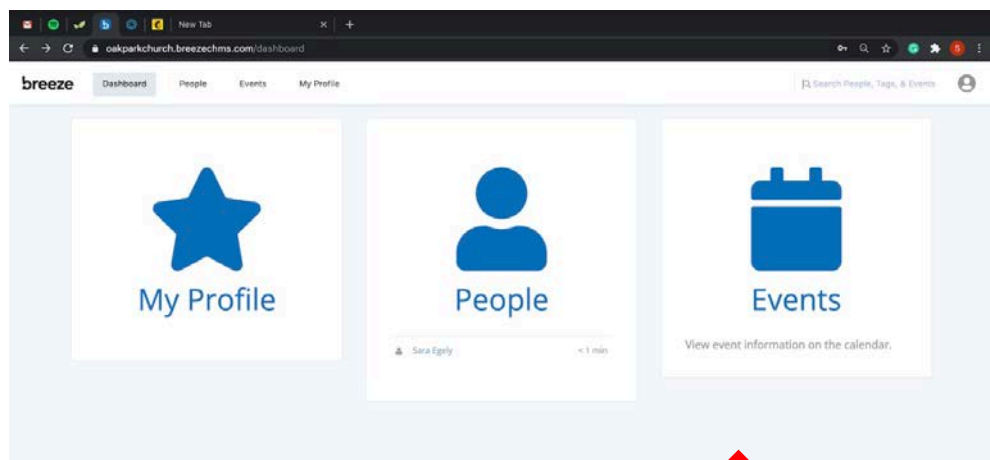


Step 4

Click the login button and you will be taken to your Breeze dashboard.



Dashboard



You have now created your account!

To view your information click on "My Profile." Make sure all the information is correct. If it is not, you can edit it by hovering over the header of each section and selecting "click to edit section." **Please remember to upload a photo of yourself for our Photo Directory.**

Contact

[click to edit section](#)

Mobile (403) 422-0459

Email sara@oakpark.ca

Address 79 Inverness Gardens SE
Calgary, AB T2Z 2W9

To view the online church calendar click on the "Events" tab on your dashboard. To search for other members click on the "People" tab on your dashboard.

Oak Park Missions Update



Vienna Moilliet - Refuge of Hope Shelter



Refuge of Hope has now been open for 3 months. The first 2 girls were ages 14 and 25 and now they have two more girls ages 9 and 12 who have also lived through terrible abuse. The staff is asking for prayer regarding 3 more sisters they would like to take in. At the shelter they experience safety, good food, lots of love, laughter, counseling, schooling online, Bible stories, cooking, jewelry making, art classes, singing and more. Some of the girls are just learning to read. Vienna has experienced some

real 'down' times with the enormity of the need and now her planned home coming in October is not a possibility. Please pray that her friend in the US will be able to join them and that they will be able to meet the increasing financial needs as they provide for all these girls. For more info please check out their Facebook page <https://facebook.com/refugeofhopeinternational/>

Paul and Mary Davis - Healthcare+ Ministries

Life has been extra challenging in Haiti as people cope with COVID and the resulting school, church, and business closures. Schools had just reopened in January 2020 after being closed all last fall due to many days of political protests. Then in March 2020 the government mandated that both schools and churches close. Pastor Ewal is blessed to have a radio station within his church which made it possible for him to encourage and teach his people both spiritually as well as instruct them regarding COVID prevention. Donations were sent to help with cost and distribution of hand soap, Clorox, and food. The government provided masks. Packing and distributing the goods was a big undertaking for the local congregation but an encouragement and blessing to all. Donations also continue to provide a lunch for the elementary school children (now that school has resumed), support for elderly widows, food help for the extremely needy as well as assistance for some very poor nursing students' school fees.



Food Rescue Grant Report



On April 29th we received a \$10,000 grant from Second Harvest's Food Rescue Program. The timing of this was a gift from God as we knew of so many families and individuals who were in need of food assistance especially due to the Covid-19 crisis. From May to August we supplied:

- 7 Emergency Food Hampers (impacting 14 adults & 13 children)
- 10 Grocery Gift Cards (impacting 9 adults & 16 children)
- 2 Special Food Banks (impacting 37 adults & 45 children)
- 7500 Meal Packs for The Mustard Seed (impacting Calgary's homeless people)
- 32 Snack Packs and \$200 for meat for StreetLight Program (impacting youth on Calgary's street)
- \$250 allocated to purchase breakfast food for Cedarbrae School (impacting hungry children)
- \$575 towards the purchase of a large chest freezer for the church.



Thank you to Kerry Grant (and her Food Bank Team) and Martin Hosier for their assistance with this huge undertaking!



We are excited to have recently been invited to be a beneficiary of Second Harvest's Surplus Food Rescue. This involves receiving large quantities of frozen food and fresh eggs to distribute to those in need in our community. As such, we were able to use some of our grant funds to purchase a large chest freezer. This was such a blessing and again we saw God's hand in the timing.

As this was an amazing opportunity to help so many, I met with the Directors of Tsuut'ina Nation's Men's Shelter and Food Bank and together we placed a large

order... how large you ask? 1,997 lbs of frozen meat and vegetables and 1,080 fresh eggs!! That's large! This food will help SO many people, and all of us are super excited!

By Pastor Dawn



Eat Well. Spend Less.

 **OAK PARK**
CHURCH OF CHRIST

2020

**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 13

February 3

March 9

April 13

May 4

June 1

September 7

September 28

October 26

November 30

DELIVERY DATE

January 22

February 12

March 18

April 22

May 13

June 10

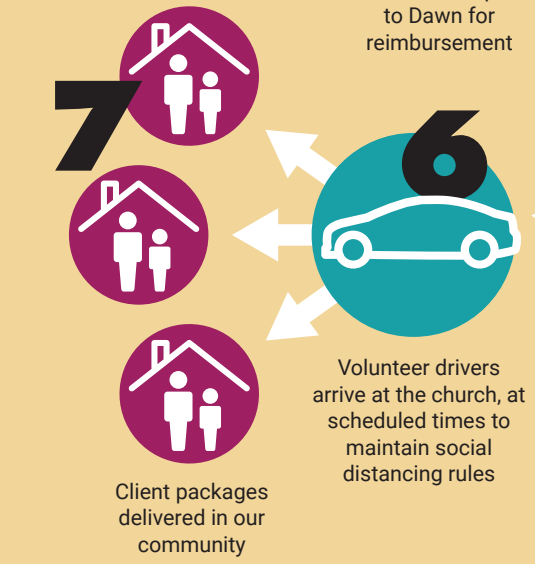
September 16

October 7

November 4

December 9

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



F O O D
B A N K
OCTOBER
8

OAK PARK
FOOD
BANK

Long Range Planning Committee Report

First a quick refresher – over the past two years, through extensive consultation with Oak Park's Ministries, Staff, Elders and Board, the plans for Oak Park's facility upgrades have been updated to reflect the latest thinking for the best opportunities to enhance Oak Park's many ministries.

Exterior and main floor drawings will be included in the AGM package and are included again in this month's update.

The benefits to Oak Park's many ministries are extensive and exciting. Please refer to your AGM package for the full list of ministries to benefit and how.

With the conceptual plans complete the next two steps are:

- Determining the funding for the project, and
- Detailed construction drawings and a city development permit.

Construction could then follow, as early as the summer of 2021.

Determining the project funding has three phases:

- Review of Oak Park's financials and recent givings history. This work was completed earlier this summer by the Verger Group (again, refer to your AGM package for details on why we're using Verger) and they've provided an estimate for our potential fund raising, by comparing Oak Park's financials and givings history with other churches Verger has worked with. This review gives us the confidence to proceed to phase two.

- Interviews by the Verger Group with a cross section of Oak Park individuals and their preliminary estimates of project donations. This next step will confirm or revise their initial estimate through one-on-one interviews with a cross section of Oak Park's members and supporters. Those families to be interviewed have been notified already and those interviews are scheduled to occur between Sept 24th and 29th.

Not all church families will be interviewed – just enough to give Verger and the Long Range Planning Committee a firmer read on the project's fundraising potential. If the feedback from those interviews is strong enough, then we will proceed to phase three.

- Formal fundraising drive. This fundraising drive would likely occur early in 2021 and would involve Oak Park families and supporters making firm

pledges for capital fund donations over a three to five year period. The balance of the project would be financed through a low interest rate mortgage by the Church of Christ Development Company.

If the feedback from the interviews during phase two is strong enough, we will also begin our development permit application to the city, followed by detailed construction drawings. This work, to be done this fall and winter, would then clear the way for construction to begin over the summer of 2021.

Summer 2020 Renovations:

Most folks will know by now we also took advantage of the lock down to do some of the sanctuary renovations this summer. That work is complete and includes:

- Converting the Storage Room beside the stage to a Prayer Room.
- Stage modifications including storage under and behind the stage.
- Conversion of the space above the baptistry to storage.
- Upgrades to our audio and video systems.

That work is now complete and was done to high standards and brought in under budget, courtesy of Pastor Martin's stellar oversight. Many thanks to those families that contributed financially to this project this summer.

Planned Renovations - Exterior View



Coming soon to Oak Park...

mradicalmentoring

Men's mentoring. For more information contact Rob Beingessner.

"Radical mentoring gave me the tools I needed to step up to my responsibility to demonstrate how a father loves his children, how a husband loves his wife, and how a family worships God."

-Ray Snyder, Lead Mentor, The Church at LifePark

Did You Know?

Oak Park's Long Range Planning team has engaged a church consultant firm called The Verger Group to do a congregational assessment on the viability of a capital campaign. The campaign would be in advance of the proposed building expansion/renovation and the consultants are helping determine the viability and timing that would maximize the ministry potential for our church family. If you have any questions about the process or the consultation, please don't hesitate to reach out to Pastor Lane.



Get Connected

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

- phone directory - prayer chain - eNews



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