

THE OAKBRIDGE

OAKRIDGE COMMUNITY CHURCH

One Candle to Burn

From Pastor Seth

An anonymous missionary once wrote, “I have but one candle to burn, and would rather burn it out where people are dying in darkness than in a land which is flooded with lights.” That is the heart of any true missionary. They desire to spend their lives reaching out to peoples who remain in darkness, among whom the light of Christ has yet to shine! Is this not the very desire we find in the apostle Paul? Paul, who sets before us the model of missionary endeavor, wrote in Romans 15:20-21, “... thus I make it my ambition to preach the Gospel, not where Christ has already been named, lest I build on someone else’s foundation, but as it is written, ‘Those who have never been told of Him will see, and those who have never heard will understand.’” Missionaries strive to lift the banner of “Christ Crucified” in new places and people groups in this world, driven by faith in this same truth! We ought to support such people in every way we can with whatever resources the Lord has entrusted to us- especially with our prayers.



During our summer *Focus on Missions* this year, I am asking myself this question: “What are we learning this summer from the missionaries we support?” I do this so that I do not drift into a “motionless mindset” as I listen to their ministry updates. I do not mean by this that I think their missionary reports are boring- nothing could be further from the truth! The missionaries we support are striding forward into very difficult and dark areas in this world either directly themselves, or in very active supporting roles. Their devotion to the mandate of the Great Commission is admirable and stirring. No, I do not ask this question in order to keep my mind engaged in their reporting. I ask it in order to focus my own heart and mind on a very important reality.

There is a temptation that lurks around those of us who do not go out into the “foreign mission field.” It is an enticement to think that once we have sent our missionaries the money designated for their support, our part in fulfilling Christ’s mandate for missions has ended. But the reality is quite different! The mandate of the Great Commission in Matthew 28:18-20 has not been completed once a people group’s designation changes from “unreached” to “reached.” We who stay behind must remember something: even as missionaries are sent forward, the work of the Church’s “mission” continues among those who stay “home.” Missionaries endeavor to reach out to the unreached peoples of this world. But, in their wake, the Church’s work of reaching the lost continues; our work of making disciples of Christ continues; the work of teaching disciples to obey Christ’s commands continues- no matter where we live! We may not all be “missionaries,” but we all are on mission! Therefore, I ask this question because I want to learn from the labors of our missionaries, and gain wisdom to be more faithful to Christ in my own labors here.

During our summer *Focus on Missions*, I would encourage everyone to be asking, “What am I learning from our missionaries?” and, “How can I apply this to my involvement in the work of the mission all around me?” It is not only the missionary who has but one candle to burn. That is true for each one of us. And with each passing season, we grow more aware of how quickly our candle is burning down! We only have one life, which will soon vanish like a mist (James 4:14)! How will you use the time the Lord has given you to bring His light to others? Where and how will your candle burn?

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August Bible Reading

1	John 20	Psalm 20
2	John 21	Psalm 21
3	Catch-up day	Psalm 22
4	Catch-up day	Psalm 23
5	Acts 1	Psalm 24
6	Acts 2	Psalm 25
7	Acts 3-4	Psalm 26
8	Acts 5:1 – 6:7	Psalm 27
9	Acts 6:8 – 7:60	Psalm 28
10	Acts 8:1 – 9:31	Psalm 29
11	Acts 9:32 – 10:48	Psalm 30
12	Acts 11:1 – 12:24	Psalm 31
13	Acts 12:25 – 13:52	Psalm 32
14	Acts 14:1 – 16:5	Psalm 33
15	Acts 16:6 – 17:34	Psalm 34

Two-Year Bible Reading Plan

This Bible reading plan is designed to take you through the Old and New Testaments in two years, and through the Psalms and Proverbs four times during that period.

16	Acts 18:1 – 19:20	Psalm 35
17	Acts 19:21 – 20:38	Psalm 36
18	Acts 21:1 – 22:29	Psalm 37
19	Acts 22:30 – 24:27	Psalm 38
20	Acts 25-26	Psalm 39
21	Acts 27:1 – 28:16	Psalm 40
22	Acts 28:17-30	Psalm 41
23	Catch-up day	Psalm 42
24	Catch-up day	Psalm 43
25	Romans 1:1-17	Psalm 44
26	Romans 1:18 – 2:29	Psalm 45
27	Romans 3	Psalm 46
28	Romans 4:1 – 5:11	Psalm 47
29	Romans 5:12-21	Psalm 48
30	Romans 6:1 – 7:6	Psalm 49
31	Romans 7:7 – 8:39	Psalm 50

August 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p><i>Come to Me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you, and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For My yoke is easy, and My burden is light.”</i> Matthew 11:28-30</p>						
<p>4 8:30 a.m. - Prayer Time 9:00 a.m. - Focus on Missions 10:20 a.m. - Worship 12:30 p.m. - Emmaus L/C Group 6:30 p.m. - Conquering Through Christ Life/Care Group</p>	<p>5 7:00 p.m. - Deacons Meeting</p>	<p>6 7:00 p.m. - Worship Team Practice</p>	<p>7 7:00 a.m. - Missions Committee Meeting 9:00 a.m. - Prayer Time 6:30 p.m. - Connecting in Prayer</p>	<p>1 1:30 p.m. - Psalm 19 Life/Care Group</p>	<p>2 6:30 a.m. - OCC Men's Meeting</p>	<p>3</p>
<p>11 8:30 a.m. - Prayer Time 9:00 a.m. - Focus on Missions 10:20 a.m. - Worship 2:00 p.m. - Good Samaritan Service 4:30 p.m. - Taste & See L/C Group 6:30 p.m. - Conquering Through Christ Life/Care Group</p>	<p>12 6:30 p.m. - Elders & Deacons Meeting</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14 9:00 a.m. - Prayer Time 6:30 p.m. - Connecting in Prayer</p>	<p>15 1:30 p.m. - Psalm 19 Life/Care Group 2:30 p.m. - Visual Arts Committee Meeting</p>	<p>16 6:30 a.m. - OCC Men's Meeting</p>	<p>17 10:00 a.m. - Promise Kingdom Luncheon & Planning Meeting</p>
<p>18 8:30 a.m. - Prayer Time 9:00 a.m. - Focus on Missions 10:20 a.m. - Worship 12:30 p.m. - Emmaus L/C Group 6:30 p.m. - Conquering Through Christ Life/Care Group</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21 9:00 a.m. - Prayer Time 6:30 p.m. - Connecting in Prayer</p>	<p>22 1:30 p.m. - Psalm 19 Life/Care Group</p>	<p>23 6:30 a.m. - OCC Men's Meeting 8:00 a.m. - Elders Meeting</p>	<p>24 9:30 a.m. - Worship Team Practice</p>
<p>25 8:30 a.m. - Prayer Time 9:00 a.m. - Focus on Missions 4:30 p.m. - Taste & See L/C Group 6:30 p.m. - Conquering Through Christ Life/Care Group</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28 9:00 a.m. - Prayer Time 6:30 p.m. - Connecting in Prayer</p>	<p>29 1:30 p.m. - Psalm 19 Life/Care Group</p>	<p>30 6:30 a.m. - OCC Men's Meeting</p>	<p>31</p>

August Birthdays



August 3 – Isobel Dunckel
August 26 – Crystal Carlson de Mancía

Oakridge
Community Church

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OCC Vision

The vision of Oakridge Community Church is to spread a joyful passion for the absolute, eternal supremacy of Jesus Christ in all things, to all peoples.

OCC Mission

The mission of Oakridge Community Church is to glorify God by delighting in, declaring and displaying the gospel of Jesus Christ.