

You are a key piece of the vision!



From your Dare to Dream Team Members:
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Jo Ann Memming, Prayer; Joy Moore, Celebration; Greg Loveless, Communication Coordinator

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DARE TO DREAM

Today's Vision – Tomorrow's Reality

May 2, 2006 — Vol. 1 of 3

DARE TO DREAM

One of my favorite stories in all of Scripture is the story of Caleb, Joshua and the spies which is found in the Old Testament book of Numbers, chapters thirteen and fourteen. Camped just outside the promised land of Canaan, God instructs Moses to send twelve men, one from each of the twelve tribes of Israel, to spy out the Promised Land in anticipation of Israel's invasion. Returning with their report, ten of the twelve spies lament the impossibility of Israel successfully invading Canaan; "we are like grasshoppers compared to the size of the inhabitants who live there" was a common refrain. Only Caleb and Joshua were faithful, brave and visionary enough to oppose the majority opinion, saying "because the Lord is with us, we have nothing to fear." Forty years later, under Joshua's leadership, the Lord God vindicated their vision at the Battle of Jericho.

Placing their trust in God, Joshua and Caleb dared to dream and in so doing were able to see a future reality based upon a present vision. Similarly, placing our trust in God, we here at OECC are likewise daring to dream as we see a future reality based upon a present vision. We are daring to dream of a future that includes a renovated worship center, a repaired and re-stripped parking lot, and a second entrance/

exit to and from the church property. We are daring to dream of a future that includes children, youth and adults worshiping, learning, fellowshiping and serving together in facilities that are flexible and accommodating. And we are daring to dream of a future in which OECC, helped by enhanced facilities, is able to expand its ministry in a growing community.

Why do we have the faith and confidence to dream such dreams? Because, like Caleb and Joshua had seen with the children of Israel, we, too, have seen the bestowing hand of God as He has provided for our every need. God has set us down in our Promised Land and, as with the children of Israel, He has given us every sign we need to be assured that "He is with us."

Over the next few weeks you will be hearing a great deal about "Dare To Dream...Today's Vision, Tomorrow's Reality." In the meantime, I invite you to pray and to dream about your part in God's future plans for OECC. And as you pray and dream, keep these words of Hudson Taylor in mind, "Depend on it! God's work done in God's way will never lack God's supply."

— Pastor Icenogle



INTERVIEW

A Long Time Member's View

An Interview with Joyce Geurian

Question: *How long have you been a member of OECC?*

Answer: I am a charter member, which means I've been a member since 1977. I first got involved by attending small groups that met in homes. These small groups were organized by Dusty Larson, the first pastor of Olathe Covenant. This was before we started meeting at Central Elementary School!

Question: *Over the years, what changes have you observed at OECC?*

Answer: There have been many, but the one that excites me the most is how we have become a church that is known for its ministry in the community. Under the leadership of Joyce Fischer and others, OECC supports a variety of community-oriented ministries, like IHN, the Salvation Army Family Lodge and Food Shelf and our ministry to residents of the Hispanic community who live in Olathe.

Question: *How has the church impacted your family?*

Answer: The church and its pastors have always been there for me and my family, whenever we needed them. As my girls became teenagers, Glenn Palmberg was our pastor and Jill says that he was

about the only adult she liked at the time. My parents were also members of OECC and Glenn and the congregation cared for me and my family when my mother died.

Dare to Dream Quote

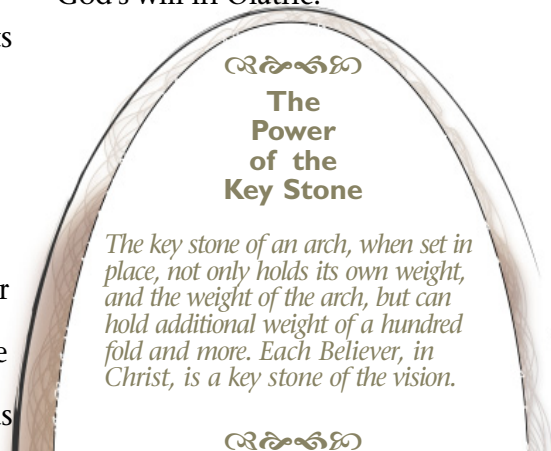
I am only one; but, still I am one. I cannot do everything; but, still I can do something. I will not refuse to do the something I can do."

— Helen Keller

Glenn also married my dad and my step-mom at OECC. During the years that we lost my mother, my nephew and my sister-in-law, the congregation helped to carry us through those very difficult and trying times.

Question: *What are some of your hopes and dreams for our church?*

Answer: My hope for OECC is that it will continue to be a welcoming and accepting church for all who desire a place to worship and fellowship. I also hope and pray that we will continue to seek after and do God's will in Olathe.



PrayerCorner

Amy husband and I were buzzing down I-55 in Illinois recently, he noted the installation of a new power line. A new power line! That's what we need at OECC as we seek and define God's vision for us in the weeks and months ahead. But we don't need a physical power line on our property; we need a committed body of believers who will pray for our new endeavors.

Some people are afraid to pray; some don't feel worthy to pray; some don't think their prayers are heard; and still others wonder if their prayers really make a difference. James 5:16b says, "The prayer of a righteous (man or woman) is powerful and effective." Your prayers are powerful. Your prayers are effective. Your heartfelt prayers are so very necessary as OECC moves forward. Only through prayer can God surround, support, and protect the implementation of the vision He calls us to carry out!

Let's all pray for unity of mind and purpose as God leads and we follow. Pray that our leadership will have the wisdom and courage to act on God's vision as He reveals it to us. PRAY...and watch to see what happens!

—Prayer Leader
Jo Ann Memming

OUR VISION

Dare to Dream and Make Today's Vision Tomorrow's Reality at Olathe Evangelical Covenant Church!

- Parking Lot Repair/Seal/Stripe
- Access/Egress via Blackfoot
- Reroof Sanctinasiium
- Reroof Educational Wing
- Sanctinasiium Audio/Visual Upgrade
- Sanctinasiium Architectural Upgrade

— Dare to Dream Team



Dare to Dream Scripture

Where there is no vision, the people perish...

— Proverbs 29:18

TIMELINE

May 7: Dare to Pray for the Dream

May 14: Energy for the Vision

May 21: Information Sunday

- Worship with Don Fensterman - "Trusting God to Provide for the Vision's Reality"
- Adult Class with Don Fensterman, "Scarcity Verses Abundance Thinking"

May 28: Response Sunday

June 18: Celebration Sunday

