

You are a key piece of the vision!



From your Dare to Dream Team Members:

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Dare to Dream is online at www.olathecovenant.org/daretodream/

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DARE TO DREAM

Today's Vision – Tomorrow's Reality

May 9, 2006 — Vol. 2 of 3

UNFAIRQUESTION

An experienced nurse is said to have recounted this story: During my second month of nursing school our professor gave us a pop quiz. I was a conscientious student and had breezed through the questions, until I read the last one: "What is the first name of the woman who cleans the school?" Surely this was some kind of joke! I had seen the cleaning woman several times. She was tall, dark-haired, and in her fifties, but how would I know her name? I handed in my paper, leaving the last question blank. Before class ended, one student asked if the last question would count toward our quiz grade. "Absolutely," said the professor. "In your career you will meet many people. All are significant. They deserve your attention and care, even if all you do is smile and say hello." I've never forgotten that lesson. I also learned her name was Dorothy.

Everyone is significant because we all have a dream deep down inside. What's your dream? Is it to climb the world's highest mountains? To build a world-class business? To become a senator or even president? To raise a healthy family? To win championships? To fly? If you could do anything, what would it be?

Most people don't achieve great dreams. They give up. They get off track. They settle. Or they dream too small! You have the potential to be or do anything you want. Only two things are standing in your way: dreaming it.....and then doing it.

Have you dared to dream. I mean *really* dream? If your goal is within your reach, it isn't a dream. *If you do not have to stretch beyond what you think is possible, then it isn't a dream. Bold dreams will change you and the world around you.*

Maybe you're afraid of a big dream. You don't want to fail. Nobody does. But safe living leads to regret later on in life. As U.S.

President Theodore Roosevelt said:

"Far better it is to dare mighty things, to win glorious triumphs, even though checkered by failure, than to rank with those poor spirits who neither enjoy much nor suffer much, because they live in the gray twilight that knows neither victory nor defeat".

What's the worst thing that could happen if you pursue your dream and don't achieve it? You could be where you are now. What's the best thing that could happen if you pursue your dream and don't achieve it? You could find yourself in new territory that's on the threshold of a new dream. After all the essence of life is not just where we end, but the journey!

Maybe you're listening to the wrong people! Some people don't like to see others pursuing their dreams because it reminds them that they are not pursuing their dreams. Maybe you don't know how to pursue your dream. Successful people know it all starts with the way you think and dream, and it continues with how you live.

Think about your dream. Does it inspire you to work hard? Does it motivate you to take smart risks? As you move closer to fulfilling it, will it bring you closer to who you were born to be? But perhaps the most important part of your dream is this; if pursued with honor, it will not only change you, but all those you come in contact with because all dreams are interconnected. Those are all hallmarks of a healthy daring dream! Especially when our dream is connected to the body of Christ, His Church.

So take action.....Dreams don't work unless you do!!!!

— Linda Loveless
Dare to Dream Team Leader



PRAYER CORNER

Tucked in among a bunch of Old Testament family genealogies in I Chronicles 4:10, we meet a man of adventure named Jabez. Hungering for a full measure of God's blessing, he cried out to God, "Oh that you would bless me indeed, and enlarge my territory, that your hand would be with me..." So God granted him what he requested."

Do you think it's selfish to ask God to bless you abundantly... to pelt you with His generosity? Or do you agree with David Wilkinson, author of *The Prayer of Jabez*, who writes: "God's bounty is limited only by us, not by His resources, power, or willingness to give. Jabez was blessed simply because he refused to let any obstacle, person, or opinion loom larger than God's nature. And God's nature is to bless."

I throw my hat in with Wilkinson, appreciating and high-fiving Jabez' incredible faith and confidence in our tried and true God. If Jabez were a member of OECC, he wouldn't ask God to make us a candle in the darkness; he'd pray we would become a spreading flame! He wouldn't ask God for our people to be just people of prayer; he'd pray we would become a powerhouse of prayer and praise, filled to the brim with gospel-hearers and gospel-doers!

As OECC moves forward in God's name, let's pray Jabez prayers—big-dreamed and full of faith! To God be the glory!

— Prayer Leader
Jo Ann Memming



INTERVIEW

A New Member's View

An Interview with **Megan Easton**

Question: *How long have you been attending OECC?*

Answer: I have been attending OECC for two and a half years.

Question: *What brought you to OECC?*

Answer: Clint and I were introduced to OECC through the Alpha program. We were looking for a church where we could find a common ground between Clint's religious upbringing and my own. OECC and Alpha was a perfect fit. It was a venue that allowed us to discuss openly and freely among an intimate number of people with varying religious backgrounds.

Question: *Why have I stayed at OECC?*

Answer: I have chosen to continue to attend OECC because of the overwhelming feeling of family, unity, and acceptance. No matter what religious background or degree of knowledge an individual may have, I have always known the OECC family to celebrate the diversity of its visitors. This acceptance has always made me feel as though I was part of a larger family. I am truly blessed to be a part of OECC.

Question: *What can I do to reach out to others?*

Answer: I have several friends and family members who do not have a religious background. They did not grow up in a church or have the opportunity to learn about Christianity as a child. I am hoping that these individuals can see the affect that

OECC has had on me. I speak openly about the impact that God has had on my life and how important church is to Clint, William, and myself. My hopes

Dare to Dream Quote

"A hero is someone who has given his or her life to something greater than oneself."

— Joseph Campbell

are, that when they are ready, they will begin to approach me with questions and have interest in being a part of my church family.

— Pastor Icenogle and
— Megan Easton



Dare to Dream Scripture

"Out of the most severe trial, their overflowing joy and their extreme poverty welled up in rich generosity. For I testify that they gave as much as they were able, and even beyond their ability. Entirely on their own, they urgently pleaded with us for the privilege of sharing in this service to the saints."

— II Corinthians 8:2-4

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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 Road
- Reroof Sanctinasiium
- Reroof Educational Wing
- Sanctinasiium Audio/Visual Upgrade
- Sanctinasiium Architectural Upgrade

— Dare to Dream Team



TIMELINE

May 14: Energy for the Vision: "Learn to Ride a Wave"

Janie Best and
Pastor Icenogle

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:

— Dare to Dream Team



Dare to Dream Quote

"Aim at heaven and you will get earth thrown in. Aim at earth and you will get neither."

— C. S. Lewis