

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.olathethecovenant.org/daretodream/](http://www.olathethecovenant.org/daretodream/)

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# DARE TO DREAM

Today's Vision – Tomorrow's Reality

May 9, 2006 — Vol. 3 of 3

## DIVING TO CARE

My players know to dive for a ball is another way of saying to the pitcher and catcher, "I care!" They don't question it. They know never to give an excuse. They dare not say they don't know how to dive because the next practice will be two hours of how to dive. It is just an accepted fact that if you play, you dive.

Many years ago a ball went between my first and second base players. Each thought the other was going to dive for it. As a result neither did. They looked at each other and then slowly turned to the dugout and in unison they mouthed the words, "I'm sorry Coach."

When the inning was over I told them their failure to dive had robbed me of one of the things I loved to do most in life, coach. I told them by the end of the game I wanted to know how they were going to return what they had taken from me.

When the game was over we had our usual team meeting. At the end I looked at both players and asked if they had an answer. They said they did not know how to answer or how to make it right. I told them, "That is the correct answer. You see that play will never happen again. You will never again be able to dive in that play. You will never know if you could have reached the ball and

stopped it. And I don't know either. Your decision to take the easy route; your decision not to dive robbed me of the opportunity to coach you how to dive and how to be a better player. And no one has the right to take that from me. So dive so I can coach you and give you what I know about the game so you can become a better player."

From time to time we all wait to make sure this or that is going to be a sure thing. But to wait for a sure thing means we are not stepping out in faith. Then when a sure thing finally presents itself we are not able to take advantage of the opportunity because we do not have the skills to do so. It just passes us by. So we complain to God that He is not with us and is not blessing us. But in reality it is "we" who have robbed God of the opportunity to bless us because we were waiting for the sure thing and never took the risk to step out in faith where His blessings are "waiting" for us.

This Sunday, Don Fensterman, Consultant with the Evangelical Covenant Church will show us why *now* is the time for each of us at OECC to step out in faith. From our human perspective each of us will feel this is an act of risk. But from God's view it is a  
continued...

natural part of faith in His Son and is what He created us to do. After all, by our very confession of faith in Christ we stepped out in faith and into eternity. To follow Christ is to say "Yes" to a life of faith; a life of stepping out beyond the safe boundaries of the familiar and into the land of the unfamiliar. So be ready to dive in. Yes, it may feel as if you are reaching for heaven and this can be a little scary. But He who lives in our heart already lives in heaven so He knows the way there. When you think of it, when we are a Christian, to step out in faith is just the natural thing to do. It is expected. It is who we are as believers in Christ. It is how we say to God, "I care!" And it allows God to do what He does best and desires to do most which is bless us. Like diving for a ball in a game, this

### Dare to Dream Quote

"One man with courage makes a majority."  
— Andrew Jackson  
7th President of the United States

opportunity may never pass this way again. Don't rob God of His opportunity to show He is God. Don't rob Him of the opportunity to bless you and His body at OECC. Be ready to dive in and become a part of the vision so God can do what He desires most for OECC — bless us His faithful at OECC and through this the greater community of Olathe.

— Greg Loveless, Church Chairman



## PRAYER CORNER

When you were a kid, did someone yell "I dare you"? Those three words were usually a challenge with a capital "C" and off you ran to perform some behavior that you normally never would have done.

Being dared throws us into untried adventures. Sometimes we come away from a dare with a new-found courage, a fresh understanding of what we're really made of.

We are daring to dream big dreams these days at OECC. Instead of being content with the status quo, we are asking God to give us all we need to make a difference in Olathe. We're asking God to help us upgrade our house of worship... the worship center, the roof, the parking lot...all very practical needs. As these basic needs are

being met, we're appealing to God to provide opportunities that will draw many in to hear the life-

changing Good News we have to share.

The daring part of this dream is that we know God will have to provide for these dreams in His miraculous way. We are marching forward in the faith of Abraham and Joseph and Mary and Paul. We know

### Dare to Dream Scripture

"Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, so that there may be food in My house, and test me now in this, says the Lord of hosts, if I will not open for you the windows of heaven, and pour out for you a blessing until there is no more room to receive it."

— Malachi 3:10

we cannot do this in our own strength and power. But we also know that we serve a God who can provide anything and everything to accomplish His purposes.

Let's pray to be everything God wants us to be and arm ourselves with readiness! C'mon, I dare you!

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

— Dare to Dream Team



## TIMELINE

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



## DREAM ONLINE

The Dream is online if you Dare to visit.

All the information about the Dream, the Vision and how we move from vision to Reality by faith in His promises is available online.

Come visit us. We Dare You!

Dare to Dream is online at:  
[www.olathecovenant.org/daretodream/](http://www.olathecovenant.org/daretodream/)



### Dare to Dream Quote

"We are the Christmas people. We are the Easter people. We are the people of the open tomb. We are the people of the risen Lord. God has called us to the greatest mission in the world. People will be helped. Lives will be changed. There will be reconciliation, wholeness, caring and justice. There is no greater mission in the world than making people disciples of Jesus Christ."

— Dr. Kennon L. Callahan