

"Ecclesia: Called Out, Called Together"

"If we seek Christian impact on the world... the only answer is a congregation of men and women who believe the gospel, and live by it." - Lesslie Newbigin

If you were on a mission to reclaim a lost and sinful world, what would be your strategy? Would you write messages in the sky? Would you use bullhorns and microphones? Send a powerful army? Make new rules and enforce obedience? How would you reach a world gone wrong?



God's strategy may seem strange to us, but here it is: **God formed the church.** You and me, and all who are called "Christians," are the means by which God is bringing his redeeming work into our world. The New Testament word for "church" is the greek word "ecclesia," which means "called." In the ancient world, when an assembly was to be gathered for a speech or political event, a messenger would go out into the community and call out the invitation. When the church was formed, this same dynamic was at work: the church is the assembly of *those who have been called* – called by God – called to come apart from the world, and to come together in a new community.

The church is unique. It's not a social club, though it creates deep friendships. It's not a service agency, though it seeks the wellbeing of others. It's not a political interest group, professional guild, or intellectual society, though it impacts the politics, work and thought life of its people. There is no other assembly quite like it! This spring we'll be diving deep into a single chapter of the bible: **Acts Chapter 2.** The chapter tells the story of the church's birth. On the day of Pentecost, God's word goes out through the voice of his apostles who are filled with his Spirit, and a new community is born. They are a diverse group, brought together by the story of Jesus and the reality of his resurrection. Together they experience his living presence and power in ways that shape a strange new kind of life. They share everything. They read ancient scriptures and gather in homes to eat bread and wine which represent the body and blood of their Lord. They make surprising choices, living lives of hardship and sacrifice while experiencing deep joy. The world looks on and is intrigued. Many join in. The church is born!

And we're still going strong, two thousand years later. The story of Acts 2 is our DNA. We carry the same message, we're called to the same strange new life, and we're equipped with the same power. Our fellowship here at Oak Hills may seem humble, but we carry a distinguished pedigree – we are the offspring of Peter, James and John, of Pheobe, Prisca and Junia. We are the heirs of the great cloud of witnesses that has come before. We are the "ecclesia" – called by God to stand out from our world, and to stand together in Christ, living his grace and speaking the truth. According to God's wise design, we can only do this together. We need each other. In our worship and ministry, fellowship and service, we become a display of the gospel to our world.

It's been said that the church is God's "plan A" *and there is no plan B.* Our fellowship matters. May we heed the call, and come together, for the sake of his kingdom.

Yours in Him,



Jeremy



Jeremy Sanderson
jeremy@oakhillspres.org
503-654-6173 (Pastor's Study)

the
OAK HILLS
ACORN



May
June
2023

Volume 21, Issue 3

SUNDAYS

“Ecclesia: Called Out, Called Together”

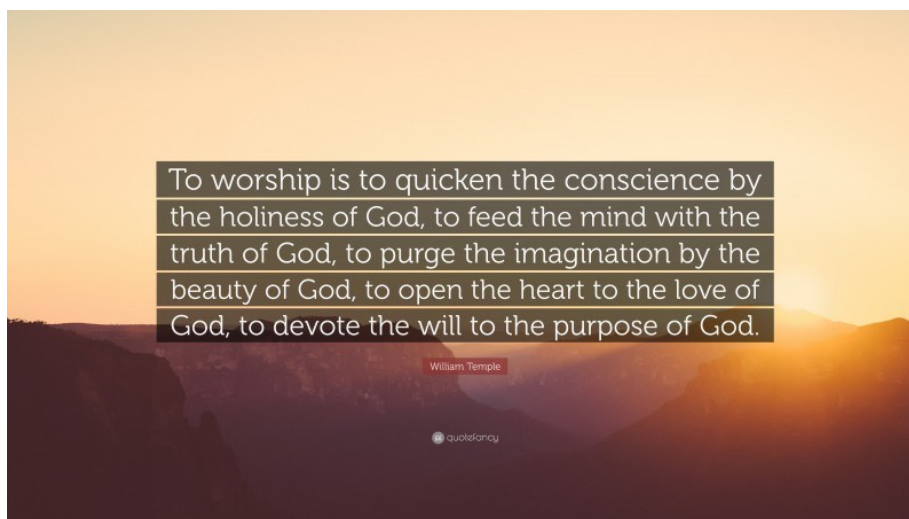
Acts Chapter 2 tells the amazing story of the birth of the church. This spring, we’ll trace the elements of this story, discovering how to be the church together in the year 2023. Join us as we learn what it means to be “called out” together!

5th Sunday of Easter May 7	<i>“The Church is God’s Mouthpiece”</i>	Acts 2: 1-11	
6th Sunday of Easter May 14	<i>“The Church is Weird”</i>	Acts 2: 12-18	Mother’s Day Communion
7th Sunday of Easter May 21	<i>“The Church Has a Story”</i>	Acts 2: 22-36	“Song of Zion” Debut Performance
Day of Pentecost May 28	<i>“The Church is Convinced”</i>	Acts 2: 37-40	Memorial Day Weekend
June 4	<i>“The Church Eats and Grows”</i>	Acts 2: 41-42	Congregation Meeting
June 11	<i>“The Church Experiences God”</i>	Acts 2: 43-44	Communion, 3rd Grade Bibles, Teacher appreciation, Graduates
June 18	<i>“The Church Shares It’s Life”</i>	Acts 2: 45-47	Father's Day, Confirmation

Summer Sermon Series: The Book of James: “Living Faith”

The true measure of our faith is the life we lead. This is the challenge the book of James sets for us: “Do you believe? Show me with your life.” This summer we’ll face the challenge, examining the call to live out what we say we believe. Join us!

June 25	<i>“Wisdom for the Dispersion”</i>	James 1: 1-8	
July 2	<i>“All Are Poor, All Are Rich in Christ”</i>	James 1: 9-11	July 4th Weekend
July 9	<i>“Living the Truth”</i>	James 1: 12-27	Communion



OAK HILLS
PURPOSE
Gather... Grow... Glorify

To be gathered by the Spirit as a community of faith, to grow into the likeness of Christ, and to glorify God every day in all we do.

CORE VALUES
Bible-Centered, Prayer, Missional, Generosity, Hospitality, Sabbath, Empathy, Wholeness



To receive *the* OAK HILLS ACORN via email, contact the office, 503.654.4321 or ohpc_admin@oakhillspres.org.

CHILDREN & YOUTH

Easter Egg Stuffing



CHILDREN AND YOUTH HAPPENINGS

Video Game Night



**Oak Hills
2023 VBS**
4 yrs old -
rising 6th grade

June 26th - 30th, 9-11:30am

Registration opens May 1st

Online: oakhillspres.org/children-youth

Phone: 503.654.4321 Email: susan@oakhillspres.org



Thank You!

For all the candy and prize
donations that made for
**ANOTHER successful
Community
Easter Egg Hunt!!**

Spring Service Saturday

**Calling all Youth and
upper Elementary kids!**

May 20th

9am-12pm



Plan to join us as
we work to clean
up our church
building and
property as we get
ready for Summer!

Donuts and drinks
provided!

Youth Mission Trip to Idaho

July 30th –August 4th

Contact Robbie Teague if
you want more information.

Bottle Drop Fundraiser

Total donated since July
over \$1,500!!!

This has been a great on
going fundraiser to help
provide camp scholarships.

**FREE
CAR
WASH!!**



at Oak Hills

5101 SEThiessen Rd

June 10th, 10am - 2pm

July 8th, 10am - 2pm

Final fundraisers for the Youth
Idaho mission trip. The car
wash will be **FREE**, but any
donations will directly help with
scholarships and cover the cost
of transportation.

~Robbie Teague, Youth Director robbie@oakhillspres.org Susan Teague, Children's Director susan@oakhillspres.org

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING SUNDAY, JUNE 4TH, 11:15AM

NEW ELDER ELECTION



Mary McDonald

“A Song of Zion” Debut Performance!

In honor of Gary Miille’s 25th anniversary as choir director, the session of Oak Hills commissioned an original choral composition by one of the nation’s premiere choral composers, Mary McDonald. Then, COVID hit. The piece took longer than expected to receive, and when it

did come, the choir was still on hiatus. Finally,

after a long wait, its time to unveil this special piece of music! **Join us in worship on Sunday, May 21st** to hear this haunting, triumphant anthem, and help us say “thank you” once again to our beloved Gary Miille!



New Choir Robes!

Last fall when our chancel choir reconvened for the first time since COVID, we began to dream about a new set of robes to celebrate the fresh start. Our previous robes had become threadbare. There was consensus as to what style of robe we wanted: gray with reversible stoles. However, the cost of such a purchase was estimated at 4-5k dollars, so fundraising would have to be done at a time when budgets were tight. Then, in an email from our Presbytery, mention was made of a set of almost-new choir robes being gifted by Mill City Presbyterian Church. The style: gray with reversible stoles! Choir member Theresa Taylor made a trip to Mill City and connected with a church member there. They are deeply grateful to know that their gift will go to bless a fellow Presbyterian congregation. Isn’t God thoughtful in providing for our needs? Praise God from whom all blessings flow!



Spring Cleaning?

Yes! Bring your **old eyeglasses** to church for the **Global Eyeglass Ministry** during the month of May.

GEMPDx is a local extension of Global Eyeglass Ministry. Both prescription glasses and readers are welcome, but no cases for glasses please. Take a look at the pictures on the collection box near the entrance, and pick up a brochure or go to <https://ccseportland.com/gempdx> for more information.

Several vision clinics have been held in Kenya, and others are planned for Ethiopia in November, and Cambodia next year. BTW, Darrel Teel already donated his old glasses a couple of months ago and they have been turned in at Calvary Chapel Southeast. Louie Anderson, on behalf of your Mission & Caring Committee



Newly mounted AED machine
Located in the bulletin board hallway.

*note the box is alarmed

ASN – Adult Spiritual Nurture

Adult Sunday School “Thank You’s”:

Thanks to those who’ve taught courses for us this year so far, including:

(Before the church service)

- Rev. Christy Polk - *Advent* and “*The Story of the Church*” with her father, Rev. Dr. Dick Spencer

- Larry Totzke – *Nehemiah* and “*How to Enjoy Reading Your Bible*”

- Sue Munn – “*Grief*”

(After the church service)

- Eddie Mensinger – *Hebrews*

Adult Education this summer will include a variety of teachers during the months of July and August. See the upcoming “Acorn” for more details!

Sue Munn – Elder for ASN

New Study!

“A Life Worth Living”

**Video series based on the book of Philippians
by The Alpha Course’s Nicky Gumbel**

Thursdays in the

Fireside Room

May 4th-June 22

6:30-7pm treats &

fellowship

7-8pm video & discussion

Questions? Contact Christy Polk, christy@oakhillspres.org



**PENTECOST
SPECIAL OFFERINGS**

CHILDREN AT RISK • YOUTH • YOUNG ADULTS

The Pentecost Offering unites us in a church-wide effort to support young people and inspire them to share their faith, ideas, and unique gifts with the church and the world.

2023 Presbytery Pentecost Offering

Oak Hills Library

This Acorn has gifts for you from a recent set of donations. Feel free to select for yourself or re-gift to a special person, one of the following books:

“I Wish for You”
“Little Glimpses of Good”
“On the Bright Side”

When making a donation to the library please include a note so we can use our Donation Stamp inside the cover to recognize your gift. A huge Thank you to Hank & Val Brown for donating an additional book case.

Also we would love to have individuals after reading a book from the church’s library to write a short review to use in the Acorn.

Thank you,
Church Librarians Louise Anderson & Sue Munn.



Exciting News - Oak Hills Women!

Oak Hills Annual Women's Retreat

October 20-22, 2023

Mark your calendars!

We are returning to Twin Rocks Retreat Center for our retreat. More details soon.

~Cathy Searles



Women's Association

last meeting will be Thursday, May 11, 10 AM. After the discussion on *Sabbath and Community*, led by Pat Rice, we will share a potluck lunch. Women are welcome!

Women's Assoc. resumes Thursday, September 14.
~Louie Anderson

"Love INC" Card Ministry!

During June, we will be writing cards of caring, encouragement, compassion, prayers, and love for Love INC clients.

More details to come... We hope you'll help us share God's love with others!

Cathy Searles



Men's Ministry

1st Saturday Breakfasts
Saturday, May 6th and June 3rd,
8:30am.

We will take July & August off and resume in September.

~ Larry Totzke

Prayer Chain

You are invited to join our telephone or email Prayer Chain, to commit to pray for those who have requested prayer for themselves or their loved ones.

~Joann Devlin

Backpack Buddies

From Brooke Schiefelbein, counselor at Lot Whitcomb Elementary School: *Your system is very consistent and predictable – like a well-oiled machine – and we are so grateful for that! As of today [Wednesday, April 12] our enrollment is 404 students. 64% of students identify as BIPOC.*

Three packing sessions remain for the current school year – Tuesday, May 9, Saturday, May 20, and lastly Tuesday, June 6. **Thanks to all who help** with donations of food & dollars, buying, set-up, packing, AND delivering the 16 bins of weekend food to the school. One class has 15 children in BPB of the 136 total. ~Louise & Jim Anderson

Flower Ministry

If you would like to share some of the beautiful flowers blooming in your yard.

Please volunteer to provide flowers for the communion table for worship services.

Sign up is on the hallway bulletin board.

~Sue Howard, 503.654.4321





Oak Hills Presbyterian Church
 5101 SE Thiessen Road ■ Milwaukie, OR 97267
 503-654-4321 ■ ohpc_admin@oakhillspres.org
www.oakhillspres.org

SUNDAYS

Worship 10am

Youth Group 6pm

Iglesia Shalom (Hispanic Worship) 2-5pm

2023

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
30 9am Adult Class 10am Worship 11:15am Adult Class 2-5pm Iglesia Shalom 6pm Youth Group	1 <i>Office Closed</i> 12-6pm TFR 6:30pm BSA 7-8:15 pm Totzke Small Group	2 10am Art for the Heart 12:30pm Staff Mtg 7-8:30pm BSA	3 12-6pm TFR 6-8pm Iglesia Shalom 7pm AA	4 National Day of Prayer 6pm Praise Team 6:30-8pm Alpha2 Small Group 6:30-8pm HS Hangout 7:30-9pm Choir	5 12:45pm MIP 7pm Iglesia Shalom	6 8:30am Men's Breakfast
7 9am Adult Class 10am Worship 11:15am Adult Class 2-5pm Iglesia Shalom 6pm Youth Group	8 <i>Office Closed</i> 12-6pm TFR 6:30pm BSA 7-8:15 pm Totzke Small Group	9 10am Art for the Heart 12:30pm Staff Mtg 7pm BPB	10 12-6pm TFR 2pm Mission & Caring Team 6-8pm Iglesia Shalom 7pm AA	11 10am Women's Association 6pm Praise Team 6:30-8pm Alpha2 Small Group 6:30-8pm HS Hangout 7:30-9pm Choir	12 12:45pm MIP 7pm Iglesia Shalom	13 1pm Haxton Memorial
14 Mother's Day 9am Adult Class 10am Worship 11:15am Adult Class 2-5pm Iglesia Shalom No Youth Group	15 <i>Office Closed</i> 12-6pm TFR 6:30pm BSA 7-8:15 pm Totzke Small Group	16 10am Art for the Heart 12:30pm Staff Mtg 7pm BPB 7pm Session Mtg	17 12-6pm TFR 6-8pm Iglesia Shalom 7pm AA	18 6pm Praise Team 6:30-8pm Alpha2 Small Group 6:30-8pm HS Hangout 7:30-9pm Choir	19 12:45pm MIP 7pm Iglesia Shalom	20 9am-Noon Youth/Children Service Project 9am BPB
21 9am Adult Class 10am Worship 11:15am Adult Class 2-5pm Iglesia Shalom 6pm Youth Group	22 <i>Office Closed</i> 12-6pm TFR 6:30pm BSA 7-8:15 pm Totzke Small Group	23 10am Art for the Heart 12:30pm Staff Mtg	24 12-6pm TFR 6-8pm Iglesia Shalom 7pm AA	25 6pm Praise Team 6:30-8pm Alpha2 Small Group 6:30-8pm HS Hangout 7:30-9pm Choir	26 12:45pm MIP 7pm Iglesia Shalom	27
28 Pentecost 10am Worship 2-5pm Iglesia Shalom 6pm Confirmation Youth Only	29 MEMORIAL DAY <i>Office Closed</i>	30 10am Art for the Heart 12:30pm Staff Mtg 6:30-8pm HS	31 12-6pm TFR 6-8pm Iglesia Shalom 7pm AA	1 6pm Praise Team 6:30-8pm Alpha2 Small Group 7:30-9pm Choir	2 12:45pm MIP 7pm Iglesia Shalom	3 8:30am Men's Breakfast



2023

Gather ... Grow ... Glorify

OAK HILLS

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

5101 SE Thiessen Road | Milwaukie OR 97267

503.654.4321 | www.oakhillspres.org

Rev. Jeremy Sanderson, Pastor (jeremy@oakhillspres.org)

Rev. Christy Polk, Associate Pastor (christy@oakhillspres.org)

Sue Howard, Administrative Assistant (ohpc_admin@oakhillspres.org)

Robbie Teague, Director of Youth Ministry (robbie@oakhillspres.org)

Susan Teague, Directory of Children's Ministry (susan@oakhillspres.org)

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
28 10am Worship 2-5pm Iglesia Shalom 6pm Youth Group	29 MEMORIAL DAY <i>Office Closed</i> 12-6pm TFR	30 10am Art for the Heart 12:30pm Staff Mtg	31 12-6pm TFR 6-8pm Iglesia Shalom 7pm AA	1 6pm Praise Team 6:30-8pm Alpha2 Small Group 7:30-9pm Choir	2 12:45pm MIP 7pm Iglesia Shalom	3 8:30am Men's Breakfast 1pm Shaw Memorial
4 9am Adult Class 10am Worship 2-5pm Iglesia Shalom No Youth Group	5 <i>Office Closed</i> 12-6pm TFR 6:30pm BSA	6 10am Art for the Heart 12:30pm Staff Mtg 7-8:30pm BSA 7pm BPB	7 12-6pm TFR 2:30pm Mission & Caring Team 6-8pm Iglesia Shalom 7pm AA	8 6pm Praise Team 6:30-8pm Alpha2 Small Group	9 12:45pm MIP 7pm Iglesia Shalom	10 10am-2pm Youth Car Wash
11 9am Adult Class 10am Worship Grad, 3rd Grade, Teacher Appreciation 2-5pm Iglesia Shalom 6pm Youth Group	12 <i>Office Closed</i> 12-6pm TFR 6:30pm BSA	13 10am Art for the Heart 12:30pm Staff Mtg	14 12-6pm TFR 6-8pm Iglesia Shalom 7pm AA	15 6pm Praise Team 6:30-8pm Alpha2 Small Group	16 7pm Iglesia Shalom	17
18 FATHER'S DAY 9:00am Adult Class 10am Worship 2-5pm Iglesia Shalom	19 <i>Office Closed</i> 12-6pm TFR 6:30pm BSA	20 10am Art for the Heart 12:30pm Staff Mtg 7pm Session Mtg	21 12-6pm TFR 6-8pm Iglesia Shalom 7pm AA	22 6pm Praise Team 6:30-8pm Alpha2 Small Group	23 7pm Iglesia Shalom	24
25 9:00am Adult Class 10am Worship 2-5pm Iglesia Shalom	26 VBS <i>Office Closed</i> 12-6pm TFR 6:30pm BSA	27 VBS	28 VBS 12-6pm TFR 6-8pm Iglesia Shalom 7pm AA	29 VBS 6pm Praise Team	30 VBS 7pm Iglesia Shalom	1