

OAKHILL BAPTIST CHURCH  
4615 OAK HILL ROAD  
EVANSVILLE, IN 47711-2943

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September 2017



OakhillBC.org  
— a family for life —

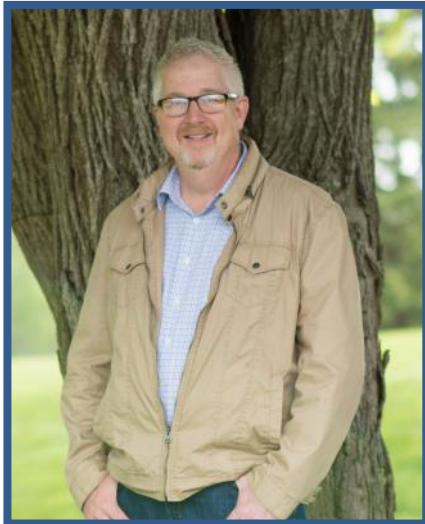
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akleaves

The Oakhill Baptist Church Newsletter

# PASTOR'S POINTS



**Alan D. Scott**

Lead Pastor

[ascott@oakhillbc.org](mailto:ascott@oakhillbc.org)

Dear Church Family,

For the last 11 years I have begun my articles to you with "Dear Church Family". I have always seen us as the family of God participating together as the body of Christ. You are my brothers and sisters in Christ and I love you tremendously! Recently we updated our church logo and with it came a new saying that I pray our church will rally around over the course of time. The saying is simply, "A Family for Life". I pray that our church will truly be a family for life for all that are a part of it. A family for this life that we are making our way through, and a family for all of eternity that is to come! My prayer is that Oakhill will not simply be "a" church that you attend, but that it will be "your" church family that you are a part of and invested in.

I want to lead us to intentionally invest in each other and the life of our church family. One way that we are going to do this is to plan and promote family gatherings where we can all be together so we can build community and really invest in one another. These will be family gatherings where we all can come together; every generation, and every worship hour together united in our bond as brothers and sisters in Christ.

The first family gathering is coming on September 10 as we gather together for a special family night of worship. We will be at the associational ball fields where our fireworks celebration takes place. Food trucks will be present (Pizza Revolution, and

Lolly's Pops) to purchase from or feel free to bring your own picnic style food as well. Bring your lawn chairs and relax together as we eat, play games, but most importantly worship together as family. This is going to be an amazing time together. We will be producing a listing of the different family gatherings that we are planning to offer throughout the rest of 2017 and in to 2018. Please prioritize these special times together.

Finally, I want to encourage you to clear the dates of November 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> for a special marriage weekend that we are hosting at our church. "The Art of Marriage" will be hosted by myself and my wife Paula! We are very excited to invest in the couples of our church as we facilitate the video teachings of some of the most renowned speakers on the topic of marriage in the church today. We will also be sharing from our 30 plus years of marriage as well. This is going to be a fun, encouraging, and challenging time together. Please make this a priority and please see this as an investment into the health of your marriage. We are not able to offer childcare for this event so please begin to plan now how you can secure childcare for your children. Consider asking your parents, family members, or friends to help you on this weekend. This would be one of the very best ways that they could make a powerful investment in your marriage. Oakhill truly is a "family for life"! Let's invest in one another as the Lord invest in us all!

I love you and I love being your pastor,

## THE STATS

	Aug 6	Aug 13	Aug 20	Aug 27
8:00 AM Worship	84	105	103	98
9:30 AM Worship	115	193	179	192
11:00 AM Worship	210	237	244	223
<b>Total Worship</b>	<b>409</b>	<b>535</b>	<b>526</b>	<b>513</b>
Life Group	259	335	284	271
Oakhill Budget Offering	\$16,529.15	\$14,128.36	\$14,121.46	\$11,093.60
Greater Things	\$1,068.00	\$605.00	\$2,706.00	\$1,188.00
Mission Club	\$110.00	\$210.00	\$295.00	\$240.00



Evaluations

10/27 from 6pm - 8pm for 5th - 8th grade

10/28 from 9am - 1pm for K - 4th grade

## Marriage Enrichment Weekend



FAMILYLIFE™ presents

the art of **marriage**®

getting to the heart  
of God's design

**Save the Date**

**November 3rd & 4th**

# WOMEN ON MISSION

## Abby Roberts\* Kiev, Ukraine

Please remember this missionary and her family in prayer.

(Her name has been changed for security reasons.)

When you're living overseas, picking a school for your children can be quite a challenge. That's why Abby Roberts\* is there to help.

"My primary responsibility is serving as an education consultant for many of our families living in different countries," she said. "I help them make decisions about that kind of schooling to choose for their children, what curriculum to buy if they are homeschooling, and how to get help if their children are struggling with a learning disability."

It's a big job, and it takes up a lot of her time. But she and her husband, Tom\*, also help out with a church plant called God's Design Church in Kiev, Ukraine, the city in which they live. "The church has definitely been a work of God," Abby said. "The hardship, sadness, and chaos of war have been turned into blessing, growth, and joy."

Many people attend services for the packages of food they distribute, but they hear the gospel and hearts are changed, she said. The church has grown from one to three services. "It's been very exciting to watch God work," Abby said.

She asked for prayer for the church to find a larger place to meet. She also asked for prayer for her role as educational consultant.

"Pray for me to have wisdom as I help our families with their educational needs and to be able to find the resources to help them when they have questions." Abby said.

\*\*\*\*\*

Women on Mission will have their annual potluck at the church on Monday, September 11th @ 6 pm. Jean Hitchcock will show us how to use short-cut ways to prepare food using ready-made dough. (If it saves time and effort, it works for me.) All our ladies are invited to join us. Please bring a covered dish or dessert.



# \$PARE CHANGE



**Bryan R. Gotcher**  
Pastor of Missions & Administration  
bgotcher@oakhillbc.org  
Blog: [bryangotcher.wordpress.com](http://bryangotcher.wordpress.com)

This summer we took our high school students to Chicago for a mission trip. We worked with church planters in the area. There is so much good work being done in the Chicago area; however, there is also a lot of lostness still to combat. The North American Mission Board (NAMB) selected Chicago as one of its "Send Cities" a few years back. This means they are targeting this region with resources and personnel. They have developed a strategy to plant gospel-centered, Bible believing Southern Baptist churches in every neighborhood throughout metro Chicago.

This is a gigantic task, since Chicago has 8,792,970 people in its metro area; which means there is only 1 Southern Baptist church for every 34,348 people. As you can see there is a lot of work to be done. We partnered with Bryan Coble, who is a church planter in the Irving Park region; Bryan is bi-vocational-- he manages a Honey Baked Ham store. He has been having a weekly Bible study in the community center of a local park. He has a great opportunity to reach over 50,000 people in Irving Park alone.



We helped Bryan get the word out about his church by passing out water bottles and church flyers. We also served the park by picking up the trash scattered throughout. We went to a local foster care center where we cleaned and played with kids. We really enjoyed our time working in this part of the city. It gave us a good picture of the everyday lives of people in Irving Park and helped us capture the vision Bryan has for his church plant.

Chicago is a unique, sprawling city that is crowded and bustling; however, within the larger scope there are these little neighborhoods where church planters can do their work. One church planter and Regional strategist, Chris Wright, has seen how his church is able to reach out to young professionals that are simply looking to connect with others. Even in such a populous area people are lonely and need other people to befriend them. The church, powered by the gospel, can be that connection people are looking for.



We need to be praying for all the Send Chicago church planters. You can see their profiles at [www.namb.net/send-cities/chicago](http://www.namb.net/send-cities/chicago). You can also see a plant map and get regular updates on what is happening there. I would ask you to pray specifically for Chris Wright as he coordinates the planting effort in Chicago and for Bryan Coble as he plants in Irving Park.

We are exploring a partnership with Send Chicago, which would mean we would send resources and people to assist church planters. More information about trips will be available if this partnership develops. Please pray about this matter and pray for the heart of our church to be on fire for missions in Chicago.

# STUDENT MINISTRY



**Brian Van Doren**  
Pastor of Students  
bvandoren@oakhillbc.org

Dear Church Family,

In my last article I mentioned that one of the Student Ministry's main goals is to create an atmosphere that promotes Christian unity and discipleship. I want to talk a little about one way that that goal will be accomplished as we move forward as a youth group and as a church. I believe that when people think about unity they tend to picture a group of people who genuinely enjoy spending time together. They see a jovial, inclusive, and intimate group of friends. They see like-minded people having animated conversations concerning the thing about which they are like-minded. They see sober-minded individuals helping carry the heavy burdens of their downtrodden friends. They see outcasts being invited into the middle of the conversation. What is all of this that we imagine when we think of unity? I think we tend to call that love.

This we know is a good thing and something that we ought to encourage. But what about discipleship? What do we think of when we hear that word? Some might think of a dirty dry-erase board with verses written on it. Others may think of lectures and slideshows. Many think of open Bibles, a hot cup of coffee, and good conversations. Yet others imagine embarrassing conversations about accountability. I think what we ought to see is what the Bible shows us from the life of Jesus. We ought to see a group of people spending time together talking about God's word and how it applies to their specific lives. Our imaginations ought to envision men meeting together for breakfast to discuss their Bible readings for that week. We should visualize younger ladies asking older ladies to meet with them to grow as godly women. We should see small groups with open Bibles asking questions about how Jesus can guide them through what's going on in their lives at that present time. And there are many other ways we can imagine discipleship, including dry-erase boards and sermons. But when we look at all of those things, I think the common denominator of them all would have to be what we tend to call the Truth. That is, the Christian message of the gospel being applied to our lives. That is definitely something that we ought to encourage as well as love.

So, if our desire is to have an atmosphere that promotes unity and discipleship, it seems to me that we must be a group of people who cherish love and truth above all things. It is important to note that truth (the gospel of Jesus Christ) is what leads to genuine love. This is because it is through the gospel that we come to know the love of God (John 3:16; 1John 2:4-6, 3:16, 4:9-10). Therefore, we need to be people who are obsessed with the Truth and love. It is through an obsession to walk according to the Truth (not just know it, but walk in it), and be changed by it into a people who love completely and unconditionally, that we will be a unified and Christlike people.

Our Student Ministry needs to be one that is completely governed by truth and love. Think of what that would mean for students today who are surrounded by deception and selfishness. I think a place defined by truth and love is exactly what students are looking for in this world, and I want our church and Student Ministry to continue to be a place where they can find it. I hope this is your desire as well! I think that it probably is. If so, please pray for our ministry and our students. We need that above all else. But maybe you would like to be actively a part of making this goal more of a reality. I would love to talk with you about that! Please call or email me if you would like to talk about how to help promote the Truth in love.

Sincerely,  
Brian

# WORSHIP



**Jared Mitchell**  
Pastor of Worship  
jmittell@oakhillbc.org

Church Family,

I hope this month finds you well as we are heading into the Fall season. It's been a great season of ministry, and I am thankful to God for how He continues to move in our lives and our church! On a personal note, I want to thank you all for praying for Annaclaire and I as we have welcomed our new daughter, Presley, into the world. She is now approaching two months of age, and she is so loved! We want to thank you for loving our family so well through this season. We are so thankful that Presley has this church family to grow up with, and we know she will be raised up in the Lord, to know Him and to know His love for her. Thank you all for every meal you made, every kind of word, and every prayer. We are so grateful!

On another note, I must confess, being a father is not as easy as I thought it would be. I knew there would be challenges, and I knew there would be hurdles, but just like every father, I want to be the perfect father for my daughter! I never want to mess up. I want to be there every second, doing exactly what I need to do in order to take care of her. Before she was born, I told myself I would demand perfection from myself. She deserved for me to be perfect. So how do you think this worked out? I'll tell you - the whole idea of being perfect was given up the second I held her. I figured out quickly, and I know now, that I cannot be perfect. I will do everything I possibly can, to be the best father I can be, but I am not perfect. I will mess up. Our daughter will cry, and as much as I want to fix it immediately, there's not always much I can do. Sometimes all I can do is hold her close, let her cry, and do my best to comfort her. After all, she is a baby who hasn't quite learned how to control her emotions yet! And as I think about perfection, and how far away I am from being perfect on every level, as a husband, father, friend, pastor, I miss the mark everyday. But I am thankful that I am loved by my Heavenly Father, who is perfect. Our daughter is loved by our Heavenly Father, who is perfect. As I continue to try and be this perfect father, and as I mess up, I want to live my life to point to my heavenly father who is perfect in every way. I want to point to our Savior, Jesus, who gave himself up for the sins of the world. Jesus is our great High Priest. He is our Good Father. He is our Perfect Savior. So I hope that I can encourage you to understand that you will not be perfect. But you have a Perfect Savior, who is a Good Father. He knows what you need. He provides what you need. So I encourage to live your life, not as one trying to be perfect, but as one who is pointing to a Perfect Savior in Jesus.

Jared

# Spiritual Development

## Principles for Living with Gospel Purpose



**Nick Scott**  
Pastor of Spiritual  
Development  
nscott@oakhillbc.org

At the most recent Growth Initiative weekend we talked about how to live with gospel purpose. This simply means that you are living your life with the intention of building relationships with others so that you are able to share with them the truth of the gospel and invite them to repent and believe in Jesus as Savior and Lord. For most Christians this may seem very intimidating because we tend to freak out when we think about sharing the gospel with others. At this last weekend, we looked at some principles from the book *Sharing Jesus without Freaking Out* by Dr. Alvin Reid that help us think about evangelism correctly.

Here are a few of those principles that we examined:

1. God created you for his glory, to advance his gospel with the gifts, talents, and opportunities he gave to you.
2. In order to share Jesus confidently and consistently with others, first share him confidently and consistently with yourself.
3. Shifting from giving an evangelistic presentation to having an evangelistic conversation takes pressure off the witness and relates the gospel more clearly to an unbeliever.
4. God has sovereignly placed you in this world at this time with the abilities and gifts you have to bring glory to him and show the joy of the gospel with others.
5. Effective evangelistic conversations connect the unchanging gospel with the specific issues people face.
6. Expect people to be open to the gospel, and learn to share Jesus where they live.
7. Talk to the actual person in front of you about Jesus inside of you; let them see and hear the change Jesus makes in you.
8. Developing a lifestyle of sharing Jesus consistently flows out of a plan to share Jesus regularly.

As we think about reaching those in our homes, our churches, our workplaces, and our communities, these principles help us to see that sharing Jesus should be a natural part of our new lives in Christ. We also shared about a tool called the 3 Circles Life Conversation Guide that helps you begin gospel conversations with other people. For more information about this tool, you can download their app, visit their website at [lifeonmissionbook.com](http://lifeonmissionbook.com), or check out the book *Turning Everyday Conversations into Gospel Conversations* by Jimmy Scroggins and Steve Wright..

At the conclusion of the last session of this weekend, we challenged people to think of one person that you know needs to hear the gospel and to pray for opportunities to share with that person in the upcoming weeks. I would encourage everyone to do this same thing and be open to the opportunities that God will give you to share with anyone that comes your way.

# Kids Happenings



### Proverbs 22:6

*Train a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not turn from it.*

April Sharp - [asharp@oakhillbc.org](mailto:asharp@oakhillbc.org)  
Children's Ministry Director



Hello church family,

I am overly excited to share with you about all the new and exciting things that have been happening within our children's ministry!

At the end of July I, along with four other brave adults, went to **kids camp** with twenty-eight 3rd-6th grade children. We had an amazing time! We had 2 children pray to receive Christ and several children express wanting to live a life that aligns with what Christ wants for them. We had many deep discussions and children came away from camp with stronger friendships and an urge to have a stronger relationship with Christ. Praise the Lord!



Our new **Kids Worship Experience** format started on August 13th and was a success! Children were welcomed into a different environment and structure of worship and enjoyed every bit of it. We also have devoted weekly teachers for all age groups during 2nd and 3rd service. This is a huge blessing to have consistent leaders pouring into and influencing our children's Christian walk. I am excited to see what God has in-store for our children through this new concept. Feel free to join in on this time during 9:30 or 11am service. We would love to have you!

The new **Check-in and attendance tracker** was implemented at the end of July. Thank you Pastor Bryan Gotcher for all the hours and stress of getting it properly set up. With this new check-in system we are able to track attendance more accurately and have a better security system in place to protect the children. We will have two more check-in stations strategically placed in the upper level of the church members and guest can check-in more conveniently on Sunday morning.

**Happenings for the month of September...** AWANA registration has taken place and we will kick-off our Wednesday evening schedule starting September 6th from 6-7:30. We will have a parent night on September 13th. This will be a time for parents to join me in the fellowship hall to discuss how you as a parent can help your child have the full AWANA experience and grow closer to God and learn His word.

Thank you for allowing me to love on your kiddos. God Bless,

*April Sharp*

## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

**Amazing Opportunities to Pour Into Children  
During 9:30 & 11am service times starting in August**

- **One year Commitment to teach children. This is age specific. (Lifeway curriculum provided "Bible Studies for life") \* You choose your service time to serve.**
- **Adult & Youth Worship Leaders and musicians during Kids Praise for mixed ages. (4 yr-2nd gr. & 3rd-5th gr.)\* You choose your service time to serve.**

# September 2017 Ministry Calendar

Sunday      Monday      Tuesday      Wednesday      Thursday      Friday      Saturday

Sunday Schedule		Wednesday Schedule		1	2
8:00 am Traditional Worship	12:00 pm Prayer and Bible Study Luncheon				
9:30 am Contemporary Worship	6:00 pm Student Gathering & AWANA				
11:00 am Contemporary Worship	7:30 pm Worship Team Practice				
5:00 pm Student Life Group					
3 Regular Sunday Schedule	4 <b>Labor Day - Church Office Closed</b>  Open Gym Basketball 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.	5	6 Regular Wednesday Schedule	7 Women's Bible Study 10 am AIS Family Night 5:00 - 7:00pm	8
10 Regular Sunday Morning Schedule  <b>Family Night of Worship 5 pm - 7 pm Southwestern IN Baptist Association Fields</b>	11 Women on Mission Potluck 6:00 p.m.  Open Gym Basketball 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.	12	13 Regular Wednesday Schedule Deacon's Meeting 6:00 pm	14 Women's Bible Study 10 am  <b>Christmas Music Kickoff Meeting 6:30 pm</b>	15
17 Regular Sunday Schedule	18 Open Gym Basketball 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.	19	20 Regular Wednesday Schedule	21 Women's Bible Study 10 am	22
24 Regular Sunday Schedule	25 Open Gym Basketball 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.	26	27 Regular Wednesday Schedule	28 Women's Bible Study 10 am	29
					30

**FAMILY NIGHT OF WORSHIP**  
WORSHIP      FAMILY      FOODTRUCK      FELLOWSHIP

Food trucks provided by Pizza Revolution & Lolly's Pops

September 10th  
5:00pm - 7:00pm  
Southwestern Indiana Baptist Association Fields

\* Food trucks will require payment or you may bring your own picnic food. \*

COME, LET US ADORE HIM

A CHRISTMAS WORSHIP EXPERIENCE

Music Kickoff Meeting 9/14 @ 6:30pm

**UPWARD**  
SPORTS

**Evaluations**

10/27 6-8pm      10/28 9am-1pm  
5th - 8th grade      K - 4th grade

FAMILYLIFE® presents

the art of marriage®  
getting to the heart of God's design

November 3rd & 4th