



BRANCHING OUT

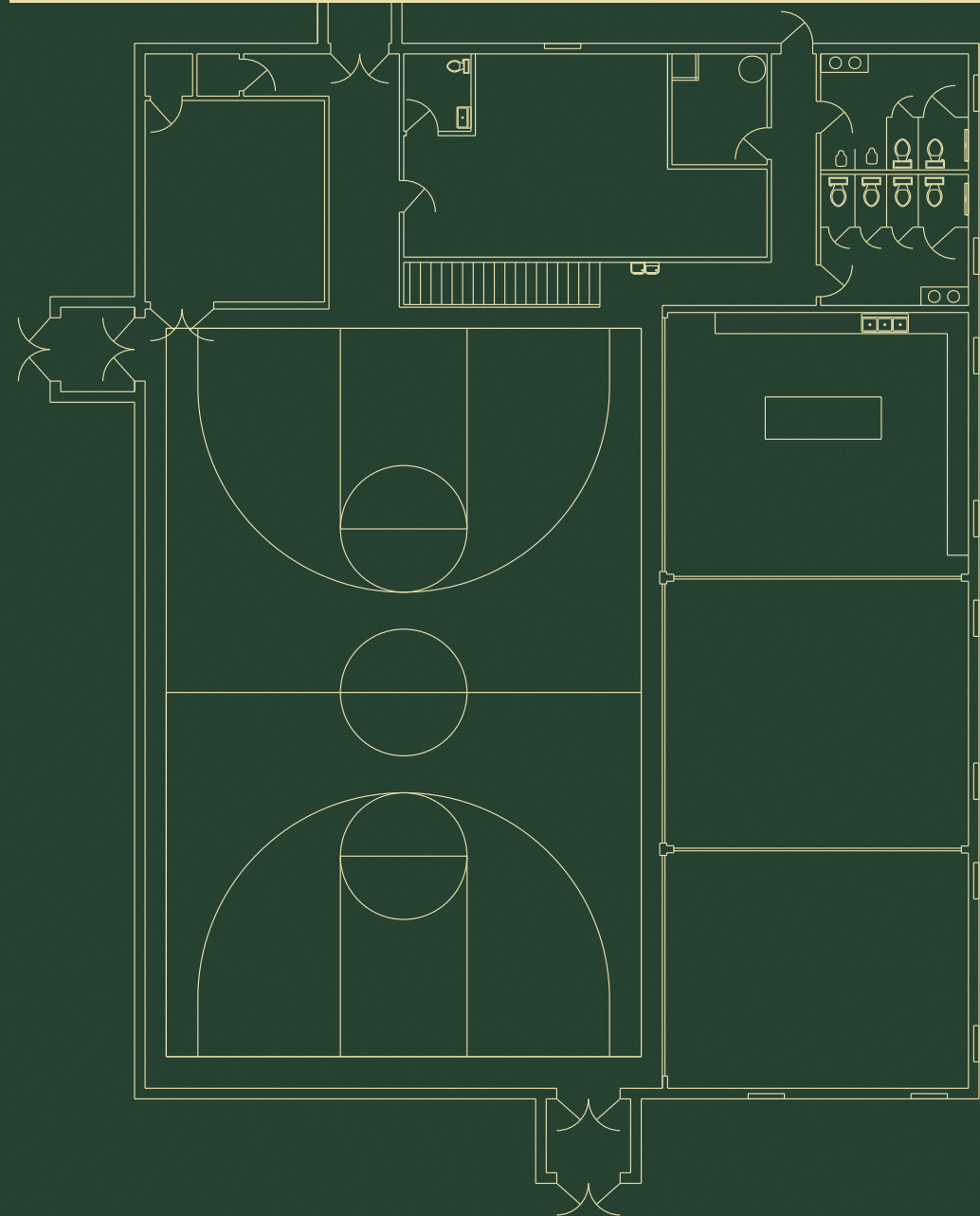


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Dear Oak Bend Congregation,

Nearly four decades ago the building we call our church home was built. It was meant to be a place where faith thrived, comfort could be found, fellowship happened, truth was taught, disciples were formed and those who did not yet know Christ would be welcomed. It was meant to be a place where people could gather and have their lives changed.

Those things are still a part of Oak Bend in the present and by God's grace will be for our future. To aid in seeing lives changed today and in the future, we will be entering into a capital campaign starting in September called "Branching Out."

The goal is to raise 1 million dollars in pledges to be given over the next 3 years to add an additional building on to our already existing sanctuary. This building will allow us to "branch out" in our mission to reach, teach and serve people for Christ - particularly our growing Children's Ministry known as Treehouse and our Youth Group. Plus, there are many other possibilities this new space would allow for that could lead to changed lives in our congregation and for our community.

I believe that our Elder Board has done due diligence through prayer, discussions and consultations in seeking to discern the Lord's will in this matter. **I also believe in this project and that it can be a blessing now and for generations to come.**

In light of this, I'm asking you to prayerfully consider making a pledge above your regular giving. Seek God for what he might have you do as we seek to "branch out" toward the future God will give us.

Thank you for your love for Oak Bend, for the world outside our doors and for your generous spirit over the years.

Pastor Daniel

OUR RINGS OF HISTORY

In 1984 Oak Bend was a new growing church with a number of families with children. But with any growth often comes change.



We dedicated our current building in 1989.



Our growing church faced a founding pastor being called to plant a church across the state, along with an associate pastor church planting and taking some of the congregation with him in 1998.

Another pastor came but stayed a short time, leaving in 2002, and additional growing pains came with families looking elsewhere.

We once again began a growth spurt, and the pastor guiding us passed away in 2005, creating a pause in our momentum.

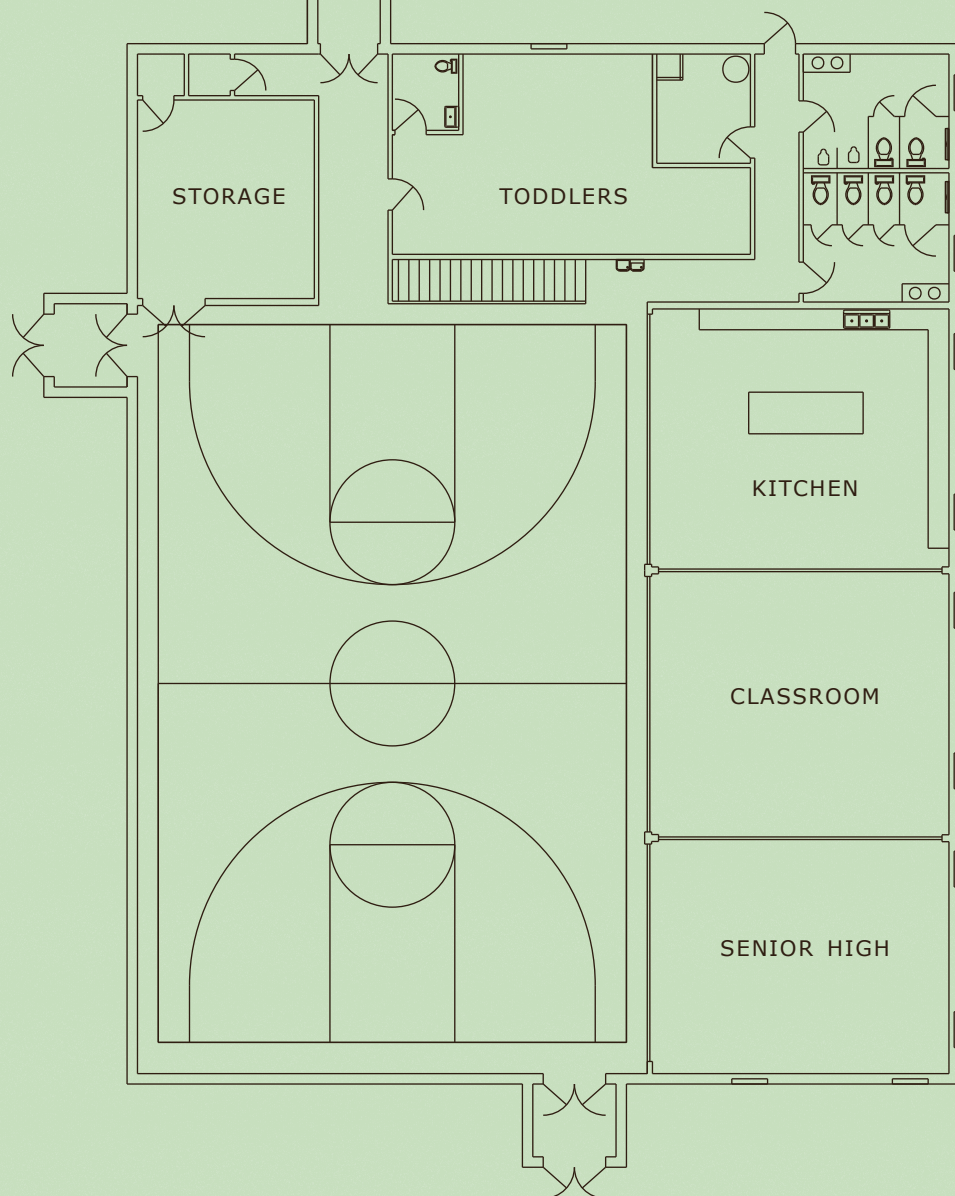
In 2006 Pastor Daniel joined us and has provided stability. We prayed that God would bring more young families and children. And the Lord faithfully answered in abundance!



EXISTING BUILDING

1st Floor

2nd Floor



ECKEL JUNCTION

OUR SPACE

With this abundantly answered prayer, we need to branch out. We need to provide space for more families to join us, for their children to play, learn, and grow and for our church family to connect to our community.

The opportunities are endless.

THIS WILL BE A SPACE FOR:

We Will Gain:

- 4 Classrooms
- Upstairs Bathroom
- Lift to Second Floor
- Larger Kitchen
- Main Floor Bathrooms
- Gym Space



Families

Small Groups

Youth Events

Youth Group

Community

Basketball

Serving Meals

Winter Date Nights

Homeschool Co-op

Wedding Receptions

Prayer Room

Your Vision.....

OUR GOALS

Building Cost:
\$2.57 million

Upfront Fundraising goal:
\$1.2 million
fully funded
(God is so faithful!)

Sanctuary Updates:
\$100,000
fully funded
(God's continued provisions!)

Three-year Fundraising goal:
\$1 million

Goal 1:

100% Participation

Goal 2:

**\$1 Million in gifts and
pledges from**

**September 13 - October 25, 2026
for 2026-2029**

*This will allow us to begin
building in March 2027 and
continue to invest in our church,
children and community.*

We Prayed — God Answered

If you've been in Oak Bend for any amount of time you will hear stories of God's faithfulness. This current growth and need for more space is just that — God's faithfulness.



Over the decades, we prayed for God to bring young families and children to become part of Oak Bend. God has provided again and again. Many find the chatter, giggles and even cries from the children in our pews to be a reminder of the answered prayer.



God is moving in our church where we are full of prayer for growth, praise for what He has provided, and expectation for His continued faithfulness to His people.

He provided, even though it may not seem so. Do you look around and see empty seats? You may, and think we still have plenty of room. Have you watched when those chairs are emptied when the kids go to Treehouse? Have you been to Treehouse and worked with the children? If you have worked in those rooms, you know *we are full!*



Someone even recalled a young girl who sang her heart out at the top of her lungs praising the Lord. She was loud and bold and is now leading the congregation in worship on many Sunday mornings.

As God has been faithful in providing families, He has also been faithful in providing volunteers. As we added families and children, the children's ministry began adding classes in anticipation, even if there were only 2 children. They did so in preparedness and expectation, and again the Lord provided.



WHAT WILL YOUR STORY BE IN THIS?

PRAYER

Any endeavor should start with prayer. Start with seeking how the Lord would have you participate. Pray for peace and guidance for your investment and its outcome. Pray for strength as you step out in faith.

See: I Thessalonians 5:16-17

COMMITMENT

No matter how much you are able to give, remember it's a form of worship. It may be easy, or it may be sacrificial. The Lord knows our hearts and our abilities. He also knows what He calls us to do. May we be committed in following his guidance and faithfulness.

See: II Corinthians 9:7

EXPECTATION

Give in expectation — expecting the Lord to answer prayers for more families, more children and more space to grow.

See: Psalms 5:3

