

Some Resources to Guide Your Prayers which can be found at our website or googled:

<https://www.oakbrookpca.org/prayer-resources>

- ❑ *A Simple Way to Pray* by Martin Luther
- ❑ *Matthew Henry's Method for Prayer* - excellent guide to using God's Word to guide your prayer using Adoration, Confession, Petition, Thanksgiving and Intercession.
- ❑ *John Calvin's On Prayer*, taken from his Institutes
- ❑ *A.W.Pink's Gleanings from Paul*, a great collection of biblical prayers from the Apostle Paul.
- ❑ *R.C. Sproul's Does Prayer Change Things*
- ❑ *The Lord's Prayer - A Perfect Model* – a daily guide to praying

Oakbrook Community Church A Call to Urgent Prayer March 2022

We serve a Gracious and Sovereign God. As a church we have been richly blessed and have seen God use us for many things over the decades we have existed. The Session of Oakbrook is calling us to a season of prayer for several challenges we are currently facing. As we have recently been going through the Gospel of Mark we have seen that Jesus, God's Son, spent considerable time in prayer^{Mk6:46;Lk5:16} with His Heavenly Father while He was here doing ministry. We should be like Jesus and seek the will and purpose of our Heavenly Father. Prayer is not about changing the mind of God, rather, prayer is about us getting in tune with God's perfect and sovereign will. Prayer will shape us and transform us.

Martin Luther spent hours each day in prayer so that he was equipped to do the work that God called him to do. We would do well to learn from saints like Martin Luther and seek God in prayer for the strength and direction to do God's work each day. Too often we decide what we think what God wants and then ask Him to bless our plans. Let us as a church become a seeking, studying and praying people who then have no choice but to carry out what we see God compelling us to do!

We are asking you, the members and friends of Oakbrook Church to seek God in prayer during this month. We are asking that you would commit to pray daily and take time with others to seek God's face in prayer. There are several obstacles that we are facing with the new building and the sale of the old property. We face an uncertain world. Let us like the saints of the early church come boldly before God and pray:

Ac 4:24–31 —²⁴And when they heard it, they lifted their voices together to God and said, “Sovereign Lord, who made the heaven and the earth and the sea and everything in them,²⁵who through the mouth of our father David, your servant, said by the Holy Spirit, “ ‘Why did the Gentiles rage, and the peoples plot in vain?²⁶The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers were gathered together, against the Lord and against his Anointed’—²⁷for truly in this city there were gathered together against your holy servant Jesus, whom you anointed, both Herod and Pontius Pilate, along with the Gentiles and the peoples of Israel,²⁸to do whatever your hand and your plan had predestined to take place.²⁹And now, Lord, look upon their threats and grant to your servants to continue to speak your word with all boldness,³⁰while you stretch out your hand to heal, and signs and wonders are performed through the name of your holy servant Jesus.”³¹And when they had prayed, the place in which they were gathered together was shaken, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and continued to speak the word of God with boldness.

Let us together come humbly before our Great God in prayer. Let us boldly ask that God will use us as servants who are making other disciples so that the Gospel boldly goes forth starting in Summerville. Let us ask God to help us navigate the permitting and procedures in the sale and purchase of our worship facilities and property.

Our website has a number of prayer resources to guide you in Scriptural prayer:

<https://www.oakbrookpca.org/prayer-resources>

Here are specific items we are asking you to pray about during this Month of Prayer:

- Pray that we as a body of believers called together to serve God as His church will be faithful and effective in sharing the good news of the Gospel.
- Pray for the other saints within the body that they might be engaged in praying for and actively loving others while sharing the hope that they have in Jesus Christ.
- Pray that we may continue to worship God freely and that the Word of God will be faithfully preached each week as we gather for worship.
- Pray for Pastor Mark and Elder Dan and Elder Ken that they may faithfully care for and guide our body.

- Pray for the completion of the sale of the Shady Lane property as the buyer works through all the easement and permitting issues involved.
- Pray that we might be a witness and blessing to those involved and they will see Christ in us.

- We have completed most of what we can on the new facility at 10760 Dorchester Road: painting, etc. Pray that our contractor, Edward Tupper and his Tupco team will be able to determine permitting, plans and get contractors who can complete the necessary work in a timely manner.

- Pray for the many new people moving to our area. Pray that God will allow us to make connections with these new comers so that they might become disciples of Christ.
- Pray that God will bring to us some believing families who can join with us in the work of ministry as we seek to reach out with the Gospel.