

PASTOR'S REPORT

Galatians 6:9: Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.

Another year has gone by so quickly. This is now our 15th year here and yes I made it to 50!! It is a real blessing to be your Pastor and I am thankful to all of you who are helping make OCC a place where people matter!

I want to remind us this year again of the scripture found in 2 Corinthians 9:6: **remember this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously.** Friends what we reap what we sow. Sowing is essential for reaping. I believe we have sowed generously and we will reap generously this year. This year I am again asking you to sow generously into the ministry at OCC with your time, energy, prayers and finances so that we will reap generously. We must not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.

We started this year with a prophetic Word which we thank God for. **"Tell the people this is a very special year for this Church and every individual in this church, each person is to experience a new relationship with God. God wants to do something special starting with the Pastor and flowing into the people; from the leadership into the laity. The leaders must experience this first. Everyone will experience a new move of the Holy Spirit, everyone. There will be a new yearning for the Holy Spirit satisfaction. The baptism in the Holy Spirit will be a regular occurrence in church activities. To those who are not baptized in the Holy Spirit, they are to make it a priority now. There will come upon this people a fresh desire for all that God can give and will give to them. This will not be because of some move of man but will be totally God inspired and God given through Increased faith. No one will be left out of this faith inspired move of God. There will be a saturation of Holy Spirit inspired blessing like as never been experienced before in this Church"** - Godfrey Fearn January 4th, 2015.

There is a song written by the Elim Sound team that says the best is yet to come. Here are some of the words. **Here we stand, God we are so thankful. Looking back we know you've been faithful. We're expectant for the future. We believe, The best is yet come! ... Spirit lead us in Your power! We want to see revival fire!!** I believe God wants to do something on a new level for us in this season. Some of you have already shared testimony to what God is doing. This year we are going to celebrate milestone breakthroughs together. Together we are going to see God move in an amazing way.

To remind you what our milestone means.

Move - We want to move forward together in this three year vision. Yes we are moving building and we will have our new building, but the building is not the end goal. It is to facilitate the vision and bless our church and Town communities. This may mean us moving out of our comfort zones and doing some things differently. We need to meet people where they are, and share the love of Jesus in all that we do.

Inspire - Together we need to inspire other people to move with the vision. Together we want to find inspiration ways to take others with us.

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Live -Yes we need you to know the vision but we need to live it together. For the vision to be a reality then we need you to do what you can to make it come about. Pray for it and pray how you will be part of it.

Encourage - As well as inspiring others, Together we need to come along side others and encourage people in their personal walk and faith, and to help them live the vision.

Strengthen - We want you to strengthen your personal walk and faith in the Lord. For you to know the Word of God more, to apply it to your lives; To have a deeper encounter with the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, so that you may be strengthened in your faith. We want OCC to be a place where people feel refreshed and find rest.

Teach - We want to teach others what we have learnt on our personal journey of faith and walk with the Lord.

Own - We want you to **own** the vision. Make it yours. We want you to live this Vision, as it is your Vision.

Never - We want you to never give up on the vision and always do what is right when making choices, even when doing what is right is not popular. Never give up on doing good.

Enable- Together we want to enable others to be the person God wants them to be and do everything we can possible to help them become that person. We don't want to do things that will set people back in their faith or walk with God.

A milestone = breakthrough. We want to celebrate our breakthroughs together.

The vision scripture is found in Isaiah 54:2-3 **Enlarge the place of your tent, stretch your tent curtains wide, do not hold back; lengthen your cords, strengthen your stakes. For you will spread out to the right and the left.** In the next three years we want to:

ENLARGE: We see OCC with our new community facilities built to bless the poor, needy, vulnerable and the lost and to further the Kingdom of God in Redditch. It is a vision where OCC is a place where people find rest and refreshing, where people matter!

STRETCH: We see OCC as a growing church that has Christian followers devoted to Jesus Christ, that love Him and His Word. It is a vision of all-age growth, with a passion to reach the lost in Redditch.

LENGTHEN: We see OCC as a people with a desire to share the gospel and reach out to our local community. It is a vision where every church member will be involved. We will also partner with Elim International Missions and other such organisations. We see an increase in the number of people on overseas short-term mission.

STRENGTHEN: We see OCC that invests in, and serves our Church community, through our Sunday and midweek services, home groups, and leadership developing programme. It is a vision to train, equip and release people.

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This year I also want us to focus on serving and supporting people in OCC. Taking time to get to know people, making new friends, fellowshiping together, sharing the love of Jesus practically and spiritually. I want to ask you to get to know at least **seven** people at OCC and have regular fellowship together. Look out for new people; make them feel welcome, valued and wanted. Look out for those who miss fellowshiping with us and make contact with them. Pray, meet for prayer with us and with others as often as you can. We cannot underestimate the power and necessity of prayer.

We have talked a lot about faith for 2015. This is a year of trusting Him like no other. Romans 10:17 says **faith comes by hearing**. This year Let's open the Bible, study the Word of God and faith will grow. Faith is not believing God can do anything, faith is believing that God can do anything through you and I. Let us step out together in faith this year and be the people God has created and called us to be.

As always, I would like to take this opportunity to honour the leadership team who are very faithful, hard working and make many sacrifices as they serve us. Alan Young and Joshua Baker have joined the team and another one will be joining very soon. Oasis Christian Centre is truly blessed to have you, as am I. May God bless you abundantly!

I would also like to add my personal thanks for your love, care, encouragement and the support you show my family. I deeply appreciate it, and love you for it. Finally, I always thank my wife Esther and my grown up children and do so unreservedly again. They are a real source of blessing, support and encouragement to me and to Oasis Christian Centre. They each make many personal sacrifices for the ministry, for me, this local body and for their master and Saviour Jesus.

Every Blessing

Pastor Robin