

THE OAKS CHURCH | FAQ



1. Does the church believe in the trinity (Father, Son, and Holy Spirit)?

Yes

2. Does the church believe that we are saved by grace alone, in faith alone and in Christ alone?

Yes

3. Does the church believe in the sacraments of the Lords supper/communion and baptism?

Yes

4. Does the church fully follow the written word of the Bible?

Yes. That is our aim. We will stand corrected if tested when proven unfaithful to the word of God.

5. Is church discipline enacted?

Yes. We hold priority on protecting God's church. We believe that the Bible commands Christians to make every effort to live at peace and to resolve disputes with each other in private or within the Church (see Matthew 18:15-20; 1 Corinthians 6:1-8). This includes accountability to living out a pattern of holiness and discipline.

6. Please explain the youth program and/or children service. What is taught and what will they typically do?

Youth Program: Being a young church start we do not have a youth program currently. It is embedded in us to minister to students but we do not currently have any gathering with us. In the future student ministry may look different than your standard ministries. We believe it is the parents sole responsibility to disciple their children, therefore we hope to come alongside parents and nurture the spiritual life of the student/children. Just recently the elders agreed to actively support FCA in the schools through prayer and mentoring.

Children Ministry: Once again our hope is to nurture the spiritual life of children. We offer Christ centered bible study and peer to peer interaction during our weekly gathering time. We are currently using the Explore the Bible curriculum. Like student ministry, children's ministry may look different than your standard ministry. We believe the burden of responsibility to

teach, train, disciple children/youth falls on the parents, not the youth minister or children's minister. Therefore, we hope to come alongside parents and nurture the spiritual life of the student/children. We desire to equip the parents to take on the responsibility of discipleship of their child. We believe this is God's design.

7. Does the church believe in a literal hell and eternal punishment?

Yes. The Bible provides evidence that there are two destinations for every human soul following physical death. Heaven and Hell. 2 Thessalonians 1:8–9 describes hell as a place of punishment of eternal destruction away from the presence of the Lord and from His glorious might. Punishment is describe in a variety of ways.

8. How much does the church give to missions and to the hungry/poor?

We aim to give %20 of our budget to global and local mission efforts to advance to the gospel to unreached hearts.

Global: Currently we support efforts in China, Honduras and the IMB (International Missions Board). We have supported short term trips to China, Nicaragua, London, Peru and plan to send a group to Honduras and Middle East.

Local: Currently we rely on the Church to bring community needs to the table. Our philosophy of local opportunities will birth out of the desire of the individual church member as the Spirit of Christ compels them. Last year we feed homeless after our services for several months, however the lead on the ministry relocated. We desire to train the individual church members to recognize needs that the Church can help meet. We believe meeting physical needs often leads to meeting spiritual needs.

9. What church growth model do you follow?

We are a simple Church family. We have a simple growth model. We operate within God designed groups. We gather on Sundays to exalt Christ in spirit and truth and we gather in Groups throughout the week. At the core of each Group there is one agenda; to grow together into the likeness of Christ. Whether a group meets in a home or gathers in the nearest coffee shop, these groups form organically. It may be a group of 15 or a group of 3 with a common goal to train in the truth and trust the Holy Spirit to finish his work in us. We believe the Church provides a gospel presence to all we encounter. As relationships begin to grow, groups begin to form and meet all across the city to do life together. Another desire we have is to see mentor discipleship form. We know this takes time. From the beginning we have coined this truth, "Nothing grows fast but a weed." As pastors we set up rows like a garden and watch the fruit produce as we pick the weeds along the way. At the end of the day we will be faithful to God design groups and trust the model revealed in the scriptures. Abiding in Christ is the only way we will grow into his likeness.

10. Is theology emphasized in the sermons, or is the message “dumbed down” for easier understanding?

Yes. One of our core values is Biblical Clarity. All scripture must be examined and taught. It is our expectation to speak clear when regarding to the scriptures before the Church.

11. Who is church done for, seekers or members? In other words, is the emphasis more on seekers (unsaved) vs. the saved?

Our weekly Gatherings and Home Groups are structured to minister to Covenant Members and members of the common church body. Seekers are welcome to participate and observe but we use our gathering times as the Saints to celebrate what Jesus Christ has done, is doing in our lives, and what He will accomplish in the days to come.

12. What must a man do to be saved and inherit eternal life?

Have faith in Jesus Christ and confess him as Lord and Savior

13. What does membership look like at The Oaks Church?

Membership at The Oaks Church is attained by completing a Covenant Membership Path. This path involves discussion, Q & A, testimony, and talent/gifting assessment with an Elder.