

WELCOME CHAD SMITH

BY PASTOR JIM



Chad Smith will be joining our Staff Team as the new Associate Pastor of Student Ministries! His first day will be August 15th.

Chad's Dad is a Baptist pastor in Lincoln, NE so Chad has been around ministry all of his life. He sensed a call on his life around the age of 16 to go into vocational ministry. Chad served in his youth group through high school and participated in international missions to Mexico and Nicaragua.

Chad attended *Moody Bible Institute* right out of high school. His four years at *Moody* were exceptional – he took advantage of just about every opportunity he could to serve in the local church, travel and study abroad, and complete a double major in Bible and Theology. Chad served at *Grace*

Bible Church in Minooka, IL for three years in the Student Ministry, where he was exposed to a variety of ministry opportunities in a large youth group. His primary responsibilities were with Middle School. This was a big commitment because it required him to travel every week an hour or two out of Chicago into the suburbs. At *Moody*, Chad worked at the Solhiem Center as a Game and Staff Supervisor. Additionally, he volunteered at the Cook County Jail regularly. Chad was able to spend a semester living and studying in Jerusalem, Israel – and then another semester in Europe studying the Reformation. Chad graduated from *Moody* this past May – debt free.

While at *Moody*, Chad had many amazing opportunities, yet he also had some life-changing or heart shaping challenges. Half-way through his freshman year he contracted Meningitis. His recovery took more than three months, and he lost over 35 pounds. He describes this as a humbling experience where God taught him that his life is truly in God's hands and that he needs to trust all his life and circumstances to God, and God's purposes.

Chad is young, and yet he brings a great passion for Christ – sharing the Gospel and equipping students to grow and live for Christ. He brings a heart for the marginalized, and for intergenerational ministry. He is humble and ready to collaborate. He wants everyone to be included and meaningfully involved. I personally have been blessed by his conscientiousness toward me and everyone involved in the applicant process. God has provided a dynamic leader for our Student Ministry, and we have much to look forward to with Chad. Please reach out to him this month and make him feel welcome.

After His Heart,

Pastor Jim



Pastor Jim, Senior Pastor
jim@oakhills.net
Work: 332-2648



Mark Your Calendars...

August 28th—
Back to School Sunday

September 11th—
Vision Sunday

September 14th—
Kick-Off of Wednesday
Night Activities

September 17th—
Cherub's Closet Diaper
Distribution

September 18th—
Kickoff of Fall Lifegroups

**ADULT
MINISTRIES**



Pastor Paul, Associate Pastor
of Discipleship & Community Life
ppankratz@oakhills.net
Work: 332-2648

**FALL FORUMS
START ON
SEPTEMBER 11**

Throughout the year we offer fantastic opportunities to study God's Word and discuss the issues of the day.

Join us at **8:15am**
OR **9:30am**

FALL LIFE GROUPS



Life Groups are core ministry of discipleship at Oak Hills. Life Groups are the place in which relationships and deep conversation are forged.

As a church, we offer a variety of Life Groups on various days of the week. Some Life Groups have setup childcare while others focus on a particular issue or stage of life. There are LGs for men, women, marrieds, and there are LGs that span multiple categories.

There is a LG with an open seat ready for you. Our brochure will list all the current LG's at Oak Hills and give you instructions as to how to learn more. You can also

contact Pastor Paul directly.

The commitment is to connect and grow. Most LGs will meet for about ten weeks. Most will start some time around September 18.

WHAT IS AN INTERGENERATIONAL FORUM?

Intergenerational Forums allow us to have deep conversations about specific issues. First, we call it a "forum" because we facilitate study and discussion. Second, God has known from the beginning (and modern social science is confirming) that the most interesting learning happens when multiple generations gather. So, we invite high school students to learn alongside adults of all ages. This fall, we will offer several Forum options at 8:15am & 9:30am.

USHERS

Serving as an usher is much more important than handing out a few worship folders and collecting an offering. Ushering shapes the first impressions people will form about our church. Ushers must also be careful in dealing with people, attentive to and able to respond appropriately to a large variety of circumstances. Even though ushering can be a big responsibility, it is very much intended to be fun and a meaningful ministry.

We are looking for additional volunteers to serve as ushers. Please contact Pastor Paul to get more information about this vital ministry.

**OUTREACH
MINISTRIES**

**DOOR
HANGERS &
NEW RESIDENT
MAILERS**

We continue to show our presence in the neighborhood of 1200 homes near the Oak Hills campus. A door hanger went out just before Easter week and VBS. Both produced obvious results. The neighborhood has been very appreciative. We are planning a door hanger for the Fall Festival. Please consider helping out!

Additionally, we mail out about 100 oversized postcards to people who have moved into the 57108 area code each month. These cards get distributed automatically with the help of D2Design. We design the card and they do all the processing. Please be in prayer for our neighborhood.

LAURA B. ANDERSON

Last school year the LBA ministry team, along with the involvement of the Oak Hills congregation, built an amazing relationship with the staff and children at LBA through mentoring, volunteering, donating needed supplies such as classroom books, praying on campus, and sharing God's love with the staff during teacher appreciation week and conference weeks. We are excited to start this next school year by showering the school with more classroom books.

In August we will be having a book drive where we are encouraging the Oak Hills community to donate any gently/new books they may have laying around at home, so we can help LBA classroom teachers build their classroom libraries for student use. Look for this announcement in August. We look forward to a new school year as Oak Hills continues to build our relationship and share God's love with each person at LBA.

Summertime and the livin' is easy! Well, unless you are struggling to make ends meet.



Cherub's Closet continues to hold its monthly distribution on the third Saturday of every month at Oak Hills from 1:30-3:30pm. We serve anywhere from 20 to 40+ families, meeting the needs of over 60 children on a monthly basis. Every month we continue to meet new families. One woman last month had just arrived in the United States the day before the distribution. She spoke no English. She had heard about us from a friend of hers who has become a regular family of Cherub's Closet. She had a need and we helped her out.

We have received lots of clothing from the garage sales—thank you so much to those of you who have helped make that connection. Our tubs are filling up and in some cases, overflowing.

What do we NOT accept?

- We cannot take car seats or large baby furniture.
- We only take clothing in sizes newborn to 24 month or 2T. in good condition, gently used.
- We only accept books in like-new condition or brand new. (Thanks Debbie W.!)

So, how can you help?

- We could use your help in washing, sorting and packing the clothing as it comes in. Clothes from garage sales don't always arrive in the best condition- they frequently need freshening up.
- If you pick up clothing from garage sales, washing before you bring them in also helps greatly!
- We need people to help sort and fold clothing. At any given time, there is a pile that needs to be put in the correct bins.
- We continue to need people to help at the distribution. We recognize summer is a hard time to make commitments. Please let us know if you can help us out on the 3rd Saturday afternoons.
- We are wanting to convert customer files from paper to digital. If it is your gifting and you are willing, please get in touch with Linda Beck.
- Keep those who receive our services in your prayers.

Thank you to the many who have prioritized the Saturday distributions and helped serve. Thank you to those who have made donations of clothing, diapers, and money. Thank you to those who have helped on work nights, helping sort, fold and store. All are much needed and appreciated! May you be richly blessed by your service. And may our abundance continue to bless those in need.

**Women's
MINISTRIES**

WOMEN'S MINISTRIES TEAM LAUNCHING THIS FALL

The sun beat down on her as she made her way up the hill. Her eyes darted back and forth searching for any who might cast disgusted looks or shaming words her way. She purposely came at this time of day so that she might avoid meeting others as she made her way to the well. The jar on her shoulder was heavy, but not near as heavy as the sadness in her heart. How empty she felt. How defeated, how hopeless, how worthless. How had her life come to this? One wrong choice led to the next. One bad relationship after another. And today it all weighed heavily upon her. Oh so tired! One day kept on bleeding into the next. She desperately needed change, but how? There seemed to be no way out. So she just kept her head low and trudged her way forward hoping to quickly complete the task and make her way home as quietly as possible.

She reached the well and found that unfortunately she was not alone. There was a man watching her. Other men had looked at her, but none had ever seemed to see into her soul like this one did. The conversation that followed forever changed her life. She came to the well and the emptiness inside was filled with the living water only Jesus could give.

Women's Ministry is excited to announce a once-a-month invitation to join us at THE WELL. Here you will find a place to meet with Jesus and other women with the purpose of being refreshed, renewed, and refilled. Each evening will consist of teaching, sharing, and a fun presentation all designed to build stronger relationships with God

and with other women. Just as it was for the Samaritan woman, we want THE WELL to be a place of healing... a place of revival... a place of refreshment... a place of fresh starts... and a place of transformation. Won't you join us? Child care will be provided.

Dates for THE WELL are September 19, October 3, November 7, December 5 starting at 6:30 p.m.



Also, on September 10 we will be making our way to the Sioux Falls Convention Center to attend Women Ignited By Faith's "HOPE" Conference featuring Angela Drake, the "Purple Ninja Mom" and Kaitlin Roig, a Sandy Hook Elementary School teacher. More details can be found by [CLICKING HERE](#). The cost is \$50 which includes lunch. We are hoping we can sign up as a group and fill tables of 8 many times over. Sign is being held in the foyer on Sunday, August 7 & 14. Deadline for sign up to be with our group is August 14. After that the rate increases. Let Pastor Paul or Laurita McKercher (351-1989) know if you need help with the cost. The conference will last from 9am-2pm.

We are so excited about all we are planning for this year and we truly want you to join us. More information will be coming soon.

**WORSHIP
MINISTRIES**

One body ... many parts! All designed to uniquely glorify our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Is God calling you to play a part in the music ministry at Oak Hills? If so, we could use your talents in any of the areas below!

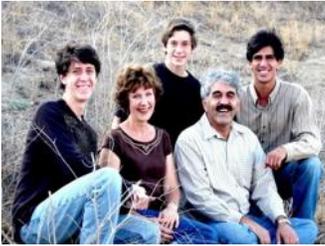
- Soundboard
- Drums & Percussion
- Acoustic Guitar
- Keyboard
- Media/Computer
- Bass Guitar
- Electric Guitar
- Vocals

Contact Dave Aesoph if interested.



David Aesoph
Worship Leader
daesoph@oakhills.net
Cell: 351-5176

DO YOU KNOW OUR GLOBAL PARTNERS?



Safi Bangherpour

Director of mission support to Farsi speaking peoples with Crossover International



Melody Bertsch

HR manager for CISP & Career Coach outside CISP at the Christian International School of Prague



Paul & Melissa Ewing

Field director for missionaries in Japan with the North American Baptist Conference



Brian & Julie Kolling

Members of the National Team for Cru Nations working in South Dakota among Native American students



Chris & Lisa Murfin

working with FamilyLife (a division of Cru), organizing marriage conferences & mentoring in the UK



Ron & Jeannie Seck

NAB Field coordinators in Hungary and regional developers for Community Health Evangelism



Aaron Myers

South Dakota Area Coordinator with Crescent Project



Jeremiah & Shaelagh Martin

Training pastors and leaders for ministry in France with World Venture

How can you grow in your faith, have fun and serve lots of kids? Volunteer in Kids Ministries!



Kids Ministries is currently seeking volunteers when we kick off our programming.

Areas of Need: Nursery: 9:30 & 11:00am

Sunday School: Elementary & Preschool 9:30am, Preschool 11:00am

Wednesday Nights: 6:30-7:45pm

Everyone has experiences to share. We hope you consider sharing your time and talents with the kids.

Contact Shelly Haan or Toni Outland for more details.

KIDS MINISTRIES



Shelly Haan
Director of Kids Ministries
shaan@oakhills.net
Work: 332-2648



Toni Outland
Kids Sunday Morning Coordinator
toutland@oakhills.net
Work: 332-2648

VBS 2016 RECAP

The snacks were great, the games were fun, the crafts were unique but the lessons and the fellowship were worth diving deep!



Submerged /VBS 2016 was so much fun! 181 kids were a part of VBS this year along with 65 volunteers. We are so grateful to all those that helped make this week such a wonderful success. In addition to all that went on here, we were able to bless the Murfin family with \$1,462.58 to go toward the K2 VBS in the United Kingdom during the Family Life Conference in August 2016.

Jesus Knows, Jesus See, Jesus Saves!

KIDS MINISTRIES CALENDAR - FALL 2016

- Back to School Sunday
August 28th
- Volunteer Training
September 7 & 8
- Vision Sunday & Bibles
to Kindergartners
September 12th
- Kids Night Kick off
September 14th @ 6:30
- Fall Festival
October 26th @ 6:30