



NEXT



Life with Jesus is never static. It means hurdles and obstacles before triumphs and victories. When we are really engaged with Jesus, we're on a non-stop adventure that pushes us to be more than we thought we could be.

Chances are, if we're content and comfortable, motionless and stuck in our ways, we've misunderstood the journey God has invited us to share.

God redeems our *past*. And God is present in our *now*. But He only leads us when we trust Him for the *future* — the things that come *next*.

Our faith is alive when we are growing, pursuing, learning, responding — embracing the next thing — whatever God reveals it to be.

For Oak Pointe Church, taking the next step is a key part of who we are. Remaining faithful doesn't mean standing still. In fact, it's just the opposite.

God leads. We follow. And even when we don't follow perfectly, our hearts remain set on His direction.

We scan the horizon. We feel the Spirit. We hear the Word. We consider. We pray. We commit. Then, we *follow God forward*.

NEXT is all about creating space for an even greater level of connection. That's because lives are transformed in the context of community. When we serve and connect with people who have not yet found faith, we can help them spark a relationship with God. This kind of organic growth — person to person — is at the heart of NEXT.

As you dive into the campaign, you'll see that NEXT isn't about bricks and mortar. It's about each one of us taking our place as living stones (1 Peter 2:4-5). NEXT means bringing people together, knowing Jesus and making Him known.

And coming to Him as to a living stone which has been rejected by men, but is choice and precious in the sight of God, you also, as living stones, are being built up as a spiritual house for a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

1 PETER 2:4-5

God is inviting us to shape the future for His glory and His fame. We believe He intends to use our church to bring untold thousands to faith in Novi, Milford, and beyond. NEXT is the capital campaign that will make this vision a reality.



A close-up photograph of two hands, one from the left and one from the right, reaching towards each other to form a heart shape. The hands are silhouetted against a bright, hazy sunset sky. The background shows a vast, green field of tall grasses under the warm light of the setting sun. The overall mood is peaceful and hopeful.

Oak Pointe began on February 2, 1997 when a core group of 60 adults and 30 kids leaned forward in faith. Back then, our Novi site was just an empty field. But the land owner had eyes of faith. She dreamt of the day a church would be built here to worship and serve to the glory of God. Against all earthly odds, the vision endured. This field was only the beginning...



Dear Oak Pointe Church Family,

“Never forget.” That’s what a very wise spiritual mentor once said.

Never forget your journey... Your story of what life was like before you met Jesus... How He worked to draw you to Himself...

Never forget the people He used to lead you to Him... The prayers they prayed... The efforts they made... Never forget how it first felt to know that your sins were forgiven, that you were secure in His love, that you were sure you were headed to heaven...

This is why people who are far from God are near to our hearts. Because at one time, that was us — and we have not forgotten. Oak Pointe’s NEXT campaign calls us to make the same kind of difference for people God longs to reach through our church. Just imagine: the NEXT person who will meet Jesus because of our efforts to reach out; the NEXT family that will find help and healing in our community because we invited them in; the NEXT generation that will discover church is awesome because we worked to make it incredible; the NEXT decade of Oak Pointe’s life that will be even greater than the past two decades, because we are trusting God for just that.

NEXT involves facility expansions and new campuses. But please understand that these things are only tools to help us go forward. This season of sacrifice and giving is about the future of Oak Pointe and our passion for people who have yet to meet Jesus.

“Never forget.” Let those simple words motivate you to dream big and consider all that God might do NEXT through YOU!

Bob Shirock
SENIOR PASTOR

Ron Risher
CAMPAIGN CHAIR

Paul Jenkinson
CAMPUS PASTOR | MILFORD





NEXT is launching after our biggest Christmas ever. December 24, 2018 brought more than 8,000 people to Oak Pointe's campuses in Novi and Milford. As families celebrated the birth of Jesus together, new friends and neighbors saw that church can be so much more than they expected.

WHY NOW?

The NEXT vision is ambitious. It stretches our faith. So it's natural to wonder if now is the right moment to raise funds and begin these major projects. Contrary to the well-worn phrase, timing *isn't* everything but timing *is* important. The real question is this: whose clock are we watching?

Concerns about the economy come and go as it expands and contracts, time and again. The prosperity of our region remains tied in many ways to the automotive industry. If you work for an automaker, or in any number of related industries, you may be concerned about recent headlines or rumors of layoffs and restructuring. Patterns in the stock market call into question if a recession is on the way. Working families continue to be challenged by slow wage growth and rising costs for things like college, health care, and housing. Economic concerns are real but they aren't controlling.

We recognize that God has set Oak Pointe in a relatively affluent community. Every family has its own budget to live by. But, in general, we think God is asking us to consider how we will steward the collective abundance He's provided, and not, instead, be limited by a fear of lack.

Why now? Because God is inviting us to be thoughtful and bold.

If the local economy remains prosperous, the surrounding communities will continue to grow. New people will move in and become our neighbors. When they do, we want to be ready to

welcome them to a church home at Oak Pointe that brings the hope of Jesus to life in exciting and surprising ways.

On the other hand, if the economy falters, we know our friends and neighbors will be even more likely to ask the kinds of spiritual questions our church can help answer. When times are tough, people realize in fresh ways that there must be more to life than work and possessions.

NEXT will expand Oak Pointe Novi with dynamic spaces for gathering and connection. It will make us a greater resource to the community. NEXT will transform Oak Pointe Milford to accommodate rapid growth and optimize space for every area of ministry. NEXT will also pave the way for future church planting so we can bring the Oak Pointe experience to even more communities.

There's a good chance the details in these pages are new to you. But understand that pastors, elders, staff team members, and lay leaders began dreaming and planning for NEXT nearly 10 years ago. Through prayer, study, and counsel from trusted advisors, God has confirmed now is the time to move.



EXTRAORDINARY GROWTH IN THE COMMUNITIES WE SERVE

The Novi / South Lyon corridor is the largest growth area in the region. New home construction is booming. Families and businesses are being drawn to the area by the quality of life and economic investment that make it a great place to live, work, and play. New growth means young families. The average resident is just 39 years old. This demographic aligns perfectly with our passion to reach parents and young kids so we can be present during their formative years.

EXPONENTIAL GROWTH AT OUR MILFORD CAMPUS

Oak Pointe Milford is already in a season of growth. Its attendance and giving have nearly doubled over the last five years. The Milford campus is maxed out. Until critical shortages of ministry space and other infrastructure needs are addressed, these issues will create pain points that severely limit further growth.

NEW WAYS TO CONNECT AND MEET COMMUNITY NEEDS

Live stream viewers continue to track higher, showing double digit growth year after year. The ways that people connect to church are changing. People are increasingly likely to first interact with a church in contexts other than Sunday morning worship. Third places — or environments that are perceived as more neutral — provide a place to gather and make new friends. Community meeting space is in short supply and Oak Pointe has a chance to help meet this need.

Novi, South Lyon, and Milford are growing by more than 6,000 new residents each year. In fact, Novi has one of the highest growth rates in Michigan.

STORIES

We come from diverse backgrounds and have many different interests, but we are united in our love for Jesus. As the NEXT campaign begins, we are already dreaming about the stories God will write through Oak Pointe in the years ahead.



SARAH KIEF

I don't have to put on my *church face* to be here. Oak Pointe is very honest and I love that. You just come as you are. The first time I came to Oak Pointe was in elementary school with a friend's family during a sleepover. I thought it was fun... I couldn't believe this was church.

My senior year of high school, my parents got divorced. It was a total shock and it was devastating to me. But my 707 friends loved me through it. We are still tight to this day. I've been so blessed to have that kind of influence in my life.

I believe Oak Pointe is positioned to share the gospel with thousands of people in metro Detroit. Investing in the church so we can grow is totally worth the sacrifice. The gospel is worth it. People are worth it.



JON RILEY

My family started attending Oak Pointe in 2011. We felt at home here right away. I love being part of this church because it teaches the Bible, it creates a fun atmosphere, and it is a safe place to ask spiritual questions. I love how Pastor Bob always reminds us that Oak Pointe is all about *no shame and no same*.

It's so important for a church to be facing the right direction. We aren't supposed to be huddled up and facing inward toward each other with our backs to the world. Oak Pointe faces out... we engage the people and challenges around us.

I've grown so much here through the relationships I've built and the examples I've seen set by Godly men. You can be real with people here. Being able to admit your struggles and share accountability with friends is huge.

I'm excited to be part of NEXT because it will make room for even more people to experience the kind of impact I've seen in myself and my family.



EMILY SMITH

When I was in 6th grade, my best friend, Hannah, invited me to church. My first impressions of Oak Pointe were that everyone was so friendly and made it easy to feel like I belonged.

The Rock middle school ministry opened my eyes to who Jesus is and why I needed to have a relationship with Him. Before coming here, I wasn't even aware that was possible. At first, I just wanted to be part of the church because it was fun to be with good friends. But over time, I began to love learning about the Bible and being refreshed by God's word.

As a high school student, I see so many peers who are hurting and broken. I pray all the time that they will come to know the difference Jesus can make. I love inviting them to Oak Pointe so they can be impacted just like I was.





AMANDA MCCANN

When I first stepped foot in Oak Pointe three years ago, my immediate impression was that it looked like a shopping mall, which is where I spent my middle school years so I guess that made it feel familiar. There were just so many rooms and activities going on.

The young adult group, Sozo, has been a big blessing for me. I love how we invest in our community and try to reach every demographic without making anyone feel unworthy. That just speaks to me... especially as a person who is covered in tattoos.

I discovered transforming prayer at Oak Pointe and it revealed some deep wounds I didn't know I had. Dealing with those traumas caused me to shut down for a few months but no one loved me less for it. Instead, people reminded me I was valued by God and not forgotten.

I think the outreach we do that touches the outcast or loner is so important because Oak Pointe is a place to find your spiritual family.



JAYME + TONY DAVIS

Something drew us to this church. At the time, we really didn't know what it was, but looking back it's clear it was the Holy Spirit. Our experiences with church before Oak Pointe were mixed. We were disillusioned or just hadn't found a place that fit. And that changed as we got connected here.

Life isn't perfect. It's not all rainbows and butterflies. Some churches try to ignore the parts of life that are hard or uncomfortable to talk about, but not Oak Pointe. There's an honesty to it.

Helping lead worship, volunteering in XP45, or welcoming visitors on Sunday mornings is stuff we love to do. It's fun when you see other people get that look on their face that tells you they just realized Oak Pointe is for them, too.



PAMELA JACOBS

I grew up in a Catholic home and went to parochial school. I always believed God was real but I never knew Him. I don't think I truly heard the gospel message until I was 40 years old. Once I did, it changed everything.

Today, I'm grateful to God for delivering me from lifelong depression. The sense of doom that dictated my thoughts for the first half of my life is gone. I've been set free. And because my life has been changed, I know God can deliver anyone. His promises are true.

The serving role that has been so meaningful to me is being part of the English as a Second Language (ESL) classes we host at Oak Pointe. It's incredible to welcome people from around the world to our community and to show them love as they learn to live in a totally different culture and speak a new language. It's a non-threatening way to introduce people to our church and let them know they are welcome here. I'm excited to see our ESL classes grow as we expand the meeting areas available in our building.



AARON GAUBATZ

It makes sense to me that Oak Pointe Milford is growing because I think people are finding here what my wife and I, and our four kids, also found. There's a feeling of warmth and peace in the church family that's so special.

We love this church because it ministers to every generation. With so much going on under one roof, there are many ways to serve and use our gifts.

Today, we know we are forgiven. We felt God pursuing us even before we were pursuing Him. Oak Pointe has shown us how valuable we are to God... how much we are loved by Him.

NEXT will require more than just our money. It'll take our time and our abilities. But I'm excited to give in any way I am able so more people can call Oak Pointe Milford their church, too.

NOVI CAMPUS ENHANCEMENTS

CHALLENGE

Oak Pointe Church opened the doors to phase one of its Novi building in October 2006. More than a decade later, it remains bright, modern, and an easy drive from anywhere in Detroit's west suburbs. In many ways, our building is the opposite of what people imagine when they think about *church*. We love that. We want to be different. Oak Pointe's campus reflects who we are.

Still, key features are missing and our ministries are being held back as a result. First, because we don't have flexible meeting space for large groups. And second, because we don't have engaging common areas where people can linger and connect. Both of these challenges are mission-critical because cultural trends tell us people are longing to engage outside of weekend services. Relational connections are so important in a big church. They help break the larger-than-life experience down to a human size.

Novi and the surrounding area is fast-growing and increasingly diverse. International families, especially from India and Asia, are moving here and adding to our cultural fabric in important ways. As they get settled, they are looking for places to meet people and ways to integrate into the community.

Unfortunately, it's hard to do that with no public community centers nearby.

We are a family church. We want Oak Pointe to be a resource and a safe place for every generation. Our main worship center is the perfect size for large crowds but it doesn't work for more personal life events like weddings and funerals or performances and parties. Without a mid-sized auditorium, it is difficult to celebrate such events here.

Room 138 is our lone undesignated meeting space for large groups. Every week, we come up short on space to develop leaders or disciple believers through groups, studies, and training events. As our congregation grows in the coming years — and we trust God that it will — this lack of space will only get more difficult to address.

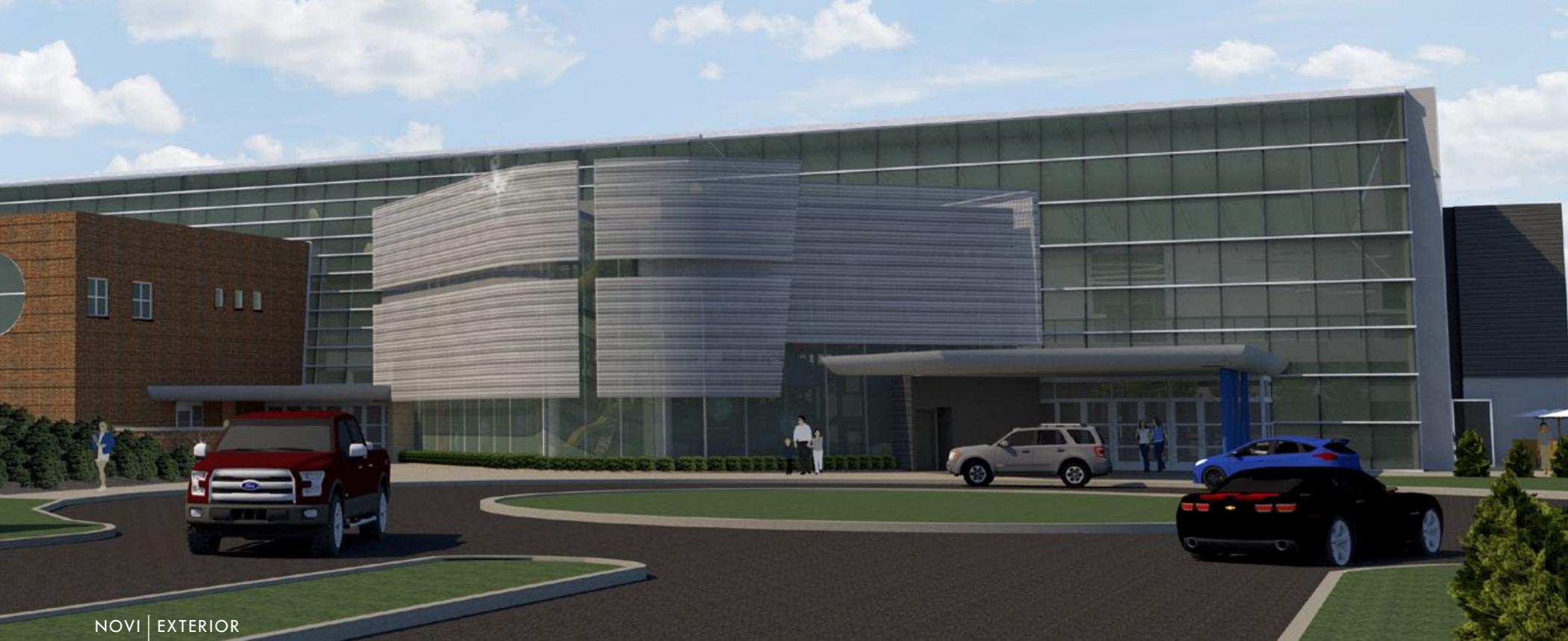
Finally, Oak Pointe is blessed to be a church of artists and makers. We value expression and we teach through the arts. But we don't have dedicated spaces to unleash the full potential of our artists. Our worship leaders, musicians, actors, set builders, photographers, and content producers succeed in spite of, not because of, the rehearsal, studio, and makerspaces available to them. They need space to create and inspire.

RESPONSE

To solve these challenges and provide dynamic spaces for large group meetings, relational connection, and the arts:

- We will increase the footprint of our building by 31,000 square feet
- We will build an outrageously fun indoor playscape that can accommodate 200 kids with casual seating so their parents can connect throughout the week
- We will add a retail-quality café with seating for 100 where people can meet over coffee, study or just hang out
- We will build a mid-size auditorium seating up to 400 that can host performances, weddings, funerals, and other intimate life events
- We will expand our arts and service production spaces with rehearsal rooms, a video studio, workshop, and flexible makerspace
- We will expand our food service capability with a full-sized catering kitchen
- We will create a new hospitality space that can serve as a visitor welcome area, kid's party room or bride's room during weddings
- We will add two large meeting rooms (which can be combined into an even larger space) and two medium meeting rooms on the second level
- We will increase space available to Adventureland so more kids can be welcomed each weekend





ENVISIONED FUTURE

As a direct result of NEXT, Oak Pointe Novi will become known for being open-handed. We will show God's love by making our building a gift to the community.

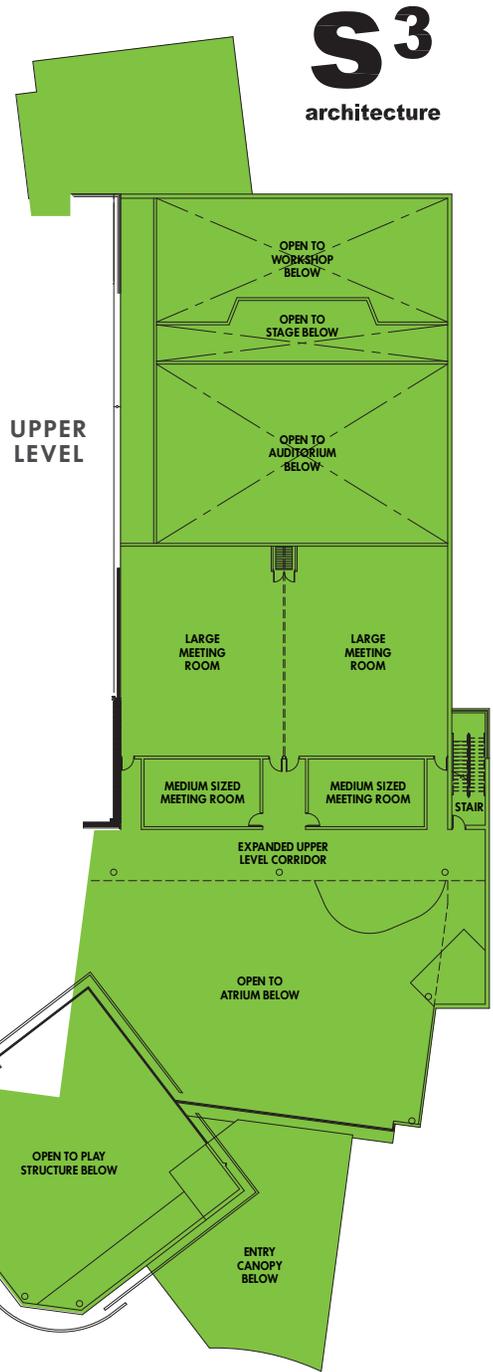
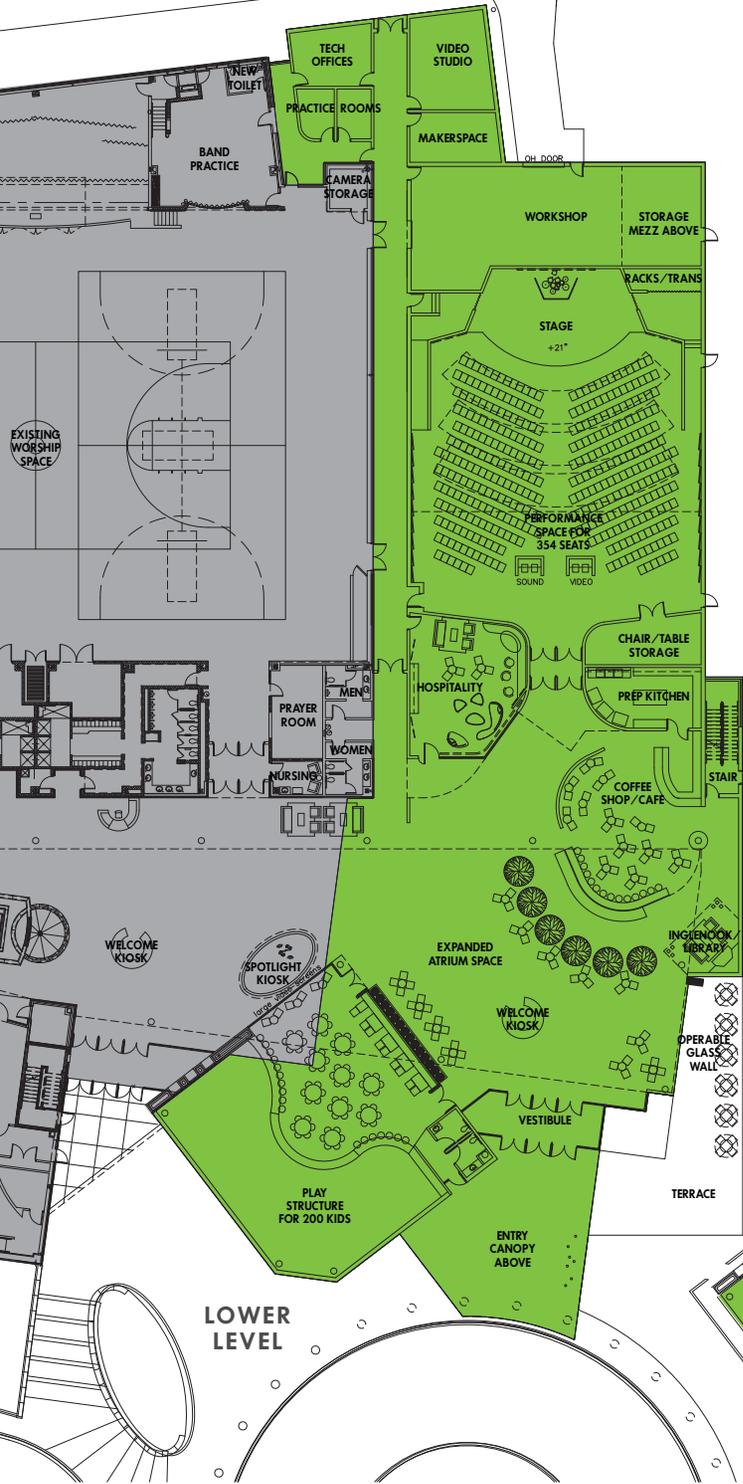
People will be drawn here by the exciting and welcoming environment. Kids will make friends on the playscape as their parents find strength and encouragement connecting with each other. Neighbors will form deep friendships and grow to become spiritual companions.

Those learning the English language will be welcomed to ESL classes. They'll discover Oak Pointe is a safe place to put down roots and ask important life questions.

Students and professionals will study and meet in the café. Countless new guests will learn about Living Hope International through the coffee served there. Our public spaces will be alive and bursting with joy every day of the week.

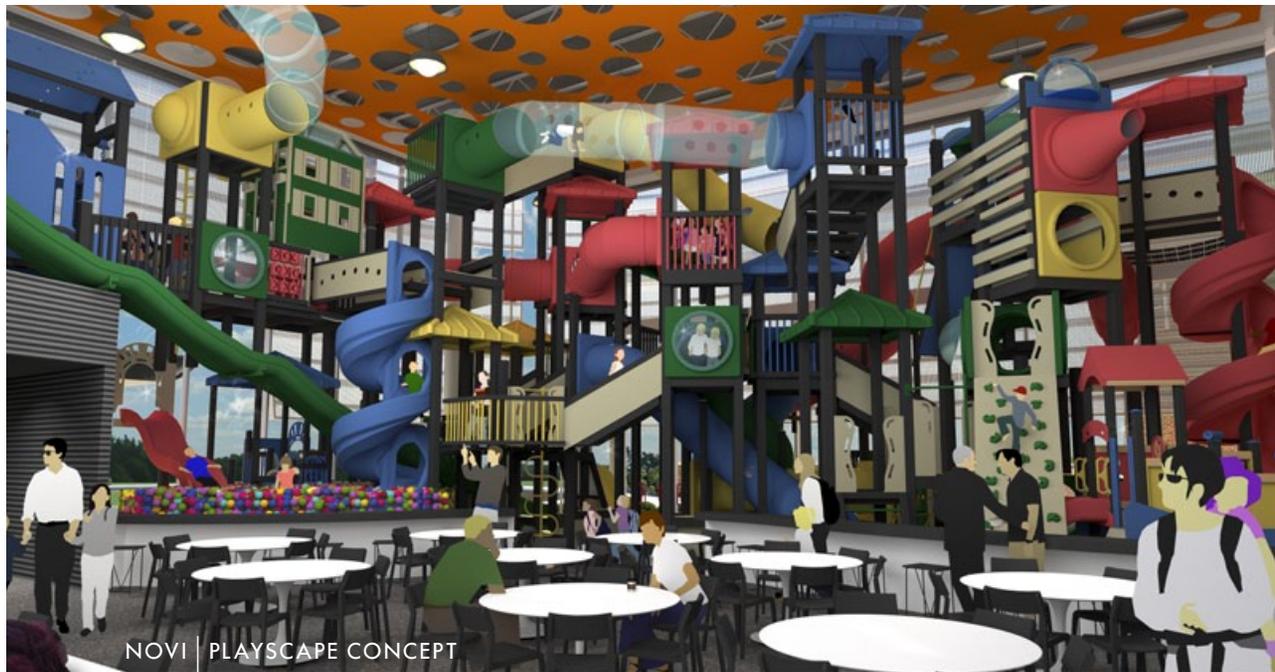
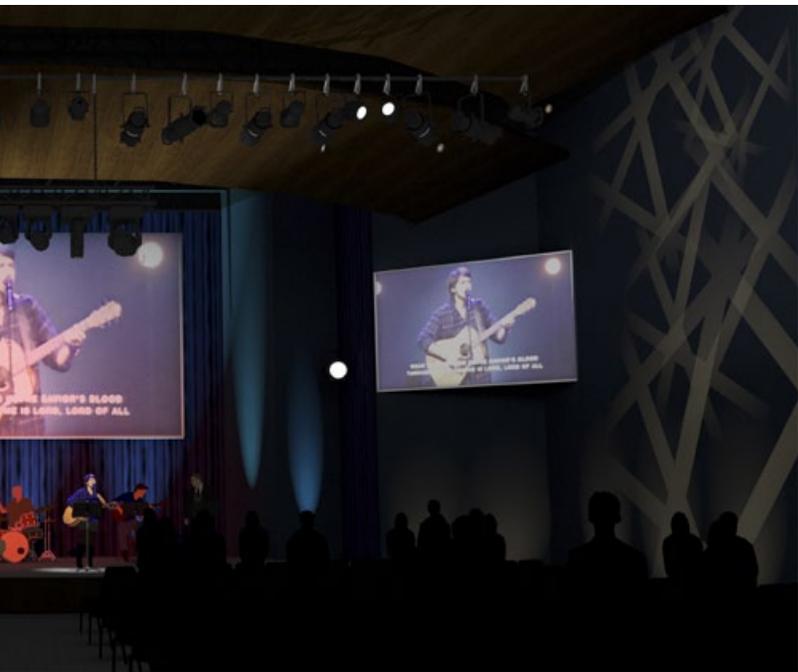
Municipalities and public servants will use our building for meetings and trainings. Oak Pointe will become a community hub. People who might otherwise never step foot in a church will visit here and be intrigued.

Artists will develop their giftings. Attendance at weekend services will increase. And through all of this, many will come to faith in Christ.





NOVI | COMMONS CONCEPT



NOVI | PLAYSCAPE CONCEPT

MILFORD CAMPUS ENHANCEMENTS

CHALLENGE

From the earliest days of the Christian church — going all the way back to the accounts shared in the book of Acts — we get a pretty clear picture. Growth is powerful but it always seems to come with its own set of challenges.

Of course, we know this firsthand. We see it in our own lives. As a family grows, it has to adapt the way it does things. If you end up having six kids, eventually you're going to need a bigger kitchen table. As a company grows, it has to get serious about processes and culture. The way you lead a workforce of 15,000 employees is very different from how you lead a start up with just five or ten. The same issues affect the church.

Scaling up *well* means the difference between achieving your mission or falling tragically off course. We believe the mission of the church is the most important mission in the world. People matter to us because their salvation matters to God. So we want Oak Pointe to manage growth well.

In Milford, hundreds of families have connected with us and found a home at Oak Pointe since we began in 2011. With more than 700 people now gathering each Sunday, the current floorplan of our building is maxed out.

It can be frustrating even for those of us who are *all in*. But imagine how it feels if you are a visitor and the entryway is so crowded it's like stepping into a subway car. Or you arrive for worship and there's absolutely no place to park — even all of the *overflow* spots are taken. Or you're a parent with young kids who finds their Adventureland classrooms spilling into the hall. Or you're a high school student who isn't sure Oak Pointe is totally serious about the next generation because there doesn't seem to be a space just for them.

The point is, we are doing dynamic ministry in a building that wasn't built for the way we do church. We've made it work for a time but the situation is urgent. New people want to join us. God is bringing them here. We must create space.

The good news is, we're in the right spot. Our location is ideal. The way this campus came to be was another sign of God at work. We don't need to make Oak Pointe Milford a replica of Oak Pointe Novi but we do need to transform it so people will know they are welcome here and will stick around to discover the new life God has in store for them.

RESPONSE

To solve the issues caused by overcrowding, enable continued growth, and adapt our campus to match the ways that Oak Pointe does church:

- We will greatly expand the atrium hospitality area and add casual seating plus a coffee bar
- We will build an entirely new student ministries space
- We will add a small auditorium for student ministries and mixed use
- We will add an elevator to increase accessibility so we can welcome friends who have mobility challenges
- We will add large group space for Adventureland on the upper and lower levels
- We will upgrade the fire safety system to protect our building and the people who gather in it
- We will expand the parking lot to address the critical shortage of space that currently causes some drivers to turn away on Sundays
- We will redesign the exterior and building facade treatments to create a brighter, more welcoming environment
- We will plan for a possible future expansion of the worship center



ENVISIONED FUTURE

As a direct result of NEXT, Oak Pointe Milford will be ready to welcome everyone who visits here. We will point our community to a generous God by being generous ourselves.

The sacrifices we make to bring this vision to life will set an example for future generations. They will see that we are serious about faith and determined to follow Jesus. They will be inspired to live with the same level of commitment.

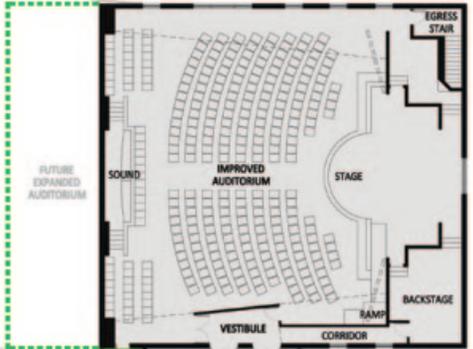
High school and middle school students will know they are loved every time they worship and hear biblical teaching in a space designed with their needs in mind. They'll bring friends to church with them. And their friends will bring friends. They'll gain confidence and purpose as they discover what it means to be loved by God.

Our campus will be a crossroads, bringing people together from diverse backgrounds and interests. Our staff and volunteer teams will work more effectively as the building becomes a tool that's perfectly suited for every essential ministry.

We will train and raise leaders. We will assemble and send out core groups to help plant churches. And we'll do all of this to see Jesus made famous in Milford and the surrounding communities.

FOLLOW GOD FORWARD





UPPER LEVEL



MILFORD | MAIN APPROACH



MILFORD | YOUTH ENTRANCE



LOWER LEVEL



NEW LOCATIONS

CHALLENGE

We believe Jesus is the hope of the world and the ministries of thriving, committed local churches are the best way to help people connect with God. But we live in a time when so many are turning to other forms of spirituality or ignoring their spiritual identity altogether. We see this as a fight between forces for good and forces for evil.

Our culture is poised for another great Christian awakening. We sense that God is moving and preparing to draw people to Himself in powerful ways.

Study after study confirms that the average new church gains most of its new members — as much as 60 to 80% — from the ranks of people who were previously not attending any worshipping body.

If we are truly serious about fulfilling the Great Commission in the 21st century, then our approach must be the same as the Apostle Paul used in the first century — going into new cities and starting new churches.

Time is of the essence. This moment matters. Unless the church steps in to fill the void and lead seekers to God's truth, we risk becoming the last Christian generation.

RESPONSE

To help solve the challenge of the declining church in America, grow new followers of Jesus, and meet needs in our region:

- We will embrace our pioneering spirit and take even greater risks to help build God's kingdom through the ministry of the local church
- We will attract the unchurched by being authentic, creative, loving, present, and helpful in practical ways
- We will recruit and train leaders, then send them out to grow new churches
- We will establish at least two new campuses or church plants in the next five years



ENVISIONED FUTURE

As a direct result of NEXT, people for whom God was once totally irrelevant will become fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ. Lives will be turned upside down in the best possible ways.

Families will find forgiveness and a new focus in life that's no longer centered on themselves but on Jesus.

Vibrant churches will be established. These churches will love and serve their communities well. People who are skeptics will take note and wonder what's behind it all. They will engage with the church and find there's more to life than they ever imagined. They'll discover the joy of being in relationship with God and other believers.

The relative few will sacrifice for the many. Current members of Oak Pointe will step out boldly to be part of core groups launching new churches. Some will lead. Others will follow. All will leave the ninety-nine to chase after the one.

We will choose mission over comfort. We will take our DNA from Novi and Milford and infuse it into new communities of believers.

And we'll do all of this to see many come to faith in Christ. We will not be the last Christian generation.



Previous Oak Pointe Church Plants



BELL CREEK COMMUNITY CHURCH | LIVONIA



MOSAIC CHURCH | ANN ARBOR



BELL CREEK COMMUNITY CHURCH | LIVONIA



BELL CREEK COMMUNITY CHURCH | LIVONIA



DETROIT CHURCH | DETROIT

GOAL

\$14,000,000

Over and above regular giving January 2019 – January 2021

ESTIMATED INVESTMENTS

NOVI CAMPUS

\$7,000,000

MILFORD CAMPUS

\$6,000,000

NEW LOCATIONS

\$1,000,000

Our campaign goal is ambitious but it's not audacious. Together, we will trust God to provide all that NEXT requires.

"Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, so that there may be food in My house, and test Me now in this," says the Lord of hosts, "if I will not open for you the windows of heaven and pour out for you a blessing until it overflows."

MALACHI 3:10

The c
plan A to
And th

**Church is God's
to reach the world.
There is no plan B.**

STORIES



ADAM CZAP

For every stage of life, Oak Pointe has offered something new and helpful to my spiritual development. I started attending when I was a student at the University of Michigan. Back then, I was drawn here by the teaching and music. I still love those things but even more I value the relationships I've made by being in a life group and serving. I'm imperfect but God uses me.

Now, as the parent of two beautiful children, I'm committed to the church because I want them to grow in faith and learn to impact the world. They see that modeled at Oak Pointe all the time.

I'm excited to support NEXT because it will develop new leaders and minister to the emerging generations.



MELODY FOUTS

Working as a nurse, I am so moved by Oak Pointe's commitment to medical missions. Having the chance to serve on short-term trips to Zambia has shown me so much about who God is. At Oak Pointe, people pour into you so you can pour into the next person. I love that.

When I first came to Oak Pointe, I had been away from church for many years because of bad experiences and being hurt by people who claimed to be Christians. But God was speaking to me and inviting me to fellowship.

My experience in the Emotionally Healthy Spirituality classes showed me that this church is different. Oak Pointe is safe. When people are transparent and vulnerable, you can heal and step forward in your spiritual journey.



DJ + BECKY HURULA

Growing up, neither of us attended a church that was in the same community where we lived. We had school friends and we had church friends but the two worlds didn't overlap. This left us confused about how Christians might best engage their neighbors. The first Sunday we came to Oak Pointe, our older daughter, Annika, met girls from her school. She felt understood and known.

Our younger daughter, Katelyn, has special needs. It's sad to say, but it can seem impossible to find a church that's ready to embrace a child like her. Oak Pointe impressed us and put us at ease right away. From ArkPark, through Adventureland, and now in XP45, Katelyn has had a buddy paired with her every week — someone she looks forward to seeing, and who looks forward to seeing her, too.

NEXT is important because so many other families like ours need a church home. As Katelyn gets older, we want to make sure there continues to be a place for her. Creating space for older children and adults with special needs is a beautiful way Oak Pointe can grow.



CEREEN VARGHESE

In 2015, my family moved to the area from India. Our son, Vivian, met a friend at school who told him about Oak Pointe. We had been praying to find a church home because faith is important to us and it can be lonely settling into a new place.

Since we began attending, Oak Pointe has been a pillar of support. We find strength in the worship and teaching. I love how the Bible comes to life here. I feel like I can understand the meaning, context, and application of every verse and chapter that is taught.

One of the best things is that there are so many ways to serve as a family. When we volunteer, it teaches our children to tithe their time to the Lord.

I believe Oak Pointe has an exciting vision for the future. Our family feels led by the Spirit to support it.





ROBBIE RISDON

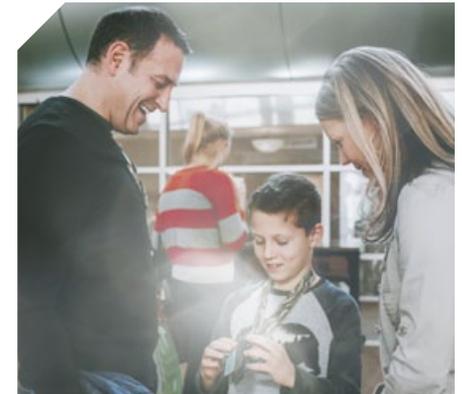
Three years ago, I heard God’s voice tell me that I needed to start going to church. Like you do for anything, I searched Google and found Oak Pointe. It was nearby and had a service on Saturdays which was what I needed to fit my schedule.

I usually get tremendous anxiety going to new places but I felt at peace here. Since then, I’ve immersed myself in Bible studies, the transforming prayer ministry, women’s gatherings, and life groups.

Today, my relationship with God is the foundation of my life. I need Him to guide my path every day. Thankfully, my friends from Oak Pointe come alongside me all the way.

I believe God leads this church. The decisions we make are based on God’s agenda, not our own.

In the season ahead, I want God to use me to grow His Kingdom. He’s done so much for me. I’m ready to help others seek Him.



DAVE CESSANTE

In 2008, our daughters attended SpringHill Day Camp at Oak Pointe Novi. We didn’t know when we dropped them off on the first day that this would end up being our church home but we visited soon after and something just clicked.

The Bible can be intimidating and hard to understand, so Bob Shirock’s teaching style was a surprising change of pace. Every message we hear brings the truth of God to life in ways that we can apply immediately. It helps me see that God’s truth is timeless.

In my experience, Oak Pointe is a judgement free zone. That’s why you can feel safe inviting friends who don’t know Jesus. No matter where you are in your spiritual walk, you’ll feel welcome and loved.





VALUES

NEXT is aligned with Oak Pointe's mission, vision, and values. Our purpose, calling, and envisioned future have shaped every part of this campaign.

Our direction is set by eight core values. Our progress is measured by simple questions that verify whether we are living these values out.

Worship

How does my love for Jesus show?

Listen

How am I living out God's Word today?

Pray

What am I talking to God about?

Restore

How am I facing things that hold me down?

Connect

Who are my 2AM friends?

Give

Where am I serving and giving?

Go

Who is in my top 3?

Multiply

Who am I pouring into?

GROWING THE KINGDOM

From day one, Oak Pointe has expanded the Kingdom of God locally, regionally and globally.

Over the years, we've planted churches with Bell Creek in Livonia and Mosaic in Ann Arbor. We've extended our reach with a second campus at Oak Pointe Milford.

We were the driving force behind the EACH campaign that united hundreds of churches to share the gospel in every community across southeast Michigan.

We've supported groups like Life Remodeled to transform strategic neighborhoods in Detroit. Our Cody Partnership is a long-term commitment to nurture the beauty, safety, and spirit of community in the Cody Rouge area of Detroit. We were also a partner in planting Detroit Church.

We are deeply involved in Zambia. We have growing commitments in Haiti, Ecuador, and Peru. And recently, we have ramped up to provide relief in the wake of natural disasters.

Each of these commitments shows our heart for the world. A focus on others is central to Oak Pointe's DNA.

SACRIFICING FOR OTHERS

The improvements made as a result of NEXT are not primarily for the benefit of people who already call Oak Pointe home. Instead, we are making these investments for the people God will lead to Oak Pointe in the years ahead. NEXT requires sacrifice and commitment on behalf of others. This desire to be open handed ties directly back to our values:

Connect Our enhanced facilities will attract new people by giving us a way to more deeply connect with our community.

Give The campaign depends on people's generosity to God and His church.

Go By creating community space and launching new locations, we'll have a chance to welcome people who might otherwise never visit Oak Pointe.

Multiply Expanded facilities and additional campuses will require more leaders to step into key roles. As we grow, we trust God will call people to serve through the new expressions of ministry that will be created.

GUIDED BY VISION

By 2023, we will be a church where:

Disciples make disciples

— with at least 50% committed to groups

We are focused on the next generation

— doubling the % of people under 40

We take risks in outreach

— doubling the number of decisions for Christ

We are multiplying into new locations

— increasing from two sites to at least four

CHURCH GROWTH CYCLE

OUTREACH CONNECTION DISCIPLESHIP

HOW TO GIVE

NEXT challenges us to do something extraordinary — to give over and above our regular tithes and offerings for a period of two years. You should not feel pressured or guilt-tripped into participating. We are presenting all of the details of this campaign so you can consider how your gift can make an impact for God's kingdom. But the decision to give is yours and yours alone.

When we set our hearts on being part of God's mission to reach new people, our financial priorities shift to reflect our spiritual priorities. We call this *lifestyle stewardship*.

Our first instinct might be to give in such a way that it makes little impact on how we live. But approaching NEXT in this manner really misses the point. The challenge of lifestyle stewardship is to prayerfully and intentionally allow our giving to transform our living.

In 2 Samuel 24:24, King David declared, "I will not sacrifice to the Lord my God burnt offerings that cost me nothing." David understood that the value of the gift presented to God is

determined by its value to the giver. If what we choose to give doesn't come at a cost we feel — if it doesn't hurt or sting even a little — then it probably isn't a sacrifice.

Completing the NEXT vision successfully requires equal sacrifice, not equal gifts. *We can't all give the same amount, but we can all sacrifice in the same way.* NEXT is an important chance to grow together as we honor God and give believing He will provide.

Lifestyle stewardship is the type of giving that affects us — it shapes our plans, our activities, our attitudes, and our approach to life. It means giving up something in one area so we can give more of ourselves in another. It comes down to three things: reassessing our lifestyles, rearranging our priorities, and reallocating our resources.

Many Jesus followers are surprised to see how much more they are able to give when they approach giving this way. Here are just a few strategies you might use to maximize your financial commitment to NEXT.

Priority Budgeting

Many givers rearrange their priorities and give up something in their current budget in order to give more. This could mean postponing a planned expense like a new car, vacation or renovation project.

Redirect Present Expenditures

Often, givers have major short-term expenses such as when a child is in college. If the child will complete school during the giving period, the giver might increase their commitment after that point.

Increased Income

Some givers receive annual pay raises or bonuses. Rather than increasing their lifestyle to fit the higher income, they might commit this amount to NEXT.

Giving From Excess

A giver who owns collectibles might find that selling them and committing the proceeds is a way to sacrifice. Or a family that has saved money for a vacation home may decide the needs of the church are greater than their own.

Unexpected Cash

Some givers ask God to show them a way they can give beyond what they can presently see or afford. An unexpected inheritance or business profit might come during the giving period and permit them to give at a higher level.

Extra Work

Some givers take on a part-time job. This can be especially true for those who are retired or have grown children.

Appreciated Assets

Many people own investment securities or real estate that has increased in value. If it is sold and proceeds are given to the church, the tax savings may allow the giver to increase their commitment.

Planned Gifts

Finally, some givers may use estate planning as a way to support NEXT. While such gifts do not provide immediate financial benefit to the campaign, they ensure the work of the church will continue for future generations.

NEXT requires us to consider how we will give — and how we will live — in the season ahead. Generosity is a sign of loving and caring. Especially when we give back to God, the source of every gift.



RETHINKING OUR SPENDING

Self care and leisure are important. It isn't healthy to completely ignore our basic human need for relaxation and fun. But when we take a close look at how we use our financial resources, we quickly find that life is full of *things* and *experiences* that are actually *wants* not *needs*. In a season of sacrifice, what might we choose to go without so new friends and neighbors can be impacted for Jesus by Oak Pointe?

Manicure	\$35 per treatment
New car lease	\$450 per month
Vacation home purchase	\$250,000+
Spa massage	\$120 per treatment
Lawn service	\$2,000 per year
Private club dues	\$500 per month
Premium cable and internet	\$175 per month
Family dining out	\$80 per meal
Netflix and Spotify	\$15 per month
Disney World vacation	\$6,000 per trip
Concert tickets	\$250 per show
Golfing	\$60 per round
iPhone upgrade	\$1,000 per phone
Starbucks habit	\$750 per year
Boat	\$800 per month
Seasonal wardrobe	\$1,500 per year
Move up to a bigger home	\$500 per month
Go out to lunch at work	\$15 per day
Car washes and detailing	\$350 per year
Self storage rental	\$80 per month

REACHING OUR GOAL

Campaign commitments over and above regular giving

The plans for NEXT are bold. Here's how we will fund them, together:



Potential gift distribution based on annual giving patterns.
Reflects a total of roughly 1,800 active giving units at Novi and Milford.

FAQs

What is NEXT? What is included in the campaign initiative?

NEXT is a two-year capital campaign for Oak Pointe Church that flows from the mandate from Jesus to “Go, make disciples...” and seeks to fulfill the church’s mission to know Jesus and make Him known. With a heart for outreach, the campaign encompasses expansion for both the physical campuses of Novi and Milford, plus sets aside funds for 2-3 church plants in the next five years.

Novi Campus

Combined, the communities of Novi and South Lyon comprise the fastest growth corridor in Michigan. This is evidenced by the housing boom along and around 10 Mile Road. Ethnic diversity is flooding the region around the Novi campus. Both Novi and South Lyon lack community centers.

All of this means the Novi campus has opportunity to connect with the community. However, the campus is exceptionally limited on connection space to welcome new guests, host community and civic events, welcome weddings and funerals, etc.

Milford Campus

Currently the facility’s capacity for ministry is maxed out as attendance and engagement have grown. Flow is

increasingly constricted and current spaces are bearing the weight of too many ministries. Weekend parking is consistently full.

Future Campuses

While we do not have specific communities targeted for campuses as yet, we know that the churches and campuses we have launched in the past have been successful in impacting their communities with the Gospel. We also know one of the best outreach tools is to plant new churches and/or campuses.

Since Oak Pointe has a history of successful church/campus planting, the leadership capacity to plant more, and the desire to see the Kingdom of God continue to grow, we feel it would be irresponsible not to plant new environments as part of the NEXT initiative.

Why are two campuses participating in NEXT together?

Oak Pointe Novi and Oak Pointe Milford are two campuses, but one church. Even though the two campuses worship and operate in different locations and minister to different communities, we share a common history, mission, vision, and values. Both campuses are Oak Pointe Church. This is unlike Bell Creek Church

and Mosaic Church, which are church plants. Those churches are completely independent of Oak Pointe, though we maintain a friendly and collaborative relationship.

Why are we launching NEXT right now?

Oak Pointe Church has always been about expanding the kingdom of God locally, regionally, and globally. The church has talked about expansion many times before. Now, with the growth of our local communities, the time seems right. After years of prayer and pausing expansion, God has put it on our hearts that it is time to make more room for stories at both of our campuses and at future campuses.

What happens if we don’t embark on NEXT?

The answer is different for each campus. But, in general, churches around the United States are closing their doors at an alarming rate. We believe it is important to continue to be outreach-minded and build momentum by seeing new people come to faith in Jesus Christ.

At the Novi Campus, over the past decade attendance numbers have

plateaued. But we believe that the growth of this campus should keep pace with the growth of the region. Plus, by building community and connection spaces, we believe we will have far greater community impact than if the building remains in its current footprint.

At the Milford Campus, new people will not step in the doors more than once if their experience is that of a congested parking lot and an overcrowded atrium and worship center. More space is needed for people to feel welcome.

Why are we not adding worship center space at either campus?

While some worship services are nearing capacity at each campus, there are ways to add or alter service times to help balance attendance across all services. We believe that our current worship spaces are adequate to sustain growth over the next several years, while our connection and ministry spaces are inadequate.

How did we arrive at our campaign target of \$14 Million?

We started with a vision frame process to understand what God is calling us to over the next five years and calculated



the resources needed to accomplish it. Then, we gauged our potential financial capacity. Most churches can raise two times their annual offerings in a 2-3 year campaign. The annual budget between Oak Pointe's two campuses is approximately \$7 million.

We have worked closely with our architect to create building plans that will accommodate the greatest needs of each campus. The Novi campus building cost would be in the ballpark of \$7 million and the Milford campus building cost would be around \$6 million. Adding \$1 million for future church plants brings us to a \$14 million goal.

How can I participate in NEXT?

While financial giving is the obvious way to participate, it is not the only way. Building expansions have a way of capturing the imagination of the community and bringing new visitors to a church. Over the life of the campaign, and until the building expansions are complete, it will be vital for each campus to be developing outreach and discipleship strategies to receive new guests. The more engaged you are in the life of the church now, the more ready we will be when the doors open to our new spaces. Please consider how you can use your strengths to impact current ministries!

What is the giving time frame of NEXT?

We are planning a two-year campaign that officially launches January 5-6, 2019 and will conclude in January 2021. Gifts can be made during this period.

Depending on the outcome of the two-year campaign, including giving levels and building costs, NEXT could be extended for a number of months.

How do I indicate my financial intention to NEXT?

We will be asking everyone at Oak Pointe Church to make a commitment to the campaign. That commitment can be made on a card during the NEXT series and through the duration of the campaign. A commitment can also be made on the campaign section of either the Novi campus website at oakpointe.org/next or the Milford campus website at opcmilford.org/next.

How do I give to NEXT?

You can make gifts to NEXT using any of the ways you already give to Oak Pointe, including credit and debit cards, EFT, ACH, online bill pay, checks, cash, non-cash assets, transfers of stock, and more.

All the ways we receive contributions are still in play: electronic giving via oakpointe.org or the Oak Pointe app, weekend offerings, in the mail, etc.

When you give via cash or check, be sure it's clearly designated for NEXT. And when you give online, make sure you select the NEXT fund.

The staff in our finance office is available to help answer any questions about giving that you might have. Call us at 248.912.0043 or send email to giving@oakpointe.org.

Can I use text-to-give to donate to the campaign?

Yes. Simply text any amount (example: 50 for \$50) followed by the word NEXT to the short code 84321. If this is your first text-to-give donation, you'll receive a reply text with a link to confirm your donation and set up text-to-give. Learn more at oakpointe.org/texttogive.

Can I set up recurring giving to the NEXT campaign?

Yes. Recurring giving can be set up in Oak Pointe's online giving. Just remember to choose the NEXT fund as you arrange your recurring gift.

Should I reduce my regular giving to support the NEXT campaign?

Please don't. Our church campuses depend on general fund giving to sustain our current ministries. NEXT challenges us to do something extraordinary — to give over and above our regular tithes and offerings for a period of two years.

What if I cannot commit to financially support the NEXT campaign right now?

No worries. We understand not everyone has the capacity to give over and above their current giving level. We will work with what God provides to complete the NEXT initiatives.

Can I designate my giving for a specific NEXT initiative?

Since we are one church, currently with two campuses, we desire this unity to be reflected in the giving of the campaign. As a result, we will have a single NEXT fund for both campuses and future church planting.

CONTINUES ON THE NEXT PAGE

FAQs CONTINUED

How can I track progress toward my NEXT commitment?

All of your giving is recorded and accessible at any time through Oak Pointe's online giving system. You will receive periodic email reminders of your commitment and progress to date. You may also contact the financial office for an update on your giving amounts. Send email to giving@oakpointe.org.

If my circumstances change, can I alter my financial commitment to NEXT?

Yes. We understand circumstances and giving capacity can change. You can always alter your commitment if needed. Just let us know.

How are major financial decisions made at Oak Pointe?

The church elder board, which is comprised of both lay members and staff members, are responsible for all financial decisions. In addition to the elder board, Oak Pointe has a finance committee comprised of both lay members and staff members that make recommendations to the elder board.

Is it true that there is a very small group of very generous people footing most of the bill for Oak Pointe?

No. While we do have some high capacity givers, it is the financial generosity of everyday people in our community that provides the majority of resources for Oak Pointe's many ministries. Our church depends on the tithes of average people (giving 10% of their earnings) as well as other contributions from Oak Pointe members and attendees to meet our annual budget.

What is the timeline for implementing NEXT projects?

We hope to break ground on the Novi and Milford campus projects in the spring of 2020 and complete them 12-18 months later. New plants will be determined by a number of factors. However, we plan to launch two or three campuses or church plants over the next five years.

What happens if NEXT campaign giving falls short of our goal?

We will use what resources God provides and adjust our building plans

accordingly. This means we may need to shell some spaces initially and wait to finish and furnish them. In addition, if giving falls short, we will allocate a representative percentage of the resources to each of our three initiatives.

Will the NEXT campaign increase Oak Pointe's debt for either campus?

We will not incur greater debt with the NEXT campaign. We will only use what God brings in to accomplish the campaign initiatives.

What is the relationship between the Novi and Milford campuses of Oak Pointe Church?

The campuses have a collaborative relationship. Leaders from both campuses are involved in weekly strategy discussions for the overall church and have participated in the vision frame process and NEXT campaign planning. Pastor Paul Jenkinson from Milford meets regularly with Pastor Bob Shirock from Novi for message planning and sermon series development.

The campuses share technical, accounting, and communication

resources. The student ministries teams from each campus jointly plan and host retreats. At times, staff members move between campuses. Each campus has the necessary autonomy to impact the surrounding community while still sharing Oak Pointe's values and ethos.

Where and when would we consider launching additional campuses?

While we have been approached by several churches and people in a few different communities regarding having an Oak Pointe presence there, we have yet to determine a definitive course of action. The opportunities are abundant, but we desire to more clearly discern God's leading before committing to locations for an additional campuses.





REFLECT

WHAT IS YOUR ROLE IN THE STORY OF NEXT?

WEEK 1

THE NEXT CHAIR

For I am mindful of the sincere faith within you, which first dwelt in your grandmother Lois, and in your mother Eunice... and I am sure that it is within you as well.

2 TIMOTHY 1:5

The transfer of faith to the NEXT generation does not happen automatically; rather, we must be intentional. If not, here is what often happens. The first chair people are the *pioneers* — they change the world. The second chair people are the *settlers* — they compromise with the world. The third chair people are the *drifters* — they become the world. So, what's the key to a successful transfer of sincere faith? The second chair settlers have to become first chair pioneers, so that the NEXT generation sees firsthand, vibrant, contagious faith in their parents, mentors, and leaders.

Think about it...

What chair are you currently sitting in? The NEXT campaign is offering everyone at Oak Pointe the opportunity to step up and pioneer the way forward. Take a moment to ask God, "How do you want me to be part of this campaign? What will my involvement say to the NEXT chair?"

WEEK 2

THE NEXT TEN

Now to Him who is able to do exceeding abundantly beyond all that we ask or think, according to the power that works within us . . . to Him be the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations forever and ever. Amen.

EPHESIANS 3:20,21

If you can explain it, God didn't do it. The first two decades of Oak Pointe's journey were marked by so many God-stories: temporary homes for our church; the Zambia mission; the Gloria Deus Field; our Novi building; the E.A.C.H. movement; starting a campus in Milford; the Cody partnership; Living Hope International; and all of this resulted in thousands of changed lives. These God-stories happened because people stepped out in faith and entered the unknown. People followed God forward and allowed Him to write the script. It's time for a new decade of God-stories. But to experience them, we need to once again take a step of faith so God's power can work within us!

Think about it...

What are some of the greatest God-stories that you have been a part of? Do you believe it's possible that in the next decade we could see *double* the impact that we have seen over the first two decades? Why?

WEEK 3

THE NEXT GENERATION

Don't let anyone think less of you because you are young. Be an example to all believers in what you say, in the way you live, in your love, your faith, and your purity.

1 TIMOTHY 4:12

The future of the church is with us right now! They are the children, the students, the young up-and-coming leaders among us. What a joy it is every year when we have Student Takeover weekend. It proves that the future of Oak Pointe is already in good hands. We have such a vibrant and passionate core of young people among us. Let's show them that we believe in them. Let's equip them with the tools and skills to take Oak Pointe to the next level. Just imagine a day when someone walks into our church decades from now and finds a community that is *still* so alive and passionate about Jesus. God can do that with Oak Pointe and He will use the next generation to make it happen.

Think about it...

How often do you think about the NEXT generation of disciples of Jesus? What are you doing to invest in, believe in, and empower the NEXT generation?



WEEK 4

THE NEXT STORY

He told them this parable, saying, “What man among you, if he has a hundred sheep and has lost one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the open pasture and go after the one which is lost until he finds it?”

LUKE 15:3, 4

When you get right down to it, the entire Bible is about God bringing lost sheep (that’s us) back to Himself. We can talk all day about bricks and mortar, strategies and money... but these things are just our effort to partner with God for the NEXT story — a lost sheep feeling the loving grip of the Good Shepherd. Who will come into our new community center with their family to sip on coffee or play on a slide — and then end up finding the love of Jesus at Oak Pointe Novi? Who will walk into Oak Pointe Milford’s new space and discover the community they have searched for all their lives is right down the street? Who will find Jesus at the new campuses we will plant in the coming years? That’s what NEXT is all about... creating space for countless more stories.

Think about it...

What is *your* story? How did you come to know Jesus as your Savior? Did someone reach out to you? Did a church make the effort to invite you in? If “seeking and saving the lost” (Luke 19:10) was at the heart of Jesus’ mission, is there anything more important that should be at the heart of our mission going forward?

WEEK 5

THE NEXT LIFE

Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth... But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys, and where thieves do not break in or steal; for where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

MATTHEW 6:19-21

When we use earthly resources for eternal purposes, we are storing up treasures in heaven. The NEXT campaign has a God-sized goal and it is definitely in reach *if* each of us is willing to *double* our annual giving for the next two years. Do you give \$100 a year? Then give \$200 a year for the next two years — \$100 to our general fund plus \$100 to the NEXT campaign. Do you give \$1,000 a year? Then consider giving \$2,000... you get the idea. If we double our giving together, we will reach the goal. More importantly, we’ll double our efforts to reach more people with the gospel. Many of you are capable of more than doubling your giving during this campaign. If that’s you, go for it! After all, 2 Corinthians 9:7 says, “God loves a cheerful (the Greek says *hilarious*) giver.”

Think about it...

Are you cultivating a generous heart? Take a look at 1 Timothy 6:17-19. What message do you take away from this passage? You can’t out give God. Now read Malachi 3:10-12. What does God promise to do when we bring our offerings to Him? Do you believe this promise? Ask God to guide your commitment to NEXT.

TIMELINE

NEXT TEACHING SERIES

- January 5-6 **Preview Weekend**
- January 12-13 **Official Kick-Off**
- January 19-20 **NEXT Generation / Lead Gifts**
- January 26-27 **Commitment Weekend 1 / Ezra 8**
- February 2-3 **Commitment Weekend 2**
- February 9-10 **Celebration**

ON YOUR MARK... GET SET... GROW!

In 2019, Oak Pointe will define and implement strategies for outreach, connection, and discipleship. Through this process, we will renew our commitment to growth, maturity, and putting faith in action. We will get better at being authentic and open in relationships. Our loving and caring will point even more people to Jesus. Our buildings and facilities will be tools we use to love our neighbors better.

NEXT is a marathon not a sprint. We're in this to the finish. Expect updates by email, quarterly announcements in service, and content online as we track our progress over the next two years.



Please make your commitment online at oakpointe.org/next or by completing a commitment card distributed during services and available from the info desk at each campus.

Additional commitments will be received after February 4, 2019 so people who begin attending Oak Pointe during the giving period may also be part of NEXT.



A large church service is taking place in a modern, well-lit sanctuary. A speaker in a suit stands on a stage, addressing a large audience seated in rows of chairs. The stage features a large screen displaying the speaker, and another screen to the right showing a graphic with the word "GOSPEL". The lighting is dramatic, with blue and white spotlights illuminating the stage and audience.

Now to Him who is able to do far more abundantly beyond all that we ask or think, according to the power that works within us, to Him be the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations forever and ever. Amen.

EPHESIANS 3:20-21

FOLLOW GOD FORWARD

OAKPOINTE
C H U R C H