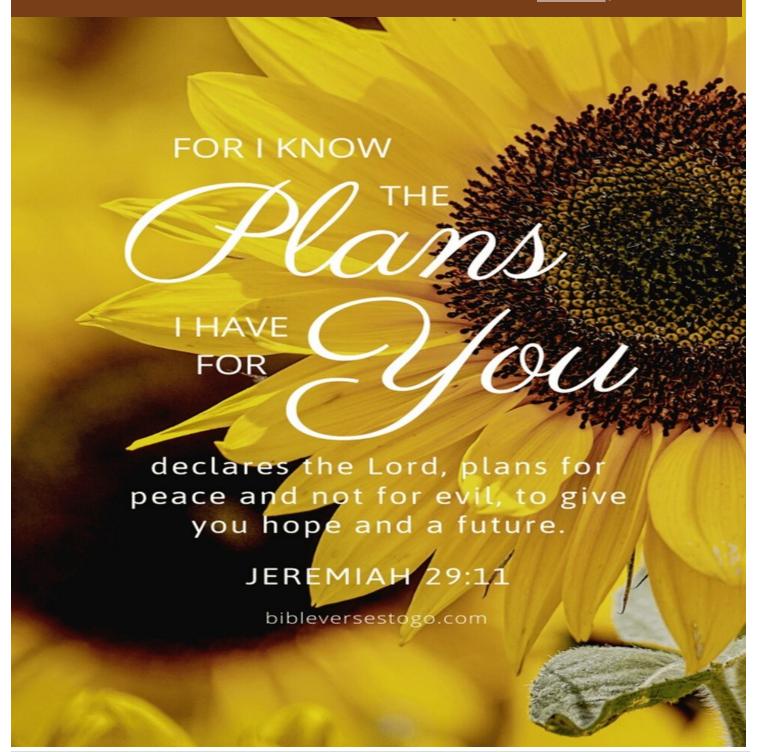


# AUGUST

## **Newsletter**

See the back cover for what's inside!

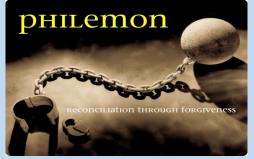


# **Beyond Sunday Sermons**

As Paul wrote to his good friend Philemon, we find his precious appeal to Philemon to forgive his runaway slave, Onesimus. In this letter, we find the grace he asks Philemon to grant to Onesimus, seeing how that same grace given to us through the death and resurrection of our Savior – the grace of forgiveness, of reconciliation, a transformative grace often seen as relationships are renewed and restored, both between our Savior and us, and between each other.



I've never preached before using Philemon as the main biblical text (it's really about time I did!), but as I recently re-read this short letter I felt compelled by our Lord to preach on it, and in preparing to preach, to deepen my own understanding of what God can teach us in this book. Please be sure to read through this short letter (only 25 verses) each week during the month of August, so that we can all be prepared to be taught by our Lord!



Here's what one person wrote about this letter to Philemon:

Philemon is a personal letter from Paul to his friend Philemon. He had met Philemon's personal slave, Onesimus, and apparently led him to the Lord. Now Paul is pleading with Philemon to forgive Onesimus. As uncomfortable a topic as slavery is, Paul is not on a social reformation crusade. Paul's message is not "Let's fix the world before we

deal with it!" Instead, it's "This is the world we live in; here's how we'll deal with it." Society will be transformed as Biblical truth confronts an individual's belief and actions. When enough believers are thinking and acting Biblically they transform their culture. In this letter, we see a picture of our acceptance in Christ and how God views us now that we're in Christ.

Be sure to join us each Sunday in August as we witness the transformative power of the Gospel as demonstrated in this letter, for Paul will write of the importance of love and grace, and our voluntary action within our community of faith and beyond. See this month's Sunday schedule on the following page.

Mark

pastor@orencochurch.org

Orenco Church - 2 - August 2025

# **Nuggets from Philemon**

August 3<sup>rd</sup>

Forgiveness and Reconciliation Communion Sunday

August 10<sup>th</sup>

The Transformative Power of the Gospel

August 17<sup>th</sup>

**Pastor Brian Craker** 

August 24<sup>th</sup>

**Christian Brotherhood and Love** 

August 31st

**The Letter to Jude** – A stand-alone sermon on the shortest book of God's Word to us







Summer is in full swing at Orenco Christian Preschool, and our little learners are soaking in every moment! From water play days to sunny story time in the shade, our children are exploring, creating, and building friendships that warm our hearts just as much as the season does. Water play offers preschoolers a joyful and enriching experience that supports growth across multiple domains. Activities like pouring, scooping, and splashing strengthen fine motor skills, while the sensory nature of water helps children regulate emotions and engage in calming exploration. As little ones interact, they build cooperation and language skills, using water to tell stories, solve problems, and express creativity. Whether they're experimenting with floating objects or pretending to cook with cups and funnels, water becomes a tool for early science, imaginative play, and social learning—all while keeping them cool on warm summer days.



Orenco Church - 4 - August 2025

Wednesday Night Study







Our Wednesday Night Study resumes on September 3<sup>rd</sup> as we begin the second part of our series on the **Great Commandment and Great Commission**. In this study, we will not only take a close look at the Biblical text (Matthew 28:16-20), but also at all the aspects of the **Great Commission** – what makes it "great," what it means to us in the church, what it means to those in our communities, both near and far.

### Here are four areas of our focused study:

The Great Commission Starts with the Finished Work of Jesus Christ

The Great Commission Includes the Orenco Church

The Great Commission Invites Our Participation

The Great Commission

Plan to join us as we explore these areas and many others as we study this command from our Lord. Together, let us join for a great time of food, fellowship and teaching from God's Word to us!





Orenco Church - 5 - August 2025



By the time you read this Becky Rios will be home from Uganda. Becky does mission work at Village of Hope's two villages every summer. She is passionate about this mission and dedicates much of her time and talents helping their students and staff. This trip, Becky contracted typhoid as is still recovering. Please keep her in your prayers.

Please also be praying year round for everyone at Village of Hope. If you aren't familiar with this mission, take a look at <a href="www.villageofhope.com">www.villageofhope.com</a>. VOH provides safe homes, education, counseling, and spiritual guidance to children impacted by the effects of war and poverty in Uganda. Below are a few photos from Becky's trip, more are posted on the Missions bulletin board in the main hallway.





Our deacons maintain a community food pantry inside the church. Anyone may stop by during office hours and pick up a prefilled bag of non-perishable goods. "No cooking required" bags are also available. Food donations are greatly appreciated! Currently, we need canned meats and fruits, individually wrapped snacks or protein bars, and boxed meals. We have plenty of cereal right now. Pull top lids are always a plus. Just place your items inside the blue barrel that's next to the church library (maybe check out a book while you're there?)



If you or someone you know could benefit from a call, visit, or meal from our deacons, let the church office know or send an email to deacons@orencochurch.org. Thank you for helping us help others.





Have you tried our gift card fundraiser? It's an easy way to help out the church and everyone loves gift cards! Not only do they make great gifts, but you can use them yourself when you buy groceries, gas for your car, at fast food drive-thru's, restaurants, and all kinds of places. Going on vacation this summer? Travelling with gift cards is a convenient option.

We keep a nice variety of gift cards on hand, stop by our desk on Sundays after worship to see what we have, it can vary each week. For an even larger selection of cards and in more denominations, we recommend you place an order with us! There are two order forms on the bulletin board in the hallway and at <a href="https://tinyurl.com/OrencoDocs">www.https://tinyurl.com/OrencoDocs</a>. The blue form is for Kroger cards, which can be used at QFC and Fred Meyer (including their gas stations!). We will be ordering Kroger cards on August 4th, let us know how many you want! We also have a yellow form, this one is GREAT because it offers multiple giftcards for all types of retailers. Our next order date for the yellow form is August 12th.

We hope you'll give this fundraiser a try, it's easy to use and every little bit helps, all proceeds go into the general fund to help pay bills.





## Wednesday Night Socials!

August 13<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> 6:30pm

Join us for these summer fellowship nights! We will begin with a potluck dinner at 6:30pm, followed by a short devotion and then time of fellowship. Come and spend time with friends, play board games, or just sit and chat. Children are welcome, we'll have some toys available for them in the sanctuary.





### **Orenco Church**

6420 NE Oelrich St Hillsboro, OR 97124 503-640-8179 www.orencochurch.org www.facebook.com/orencochurch https://tinyurl.com/OrencoYouTube

Pastor: Mark Rainey

Office Manager: Nancy Collins

#### **Orenco Christian Preschool**

www.orencochristianpreschool.org https://www.facebook.com/OrencoChristianPreschool1 Director: Karen Campbell

### **Inside this Newsletter:**

From Pastor Mark page 2 Sunday Worship Schedule page 3 Orenco Christian Preschool page 4 Wednesday Bible Study page 5 Children's Church page 5 Prayer Ministry page 5 Deacon Ministry page 6 Gift Card Fundraiser page 7 **Summer Socials** page 7 Church Calendar online



"We joyfully serve Jesus and our community!"



Orenco YouTube



Online Giving