

OAKLEIGH COMMUNITY CHURCH

Parish Profile



MISSION STATEMENT:

“To win and make fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ by sharing Jesus’ love through words and actions”

INTRODUCTION

Oakleigh Community Church is a lively, vibrant Church with a multicultural congregation. Set in the middle of a principally residential area in suburban North London, Oakleigh is a community church not just in name, prioritising serving and reaching out to our diverse London community. Oakleigh is a Bishop’s Mission Order, which is legally part of the St Barnabas parish. Mission is at our heart and we are dedicated to sending people out, as we were sent. We seek to be a loving, outwards looking community who boldly proclaims the gospel of Jesus – reflecting our role as a missional, evangelising church.

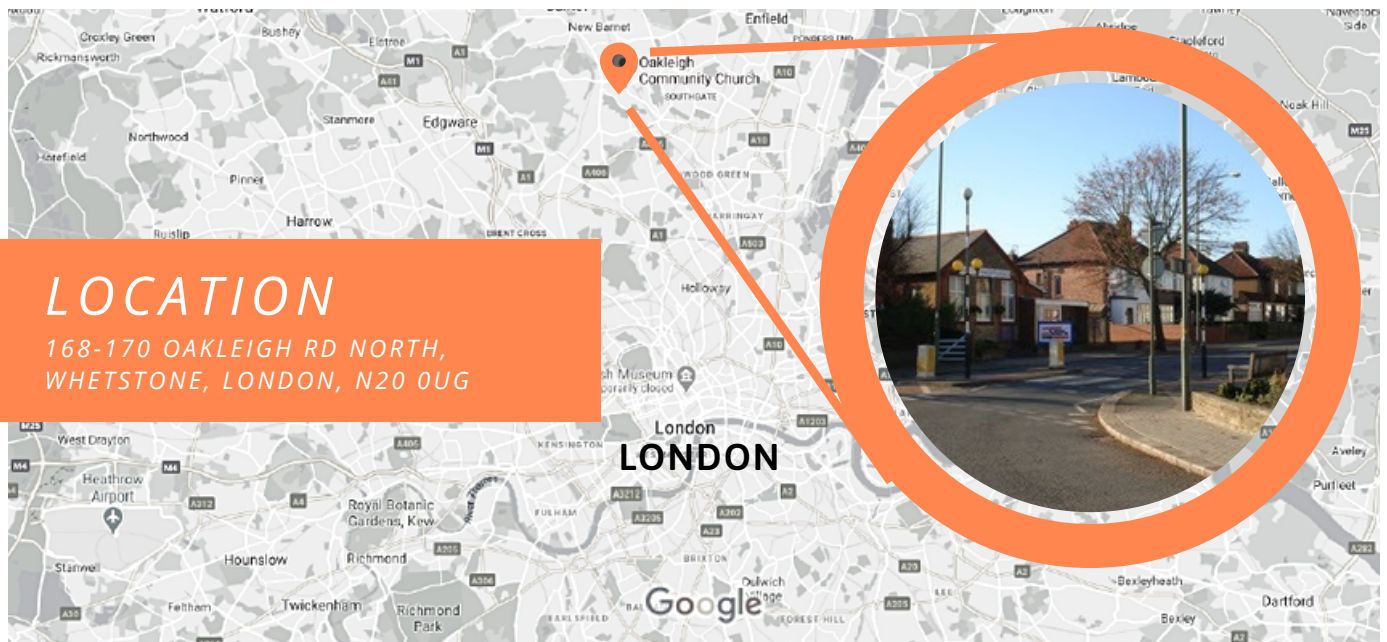
*"a missional,
evangelising
church"*

GROWTH

Oakleigh was planted in September 2001 from St Barnabas, Woodside Park with an initial team of sixteen people. From those small beginnings, including our fringe members, Oakleigh has grown to a total of over 200 adults, children and youth. Reflecting its role as a missional church, Oakleigh’s growth has been primarily convert growth, as well as welcoming back others who had drifted away from Jesus.

The leader of the planting team was Revd Mike Pavlou, who has continued to lead Oakleigh up until the present time. Mike is now retiring, creating a vacancy at Oakleigh for a new spiritual leader to take the church forward into the next stage of its exciting development.





LOCATION

168-170 OAKLEIGH RD NORTH,
WHETSTONE, LONDON, N20 0UG

GEOGRAPHY

Oakleigh sits in a prominent location and is adjacent to a crossroads on a busy suburban road, which is also a bus route. There are local schools, local shops, and larger shopping facilities within 5 to 15 minutes drive in Whetstone, Finchley, Southgate and Barnet. Several overground and underground train stations are within a similar distance.

In general, people in North London suburbia now have little sense of community. They generally travel to work, shop, spend time with friends and engage in a variety of leisure pursuits. The catchment area Oakleigh serves has a population of approximately 9,000.

Oakleigh is not a parish church, but a BMO geographically within the Church of England parish church of All Saints Whetstone, just a few hundred metres away on the same road. However the character and theology of the two are different; Oakleigh is a modern, informal, evangelical charismatic church, whereas All Saints is more of a traditional church. There is a good friendly relationship and co-existence between the two churches.

DEMOGRAPHICS

Oakleigh's age profile is mixed. We have a multicultural congregation reflecting the diverse London community around us, and have thriving groups for both kids and youth. While a majority of Oakleigh members live in the neighbourhood, others come from farther afield. Socio-economic profiles are mixed, mainly ranging from C2 to B.

Principally residential, the area around the church has a diverse demographic from affluent middle-class through to working class. Homes range from large and expensive detached houses, through to many blocks of flats (no high-rise; some local authority owned), with many occupied by those who are less affluent. It is quite multi-ethnic and this is reflected in Oakleigh's fellowship. The borough of Barnet is experiencing a huge increase in population due to more flats and housing estates being built in the area.





Oakleigh website:

www.stbarnabas.co.uk/oakleighcommunitychurch

Oakleigh Facebook page: www.facebook.com/Oakleigh.OCC

St Barnabas website: www.stbarnabas.co.uk



MINISTRIES & TEAMS

Oakleigh is very much an every member ministry church and as such the majority of our members serve in various capacities and there is a lot that goes on!

Sundays

Hospitality Team

Mini Church: 0-5yrs

Kids Church Team: 5-11yrs

Youth Church: 12-15yrs

Youth Plus: 15-18yrs

Worship Team/band: a small band leads worship twice a month, plus guest worship leaders from St Barnabas

Sunday Intercessions Team

Ministry Team: prayer is offered at the end of most Sunday morning services

Ministry of Sound and Light: manages audio visual and technical facilities

Small Groups: meet weekly in each other's homes

Prayer On The Streets (POTS): an outreach on Saturday mornings in Whetstone. To date over 400 people have received prayer

School Coffee Run: serving coffee each week to parents

Alpha: one or two Alpha courses are run each year

Men's and Women's Breakfasts: periodically on Saturday mornings

Summer Community Barbecue: normally held in early June, has attracted over 300 people

Mothers and Toddlers Group: weekly

Messy Play: Monthly

Church away day/weekend: annual

Primary School Assemblies

Discipleship courses/events

Services in care homes

Note: because of the current Covid19 pandemic some of the ministries mentioned above are not operational at the moment.



FINANCE

Oakleigh is financially self-funding, and has been in surplus for the last few years. For governance purposes, its accounts are integrated into St Barnabas' accounts, but as a restricted fund. Financial administration is managed by St Barnabas. The Oakleigh Minister's stipend is locally funded and housing is also provided.

For the size and demographics of Oakleigh we are blessed with a very good level of giving. Most members give by monthly standing order and there is also a weekly offering. This income is enhanced by Gift Aid. Our financial affairs have generally been extremely positive.

To reflect God's generosity, Oakleigh gives monthly financial support to a variety of causes: Pathway Christian Assemblies; Philo Trust; Marios Kaikitis OAC evangelist.

SENDING CHURCH

Over the past few years Oakleigh has sent out one person for ordination training; another to train as a full time Church Army evangelist; and another as a missionary to the entertainment industry in Hollywood USA.

With the huge population increase happening in the locality, our vision is to plant more churches and worshipping communities in the borough and beyond.

SERVICES

Main service – Sunday morning: 11:00am-12.30pm
Engine Room Prayer meeting – 5pm Sundays
Prayer & Praise night - 7.30pm Wednesdays once a month

THEOLOGY & CHARACTER

Affiliated to New Wine, we are in the evangelical-charismatic tradition. The style of the church services is relaxed and informal and there is a strong sense of church family, with a warm welcome extended to all who come through the doors.

We are a Church of England Fresh Expression fellowship, who are word and spirit based. With passionate contemporary worship and gospel focused Bible-centred teaching, we seek to continually grow in our faith as followers of Christ.

LEADERSHIP TEAM

Oakleigh has a committed Leadership Team made up mainly of key congregation members who, together with the minister Revd Mike Pavlou, make main decisions for the church. We have a part-time Admin worker and are looking to employ a part-time Kids and Families worker.



Unusually for a BMO, Oakleigh is currently legally part of St Barnabas. There is a strong and supportive relationship between the two churches, and Oakleigh has a degree of practical integration with and resourcing by St Barnabas that is very beneficial. At the same time, the day-to-day operation and administration of Oakleigh has been left with our own leadership, and the church essentially operates independently. The leadership team reports into the St Barnabas PCC, which the minister and one member of the Oakleigh Leadership Team is a part of.



OUR BUILDING

The building Oakleigh occupies was previously a Brethren Chapel, and has been a place of Christian worship for over 100 years. It is leased by the St Barnabas affiliated charity: The Jesus Kingdom Trust (JKT), from the freeholder Church Growth Trust.

After our congregation outgrew the main hall space, we undertook a £0.5m reshaping, which started in Autumn 2020. This has now been completed and provides an auditorium with a capacity of 200, and better facilities for our kids, youth work, a café, and office space. It has been made possible by the generous and sacrificial giving of the congregation.

Community Groups: Our building is used as a community hub, being hired out by community groups throughout the week

