

I am a member of Oakwood Community Church and have read and agree with the Church Constitution

Gunar Benson



*Have you been baptized by immersion? Yes*

*What areas of ministries at Oakwood Community Church have you served in?*

Hospitality Team

*Briefly give your testimony:*

I was raised in a Christian home and came to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ when I was about 6 years old. I continued to learn about God and what it meant to be a Christian through Sunday School and VBS, but it wasn't until high school that I felt the gravity of my Salvation. My faith then became my own, not something I believed just because my family did but rather what I believed and wanted to pursue. Since then, I have tried to grow closer to Christ through prayer, the study of His Holy Scriptures and fellowship of likeminded followers of Christ.

*Describe your devotion/prayer life:*

Prayer has long been a prominent part of my daily life. Growing up we prayed at meals and before bedtime and these times are still routine, but the spontaneous moments of prayer that occur throughout the day both prayers of praise and supplication seem to have a greater impact on my thoughts and attitude.

*What pastors, teachers, or books have influenced your Christian walk?*

Betty Diamond (Sunday School Teacher), Mike McArthur (Youth Pastor), Curt Motsinger, Pete Mannerling, John Piper, Prayer by A.W. Tozer, My Utmost For His Highest by Oswald Chambers

*Please underline your spiritual gifts according to Romans 12:6-8, 1 Corinthians 12:28, Ephesians 4:11, 1 Peter 4:9-10*

- Encouragement • Giving • Leadership • Mercy • Wisdom
- Knowledge • Faith • Healing • Miracles • Prophecy • Discernment
- Service • Tongues • Interpretation • Apostle • Teacher • Helps
- Administration • Evangelism • Shepherding • Hospitality

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Alec Kluck



*How long have you walked with the Lord?*

As long as I can remember

*Have you been baptized by immersion? Yes*

*What areas of ministries at Oakwood Community Church have you served in?*

Small Group Leader, Worship Leader, Youth Helper, Youth Worship Leader, Oakwood Softball Captain

*Briefly give your testimony:*

I grew up in the church with my parents as youth/assistant pastors. I truly believed from a young age and was heavily involved in the church but my faith didn't truly become my own until I attended U of M and joined a Christian organization called Cru and a Christian a cappella group called Good News. Those groups and the Christian friends/discipleships that came out of them were very impactful on my faith. It was difficult after leaving college and the groups I had formed but not long after, I found Oakwood. After showing up to a Roots young adult event that had been canceled without my knowledge, I miraculously came out the next week and got connected into Oakwood (and also met my beautiful wife Emily.) The Lord has been truly good to me and I'm still figuring out how to best use the gifts and talents He has given me to further the Kingdom of God and spread the Good News of Jesus.

*Describe your devotion/prayer life:*

Recently I have been getting up in the morning and reading my Bible and praying for 10-15 minutes. Singing worship songs while putting Simmons (my 10 month old) to sleep has also become an unexpected time to connect with the Lord.

*What pastors, teachers, or books have influenced your Christian walk?*

Pastor Rick and Pastor Jeff from the church I grew up in; Countless leaders at Cru, Mere Christianity and The Screwtape Letters by CS Lewis were influential. I also pulled many useful things from Love Does and Every Man's Battle.

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*Please list any Christian Education, Workshops, Seminars, Counseling Classes, Retreats or Training Classes that you have attended:*

I attended Cru leadership training as well as countless Christian conferences.

*Is there anything else that you would like to tell us? Perhaps you would like to discuss a circumstance in your life that equipped you to minister to others?*

Recently God has been teaching me how to build spiritual habits and disciplines.

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Mark Popilek



*How long have you walked with the Lord?* Since 2010

*Have you been baptized by immersion?* Yes

*What areas of ministries at Oakwood Community Church have you served in?*

Tech Support, Computer Tech

*Briefly give your testimony:*

I was raised in a Catholic family and as far back as I can remember I believed in God. I thought He was distant and apathetic. He created the universe and then has watched from afar. I didn't understand the sacrifice of Jesus or what that meant for me. Then, thanks to my daughter, we started attending Kensington at the Lake Orion School. I was blown away when Pastor Dave Wilson included in his message things he had struggled with in the past and I too could relate. Thanks to his boldness in front of hundreds, my heart was changed and over the next couple of months I gave myself to the Lord.

*Describe your devotion/prayer life:*

Each morning I pray and then read part of the bible. I just read it from start to finish, over and over again. I also pray many times during the day. Mostly giving thanks for things I find beautiful or thanking God for strength, motivation, etc. I love Proverbs 3:5-6. Currently I attend a Men's Bible Study with Jeff Basinger.

*What pastors, teachers, or books have influenced your Christian walk?*

Pastor, Dave Wilson (Kensington Church); Tim Campbell a Christian Counselor; Every Man's Battle by Stephen Arterburn & Fred Stoeker; Getting To No by Erwin Lutzer; Pastors Tony Evans, Andy Stanley and Andrew Farley

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*Please list any Christian Education, Workshops, Seminars, Counseling Classes, Retreats or Training Classes that you have attended:*

Attended counseling sessions with Christian Counselor Tim Campbell; Attended Celebrate Recovery sessions and an 8 month Step Study as well as co-lead another 8 month Step Study; Attended 2 Men's Retreats called Man Up through Kensington

*Is there anything else that you would like to tell us? Perhaps you would like to discuss a circumstance in your life that equipped you to minister to others?*

After completing my first Celebrate Recovery Step Study I was contemplating the final step which was to give back in some way. I was approached by one of my daughter's friends who asked that I get involved with a ministry that helped single moms with home maintenance. I not only served in the ministry but was also the Director of the ministry. At its peak we had 25 people serving in the ministry and helped single moms about every other weekend. Covid ended that ministry, unfortunately.