

Hello Overlake,

I am so pleased to be writing you with news regarding the new direction that we are taking with our Children's Ministry. As many of you know, we have been looking for a Children's Pastor for several months, and we have interviewed many qualified candidates. We had a sense that God was preparing OCC for something unique, and that He had someone special in mind for this essential ministry.



Pastor Mike

When I was in South Africa, Pastor Gary Gonzales e-mailed me to say he was in conversation with Bob Lee, one of our Student Ministry Pastors, and that Bob's heart was feeling called towards Children's Ministry. When we returned to the US, I met with Pastor Gary, Pastor Jake, and with Pastor Bob regarding his understanding of his call, exploring his skill set and gift mix, and his growing passion for this area of ministry. We were all convinced that God was doing something new and exciting for OCC's Children's Ministry. Last Monday night, we presented Bob as our choice for OCC Children's Pastor to our Elder board - the idea was unanimously affirmed.



Pastor Bob Lee

Bob's been at Overlake for 10 years. For the many of you who know him through Student Ministries, you know that he is kind, humble, responsible, intelligent, and passionate for Jesus. You know that he has served with Pastor Jake for the past seven years, and that his ministry is marked by diligence and excellence. You know that he is a loving husband to Ruth (who's been at OCC since age three!), and a doting father to his nearly one year old daughter, Avery. You also know that Bob does an incredible job of discipleship and of raising up adult leaders for the work of ministry. We are SO EXCITED that God has prepared his heart, his vision and his skills, for excellence in our ministry to children and their families!



Mark Bauman

Marc Bauman, Chairman of OCC's Elders, writes: *A few years ago the elders had the opportunity to interview Bob Lee for his role as a Pastor on the Student Ministries team. Since then, we've watched him continue to grow in his role as Pastor as he has served the students of Overlake and their families. Personally, having volunteered in this ministry over the past two years I've seen Bob's humble, servant's heart and quiet zeal for the Lord in action.*

Bob's passion for kids and parents runs deep. At our most recent meeting, the elders were pleased to unanimously affirm Bob Lee for the role of Children's Pastor. Bob brings a vision of creating an environment that ministers to children and their families. He is passionate about seeing them, from the youngest age, Love God, Love People and Serve the World.

Bob will continue to work alongside OCC's Life Development Pastor Jake Goetze and together with current Children's Ministry Directors Aurora McKinley and Dawn McCorkle. This team is eager to launch a new season of ministering to children and families at OCC.



Pastor Jake

Pastor Jake Goetze, OCC's Life Development Pastor, writes: *I have been working side-by-side with Pastor Bob for the past seven years. I know him well...respect him greatly...and cannot think of anyone more qualified to be OCC's Children's Pastor. During the entirety of those years, Bob has truly been my right-hand-man. Together we've collaborated to construct Overlake's Student Ministries from the ground up. Bob is unquestionably respected by our students...and especially by the Adult Leadership Team he helped build. He leads with integrity, humility, and a pure devotion to Christ.*

I am thrilled for the children of Overlake (and their parents like me) to have Bob as their shepherd and pastor! It's been exciting to see his heart being stirred toward young children since the birth of his daughter, Avery. I have full confidence in Bob's character and competency to help take this department to the next level. The best days of Overlake's Children's Ministry start now!

Mike here, again: We're obviously very thrilled with Pastor Bob and his new role as our Children's Pastor. Bob will be at the Children's Ministry Counter this Sunday, and he'd love to get to know as many of you as possible. Also, he and Pastor Jake are planning to host a "Meet and Greet" on Sunday August 29 at 5 pm at the church. Please take some time to get to know Bob and his wife Ruth. Please take some time to listen to the incredible vision that God has given Bob for Children and Families. And please take some time, right now, to pray for Pastor Bob, for Pastor Jake, and for our entire Life Development Team. I'm very excited to see how God is sculpting the vision for excellence in ministry with Children and Families, and I am delighted to have Bob in his new role.

Thank you, Overlake! I love you, and I am SO excited about the journey that we are on. It is good to be traveling with YOU.

Blessings,



Mike Howerton
OCC Lead Pastor



Pastor Bob Lee with wife Ruth, and one-year old daughter Avery.