

# NOTES



**Please remember to pray for the ministries & missionaries that OCC supports on a monthly basis:**  
Birth Choice of Temecula; Colina de Luz: Jim Drake; Global Recordings Network;  
Mercy Projects: Pastor Jeff & Paula Thompson; MAF Missionaries: John & JoAnn  
Munsell; Calvary Chapel Bacolod: Pastor Joe & Billie Rosmarino; MAF Missionaries:  
Will & Julie White; Lori & Pastor Mike: Ministering in Southeast Asia

**Service Time:** 9:00 am

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# Welcome to OakStone Community Church

August 16, 2026

**Message:** "...besides the other things..." (continued)

**Passage:** 2 Corinthians 11:24-33 | **Speaker:** Pastor Bill Wolter

## Upcoming Events & News

### Women's Monday Morning Bible Study – 9-10 AM

We will be meeting at the church in the Fellowship Room. You are invited to join us this week as we continue our study that focuses on the Attributes of God. For more information contact Janet at janetwolter51@gmail.com.

### Tuesday Evening Bible Study – 6:30-7:30 PM

You are invited to join us as we continue our study in Ephesians. If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Bill at 951-970-2262.

### Birth Choice Baby Supplies

Please remember to pick up some supplies for Birth Choice as you are out and about today. Thank you for being His hands and feet to those who have babies.

### Missionaries to Pray for This Month – Colina de Luz

Colina de Luz, or "Hill of Light" in English, is a Christian orphanage and home for 50 orphans and non-orphaned children. Founded on July 4th, 1986, the three founders' hearts were touched by God, and their mission was to take care of as many orphans and needy children as God would send their way.

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## Important Information

**PLEASE** there is no food or drink, except water with a lid, allowed in the sanctuary. We thank you for your cooperation.

Our **FOOD PANTRY** is available for those who need it.

An **AUDIO LISTENING DEVICE** is available for those who need assistance in hearing the message. Inquire at the sound booth.

**INTERNET ACCESS** is available: go to "occ", the password is "oakstone".

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## Tithes & Offerings

As you are led, place these in the designated box in the back.

## The Heart of a Shepherd

**Isaiah 48:10-11** *"Behold, I have refined you, but not as silver; I have tested you In the furnace of affliction. For My own sake, for My own sake, I will do it;"*

**The Mortar & The Pestle**, it almost sounds like the title of a Edgar Allen Poe novel.

**The Mortar** is a hard heavy bowl designed to hold substances to be ground into small pieces or powder by means of a club shaped tool called a pestle.

**The Pestle** as defined in the Thesaurus is a pounder, a grinder or a crusher and the dictionary defines a pestle as a rod shaped-object made from a hard material with a rounded end that is used for crushing or grinding substances in a mortar.

Do you feel as if you are caught between the mortar and the pestle? As I think of so many of us that are caught in an economy that is failing, health conditions that continue to deteriorate, personal relationships that are being torn apart, a workplace that is not secure and a future that appears to be clouded in uncertainty where do we turn to and who is our comfort?

If God's word is truth, then **Romans 8:31-39** should comfort us even if we feel like we are caught between a mortar, a pestle and a hard spot; and in all of life, God should be our Comforter! God's Everlasting Love toward us is revealed in **Romans 8:31-39** *"What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? <sup>32</sup> He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things? <sup>33</sup> Who shall bring a charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. <sup>34</sup> Who is he who condemns? It is Christ who died, and furthermore is also risen, who is even at the right hand of God, who also makes intercession for us. <sup>35</sup> Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? <sup>36</sup> As it is written: 'For Your sake we are killed all day long; We are accounted as sheep for the slaughter.' <sup>37</sup> Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us. <sup>38</sup> For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, <sup>39</sup> nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord."*

Be assured that our Sovereign God has His hand upon us as we go through life's trials and tribulations; if it were not so He would not have given us His Word on it! He is with us in the furnaces of fiery affliction, for His name's sake.

**Pastor Bill**

(reprint from March 15, 2009)