



Purpose of Role

We desire our Sunday congregations to be gatherings around God's Word, so that people both Christian and not yet Christian leave loving Jesus more. Those serving 'Upfront' contribute to this goal by leading the congregation through key components of the gathering. The Bible Reading is the most important part of our gathering. The Bible reader reads God's Word clearly so that people may engage with the truth of God's Word. This is done with both the regular member and the newcomer in mind. The translation OEC uses at all Sunday Gatherings is the Christian Standard Bible (CSB).

Character Expectations

- Bible Readers represent our church to insiders and outsiders. They lead the congregation therefore they are people who exhibit the qualities of a leader as outlined in passages such as 1 Timothy 3:2-7; Titus 1:7-9, and 1 Peter 5:1-4.
- Bible Readers will be men and women, youth, adults, and children with their parents, who are active members of their respective OEC congregation.
- Bible Readers will have a humble and servant heart. Not looking for the praise of others, rather reading for the benefit of others and serving for the audience of one: God.
- Bible Readers look to excel in faithfulness. Not having a 'bare minimum will do' attitude but a desire to excel in faithfulness, thorough preparation and clear communication with others so that our Sunday Gatherings can be as engaging and encouraging as possible.

Competency Expectations

- Genuine love for people, both regulars and newcomers at church.
- The ability to understand the importance of reading the Bible in church and appreciate the responsibility.
- The ability to read the Bible in such a way that is clear and understandable with warmth and graciousness.

Bible Reader – the role in practice.

- Check the Bible Reading roster through Elvanto to know when you are on.
- Practice the Bible passage in the CSB prior to Sunday.



- Arrive 15 minutes before the service begins to notify the Meeting Leader you are at church and check if there are any last-minute changes.
- Check the order of service on the front of the handout so you know when you are serving.
- Read the Bible clearly for the congregation.

Appointment and Commitment

- Commitment: Bible Readers commit to serve for the calendar year.
- Training: All Bible Readers are encouraged to utilize the self-paced training course.
- Code of Conduct: All those serving up front must adhere to the code of conduct for people volunteering in ministry at OEC.

What will happen next?

You will receive an email from your congregational minister.