

## **ORAL ROBERTS UNIVERSITY**

# PRAYER TOWER

"The eyes of the Lord are upon the righteous, and His ears are open unto their cry."— Psalm 34:15.





#### THE ORU PRAYER TOWER

The Prayer Tower was created in 1967 as a symbol of our need for prayer and communion with God and purposely placed at the center of campus, by our founder Oral Roberts. It has since become an icon recognized throughout the world and is visited by thousands of guests yearly. The Observation Deck, on the second floor, contains seven portals that serve as a guide through prayer, with quotes about hearing the voice of God from Oral Roberts' last book, "The Ultimate Voice." These quotes are written along the prayer portals just under the windows that reveal a 360 degree view of the entire campus. There are also four prayer rooms for private prayer and a chapel for group prayer meetings. Each room is named after men who dedicated their lives to prayer and display a quote of theirs about prayer. A separate area within the Prayer Tower houses the offices of the Chaplain Leadership Program. The Prayer Tower is open to the Public Monday-Saturday from 12:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.

### PRAYER TOWER LOBBY AND PRAYER ROOM

The newly renovated lobby has a variety of media presentations that include ORU past, present and future and testimonies of ORU students and alumni. There is also a collection of memorabilia from ORU's history displayed. The Prayer Room is located on the main floor and is open during the school year, 7a.m. - midnight, six days a week, to students, faculty, staff and alumni. In addition, the Prayer and Worship Room is the site where the university's student-led Prayer Movement leads daily sets of corporate prayer and worship, engaging the campus community in prayer.

#### **DESIGN**

The tower is 200 feet tall and is in the shape of a modern day cross with the observation decks serving as the crossbeams. An aerial view of the Prayer Tower reveals the Star of David and the points jutting out around the observation deck represent the Crown of Thorns with red tips, denoting the blood of Christ. The tower's location, at the center of the campus, underscores that communion with God, through prayer, is our central focus. An eternal flame burns atop the Prayer Tower, symbolizing the baptism of the Holy Spirit. The Reece Memorial Gardens, surrounding the Prayer Tower are known as "The Prayer Gardens." The beautiful garden contains a bronze statue of Jesus and two ORU students, designed by Beverly Paddleford. This is an artistic reminder that students come to ORU to learn God's will by sitting at Christ's feet.

The first floor Prayer Rooms embrace many styles of prayer. The Prayer and Worship room has a large gathering area for corporate prayer and a stage area for worship and leading out in prayer. The Prayer Room has several spaces for prayer and reflection and four individual spaces for private prayer. This room includes a map of the world to foster a global perspective, and a large cross, created by the ORU art department, as a reminder of Christ's sacrifice. Communion elements also are available.