



THE CARILLON

Oreland Evangelical Presbyterian Church

June, 2010

A Congregation of The Evangelical Presbyterian Church

Outreach Initiatives; Let's Keep Them Going

Summertime is often a time when folks are looking for a new church home. Sadly, it is also a time when “the regulars” in the church are not so regular. Vacation, weekends away, and just a general summertime malaise seem to pull people away from the routine of regular worship on the Lord’s Day. May I interrupt this summer tendency and encourage you to stay an active participant. When you’re in the neighborhood, attend worship and be involved in the summer ministries of the church family.

Not that statistics are everything, but we have noticed a wonderful positive trend in the Sunday morning worship attendance through Sunday, May 23, 2010. The average worship attendance is about 2% above last year’s average at this time of year. You might conclude that 2% is no big deal, but when you consider that the average worship attendance over the last few years was generally down 8-10% each year, then the 2%+ becomes a little more to be celebrated. The attendance for the CE Hour in 2010 is about 30% higher this year than last. Wow!

I rejoice in these statistics and pray for it to keep going as we enter the summer months. We received 11 new members a month or so ago, and visitors continue to attend OEPC on a regular basis, many whom have already expressed interest in the next new members class.

There are other wonderful things occurring in the life and ministry of our congregation: “Vespers @ Oreland” – the new first and third Sunday evening, 6:30 PM service that began in February, with the worship band, Ebenezer leading singing, and Tim and I preaching basic truths of the Christian Faith (with the help of the Westminster Confession of Faith), is averaging about 70 in attendance (about 1/3 OEPC members, about 1/3 youth, and about 1/3 non-member friends and visitors). What a blessed opportunity of worship and outreach this is!

Vacation Bible School 2010 is gearing up. Over 100 children are pre-registered. Praise God, all of the teaching staff is in place. Helper-servants continue to be invited, even to help for just one day. VBS is a wonderful demonstration of the church at OEPC at her best—great gospel ministry, sweet fellowship, high energy, lots of laughter and learning. You really should check it out. AND, invite the children in your neighbor to come. Go, knock on their door, and invite them. Offer to bring them!

Youth ministry at OEPC is about to shift into its summertime venue. Tim reported that attendance at both senior high and Pepper middle school youth has been solid: 22 to 30 students each week with surges of 35 to 42 students at Pepper, 17-22 students attending senior high with surges of up to 25 to 30. We rejoice in the Lord blessing this ministry. It too is a great outreach as many of these students come from the community and unchurched families.

A couple of weeks ago our Evangelism Ministry Team along with about 20 folks from OEPC conducted Sunday afternoon services for men at the Whosoever Gospel Mission. It was a great service of worship and a tremendous outreach. Plans are in the works to bring the men to OEPC for Sunday dinner and to attend “Vespers @ Oreland.”

Outreach from OEPC is happening! Let’s keep it going. Now is not the time for a letdown of any kind! Let’s keep these trends going, not for the sake of the trend, but for the glory of God, who in Jesus has blessed us to be His people, and sent us to take His Gospel to the ends of the earth! When you’re in the neighborhood, attend worship and be involved in the summer ministries—of the church family. Make your involvement more than just being here. Serve! Bring others.

And, one more thing; tell others the good things God is doing at OEPC, and then praise God with your whole being!

Pastor Jim

Notes from our Missionaries

UPDATE FROM CHRIS WHITING - CHAT

May is already here! I wanted to take a moment to share with you all some stories from the past two months. Every Thursday afternoon from 4 – 6 PM my co-worker Murray and I lead a young men's community group for ten 5th 6th grade boys in CHAT. The group has been together for a little over a year and, God willing, we will continue to walk alongside one another through high school. Our time generally consists of games (knockout basketball is a favorite), life skills lessons (the boys serve and clean-up every week for dinner), Bible Study (our theme verse is Proverbs 17:17 "A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for adversity), and dinner (which we gratefully have two volunteers, Sally Mitchell and Gloria Carter, prepare for us.)

Over spring break (April 8th – 10th), we decided to take the boys on an overnight farming trip to Polyface Farms in Staunton, Virginia. We were excited to get our boys outside of the comforts of the neighborhood, show them a farm, and have some bonding time. On the evening that we arrived at Polyface it was pouring rain, so we found shelter for the night with the pigs and literally camped in between the stalls. We pitched two tents inside the shelter on some hay. The boys squealed about as much as the pigs did as they adjusted to the smell and sounds from the livestock. During the day we collected and counted eggs, moved chicken broilers, hiked, wrestled, built bonfires, and cooked lots of hot dogs and hamburgers. We spent some time with the farms owner Joel Salatin, and watched him herd cows to fields with fresh pastures and cut down trees to mill into 2 x 4's for a new building for selling their farm products. This trip proved to be an incredible learning experience and built a stronger "band of brothers" for everyone in our community group.

UPDATE FROM JOELLEN REYNOLDS

MAY 2, 2010

ADDRESS CHANGE!

Cards of encouragement should be sent airmail to:
Youth With a Mission Base Kaua'i
Attn: JoEllen Reynolds
4-831 Kuhio Highway Suite 438 #122
Kapa'a, Hawaii 96746

Psalm 35:18

*18 I will give you thanks in the great assembly;
among throngs of people I will praise you*

"Thank you" so much for your financial support that I recently received. I am so grateful. Your support has overwhelmed my heart, and has caused the kingdom of God to advance in the 50th state of the United States of America. I can not tell you how much it has helped, and I am so blessed by your commitment to ministry here. It is powerful to be backed by the body of Christ.

We believe we are having an impact in the village of Anahola which is known as the "ghetto" of the island of Kaua'i. Our area is a place where public schools are ranked the lowest in the country and they have high teen suicide and drug rates. However, we are having a great impact and our prayer ministry is growing.

Prayer Requests May 2, 2010

*Pray for our continued unity as a team/overall health.

*A drum for Gabriel to play in worship.

*Transportation- A church is graciously helping us with a van, but we have to always figure out how to return it with other transportation 3 times a week. (Pray we can meet our traveling needs).

*More outreach opportunities with the non-Christians in our neighborhood and that God would bless the ministries we have started and give us opportunities to share the gospel.

Notes from our Missionaries

**UPDATES/PRAYER REQUESTS FROM YOUTH
LIFE FOUNDATION OF RICH-
MOND, VA
May 10, 2010**

We just had a wonderful Mentor Appreciation Dinner to honor all of our volunteers who make Youth Life Learning Centers possible. Two of our students presented speeches on what their mentors mean to them. I was so moved by these speeches the night the students gave them that I wept. It reminded me of the difference we are making in the lives of these children and how they have changed my life as well.

EXCITING NEWS!!! We are holding our third annual golf tournament on Thursday, June 24, 2010. All details are included on our website, on the Events page.

Finally, we are still working on our monthly partner goal of \$5,500/month. Please be a part of realizing this goal - we have just over \$1,000 left per month to raise.

**UPDATES/PRAYER REQUESTS FROM
RICHARD AND CAROL MEARS,
OEPC MISSIONARIES IN HAITI**

**Update May 17, 2010
Traveling with the Corban Team**

This past week we visited 6 schools in Port-au-Prince and then on Friday we ventured out to Leogane to visit 2 more schools. Everywhere we went the children were excited to see us, and we were happy to see them. We played with them and then shared the Gospel using a "3-ball magic trick" illustration as well as "wordless book" bracelets.

On the way back from Leogane we visited the new property of the "Jehu's Boys" orphanage. The property is on the side of a hill overlooking the Port-au-Prince bay and is a gift from God as it was purchased from the Mayor of Gressier at a very low price. The new building was not damaged hardly at all by the earthquake and will house a school and living quarters for the boys when it is done.

**UPDATES/PRAYER REQUESTS FROM
RICHARD AND CAROL MEARS,
OEPC MISSIONARIES IN HAITI
(continued)**

Later in the afternoon on Friday we worked on the basketball court at Quisqueya Chapel that Indian Trail church (the home church of the team leader) gave us money to expand and renovate. It is going to be great when it is done

Saturday we took a long road trip to Verrettes with a plumber/electrician to plan how to install a water purification system that will supply the whole community with clean drinking water. The team also played with some Bible Club children and Jean Paul shared the Gospel with them and 4 children trusted in Christ. Later that day we went to the beach for the afternoon and also snorkeled a bit.

Sunday we visited Tabernacle, a Haitian church and then most rested since some of the team were sick. I took two of the men out with me to a clinic in Cazal along with 4 children and their mothers who were sick. Licia and Laurie, the nurses at the clinic, were very kind to see us and after examining the children gave us lots of medicine to help them get over Diarhea and worms.

Today we are going to visit 2 schools - one near Fort Jacques - a historic fort we will also visit while there. The team leaves early tomorrow, and we will be sad to part, but rejoice in the over 30 children who have trusted in Christ this week!

PRAYER:

Do you have easy access to e-mail? Did you know that OEPC has e-mail prayer requests? If you would like to receive prayer requests from others and/or have prayer requests that you would like sent to the members on the e-mail prayer list, just send an e-mail to: denisemcauley@verizon.net. Our e-mail list of prayer warriors is about 160+ people from our church family. When sending a prayer request, please indicate that you would like it sent to the prayer warriors.

OEPC EVENTS AND NEWS

VBS 2010 will be held July 19-23, from 8:45 to 12 Noon each day.

This year's Bible theme is **John 3:16**, and the overall theme is "**SonQuest Rainforest**." VBS is already accepting registrations for children entering Kindergarten through 7th grade in September of this year. The VBS 2010 web-site is ready and awaiting your children's on-line registrations. Please go to <http://VBS.orelandpres.org> today to register your children. Don't forget to spread the word! Tell your friends, neighbors, and family members about OEPC's VBS ministry.

If you would like to preview this program, please log onto www.gospellightvbs.com, and choose SonQuest Rainforest.

This ministry requires **MANY, MANY servants**. As of May 16th, there are 116 children already registered, and that number will continue to rise. Although, **THANKFULLY**, all teaching positions have been filled, there is still a **huge** need for servants as **classroom helpers, Rec helpers, Crafts helpers AND Nursery helpers**. Please don't miss this wonderful opportunity to be part of the VBS ministry. It will forever change your lives. Even if you cannot serve all of the 5 days, we need you. Over the previous years, we have had up to 90 servants to fill all of the roles needed for our VBS ministry. This program continues to grow, and so does the need for servants. **PLEASE** make that commitment to serve now. You can do so by registering on-line at <http://VBS.orelandpres.org> and choose "Register to serve;" you can call Denise McAuley (215-233-4521); you can e-mail Denise McAuley (denisemcauley@verizon.net); or you can speak with Denise McAuley at church. This is a wonderful opportunity that you will not want to miss. Thank you!

Supplies Needed: Trees, trees, trees, and more trees. What would a Rainforest be without trees? Our Rainforest is in need of acres & acres of trees. If you can either lend or donate your artificial or real trees, we would greatly appreciate your offer. We will even pick them up at your location, and, if they are being lent, return them to you after VBS is over. Please call or e-mail Denise McAuley (215-233-4521, denisemcauley@verizon.net) if you are able to help our rainforest to grow. Thank you!

BELOW IS THE OEPC SOFTBALL SCHEDULE FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE SEASON

**All games are at 6:30 PM- For more information go to our Website:
www.orelandpres.org/softball.php**

6/3/2010	Faith Community	Mondauk #1 (Make-up)
6/4/2010	Calvary PCA	Mondauk Park Field #1
6/7/2010	COD Saints	Mondauk Park Field #1
6/9/2010	Davisville	Schafer Field (Make-up)
6/14/2010	Cheltenham Baptist	Bysher
6/21/2010	Jarrettsville	Bysher
6/25/2010	Calvary AOG	SPS Technologies
6/28/2010	Davisville	Bysher

OEPC EVENTS AND NEWS

BRIDGE THE GAP

The next **Bridge the Gap** event will be held on **July 11, 2010**. The format will be different - we will have a picnic after the service on the church grounds. (If it rains, we will meet in Fellowship Hall.) We will be on the summer schedule by then so Sunday School will begin at 8:45 to 9:45, then one church service at 11:00. The picnic will follow immediately afterward.

The Discipleship committee will provide hot dogs, hamburgers, rolls and condiments. Here is the breakdown of what you can bring:

Last name starting with:

A - I salad

J -Q-Snacks

R - Z dessert

We have had three very enjoyable luncheons now – it has been a blessing to have time to connect to other members in meaningful conversation. There will be no program presented this time – just time for eating and visiting! Come and see what good cooks we have at OEPC and help us “bridge the gap” between the services! Looking forward to seeing all of you on **July 11, 2010!**

SENIOR FELLOWSHIP

Another Senior Fellowship year has ended on a high note. To be more exact , a Sing-a-Long enjoyed by all.

Plans are already underway for next year, which begins in September, including a concert by our all-time favorite, Karen MacKay, the West Virginia woman!!

Are you ELIGIBLE for membership in AARP? Then you should be taking advantage of the enjoyment an fellowship offered by the Senior Fellowship Luncheons!!!

We look forward to seeing more ELIGIBLE members and friends at our luncheons beginning in the Fall.

Our warmest thanks, and a tip of the hat, to Stan Tippet and Ruth Lester and her very able “crew” for making these monthly events possible.

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Ed & Katrina Borzelleca and families,

Bobbi Corson,

Grace Engler, Barbara Fleming,

Charlie Halsted, David Hines, Glenn Maurer,

Alice McNally, Andy McAuley, Sr.,

Hal Miller, Mary Millinghausen,

Jane Schaller, Frank Sessa,

Levi Tanksley, Betty Thompson,

Galen Townley, Jack Weber.,

Kit White.

JUNE, 2010

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WED.	THURS.	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 6:30 PM PreSch. Finance 7 PM-Psch.. Board 7 PM Evangelism	2 3:30 PM Girl Scouts 7 PM OEPC Finance 8 PM- Leadership 7 PM-Sr. High 7 PM-Prayer	3 6:45 AM Women's Bible Study 8 PM-All Nations	4 5:30 PM Pepper	5
6 8:30 & 11 AM Communion 9:45 AM Christian Ed. 2 PM-All Nations 6:30 PM Vespers	7 7 PM Outreach 7:30 PM Adult Ed	8 7:30 PM Worship	9 7 PM-Sr. High 7 PM-Prayer	10 6:45 AM Women's Bible Study 8 PM-All Nations	11 5:30 PM Pepper	12
13 8:30 & 11 AM Worship 9:45 AM Christian Ed. 2:00 PM All Nations	14 7:30 PM Christian Ed. 7:30 PM Deacons	15 July/August Carillon Dead- line 7:00 PM Session	16 7 PM-Sr. High 7 PM-Prayer	17 6:45 AM Women's Bible Study 8 PM-All Nations	18 5:30 PM Pepper	19
20 <u>SUMMER WORSHIP</u> 8:45 AM Christian Ed. 10 AM-Worship 2 PM-All Nations 6:30-Vespers	21 7:30 PM Trustees	22 7:30 PM Christian Care 7:30 PM Discipleship	23 7 PM-Sr. High 7 PM-Prayer	24 6:45 AM Women's Bible Study 8 PM-All Nations	25 5:30 PM Pepper	26
27 <u>SUMMER WORSHIP</u> 8:45 AM Christian Ed. 10 AM-Worship 2 PM-All Nations	28 7:30 PM Shepherding	29	30 7 PM-Sr. High 7 PM-Prayer			

SUNDAY HELPERS

JUNE, 2010

<u>JUNE 6</u>	<u>JUNE 13</u>	<u>JUNE 20</u>	<u>JUNE 27</u>
<p>CHURCH OPENER Larry Godley</p> <p>USHERS 8:30 AM Norma & Wendy Hawk, George Hemphill, Kathy Misner 11:00 AM Andy McAuley, Jr. Andy McAuley, Sr., Denise McAuley, Bob Schulz</p> <p>TRUSTEES Tim Metz, Dale Nemecc, Peggy Strouse</p> <p>ELDER READING: 8:30 AM- 11:00 AM</p> <p>CHILDCARE: 8:30 AM-Erin May/ Carol Esterhai, Cindy Rossi, Makenna Lukens 11:00 AM- Ginny Reynolds, Marla Griffith</p> <p>JUNIOR CHURCH Adele Larkin, Nicole Baldini</p> <p>GREETERS: <u>Church Road</u> 8:30 AM-Betty Dailey <u>Paper Mill Road</u> 8:30 AM-Fran & Lou Raggi</p> <p><u>Church Road</u> 11:00 AM-Bob Wilkinson <u>Paper Mill Road</u> 11:00 AM-Jean & Dave Hoerr</p> <p>BUS DRIVER: Andy McAuley</p>	<p>CHURCH OPENER Craig Reif</p> <p>USHERS 8:30 AM Tim Metz, Ron Pfister, Edgar Keene, Jim Goebel 11:00 AM Denise McAuley, Dave & Jean Hoerr, Craig Reif</p> <p>TRUSTEES: Craig Reif, Rob Raggi, Chris Baldini</p> <p>ELDER READING 8:30 AM- 11:00 AM-</p> <p>CHILDCARE: 8:30 AM-Mellissa Bunkin, Carol Esterhai, Christine Fariss 11:00 AM</p> <p>JUNIOR CHURCH Melinda Williamson, Kevin Bunkin</p> <p>GREETERS: <u>Church Road</u> 8:30 AM Lee Ann Dahme <u>Paper Mill Road</u> 8:30 AM Frank & Janet Seydel</p> <p><u>Church Road</u> 11:00-Ruth Alburger <u>Paper Mill Road</u> 11:00-Sandy & Bob Heath</p> <p>BUS DRIVER Andy McAuley, Jr.</p>	<p>CHURCH OPENER Mark Piranian CHURCH CLOSER: Les Puckey</p> <p>USHERS 10:00 AM</p> <p>TRUSTEES Les Puckey, Norma Hawk, Carol Esterhai</p> <p>ELDER READING 10:00 AM-John Esterhai</p> <p>CHILDCARE: 10:00 AM-</p> <p>JUNIOR CHURCH</p> <p>GREETERS: <u>Church Road</u> 10:00 AM-</p> <p><u>Paper Mill Road</u> 10:00 AM</p> <p>6:30 -Paper Mill Rd.</p> <p>6:30 -Church Rd.</p> <p>BUS DRIVERS Craig Reif, Paul Fariss</p> <p>DEACONS:</p> <p>Pastor Backup: Lynette Onitiri</p> <p>Flower Delivery: Lynette Onitiri, Bob Schulz</p>	<p>CHURCH OPENER Rich Maienshein CHURCH CLOSER Andy McAuley, Jr. Andy McAuley, Sr.</p> <p>USHERS 10:00 AM</p> <p>TRUSTEES Don Romano, Rich Maienshein, Dale Nemecc</p> <p>ELDER READING 10:00 AM- George Major, Jr.</p> <p>CHILDCARE: 10:00 AM-Marie KieSSLing, Ginny Reynolds</p> <p>JUNIOR CHURCH</p> <p>GREETERS: <u>Church Road</u> 10 AM-</p> <p><u>Paper Mill Road</u> 10 AM</p> <p>BUS DRIVERS- Dick Dunlap, Gregg Lodes</p> <p>AMBASSADORS</p> <p>June 6-Tom Frearson June 13-Kevin Bunkin June 20-Norma Hawk June 27-Ruth Lester</p>

Update on Shepherding Ministry at OEPC

On January 23, 2010, Dr. Timothy Witmer, a professor at Westminster Theological Seminary, a specialist in elder shepherding ministry, and a pastor of a PCA church in Upper Darby, met with 26 of our elders. His presentation directed us on the “why” and “how” to be a shepherd leader. His presentation was enlightening, inspiring and most of all biblically based. Dr. Witmer had a book published in February that is entitled “The Shepherd Leader”.

The mandate for elder shepherding comes from I Peter 5:1-2 which reads: “To the elders among you, I appeal as a fellow elder, a witness of Christ's sufferings and one who also will share in the glory to be revealed: Be shepherds of God's flock that is under your care, serving as overseers-not because you must, but because you are willing, as God wants you to be; not greedy for money, but eager to serve.”

The Ministry Team for Shepherding believes that keys to shepherding our flock must include:

- ◆ Being spiritual leaders that set a Christ-like example
- ◆ Praying for needs of their flock
- ◆ Personally contacting members of their flock through e-mail, notes, visits, phone contact, and church functions
- ◆ Building relationships, encouraging and supporting one another

The goal of elder shepherding ministry at OEPC is for every member of the body to be a faithful disciple of Jesus and active in the life and ministry of the Lord’s Church in and through the congregation.

We plan to follow Dr. Witmer’s model, having two elders and one deacon serve together as shepherding team leaders. We project at present, with those agreeing to serve, that each shepherding team will have about 15 families in their flock.

Please continue to pray for us as we continue to seek the Lord’s will to strengthen His Church at OEPC.

In His Service,

Shepherding Ministry Team

Janet Anderson, Nancy Chestek, Dick Dunlap, Doug Lieberman & Fran Raggi

Financial Stewardship – Faith Based

For over fifty-nine years we have depended on God to supply our needs through faith based giving. We know that God is forever faithful and be our rock and refuge in the time of need. We continue to be blessed as a church with faithful and generous members who have given sacrificially to glorify God and further his work here and in the world.

<u>Year to date Financial Statements thru 5/01/10</u>					
Church Income	294,395	Church Expense	278,708	Net Income	15,688
Preschool Income	76,594	Preschool Expense	64,553	Net Income	12,041
Total Income	370,989*	Total Expense	343,261*	Net Income	27,729
* Includes \$24,369 to the Covenant Agreement of Mission Support.					

2Corinthians 9:7,8 “ You must make up your own mind as to how much you should give. Don’t give reluctantly or in response to pressure. For God loves the person who gives cheerfully. And God will generously provide all that you need and plenty left over to share with others.”

Stewardship of Time – Mission Opportunities

- ◆ Vacation Bible School needs aides and playground helpers in all grades and other helpers preparing snacks. Week of July 19 – 23. Call Denise McAuley.
- ◆ Summer Sunday School needs teachers to fill in weeks in July and August, Call Adele Larkin.
- ◆ Discipleship Ministry Team collects food items on the first Sunday of each month for the Glenside New Life Presbyterian Church food cupboard.
- ◆ We are gathering servants to prepare and serve the meal provided on Tuesday nights at Glenside New Life Presbyterian Church, Call Janice Kulp.
- ◆ Women’s Association collects needed supplies new or in good condition for men in need. Sunday Breakfast Rescue Mission. Call Ruth Lester for information.
- ◆ Oreland EPC is hosting the Presbytery of the East meeting on Friday, September 24 and Saturday, September 25, 2010 we need helpers for hosting, preparing and serving food, registration and parking. Call Larry Godley
- ◆ We will be providing tutoring opportunities at Whosoever Gospel Mission working with men in the program. Needs include helping with reading, writing, grammar and or math. Call Sandra Allen 215 542 5989 for information.

Covenant Agreement of Mission Support – Thank Offering

The terms of our dismissal from the Presbytery of Philadelphia included a Covenant Agreement of Mission support payments to the presbytery in the amount of \$ 440,000.

This payment was to be made in installments over a period of ten years.

You have responded generously to this appeal with contributions to the Covenant Agreement for Mission Support to date this year of \$ 24,369, which is truly an amazing response of generosity and thankfulness to God’s faithfulness as a result our World Mission Team will be able to support several new EPC missionaries this year.

BEGINNING SUNDAY JUNE 20

SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

8:45 AM-CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

**10:00 AM-WORSHIP
IN THE SANCTUARY**

**VESPERS @ ORELAND
6:30PM (1ST AND 3RD SUNDAYS)**

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
BULK MAILING
PAID
PERMIT NO. 28
ORELAND, PA

Oreland Evangelical
Presbyterian Church
1119 Church Road
Oreland, PA 19075

CHANGE SERVICE
REQUESTED

Adult Christian Education

June 6 and 13-9:45 a. m.

June 20, -8:45 a. m.

The Life and Works of C. S. Lewis

Led by Bill McClain

C. S. Lewis is one of the most quoted Christian writers. Writers of all Christian denominations quote from this British author and university professor whose writings comprise over 50 books, numerous essays, and hundreds of letters. Lewis was an apologist for the Christian faith to those outside the faith and was also a reliable guide to Christians in living the Christian life and in finding answers to their questions. In this class, we will give an overview of his life and work but also dig more deeply into what he wrote about such issues as God's sovereignty and human responsibility, the ebb and flow of faith, miracles, and prayer.

Esther: It's Tough Being a Woman

Led by Kathy Farrell

"Once upon a time in the days of the great and glorious Xerxes, king of the vast Persian empire..." Sound like a folk tale? Think again. This is God's story, written by an unknown Persian Jew and inspired by the Holy Spirit. This is the story of God's providence at work in the lives of His people, particularly in the life of one young woman named Esther who came to the kingdom "for such a time as this."

In this Bible study for women, we will join Beth Moore in an in-depth and very personal examination of this great story of threat and deliverance. If you've ever felt inadequate, threatened, or pushed into situations that seemed overpowering, this is the study for you.

Just as it was tough being a woman in Esther's day, it's tough today.

Beth peels back the layers of history and shows how very contemporary and applicable the story of Esther is to us - a story which will aid us in our hurried, harried, and pressured lives.

This DVD course will include eleven group sessions and weekly homework. Get ready to study the only book of the Bible that never mentions the name of God, and yet has God's hand written all over it!

Bible Fellowship Group

Led by Nick and Marilyn Furcola

(continues all summer)

This is an open forum type discussion group covering a wide variety of topics from the Bible as a whole. Come with questions or items for discussion or simply interact with the topics and scripture presented.

It will be possible to make up the class as we go along. The only material which will be used will be God's Word, the Bible, under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit.

Ten Basic Steps Toward Christian Maturity

Led by Lynette Onitiri

Based on a study guide by Bill Bright, the founder of Campus Crusade for Christ, we will discuss these basic steps starting with the uniqueness of Jesus and then proceeding from there. This study will be ongoing and slow paced with plenty of time for questions and answers. It is ideal for the new Christian as well as the seasoned Christian. The class is open to anyone with a desire to start at the beginning or to review the basics.

PLEASE SEE THE NEWS 'N NOTES FOR A MISSIONARY SPEAKER ON JUNE 27, 8:45 A. M.