



NEWSLETTER



April 2016

Volume 11, No. 4

From the Pastor

Open Bible Offers the Breakfast Of Champions

Why are there so many different kinds of cereals? It is all too confusing. There are cereals with marshmallows. Cereals that turn the milk chocolaty. Cereals that have fruits, nuts, or raisins. Cereals that even go snap, crackle, and pop.

How is a person ever supposed to decide? Do I choose my cereal because I like all the sugar? Do I choose my cereal because I like the tiger or honeybee or leprechaun? Or should I choose my cereal based on nutritional value?

The cereal aisle at your local grocery store is filled with different kinds of cereals. The street corners in the Villages are filled with different Christian churches. How are you ever going to decide which church is best for you? I would encourage you to choose your church in the same way you should choose your cereals. Choose which church is the most spiritually nutritious.

Choose a church whose teachings are filled with the "milk" and "meat" of God's Word. The Bible says about itself: "Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation." (1 Peter 2:2-3)

Choose a church that isn't giving you just what you "want" to hear, but what you "need" to hear. There are a lot of churches today that give you a heavily coated sugar message. Your body likes sugar. But eating a lot of sugar is not healthy.

These sugar coated churches tell you how God loves you and how you can live a happier life by following a set of rules. But the Bible has a warning on the label of this cereal. The Bible says, "A time will come when men will gather around themselves a great number of teachers to say what their itching ears want to hear." (2 Timothy 4:3) You and I need to hear that we have led unhealthy, sinful lives. We need to hear that Jesus died for our sins and he alone has made our lives wholesome and healthy again.

We could eat all kinds of cereals with lots of sugar that may fill us up, but they may not always be the best physical food that we could put into our body. In the same way that we want the best physical food for our body, we definitely want the best spiritual food for our soul. That's what makes Open Bible the place where we want to be. At Open Bible we offer the best spiritual food there is-God's truth. Where many churches change their teachings to accommodate the times, Open Bible stands for the truth of God's Word.

Come and be spiritually nourished! For your dining pleasure, starting April 4th, we are beginning a Bible challenge. Please join Pastor Schulz in reading the New Testament in 90 days. Information to follow in this newsletter.



Open Bible 90 Day Challenge

Join Pastor Schulz in Reading the New Testament

1. Start reading the Bible today -- there is no better time, and there's no reason to wait.
2. Set aside a specific time each day. Set your schedule and then stick to it. Mornings are great, but feel free to use any time that works consistently for you.
3. Read the Bible for the sake of learning, not simply to accomplish your next reading. Say a short prayer to God before you begin, asking the Holy Spirit to give you wisdom and understanding, then be refreshed by the words you read!
4. Any questions you have, email Pastor Schulz at pastoropenbible@gmail.com

- **April 4th** - [Matthew 1](#); [Matthew 2](#); [Matthew 3](#)
- **April 5th** - [Matthew 4](#); [Matthew 5](#); [Matthew 6](#)
- **April 6th** - [Matthew 7](#); [Matthew 8](#); [Matthew 9](#)
- **April 7th**- [Matthew 10](#); [Matthew 11](#); [Matthew 12](#)
- **April 8th**- [Matthew 13](#); [Matthew 14](#); [Matthew 15](#)
- **April 9th** - [Matthew 16](#); [Matthew 17](#); [Matthew 18](#)
- **April 10th** - [Matthew 19](#); [Matthew 20](#); [Matthew 21](#)

- **April 11th** - [Matthew 22](#); [Matthew 23](#); [Matthew 24](#)
- **April 12th** - [Matthew 25](#); [Matthew 26](#); [Matthew 27](#)
- **April 13th** - [Matthew 28](#); [Mark 1](#); [Mark 2](#)
- **April 14th** - [Mark 3](#); [Mark 4](#); [Mark 5](#)
- **April 15th** - [Mark 6](#); [Mark 7](#); [Mark 8](#)
- **April 16th** - [Mark 9](#); [Mark 10](#); [Mark 11](#)
- **April 17th** - [Mark 12](#); [Mark 13](#); [Mark 14](#)
- **April 18th** - [Mark 15](#); [Mark 16](#); [Luke 1](#)
- **April 19th** - [Luke 2](#); [Luke 3](#); [Luke 4](#)
- **April 20th** - [Luke 5](#); [Luke 6](#); [Luke 7](#)
- **April 21st** - [Luke 8](#); [Luke 9](#); [Luke 10](#)
- **April 22nd** - [Luke 11](#); [Luke 12](#); [Luke 13](#)
- **April 23rd** - [Luke 14](#); [Luke 15](#); [Luke 16](#)
- **April 24th** - [Luke 17](#); [Luke 18](#); [Luke 19](#)
- **April 25th** - [Luke 20](#); [Luke 21](#); [Luke 22](#)
- **April 26th** - [Luke 23](#); [Luke 24](#); [John 1](#)
- **April 27th** - [John 2](#); [John 3](#); [John 4](#)
- **April 28th** - [John 5](#); [John 6](#); [John 7](#)
- **April 29th** - [John 8](#); [John 9](#); [John 10](#)
- **April 30th** - [John 11](#); [John 12](#); [John 13](#)
- **May 1st** - [John 14](#); [John 15](#); [John 16](#)
- **May 2nd** - [John 17](#); [John 18](#); [John 19](#)
- **May 3rd** - [John 20](#); [John 21](#); [Acts 1](#)

Who's Who at Open Bible

SANDY NEWMAN

A warm welcome to Sandy Newman who is completing the New Life in Christ classes with Pastor Mark Schulz and will soon be joining us as a full-fledged member. Sandy was born in Pennsylvania but moved west to Utah at age eight due to respiratory issues. She lived and worked in Silicon Valley and fondly remembers the beauty of the area before it was replaced by concrete and buildings once high tech snuggled into the Valley. She spent her career in the medical field and had a very fascinating job training personnel in the Registrar's department in large hospitals.

The position that Sandy is most proud of was being involved in building a new computer system where in the Registrar's department could be integrated within the Billing department and the computers would talk to each other making both departments much more efficient. During this time she travelled around the country viewing other systems. Once the computer system was in place, Sandy began teaching and instructing. Sandy is the mother of four, a set of twins (boy and girl) and two boys. Her oldest son lives in Jacksonville, Florida. Her daughter and one son still live in California but her youngest son recently moved to Arizona. She's the grandmother of ten. Sandy will be returning to California in May to see one of the grandchildren graduate from college. Sandy moved to the Villages thirteen years ago from California. She remained retired for one year and then decided perhaps she was too energetic to retire, so she rejoined the work force. Sandy has the distinction of selling the first ticket ever sold at the Old Mill Playhouse theater at Lake Sumter Landing. She presently works several days a week at the Spanish Springs Bowling Alley, taking care of the score sheets for the different bowling leagues.

In Sandy's spare time she plays pool; bowls; does needlework and still finds time to read. Please, let's all of us introduce ourselves to this whirlwind and make her feel welcome at Open Bible.

By Jan Britton

Early Bird Bible Studies

Sunday's 8:00-9:00 A.M.
April 10th - May 29th

Hard Sayings of Jesus

Have you ever read some of the words of Jesus in the New Testament, and wondered, "What did He really mean by those words? I'm confused." This Bible study will examine some of Jesus' more

controversial or confusing statements and help reveal the profound truth they contain. These 8 complete lessons will give you a better comprehension and added confidence as you read the Gospels on your own.

April 10th: Translations! Traditions! Troubles!
April 17th: The Upside Down Kingdom
April 24th: Unbelievable Faith
May 1st: Unless You Hate Your Father and Mother
May 8th: Be Like Snakes
May 15th: Pearls Before Swine and Bread to Dogs
May 22nd: Words from A Hard Place
May 29th: Hard Sayings: So That We Won't Hear?

Sunshine Committee

Sunshine Committee for the New Year

First, we want to thank all that served the Sunshine Committee last year. So many members appreciated the visits, cards, prayers and help they received during times of need.

Many members of the committee last year signed up for service again this year and again we want to thank all that have been willing to do this important work. We do have several time slots available and if you are interested in serving please let Jim Johnson or Dan Blaho know the times you want. The times available are June 1-15, and the last half of June, August, September and November for the Villages and Leesburg areas and June, July, August, November, January and February in the Ocala area.

The Sunshine Committee is a great way to "Share God's Love" and serve other members of our church.

Jim Johnson & Dan Blaho, Co-Chairman

Small Group Ministry

Summerhill Seekers: The Topic: "From Promise to Glory" led by Pastor Dale. This Bible study is 8 sessions, and will meet twice a month. It will be an overview of the New Testament. The April meeting will be on Thursday, April 7th from 2:00 – 4:00 at the home of Kay Blan And on April 21st at the home of Mike & Donna Davis.

Game Nights: Game Nights will continue in April. Please bring your favorite game to play, friends and a snack to pass. Dates are Friday, April 1st & 15th from 6:00 – 8:00pm.

466AAA Topic: Take Two – 19 Minute Bible Studies with the Messiah! This group will meet twice a month at the home of Ron and Diane Brutlag. They will meet Thursday, April 14th and Thursday, April 28th from 1:00 – 2:30pm. All are welcome to join this group regardless of where they live. Please call Ron & Diane if you plan to attend.

These studies cover stories from the life of Jesus. (The Friend at Midnight, The Wise Servant, The Barren Fig Tree) and many more.

Book Club: Topic: "This We Believe" by Richard Gurgel. Location: Open Bible Lutheran Church. Date: April 26th, 2016. Time: 4:00 PM Facilitator: Pastor Schulz

This We Believe: Questions and Answers explores the nine key biblical doctrines confessed by the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS) in the widely used booklet titled This We Believe. The 333 questions and answers addressed in this handy book will sharpen readers' responses in times of confrontation and will strengthen their understanding when personal doubt arises. If you would like to order a copy, please let

Karen Pearson know. Cost will be \$17.50.

Ladies Tuesday Bible Study- Tuesdays 1:00pm at Open Bible. Pam Johnson is the leader of this study. The Ladies Bible Study will start up again on April 5th at 1 p.m. The New Topic (8 lessons) is Jesus' I AM statements. The majority of which are found in the Gospel of John. We will look at the context of each statement and listen to Jesus' powerful words. Jesus- His life and work- is the heart of the gospel message. A study of these statements will define who Jesus claimed to be and reveal to us the many facets of his mercy and love.

We will also discover how Jesus' words can apply to our lives today.

Defenders: (Led by Ken Wells and Bill Sigurdson) There is a shoot being planned in Ocala for April 15th They will be meeting Thursday, Thursday April 28th at 11:00am. This group meets at the Gun Range on SR44 in Leesburg.. The group shoots from 100-150 rounds. The cost is \$10.00 if you have your own ammunition and targets. Once the group completes their shooting, they have a time for prayer as they bring requests to God to protect our soldiers, and to continue to bless America. Then, they head off for lunch. Ladies are welcome to join this group!

SPLASH (Single People Loving and Serving Him)

ATTENTION SINGLE PEOPLE:

Thursday, April 7th "The Strummers at Savannah Center, 9:00am to 11:00am followed by brunch at Glenview Country Club. And Sunday, May 8th 2:00pm. Going to see "Brigadoon" pat the Mellon Patch Players in Leesburg.

Fellowship Group: (led by Joe & Paula Malec, Dan & Karen Pearson) Our next group activity will be in the later part of April. If you have any questions, please contact Karen Pearson or Paula Malec.

Men of Leisure: (Led by Dennis Duessler.) Enjoy 19 Minutes Bible Study: Take a look at the

parables and some special stories of the Bible. Next meeting, Friday, April 15th at 8:30am. Location: Perkins Restaurant on 466 near Walmart.

North County Group: (Led by Alan Johnson) The North Country's Bible Study meets twice a month. The topic :*Government a Godly Perspective*.

This is a CD generated Bible Study from Kramer Publications. Studies for March will be on Sunday April 10th & 24th from 6:00-8:00pm at the home of Alan & Pam Johnson.

Fore-Giving Friday Golfers:

Every Friday afternoon, a group of "Fore-Giving Golfers" from Open Bible plays on one of The Villages Executive courses. The location varies, but the friendliness does not. If you are a beginner, a hacker or an old duffer, we invite you couples or singles to join us. Sandy Fehlhaber jim.fehlhaber@gmail.com, puts in the request every Monday evening. She will need your ID# and email address.

Happy Hearts-Happy Hands Handiwork Meeting Friday, April 1st from 9-12:00pm. This group creates quilts for those in need in our community. Also if you have knitting, crochet or embroidery you are working on, join the group for fellowship as you work on your project!

Women of Open Bible

Our monthly April meeting will be one week early. The new date is April 6th at 1:00pm. Please come and help us plan for our Spring event, a Southern Luncheon Tea. Also, enjoy a demonstration of lovely gems and jewelry. These items can be purchased at a reasonable price!

We also want to invite all women of Open Bible and their guests to our Southern Luncheon Tea on April 8th at 12:00. We will serve sandwiches, desserts and tea. A fun and informative entertainment will be explaining teas by the owner of Polly's Pantry. Please come dressed as fancy as you like with hats, etc. or

anyway you feel comfortable. Just come and enjoy being with other women of Christ. There also will be a purse auction with proceeds going to our Missions.

466A Group Topic: A Look at Luke (Luke 2, 10, 15). Leader: Pastor Mark Schulz

Women of Riches: Bible study at Pam Riches' home continues Monday's through April 18th at 1:00 pm. There are 5 faith lessons, it is the series called "That The World May Know" by Ray VanderLaan, "Early Church."

Wednesday in the Word

Join us for a dramatic 8 week Bible study beginning on Wednesday April 6th from 5:00-6:00 P.M. It is entitled, "Foundations".

Today, possibly more than at any time in America's history, a culture detached from God and willingly ignorant of His hand in creation and world events needs Jesus. But the church is not nearly as effective in reaching the lost as it was only a generation ago. There is a foundational reason.

April 6th and 13th

"Can We Understand What Happened at the Tower of Babel?"

Understanding what happened at the Tower of Babel is key to understanding the origin of nations, races, prejudice, and much more!

April 20th & 27th

"Can we really know the truth about the "days" of Genesis 1?"



Church Council Highlights

March Highlights

It is a very exciting time at Open Bible. Information is being gathered to assist the Capital Fund Drive Committee and Pastor Schultz in this endeavor. The Long Range Planning Committee is busy putting together information and goals to assist or continued growth at Open Bible. Our Friendship Sunday was a success as Pastor Schulz feels we gained eleven new prospects to follow up on from that day. It was a very special day with another great uplifting message from Pastor Schulz and great fellowship and food! Implementation of the Hymn Soft program for assisting us with music for our services will be put into use in April. A new banner was purchased for the front of the church for the Passion and Easter season. A dolly was also purchased to make moving the electric piano easier. Plans are being made to have Pastor Lorenz do a Seder one evening during Mission Festival. We are truly blessed to have such an active and talented membership at Open Bible. Let your light shine as we continue to gain souls for Christ!

Roger Otto, Council Secretary

Tea Time Not Tee Time



Calling all ladies. You are cordially invited to our "Southern Luncheon Tea" here at the church on Friday, April 8th at 12:00 noon.

This is a new event for us. We will be serving finger sandwiches, scones and scrumptious desserts.

We will also feature our wonderful British lady, Tricia Bennett. (See the note below about Tricia) She will be explaining about the proper etiquette of serving tea in England. We will also have a Silent Purse Auction with donations used for a special mission project.

Invitations will be available if you wish to invite friends and neighbors. There will be a sign-up sheet available in the fellowship hall. Space is limited to 100. Hats and white gloves are not necessary to attend.

We promise this will be a delightful event!

A note about Tricia Bennett:

Tricia is a widely known author and public speaker and also the proud owner of Polly's Pantry Tearoom in Wildwood. She has an interesting background and will be offering several of her books for sale the day of the "Southern Luncheon Tea."



Happy Anniversary



Arline & John Kiewra – 5
Mike & Pat Holmes – 8
Jim & Marion Petrie – 16
Mel & Susan Parker - 21
Ron & Joanne Stuedemann – 27

Happy Birthday

Jackson Miller – 1
Gene McConkey – 4
Norma Phillips – 5
Jim Petrie – 6
Jerry Brooks – 10
Walt Farnsworth – 10
Barb Matthias – 11
Amy Hand – 13
Michael Davis - 14
Shane Thise – 20
Marion Petrie – 22
Bill Stocks – 22
Mike Butzow – 23
Huns Gustrowsky – 27
Pastor Rodger Dale – 29

