

## "I AM BUT A STRANGER HERE"!

The new pastor is in town. Questions abound. What is he like? Will he be the right kind of shepherd that Open Bible needs at this time? Will there be a lot of changes or not enough changes? There may be a bit of apprehension on your part as you meet and listen to Pastor Schulz for the very first time. Likewise, Pastor Schulz has some apprehensions. But that is where the Lord comes to the rescue. It is God the Holy Spirit who guided the process to call Pastor Schulz into your midst.

He is the one who felt he was the right pastor at this place in Open Bible's timeline. So let's all put our apprehensions to rest, the Lord will equip us all for the tasks at hand.

My favorite Scripture verse reminds us that we have nothing to fear. "So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God, I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand. For I am the Lord, your God, who takes hold of your right hand and says to you, Do not fear; I will help you." (Isaiah 41:10; 13)

Pastor Schulz

## FROM THE PRESIDENT

Last Sunday, August 26<sup>th</sup>, Open Bible installed Pastor Mark Schulz as our new pastor and the third in the brief history of our church. A new era is beginning and with it comes new hopes and dreams. September is also the beginning of the new NFL season and a striking similarity in terms of hopes and dreams for all NFL teams. Many of us will spend significant time watching Sunday Football to say nothing of the time spent watching College Football.

I know it may seem a bit strange to mention Pastor Schulz as our new shepherd and the fall football season in the same sentence, let alone in the same article. But I have a specific purpose in mind. Most everyone knows I'm a Green Bay Packer fan and I truly enjoyed their Super Bowl run two years ago. No, I am not trying to turn Pastor Schulz into a Packer fan, (he happens to be a Lions fan). But our church will probably face a number of changes and challenges under new leadership and certainly that Packer Football team faced many challenges and obstacles in their run to the Super Bowl.

Near the end of their playoff run a veteran player and team leader by the name of Charles Woodson, spoke to the team and used four inspirational terms to help keep his teammates focused on the task at hand. I thought those same four words could be used to assist Open Bible and Pastor Schulz as we go forth together as a congregation to spread the word of God. The four words used were MIND, HEART, PURPOSE, and GOAL, and they became the Packers unifying calling card that helped spur them on to the Super Bowl victory. Those same four words were later inscribed on the inside of each Super Bowl ring to remind everyone involved in the Packer organization of just what they had accomplished.

Let's briefly examine each of those words in the context of how we might use them to enhance God's kingdom.

- (1) MIND – We all know that if we really set our mind to accomplishing something, we are much more likely to do so. Our mind set should always be to serve our fellow man by sharing the good news of what Jesus accomplished for us. This means we need to share this message as often as possible, where ever and whenever.
- (2) HEART – Believe with all your heart that there is nothing God can't do and nothing you can do to save yourself. Once your heart believes, your mind will follow suit and you will be in a much better position to share the message of God's grace with others.

(3) PURPOSE – Our purpose should always be to strengthen our own faith through whatever means possible to better equip us with the tools necessary to confidently take the message of grace to those in need.

(4) GOAL – Make it your goal to bring souls to Christ. Help expand his Kingdom; a Kingdom that you know will last for all eternity. Just think what we might be able to accomplish at Open Bible with God’s help

The Packers had one objective. Their mind set, heart, and purpose were all geared to achieving one goal.

They became a leading example for other professional football teams. But keep in mind that they were working toward an earthly goal, one that does not last. We are working toward a Heavenly goal that will last for all time.

Mark it down, things don’t just happen. God has an arranged plan for this church. Our God loves us, redeemed us and uses us for his purpose. Let’s continue to pray together, work together, and strive together to win souls for Christ.

P.S. If you would like to root for the Packers this year, please feel free to do so.

God’s blessings to all,  
Greg Wendorf

## PASTOR DALE’S RETIREMENT

Sunday, August 12<sup>th</sup>, marked the end of Pastor Dale’s tenure as God’s shepherd of the flock of Open Bible Church. After six and a half years of loyal and faithful service, Pastor Dale officially retired from the public ministry. A pot luck dinner and brief presentation were held the previous evening to honor both Pastor and Connie.

With God’s guidance, Pastor Dale graciously accepted the call to come to Open Bible in the fall of 2005 and was installed on November 5<sup>th</sup>. He had previously been a pastor of a congregation in Naples, Florida and at the time of the call was serving as a vacancy pastor and part time teacher in Minnesota. Pastor Dale became the second pastor in the brief history of Open Bible. He led this congregation through a period of steady growth that culminated in a building project that produced the wonderful structure that we worship in today.

Pastor Dale will long be remembered as a warm and caring minister who always taught the word of God in its truth and purity. He was very much appreciated by

this congregation and we wish both he and Connie God’s generous blessings in their retirements.

Greg Wendorf  
President

## WHO’S WHO AT OPEN BIBLE

By Leslie Nelson



I am sure you will all recognize the name “Fehlhaber.” Sandra is now sending out our daily WELS devotional messages. She is also the one who would like to hear from you if you have a change

for the Church Directory. Their email address is: [fehlhaber@comcast.net](mailto:fehlhaber@comcast.net)

Sandra was born and raised in Rockford, IL. When she was 9, her family moved to Wild Rose, WI, and bought a 72-acre campsite. During some of those wonderful years, she attended Wild Rose High School, and later graduated from UW - Stevens Point. Sandy was baptized and confirmed in a United Methodist Church, and became a WELS member in 1974, when she married Jim.

James was born in Wausau, WI, and attended Our Savior’s Lutheran Grade School (WELS), Wausau High School and the U of WI at Oshkosh. He and Sandy met while working summer jobs at Springwater Resort in Wild Rose. They were married at Mount Olive Lutheran Church in Rockford, and were members at Peace Lutheran in Loves Park, IL.

The Fehlhabers had 2 children. Unfortunately, Daniel is deceased. Nicole Mitra is living in Kolkata (Calcutta), India. Their son-in-law is Mayukh Mitra, and they have a 1-year-old grandson, Ty Daniel.

Jim was a manager in human resources for Sundstrand Corp. in Rockford. He retired after 25 years, only to become Director of Human Resources for the Rockford Public School System for 8 years, until 2010.

Sandy was a stay-at-home mom for many years. In 1993 she successfully started and ran Absolute Travel until 2007. She is currently a distributor for Tahitian Noni Juice, so be sure to ask her about this product if you have an interest!

They both enjoy seafood, and Jim would add prime rib to his list. He likes reading mystery novels, and his favorite authors are David Baldacci and John Grisham. Sandy likes those also, and adds The Peoples' Bible Series, as well as Karen Kingsbury as one of her favorite authors. She likes to watch Dancing with the Stars and the HGTV Food Network.

Something you may be surprised to learn about Jim is that he had a top-secret security clearance while serving in the U. S. Navy doing spy work. Jim and Sandy are just learning to play golf, and also love pickle ball, being rated now at 3.5. That figures, since Jim has played tennis every year for more than 50 years!

Another big interest has been travel (no surprise), and they have traveled the world throughout their married life, from Europe to Hong Kong, Japan, India, Singapore, Dubai, the Caribbean, Mexico and many more. I would say, if you are planning a special trip, you should speak with them!

**VOLUNTEER'S NEEDED**

The Fellowship Club has arranged for members of Open Bible to help prepare meals for Kids Against Hunger. The date for this event is October 6<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 am until 11:00 am. It will be held at the American Legion Hall on Rolling Acres Rd just south of Hwy 466 in Lady Lake. We have committed to having 20 volunteers for this day and time. Please mark your calendars and look for a sign up sheet in September. This is one way in which we can help stamp out world hunger for children. Remember the words of our Savior, "If you do it for the less of my people you have done it unto me." Can you give two hours of your time for this all important project?

**ALTAR FLOWER FUND**



We are accepting offerings for the Flower Fund in order to procure & display flowers for worship enhancement. Currently, we are behind in funding. If you wish to donate, please place your check in

the offering plate made out to Open Bible Lutheran Church and indicate for the Flower Fund. A Flower calendar is located on the kitchen bulletin board if you would like to sign up for a particular Sunday.

**ALTAR GUILD SERVING SCHEDULE**

September	Sharon Sanner/Doris Schlicht
October	Barb Matthias/Sally Stocks
November	Audrey Hoerchner/Leslie Nelson
December	Joan Blaho/Leslie Nelson

**THANK YOU**

We would like to thank all the members and friends of Open Bible for the prayers, words of comfort and encouragement, and cards given to us as we work our way through the death of our son. Our church family, all of you, have been wonderful and we appreciate all of you.

In Christian Love,  
Ron and Diane Brutlag

**HAPPY ANNIVERSARY**



- Pastor & Connie Dale – 9
- Jim & Carol Beetch – 12
- Richard & Sally Langer – 12

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**



- Del Draeger – 4
- Sandy Hahm – 4
- Keith Mackey – 5
- Karen Herring – 8
- Joyce Miller – 9
- Mike Benrud – 14
- Audrey Hoerchner – 21
- Doug Hartshorn – 21
- Jim Beetch – 23
- Connie Dale – 23
- John Walters – 29



***“45 Years in Florida”***

**Saturday • Oct 6, 2012 • 10:00 am  
Worship Service • Lunch to follow**

**Bay Pines Lutheran Church  
7589 113<sup>th</sup> Lane, Seminole, FL**

**Guest Speaker:  
South Atlantic District President  
Rev. John Guse**

**Contact Person:  
Esther Huebner • Tampa Bay Circuit  
Email: [elh827@aol.com](mailto:elh827@aol.com)**

*Have a safe Labor Day*

