



THE MESSENGER August 2010

New Opportunities For God's Grace By Dave Jones

Summer ends in Ithaca when students arrive, school begins, and schedules change. All this leads to new opportunities that open up before us. There is something fresh about a new beginning, something healthy about starting over.

Yet, not everything changes in our lives. Often, relational challenges remain and job pressures are no different than when summer began. New beginnings and old challenges make us wonder how to handle the conflicting emotions that come with both situations.

Scripture reminds us that God offers new beginnings. The power of forgiveness and reconciliation brings peace. The promise of God's presence brings hope and the Spirit's leading comforts our hearts. These exciting new opportunities are gifts from His hand.

Also, His grace is desperately needed in our daily life so that the existing challenges can be seen as new opportunities for the Gospel to achieve its purposes. May the chorus of Keith and Kristin Getty's song "By Faith" be our heart's desire for the fall months:

"We will stand as children of the promise
We will fix our eyes on Him, our soul's reward
Till the race is finished and the work is done,
We'll walk by faith and not by sight."

The Fall Ministry Fair - Eric Hause

Every year, I speak with people who ask how to get involved in certain areas of ministry at Bethel Grove (BG). Often these conversations occur after an event or activity that strikes a chord in their heart. I also hear from people who are curious as to what types of ministries and activities are available at BG. Maybe you have been around BG for some time (even decades) and are finding new interests or ideas beginning to germinate in your heart. Perhaps you are new to the church and are curious how you might get involved in the life of the church. If one of these scenarios represents you, then please come to our Fall Ministry Fair on September 19th!

Immediately following the second service, you are invited to a picnic style event (hot dogs, hamburgers, and sides) behind the Family Center building. No need to bring anything - just yourself. A tent will provide cover from either the sun or the rain. During this time, in the Family Center large room, you will find tables with representatives from various ministries of BG. Here you can browse and find out more about these ministries, what they do, meet someone currently serving there, and discover how to get involved. This event is geared for everyone, so come and enjoy food and fellowship and see if there is something that piques your interest. Contact me (eric@bg.org) if you have any questions and I hope to see you there!



Upcoming Events

August

- 29 Two Service Schedule Begins
9:00 and 10:45am
Bus Service Resumes

- 30 Leadership Team, 7:00pm

September

- 5 9:00 and 10:45am Worship
Communion Sunday
9:00am Make a Friend-
Impact the World
- 6 Labor Day (office closed)
- 11 MOPS BBQ, Myers Park
- 12 9:00 and 10:45am Worship
Promiseland schedule begins
Adult Ed Begins
Lunch for Faculty/Students, 12:15
Pastoral Search Conversation, 6:00pm
- 19 9:00 and 10:45am Worship
Ministry Fair & Picnic, 12:15pm
- 23 Ithaca Women's Bible Study begins
- 26 9:00 and 10:45am Worship
Youth Kick-Off, 5:00pm
- 28 MOPS (Mother's of Preschoolers)
begins

Hello Students!

Professors and staff from area colleges who attend BG would like the opportunity to welcome you. Please join them in the Family Center (white building) for lunch on Sunday, September 12 immediately following the 2nd service.
Come and bring a friend. No worries. Transportation back to campus will be provided.

Hello

Carla and Amy!

We welcome two new staff members!



Carla Smith

Promiseland Administrative Asst.

Carla moved to Ithaca with her family in 2007 from Buffalo, NY. She comes to Bethel Grove with a broad range of work experience including volunteering with Promiseland and leadership with MOPS. Carla adores children, possesses good administrative skills, and has an eye for detail. She is married to Steve and they have 3 young children Hailey, Hannah and Tyler.

Amy Bach

Promiseland Coordinator

Amy grew up in Vestal, NY and moved to Ithaca in 1983 to continue her career in Special Education. She graduated from Bloomsburg University, PA with a BA in education and later received her MA in education at SUNY Binghamton. Amy brings skills of teaching, leadership and communication to BG. She looks forward to sharing her gifts of encouragement, listening, organization and compassion with the children and families she works with. Amy is married to Randy and they have two teen-aged sons, Christopher and Nathan. Amy enjoys walking her dog, cross-country skiing and reading books for her book club.

Promiseland News

Looking Ahead:

- August 22nd – Last day of summer program
- August 29th, September 5th – K-5 worship with their families. *Childcare is available during both services for infants through preschool*
- September 12th – Moving Up Sunday

Parents need to fill out updated registration cards for infants through 5th grade for the 2010-2011 school year at the table downstairs.

Children will move to the next grade or age level at this time. Children grades K-5th will attend the class that corresponds to their grade in school.

There will be 4 childcare rooms: Babies (0-15 months), Tiny Tots (15 months – 2 yrs), Twos (2-3 yrs), and Preschool (3 – 5 years). If your child is moving up into one of these rooms you will be contacted by Carla Smith, Promiseland Administrative Assistant.

- September 12th – December 12th
 - 9:00am – Sunday School for children grades K-5th
 - 10:45am – Children's Church for grades K-3rd and Bible Study Fellowship for grades 4th-5th

Childcare is available during both services for infants through preschool

If you have any questions or concerns please contact Amy Bach, Promiseland Coordinator at amy@bg.org.

Fall 2010 Adult Education

9:00-10:15 Session

THE GOSPEL IN LIFE/ PRODIGAL GOD

Facilitators:

Doug Weber

Charlie Cramton

September 12- December 12

BUILDING TEAMWORK IN YOUR MARRIAGE

Facilitators:

Barb and Herb Masser

September 12- November 7

INTEGRATING FAITH AND STUDIES

Facilitator:

Pat Wright

September 19 - November 14

10:45 - 12:00 Session

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MARK

Facilitators:

Hrair Missirian

Bob Creech

September 12 - December 12

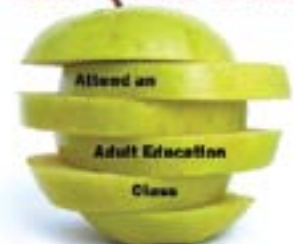
BIBLE STUDY - GROWING IN GRACE

Facilitators:

Susan Barr

September 12 - December 12

Feed Your Faith



SAVE THE DATE



**Ladies Fall Retreat
November 12-14
Montrose, PA
"Secure from the Core"**

Jon and Mary Perry gratefully announce plans for sabbatical beginning September 6, 2010. After forty years of ministry, The Navigators have given us all the time we need. We'll appreciate your prayers for rest and refocusing. New address: PO Box #1 Milton, DE, 19968.

From Mary Perry: There is a young man, Saw Min Naing, who is hopefully coming from Burma/Myanmar to study English from September to December at the ESL program in downtown Ithaca. He is in need of a host family preferably located downtown or with easy bus access to downtown. His classes will be from 9-Noon and 12:30-2:30pm every weekday.

Saw Min Naing is 37 years old and a veterinarian by education. He is married, but his wife will not travel with him. Most recently he has been working in the area of community development with one of the few registered NGO's in the country, called Metta Development Foundation (metta-myanmar.org) to rebuild in the delta area which was struck by the tsunami in 2004 and by Cyclone Nargis in 2008. This will be his first visit to the US.

There could be more than one host family for shorter periods of time. If interested, please contact: Rhoda Linton, rl276@cornell.edu.

Thank you to the congregation for the many well wishes and prayers in reference to my broken hip. Each day is an improvement.
Ray Haringa

Weddings

Ted & Lana Hodgson
May 8th
Bethel Grove

Peter and Linnette Caforio
June 19th
Bethel Grove

Jason and Nicole Schiller
July 31
Blairsville, PA

Congratulations...

-to Lois Scott who has published a book entitled "If You Want To Soar With Eagles, Don't Hang With The Turkeys" - *Gems for the Christian Life*.

-to Nicole Scott on having a landscaping article published in *Good Life*.

-to Donna Hornibrook who was elected into *Prince Edward Island's Hall of Fame* for her Field Hockey career.



God has provided a new location for the Christian Study Center at Cornell in a former Greek house on North Campus. Fifteen students will live in the house, sharing meals, hospitality and devotions. The facility features a large living room and sun room for programming, space for the growing library and even beautiful views of Cayuga Lake! Keep this ministry to the Cornell community in prayer as they continue to serve and grow in their new location. An upcoming event is

"The Worldviews of Great Scientists"
Wednesday, Sept. 8, 2010, 7:30 pm
Dr. Henry Fritz Schaefer
Call Auditorium, Kennedy Hall

Free & Open to the public, www.chestertonhouse.org

Andrew Dickson White (the first president of Cornell) advanced the idea that science and Christianity were in a state of warfare. Although some scientists, such as Richard Dawkins and the late Carl Sagan, also hold this view, a number of distinguished scientists now hold the opposite view--that science and Christian

In The Marketplace

Our own Donna George, Hospicare's bereavement coordinator, was selected as one of the "20 Outstanding Women You Should Know!" as part of the Cayuga Radio Group's Women Expo, held May 6.



Donna began working at Hospicare in 1992, starting in our front office when Hospicare was housed in the Biggs building up by the hospital. During her years at Hospicare, Donna returned to school to earn a bachelor's degree in Human Services and later a master's degree in social work. She has coordinated the bereavement program for the past 11 years. "I find it a privilege to walk alongside those who have lost a loved one and to provide support during a difficult time," Donna said.

Donna is part of BG's Deaconess Board and has shared in mentoring and caring for many people. She is married to Rick who coordinates the BG Sound Team.

More Photos From Uganda Team 2010

