



**Dear Missions Team,**

"...I have become all things to all men so that by all possible means I might save some." 1 Corinthians 9:22b

I grew up in the church. But the things we do today to reach unsaved people we didn't even think or talk about back then. The change of times is somewhat the focus of the Apostle Paul in 1 Corinthians as well. He shifts the focus from the privileges and blessings of his fellow Jews to the need and opportunities for reaching the Gentiles, who had never heard about the Messiah. Some might accuse Paul of being a pragmatist. The reality is that he was willing to move out of his comfort zone to allow others to experience the saving love of Christ. What matters is that people are being won to Christ through the unchanging message of the Gospel. This may be what OceanPointe Christian Church (OPCC) understands. I love what God has done through this church in the last year—and so will you.

- ◆ Average weekly attendance in 2014 was 184.
- ◆ Easter attendance was 154 in 2014.
- ◆ One Christmas Eve service in 2014 was 236 in attendance.
- ◆ Easter attendance was 336 in 2015.
- ◆ Total average weekly giving increased by 80% in 2015.
- ◆ Home group participation more than doubled.
- ◆ There were 22 baptisms in 2015.
- ◆ Approximately 650 people attended a free viewing of *The Sandlot* at historic Cardines Field in September—an event sponsored by OPCC
- ◆ In October, 2304 full-size candy bars were given away at ten "Light the Night" host homes across Aquidneck Island. Each candy bar had a free ticket to a movie at the theater where this church gathers on Sunday.
- ◆ In November, 645 people came to the free viewing of *The Peanuts Movie* after being invited through the "Light the Night" outreach candy bar giveaway.
- ◆ Average weekly attendance was 247 in 2015. However, the 4th quarter saw an average weekly attendance of 278.
- ◆ Two Christmas Eve services in 2015 at the Newport Marriott ballroom with 319 in attendance.

From a movie in a ball park, to community block parties, to a movie in the theater where the church worships, to the ballroom Christmas Eve services. The methods vary, but the message never changes. OPCC does this for the sake of the Gospel that some might be saved. Thank you for your support of this minisry, whether it is through prayer or financial gifts, or both. You are a blessing to God's mission in New England.

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By all possible means,  
With hope in Him,

Dam Clymer

# MISSION NEWS

**May 2016**

**Sunday, May 15th is celebrated as the Day of Pentecost** this year. Our ministry partner, Dave Butts, has suggested we use the 10 days leading up to that Sunday as a time for prayer, giving praise to God for the salvation that is found in Jesus, and for His church. Some suggested scriptures to use in our prayers starting on Thursday, May 5th are: Colossians 1:15-16; John 3:16-17; Matthew 16:13-17; 1 John 2:1-2; Hebrews 2:17-18; John 6:51, John 14:1-6, John 10:14-16; Revelation 5:5-7, and Revelation 19:11-16. These scriptures will lead you to pray for the church on the Day of Pentecost, the day the church started in about 30AD. We are about 1986 years from that time when God chose to start the last Covenant with men until He sends His Son back. Pray for the church at Centerville to be ready for that return, to be a light for Jesus in this community and around the world with our mission partners.

## **Here is some great news from Jesse & Karie Pryor:**

On June 18th, 2015 the Governor for the East Sepik Province (the province in which we are located) visited us in our village of Samban. He was visiting us for a special reason. He was here to officially open the classroom for the Samban Primary School that we had built. Many of our employees had worked hard milling timber and constructing this building that housed 4 classrooms for our local primary. We had spent months on this project and it was a major local event to have the governor visit us in such a remote location. He spent some time with us in our home while we waited for the festivities to begin. During the ceremony, he made a verbal commitment to financially support our ministry here. We are pleased to announce that he has honored his promise. Just two weeks ago, we received a check from the East Sepik Provincial Government for K50,000. To our knowledge, no other Non-Profit Organization in our area has ever received such a generous gift from the provincial government. These funds will be used to send one of our medical employees for further training, to help in the construction of a new staff house for our clinic workers, and to provide improvements on the clinic building.

**Mike Breidenbaugh reports:**

Open Your Heart has come in contact with another inmate to teach! Jail/prison #99 for Open Your Heart– New Castle, Indiana!  
I am so thankful to Almighty God that I can make the following announcement: This month I am celebrating 50 years of preaching the Word of God! Hallelujah! I preached my very first sermon in March, 1966 at the Bridge Street Church of Christ in Chillicothe, Ohio! I pray that God gives me 50 more years to preach His precious soul saving Word. As of today, I have had the privilege to preach and teach His word 9,231 times! Thank you, God!!  
I THANK YOU SO VERY MUCH for your faithful support of the Open Your Heart ministry. Many, many souls in Heaven will thank you when you meet them there. I thank God for You.

I continue serving King Jesus (1 Timothy 6:12-16),  
Mike

**From Kathy Girton, West Indies Christian Mission:**

Have you ever had someone ask you, "Why is your job needed?" A fire-man's job is easily understood, a salesman can show the products they must sell, a doctor just reers to sick people but a counselor, that gets a little more tricky. Recently a dear Christian lady asked just aht. She said, "Why do missionaries need counseling? Don't they have it all together before they go to the mission field?" My response was clear to me but she was still puzzled. I reminded her that missionaries are humans with flaws and weaknesses. They get exhausted and need reminded to refresh themselves. Missionaries have marital and/or parenting struggles just like all of us and sometimes more complicated since they often live in another culture. Getting along with people you work with can also be difficult when you cmoe from different backgrounds and have different goals and talents. Satan does not want God's Word to spread throughout the world so missionaries and people in all types of ministtires are attacked and need understanding, an opportunity to be heard or reminded to keep balance in their often over-worked lives. This is a glimpse of why I love what I do. You help e do this and I am so grateful!



**From Dave Butts, Harvest Prayer Ministries:**

Dear Friends of harvest Prayer Ministries,  
In the midst of the divisive, tense and angry time, how should we live in this political world? I look to Paul for instruction. To the Philippians, and to us. Paul gives a most contemporary instruction: "Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God" (Philippians 4:5-6).  
What a contrast this is to what is currently taking place!  
Gentleness...peace...prayer! That's how we approach an election season. And I believe Paul even shows us how to do that. In the midst of his commands, he says, "The Lord is near". We often immediately rush to the Second Coming when we read this, but I'm not sure that's what Paul is saying. The Lord is near...He is close...He is right beside you. With Jesus right next to you...near...you can live out His gentleness, His peace, and you will find yourself praying not only for your leaders, but for all that the Lord places on your heart. Eventually the nearness of Jesus breaks through the clouds with the physical return of Jesus to planet Earth. But until then, we draw near to Him in prayer and He draws near to us and we demonstrate to those around us the life of Jesus.  
My friends, this is why the ministry of Harvest Prayer Ministries is so vital these days! Thank you for standing with us and providing the critical training in prayer that allows believers to make a real difference. Your partnership is so appreciated.

Blessings!

Dave Butts, President Harvest Prayer Ministries

**Here is the reason the Restoration Movement started about 200 years ago.** That this is still happening, bringing people with diverse 'christian' backgrounds into harmony based on the Word of God alone. And this happened in Israel!  
**Fairuz Sulaiman Billan:** You may have already read some of this in our emailed newsletter (*eReports from the Holy Land*), but it is a story worth building upon. Fairuz Sulaiman Billan was the mother of Cana's pastor, Hani Billan. She passed away following a long battle with cancer in February. She had been a life-long member of the Latin (catholic) church in Cana, and when Hani first went into the ministry as a protestant evengelical many years ago, it caused a lot of tension in his family and the church he grew up in, and with many of his friends. In recent years both of Hani's parents had embraced not only their son, but the message he preached; many wounds were healed. However, Fairuz's funeral on February 20th was in that Latin church, a place that still held scars for Hani, and a place where he has been rejected as a Christian, much less as a pastor. More than 700 people attended the service in the little village of Cana, and that included as many as a dozen local pastors from around the Galilee. What no one expected was that the Catholic priest included nearly all of those evangelical pastors through scripture readings, prayers, etc, and he recognized Hani and his role as a pastor in the local church. Hani said this was the first time he's ever heard of such a thing in his land. This is a good thing, not because we want to be liked by the priest, but because we've been working hard to reduce tensions between the different Christian churches so we can show more unity within the body of Christ to the community. This added an element of celebration within the Church and the Billan family. In a culture that still has strict 'rules' for grieving, and where families of the deceased are discouraged from celebrations and many social activities, this was a big moment for Hani, for his family, his church family, and for the message of the Gospel that we, as Christians, are to have a different hope than the world's in the face of death. Recalling different circumstances during his father's funeral a few years ago, Hani said, "That day I cried and cried in my sorrow. But the day of my mother's funeral, I had a smile for the impact she had on our village and between Christians of different backgrounds."

