



# Open Door Update

July, 2010

Open Door Bible Church  
3420 Hwy LL  
Port Washington, WI (262-284-0711)

Volume 12, Issue 7



## Timeless Stewardship

I remember when Priscilla and I first started to tithe. We were newly married and just trying to get our finances organized. I was facing 7 more years to finish Bible college and seminary. I had a part time job and Priscilla worked for the college earning just a little more than minimum wage. By the time we paid tuition, rent, utilities, car expenses and got a fresh supply of bread, milk, beans and hot dogs, there wasn't a lot left. But during those first months of marriage a speaker came to our church and explained the concept of being stewards of God's money instead of seeing ourselves as owners. Tithing was simply our way of acknowledging that God owned everything and we trusted Him to meet our financial needs. Giving also helped build spiritual accountability into our spending. After all, it was all God's money – not just the 10% we began to give.

God was wonderfully faithful to us during those years of schooling and has continued to be in the following years of raising a family. We are grateful we were taught the biblical principles of stewardship so early in our lives.

One of the main speakers at Moody Pastor's conference this year was Brian Kluth, a friend who helped Open Door years ago as we were raising money to build our auditorium. He now has a national ministry called Maximum Generosity. At a seminar in May he took a brief straw poll which revealed that the great majority who tithe started young. Then he challenged us to ask teens and young adults if they use checkbooks. The reality is

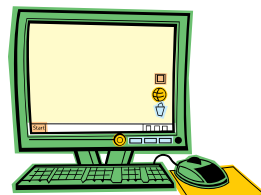
that most don't. Debit cards, online bill pay and Paypal have replaced check writing for most young people and many older ones as well. I write very few checks anymore myself.

Brian observed that since many churches are only set up to receive cash and checks, it's hard for young people especially to get in the habit of regular giving. The church board had already been discussing some of these giving methods, so Brian's input gave us the encouragement we needed.

After researching several methods, we are letting you know of two additional ways to give. 1) Online bill pay is something your bank probably has available already. On your bank's website you designate where you want them to send money. You set up the details and they send a check to the church. It's a free service at most banks, with perhaps a limit of how many transactions you can make per month. 2) Paypal – If you have a Paypal account, you can designate the Open Door Bible Church email account as your recipient ([odbc@sbcglobal.net](mailto:odbc@sbcglobal.net)). Your tax-deductible receipt will still be for the full amount of your gift, though the church is charged about 2% per transaction. If it helps some to develop a regular practice of stewardship, it's worth it. [Notes: A link to Paypal will be available on the website soon. For information about setting up a Paypal account, just look for someone younger than you and ask them☺.]

At one time I suppose writing checks was a new method of giving for churches. And I don't know if the early church passed an offering plate. But methods are not the point; stewardship is.

Technology is just a tool that God can use to help train yet another generation the timeless truths of God's faithfulness to His financial promises.



Pastor Sid



## Ice Cream Social

**JULY 18**  
**6:00 pm**

Everyone is invited! The evening will include an outdoor baptism, volleyball, fellowship and lots of ice cream.

Bring an ice cream topping (2 per family, 1 per single/couple). Topping ideas: nuts, cookie crumbs, banana slices, fruit, M&M's, chocolate chips, etc. Also bring your own lawn chairs. Friends welcome!

Contact one of the pastors if you are interested in being baptized.

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## CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Plan to attend  
our quarterly business meeting  
on Thursday, July 29, at 7 pm.

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Our annual Corn Roast will be on Sunday, August 22. Mark your calendar and plan to attend! Watch for more information in next month's newsletter.

## SENIOR HIGH EVENTS



Wednesdays - TLC @ 7:00 pm

July 7 - 7:00 pm - Project Serve

Wear your old clothes - we will be painting rooms at Ozaukee Christian School.

July 13 - 7 - 9:00 pm

**BOWLING NIGHT!** Cost \$4.

July 14 - 7 - 9:00 pm - Belize Team Meeting

**Do not miss this meeting -**

it is the last meeting before our trip!

July 17 - Fish Day Ministry

Help take nursing home residents to see the Fish Day parade.

July 25-31 - Belize Mission Trip!!!

There are no SNAC nights during summer.

For more information on Jr. & Sr. High events, contact Pastor Seth (sethmeeks@sbcglobal.net or 262-305-6852). A calendar of events, as well as permission slips, are available online at the church website - [odbcport.org/youth](http://odbcport.org/youth)

## 2010 GENERAL FUND REPORT

As of June 26:

Expenses this year – \$ 175,469.00

Giving this year – \$ 164,504.00

This year's giving deficit– \$ 10,965.00

## BUILDING FUND REPORT

Expenses this year – \$ 0.00

Giving this year – \$ 9,677.00

Current Building Fund Balance: \$ 20,926.00

