



# The Messenger

## April 2010

1111 Allison Lane \* Jeffersonville, IN 47130 \* 812-283-9400

### Staff

**Nathan Millican**

Pastor

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Director of Small Groups

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**Terry Broady**

Administrative Assistant

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### Website

[www.oakparkbaptist.com](http://www.oakparkbaptist.com)

### Office Hours

Monday - Friday  
9:00 am - 4:00 pm

### Sunday

Sunday School - 9:45 am  
Worship - 11:00 am

### Wednesday

Youth - 6:15 pm  
AWANA - 6:15 pm  
Choir Rehearsal - 6:30 pm

Church Family,

Isn't acknowledging failures or shortcomings a hard thing to do? I mean, seriously, who enjoys admitting they don't have everything together – not me? In my study of the Book of Matthew and my preparation for preaching Sunday morning I have found that I daily fall short of God's expectation. Again, who doesn't struggle with bitterness, vengeance, hatred, lusting, squabbles with friends or family, lying, or doing things so that others see our "good deeds"...all of us do. So, without exception all of you who are reading this (if indeed you still are) are individuals who will continually struggle. That being said, one of the facets of the Christian life that most don't do very well – me included – is acknowledging when we fall short and subsequently, what steps we need to take to remedy or reconcile the situation?

Did you know that acknowledging your weaknesses, failures, struggles, or sins can be one of the greatest opportunities for discipleship in your own life? For example, when was the last time you told your spouse you messed up and then asked for his/her forgiveness? Or when was the last time you asked for an audience with your children where you acknowledged your faults concerning a particular situation and sought their forgiveness? Wow, it's tough I know. I have to do this with Lauren a lot – and I always plead, "I'm a work in progress!"

But isn't the family one of the biggest arenas for us to live out our Christian faith? And more often than not, we think that leading is simply saying, "do this", "act this way", "say this." But leading is not simply leading with words (though it is) – leading is more than that. Leading is powerful and credible when you lead with your life. And *one* profound way to do this is to acknowledge to your spouse, as well as your children, "I don't have everything together." But don't leave it at that! The acknowledgement is only the first step. Make sure you use the conversation as an opportunity to point your own heart, your spouse's heart and your children's heart to the One who did have everything together. And in Him, and Him alone, we find and an ever-abundant supply of grace and mercy.



For His Fame,

Your Pastor,  
Nathan

## A Special Welcome

We would like to welcome our new Family Pastor, Jonathon Woodyard, his wife Gina, and their son Calvin to Oak Park Baptist Church. We are so thrilled to have him and his family.



### Annie Armstrong Easter Offering For North American Missions

*Annie Armstrong Easter Offering for North American Missions* supports not only missionaries in the United States and its territories, but also in Canada. *100% of the offering is used to help North American missionaries and their ministries.*

### Annie Armstrong Easter Offering

Sunday, April 4th  
During the Morning Worship  
Service

**National Goal \$61,000,000**  
**Church Goal \$5,000**

(You can continue to give throughout the month of April)



## Our Church Record

### March 7, 2010

Sunday School Attendance.....135  
Morning Worship Attendance.....190  
General Fund.....\$5,384.58

### March 14, 2010

Sunday School Attendance.....101  
Morning Worship Attendance .....194  
General Fund.....\$6,593.68

### March 21, 2010

Sunday School Attendance.....112  
Morning Worship Attendance.....177  
General Fund.....\$6,370.55

### March 28, 2010

Sunday School Attendance.....114  
Morning Worship Attendance .....207  
General Fund .....\$6,931.24

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4 Week Average Sunday School Attendance.....116  
4 Week Average Worship Attendance.....192  
4 Week Average General Fund.....\$6,320.01

*The church extends our sympathy to the following in the death of a loved one:*

- ▶ *Elaine Lewis in the death of her brother*
- ▶ *Ian Miller in the death of his grandfather*
- ▶ *Jonathon Woodyard in the death of his grandfather*
- ▶ *Ellen Everhart in the death of her sister*



***A Word From  
Our Small  
Group Director***



**Why so much talk about sanctification?**

Some of you may already be asking this question. Why does this seem to be predominating Jeff's thoughts? Let me take these few words to explain. First there is a world without hope watching us to see if Jesus is what He says He is. I believe this is why we see so much talk about sanctification and holiness throughout the Scriptures. Our Sunday School Class has been studying the book of Judges over the past few weeks. It does not take much reading here to understand that God wants His people to be holy or set apart. Sanctification is the process of becoming holy. As you continue to read we see that the Israelites fall victim to the "melting pot mentality" that is present even in our times. It is much easier just to get along is it not?

Their actions brought about God's merciful correction. This indeed was painful for them. This

leads me to my next and final point. God is about the business of making Himself known to all mankind. As His people we are one of the many ways He chooses to do so. Again hopeless people are watching. One area that we have a distinct opportunity to communicate to them is in the God ordained union of marriage. Sanctification is crucial here as well. In Ephesians 5 we see God's plan for marriage and what it says about Him to the world. If marriage is the picture of the Gospel, painted by God to and for the world, we see the importance. Christians in our day are guilty of the same mentality of the Israelites in the book of Judges. We have bought the "melting pot mentality" in that our divorce rate is the same or greater than the non-believing world. In the process we have given false information about God to a world without hope. This is just one example and I believe one area of great opportunity for us. My prayer for our church and all believers is that we would take seriously our communication about God to the world. In so doing, my hopes are found in a rekindled desire for holiness among God's people. Remember the hopeless ones are watching and God is ever reminding us of His plan for our lives in His Holy Word.

Jeff

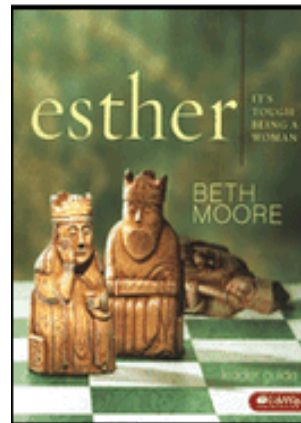


**THE OAK PARK  
BAPTIST  
WOMEN'S  
MINISTRY  
IS  
SPONSORING  
COOKING  
CLASSES**

Please join us every 2nd Saturday of the month from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon to learn the art of cooking your favorite dish!

The next class will be Saturday, April 10. Linda Johnson will be sharing some of her infamous dishes with us. You don't want to miss this!

Please call the church office for more information or stop at the women's table in the hallway across from the Blevins activity center.



The Women's Ministry is facilitating a Beth Moore Bible Study titled:

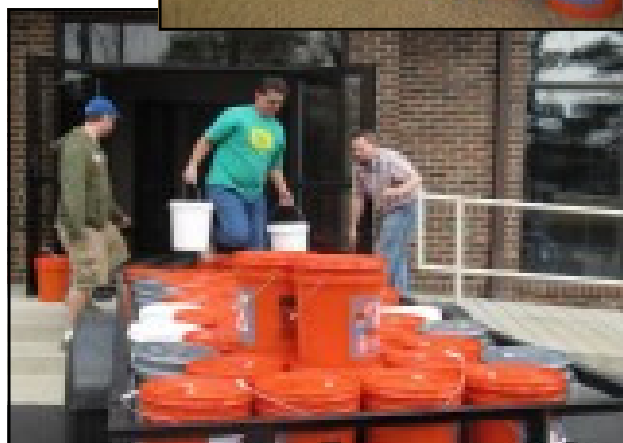
***Esther:  
It's Tough Being a  
Woman***

They meet every Thursday evening from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. in the Adult 4 Sunday School room. If you have any questions please contact the church office at 283-9400 or stop at **the women's table in the hallway across from the Blevins activity center.**

# Buckets of Hope For Haiti 2010 OPBC



Thanks to everyone who helped support Buckets of Hope especially Ralph and Vicki Vallejos for organizing this relief effort.



*Special thanks go to all the volunteers for the work day on 3/27/10. The grounds look great. The Lord has truly blessed Oak Park Baptist Church with great servants. Bro.Tony*





## UNINHIBITED PRAISE

*“From the lips of children and infants you have ordained praise because of your enemies, to silence the foe and the avenger.”  
Psalm 8:2*

One evening after a preschooler had been in the restroom for an extended amount of time, I stepped into the hall to check on her. The water was running and I heard her behind the door singing a popular praise song at the top of her voice. I asked if she needed help and she told me to wait for her just a minute. Then she began singing again. It’s amazing what God uses to reach our hearts, isn’t it? The praise of that little girl moved me to tears and laughter at the same time. She didn’t care who was listening, she didn’t care if she hit all the right notes or got all the words exactly correct. She was just singing to Jesus with the praise of a child’s heart.

Last Sunday I had the privilege of sitting next to a child who played basketball during our Upward basketball season. As we stood to sing, I could tell she was not familiar with the music. But that didn’t stop her. Lifting her little voice, she sang right along with everyone else, unashamed and unhindered. Here was another child, unconcerned about anyone around here; just singing to God and praising Him with her whole heart.

Psalm 8:2 is what Christ quoted when He was confronted by the Pharisees in Matthew 21:16. Christ was healing those who came to Him at the Temple. It was only days before He would be hung on a cross to die. He knew His time was short; the end was near. And the Gospel of Matthew gives us this beautiful picture of Jesus ministering to His people in His house while children praised Him as the Messiah. It’s easy to focus on the response of the Pharisees – indignation, resentment, hate. But I have revisited this passage and focused my attention on these little ones worshipping Christ. They weren’t concerned about what the Pharisees thought of Jesus. They were worshipping the Savior, unashamed and unhindered. What a lesson for the grown-ups in the

crowd, both then and now. How often do I find myself preoccupied with other people, my agenda, or the laundry list of things I need to get done that day? How many times have I stifled my praise, kept quiet my voice for fear of what others might think? When I allow these things to take precedence, my “praise” becomes just another empty ritual...sort of like the religion of the Pharisees that Jesus soundly rebuked.

Today I am proposing to you that we try worshipping like a child. Turn up the radio and sing along with your favorite Christian song. Who cares what the person in the car next to you thinks! Focus on the One to whom you are singing and remember who you are to Him – His child, dearly loved.

In His grace,

Melissa Goforth  
Oak Park Baptist Children’s Ministry

### An Invitation From Our Media Center



#### FOR THE CHURCH MEMBER’S ENJOYMENT...

Take a few minutes and browse the Media Center. We have good books, reference material, commentaries, DVD’s and music CD’s for all ages. All this and more, can be found in **YOUR** church Media Center. Come and “check us out”.

Anyone interested in volunteering their time in the Library there are many opportunities listed below:

- ▶ **Thursday mornings**
- ▶ **Sunday morning from 9:30 - 11:00 a.m.**
- ▶ **15-20 Minutes after Sunday Worship**

Call the church office if you would like to volunteer. Your Media Center Leaders:  
Ruth Stone  
Joyce Robbins  
BJ Freeman

# APRIL 2010

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1 6:00-8:00 Esther Bible Study	2	3
4 Easter 	5	6 6:15 Visitation	7 6:30 Men's Time 5:45 Kids Choir 6:00 Youth Service 6:15 A/WANA 6:30 Choir Reh.	8 6:00-8:00 Esther Bible Study	9 6:00 Women's Snack and Scrap	10 10:00 Cooking Class
11	12	13	14 5:45 Kids Choir 6:00 Youth Service 6:15 A/WANA 6:30 Choir Reh	15 6:00-8:00 Esther Bible Study	16 6:00 Women's Snack and Scrap	17
18	19	20	21 5:45 Kids Choir 6:00 Youth Service 6:15 A/WANA 6:30 Choir Reh	22 6:00-8:00 Esther Bible Study	23	24
25 3:00 Deacon's Mtg. 4:30 Admin. Team	26	27	28 5:45 Kids Choir 6:00 Youth Service 6:15 A/WANA 6:30 Choir Reh	29 6:00-8:00 Esther Bible Study	30	

*Oak Park Baptist Church*

1111 Allison Lane  
Jeffersonville, IN 47130

**Return Service Requested**

**The Messenger is published monthly**



**Easter Service**

**Sunday**

**April 4th**

**11:00 a.m.**

Pray about who you could  
invite to celebrate the  
resurrection of  
Jesus Christ this Sunday