



The Growth Institute

Growing our roots in Christ

4TH QUARTER - 2008

Grow deeper spiritual roots in Christ through Orange Park Presbyterian's Growth Institute. Experience the transformation of your heart, mind and soul as you study and encounter the living God.

One of our five biblical purposes in life is to grow as a disciple of Jesus Christ. The Growth Institute enables you to choose from elective seminars and events to foster the purpose of discipleship. Seminars/events are scheduled on a quarterly basis. Most seminars are six weeks in duration, although some are offered for a single day.

G. I. FOUNDATIONAL SEMINARS (Single day classes)

4:00–7:30PM November 16
Discovering Membership Seminar. Learn the meaning of membership and discover the vision of OPPC. After completing the membership class and agreeing to a membership covenant, new members are typically received the first Sunday of each month. To attend, register with the church office (264-0536). FREE childcare is available by reservation, and dinner is served to adults and children. Teacher: Pastor Tim Roberts (Fellowship Hall)

4:00–8:00PM November 16
Discovering Discipleship Seminar. Learn the habits of being a disciple - how to cultivate spiritual maturity, how to get a grip on your Bible, daily time with God, spiritual growth resources, the habit of prayer, stewardship, spiritual friendship and keeping good habits. To attend, register with the church office (264-0536). FREE childcare is available by reservation and dinner is served to adults and children. Teacher: Greg Holton (Fellowship Hall)

4:00–8:00PM November 16
Discovering Spiritual Gifts Seminar. Discern your unique gifts for serving in a personal ministry through this class. Discover God's call by analyzing your S.H.A.P.E. for ministry: (Spiritual Gifts, Heart, Abilities, Personality, Experience).

To attend, register with the church office (264-0536). FREE childcare is available by reservation and dinner is served to adults and children. Teacher: Cathy Sanders & Marjorie Phillips (Fellowship Hall)

G. I. ELECTIVE SEMINARS (Sunday series)

9:30AM October 19 – November 23
Faithful and Wise: Being a Good Steward. This series looks at how we can integrate our faith into every facet of our daily

lives, including our possessions, time, talents, skills, physical and spiritual environment and money. Teacher: Karen Kircher (Youth House)

9:30AM November 30 – December 21
When Heaven Touches Earth by Rob Weber. "This Advent series focuses on Luke 2:8-14. The author looks at the shepherds "keeping watch," the angels announcing peace, good news for "all the people," and "for you....this day....a Savior." Teacher: Karen Kircher (Youth House)

9:30AM December 28 – January 4, 2009
Season of Light and Hope by Blair Gilmer Meeks. This book gives us an introduction to the idea that "tomorrow shall be my dancing day." It includes special lessons for the Christmas season and new beginnings, as we explore being "lost in wonder, love and praise." Teacher: Karen Kircher (Youth House)

9:30AM October-November
New Testament Survey: In this unit, we will investigate the new Christian community which began with Christ's calling the Disciples and with the coming of the Spirit at Pentecost. Teacher: Betsy Rinker (Fellowship Hall Library)

9:30AM December 7-14-
Through this study we will be examining the response of various people to God's call throughout time. Teacher: Betsy Rinker (Fellowship Hall Library)

9:30AM December 21-28
During the Christmas season we will study Mary, the mother of Jesus; Elizabeth and her commitment as the mother of John the Baptist; the Shepherds who glorify God at the birth of Jesus; John the Baptist as he prepares the way for Messiah. Teacher: Betsy Rinker (Fellowship Hall Library)

9:30AM October - December
The Bible Jesus Read by Phillip Yancey. Probing some carefully selected Old Testament books, Yancey reveals how the Old Testament deals with the issues that trouble us most. The Old Testament in fact tackles what the New Testament often only skirts. And as you read with a fresh eye the prayers, poems, songs, and bedtime stories that Jesus so revered, you will gain a profound new understanding of Christ. "The more we comprehend the Old Testament," Yancey writes, "the more we comprehend Jesus." Teachers: Jody Griffith and Doug Mercer, with help from the wisdom of Rev. John Muilenburg (Fellowship Hall – Small Group Room)

11:00 AM October 12 – November 9
Life Choices – Standing at a Crossroad. This study will challenge adults to trust God, to step forward in faith, and to be guided by God's Word in moments of fear and uncertainty. Teacher: Greg Vincent (Fellowship Hall)

11:00 AM **November 23 – December 28**
Old Testament Law for New Testament Believers. We will be studying the books of the law in the Old Testament and how they apply spiritually and practically to our lives as Christians today. Teachers: Greg Vincent, Jeanette Keller and Young Smith (Fellowship Hall)

11:00AM **Ongoing**
College-Age Class. Discuss relevant issues in a casual environment where you are welcomed and encouraged. Teacher: Greg Holton (Fellowship Hall – Small Group Room)

G. I. OPPORTUNITIES

Personalized Spiritual Growth **By Appointment** **Planning**

Have you ever thought of making a workable plan for your spiritual growth? We make plans for how to study in school and work out at the gym, or how to gain a promotion at work and even where to take a family vacation, so why not for spiritual growth? To develop your own unique plan for spiritual growth contact Pastor Tim to make an appointment.

"Dimensions of the Faith" Courses **Register Online**
Professors from Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary are now offering FREE online self-study courses in Old and New Testament, Church History, Theology, Biblical Interpretation and World Missions. To register for a course go online to www.gordonconwell.edu/dimensions. or call Gordon-Conwell's Ockenga Institute at 1-800-294-2774.

G. I. GROUPS

9:15-11:15AM **2nd & 4th Mondays**
NOOMA by Rob Bell. Each video touches on Christian issues and perspectives. They are short, concise, DVD's that are packed with thought-provoking information based on the scriptures. We continue to meet Monday mornings in the Sanctuary based from 9:15 – 11:15 a.m. (Childcare available if needed, but advance reservations are required.) Facilitator: Deb Krupsky (Sanctuary Basement)

7:00PM **Monthly - 2nd Monday**
Evening Prayer Team. Purpose is to study about prayer together and to pray with you or for the needs of others in your life. Currently studying Handle with Prayer by Charles Stanley. This is an open group so come for a night or stay for a season. Facilitator: Cathy Sanders (Fellowship Hall, Small Group Room)

7:00AM **Wednesdays**
Men's **Shoulder-to-Shoulder** breakfast. Join other men as we encourage one another to become faithful men of God.

Facilitator: Len Lewis (at Pengree's restaurant on Kingsley Avenue)

WEEK DAYS **Weekly & Bi-Weekly**
Life Groups: Various home-based groups that gather on different days/times to foster friendship and growth in the body of Christ. Life Groups are a place to know others and to be known. Contact the Director of Life Groups: Fran Higson (264-0536)

G. I. DEVOTIONAL FOR 2008

ONE YEAR NEW TESTAMENT. Together we will read through the New Testament in 2008. Our 2008 OPPC devotional is the *One Year New Testament*. It is divided into 365 bite-sized sections that take less than 10 minutes to read. Each section features a key verse to help focus and apply what you learn. Purchase or order your copy today for only \$5.

Adult Sunday Schools

9:30AM **Sundays**
Travelers' Class. Topical book and Bible studies. Teachers: Capt. Hardy & Karen Kircher (Youth House)

9:30AM **Sundays**
The John & Rena Adsit Choices Class. Theological and spiritual book studies. Teachers: Rotating leadership (Fellowship Hall, Small Group Room)

9:30AM **Sundays**
Present Word Class. Uses denominational curriculum by the same title for Bible study. Teacher: Betsy Rinker (Fellowship Hall Library)

11:00AM **Sundays**
Adult Forum Class. Bible study through use of various methods and resources. Teachers: Rotating leadership (Fellowship Hall)