



# Overture

The Pretty Much  
Fortnightly Newsletter of

## Old Orchard Church

July 17, 2011

### Welcome!

Guests, we welcome you and thank you for coming! We invite you to use our **child care services** for infants through children in kindergarten, located in the church building basement. Please see nursery details below. Sunday School meets at 9 a.m. and is on a summer schedule. Please see page 2.

If you would like to find out more about Old Orchard and what we are about, please fill out one of our visitor forms in the lavender or blue pads on the chairs or in the hymnal rack.

#### *Sundays @ a glance*

9:00 a.m. Sunday School (**SEE PAGE 2.**)

10:15 a.m. Worship

**July showers bring...**  
*see page 3*

#### Old Orchard Church

Church Office/Milligan House.....314.962.3795

Church Building, 640 Amelia .....314.961.6932  
(no answering device at this number)

Web Site.....www.oldorchardchurch.org

**Ron Lutjens, Pastor**  
See print copy

**Mark Robertson, Director of Ministry to Youth & Family**  
See print copy.

**Durinda Hood, Administrative Assistant**  
314.962.3795 office@oldorchardchurch.org

#### *Children's Ministry*

**NURSERY** is offered for infants & children through kindergarten age. The nurseries are in the church building's basement.

**Infant nursery** for babies, crawlers, and very early walkers.

**Toddler nursery** for children who are walking up to three years of age. Children who turn three from January-August are invited to attend preschool worship starting September 1. Children who turn three from September-December are invited to attend preschool worship starting January 1.

**Preschool worship** for age 3 through kindergarten. Three-year-olds (see above) and four-year-olds are welcome during the whole service. Five-year-olds remain optional in the worship service until dismissal at 10:50 a.m. **Monday for Allmore:** children in grades 1-5 will be dismissed at 11:00 to go to Milligan House on July 24, August 7, and August 21 to enjoy a day that based on their academic & liturgical needs. **Children's Worship** will not meet this summer. See Mark Robertson with questions.

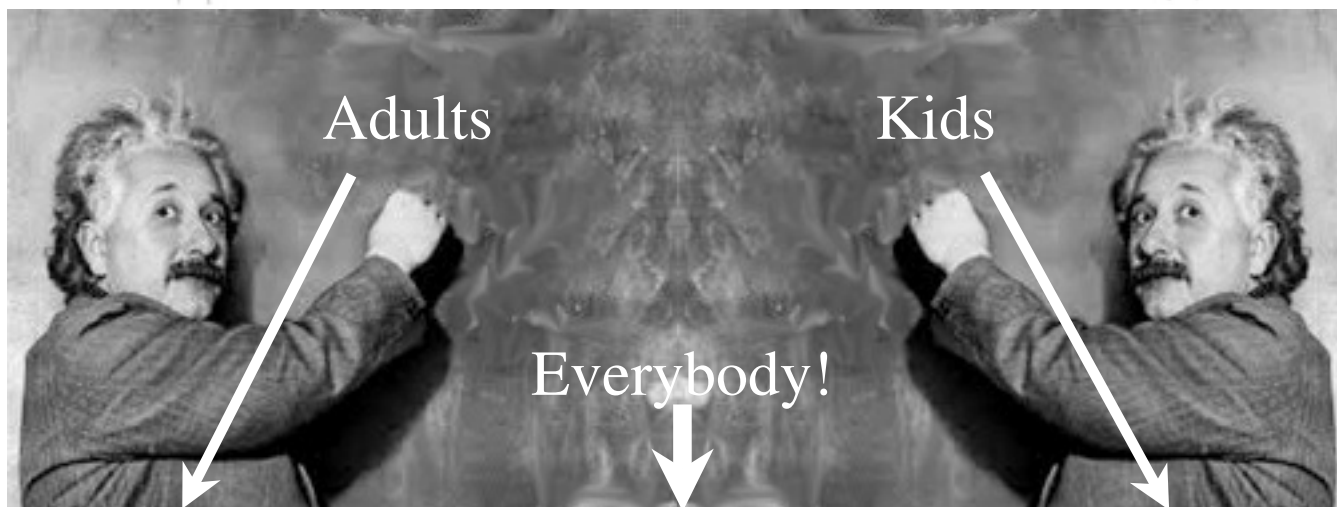


A "Roar" Opportunity to Help!  
See page 4.





# Sunday School



Adults

Kids

Everybody!

**Disciplines for Disciples  
A Simple Introduction**

**Intergenerational class**

**Teachers on break**

Join us on Sundays at 9 a.m. in the Milligan House to find out more. Childcare will be provided, but you will need to let Mark Robertson know.

*-Ron Lutjens*

Come one, come all! This follow-up to the Summer Narnia Program, to which participants will be invited, will meet three Sundays: August 7, 14, and 21.

Sunday School for children will *not* meet through July.

## School Supplies Collection!!

Old Orchard Church is collecting **school supplies** through Sunday, **July 31, 2011** for children from families served by Webster-Rock Hill Ministries. You can participate in one of two ways:

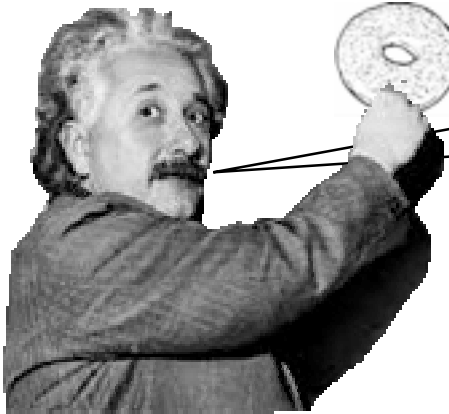
- 1. Purchase items** from the suggested list below and bring them to church. Place them in the box in the foyer.
- OR**
- 2. Contribute funds** by writing a **check** to Old Orchard Church (put in the memo or in a separate note "school supplies") or by putting **cash** in an envelope designating it "school supplies."



### Shopping List:

Narrow rule filler paper	Wide rule filler paper
Scissors (Fiskars)	Spiral notebooks; Rulers
2" & 3" ring binders	Pencil pouches
Colored markers	24-Count Crayons
Glue sticks	Colored pencils
Hand sanitizer	Broad tip highlighters
#2 Pencils	Pocket folders
Pocket dictionaries	Blue, black and red pens
Scientific calculators (\$10 pocket style)	
Payless Shoe Gift Certificates	

*--Sponsored by The Mercy Ministry of Old Orchard Church*



But wait...there's  
more:

Summer Youth Group

### High School Only! Summer Bible Study

Every other Thursday @ 9 am @ Einstein's! Next one: July 21. *Marvelous! Stupendous!*

**July 26-30, 9:00 a.m.-noon**

Summer Narnia Program. Sign up to help!

(See Mark Robertson with questions.)



### Next Lunch at Milligan House

After a hiatus for the month of July, the next lunch at Milligan House will be held on Sunday, August 28, Betsy Tevebaugh hosting.

### Moms' Group News

The Moms' Group will meet every other Wednesday at 9:15 a.m. during the summer. Our next date will be July 20. Location to be e-mailed. Please email Kathleen Shumate to be added to the list! Thanks!

### Next Overture!

You are invited to write for any issue of the *Overture*! We welcome submissions of articles, art, short essays, poetry, etc. All submissions, which should be signed by the person submitting them, may be put in the *Overture* box (in the coat room), or emailed to the church office. The next issue will be out Sunday, August 7, with Alyssa Caitlin editing. Deadline is July 31.

### Grace & Peace Winter Shelter Rummage Sale

Donations in excellent condition are wanted for the Grace & Peace Winter Shelter's Rummage Sale. We will take a load of your donations to Grace & Peace the morning of July 23. You can bring them to Milligan House during the week or bring them between 10 & 11 on Saturday morning, **July 23**. Clearly mark all donations for the Shelter! Or you can deliver your donations directly to Grace & Peace Fellowship. Rummage Sale itself will be the first two weekends so donations will be received there through the first week of August.

### Our Library

Please browse our selection of books in the vestibule by the kitchenette. More books are in our library rooms, located in the Milligan House on the first floor by the kitchen and bathroom. Enjoy!!

### Invitation

The Congregation is cordially invited to attend a Scouting "Court of Honor" in recognition of Adam's achievement of the Eagle Scout Rank. The ceremony will occur at 3:00 pm on 7 August 2011 in the Sanctuary. A reception with light refreshments will immediately follow. Adam's Eagle Project involved the planning and construction of the play set now found in the Milligan House back yard.

--Jerry & Sue Taussig

### Super 8 mm projector to borrow?

Ruth Killen is looking for a "Super 8 mm" film projector to borrow. If you have one please contact her.

### Attention Kids of Old Orchard

How about having a "Go-Go Crazy Bones" party after worship one Sunday (possibly July 24). We're trying to gauge interest, but there will be trading, battles, a pinata filled with go-gos, snacks and drinks. E-mail me at and we'll get it rolling!!

--Margaret Wilke

### In Case of an Emergency at OOC...

**Tornado** – When do we go to the basement?

**Earthquake** – Where's a safe location to go?\_

**Fire** – Where do we go if we evacuate the building?

**Health Emergency** – Someone has just collapsed, who can administer aid?

These are just a few of the questions that need advance planning to have the best outcomes. What are the other questions? What are the answers? Help to find them as a member of the Old Orchard Emergency Planning Team! We need just a few good men and women to work up an action plan to implement when an emergency arises at OOC. The Deacons have appointed Ben Kraft to head a small group of OOC folks to work on this plan. It's not rocket science, so it won't take long. So far, Ben, Matt Philip, Denny Reinheimer and Michelle Kraft are on this team. If you are interested in being a team member contact Ben, by phone at (see print copy) or in person at OOC on Sunday. **We especially need someone with medical training.** *News continues below.*

## Summer Narnia Program



July 26-30

9:00 a.m.--noon

## Supplies Needed!

Palace type furnishings: mirrors, regal fabric, crowns, etc...anything PALACE!!!!  
See Margaret Killeen for more specifics if you have something we could use.

Small blow up blue kiddie pool for magical pool.

Baskets, raffia skirting, nets, rope, and fishing related items for the entryway...see  
Cayce Zavaglia or email her at caycez@sbcglobal.net.

Pringles cans (or something similar): please bring them to church the next Sunday,  
July 24, and either give them to me or put them above my box in the  
coat room. --Susan O'Neal

### ByFaith Group Subscription

(The following is an excerpt from a May 4, 2011 letter to Ron Lutjens.)

ByFaith shares the wisdom and theological gifts that God has providentially placed among us. In our magazine and on our website, readers discover a new generation of our wisest voices: men like Greg Thompson, Jim Belcher, and Sam Wheatley. And in every issue, they're equipped by teachers we've loved for a long time. In [a recent] issue, for example, you and your congregation will be enlightened by Robert Peterson of Covenant Theological Seminary, and Robert Petterson, pastor of Covenant Presbyterian Church in Naples, Fla.

Four times a year, on these pages, byFaith sows the thoughts of PCA pastors, professors, and laypeople—broadening the scope of their influence as we aggressively invest the "talents" God has entrusted to us.

When you order for a group (church, Sunday school classes, Bible study groups) each subscription is just \$12. What an inexpensive way to steward the wealth of wisdom we've been given. Continued page

7

For the sake of the kingdom, Richard Doster, editor

Continued on page 7



*July showers bring...STILL MORE GRASS TO CUT!*

We're still looking for people to mow the lawns at the church building/Milligan House and at the home of Willie Lee, a disabled citizen who lives in Rock Hill. **Bill Grady** coordinates lawn mowing at the church/Milligan House, and **Mark Robertson** is coordinating initially lawn mowing at Willie Lee's, but we are looking for a new coordinator. Interested? See Mark Robertson. Sign up sheets are circulating today! For

questions, please contact to coordinators:

Bill Grady: see print copy

Mark Robertson: see print copy



**OOO 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
"Numbering Our Days, Finding Our Wisdom"**

OOO Anniversary Funds

We are taking up three collections in conjunction with our 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary. *Please make checks payable to Old Orchard Church and designate it for which fund you want to give to.*

- **30th Anniversary Fund.** To help defray costs of the various things we are doing for our anniversary celebration. Designate: "Anniversary Fund."
- **Love Gift.** A kind of thank-offering to the Lord for his mercies to us over these first 30 years. Designate: "Anniversary Love Gift."
  - Half of what is received will go to **Jon and Tanya Coody** (PMI) as they are raising support to go to St. Petersburg, Russia.
  - Half will go to help **renovate 2 apartments**, providing housing for women served by the Grace & Peace Winter Shelter (Cornerstone Corporation in St. Louis City).
- **Copper cross.** We're setting up a fund that folks can contribute to so that we can hire an artist/craftsman to build us a copper cross to go on top of the bell tower at the church. We are in the process of talking with people to get an idea of the cost of this. Designate: "Copper Cross."

So as the Lord leads, we do encourage the fellowship to give to one or more or all of these funds but cheerfully, with thankful hearts, and *above and beyond what you are already giving to help support the work of Old Orchard Church.* Warm thanks to you all.

*--Ron Lutjens, on behalf of the Session and the 30th Anniversary Committee*

Photographs Needed!

- **Scrapbook of OOC 2011 People.** Each household attending OOC is invited to contribute two photos: one of your household around the time that you first came to OOC and a second photo of your household now, in 2011. You may include grown children even if they do not attend OOC. The third item is to answer two questions: (1) When and how did the Lord bring you to Old Orchard Church? and (2) How has the Lord used Old Orchard Church in your lives? These are meant to be brief of course! See sample page on the bulletin board in the vestibule.
- **Other photos** from various years are also wanted.

Thanks for your help!!

Day of Prayer:

Wednesday, September 7

Anniversary Celebration

September 23-25  
OOO Grounds

# OOC Directory Emendations

Who?	What's new?	Please record this information:
<b>Kirk Norris</b> (and, as of August 6, his bride-to-be, Anna)	address	See print copy
<b>Jill Donovan</b>	email	<i>See print copy.</i>
<b>Jesse Cook</b>	cell phone #	See print copy.

## To Russia, With Love: Support the Coodys

Among the many attractive characteristics of Old Orchard are its diversity of cultures with an accompanying passion for missions and a commitment to educational excellence with intellectual integrity. The vision that OOC members Jon and Tanya Coody have for Russia embodies all these. Jon is planning to teach biblical studies and play a formational role in the Graduate School of Leadership Studies at St. Petersburg Christian University. The couple also look forward to serving as resources for the development of leadership in the churches of Siberia, Tanya's native land.

While we dearly love the Coodys, we want them off of our continent! You can help send them on their way through prayer and giving.

We are thankful that the Coodys will get half of the love gift being taken up at Old Orchard between now and September 25 as a kind of thank-offering to the Lord for his faithfulness to our church for 30 years (the other half will go to the sprucing up of an efficiency apartment [owned by Cornerstone Corp.] for a couple of women from the Grace and Peace Women's Shelter). Both causes are well-deserving!

But it would be great if a number of individuals at Old Orchard would commit so much per month for Jon's and Tanya's ongoing support needs. **The Coodys have only raised about 30% of their monthly needs and 40% of their start-up costs. So they have a long way to go!** Of course, one time-gifts are welcome too. Financial contributions can be made directly to PMI, 12330 Conway Road, St. Louis, MO 63141 (include a note stating gift is for the Coodys).

If you have any questions about this important ministry, you may contact the Coodys directly (see print copy for address) email: (see print copy) or contact the Woodsons or Powers.

*--submitted by Valerie Powers for the Foreign Missions Ministry*

**House Church**  
Wednesday,  
August 3  
6 p.m. potluck  
7 p.m. meeting


**Parlor Fellowship**  
August 14  
Nancy Weir &  
Marie Chambers  
hosting

**Lunch @ Milligan House**  
August 28  
after worship

**Moms' Group**  
Wednesday,  
July 20  
9:15 a.m.

**Equate THIS: UPCOMING CALENDAR**

*Albert Einstein*

 (continued from page 4)

You are invited to be part of a group subscription at \$12 each. In order to participate, Old Orchard has to write one check to byFaith magazine, so we must collect checks/cash from those participating. **Your copy will be mailed directly to your home each quarter.** If you want to participate, please fill out one of the forms on the table in the parlor, put it and your check/cash for \$12 in an envelope, and give it to Durinda Hood. Checks need to be written to **Old Orchard Church**, but are not tax deductible because you are receiving a magazine subscription.

### Transitions: Shepherding Concerns and Conversations

*Shepherd's Center is an interfaith volunteer organization that provides programs and services for older adults. Whenever I see an offering that might be of interest to Old Orchard folks or their friends, I make the information available. Shepherd's Center of Webster-Kirkwood is located in the Christian Life Center of Webster Hills United Methodist Church. The announcements below are written by them, not by me!*

--Durinda Hood

Shepherd's Center is all about positive aging! We believe aging is good; sometimes we need a bit more information as circumstances change. Come to these Monday evening classes offered at the Shepherd's Center **August 8 – 28** from 6 – 7:15 p.m. Topics include: Staying Independent, 'What You Need and Special Extras', 'Aging in Place, Small Home Modifications', 'Who Gets Grandma's Yellow Pie Plate' and 'Life is Still Good and Let Me Tell YOU Why!' For more information and to register, call Shepherd's Center at 314.395.0988. Cost is \$5 per class and you can bring a friend for free.

*Here is more information about these classes:*

#### **August 8 "Staying Independent, What You Need and Special Extras"**

Chandelle Martel, MSW, LCSW will review some of the many different services and resources available to you in our community. She will present helpful ideas from her resource "treasure box" that can be called on when the need arises.

**August 15 "Aging in Place, Small Home Modifications"** Kandace Fischer, St. Louis County UM Extension, will discuss universal design and small changes to make your home safer and senior friendly.

**August 22 "Who Gets Grandma's Yellow Pie Plate"** Dr. Betty Reinsch shares creative ways to pass on personal possessions so you can be sure they get distributed the way you plan and without hard feelings.

**August 29 "Life is Still Good and Let me Tell YOU Why!"** Join Gayle McHenry, MSW, LCSW in this lively group discussion on how to enjoy every minute of your life. You are the expert, come share your best tips on the best ways you

You've  . . .

To My Brothers' & Sisters' at Old Orchard Church and my many Friends,

I feel that saying "Thank You" is so inadequate for everything that you have done for me in the past months with my 2 surgeries. For those of you who know me well, you realize how hard it was and still is for me to accept your help. I'm used to being on the "giving" end, and to be put on the "receiving" end is difficult. It may seem strange to say this, but I'm glad that I only have the arthritis problems, and nothing more serious. God has allowed me to deal with the pain, and also led me to the surgeon's who can help alleviate some of this pain. But, more importantly, He has again and again put me in the position of having to "receive" from others, (I guess I'm a slow learner). He continually is teaching me "patience", "humility", and "dependence", through my many friends, and you all at OOC. You also continue to show "mercy", "long-suffering", and "love" through your prayers, meals, cleaning, shopping, rides, errands, staying with me night & day, and through your numerous phone calls, e-mails, and cards. For all of this I am grateful not only for you all, but also for a "loving", "caring", "patient", "long-suffering", Friend and Father I have in God. So, as He continues..... to teach me lessons, which I'm sure will never end due to my straying and forgetting His goodness, and until I eventually really "get the new body" in the Resurrection, I can only just say "THANK YOU" for loving me, as He loves you.

Gratefully & Sincerely, Jan Rau

# News from the Jennings

*(an edited version of news sent by Kathy to their community group)*

July 13, 2011

Greetings from Connecticut! Big thanks to everyone for praying these past few weeks (even months). We put a bid on a house Monday night and came to an agreement Tuesday [July 12] morning. We don't expect any glitches the rest of the way because the home has been well-maintained and we expect our financing to go through. But you never know! So please continue to pray for our housing on this end and of course, on the St. Louis end as well. Still no offers on our home there, although we continue to get good feedback from realtors. Obviously the perfect family is still out there somewhere! God knows and we trust Him.

Regarding our future home here, all I can say is "God provides above and beyond all we can ask or think"....We offered less than they were asking and they accepted our offer. Besides the lovely garden and country feel (despite being only an 8 minute drive from work in New Haven and close to the Manchester Road of this area) it is just over a mile away from a State Park and lovely lake for fishing, canoeing, and hiking. We (and our kids) are very excited. The home inspection will be on Friday [July 15] afternoon.

We miss everyone there but are really enjoying getting to know the community at OMSC and exploring New Haven. Nelson continues to be in the orientation phase, with much to learn. My [Kathy's] classes won't start until September 9th or so.

We will let you know when we plan to be in St. Louis....

Elizabeth and Ken have been here for almost 2 weeks now and the time has flown by. They are here for another week and we will be very sad to see them go. Anna and Nathanael were here over July 4th and will come up for this coming weekend again. How fun to all be together.

Wendy is doing fine since she got to Bethlehem and into her "real" assignment of working with Holy Land Trust. Not without challenges and frustrations, but all part of the learning experience. Don't forget to check her blog [<http://wendyonhnr.blogspot.com>] once in awhile and click on the link to her pictures.

We love you....

*Kathy Jennings*

*(Nelson's last letter as President of PMI)*

July 2011

Dear PMI Supporters and Friends,

There is no time like today to serve Christ and make Him known to lost sinners. That is the heartbeat of Presbyterian Mission International (PMI) and our missionaries. The tragedies of earthquakes, tsunamis, tornadoes, revolutions and civil war have recently made this all the more obvious. The world needs Jesus.

Starting in 1988 with just one missionary family, PMI has grown to a family of 22 international families serving in 16 countries. We are planting churches in Buenos Aires, Auckland, Nairobi, Bangalore, Bangkok, Tokyo, Goiania (Brazil), Verona (Italy), and Manipur State (India). Some of our missionaries teach in seminaries and Bible colleges, while some lead ministries of charity and orphanages. All of our missionaries, or their spouses, have come from other countries to Covenant Theological Seminary. Upon graduation, PMI has helped them return to their own countries. Visas are not needed, nor do our missionaries need to learn a foreign language or adapt to a foreign culture, as they return to minister among their own people. To see what each of our missionaries does, please consult our web page at [www.pmiweb.org](http://www.pmiweb.org)

It has been a great privilege for me to serve as President of PMI for the last nine years. Now I am stepping down as my wife Kathy and I move from Covenant Seminary in St. Louis to New Haven, Connecticut, where I will join the staff of the Overseas Ministries Study Center.

We are ecstatic that Tom Hudson, PMI's new Director, and his wife Carol are coming to us from Mission to the World (with their concurrence and blessing). The Hudsons served with MTW for 30 years, primarily in Portugal but also in Miami. Tom is fluent in Portuguese, plus he is conversant in Spanish and reads Italian. He has done church planting as well as worked in theological education. Tom and Carol have five children and three grandchildren. While in Lisbon, they gained experience working on an international missionary team of Portuguese, Brazilians, Irish, British and Dutch.

Because our PMI policy is to pass on 100% of gifts designated to our missionaries (based on an annually board approved budget for each family), Tom and Carol need to raise financial support for themselves. Most mission boards

charge an "administrative fee" to their missionaries and with those monies hire office personnel. Because PMI has had so many able volunteers, including several Covenant Seminary faculty, we have not had to charge the missionaries for office services. That does require, however, that Tom, as our new Director, raise funds for their own support. Please seriously consider a monthly, quarterly, or annual pledge, or send a one-time gift, to PMI for the Hudsons' support. Please add the Hudsons and their financial need to your prayers as well.

If you would like to meet the Hudsons, or would like to invite him to speak with your missions committee, you may contact him directly, or through our office. His contact information is: Rev. Tom Hudson, (see print copy).

Thank you for your partnership in the gospel.

Sincerely in Christ,

Dr. J. Nelson Jennings, President



### **Jessica Patterson, dispatched to Afghanistan**

Jessica Patterson, former member of Old Orchard Church, works for the United States Department of State and had earlier assignments in Israel, Chile, and as the Desk Officer for Algeria and Tunisia at the State Department in Washington, D.C. Two years ago she had a temporary assignment to Afghanistan and decided she wanted to return. She is on a one-year stint there (with the option of serving a second year) as a member of a Provincial Reconstruction Team. She left for Kabul on July 10. After a week of consultations at the U.S. Embassy there, she will head to her new home in Sharana, Paktika, near the border with Pakistan, and a fairly dangerous area.

Jessica wrote this in a recent (July 7) email:

One piece of good news: I already know most of the team I'm joining. I have yet to meet any of the civilians (about 10 people - agriculture & development experts and some engineers), but I trained for 11 days in Indiana with the military part of my Provincial Reconstruction Team (about 90 people). The Commander and I are off to a great start. Some military PRT commanders don't really value their civilian counterparts (sometimes for good reasons, sometimes because the military commanders are simply old school and don't understand counter-Insurgency strategy or the importance of good governance). My commander, however, told the military part of the team that they work for me as well as for him. He also said, 'I've spent most of my career landing planes on naval aircraft carriers and you've spent most of your career convincing foreign interlocutors to do things that we believe are in their and our interest, so of course you should take the lead in working with the Afghan civilians.' So, it sounds like I will have plenty of space to do my work. (More about that in a second).

The rest of the team was great too. Our security detail guys (New Jersey National Guard) consistently got top marks in their training, so I should be well-protected. I stayed in the barracks in Indiana, so got to know the seven other women on my team a bit. Six of them are enlisted and one is an officer. I had dinner with them one night and talked about the importance of developing relationships with Afghan women; I asked if they were willing to engage Afghan women in addition to doing their assigned jobs on base. All of the enlisted women said they were willing, but had nothing to offer. Of course they have a million things to offer, so one of my goals will be to empower them to realize it. Because in most Pashtun areas American men cannot talk to Afghan women, we have huge blind spots. In some instances, for example, PRTs have built wells for a village in a location recommended by engineers. However, women continue to walk 2 hours to gather water b/c the well is too close to a mosque (a place where men gather), so it is inappropriate for them to go there. That kind of stuff wouldn't happen if we were talking to women, so, for the good of the Mission and for the good of the women on my team, I want to train them to engage some. It helps that I (sort of) speak Pashto because it means that we'll still be able to talk to women even if we don't have a female interpreter (some bases don't).

My work—I'll be meeting with the Provincial Governor a lot trying to support his efforts at good governance and rule of law. We (the provincial governor and I, along with various other members of my team) will travel the province together working with district leadership on everything from developing systems for the local government to engage the provincial government, to reintegrating Taliban who agree to live by the Afghan Constitution, to identifying ongoing sources of instability and how best to address them. I'll have to tell you more about my work once I'm doing it. The military side of my team got there 10 days ago, and I've gotten some fun emails from some of them that make me more eager to go.

Jess

P.S. My address over there:  
See print copy for her address.



**Read on for an update  
from the Tuckers!**

**An Update of Midtown Church Plant**  
*July 13, 2011 e-mail*

A few highlights from the last few weeks:

- We have been having an average of 25 adults and a dozen children each Sunday night for fellowship at the Tuckers home. Many have come to check us out, at least 25 have committed to be part of the Core Group. We had a wonderful time of fellowship at our first Core Group retreat a few weeks ago. We also had our first celebration of the Lord's Supper together. We are still hoping to add more to our Core Group before we launch, hopefully in January [2012]. Please feel free to join us any Sunday evening. Pray about being a part of this new endeavor.
- A young man who has attended our group, Branden, took me and a Core Group member to a section of St. Louis by the river, called "Hopeville." Hopeville is a conglomeration of tents and plankboard "homes" that homeless folks live in. We brought water bottles and discussed ways that Midtown might be involved.
- LOCATION SEARCH: Things are getting heated up with the Location Identification Team. We were looking at one church, and found out it is going up for sale! Then I saw the posting online and was duly shocked to find out the asking price is 1.6 Million! Clearly, if this is to happen it will be "more than we could ask or imagine." All that to say stuff is happening. Some good news is that we have one very good option to rent space in Midtown at Central Baptist Church. Contract is on the way. Please pray that the Lord directs our steps in this decision.

PRAYER UPDATE:

- Thanks to the Lord for our retreat.
- Pray for the growing population of homeless AND for the many women in our city who have become victims of the sex trafficking industry (we just had a ministry come share with us, International Crisis Aid, who have homes for women rescued from this).
- Pray that the Lord will add to our Core Group a diversity of ethnicities and ages.
- Pray for our location team that is hunting around for a space in Midtown. Our goal is to be in a location by mid-August.
- Pray for our Core Group as they also seek to love folks outside the church.

FINANCIAL UPDATE:

**Goal:** \$200,000 over 3 years. \$107,000 **pledged** as of today. **Need remaining:** \$93,000

If you haven't already, please consider giving to this work. For those who are interested in financially supporting us, you have the option of giving (tax deductible) online at <https://processor.pcanet.org/mna/donationsII/donation.cfm>. Just choose "Tucker" in the drop down menu. Some of you have already given and we are so thankful for your generosity!

Mark Tucker

Planting Pastor, Midtown Church  
see print copy for address and phone number.