

OBC Update – May 2011

This past month has been a very active one for many of us. Face the Nation, School of Discipleship was conducted with 70 students from the University of Botswana. The Student Leadership University team consisting of Dr. Jay Strack, Dr. Bruce Ashford and Brent Crowe taught the first week while the Fresh Start team consisting of Pastor Steve & Mindy Peterson, Brad & Susan Thomas, Carol Perkins and Mary Schroeder. They also ministered to OBC members over the course of three nights with the focal points of “Temptation & the Great Escape!”, “Let Go of Your Fool & Live!” and “Free from the Web of Relational Demonic!” Pastor Steve preached on Sunday with the sermon title “Mind the Gap!” Dr. Jay Strack presented parenting session midweek as well. On Friday, May 27 the School of Discipleship ended with former president and FtN patron Sir Ketumile Masire present to commission the students. See Face the Nation reports for more details of these events.

After much anticipation OBC is excited to announce the appointment of Lawrence Phiri as Sports Administrator. This comes at the perfect time as the soccer fields are seeded and we wait for the grass to sprout. Initiated this month were soccer, trim trail walking and various games that Lawrence will oversee. In addition Peter Miano is the official Media Coordinator, a position he has been training and serving in for the last two years. Dr. Vimbi Nhundu is the new Internship Program Coordinator that will oversee and guide the 7 students at OBC.

Ninety new members were added to the membership at OBC this past month as they were welcomed to the church body at a luncheon on Sunday, May 15<sup>th</sup>. Many will join home cell groups and others are completing discipleship classes.

There was a Men’s breakfast on the first Saturday of the month which Brent Crowe gave his testimony at and challenged those that attended. On the last Saturday of May there was a ladies breakfast with the theme “Beautiful”. Both were very well attended and the new gazebo provided the perfect setting to enjoy the meal.

The World of Golf club house now has a roof and is nearing the painting stage. Work continues on the boundary fencing which will hold the netting in order to keep the golf balls within the fair way.

Preparations are being made for the annual Pastors Conference in August; we are expecting over 150 to attend. There is a very gifted group of men coming to teach which includes: Joel Carwile, Kelly Green, Craig Rees and Phil Roberts. Bill Loveless will join Kelly in evangelism training at OBC G-West in the evenings the same week.

Thursday, June 2 is Ascension Day which is a national holiday in Botswana, so the church and all public offices will be closed.

The civil workers strike caused some headache although more heartache as disunity came to the nation. Please continue to pray for both the government and union leadership as differences are reconciled and wounds mended. May the situation be a win – win for all involved and affected.

Words alone can never express enough the prayers you hold for us and the people of Botswana. We appreciate your devotion and continued partnership in building His Kingdom for today, tomorrow and into the future until He returns.

Sincerely Pastor Norman Schaefer

Compiled by Jeff Sukup