

Library Newsletter

Oakhurst Baptist Church, Decatur, GA

www.oakhurstbaptist.org

Fall 2008

CSLA

The OBC Library is a member of the Church & Synagogue Library Association (CSLA) and the Metro Atlanta Chapter of CSLA. The organization provides tools, resources, advice to help librarians organize, promote, and renew their congregational libraries. It provides a forum for exchange of experiences and a source of support, especially for those who have no formal education in librarianship. The National organization holds an annual three-day conference providing the opportunity for continuing education and sharing experiences. The local chapter holds three conferences and workshops annually. Members receive a bi-monthly publication called **Congregational Libraries Today** that provides news, book and media reviews, bibliographies, and articles on all aspects of organizing and operating effective libraries. That publication has lots of mini-reviews of current religious materials that are a useful resource for those of you involved in Christian Education. You can find the publication on the periodical shelf in our library. Please come by and take a look to get ideas for materials for your children's, youth or adult ministry that could be purchased by your committee, church school class, or the library. ☺

Library Open House & Orientation

In response to several suggestions on the library survey conducted in January 2008, we would like to offer an opportunity for those of you who are interested to attend an open house where you will be given a guided tour of the library resources. We will provide instructions on how to locate library materials using our card catalog system and an introduction to some useful computer resources. We are tentatively planning the open house for Sunday, Nov. 16th after worship service and will serve refreshments. However, before finalizing the plans, we need to know how many people would actually participate. So we're asking you to **indicate**

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Library Anniversary

September 30th marks Library's 52nd anniversary



VIRGINIA MAE DOUGHERTY
SEPT. 30, 1944 - JUNE 24, 1956

The Oakhurst Baptist Church Library was founded in 1956 in memory of Pastor Ted Dougherty's daughter, Virginia Mae, on what would have been her twelfth birthday. Virginia died of sarcomatosis, a form of cancer, on June 24, 1956. "**Pauline Martin** was elected chair of the first committee to establish a library to provide a wide range of materials for Christian growth, personal development, and enrichment." **Kathe Swint**, a professional librarian, succeeded her the following year and served for many more years. "A resource center available to all the people—from the very youngest to the oldest—seemed a most appropriate memorial to Virginia." A bookplate with her picture, dates of birth and death, was placed in the front of each book—mostly children's and young people's books—given in Virginia's memory during 1955-56. A portrait of Virginia Mae was displayed in the former library and a bronze plate at the entrance dedicated the library to the memory of Virginia.

Information and quotes taken from the book "Not Here by Chance" by Alverta Wright, c1988. ☺

your interest by either telling one of the committee members, sending an email to jamnga@bellsouth.net, writing a note and dropping it in the collection plate, the Library in-box in the office or on the Library desk. If you are interested, but the proposed date doesn't fit your schedule, please let us know and we will try to schedule another date or maybe even do it more than once. ✨

Wish List

Many of the respondents to our library survey made suggestions for materials, books, periodicals and authors they would like to see added to our collection. The library budget is relatively small, but our needs are great. We made a consolidated "wish list" of your suggestions which is posted on the library webpage at [Oakhurst Baptist Church :: The Library](#). Perhaps you already own one or more of the suggested titles or authors collecting dust or taking up needed space on your shelf. If so, please consider donating it to the library to help make someone's wish come true. If you would like to purchase a book or subscription as a donation to the library, in honor or memory of someone, or "just because", we encourage you to pick something from this list. We will be adding to the list from time to time as we get more ideas and suggestions, so please check back. ♦

Help Find Missing Books

Check-Out Procedures

Books

Our library uses the self-service check-out process. Books have a card in the back for you to enter your name and date due (two weeks from date of check out). Leave the card on the desk. Also, enter the due date on the card pocket in the book to remind you when to return the book. There are currently about 75 books and VHS tapes that are missing (see list on the Library webpage). Please take a look around your home libraries to see if you have any overdue library materials that belong to the church and return them to us.

Periodicals

Magazines do not have a "due date" card, so you will need to fill out one of the periodical check out slips located on the desk.

Worship Service VHS Tapes and DVD's

The video recordings of worship and special services are located on a shelf in the History Room. Please sign

out the tape or disc by entering the requested information on the sign-out sheet located on the table in the History Room. Be sure to enter the date that you return the item on the shelf. We do not have duplicates of the videos, so please return the only existing copy to the History Room shelf as soon as possible, preferably within one week of check out so it will be available for others to view and to preserve for the church archives. ♪

What Was the Origin of the Israelites? Does it Matter?

By: Carolyn Copenhaver

A loud and often discordant revolution is underway in Syro-Palestinian archeology. My next book review will discuss how this revolution, which includes not only startling new "facts on the ground," but also findings that bear directly on the historicity of the Old Testament. These "new facts" affect two American authors whose conclusions are often irreconcilable. One writer is a preeminent secular archeologist, the other a distinguished theologian and professor of religion. Below is a short and limited quiz. The writers' answers (and where to find them) will be disclosed along with the next review.

1. When was the Pentateuch first set down in writing? (a) 9th century B.C. (b) 7-8th centuries B.C. (c) 2nd century B.C.
2. What archeological evidence supports the existence of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Moses, and David? (a) Egyptian stele (b) Ebla texts (c) One of the above is mentioned in a Tel Dan text
3. When did the Exodus happen? (a) During the mid 15th century B.C. (b) During the mid-late 13th century B.C. (c) Probably never
4. After the 6-Day War, Israeli archeologists poured into the conquered desert and for 10 years relentlessly searched for evidence of the Wilderness Wanderings. What did they find? (a) Evidence at 9 sites (b) Evidence at 4 sites (c) Nary an artifact
5. According to Israeli archeologists, what is the maximum number of Israelite nomads (men, women and children) that the desert could have supported? (a) 7,000 (b) 20,000 (c) 2 million

If these questions and answers threaten what my sister-in-law calls your "comfort zone," read the upcoming review and then check out the fat book that will fully restore your balance. Otherwise, dig into the thinner book and expect to be constantly challenged by one of the best surveys written about this new generation of American, European, and Egyptian, and Middle Eastern archeologists and the OT issues they insist on vigorously debating. As for me, I own both books. ✨