



# GOD'S MISSIONARY STANDARD

Official Publication of God's Missionary Church, Inc.  
Penns Creek, PA

"The Lord gave the word: great was the company of those that published it." Psalm 68:11

Volume 51, No. 6

(Issued Monthly at \$5.00 per year)

NOVEMBER 1999

IN  
*Everything*  
GIVE  
*Thanks*





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Asst. General Superintendent  
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P.O. Box 264  
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P.O. Box 39  
Penns Creek, PA 17862

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P.O. Box 69  
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P.O. Box 264  
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P.O. Box 86  
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RR 1 Box 182  
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Home Missionary Treasurer  
Rev. Paul Clough  
4240 E. Landis St.  
Coopersburg, PA 18036

Penns Creek Camp Treasurer  
Rev. Alan Walter  
P.O. Box 69  
Penns Creek, PA 17862

## GOD'S MISSIONARY STANDARD

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Editor—  
Rev. James Plank  
P.O. Box 2  
Beavertown, PA 17813

Associate Editor—  
Rev. Gabriel Morley  
RR 1 Box 245  
Spring Mills, PA 16875

Business Manager—  
Rev. Alan Walter  
P.O. Box 69  
Penns Creek, PA 17862

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We are strictly "WESLEYAN" in doctrine and it is our aim to uphold the teaching of the infallible Word of God.

All items for publication should be sent directly to the editor. We advise all articles be typewritten, double spaced and typed on standard typewriter paper.

All items for publication must be in the editor's office not later than the first of each month so as to be eligible for publication in the following month's edition.

## When Our Sermons are Through

We have become quite adept at speaking about bad times. After all, we live in such days. Wickedness, perversion, hate and crime abound in every corner of this nation. Our communities are no longer proud and patriotic but pitiful and pathetic. Our cities are violent war zones for drug dealers and gangs. Our country churches are even faced with the corruption of the home and surprising violence in the schools.

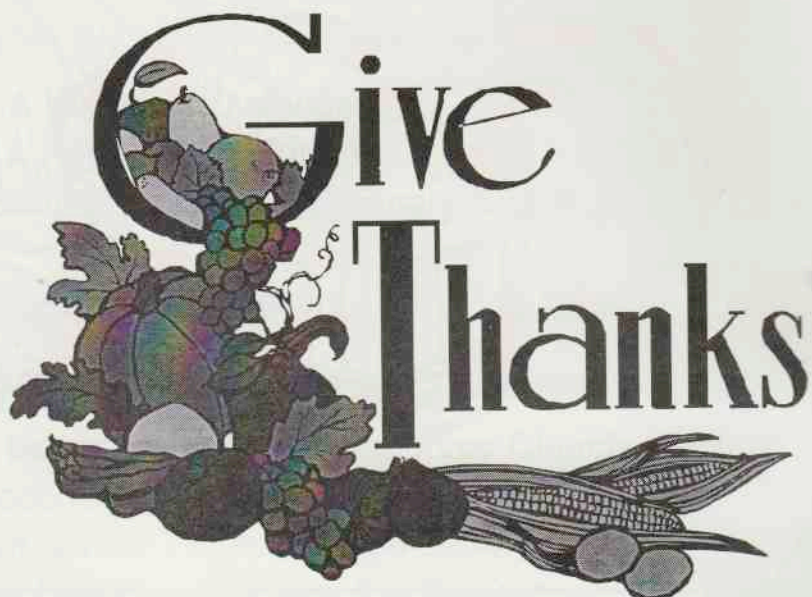
No wonder we preach so many sermons about hard times and blue days. No wonder we sing so many songs in minor key. No wonder churches close and the gospel message dims. These are bad times. Our sermons have been eloquent concerning the condition of the day.

But when our sermons are through, we are supposed to feel hopeful. For the gospel has always flourished best in troubled times. In fact, in the midst of apathy and apostasy, we should be not only hopeful, but thankful!

Thankful for what?

Well, just for starters: thankful that holiness rides higher than a corrupt society... thankful that grace is greater... thankful that mercy is abundant... thankful that our message is not for a depressed market... thankful that people are hungry... thankful that so many are willing to pay any price... thankful that the cross is greater... thankful that we have so many tools for ministry... thankful that we have money to give... thankful that we have some time left to do something about a perishing world... **THANKFUL THAT FOR THESE DAYS, GOD IS ALIVE!**

When our sermons are through may our people be thankful!





# We Can All Be Thankful For Something

by Morris Chalfant

**A** hat was passed around a certain congregation for the purpose of taking up a collection for the visiting minister. Presently, it was returned without so much as one cent placed therein! Slowly and deliberately, the preacher turned the hat inside out and shook it meaningfully. Then, raising his eyes toward heaven, he prayed fervently: "I thank thee, dear Lord, that I got my hat back from this congregation."

Now this is just a story, but it nonetheless points out a truth which we often overlook – namely, that we can all be thankful for something!

An accurate definition of ingratitude, though not the one usually found in dictionaries, might be worded like this: "Ingratitude is the attitude of the person who receives every good and perfect gift without so much as an appreciative nod in the direction of the donor, be he human or divine."

A neighbor sympathized one day with a little, wrinkled old lady because she only had two teeth left. But the smiling old soul answered: "One's 'lower, and t'other's upper; but thank God, they meet!"

Andrew Carnegie, the multimillionaire, left one million dollars for one of his relatives, who in return cursed Carnegie thoroughly because he left 365 million to public charities and had cut him off with just one measly million.

Samuel Leibowitz, criminal lawyer, and judge, saved 78 men from the electric chair. Not ever did one bother to thank him.

There is no creature so ungrateful as a human being. Even animals will seldom bite the hand that gives them bread. Not so with man.

Those of us who don't always appreciate the gift of life might learn a lesson from a certain Negro homeowner who had just been through a disastrous flood. A Red Cross worker called at his home to inquire about the material losses the family had incurred. She saw the mudcaked furniture and the water-line disfiguring the wall-pa-

per, the damaged floors, damaged appliances, damaged everything. Before putting estimates down in her notebook, she looked into the face of the gentleman. He was smiling!

"No loss here, Ma'am. We're all fine." There was gladness in the man's voice, and he seemed relieved as he spoke.

"No loss?" The Red Cross worker stared at the Negro, who was holding his youngest child in his arms.

"Ma'am, after the flood, we just got down on our knees and thanked the good Lord. You see, we can count all our children."

What an ungrateful people we are. A deep and genuine sense of gratitude is as foreign to the daily routine of most of us as to pigs rooting in the orchard. We have about the same sense of gratitude for bread on the table as they for apples on the ground. We take everything for granted, take everything as a matter of course.

We take everything without a sense of wonder, appreciation, and thanksgiving; without wonder at the cause behind everything; without appreciation that the omnipotent God not only flings constellations and systems into infinite space and knows each star by name, but that the same God gives the raven its meat in due season, looks with pity on the poor sparrow's fall, and has His eyes on the poor with their new patches and old garments; without thanksgiving that we, unlike the winged creatures of the heavens and the four-footed beasts of the field, were conceived and fashioned in His very image.

Husbands take the wife for granted, take her neat house, her clean beds, her wholesome and tasty meals – they take it all for granted. And wives take the sober, hard-working, clean-living husband for granted. And the children take their kind and generous parents for granted, until they are left alone with the two graves and their memories.

It is not only wrong, it is cruelly wrong. Secular, as well as the sacred writers, are unanimous in pointing to ingratitude as the basest of all sins. The

unexcelled genius of Shakespeare branded ingratitude as the worst of all vices:

*"I hate ingratitude more in man than lying, vainness, babbling, drunkenness, or any taint of vice."*

The cruellest thorn that pierced the heart of the Son of man was the thorn of ingratitude. "Were there not ten cleansed? But where are the nine? They are not found that returned to give glory to God, save this stranger." (Luke 17: 17-18) "Yea, mine own familiar friend, in whom I trusted, which did eat of my bread, hath lifted up his heel against me." (Ps. 41:9)

The thorns pierced His brow, and the nails pierced His hands, and the nails pierced His feet, and the spear pierced His side, but ingratitude pierced His heart!

To modify slightly a famous quotation: "He who is careful to be thankful for everything will always have something for which to be thankful." It is a blessed habit to acquire, this habit of thankfulness. It will cure a host of injurious evil in our dispositions: self-pity, resentment, murmuring, faultfinding. All these will wither and die of themselves; for how can they grow inside a heart overflowing with gratitude and praise?

The habit of being thankful, once it takes firm hold of the life, will soon produce a multitude of other benefits as well. It will serve to turn our eyes outward instead of inward and thus bring about a healthier state of soul. It will raise our joy level far above anything we have ever known before. It will go far to cure pessimism and encourage a happy outlook on life. It will help us to stay humble and make us more winsome and easier to live with (for which blessing the other members of our families will be thankful in their turn). It bestows so much and costs so little – strange that all of us have not made more of it.

Let us begin now to be thankful for each other. It will pay amazing dividends!



**Evangelists' Slate  
GOD'S MISSIONARY  
CHURCH**

**Rev. James R. Cooper, Evangelist**  
416 N. Park Ave., Orange City, FL 32763  
Ph. 904-775-9786

**Rev. Mark Fultz** (Preaching & Singing w/RV)  
603 E. Walnut St., Lewistown, PA 17044  
Ph. 717-248-3922

**Rev. Paul Hosier**  
R.D. 2, Box 73, McClure, PA 17841

**Rev. Paul F. Miller**  
R.D. 2, Box 77-B, Spring Mills, PA 16875  
Ph. 814-422-8346

**Rev. Wm. Tillis**  
P.O. Box 189, Penns Creek, PA 17862

**Rev. Fred Watson**  
Box 41, Hartleton, PA 17829  
Ph. 717-922-1274

**Rev. John F. White**  
P.O. Box 86, Penns Creek, PA 17862  
Ph. 717-837-2328

**Rev. David L. Fuller, Evangelist & Singers**  
P. O. Box 1065  
Hobe Sound, FL 33475  
Ph. 407-546-9974

**Rev. Russell T. Herr, Evangelist**  
193 Villacrest  
Crestview, FL 32536



Happy  
Thanksgiving!

**RADIO LOG**

*Heritage and Hope*  
**WHEELS — 106.1 FM**  
Sunday 8:00 A.M.  
Rev. James Plank

*Missionary Echoes*  
**WLBR — 1270 AM**  
Sunday 1:15 P.M.  
**WADV — 940 AM**  
Sunday 8:30 A.M.  
Rev. Barry Arnold

*Voice In The Valley*  
**WLYZ—1050 AM**  
Sunday 8:45 A.M.  
Rev. Gabriel Morley

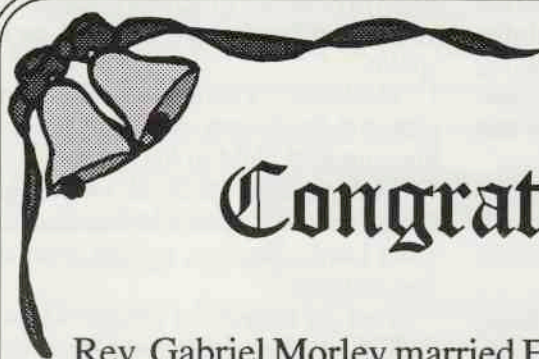
## CHURCH NEWS

### Thank You

I wish to express my appreciation and thank you for your prayers during my recent surgery. You prayed nearly every service in Penns Creek Camp, and I am sure that you did many more times. Also, thank you for the cards, telephone calls and the many expressions of love and concern.

I am happy to tell you that except for several months of therapy, I am doing fine. The doctor said I should be as good as new. Thank you again and thank the Lord for His answer to prayer.

—Mrs. Paul F. Miller (Janet)



## Congratulations!

Rev. Gabriel Morley married Elizabeth Moore on September 18, 1999 at the New Columbia God's Missionary Church. The wedding was attended by a full house of guests including many fellow ministers. Rev. Dean McIntire, Rev. Elon Morley, Rev. Eric Watts and Rev. Paul F. Miller officiated at the ceremony. Rev. Gabriel Morley is the pastor of the Penns Valley, Pennsylvania congregation. Congratulations and best wishes to this fine couple and to the church at Penns Valley at this happy occasion!



## New Arrival

Congratulations to Rev. & Mrs. Steve Davis, Pastor at Milesburg, Pennsylvania, on the arrival of a new little baby boy. CAID DONOVAN DAVIS arrived September 16, 1999, to a very happy parsonage family.



# TO THE CONFERENCE FAMILY . . .

General Superintendent Reverend Harry F. Plank



Christian Greetings!

We greet you at this Thanksgiving season, reporting on our activities for the month of September:

**August 31:** Traveled to Bloserveville to check on the progress of the parsonage. The work is coming along fine in anticipation of the Barry Swietzer Family moving in. I then traveled to the York hospital to visit Pastor Paul Martin.

**September 3:** Helped our son Jon and wife Alicia load truck to move to Cincinnati, Ohio. They stayed with us through Sunday.

**September 4:** Preached the evening service at Lebanon's 50th anniversary weekend. The Jerald Glick Family provided music for these services. We stayed overnight with Rev. & Mrs. Barry Arnold. We appreciated their generous hospitality.

**September 5:** Taught the morning Sunday school lesson at Lebanon. Rev. John Zechman preached the morning message. Following the morning service, we enjoyed the meal under tents set up for the day. The afternoon service consisted of various participants remembering the history of the Lebanon church. Two former pastors spoke, as well as three charter members.

**September 6:** Jon & Alicia left for Cincinnati. Rachel traveled with them to help them to settle in at the GBS campus.

**September 7:** Attended Missionary Crusaders meeting at 10:00 AM, followed by Home Missions Board Meeting at 1:00 in the afternoon.

**September 8:** Jim took me to Harrisburg International Airport to fly to Tampa, Florida to travel to Seffner. Brother & Sister Smalley set me up in their RV, this would become my comfortable headquarters while in Florida. In the evening, I preached at the Seffner church. We enjoyed the presence of the Lord.

**September 9:** Traveled with Jay Smalley to their daughter and son-in-law's home and went fishing with them. I didn't catch any fish, but for a brief moment, I snagged into an alligator! Sister Smalley caught the most fish, Brother Smalley caught the biggest fish, I caught no fish... but had a great time!

**September 10:** In the evening, we at-

tended the opening session of the Florida District Conference. Superintendent James Cooper preached the evening message on "worshipping our God." The sense of the Lord's presence was very real in this opening session.

**September 11:** Conference reconvened with an excellent song service and many testimonies. We partook of the Lord's Supper together. In the morning session, I brought a message to the conference ministers and delegates. Following the morning session, the conference went to Ponderosa Steak House for a meal together. Arriving back at the Seffner church, we began the afternoon business meeting. Following the reports and elections, the conference adjourned with every one having sensed a harmony of fellowship and presence of the Lord. Brother Cooper then held a short board meeting of the Florida district.

**September 12:** Traveled to Kissimmee for Sunday School and church. I preached the morning message after which I enjoyed a fine meal provided by Sister Hight. I enjoyed the fellowship with Brother & Sister Hight and children. Another highlight of this day was a brief visit with Tom & Jean Weaver, former college classmates. Tom is currently disabled because of a heart attack, but his spirits were good. In the evening, I traveled to the Orlando church to preach in the evening service with Brother Richard Holliday and church family. The Dale Heintzelman Family provided special music. I enjoyed the fellowship of the local congregation followed by a snack in the parsonage with the Holliday's. After the service, I drove back to 'my' RV in Seffner.

**September 13:** Traveled to Ft. Myers Rescue Mission. Though I was not here for any services, I was able to tour the new dining hall facilities and meet the new cook, Sister Glick. Brother Shaffer pointed out where they intend to build the new mission church. I was able to visit with Brother George Shaeffer, Brother Robert Walker, Brother Peachy and new mission helper: Jason Shelly. This day at the mission, everyone was busy as they prepared for Hur-

ricane Floyd.

**September 14:** Because of the impending approach of Hurricane Floyd, I was advised to check with the airport concerning a flight out of Florida. They advised me to leave as soon as possible. Therefore, I hurried back to the trailer, packed my things as quickly as possible and traveled back to the airport, stood in line for one and a half hours to change my ticket, only to be told that I could not leave for Harrisburg this day. BUT, after re-checking flights, they were able to confirm me a flight for 7:30 this evening. As she was confirming that evening flight, she thought of a flight that was leaving in fifteen minutes. She said there were no seats, but I could go try... as I arrived, they let me on... and I flew to Pittsburgh. In Pittsburgh, I was able to fly to Harrisburg as needed. The Lord helped me to get home! Because of Hurricane Floyd, it was necessary to cancel the service at Lakeland. As it turned out, the hurricane did not cause much damage in the Tampa area.

**September 15:** Attended the Beavertown revival with evangelist Curt Littleton and the Jerald Glick Family.

**September 18:** Attended the wedding of Gabriel Morley to Elizabeth Moore at the New Columbia church. This was a well attended wedding. It was a joy to see one of our preachers find a good preachers wife.

**September 19:** Attended morning service at Beavertown with my parents. In the afternoon we took my parents to Anniversary services at the New Columbia church. My son, Jim, preached the afternoon service. Henry and Janaan Miller provided the special music along with several numbers from the Lebanon Valley Gospel Band. We enjoyed a time of fellowship with the people following the afternoon service.

**September 20:** Attended PVBI chapel service to hear missionary John Knight.

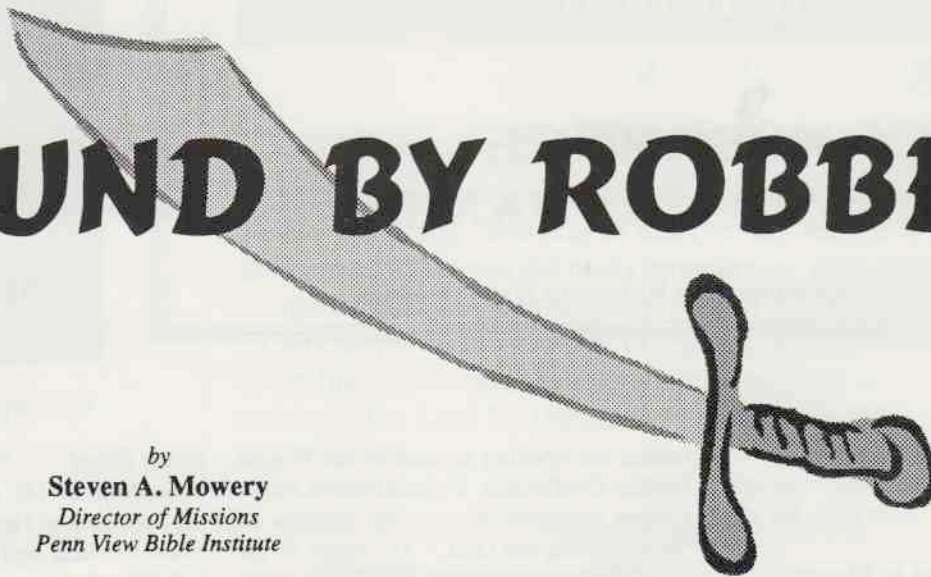
Thanksgiving blessings to all till we meet again!

—Rev. Harry F. Plank



# BOUND BY ROBBERS

by  
**Steven A. Mowery**  
*Director of Missions*  
*Penn View Bible Institute*



The strange voices, the bush knife, the masks, the home-made gun...the severity and reality of the situation began to settle upon the mind of this missionary intern: this was a robbery. Groggy from sleeping, Roger was rudely awakened by rascals intent on stealing missionary equipment and now most of his personal belongings.

Roger O'Conner -- originally from Brushton, NY, prior to entering Bible College -- was like any missionary intern trying to fulfill internship requirements: working hard, studying the culture, learning the language, developing relationships, asking questions, serving others, completing academic ministry requirements... He had completed his formal campus missionary studies at *Penn View Bible Institute* and was in the final days of his last six-weeks internship. Working in Goroka, Papua New Guinea, under the guidance of veteran missionary, David Hersman (of *EBM International*), this internship went well... until four days prior to returning home in the US. Classroom studies, collateral reading, field experience, and missionary conventions did not prepare him for the details nor the emotion of this moment!

In the early morning hours of August 1 at about 2:00 or 3:00, rough voices woke Roger from his slumber. "Where is the key? Where is the key?" was their query as they needed to get out of the building with their stolen booty. Before Roger realized what was happening, the key was found. However, the rascals decided to ransack his room for valuables. During their confiscation of his personal items, they commanded him to lie back down in his bed. Even though it was not mentioned in his *Principles of Missions* textbook, he complied knowing "you don't argue with men who have a bush knife and a homemade gun!"

They proceeded to cover his head with a towel. One yelled to the other "Blow 'im! Blow 'im! At best, Roger expected the bush knife to come crashing down upon his head. Shaking with fear, he endeavored to protect his head with his arms from the expected blow. The blow from the bush knife never came! An explosion from the gun never sounded! The Lord intervened. Praise the Lord for His protection upon His servant! Instead, they decided to continue looking for valuables throughout the room.

Before departing, they took one of Roger's neckties and

tied his hands behind his back using a slip knot of sorts. Now completely defenseless, lying on his bed facing the wall, verbal threats were made on his life if he tried anything or went for help. The rascals departed. Alone in the cool dark night, Roger lay as still as possible not knowing if they were ransacking other buildings with a plan to return. All was silent. He struggled against his hand restraint. It only got tighter and tighter as he struggled.

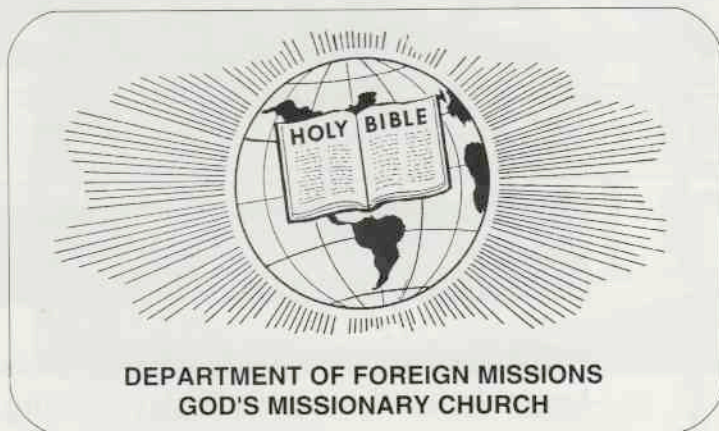
The minutes and hours slowly slipped by 'til daybreak. When he felt all was safe, Roger then went to the doorway and was later freed by the local New Guinean pastor who was passing by. In spite of being robbed of most of his money, camera, and clothes, miraculously his passport, return tickets, and a traveller's check remained untouched. The New Guinean Christians felt horrible because this was the first robbery with actual life-threatening potential at the Goroka station and they surrounded Roger with love and support.

This was a very unusual "missionary" experience for a Penn View student intern, yet, I instruct our missions students "the Lord said, 'Go' and He did not say anything in His Word about returning." When asked if he would ever return to Papua New Guinea again, Roger's response could be summed up, "I am now making application to go back as a missionary."

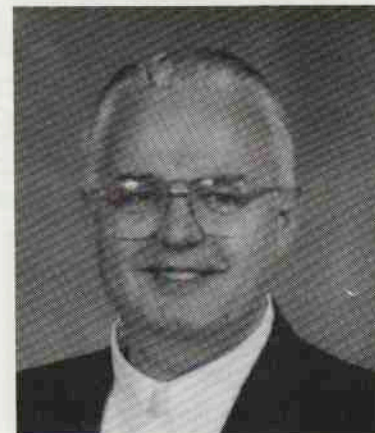


Wane Ninjipa (President of Pacific Bible College)  
 and Roger





Missionary Treasurer:  
Rev. Gerald Moore, RR 1, Box 182, Winfield, PA 17889



SUPERINTENDENT:  
Rev. A. L. Kratz  
P. O. Box 264  
Mifflinburg, PA 17844  
570-922-1558

## BUILDING PROJECT LAUNCHED

Last year in the school at Leogone, HAITI, 168 students crammed into four classrooms. The overflow used the church building and its extra rooms in the back.

The need of another classroom building was mentioned in one of the missionary's newsletters. In answer to prayer, without begging or solicitation, funds were given from two sources to pay for this new building. Plans have been drawn up for a 25' by 75' building. This will house four additional classrooms, also a principal's office and supply room. This will be built next to the existing school building.

Already men from several churches have volunteered to pay their way and go to Haiti to build. By the time you read this page the first work crew has been scheduled to go and put in the footers. Subsequent work crews are scheduled to go November to January to complete the project. Help pray that all will go well and the Lord will bless those who will be going.

## PASTOR'S PARENTS SAVED IN ANSWER TO PRAYER

Our pastor at Leogone, Bro. Wilner, has had a great answer to prayer. This past summer his parents were saved after many years living in voodism and witchcraft. Bro Wilner's mother was very sick and thought to be dying. He stayed by her side and fought the battle for her soul. Not only did God save her but God healed her and raised her up from her deathbed. This all helped to bring his father to the Lord. Since then these parents have been legally married and are walking in the Light. God is still saving and delivering souls in Haiti.

## ANNUAL SELF-DENIAL OFFERING

Each year the Foreign Missionary Department of GMC promotes a Self-Denial Offering at the Thanksgiving Season. We challenge our people to give the equivalent of one day's wages. If you have never done this - try it. You will receive a peculiar blessing. Give through your local church or send it direct to the Treasurer whose name and address appear on this page. This Annual Self-Denial Offering is a great boost for the Missionary work. It carries us through til the spring of the year. Do what you can and God will do the rest.

## ANNUAL SELF-DENIAL OFFERING

### NOVEMBER 21, 1999

Make checks to:  
GMC  
Foreign Missionary  
Dept.



# YOUTH CRUSADERS

## God's Missionary Church



### Youth Crusaders Spotlight

#### Jenny Walter Neidermyer

Jenny is one of the young people from our church here at the Salunga God's Missionary Church.

Jenny is the daughter of Rev. and Mrs. David Walter of Penns Creek, PA. She is married to Joshua Neidermyer originally from the Salunga area. Jenny and Joshua were married in August of 1998. They reside in Mifflinburg, PA.

Jenny is a fine young lady, who loves the Lord with all her heart and has a supreme desire to serve the Lord to the fullest. Jenny along with her husband carry a burden for the church. She is involved with outreach and teaches one of the Sunday School classes.

Jenny is a house wife and also attends Penn View Bible Institute and is majoring in Elementary Education.

We appreciate Jenny and her fine example of a Christian Life. Keep Christ first and He will not fail.

—Troy Shaffer  
Pastor

### CENTRAL YOUTH RALLY REPORT, SEPT. '99

The *central zone* GMC Youth Crusaders began their rally year on Friday evening, September 3, with a stirring testimony given by Rev. Joseph Smith from Indiana. The large crowd listened attentively as Rev. Smith gave spiritual admonition to both parents and youth. We were once again reminded of God's unlimited power to save anyone who seeks to truly know Him. Very fittingly, the service closed around an altar of prayer. We want to seek for God's continued presence throughout this youth rally season.



### Dates To Remember

#### South Central Zone:

Dec. 10 - Youth Christmas Program by Lebanon Church. Held at the Lebanon Church, 7:30 pm.

Feb. 11 - Ministerial Dept of PVBI. Held at the York Church, 7:30 pm.

#### Central Zone:

Nov. 5 - Youth Rally - Shamokin, PA.

Dec. 3 - Christmas Program at the New Columbia Church

Millennium Watch Night Service at Beavertown GMC, Dec. 31.

### MISSIONARY YOUTH CRUSADERS

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Rev. Dan Durkee, President  
Rev. Gabriel Morley, Vice President  
Rev. Nathan Walter, Treasurer  
Rev. Philip Brenizer, Secretary  
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Rev. Aaron McCarty, Advisor

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Central Zone  
Rev. Gabriel Morley  
Western Zone  
Rev. Nathan Shaffer  
South-Central Zone

SEND YOUTH NEWS TO: Phil Brenizer  
EMAIL: pmbrenizer@tricity.net  
RR 2 BOX 389 D, LIVERPOOL, PA 17045





Treasurer:

Rev. Paul Clough, 4240 E. Landis St., Coopersburg, PA 18036



SUPERINTENDENT:

Rev. John F. White  
P.O. Box 86  
Penns Creek, PA 17862  
(717) 837-2328

## Dear Home Missionary Family,

We greet you at this wonderful Thanksgiving time with special praise to our Lord. God has been doing great things in our department. His faithfulness never fails. As you celebrate this wonderful time of the year with your family and friends, remember to thank the Lord for his goodness throughout the past year.

Three and a half years ago, Brother Warren Major and his wife felt led of the Lord to start a God's Missionary Home Missions church in the Jackson, Pennsylvania area. They were able to rent a United Methodist church in Jackson for Sunday afternoon services which averaged 30 in attendance. In late August, the United Methodist church decided to sell the building, and Brother Major was given first chance to buy it. Warren Major, Harry Plank, and Jacob Martin met with the United Methodist church board which unanimously decided to sell for only \$20,000. At the time of this writing, transfer should be complete. The Jackson congregation has saved over \$10,000 for the purchase of the church. I've been visiting our churches raising \$12,000 to cover the balance and the closing costs. If you are interested in giving a special offering for this project, please mail it to the Home Missions Treasurer: Rev. Paul Clough, 4240 E. Landis Street, Coopersburg, PA 18036. Mark it for the "Jackson Church Project". This would be a wonderful Thanksgiving gift to show our thanks to God for His moving in our department.

The funds raised for the roof repair at Butler, PA have been sent to the Butler church; they are making final arrangements to take care of this need. We are requesting prayer for Sister Walburn who has a serious physical need at this time.

The board has also sent the funds raised for housing improvements at Camp Hill, where Fred Bennett pastors. The church there has started a building fund, and our addition totaled \$8000.

Brother James Richard reports that Rosemary Whitton and Henry Schill were united in marriage on July 31. Schill is the church secretary and the teacher at the church's Christian School in Marianville. They have had several visitors in attendance and have also installed

their new church door.

John Fisher tells us the stairway in the Fishersville, Virginia church has been completed. They recently held a fall revival with Paul Miller, and noted their summer VBS was well attended.

The Felton, Delaware church is holding its own. Please pray for Brother and Sister Bright as they labor there.

My wife and I spent a day in Fairborn, Ohio. We went through the parsonage and noted the repairs needed before a pastor can be moved in. At the moment we are still looking for a pastor: pray the Lord will guide us. James Davis has been holding weekly services there.

We also want to remind you that it is time to make plans for your Home Missions Christmas projects. Please contact our Home Missions pastors to find their needs--it is not too early to begin. Please sign up for the Pastor's support project. This ten-dollar-per-month offering provided five thousand dollars for bonuses to our pastors last year. Let's keep this project going.

At our last board meeting, the Bloisville, Pennsylvania church was moved back into the Home Missions Department on a temporary basis. The Switzers have taken over the pastorate there. Let us pray for them as they work in this capacity. We are planning to conduct a one week revival there this November. Please pray for these services.

As you can see, the Home Missions Department has been busy. We need your prayers and monthly support. At this Thanksgiving time, we Thank the Lord for all He has done for us. We give all the glory to Him, for He alone is worthy. We have visited several of our churches for Home Missions services, and thank you for the warm welcome we received. We want to thank you for the response to the Jackson project. Thank you to the Roaring Springs, Beavertown, Lewistown, and Lebanon churches. It was so good to be with you. Thanks for the offerings and fellowship we received.

Yours in Christ,  
Brother John F. White



# Lebanon Congregation Celebrates 50 Years

## 1949 - 1999

The ministry of the Lebanon God's Missionary Church now spans a period of fifty years! This fact was celebrated in a recent series of services conducted September 4 & 5 at the church with Rev. Harry Plank, Rev. John Zechman and the Jerald Glick Family participating. Many others shared in the wonders of God in the Lebanon Valley!

Over fifty years ago a small group of concerned Christians were praying and seeking to establish a spiritual church for their families. A convention was held in the Gospel Tabernacle at Mt. Aetna with Rev. Truman Wise and Rev. Joseph Hoffman bringing the messages.

At the close of the convention on March 19, 1949, Rev. George I. Straub met with the congregation and the Lebanon God's Missionary Church was born. Thirteen individuals were received as charter members: Paul Dry, Miriam Kline, Walter Kline, Mildred Rhoad, Robert Shuey, Chester Shuey, Paul Light, Esther Peiffer, Sallie Hower, Calvin Hower, John Bomberger, Eva Rinehart and Willie Rinehart. Only five of these are part of the church Militant, the others are part of the church Triumphant!

In the fall of 1952, the fledgling congregation purchased ground on Hill Street in Lebanon for \$1,400.00. They began building a church, digging the footer and basement by hand, with the help of a farm tractor with a front end loader. By the end of 1959, they lost the building at Mt. Aetna. They continued worshiping however, in the Walter Kline and Harold Spitler homes with Sister Mildred Rhoads serving as pastor. They had to work hard to get their new church on Hill Street. The people gave very sacrificially of their time and money. The framing lumber and subfloor was cut and given from the Harold Spitler farm. By

the beginning of April, they moved into the new 34' x 50' building. God blessed in a wonderful way! Sister Mildred Rhoad continued to minister to the people until her resignation in 1958. Rev. Dean Confer then pastored the church for two years. In March 1958, the mortgage was paid and a service was conducted to celebrate the event.

In 1958, Rev. & Mrs. Marlin Crock came to pastor and continued until 1963. During this time, more land was purchased and a parsonage erected. In 1963, Rev. Truman Wise moved into the parsonage and pastored until 1971. As God blessed and the congregation grew, more space was needed. In 1965, a twenty foot

to improve and increase along with various ministries. More land was purchased on several occasions, until presently the church sits on a lot of thirty acres. In 1983, an addition was added to the parsonage.

A radio ministry began in April 1978 on WLBR. This ministry, along with a program on WADV, continues to this day.

In the fall of 1979, a telephone ministry for children, "Dial-A-Story," was started and continues to reach many children.

A bus ministry began in 1985. Presently, the church provides four bus routes and van transportation for many people

in the Lebanon area who otherwise could not come to church.

In January of 1991, under the ministry of Rev. Tony Gonzalez, a Spanish ministry began. Rev. & Mrs. Frank Vega serve as the current Spanish pastor. God is blessing their ministry as they worship in the original church building.

Ground was broken on March 11, 1990 for the existing sanctu-

ary. The 80' x 100' building with a seating capacity of five hundred was built to the glory of God. The dedication was conducted on September 1, 1991.

The church at Lebanon has been blessed with the ministry of several assistant pastors: Rev. Joel Menges, Rev. & Mrs. Jacob Martin, Rev. & Mrs. Andrew Cooley, and now our current Youth Pastor and family, Rev. & Mrs. Dwight Rine. The vision is to reach out to Lebanon city and county with the wonderful message of Salvation. The church is reaching beyond the original Pennsylvania Dutch people to people of different tongues and lands. May God bless this growing and vibrant congregation until Jesus comes!

The physical structure has continued







# Penn View Bible Institute

P.O. BOX 970 • PENNS CREEK, PENNSYLVANIA 17862

Pres. Rev. John Zechman



Greetings from the Hilltop!!

God is graciously helping us already this new school year. We have seen God working in the lives of our students. Victories have been won both in the chapel services and also during devotions in the dormitory. My heart was thrilled a few days ago when another one of our young men, who had been seeking to be sanctified, testified that God has given him the victory. The glow of the Shekinah glory radiated from his countenance. Glory be to God!

I am also thrilled with the increase of ministerial students that have enrolled this year. Our Ministerial Department has grown by 66%. James Plank, the Ministerial Director, is aggressively working to build and motivate the students in their preparation to preach the glorious gospel of Jesus Christ. Our Missions Department, under the direction of Steve Mowery, just returned from the second Jungle Camp ever conducted at Penn View. It was a very successful time of preparing the students to live in undesirable circumstances. This seems to be the norm on many mission fields, therefore, our students need to be prepared accordingly.

We welcome a number of new staff this year to Penn View Bible Institute and Christian Academy. Let me introduce them to you:



Rex and Hannah McDowel, have come to us from Thomasville, North Carolina. Hannah is serving as our school nurse and teaching Health and Physical Education in the Academy Department. Rex is teaching Hebrews and Spanish in the College. Both Hannah and Rex have served in Costa Rica as missionaries for several years. In fact, Rex is continuing to remain as director of the mission work, working with Friends of Missions, and making routine trips back to Costa Rica to stay in contact with the work. The McDowel's have three sons.



We welcome the return of Daniel Durkee to the position of Public Relations Director. Dan is a 1993 graduate of Penn View Bible Institute, traveled several years as a representative in music

groups, and served as Public Relations Director from 1993 - 1996 until he assumed the pastorate of the God's Missionary Church in Berwick, Pennsylvania. God has given Dan a special ability in reaching out to young people. We are excited about having him back on staff. He is continuing his pastoral responsibilities at Berwick as he directs the Public Relations Department. Andrew Cooley, the former Public Relations Director, has assumed a pastorate in Cooperstown, Pennsylvania. Thank you Bro. Cooley for the work you have done for the past two years.

We welcome Kim Deaton to our Public Relations and Music Departments. Kim is a 1999 graduate of Penn View Bible Institute from the Music Department. She has traveled for several years in a representative singing group and has done a superb job. She will be serving as Public Relations Secretary as well as teaching some classes in the Music Department. Many of you pastors will be hearing from her as she makes contact with you in scheduling services.



We welcome Dawn Gordon as Registrar and Enrollment Manager. Dawn Gordon is a 1999 graduate of Penn View Bible Institute. She also has traveled this year in a representative singing group. She has replaced Virginia McIntire, who retired with her husband, Dean, a few months ago, and is doing a very good job. Welcome to the staff!



We welcome Greg Wolfe to the Academy Department. Greg will be teaching High School Bible for this year. He is replacing James Susan who has taken a one year sabbatical. Greg is a 1999 graduate

of Penn View Bible Institute from the Missions Department. Greg has just received appointment to Ukraine under Evangelical Bible Missions after he finishes this year of teaching.

We welcome Andrew Shultz to the Academy Department teaching Fifth Grade. Andrew is a 1999 graduate of Penn View Bible Institute from the Education Department. The elementary Department has grown so much that it was necessary to separate grades five and six, and therefore, Andrew will be teaching grade five.



We welcome Becky Dendler to the Music Department. Becky is a graduate of God's Bible School, and has taught in the Music Department there. She will be teaching Elementary Music and private music lessons. She is from the Pilgrim Holiness Church of Tunkhannock, Pennsylvania.



Some other changes that have taken place with current staff include: Mr. Barry Mason assuming the Director of Music position, Mr. Steve Mowery doing our graphics design, and Mr. John Anthony returning as Band Director.

I trust you will keep us in your prayers as we continue this great work of the Lord. The responsibilities are great, but the rewards are much greater. May the Lord richly bless you.

—Rev. John W. Zechman  
President



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