

# The Lighthouse

A Publication of The Gospel Mission, Inc. Established 1912

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Greetings once again from the mission field of the inner city of Dayton. There is never a dull moment here. Actually it is very exciting. There is nothing better than preaching the Gospel every day and doing many wonderful things in the name of Christ. Many people are very thankful for the operation of the mission and the dedicated people who provide much needed assistance. We are so very happy to continue our ministry into the 104th year of operation. We thank the Lord for all of the special people that it has taken to bring the Gospel Mission to this point and we especially are thankful for untold numbers of people who have come to know the Lord through this ministry.

As we venture a peak into 2016 we have ideas, hopes and a vision for what God would have us to do with the resources He has given us. As always, our primary goal is the Gospel of Christ. There are no satisfying answers to eternity unless one knows Christ. Some people just don't want to hear that message but it is preached every day knowing that God's Word will not go forth void and will bring about results as He pleases.

The Gospel becomes the bulkhead from which we will operate and all other activities and programs are built on this foundation. So our business plans for the future are always simple and the same. *Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and today, and forever.* (Hebrews 13:8) Such a concise plan always works because it honors our Lord Jesus Christ.

We are very thankful for those who are moved of God to support us in many ways: prayer, volunteering, materials, vehicles, equipment, food and certainly funds. This ministry is strictly of the Lord and we appreciate your involvement in every way. Nothing is too small when given to the Lord from a sincere heart to serve Him.

We trust that the Lord will be foremost in your heart during this special season. Take every opportunity to say "Merry Christmas." May the Lord bring peace and joy through Christ. What a comfort we have in Him as we look into a year of unknowns.

By His grace,



Chaplain, Director



## A Cheerful Giver

We are so very thankful for those who remember us with the Spirit of Giving this time of year. We certainly must recognize that all resources belong to our Lord and that He has made us “bankers” of His property. We are very appreciative of those “bankers” who make wise investments in the Lord’s work at the Gospel Mission; those investments will bring many returns. We trust that the Lord will bring in all we need from His various “banking” resources....our supporters. We look forward

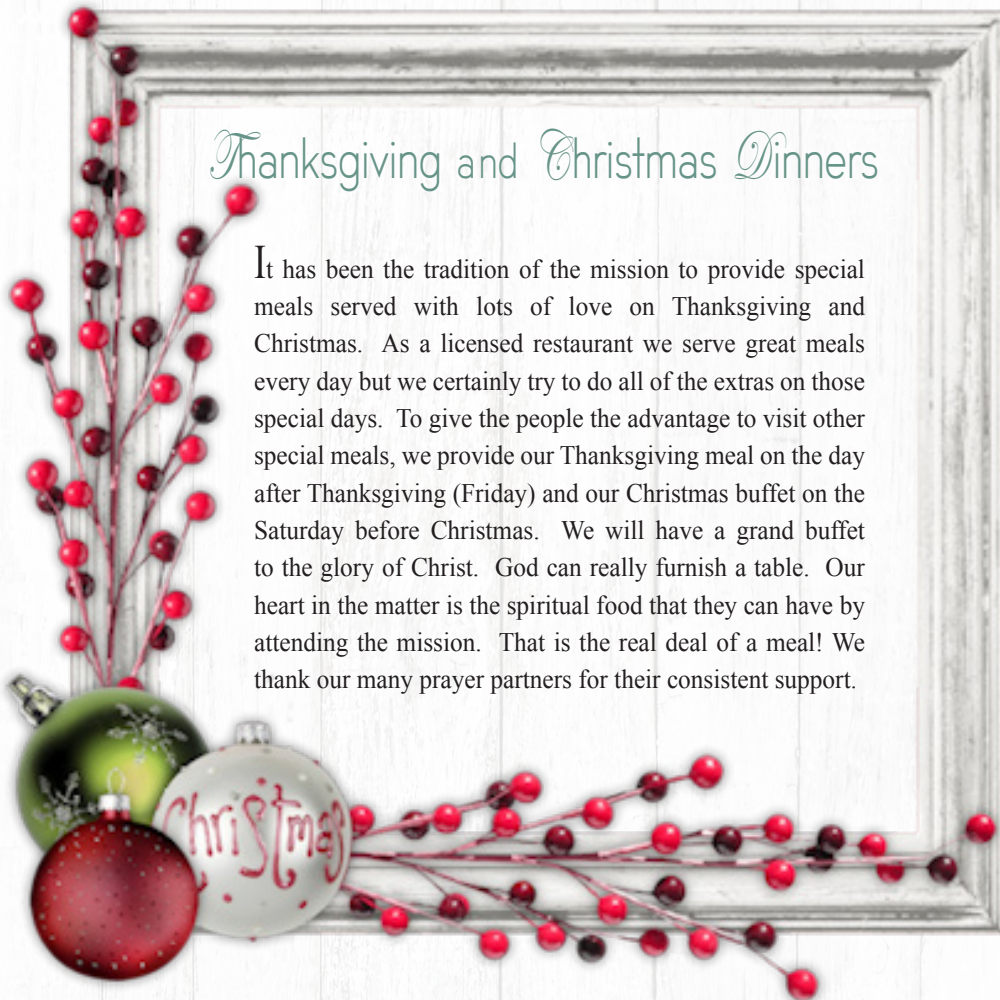
to closing out a very full year with all bills paid and ready to start a new year, Lord willing, reaching out to the needy in the city.

We trust that the Lord will move with the Spirit of Giving...that people would invest His resources here so that we can keep the Good News going out every day. *Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver.* II Corinthians 9:7



## Christmas, Peace in Christ

There are different definitions of peace in the world today; many of which we would fundamentally disagree. The greatest transforming peace is peace with God. When our souls are at rest with Him we have *peace that passes all understanding*. Amen! That peace brings with genuine love for others, forgiveness, and the comfort of a life secured in Christ. Many of the people at the mission come from a history of much turmoil in their lives never having any peace. What a blessing it is to see peace come to those who are saved. What relief in body, soul and mind. What a wonderful peace to have and no better time to celebrate that peace than at Christmas time. Tell your friends and neighbors what real peace is all about. Our people love to give that testimony. *Grace to you and peace from God our Father, and the Lord Jesus Christ.* (Romans 1:7)



## Thanksgiving and Christmas Dinners

It has been the tradition of the mission to provide special meals served with lots of love on Thanksgiving and Christmas. As a licensed restaurant we serve great meals every day but we certainly try to do all of the extras on those special days. To give the people the advantage to visit other special meals, we provide our Thanksgiving meal on the day after Thanksgiving (Friday) and our Christmas buffet on the Saturday before Christmas. We will have a grand buffet to the glory of Christ. God can really furnish a table. Our heart in the matter is the spiritual food that they can have by attending the mission. That is the real deal of a meal! We thank our many prayer partners for their consistent support.

## Christmas Gifts in His Name

There are many expectations at Christmas time and we desire to do all we possibly can to assist people but we want to do it in the Name of our Lord; the whole reason we are celebrating. In recent years it would seem that the Christmas season has been under attack for it’s meaning but not for the money generated. Last year it was very noticeable that the word Christmas was rarely mentioned among the red and green advertisements. Worldwide the fight is on for religious dominance. Now is the time for Christians to say “**Merry Christmas**”. *For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ.* (Romans 1:16).

For the work at the mission, there is more to Christmas than

gifts. There is a spiritual battle in progress and when the door opens up seasonably, we need to step in and be sure the *truth* of Christ is made known. May God be praised for His plan of salvation through grace alone. What a merciful, loving, kind, forgiving, gracious God we have. *Oh, that men would praise the Lord for his goodness, and for his wonderful works to the children men!* (Psalm 107:31)



Our giving to the people will always be in His Name and to His glory. Our Christmas gift needs are numerous, please see our web site or phone us for a copy if you don’t have a computer.

# Wonderful Volunteers, Wonderful Staff



Missionary work is one of wearing many hats and it takes a special person to do that. God makes unique callings to people to do the jobs required on this mission field. We are thankful for the faithful volunteers, so many seniors, who work daily on some heavy jobs to serve the Lord. The mission gives opportunity to serve the Lord through the expression of love and concern for people and their souls. This is where, with the right heart, you can lay up

treasure in Heaven. Retired seniors working on this mission field find an opportunity of which they would never have dreamed. Positions are open for **you** if God says “go.”

It takes a very special staff as well. Mission work is some of the most challenging there is. Even the word “mission” often brings to mind negative stereotypes, even among Christians. It needs to be seen through the eyes of God. People are people regardless of dress and social demeanor. The mission certainly isn't a nine-to-five job. In this ministry, when one is a “Doctor” for the soul, one must be available around the clock. We thank the Lord for the various staff and volunteers that the Lord assembled in the last 103 years and trust that He will continue to especially call people to this ministry.



## Who is On The Lord's Side?

The title above is from an old hymn written by Frances Ridley Havergal, 1877. It certainly puts forth the missionary challenge to God's people. It helps us to evaluate why we are really here; what is our real purpose for life?

*Who is on the Lord's side? Who will serve the King?  
Who will be His army, other's lives to bring?  
Who will leave the world's side? Who will face the foe?  
Who is on the Lord's side? Who for Him will go?*

*Fierce may be the conflict, strong may be the foe,  
But the King's own army none can overthrow,  
Round His standard ranging victory is secure;  
For His truth unchanging make the triumph sure.*

Even though the hymn is over a century old, the meaning is still the question for today. During the 1800's there were many challenges to the Gospel; there will always be many. Today those words should be very meaningful for every Christian. The Good News needs to be heard on every path we walk. We cannot be silent Christians. We see and hear a rampart march of those who are carrying a different banner of religion desiring to wipe out Christianity! If one is not on the Lord's side where does that put them for all eternity?

By the grace of God, the Gospel Mission uses the tactical plans from the Bible to combat untruth and expose it for what it is. God has given us all we need to stay the course; all of the armor and weapons. Let us not be afraid to put the armor on and stand on the Lord's side.



## Congregational Spotlight

The Lord provides for us in many different ways that we could never design. One of our congregation turns out to be a certified chef but can't work in his profession because of physical limitations. He can give us a few hours several times a week as an advisor showing us how to prepare some really great dishes, salads and sauces. We are very thankful to have Dave volunteering to assist. May the Lord bless his work with us and give him strength and good health to the glory of God.



## A Year Ahead, Lord Willing

The mission field here is always in a forward, progressive motion. That is the way it must be to make the Gospel prevalent at all times. We want to be a wonderful witness to Dayton of God's love and kindness to all. In the year ahead we would like to encourage more students of the Bible and technology to attend the Nehemiah University. Pray that people would have a greater desire to learn. Nehemiah University is a great resource for all people.

We want to bring more people into the chapel services on a daily basis. May God give people a desire for the **Bread of Life**. For an appearance to our community, we want to do major work on our buildings and grounds. This takes lots of volunteers and makes a good statement of testimony. There are many opportunities here for you to make 2016 a great year of Christian service.

## Open House at Camp Jabez

The day started off well but then a little drizzle and from there a little more and then really wet. Everything was ready but getting soaked. Open house started at 3PM and then right on the mark the rain let up at 3PM and the sun came out and it was beautiful the rest of the day. The Lord answered prayers that we could have a wonderful open house to His honor and glory. It was well attended and we did live broadcasts on FaithandFriendsRadio.com. Our guests were treated to good food and Smores, horse demonstrations, zip line, woods

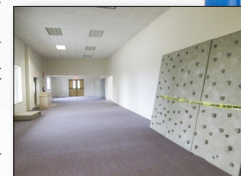
walk and a sneak preview of our coming soon Education and Recreation building. Thank you for your support of our camp ministry. We invest in the youth of our communities planting the Word of God for their wisdom and strength. *Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.* (Psalm 119:105)



## CJ Education and Rec Center Update

It has been a long time coming but the day has arrived that the new center can be put into use. It will provide shelter during a few rainy days during the summer as well as additional learning space and so much more for future development. Thanks so much to all who contributed to this structure to advance the work at Camp Jabez. If you did not get a chance to invest in this portion of the ministry, you can still do that because we have many needs for educational materials, devices and equipment; please give that consideration. We would be glad to arrange a tour for you if you would want to visit.

Camp Jabez is a wonderful place that exalts our Lord Jesus Christ and God's beautiful creation. We so very much appreciate your support and keep sending those youth to camp! It is an investment that will have a positive impact for years to come.



## Camp Jabez Summer 2015

Every summer camp is a blessing to work with the many youth that attend and it is our privilege to get to know them, enjoy their youthfulness and share with them our Lord and all that He has done in His wonderful creation.

Summer camps have a positive and lasting effect on youth. Great times of challenges, outdoor fun, enjoying nature, climbing walls, fishing and of course...horses! Consider sending someone to Camp Jabez next summer, Lord willing.

**Registrations start in time to give as Christmas gifts!**

*The heavens declare the glory of God, and the firmament [expanse] showeth his handiwork. Psalm 19:1*



The Gospel Mission, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. All gifts to this ministry are tax deductible.

