

The Lighthouse

A Publication of **The Gospel Mission, Inc.** Established 1912

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Greetings in the Name of our Lord from our very precious mission field of the inner city.

We call it a mission field because we are on a mission to bring the Lord Jesus Christ to the lives of so many that are dying every day from their ill ways. We are not concerned about making people conformable to different cultural or social standards but we are concerned about their soul. Once the soul has its roots in Christ, the fruit of the life will conform to His standards. That which they thought they must have or do will become detestable. Time after time we have seen the change as they become new creatures in Christ. Please continue to keep us in prayer that the essence of the Gospel goes out each day. This is far more important than food for the body for their body may be gone tomorrow.

We are celebrating 104 years of ministry this summer to the glory of God! Sue and I have been on this mission field for a little over 30 years; it has gone by quickly and the Lord has blessed in many ways. We certainly could write a book on the work of God here but so could any missionary immersed in their mission field. There are many tales to be told and the most important are about the souls that have come to the Lord through the work here. We want the mission to serve the Lord until the day He comes!

Some may have noticed that this is only the second Lighthouse of the year. We were so overwhelmed with work that we did not get the spring issue finished in time. The needs of the people must come first.

As for the balance of the year, Lord willing, we will be busy preaching, ministering, teaching and serving as the Lord leads.

All of our goals for people are eternal; *life is but a vapor.*

By His grace,



Chaplain, Director

A Tribute to John Iles, Chief of Maintenance

John has moved into his new home, those mansions in glory need no maintenance. Now he can praise God continually for the wonder of salvation and the eternal glory ahead. He is now free from the encumbrances of our failing bodies and has a body in the image of Christ. This is the great assurance that the Lord gives those who know Him.

Meanwhile, back on planet earth, we certainly miss his fellowship and maintenance abilities. John was so talented in all areas of maintenance. Starting with the fact that he was a Delta Airlines aircraft mechanic before he retired...that is a lot of knowledge. He could cover our vehicle maintenance, air conditioning, carpentry, electrical, cement and not to say



anything about all of the specialty work at Camp Jabez (tractors, grinders, water systems, pumps, wells, generators, under-ground cabling) and a multitude of everything that came up. John well used his given talents for the Lord in every capacity and set a great example for others.

Shown here is a special memorial bench and tree at Camp Jabez in memory of his time spent in the Lord's service. He really loved the camp and all of its God-given beauty; he did his best to keep it in order.

Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven. Matthew 5:16

Dayton Christian School Workers



The Dayton Christian School 7th grade youth assisted in getting a basement cleaned out on a cold and rainy day. That age seems to have a lot of resilience. We appreciate such youthful labor and enthusiasm in getting the job done. Their hours of community service were very significant and very much appreciated. May the Lord bless their future work for the Lord.

Hope Garden



Once again our volunteers have done a wonderful job on our Hope Garden. It is a great asset to the community and the Gospel Mission property. It seems to be a rule of thumb that the nicer and cleaner a community is, the less there are of criminal problems. We endeavor with many volunteers to keep our block in very good shape. You could be a part of our endeavors to have a community that honors and glorifies our Lord Jesus Christ.

Visiting Church Choirs

The Dayton Korean Grace Church serve as volunteers the first Saturday of each month primarily on kitchen duty and warehouse work. It was our special pleasure to have their choir bring a fine presentation at one of our Saturday meetings. It helped our congregation to see the wonderful diversity of the Christian faith. The Joyful Noise Singers from Manassas, Virginia presented a wonderful selection of songs with great youthful voices; our congregation really enjoyed the enthusiasm. Among the many places they travel in the midwest, we appreciate their desire to come to the Gospel Mission. They say they have such a wonderful experience they want to come back. Thank you choirs for your desire to serve Him with your singing talents.



The Speed of Life

Sometimes it seems as if life is moving as fast as the speed of light (186,000 miles/second). When you are involved in mission work and you realize souls are perishing every day, you always strive to maximize every hour of the day because it is rapidly heading toward eternity. Our minds are thinking beyond the speed of light to eternal duration. By the grace of God we look forward to stepping beyond earthly physics one day. For those who know the Lord, one day, in a moment we will transcend the speed of light and be with our Savior. With the biblical understanding of life, *a thousand years is but one day* (II Peter 3:8), it helps us to see the speed in which life moves.

We are on a mission of urgency to be all that God would have us to be for our short duration; *now it is high time to awake out of sleep* (Romans 13:11). Paul sets the example by telling us to, *press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ* (Philippians 3:14). Now it is high time to wake out of sleep. The mission is now celebrating 104 years of operation by the grace and blessings of God. Time has gone so fast and 104 years have been spent in ministry. We pray that every day spent was one to bring glory to God and souls to Christ; *for the time is at hand* (Revelation 1:3).

Wright Brothers in the Neighborhood

We are in the process of restoring a house on our property that “allegedly” had connections to an engineering friend of the Wright Brothers...we are still looking through the archives; of course, we are hoping to find some airplane blueprints...nothing yet! Thanks to a special team of dedicated volunteers that are putting this house back together after many years of demise. It is a nice double that we will be able to use for our visiting missionary groups. We need more laborers like this to assist in building and restoring various properties...the progress of the mission field is always in need.

Basketball Tactics



Basketball is our tool of choice to reach a certain section of our youth population. Our tactics are simple. Use that which naturally draws them together, that is 95% of the job, and provide a safe-haven atmosphere for them to mature and grow in the Lord. They can play for hours and hours and never seem to get tired. (But they can't seem to rake a lawn for 15 minutes!)

We take the Gospel to them through the sports ministry and it has been effective and rewarding to see positive changes in our youth. Shown here is the Gospel Mission team, at the Kingdom Sports Center in Franklin, Ohio involved in a little competition.

Camp Jabez Summer

What a wonderful place for some summer activities from horses to zip line to ropes to climbing walls to archery to boats and it keeps going. Camp Jabez is one full week of fun and fellowship at a wonderful Christian day camp. The youth have an energizing day, go home and crash and are back the next day anxious to go again on a different selection of activities.



It is our heart's desire that our youth grow in the grace and knowledge of Christ so they may be strengthened for the times ahead. The days, in which we live, requires a solid biblical foundation.

Thanks for your prayers and support and please enjoy a few pictures of the youth in action.



Top-Notch Equine Training

It is our privilege to have Laura Funderburg as our Equine Director for our equine activities. She has grown up on a family horse boarding farm and started early in her horsemanship learning. She is an accomplished Level 4 Parelli (www.Parelli.com) trainer and loves sharing what she has learned with others. Our youth are receiving wonderful training. Praise the Lord!



ASAF School of Aerospace Medicine



Earlier this year the USAF School of Aerospace Medicine assisted at Camp Jabez with one of our many projects. On a not-so-perfect weather day the military came through and worked outdoors in the woods cutting, chopping and grinding wood... spreading chips on the trails to get us ready for camp operation. Thanks so very much to the ladies and gentleman of the Air Force for their tremendous work.

A Youthful Summer



It is the desire of the mission to reach our youth with Christ at the youngest possible age and support them in Christ with every possible opportunity we have. Shown here is our annual canoe trip down the Little Miami River. It is a very special day of enjoyment beyond their normal run-of-life...almost like a quick vacation. We thank those who especially supported this trip. We pray that their investment will bring many returns.

Hear, ye children, the instruction of a father, and attend to know understanding. Proverbs 4:1



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