

# Rejoicing From the Hills

"The little hills rejoice on every side."  
-Psalm 65:12b-

Vol. 21, No. 2

A Publication of the North Hills Bible Church

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## Missionaries Off to the Field



On Sunday, February 17, we had a special day with the Samuel Moss family. It was our privilege to usher them off to the mission field in Uganda.

Please pray for the Moss family as they get settled and begin their ministry.



## Our Missionary Family

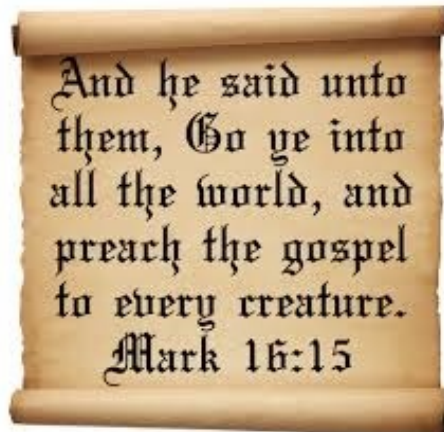
At North Hills Bible Church we support two missionaries in South Africa: the Marc Blackwells in Capetown, and the Don Kilmers in Durban working with the Zulu's. We also support two missionaries in Spain: national pastors Moises Campos and Peter Pinyol and their families. We support a missionary with Friends of Israel, Roberto Livio and his family in

the Philippines, and Roger Perrott and his family in Hong Kong. On the home front we have American missionary pastors: Len Smith in Colorado and Glenn Hilt here in Pennsylvania. We don't want to forget our retired missionaries: Emma Turner and Miriam Rocker.

Organizations we support are: Child Evangelism Fellowship of York County, Military Evangelism in Jacksonville, North Carolina, and Teacher's Assistance Program (TAP Ministry) in Hummelstown, Pennsylvania.

We are honored to be a part of these ministries here in the State and abroad. It is a joy to bring them and their requests to the throne of grace on a regular basis and to encourage them in various ways.

The life and ministry of these missionaries and organizations is a reminder to us to be spreading the Gospel in our own neighborhoods, work places, schools, and community activities.

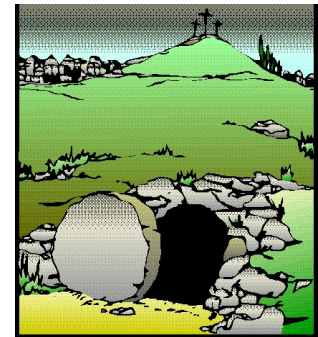


## Coming Events



### Crucifixion Service

Friday, March 29  
7:00 PM



### Resurrection Service

Sunday, March 31  
10:45 AM

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**A GOSPEL MESSAGE FOR YOU**

Have you asked Jesus Christ to save you? If not, will you accept Him as your Saviour now? The following will explain what you need to do.

1. **ADMIT THAT YOU ARE A SINNER.** The Bible says, "For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God." Romans 3:23
2. **KNOW THAT GOD HAS ALREADY PROVIDED FOR YOUR SALVATION.** "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life." John 3:16
3. **KNOW THAT YOU CANNOT SAVE YOURSELF.** "Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us." Titus 3:5a
4. **REPENT OF YOUR SIN.** "For godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation not to be repented of." II Corinthians 7:10. "Except ye repent ye shall all likewise perish." Luke 13:3
5. **ASK JESUS CHRIST TO SAVE YOU.** "For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be **SAVED.**" Romans 10:13. "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be **SAVED.**" Acts 16:31
6. **CONFESS JESUS BEFORE MEN.** "If thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised Him from the dead thou shalt be **SAVED.** For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation." Romans 10:9-10

If you have any questions or would like further spiritual help, please contact us at the North Hills Bible Church. Our phone number is 757-1316.

# Library News

by Brenda Hamme, Librarian

In I Corinthians 15, Paul shares these thoughts with the believers at Corinth - "...brethren, I declare unto you the gospel which I have received...by which also ye are saved...how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; and that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures..."

Since this epistle was written, many men and women have joined Paul in faithfully proclaiming the gospel around the world. A new book from the CHRISTIAN HEROES: THEN & NOW series, **D. L. Moody: Bringing Souls to Christ**, shares the story of a young man who began pursuing dreams of becoming a wealthy businessman, but God had other plans. Evangelism would be his life's work and bringing souls to Christ would be his passion as he devoted his life to proclaiming the gospel through Civil War outreach, his Sunday School and church, and revival campaigns in America and abroad.

In the weeks ahead, we will remember Christ's crucifixion and celebrate His resurrection. The following resources may be helpful in sharing these truths with children.

**Worthy is the Lamb**, a new DVD from THE ANIMATED STORIES FROM THE NEW TESTAMENT, shows Jesus fulfilling ancient prophecies as He prays in the Garden of Gethsemane, is betrayed by Judas, stands trial, and is crucified. **He is Risen**, a DVD already in the library, continues the story with the miraculous resurrection and ascension of Jesus.

In the new book, **Read-Aloud Bible Stories**, Vol. 2, the last story, "A Sad Day and A Happy Day," communicates the crucifixion and resurrection through large pictures and simple words appropriate for young children.

Several other books include:

***The Story of the First Easter***  
***Sunrise Hill***  
***The Tale of Three Trees***  
***What Does Love Look Like?***

Rejoicing From The Hills

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Our Purpose

Soul winning at home and abroad  
 Bible teaching conducive  
 to Christian Living

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Our Staff

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## The Nature of Sacred Music

In *God's Song*, chapter one, I wrote the following: "Is sacred music one of many different kinds of music or is sacred music merely an application which may be attached to a variety of kinds? There are many different kinds of music: Pop, Jazz, Blues, Rock, Country, Rap, Classical, etc. If sacred music is merely an application then we may have Sacred Pop, Sacred Rock, Sacred Country, etc., or Christian Pop, Christian Rock, and so on. On the other hand, if sacred music is a kind of music, it stands as distinct from and exclusive of other kinds of music. This means the list of musical forms would include: Pop, Jazz, Blues, Rock, Country, Rap, Classical and Sacred. Sacred music is indeed a kind of music. It is different from and exclusive of all other kinds. We do not typically describe music by combinations of kind such as Pop, Jazz, or Country Rap, It is equally inaccurate to describe music as Sacred Rock. Rock is rock and Sacred is sacred and never the twain shall meet."

Since the writing of *God's Song*, I have received a number of questions about the content of this little book. There was a question about the claim that "sacred" is a distinct kind of music. There have been questions about the criteria to be used for distinguishing between those songs which truly glorify God and those which do not. There have been questions about the technical elements of musical arrangements. In this article I am sharing answers I have given to some of these questions.

It has been suggested that *God's Song* is subjective in nature and thus falls short in being an objective analysis of music to be used in the church. *God's Song* originated as a series of chapel lessons in a Christian School. It was later expanded and presented as a series of Sunday evening sermons to a local church congregation. After this it seemed appropriate to write out the substance of these messages in order to make the material available to more people. *God's Song* grew out of my desire to present something from the standpoint of Biblical principle rather than simply from the standpoint of musical technicalities. Several works are available which properly treat the subject from a technical direction. It was my desire to show that the Bible addresses the subject of music in a way which defines God's personal viewpoint. In this regard, there is considerable objectivity in the text of *God's Song* as a matter of Biblical interpretation. If interpretation of

Scripture is done properly, it will result in objective conclusions based upon the literal examination of the words and grammar of the text, and upon accurate assessments of the geography, culture, and history of the context. This will only appear to be subjective if the reader is unwilling to accept this approach to Biblical interpretation. Application of Biblical truth may be subjective in nature. It is possible that some subjective applications may be observed in *God's Song*, but the heart of the material is rooted in the objective and literal interpretation of Scripture.

**Question:** *Is sacred music really a musical style just like classical, rock, etc. are styles. All of those can be identified objectively by musical structure. What structural characteristics does Sacred Music have?*

**Answer:** The Bible specifies three kinds of songs which may reasonably be classified as sacred – psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs (Ephesians 5:19). Each of these terms addresses specifically the verbal content of the music, but there was a particular way of singing these songs which made them distinct from other songs. These songs followed two patterns, one of copying ancient Hebrew psalm-singing, and the other (to a lesser degree) of discriminatingly incorporating Greek melodies. Both of these utilized a diatonic melody line. (Please refer to the following paragraph.) There were several melodies specified in notations attached to the Psalms. There were also other musical notations such as treble or bass clefs, musical pauses, and specification of which instruments were to be used in accompaniment. (Unfortunately by the time of the beginning of the church, instrumental music had been greatly secularized and corrupted. This convinced church leaders to discourage the use of musical instruments in order to avoid worldly associations.) Musical notations exist throughout the Old Testament identifying all the notes on the diatonic scale as well as instructions such as "end," "rest," "jump," or "succession." As to the specifics of the form sacred music takes, my conclusions are as follows. Sacred music consists of a well constructed melodic line, balanced in up and down and linear movement so as to appropriately create and resolve tension and provide a vehicle for the communication of truth. If harmony is used, it is incorporated so as to be entirely supportive of the melodic line. Rhythm in sacred music is only a subtle and imperceptible vehicle for organized lateral movement of the melody. The mood of the music is all holiness and beauty, and distinctly absent of secular elements. Sacred music is particularly missing such elements as improvisation and heavy uses of syncopation characteristic of Jazz

and its derivatives, heavy pulsating beats characteristic of Rock and Roll, and the twang (for want of a better term) characteristic of Country Music. (Classical music comes in many forms, some of which actually was influenced by the music of the church. Some classical pieces were intended to be sacred in nature and probably are.) Tones in Sacred Music are exact, clear, and communicative – communicating certainty in sound (1 Corinthians 14:8). Meter, tempo, and dynamics are ordered, balanced, and contribute to the communication of truth. Singing (or playing) with understanding is the goal of Sacred Music (1 Corinthians 14:15).

**Question:** *Western music is based on the diatonic scale. This scale was used by the ancient Greeks. It is rather likely, as I understand ancient music, that Hebrew music may have used the pentatonic. Do you recommend it? It would sound really strange (especially played on Middle Eastern instruments) to most American ears and probably not be considered music for worship.*

**Answer:** A diatonic scale is an eight note octave scale consisting of five whole steps and two half steps, where the top and bottom notes have equivalent sounds with a different pitch. A pentatonic scale is a five note scale. It is used today in music from Africa, the far east and among Native Americans. While it is true that ancient oriental music was generally characterized by the pentatonic scale, there is evidence that the nature of Hebrew melodies, especially those used in Temple worship, followed something more on the order of a diatonic scale. Leonard J. Seidel, in his text **God's New Song Workbook**, says that the Hebrews possessed a scale of eight tones. Alfred Sendry in **Music In Ancient Israel**, while acknowledging the common use of the pentatonic scale among ancient orientals including the Hebrews, makes a convincing case for a diatonic scale being the basis of melodies used in Psalm-singing. He also connects singing in the early Christian church with the Psalm-singing of ancient Hebrews saying that they were very similar. John Makujina in **Measuring the Music** makes the same case..

“Leading experts are in agreement that, though there is some evidence that Hellenistic poetic meters entered into some Christian hymnody at a later period, the vast majority of early Christian Hymnody was distinctly Jewish and originated in the synagogue. This fact is also evident in the New Testament where Paul commands the Colossians to sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs (Colossians 3:16),

which is probably a reference to the music of the synagogue. Sendry states, ‘*But reports of the Early Church Fathers about the meetings of the first Christians comprise numerous references to the paramount importance attached by the new religion to psalm-singing, as practiced in the traditional, i.e. Jewish manner.... As a matter of fact, the first Christian songs have been either ancient synagogal chants, or were based upon Jewish “tunes,” which were familiar to everybody at those times.*”

Measuring the Music

by John Makujina, page 183

The evidence that early church music was similar to ancient Jewish psalm singing reveals something about the nature of ancient Jewish psalm singing. Since early church music was based on a diatonic scale, this gives evidence that ancient Jewish psalm singing was also based on the diatonic scale. The fact that the ancient Hebrews chose the diatonic scale for music to be used in worshiping God while other Hebrew music used the pentatonic scale makes a strong case for their recognizing a distinction in sacred music forms from other forms of music. I would not recommend the use of the pentatonic scale in present day worship as I am not convinced that it was ever actually used in true sacred music.

**Question:** *You have promoted consonance rather than dissonance in Sacred Music. How do you achieve consonance? There are no consonant intervals in our equal tempered twelve-tone scale mathematically or acoustically. There is consonance musically in the created world, but not in western music. There is only near-consonance. If you tune a piano to perfect fifths alone, the result will not be workable – that is, octaves will not match. Some tuners claim to do this, but they actually are not. Attempting perfect fourths and/or thirds will be even worse.*

**Answer:** The contention is that true consonance cannot be achieved, only near consonance. Assuming that the premise of this question is true, it would necessarily follow then that dissonant sounds are acceptable in music since true absolute consonance cannot be achieved. First, in the general use of sounds there are some sounds which are obviously more agreeable to the ear than other sounds. For example playing a “b natural” and a “g” together are much more pleasing to the ear than playing a “b natural” and a “b flat” together. It is this general sense

of sounds to the ear in which I contrast consonance and dissonance and believe that consonant sounds are more pleasing to the ear of God in the music of worship. God testifies that He is not the author of confusion (1 Corinthians 14:33). Confusion in sounds, particularly in sounds which are intended to worship Him, cannot therefore be pleasing unto Him. In the same context, Scripture speaks of singing with understanding. Dissonant sound cannot be helpful in the pursuit of understanding in worshipful music. Secondly, achieving absolute sinless perfection in a sanctified Christian lifestyle is not possible either. However, we do not excuse sin just because perfection is not achievable this side of heaven. We still encourage a lifestyle which more closely resembles holiness than unholiness. So in music, if the contention is correct that we cannot achieve absolute consonance, we encourage sounds which more closely resemble consonance than dissonance. In addition, the fact that people can become accustomed to dissonant sounds is not justification for their being acceptable unto God. People can become accustomed to sin and indulge in it heavily without remorse, but that is no reason to think that God is pleased by it.

**Question:** *Are the instruments used in Bible times still available somewhere? Or what are their modern equivalents? Where can we get them?*

**Answer:** I do not believe it is possible to exactly duplicate instruments used in Bible times. Alfred Sundry says the following regarding this

The destruction of the Jerusalem sanctuary by the Romans and the annihilation of the Jewish national state spelled the greatest disaster in the entire history of the Jews. The people of Israel, defeated, humiliated, driven into slavery, or dispersed beyond hope of recovery, were in danger of being wiped out not only physically, but also culturally and spiritually. The national mourning for the lost sanctuary, decreed by the sages, prohibited music, singing, and all sorts of pleasurable diversion. This prohibition, had it been carried out rigorously, would have amounted to the complete disappearance of Jewish music. To be sure, the fate of ancient instrumental music was sealed for ever, since no artistic activity which depends entirely on perpetuity of its practice, has a chance to survive after a few decades of forced cessation. (**Music in Ancient Israel**, page 227)

We do know, of course, from the Biblical record that the Israelites used stringed instruments, brass instruments, wind instruments, and percussive instruments. We know they were at times used properly in the presentation of sacred music in the worship of God, and they were at times used inappropriately in corrupted and unacceptable attempts to worship God. The same can be true of musical instruments today, whether or not they are exact copies of the instruments used in Biblical times. As to modern equivalents, percussive instruments which are used to override melody, and electronically amplified instruments would not qualify as appropriate modern equivalents to instruments used in Biblical times.

**Question:** *Doesn't the Bible say we are to make a joyful noise to the Lord? In fact, Psalm 98:4 says, Make a joyful noise unto the LORD, all the earth: make a loud noise, and rejoice, and sing praise. Doesn't this endorse an enthusiastic praise and worship service?*

**Answer:** The word "noise" is an operative word today in what is called "worship." In Webster's Dictionary of Word Origins, the etymology for the word "noise" redirects the reader to the word "nausea." Under "nausea" it says,

"One of the most unpleasant symptoms of sea sickness....In both Latin and Greek, nausea referred to a general stomach distress, but also meant sea sickness in particular. The Greeks gave the name to this illness from the root word meaning ship – from 'nautical' to 'nausea.' The commotion and complaints so often associated with sufferers of sea sickness provided us with 'noise' as another derivative of 'nausea'....Today in English, 'noise' may refer to any sound in general, but typically it denotes undesirable sound."

Thus, we might reasonably say that the noise of loud raucous music is nauseating.

The Bible tells us seven times to make a joyful noise unto the Lord. Many make the erroneous interpretation from these statements that God wants us to use nauseating sounds joyfully in worship. What is the Biblical joyful noise, and what does it tell us concerning worship?

The Bible word is ruwa, from Strong's number 07321. It is used in several places in Scripture with a variety of applications. For example, it is used in Joshua 6:16 when the Israelites were to "shout" after passing around the city of Jericho for the seventh time on the final day of the siege. Certainly, this shout was

not a droopy sound, but an enthusiastic one. The word is also used in Numbers 10:9 where a trumpet blast sounded an “alarm” in the face of an enemy army. Certainly, this would not have been a somber sound like “Taps,” but an enthusiastic reveille. In Job 30:5, this word is translated “cried,” saying, *they cried after them as after a thief*. Surely, this was not a whimper of a cry, but an enthusiastic cry. Then in Job 38:7, it is said that at the laying of the foundation of the earth, *the morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy*. Certainly, this was not a soft “hooray” but a jubilant shout for joy.

The point is that when Psalm 95:1 says *let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation*, it is suggesting that there should be an element of enthusiasm in our worship. We certainly would not sing the song “Be Thou Exalted” in slow sad tones as if we were in a funeral procession. Rather, we should sing it with a lift in our voice that expresses an enthusiasm for exalting the Lord.

But enthusiasm in worship does not imply crudeness. The English word “noise” is also used to translate Strong’s number 06963, qowl. When Joshua and Moses were up on the mountain, they heard noise coming from the camp. Joshua thought it was the noise of war. Moses recognized it as the noise of singing. In fact, the people were having a wild party while worshipping the golden calf. Their singing was nothing but crude noise and was disgusting to God (Deuteronomy 32:7-10). This is certainly not what God wants when folks worship Him.

Rather, enthusiasm in worship should always be balanced with reverence. In Psalm 95 where it says in verse one that we should make a joyful noise unto God, in verse six it says that we should bow down and kneel before the LORD our Maker. In Psalm 98 where we are told in verse four to make a joyful noise unto the LORD, and to make a loud (that is, distinct) noise when we rejoice and sing praise, we are also told in verse five to sing unto the LORD with the voice of a psalm. The voice of a psalm would be as opposed to the noise of war (Exodus 32:17), or the voice of swearing (Leviticus 5:1), or the voice of charmers (Psalm 58:5), or a voice of noise (Isaiah 66:6), or the noise of singing to a false god (Exodus 32:18). The voice of a psalm is the voice of reverence, showing respect for the holiness of the God to whom we are singing. Psalm 89:7 says, *God is greatly to be feared in the assembly of the saints, and to be had in reverence of all them that are about him*. When the Bible reports of someone finding themselves in the

presence of God, they are always noted as being humbled and bowed before Him (Isaiah 6:5; Revelation 1:17). When the angels or the multitude of saints is described as singing in heaven, it is a setting of the utmost reverence and dignity (Isaiah 6:1-4; Revelation 4-5).

When we worship the Lord, we should never use clamoring noises which nauseate the soul and offend the Spirit of God. We should indeed bring an intensity with us into a worship service and an enthusiasm in our hearts, but these things should be tempered with a preparedness to worship God reverently, in spirit and in truth.

**Question:** *What about special music? Does the Bible say anything about choirs and other types of special music in worship services?*

**Answer:** King David is the one who established and organized choral music in temple worship for the Israelites. 1Chronicles 6:31-32 says, *And these are they whom David set over the service of song in the house of the LORD, after that the ark had rest. And they ministered before the dwelling place of the tabernacle of the congregation with singing, until Solomon had built the house of the LORD in Jerusalem: and then they waited on their office according to their order*. These singers were full time participants in the ministry of the temple. 1Chronicles 9:33 says, *And these are the singers, chief of the fathers of the Levites, who remaining in the chambers were free: for they were employed in that work day and night*. In 2Chronicles 5:13-14, the choir and the orchestra were participating in the dedication service for the new temple built by Solomon. It was at this time that God would fill the Holy of Holies with His Shekinah Glory. God showed His endorsement for this music by choosing the moment when the singers were singing and the instruments were being played for His glory to enter the temple. The verses describe it like this: *It came even to pass, as the trumpeters and singers were as one, to make one sound to be heard in praising and thanking the LORD; and when they lifted up their voice with the trumpets and cymbals and instruments of musick, and praised the LORD, saying, For he is good; for his mercy endureth for ever: **that then the house was filled with a cloud, even the house of the LORD; So that the priests could not stand to minister by reason of the cloud: for the glory of the LORD had filled the house of God.***

The manner in which these singers conducted themselves is a testimony as to how we should

approach choral music in the church today, or for that matter, any special music. First, there was to be adequate preparation. 1 Chronicles 15:22 tells us about the music leader who instructed about the song. The verse says, *And Chenaniah, chief of the Levites, was for song: he instructed about the song, because he was skilful.* The word "instructed" in this verse means to chasten, discipline, instruct, correct, admonish. Chenaniah's responsibility was to make sure that all the singers knew the song perfectly that they were to sing. Secondly, there was to be unity in their presentation. All the voices in the choir were to sound like one voice. 2 Chronicles 5:13 says, *It came even to pass, as the trumpeters and singers were as one, to make one sound to be heard in praising and thanking the LORD.* Thirdly, there was to be a genuineness in their presentation as they sang to praise the LORD. It was not to be a mechanical presentation as if it were merely a job, but it was to be done with a genuine note of joyfulness in the voice. As 1 Chronicles 15:16 says, *And David spake to the chief of the Levites to appoint their brethren to be the singers with instruments of musick, psalteries and harps and cymbals, sounding, by lifting up the voice with joy.* Finally, in the days of Nehemiah, the people recognized the seriousness of participating in the worship of the LORD and showed that by purifying themselves before they did so. Nehemiah 12:27-30 and 45 says, *And at the dedication of the wall of Jerusalem they sought the Levites out of all their places, to bring them to Jerusalem, to keep the dedication with gladness, both with thanksgivings, and with singing, with cymbals, psalteries, and with harps. And the sons of the singers gathered themselves together, both out of the plain country round about Jerusalem, and from the villages of Netophathi; Also from the house of Gilgal, and out of the fields of Geba and Azmaveth: for the singers had builded them villages round about Jerusalem. And the priests and the Levites purified themselves, and purified the people, and the gates, and the wall...And both the singers and the porters kept the ward of their God, and the ward of the purification, according to the commandment of David, and of Solomon his son.*

Those who participate in special music in a worship service have a very important responsibility. Everyone in the congregation is focused on those who are singing or playing instruments. They see their facial expressions and the manner in which they present the musical selection. Those who participate in special music have the opportunity to set the tone for the congregation's attitude toward worship. It is their responsibility to direct the attention of the

congregation to God, rather than to themselves, so that when it is time for the preaching of the Word of God, the hearts of the people are prepared to hear the voice of God as the Holy Spirit ministers to them.

## Conclusion

Noah Webster, in his 1828 first edition dictionary said this about the word sacred: "Holy; pertaining to God or to his worship; separated from common secular uses and consecrated to God and his service....We here see the connection between sacredness and secrecy. The sense is removed or separated from that which is common, vulgar, polluted, or open, public." Oh that we would learn in the church today that to bring the world into the church is the opposite of being sacred in our worship of God. Everything about our worship of the God who is holy, holy, holy, should be different from, separate from, and distinct from all that is in the world. When one enters a church service, there should be no hint of the world in the sights and sounds to which he is exposed. The nature of sacred music is to be understood in the very term itself – it is to be sacred. Is our understanding so distorted that in our day we can no longer comprehend the concept of what is sacred?

May we have ears to hear, eyes to see, and hearts to understand that our God who is holy deserves to be worshiped in a manner that is truly sacred. 📖

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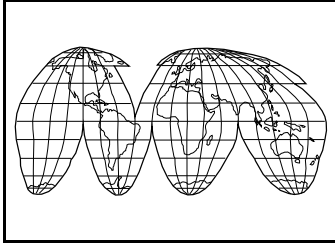
"I am only one; but still I am one. I cannot do everything, but still I can do something; I will not refuse to do the something I can do."

Helen Keller

"I can do all things through Christ which strengthen me."

Philippians 4:13

# Missionary News



*From  
Around  
The World  
and  
Here at Home*

## Emma Turner

Shinglehouse, PA

I am very thankful for health the Lord continues to give. My church, family, and friends are such a blessing to me.

Our ladies Wednesday morning Bible Study seems to be down to a steady group of ten. Some of the others live some distance away, and because of the high cost of gas could not afford to attend. They are doing the study at home and attend when possible. Thanks for praying for us. It is a weekly study.

Pray for me as I seek to memorize more of His Word this year. These are such serious days. As I talk with people I want God's Word to be readily upon my lips and to be able to have meaningful conversations.

May you experience His faithfulness and love.

## Roberto & Imelda Livio

Philippines

With the theme: *"Revitalizing the Church Towards Effective Leadership and Service"*, I was thankful for the opportunity to preach the Word at the Annual Assembly of the AFP (Armed Forces of the Philippines)/PNP (Philippine National Police) Evangelical Churches of the Philippines, and challenge these men in uniform of the need to follow Paul's example of articulating the exclusive claims of Christ accurately and clearly so as to impact lives practically and ethically. During the breakfast that followed, I was introduced to many of them, including the Roman Catholic chaplain who sat during the preaching service. We know the Holy Spirit will use His sharp two-edged sword to bring conviction, illumination and regeneration.

Pray for our brethren in the Mindanao region. We have contacts in Bukidnon who have been severely affected by typhoon "Pablo" in December. According to a dear pastor friend, the devastation this typhoon brought was three times worse than "Sendong", the typhoon that hit them two years earlier. The town of Campostela Valley had the greatest damage with over 1,000 deaths and over 800 reported missing due to landslides, and serious damage to property.

We are truly grateful for your partnership in Ministry. Should Christ tarry His coming, may our hearts be fixed to do His will and finish His work.

## Moises & Rosa Campos

Spain

The congregation in Olot is doing well. It is wonderful to see the love they have to one another and their desire to keep growing and serving the Lord.

One Sunday morning there were seven unbelievers visiting our church, a very unusual thing that has never happened before. Keep praying for the unsaved husbands of some of our dear ladies.

The radio ministry with the program, "Reasons to Believe", has been going on for several weeks. We have had some good conversations with two of the men of the radio station, who have asked some questions about our church and what we are doing.

May the Lord be honored through our lives and ministry.



## Glenn & Cheryl Hilt

Lancaster, PA

As we begin this newsletter, I want to call your attention to our new email address: [gandchilt@gmail.com](mailto:gandchilt@gmail.com). Lightning hit our computer in June. It took months to buy and set up a new computer (which then also crashed). Since I had an older computer and software, I had to buy all new software for the new up-to-date highspeed computer. I do not have my old email addresses (I lost all of them in June), so please send me your email address.

Cheryl and I continue to be part of the EICM International ministry team working with a small Bible study group in Lancaster City, PA. We are meeting in a room graciously provided by Fred F. Groff Funeral Home. My responsibilities are to preach Sunday mornings as needed, teach Bible doctrine on Sunday nights, preach on Wednesday nights, follow up contacts, be available for visitation, and help with outreach.

We again handed out 450 brochures in this inner city community. We had several visitors come and meet with us. We have gained a few new people. Some of the people who come walk, while some drive vehicles to the meeting. The rest are brought by the ones who drive.

We are seeing some good spiritual growth. Our desire is not to build another church in the heart of Lancaster, but to let God build His church. We are faithful in preaching the Word, so that the Lord is able to do His work in the life of each believer in bringing those He has placed in our care to a mature walk with the Lord.

## Don & Karen Kilmer

To the Zulu's in South Africa

As we work for the Lord, there are many blessings. Recently seven girls prayed to receive Jesus as their Savior after a Sunday School lesson. One of the great blessings to us was that the young woman who taught the lesson grew up in our Sunday School and is now teaching others also.

There are many effective doors to use. We preach with a megaphone, and it echoes across the valley. We preach and teach the Word of the Lord in schools. We have youth meetings. We go to many funerals. These are not always because someone in

our church died, but usually a relative of a church member or just a community member died. We also minister house to house, and thus when a community member dies, even though they didn't attend our church, we are often there to minister to the family.

One day as I was working at church, a young woman, named Love, came by to ask for help and I had a good opportunity to talk to her. She came to Sunday School many years ago, but never trusted Christ as her Savior. Now, she has completely left the way of the Lord. I was able to give her some help with her problem, but more importantly, I reminded "Love" about the love that Jesus showed to her by dying for her sin.

There are also great challenges and adversaries. We spend a lot of time training and discipling people. Some bring forth fruit in their lives and others fall by the wayside. The sad part is, that it not only hurts the name of the church, but the name of Christ. Please pray for God to strengthen us in the difficult times.

## Brenda Hamme

Mount Joy, PA

"I will instruct thee and teach thee in the way which thou shalt go: I will guide thee with mine eye." Psalm 32:8 Both the timeliness and timelessness of the Bible have been a source of wonder and encouragement to me through the years. The words given by inspiration of God are just as relevant and profitable for my instruction today as they were when they were faithfully recorded by His choice servants many, many years ago. I feel doubly blessed to have His completed revelation as my guide and His indwelling Spirit as my teacher.

Through the years, some of the highlights for me have been the times when our Board of Directors, their wives, and our missionaries have met at an Annual Meeting or Semi-Annual Meeting. It is always encouraging to spend time in the Word, hear reports from each ministry, pray with and for one another and fellowship together.

One of the things I didn't know 25 years ago was how and through whom the Lord was going to meet my needs as a missionary secretary. As He has taught me to trust Him in this area, He has proven Himself faithful in seeing that I have lacked nothing that I've needed. I am truly grateful for your important part in God's provision for my life and ministry.

Please see pictures of our church activities on our website at [www.northhillsbiblechurch.org](http://www.northhillsbiblechurch.org) and click on the "Resources" link and find "Current Issue".

## Outreach Ministries

### Rescue Mission

Once a month on a Monday night our church provides a worship service for those that come into the Rescue Mission. Songbooks are handed out to all those that come in and Nate Moss leads the service with songs, prayer and Scripture reading. Mary Snyder plays the piano for these songs and the special music. Each month different people from our church provide special music and a message from God's Word.

After the service, food is served that has been provided by one of our Sunday School classes.

Those coming into the Rescue Mission need to receive an understanding of God's Word and how it relates to their lives personally. It is our pleasure to bring a message of hope and God's plan of salvation to them.

### Prison Ministry

"Lock them up and throw the key away". Thankfully this is not what GOD says. Most of us can say "There go I, but for the grace of GOD".

The attendance at the chapel services has dropped from as many as 45 to 2, with the average being about 15. Our team includes a pianist, two to give testimonies, a meeting planner and one bringing the message. Attention to the speaker is mostly good and the singing is often very good. Response to the Gospel message averages about three.

We are thankful for the open door for the Gospel allowing us to go in [and out] at York County Prison. Your prayers for this ministry are vital.

Ken Hoffman

### Nursing Home Ministries

#### Pleasant Acres

Our church has had a ministry at Pleasant Acres for about 30 years. Normally we minister six times a year (on the second Sunday of the odd-numbered months) unless services are canceled due to flu outbreaks, or when Veterans Day occurs on a Sunday, when a Veteran's memorial service takes the place of our service.

Our services consist of hymns for all to sing, Scripture, prayer, special music, sometimes testimonies of our people from NHBC, and a Bible message (usually by people from our church). Very few respond to the gospel for salvation. Most of the responses are from Christians who appreciate good Bible preaching and teaching.

This year more of the residents wanted to attend the Chapel services than allowed in the room for fire safety requirements. As a result, those on different floors are allowed to attend on different weeks. The residents not able to attend the Chapel can watch the service in their rooms on closed circuit TV.

Since most of the people there are in wheelchairs, we need to wheel them to the Chapel. If you would like to serve the Lord by helping people get to the Chapel, see Bud Collins, or just come and join us at Pleasant Acres.

Bud Collins

#### Manor Care

Praise God for the opportunities He affords to share the Word of Life at the Manor Care Nursing Home.

Pray God's Spirit will prepare hearts to hear His truths as presented in song and proclaimed through the living Word.

Pray that these folks will continue to be encouraged in their walk with Christ or receive Him as their Lord and Savior.

Praise God for His sufficiency and faithfulness!

Don Scotten



## Preschoolers

*taught by Mrs. Moss*

Each year we do a series on creation, learning what God made each day. How important it is for children to understand right from the start, that God is the great Creator of all that they see. The world will tell them other things contrary to Scripture, but we are thankful for the privilege of setting the foundation early in their lives of the truth found in Genesis.

John 14:1-6 is the passage the preschoolers are learning by memory this quarter. It is a comforting and encouraging Scripture to so many people. David and Esther Wertz, and Shawn Smith have been able to say it by memory so far.

## Primaries

*taught by Mr. and Mrs. Smith*

Our class has been memorizing Psalm 121:1-8. The children are working very hard. We almost have the passage completed. The children also do many signs as they say their verses. Different ones also help with teaching the verses as they are always ahead with their memorization.

We continue our lessons on the Life of Moses as he leads the people to the promised land. We are now right outside of the land and Moses has sent the men in to check out this wonderful promised land. God has been so faithful to the people but we constantly see the Israelites lack of trust and faith in God Almighty.

## Juniors

*taught by Mr. and Mrs. Cook*

We have finished our lessons on David and Solomon, and now we are studying the ministry of the prophet Elijah. Our lessons have been emphasizing the importance of being obedient to God, like Elijah, even though he lived in a land of wickedness with Ahab and Jezebel. Is it really that much different in our world today? Sometimes, even as Elijah did, we get discouraged with the wickedness we see around us. There may even be times that we sit under the juniper tree as Elijah and wonder if it is all worth it. But it is during those times that God ministers to us and reminds us that He has a job for us to do. Next we will be studying Elisha.

We would like to say, "Job well done" to Allyson Knuth, Caleb Fetrow, Charles Balcom, and Ian Morrow for memorizing the entire chapter of I Corinthians 13.

## Master Clubs

Director - Nathaniel Wertz

This winter the Ambassadors have been working on various badges such as Scripture Memory, Life of Christ, in which they learn about the ministry of Christ here on earth, and most recently, the Christian Love badge, which focuses on having the clubbers do various Christian works in their school, home, church, and community.

In working on the Christian love badge we have been going through the famous, "love chapter" 1 Corinthians 13. Each week we've been taking the chapter apart, a verse or two at a time, and learning about what true love is. Every week we always make clear the fact that love, is not a feeling, but consists of all the various things that are mentioned in this chapter.

Please pray that the clubbers will take 1 Corinthians to heart, and begin to understand all of the intricacies of true love and apply it in their lives.



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# Quizzing

by Quiz Coach, Mrs. Moss

Competition is exciting to teens, and it is no exception with Bible quizzing. Some of the teens that have quizzed for a number of years have said that they think the book of James, which we are studying this year, has been the easiest. But that also means that it is easier for the teams we are quizzing against. So the intense study must continue in order to come out on top.

Not only is the book of James a good study to compete in, but it also has some treasures for us to keep in the forefront of our minds and hearts all the rest of our lives. Starting off in chapter one with the instruction that if we ever lack wisdom through life, to not hesitate to ask of God. In chapter two we are challenged to let our faith show by the good works that we do. Chapter three warns us to be aware of the affects our tongues have. To ever be drawing closer to God in humility and submissiveness is addressed in chapter four. Chapter five encourages us to be patient here on earth until Christ's return. And there is so much more to glean from this amazing portion of Scripture. Pray that the teens will remember what they are studying now, throughout their entire lives.

## HOMESCHOOL NEWS

by Connie Morrow

The children continue to enjoy getting together and learning new things. In January the primaries made coil pots and finger pots. They learned about Ira Sankey and Elizabeth Clephane

who wrote the song 'Ninety and Nine'. For gym they did various relays. The middlers did paper weaving to make a basket. For gym they had a challenge of carrying a ping pong ball on a spoon while doing an obstacle course. The teens are continuing to study chemistry. They learned a lot about the periodic table. For gym they played ping pong. It has become a regular January activity to go roller skating. The children greatly enjoy that.

In February the primary group decorated cookies and shared them with the older children. Yum, yum! They continue to learn about hymn writers. This month they learned about Philip Bliss. The middlers continued to learn to do weaving with this month's project doing coiling to make a coaster. For gym they did a variety of activities some of which were hopscotch and ring tossing game. The teens have begun to experiment with some chemical reactions. This month they used household chemicals, seeing that chemistry is all around them. For gym they played dodge ball ping pong.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS



### MARCH

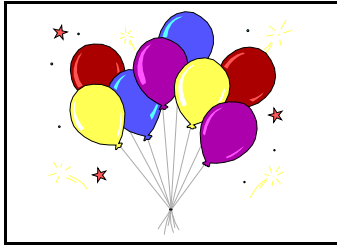
|    |                                       |          |
|----|---------------------------------------|----------|
| 10 | Pleasant Acres Service                | 1:45 PM  |
| 14 | Homeschool Classes                    | 9-12 AM  |
| 18 | Rescue Mission Service                | 8:00 PM  |
| 19 | Trustees' Meeting                     | 6:30 PM  |
| 20 | TAP Ministry                          | 8:00 AM  |
| 24 | Bible Quizzing Competition            | 2-4 PM   |
| 28 | Homeschool Field Trip to Fire Station |          |
| 29 | Crucifixion Service                   | 7:00 PM  |
| 31 | Resurrection Service                  | 10:45 AM |



### APRIL

|    |                            |           |
|----|----------------------------|-----------|
| 11 | Homeschool Classes         | 9-12 AM   |
| 15 | Rescue Mission Service     | 8:00 PM   |
| 16 | Trustees' Meeting          | 6:30 PM   |
| 17 | TAP Ministry               | 8:00 AM   |
| 21 | Manor Care Service         | 1:45 PM   |
| 25 | Homeschool Field Trip      |           |
| 27 | Final Quiz and Youth Rally | 2-8:30 PM |
| 30 | Prison Ministry            | 7:00 PM   |

# Church Family News



## Happy Birthday

### March

- 1 - Donald Scotten
- 9 - **Samuel Moss**
- 9 - **Nicole Moss**
- 10 - Kevin Boyer
- 10 - Pamela Grove
- 11 - Barry Shelly
- 14 - Richard Fetrow Jr.
- 14 - Jonathan Kanost
- 15 - Sonja Breneman
- 15 - Roy Morrow
- 17 - Ruth Warner
- 18 - Pastor Moss
- 18 - Marian Tawney
- 18 - Gary Zimmerman
- 19 - **Peter Pinyol**
- 20 - **Jonathan Perrott**
- 23 - Lydia Fetrow
- 24 - Amy Kanost
- 24 - **Miriam Rocker**
- 28 - Carlton Morrow

### April

- 1 - Linda Goodling
- 5 - **Brenda Hamme**
- 5 - Ervin Kornbau



- 7 - **Elijah Moss**
- 8 - Bill Knudsen
- 8 - Barbara Lenhart
- 15 - David Wertz
- 19 - Caleb Fetrow
- 21 - **Imelda Livio**
- 23 - Darcy Cook
- 23 - Sarah Sipe
- 25 - Rose Lindstrom
- 29 - Delores Shields



## Happy Anniversary

### March

- 7 - Don & Jeanette Scotten
- 19 - Bill & Doris Knudsen

### April

- 8 - Reg & Ina Stelfox
- 11 - Matt & Rachelle Krape
- 18 - **Peter & Janis Colon**
- 26 - **Glenn & Cheryl Hilt**

### Please Note!

The purpose of printing these lists is to give the church family an opportunity to congratulate one another on these special days. The **bold print** indicates a member of our missionary family.



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Our sincere sympathy is extended to the family and friends of Bessie Boyer who passed away on February 17, 2013. She was 101 years old.

## Remember Our Shut-ins



Lorraine Beath, Jean Beck, Ken & Mary Cole, Joe Feltenberger, Jeannie Geesey, Marlene Gladfelter, Pam Grove, Glenda Hamme, Gloria Hevner, Susan Peters, Ivy Pyle, Sara Sipe, Reg Stelfox, Marian Tawney, Hilda Wallace, Elmira Wise

# USA Ministry Interests

**Child Evangelism Fellowship (CEF) of York County, PA - Reaching children through Good News Clubs.**



Teacher Training Class held monthly.



After school clubs held weekly.

~~~~~  
**Military Evangelism - Camp LeJune, Jacksonville, North Carolina - Ministry to Marines.**



Serving meals at Bible study.



Serving families.  
(Left)



Day outings.  
(Right)

# USA Ministry Interests

**Teacher Assistance Program (TAP Ministry) - Harrisburg, PA - Sending printed materials overseas.**



Sorting materials.



Packing boxes.

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**Rescue Mission - Our church holds a service there once a month.**



Providing a church service with spiritual food . . . and a meal with physical food.

# Our Sunday School Department



The Preschool Class recently did a creation project with a peace plant and betta fish.



Primaries



Juniors



Sometimes the Primary and Junior Classes enjoy combining together to do a project.



SENDING OUR MISSIONARIES, THE SAM MOSS FAMILY, TO UGANDA FOR THEIR FIRST TERM  
FEBRUARY 18, 2013



Sorting and packing. Decisions, decisions - what goes, what stays?



Keeping each trunk under 50 pounds, and making a list of what is in each.



A wonderful time of fellowship and food followed the special evening service we had with them.



Many are and will be praying for this family.



At the airport with their 50 pieces of luggage to be checked, plus 2 carry-ons per person.