

Rushmore Newsletter

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JUNE 2011

Sponsor:

Siwell Road Church of Christ
4075 Siwell Road
Jackson, MS 39212

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Helping to continue the
missionary labors of
the late J.C. Choate

Co-workers with
Betty Choate, Wayne & Janet
Barrier, Jerry & Paula Bates &
others

**Involved in
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Voice of Truth International
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Literature Distribution
School of Evangelism

Louis Rushmore
Gospel Gazette Online, Editor
Voice of Truth International,
Associate Editor

World Evangelism



P.R. Swamy, Therman Hodge, Louis & Bonnie Rushmore,
Sheila Douglas, Saroja Swamy, Vernon Douglas
Bangalore, India 2010

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New Sponsoring Congregation!

Louis Rushmore

The **temporary oversight** by the elders of the Vermilion, Ohio Church of Christ concludes on July 1, 2011 after nearly four years! How's that for **temporary**? I guess one could say that I was in no rush to locate another congregation with its eldership to serve in that capacity.

About four years ago as Bonnie and I were about to begin working with J.C. and Betty Choate in world evangelism, we were experiencing some difficulty finding a church with elders that was willing to accept the job of sponsoring and otherwise of overseeing us. Some very good churches with whom we have an excellent relationship would say to us, "We don't want the responsibility." Though the same congregations would help us financially, they did not want the role of sponsorship or overseeing a mission work.

Unknown to me at the time, a former student of mine at West Virginia School of Preaching who had since graduated and located with a good church in northern Ohio inquired of his elders if they might oversee our work. They said, "Yes." The Vermilion Church of Christ agreed to take temporary sponsorship of Bonnie and me in our missionary labors. Temporary was open-ended, but it was nevertheless by some definition only temporary. The Vermilion Church of Christ is a relatively small congregation with no experience in overseas missions.

Sponsorship and oversight by the Ver-

million Church of Christ and its eldership has been invaluable to us. Having congregational oversight under an eldership assures individual Christians and churches of Christ that they can confidently participate financially in a work. Sponsoring congregations provide moral encouragement, and brethren in Vermilion were essentially our cheerleaders, prodding us on and holding our hands up in our labors. Especially the preacher, Mark Weaver, has been instrumental in intercepting incoming financial support and funneling it to the treasurer while sending copies of the checks to us for our records and for Bonnie and me to send "Thank You" acknowledgements. A special thanks goes to Dawn Weaver for her hospitality from year to year by opening her home to Bonnie and me (and sometimes our daughter Rebecca as well). Of course, we love their children dearly.

While sponsorship and oversight shifts to another congregation, our relationship with the elders, preacher and members of the Vermilion Church of Christ continues to be one of fellowship, friendship and appreciation. We expect to continue to interact with and visit the Vermilion Church of Christ.



Sunday Worship in a
Yangon, Myanmar Home in 2010

Beginning in July, the elders of the Siwell Road Church of Christ in Jackson, Mississippi will assume the oversight of Bonnie and me in our mission work. Five elders serve the congregation, which in addition to works stateside also participates in several mission works abroad already. Besides direct involvement in foreign missions, the Siwell Road Church of Christ helps support several additional missionaries, including Bonnie and me. Now, the elders of the Siwell Church of Christ and other members will be working directly with us in our foreign missions. The proximity of the Siwell Road congregation to where we live versus the distance away of the Vermilion Church of Christ from where we live will be an advantage, too; sponsorship and oversight less than two hours away in Jackson versus about 14 hours away in Vermilion will lend itself to more convenient interaction for us with our overseeing elders. We look forward to a long partnership with the Siwell Road Church of Christ in foreign missions.

In preparation for the transition of oversight from Vermilion, OH to Jackson, MS, the details are being attended to presently. Christians and churches of Christ sending financial support can begin sending it to:

Rushmore Evangelism Fund
Siwell Road Church of Christ
4075 Siwell Road
Jackson, MS 39212

Please pray for both congregations and for us as we continue to devote ourselves to foreign mission work. 

Out of the Country

Louis Rushmore

Guyana, South America: Bonnie and I leave July 16, 2011 for Linden, Guyana and we will return to the States July 23, 2011. In the mornings, we will teach VBS to hundreds of children. In the afternoons, we will set up Bible study appointments for the Christians from the USA who will come to Guyana the following week. Evenings, Bonnie will teach ladies' classes and I will teach men's classes. Between weekdays and weekends, we will work with three congregations and non-Christians in the area. Our daughter Rebecca goes annually to Linden, but this year, there were not enough adult males going, so we were invited to participate. We will go with other brothers and sisters in Christ from the Collierville, TN Church of Christ. This will be Bonnie and my first trip to Guyana, but we look forward to going on another mission trip with Rebecca; last year she and a brother in Christ from Collierville accompanied Bonnie and me on a mission campaign to Myanmar (Burma).

Myanmar & India: About September 28, Bonnie and I will leave for Myanmar where we will work two weeks in various locations in the northern interior of the country. A third week, we will work in the southern part of the country where we normally labor in the Gospel. From Myanmar, we will proceed to India and teach the Gospel in various locations throughout the nation. Travel to and from Asia, traveling within Asia and teaching the Gospel, we anticipate being gone about eight weeks, arriving back in the USA Thanksgiving week.

For both of these campaigns out of the country, Bonnie and I rely on Christians and churches of Christ to make it possible for us to take the Gospel to precious souls, Christians and non-Christians. In addition to the funds for these journeys, Bonnie and I collect money from brethren for printing literature in the languages of the people as well as for the purchase and distribution of Bibles. Besides this, we covet your prayers and encouragement. 

Eight-State Whirlwind Trip!

Bonnie Rushmore

The ringtone for my phone (courtesy of Rebecca) is “On the Road Again,” and the month of May proved it. The first Sunday we were in Columbus, MS. The Bear Creek and Barn Creek congregations in Bear Creek, AL were our destinations the following weekend. Between worship services, we drove through Hackleburg, AL and Phil Campbell, AL – two towns devastated by tornados the end of April and just a few miles from Bear Creek. When Rebecca discovered how close we were to these two towns, she requested pictures (if possible) to use with her 6th grade science class. As we drove along the streets, we were awed by the scope of destruction. We have watched several newscasts with pictures of tornado damage, but one has to see it first hand to comprehend the magnitude of damage. We returned home late Sunday night with a better understanding of the relief efforts for that area.

Wednesday morning of May 11, with the car loaded to the max, we steered once more toward Alabama for the annual Maywood Missionary Retreat at Maywood Christian Camp outside of Hamilton, AL. We arrived about 11:30 a.m. and immediately joined Ellen and Colin McKee cleaning cabins in preparation for guests arriving Thursday afternoon. The Barriers and Larsons arrived a short time later, and the Bates a few hours after that (they stopped to purchase food for the three-day event). By 4:00 p.m., with the

cabins and grounds cleaned, the work-weary group settled into their rooms and prepared themselves for a supper meal at a local restaurant before attending midweek Bible Study at the Hamilton, AL congregation. Thursday morning, we finalized preparations before the attendees started arriving a little after 1:00 p.m. The 90 plus attendees enjoyed two days of plenty of food – both spiritual and physical as well as fellowship.

Saturday morning, Louis and I headed southeast toward Valdosta, GA for our Sunday morning appointment with the Dasher Road congregation. Following services, we continued south to Jacksonville, FL where Louis preached at the Chaffee Road Church of Christ that evening. Mary Fox graciously lodged us in her home for the next three days. Wednesday morning, I taught the Ladies’ class at Chaffee Road. Then, we loaded the van to drive across town to lodge with Allen and Bernice Cross; Louis spoke at the Riverview Church of Christ that evening. Thursday evening, we accompanied brother and sister Cross to a Bible Study held in the gymnasium of a housing development. The manager of this facility encourages the residents to attend and attends, too. Several members of the Riverview congregation support this effort by participating in the study and helping with refreshments. The following Sunday found us in DeFuniak Springs, FL in the morning and Mobile, AL in the evening.

Since Florida is many, many miles from

Mississippi, Louis scheduled these appointments for the same week to keep from making multiple trips throughout the year to that area. We also decided that this was an opportune time to slow down and rest between Sunday and Wednesday appointments. We take our laptops on the road with us and typically work on *Voice of Truth International*, *Gospel Gazette Online* and whatever is most pressing on our to do list. We rarely take a vacation (although some may think we are always on vacation with all the traveling we do), so this schedule afforded us a few days of downtime. Monday and Thursday, Mary Fox took us to visit with a couple of her contacts. One is a young man from Burma working with a World Relief effort in Jacksonville; the other is a man from Korea that Mary and her husband studied with about 20 years ago. Even though the man has not obeyed the Gospel, Mary keeps in touch and encourages him to think about his soul. Both men welcomed our visit.

Tuesday morning Louis and I took a short riverboat cruise near Amelia and Cumberland Islands where we saw dolphins swimming and wild horses on Cumberland Island. We returned to Mary's home in time to shower and change before our dinner appointment with the James family. As we headed out of town Friday morning, we stopped at Fort George Island for a two-hour Segway tour of the island before continuing toward our next two appointments (in DeFuniak, FL and in Mobile, AL).

We arrived home Monday evening May

23 with enough time to do laundry, catch up at the office and repack for our next trip. We left Winona Thursday afternoon with a fully loaded van heading north on I-55. Rebecca needed assistance preparing her home for the installation of new windows Friday. Also, since she had one more day to teach, someone needed to be onsite for the installation process to begin at 9:30 Friday morning. This schedule worked well for us as Rebecca joined us on Saturday for our northward trip.

Sunday morning Louis spoke at the North Lexington (KY) church of Christ. We then traveled north to Florence, KY where we worshipped with the Florence congregation. Monday morning, we visited the Creation Museum located just a few miles from there. We thoroughly enjoyed our visit and I highly recommend it, especially to families, as the exhibits are very child friendly. Monday evening, we arrived at our personal bed and breakfast in Hanoverton, OH (the Bob and Martha Noland residence). Wednesday morning, we continued our travels northwest to Vermillion, OH and the Weaver residence. This family always welcomes us with open arms and lots of hugs (three children rushed out the door before we had the car doors open). Louis taught the Wednesday night Bible Class.

Thursday morning, we traveled east to Cambridge Springs, PA to visit my mother. Mom's mind has been failing the past few months, so I did not know what to expect up-

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Prefer an email newsletter? Email
rushmore@gospelgazette.com.

Vermilion Church of Christ

5116 Driftwood Drive

Vermilion, Ohio 44089

440-967-6757

Elders:

John Roscoe, Claude Price,

Frank Klingman

Ministers:

Mark Weaver, Linro Mead



"...the churches of Christ salute you" Romans 16:16

June 1, 2011

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Greetings in the name of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ! The Elders here at the Vermilion church of Christ are pleased to announce that we will be transferring the oversight of the work of Louis and Bonnie Rushmore to the Elders of the Siwell Road congregation in Jackson, MS. Siwell Road will begin their oversight on July 1, 2011. Please begin sending your financial support to:

Siwell Rd. church of Christ
Rushmore Evangelism Fund
4075 Siwell Rd.
Jackson, MS 39212

When we first began the oversight of this work four years ago, it was with the understanding that this day would come. It was our desire from the beginning that the Rushmores would be able to find a congregation closer to their home, so that they would be able to have more fellowship and so that oversight would be easier. We are very thankful to God that this has taken place, although we would have continued to oversee this good work.

We commend to you the work of the Rushmore's, and pray that they will have a long and fruitful relationship with the Siwell Road congregation. Thank you all for your past and future support of this world wide mission effort.

Sincerely,
The Elders,
Vermilion church of Christ

John Roscoe
John Roscoe

Claude Price
Claude Price

Frank Klingman
Frank Klingman

Rushmore Evangelism Fund:

May, 2011

Beginning Literature & Bible Balance	-\$205.91
Beginning Foreign Balance	-\$1,458.20
Beginning Available Balance	\$7,751.91
Income	
Contributions	\$3,083.33
Stateside Travel	\$1,452.00
Literature & Bibles	\$775.00
Foreign Travel	\$1,065.00
Printing/Book Sales	\$60.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$6,435.33
Expenses	
Auto Expenses	\$587.69
Stateside Travel	\$1,256.99
Bank Fees	\$5.88
Internet	\$30.00
Literature & Bibles	\$125.00
Office & Misc.	\$2.85
Postage/Shipping	\$218.91
Medical Treatment & Insurance	\$878.88
Housing	\$93.41
Salary	\$1,500.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$4,699.61
Statement Period Balance	\$1,735.72
Ending Literature & Bible Balance	\$444.09
Ending Foreign Travel Balance	-\$393.20
Ending Available Balance	\$9,487.63

Please send address changes
to Louis Rushmore, 705 Devine St.,
Winona, MS 38967, or call (662) 739-3035.

Yes, we want to help Louis & Bonnie Rushmore in their publishing of Gospel literature and foreign evangelism.

- Here is a onetime gift of \$_____.
- I (we) plan to send a monthly gift of \$_____, beginning _____ (month).
- Here is my gift of \$_____ for literature & Bibles.
- Here is my gift of \$_____ toward the overseas travel fund.

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

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Mail to the Rushmores' sponsoring church:

Siwell Road Church of Christ
 4075 Siwell Road
 Jackson, MS 39212

Online donations can be made at
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 on the top, left of the page.

Call Louis Rushmore
 at 662.739.3035 or email
Rushmore@gospelgazette.com to make
 an appointment to update your
 congregation about his mission work or to
 schedule him for a Gospel meeting, etc.

Call Bonnie Rushmore at 662.283.9946 or
 email Bonnie@gospelgazette.com to
 schedule a ladies' inspiration day.

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on our arrival. Much to my surprise, her face lit up in recognition as we walked into the dining hall where she was seated. She knew each of us, including Rebecca who she has not seen for two years. We took her to my niece's home for supper and a small family reunion. As evening approached, it became clear that while mom recognized us, her mind is slipping and she was worse than on previous visits. Unfortunately, because of other health problems, this will probably be our last visit where we can take her out of the nursing home.

Friday afternoon, we arrived in Wheeling, WV, visiting with Emanuel and Judy Daugherty. Sunday morning, Louis preached at Cameron, WV where we enjoyed a fellowship meal with our dear friends there. That

evening we worshipped with the Harmar Hill congregation in Marietta, OH where we also met the Rodney Nulph family. We enjoyed a pizza supper with this wonderful family who are also very dear to us.

Monday morning, we began our long journey home, twelve hours later arriving at Rebecca's house. Tuesday afternoon, we drove to Heritage Christian University in Florence, AL. We attended a special program hosted by the "Friends of Overton Library" honoring Louis and me (along with many other missionaries) by placing books in the library in our name.

We arrived in Winona, MS about 1:00 a.m. Wednesday morning, ending a four week -long tour in the US with a brief layover in Winona. It is good to be home. Now to catch up – not nearly as hard to do with my trusty laptop in tow! ☺

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