



Rushmore Newsletter

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Helping to continue
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Coworkers with
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Louis Rushmore
*Gospel Gazette
Online, Editor*

*Voice of Truth
International,
Associate Editor*

Refrigerator Adornment!

Louis Rushmore

Some of you reading this issue of the **Rushmore Newsletter** are doing so online, and obviously you do not have the enclosure of a picture of Bonnie and me that those receiving the printed version received. However, we invite the readers of the printed version to put us on the refrigerator – or some other conspicuous place. That way you can remember us from time to time (at least three times a day as you open the fridge to obtain food). Anyone not receiving a picture, for instance, because you are reading the online edition, simply contact us if you would like a picture for yourself of us.

Do not fret thinking that our vanity drove us to spend the Lord's money extravagantly to acquire sufficient number of these photographs for distribution to readers of the **Rushmore Newsletter**. Our Coca

Cola drinking habit has a rewards program that permitted us to acquire these pictures without cost except for the shipping. 📖



Upcoming Event: Guyana Seminars

Louis Rushmore

Bonnie and I just arrived back in the United States Tuesday night November 13. We had left Memphis International Airport on September 27 for Asia, and we taught brethren, denominational people, Buddhists, Hindus and Animists in Myanmar (formerly Burma), Singapore and India. Already, we are looking toward the next and upcoming events in the near future of our evangelistic ministry.

Last year, Bonnie and I initiated a series of workshops or seminars throughout Guyana, South America wherein she and I

taught Christian women and men, respectively. In the vein of what the apostle Paul attributed to Apollos, we major in **watering** the seed of the kingdom and minor in **planting** the seed of the kingdom (1 Corinthians 3:6). We propose to strengthen and grow congregations from the inside out. In 2012, Bonnie taught "The Role of Women in the Home and in the Church," and I taught "Male Leadership."

On about **February 8, 2013**, Bonnie and I will depart for **Guyana** to teach

(Continued on page 3)

Around the World in 48 Days!

Bonnie Rushmore

Louis and I, along with travelling companion Therman Hodge, literally flew around the world for our Asia mission trip this year. When we left Memphis, TN September 27th, we flew east to Atlanta, GA before flying west to Los Angeles, CA. In LA we boarded another plane to Singapore and changed planes once again to fly to Yangon, Myanmar (arriving there on September 29th) where we began our missionary efforts.

Nineteen days later, we flew from Yangon to Singapore on our way to Bangalore, India. Since we had an overnight stay in Singapore, Louis contacted brethren at the Lavender Church of Christ and offered our services for a special Friday night Bible Class. Our flight to Singapore was delayed, and we arrived there with just enough time to go to the building for supper before classes began. Louis and Therman each taught an hour while I had a two-hour session with ladies. We checked into the hotel about 11:30 p.m. and scheduled a taxi for 6:30 a.m. for our flight to Bangalore.

Our travels took us from Singapore to Chennai, India with a seven-hour layover before continuing to our next stop in Bangalore. Typically our work with brother P.R. Swamy involves seminars in Bangalore or in Nammalkal. However, this trip brother Swamy had us travelling from village to village working with individual congregations rather than with church leaders. Seven days after our arrival in Bangalore, we were once again boarding a plane. This time, we were headed for Rajamundry.

Brother Samuel Raja Muppidi picked us up at the airport, and we traveled by car for an hour to Skinners Garden. The compound houses a church building, children's home, widows' home, Bible training/vocational school for men and women and a printing press for Gospel literature. We spent three days there while travelling each evening to area villages for Gospel meetings and Sunday worship. Monday morning, we were once again on the road for a three-hour drive to Visakhapatnam to teach in the Visakha Valley Bible College. Monday through Wednesday, Louis and Therman shared the daily five hours of class time for the men while I taught the ladies on Monday and Tuesday. Tuesday and Wednesday evenings, we travelled to area congregations for Gospel meetings. Thursday morning, Samuel drove us to Kakinada – a two and a half hour drive.

During the first five days of our stay in Kakinada, we were busy travelling to villages teaching all who gathered to hear the Gospel of Christ. Tuesday began the annual lectureship held at the Satyanani Church of Christ. For the next three days, Louis and Therman shared their time with two other American missionaries and Vinay David from north India, preaching to up to 600 adults, most of whom are Christians. Betty Choate was also in Kakinada, so she and I shared the afternoon ladies' sessions with another lady from the US. Heavy rains hampered some scheduled outstation meetings as well as the attendance for the lectureship program.

Therman opted to end his Asia travels in Kakinada. The heavy rains over the weekend had him and us a little concerned that he would be unable to travel the road to the airport in Rajamundry. It was imperative that he leave for home on Wednesday, November 7th in order to reach home by November 10th for his 50th wedding anniversary. Fortunately, the rains stopped Sunday night, and the flooded roads dried in time for him to travel home!

Ten days after our arrival in Kakinada, Louis and I were in the air again, this time flying to New Delhi. That leg of our trip was scheduled to coincide with the dedication of the long-awaited church building. Betty arrived in New Delhi the day before us. About forty years after purchasing the property and less than a year after beginning the construction, the meetinghouse was finally opened for use. Betty and J.C. began their India work in the city of Delhi and were instrumental in raising the funds for the building. It was only fitting since J.C. passed away nearly five years ago that Betty officially

(Continued on page 3)



**We literally
traveled
around the
world in 48
days!**

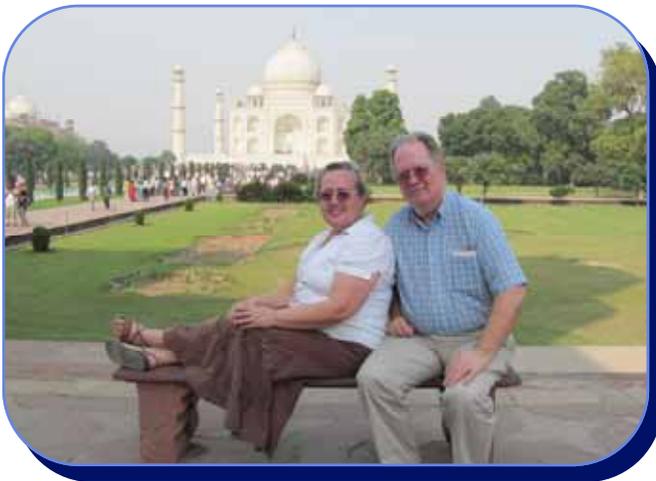
(Continued from page 2 **Around the World**)

unveiled the plaque. Sunny David taught the first Bible class, and Louis preached the first sermon in the new building.

The last day of our Asia trip was an extremely long day – not unlike many of our days this trip. Monday morning, Vinay and Arishma David and Louis and I took a four and a half hour car ride to the Taj Mahal. Frequently, Louis and I are asked by brethren here in the states if we have been to the Taj Mahal – one of the “new seven wonders of the world” – to which we answer “no we have not had time.” This trip, we made plans to visit it since New Delhi is close. Vinay was kind enough to agree to be our guide, and we encouraged his wonderful wife to accompany us. Grandma and Grandpa (Francis and Elsie David) volunteered to keep 18 month old child Aaron for the day. The stone inlay work on this building is amazing. We took a different route back to New Delhi – a new highway much like our interstate highways – thus cutting our drive back to three hours. We returned to the David’s apartment in time to bathe, change clothes and pack our bags. We left for the airport just before 11:00 p.m. for a 2:30 a.m. flight home.

Although this trip was shorter than last year, it seemed to be much longer, and I

was more than ready to head for home! We touched down in Memphis, TN around 6:30 p.m. Tuesday November 13th. Rebecca was on hand to pick us up at the airport, and we spent a couple of days with her before returning to Winona. Louis and I had departed America from the west coast, and we returned to the east coast. We had literally travelled around the world in 48 days!📖



(Continued from page 1 **Upcoming Events**)

throughout the nation in congregations of the Lord’s church through the end of the month – approximately 20 days. This year, we expect to travel to not only coastal areas but interior parts of the country to afford as many brethren as possible opportunity to participate. Bonnie and I will be teaching “**Value-Added Lessons for Christian Servants**” to sisters and brothers in Christ, respectively. We lend ourselves to the able direction of Nigel Milo, evangelist residing in Linden, Guyana.

We are keeping the costs contained as much as possible by taking the lessons to the brethren rather than helping to offset their expenses for traveling to a central location and lodging for several days. The lead time ahead of making that trip is now! Ideally, ***we need to purchase our airline tickets next month – in December!*** We estimate the cost of this program for three weeks to cost about \$7,000. ***If this is something in which you or your congregation may be interested, we need your financial participation immediately.*** Bonnie and I will gladly visit your local church to acquaint it more fully with this upcoming event and our overall missionary work.

You may reach me by email at rushmore@gospelgazette.com or on my cell phone at 662-739-3035. Please stop by Winona, MS to acquaint yourself with the World Evangelism facilities and work; just call ahead to make sure we are there. We are making appointments now to visit churches throughout the country for biblical lessons and PowerPoint presentations about our ministry.📖

Value-Added
Lessons for
Christian
Servants

Trials & Triumphs!

Bonnie Rushmore

Like all our mission trips, our seven-week trip to Asia had its ups and downs. However, this trip seemed to have more “downs” than in years’ pasts.

The Trials

I think I was sicker this trip than all the previous trips combined. Shortly after our arrival in Yangon, I broke out with a wide, blood-red rash on the back of one leg. It took about a week of applying Benadryl cream to it before it went away. Fortunately, it was not real bothersome.

We are very conscious of the dangers of eating and drinking foods prepared in unsanitary conditions. Unfortunately, not all our brethren seem to be as concerned as we are about what and where we eat. So, we try to balance the need to not offend a host and the need to keep healthy. While in Myanmar, we were taken to a neighborhood, jungle restaurant for lunch. Knowing that our host eats there, we trusted that all was safe. Not so, Therman and I both became ill during the night. Louis was safe as he did not try all the dishes that were served to us. I was sick for a week because I ate two bites of a leafy green vegetable cooked in oyster sauce. Even our host got sick, though a day later than Therman and me.

This trip, we visited many more villages than in years past. At the conclusion of each service, we were served a meal or refreshments. As we were leaving one location, we noticed a woman washing our dirty dishes in the ditch running in front of the building. This ditch was filled with muddy flood water, garbage, and a couple water buffalo. I wonder where they got the water to cook the rice and hard boiled eggs.

While in Myanmar, we were exposed to tuberculosis and aids. Our brethren do not understand the high contagiousness of newly diagnosed TB, and we found ourselves worshipping in the home with a sick man in bed on the other side of the curtain.

While eating a piece of toast at the Bangalore airport I broke a tooth! Fortunately, I did not experience any pain or problems other than my tongue became irritated from rubbing the rough edge.

Once again, the India dust and smog from burning trash affected my sinuses and chest. Louis gets sick nearly every year with chest congestion, and last year I became ill with it. This year it caught both of us. We were getting better; however, as we travelled by car through the countryside to the Taj Mahal, the air was thick with burning trash, and we both relapsed.

Visiting more villages and conducting less seminars required long hours in the car to reach some of the villages. In Bangalore, we had two days of fifteen or more hours in the car. We drove a few hours, stopped to meet with a group for an hour or two, drove a few hours, stopped to meet with a group and repeated this process well into the night. I do not like driving at night as it is extremely dangerous with black water buffalo, people, trucks, buses, etc. on the road. We have come close several times to hitting something or something hitting us.

The country of Myanmar consists of several different tribes that do not get along. On our first trip years ago, the day we left, one elderly Christian lady came to visit us at the hotel. She stated that the tribes do not like each other, and it is ingrained in them from the time they are children. She acknowledged that as Christians we are supposed to love one another, but it is hard and she requested that we please pray that they will overcome this prejudice. When we arrived in Yangon this year, we found the fussing and fighting among Christians worse than ever before. As we had opportunity, Louis and I taught the need to get along so that the church can grow. Hopefully, it did some good.

(Continued on page 5)



Disappointments,
Sickness &
Exhaustion

(Continued from page 4 **Trials & Triumphs**)

We love the people of Myanmar; they are some of the most loving people we have ever met anywhere. The country is beautiful with lush green vegetation, and it is clean. Usually, we are uplifted when we leave this country as we see the Christians hungering for the truth of God's Word; however, when we left we were very discouraged.

The Triumphs

As we drove from Rajamundry to Skinners Garden Friday afternoon, Louis asked brother Samuel Raja what was the schedule for the next few days. He said nothing was scheduled for that night, but a Gospel meeting was scheduled for Saturday, and either Louis or Therman would preach for Sunday worship. Around 4:00 p.m. – shortly after our arrival at Skinners Garden – Samuel said to be ready to leave at 8:00 for a Gospel meeting at a nearby village. When we arrived, 92 people were gathered to hear the Gospel! Within four hours a Gospel meeting was planned and people invited to hear a message from God's Word, and 92 souls showed up! That is encouraging.

The building was full at almost every village meeting we attended. The daytime meetings had less attendance as the men were working in the fields, but the women came. The evening meetings were late at night so that the workers could attend. All those in attendance usually sat on cement floors and listened carefully to the messages presented. This is encouraging. People are hungering and thirsting for God's Word.

We had the opportunity to be the first to take the Gospel to a remote Hindu village – one of those 15 plus hour car rides. We met in the government school, and the building was full with some standing outside listening for the first time to a message from the Bible. This is encouraging, but it also affirms the need to continue to spread the Gospel to a lost and dying world.

We were on hand for the opening of the long awaited building in New Delhi. It has been 40 years since the property was obtained and a long court battle ensued over who owned the property. Last year, the courts finalized the ownership and now the church in New Delhi has its own building to use to reach out to the lost of New Delhi! Our trip ended on a positive upbeat note.

During our seven weeks in Asia, 25 precious souls were baptized into Christ. We do not claim responsibility for these baptisms as local brethren studied with these individuals before our arrival. Our part was simply one more opportunity to hear the Truth and take action.

I am thankful...

As I write this, the Thanksgiving holiday is fast approaching. Here is a partial list of that for which I am thankful.

- Lights at the flip of a switch
- Drinkable water when I turn the faucet handle
- Hot water and a shower with which to bathe
- A washer and dryer to clean our clothes (I washed clothes by hand in a bucket and hung them on hangers to dry in our hotel room)
- A mattress with inner spring coils (most of our beds were cots with hard four inch foam)
- An overstuffed recliner (most seating in Asia is a hard plastic chair or the floor)

There are many other things for which I am thankful, but these are the things we take for granted in the USA, and I was painfully reminded of how blessed I am to be living in this country.

Most of all, I am thankful for the opportunity to share God's Word with Christians and non-Christians on the other side of the planet. I cannot adequately express our thanks to those of you who helped make this trip possible.📖



Christian
Service,
Spiritual
Blessings as
well as Physical
Blessings

Our 2012 Fall Asian Mission Trip Analyzed

Louis Rushmore

Rather than offering a simplistic analysis of our 2012 fall mission trip to Asia, based solely on a single, often misleading facet – baptisms, consider the following perspectives, too. After all, the apostle Paul clearly indicated that conversion and productivity of teaching servants of Christ goes far beyond the number of people persuaded to allow themselves to be dipped in water. “For Christ did not send me to baptize, but to preach the gospel...” (1 Corinthians 1:17 NKJV). “I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the increase” (1 Corinthians 3:6).

Obviously, conversion, culminating in baptism for the remission of sins, is the goal of teaching non-Christians (Acts 2:38; 1 Peter 3:20). Yet, teaching that results in edification is crucial to both genuine conversions and fortifying Christians as well (Matthew 28:19-20; Ephesians 4:12). Bonnie and I *major in watering the seed* (work of Apollos) and *minor in planting the seed* (work of Paul), whereas most of our counterparts in foreign lands *major in planting the seed* of the kingdom and *minor in watering the seed*. Our ministry is not defined solely by *baptism notches* on our belts comparable to the proverbial notches on an old western gunslinger’s belt.

There were 25 baptisms associated along our travels and labors. However, we are quick to note that we do not view ourselves as being primarily responsible for them. We acknowledge that the foreign nationals with whom we work in the Gospel are capable, hardworking evangelists who have taught these persons already. Importantly, they will continue to teach them God’s Word more perfectly after their conversions. Bonnie and I labor with sustainable efforts, as opposed to circumstances where scores of people are coaxed to be baptized and with whom no one is available upon our departure to continue guiding them into all truth.

Therman Hodge, Bonnie and I taught 30 different villages or cities in Myanmar, Singapore and India for 48 days. We taught audiences approximately totaling 6,130 for about 200 combined hours. Bonnie taught ladies and children, while Therman and I shared assemblies of men or mixed audiences of men, women and children.

Altogether, we flew in 17 airplanes for a total of 66 hours in flight and 47 hours in airports. We rode extensively in or on ground transportation of various sorts from four to 15 hours daily. We traveled 12 time zones away to teach Hindus, Buddhists, denominational people and Christians. Their backgrounds included the comparatively wealthy, the desperately poor, the illiterate and all levels of education.

We were exposed to chickenpox, TB, Aids, unsani-

tary conditions for food preparation often responsible for cholera and typhoid, and severe air pollution (i.e., haze composed of dust and garbage smoke). Both Bonnie and I are yet ill with congestion and cough resulting from extremely poor Indian air quality – and know that in all probability we will experience the same health problems annually as we travel to India. Bonnie and Therman were sickened with food poisoning in Myanmar, and Bonnie was ill for a week (I didn’t eat the offending menu item).



We received praiseworthy hospitality everywhere we went, for which we are thankful and appreciative. Yet, the conditions most of the time were not comparable to American comforts with which we have become accustomed. We exchanged hot showers for cold water-bucket baths (or no water available at all). Mattresses often are either four inches of foam over wooden boards or hard, stuffed fabric upon boards. Pillows are usually as hard as the former mentioned mattress – reminding me of Jacob’s pillow (Genesis 28:18). Toilet facilities range from the non-existent to squatting over eastern devices on the floor to familiar western toilets. Often there is no air conditioning available. Food is spicy and often prepared under dangerously unsanitary conditions. The only safe drinking water is professionally bottled mineral water. Some menu items are not available in most places in India, namely beef.

We are glad that brethren in the United States have afforded us opportunity to serve our Lord in foreign lands, and we intend to continue serving in this way as long as our health permits – which we hope is until we pass from this life. Yet, we are always delighted and thankful for the opportunity to return to the USA. May we all enthusiastically render ourselves as tools in the hands of God as long as we live. 📖

Beginning Literature & Bible Balance	\$4,575.24
Beginning Foreign Travel Balance	\$7,783.59
Beginning Available Balance	\$1,857.12
Income	
Contributions	\$7,814.10
Stateside Travel	\$740.00
Literature & Bibles	\$700.00
Foreign Travel	\$5,855.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$15,109.10
Expenses	
Auto Expenses	\$1,173.12
Stateside Travel	\$1,015.69
Bank Fees	\$19.75
Internet	\$35.06
Literature & Bibles	\$1,215.22
Office & Misc.	\$774.10
Postage/Shipping	\$185.63
Medical Treatment & Insurance	\$1,800.53
Housing	\$927.28
Salary	\$1,662.52
Foreign Travel	\$8,542.97
Business Telephones	\$195.39
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$17,547.26
Statement Period Net Gain/Loss	-\$2,438.16
Ending Literature & Bible Balance	\$4,060.02
Ending Foreign Travel Balance	\$5,095.62
Ending Available Balance	\$2,622.15

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.

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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.

Urgent! Oriya Language Gospel Literature

Louis Rushmore

Orissa is a State in India that is infamous for the 1999 murder of Australian denominational missionary Graham Stuart Staines and his two sons, 6-years-old and 10-years-old. They were burnt alive in their station wagon where they were sleeping at the time. In 2008, thousands of homes of Bible believers and numerous church buildings were burned; 18,000 Bible believers were injured, many beaten severely, and 50,000 Bible believers were displaced from their homes. About 500 Indian nationals who preach and teach Christianity as well as many other Bible believers were murdered.

As recently as December 16, 2011, a prominent Bible believer in Orissa was murdered, preceded that year by the murder of two additional Protestant preachers. The State of Orissa offers the greatest Hindu resistance to Christianity in India, and those who have already suffered this persecution have not recovered and nor are they safe. Any Bible believer in the State of Orissa must consider the grave dangers to the open practice of the Christian faith.

There are many members of the churches of Christ in Orissa, and as far as I know, none of them have suffered this degree of persecution yet. Our brethren are cautious. Many living in Orissa who have become Christians were

favorably affected with the Gospel through television and radio programs as well as Christian literature. Then, they left the State of Orissa to become Christians, and then returned to their homes.

Several of these new Christians were taught through the television broadcast of Joshua Gootam out of Kakinda. Responding to the programs, they received Bible correspondence courses, *The Word of Truth* magazine in their language of Oriya and a Bible (also in Oriya) after completion of the courses.

To our knowledge, these Bible correspondence courses and this magazine are the only truly Christian literature going into Orissa. However, all of this is about to change! Due to lack of funds available, first the magazine is going to be discontinued. There are not enough funds either for the Bible correspondence courses and the Bibles in the Oriya language. These developments are tragic! Certainly, Christian brethren cannot allow this to happen. We must not stop these good works – the only biblically sound Gospel literature going into Orissa – but we Christians who can make a difference with our money **MUST** do something, and we **MUST DO IT NOW!**

Ideally, a congregation will step forward and assume the financial responsibility for Oriya language literature going into the State of Orissa. *The Word of Truth* 20-page magazine in Oriya goes into 3,000 homes in Orissa every other month for a cost of \$605 (\$3,630 per year); there is a \$350 shortfall per bimonthly issue or a shortfall annually of \$2,100. Oriya language Bible correspondence courses (26 lessons to a set) sent monthly into Orissa costs about \$276 per month or approximately \$3,312 a year. The 100 Oriya language Bibles sent monthly into Orissa costs about \$3.50 each or \$350 monthly or \$4,200 a year. The entire cost of Oriya language literature and Bibles per year is about \$11,142. As indicated, some funds are available, but the shortfall is so extensive that something has to give – little by little, these good works will have to be discontinued – unless a congregation or Christians arise to the occasion and prevent this tragedy.

Do you know of a local church or brethren who are able and who may be interested? Please contact me immediately if you do. Please pray for our brethren who live in Orissa and the many non-Christians who are interested in learning about the church of our Lord Jesus. 

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"...Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. He who believes and is baptized will be saved..." (Mark 16:15-16).