



Rushmore Newsletter

Volume 16, Number 2

August 2023

Overseeing Elders:

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

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

Coworkers with

Betty Choate
Jerry & Paula Bates
Shane & Emily Fisher
Wayne & Janet Barrier
Nigel & Jasmine Milo
& others

Involved in these good works:

*Voice of Truth
International*

*Gospel
Gazette Online*

Global Harvest

Overseas
Campaigns

International
Radio & TV

Foreign
Bible Schools

Worldwide
Publishing &
Distribution of
Literature

India, Myanmar,
Singapore,
Sri Lanka, Guyana

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

News & Notes

Louis Rushmore

Office Duty

One would think that essentially being a one-man office, conveniently tucked away in a small front room of our home, the workload couldn't be overwhelming. (Martha has her office in a corner of our bedroom, and she attends to other projects such as sending greeting cards to church members and proofing my latest book.) However, I'm both the boss and the employee at the same time regarding my ministry.

Annually, I'm charged with the responsibility of facilitating funds to India for a Hindi language TV program broadcasting from New Delhi. More recently, I sent funds to New Delhi for follow-up (i.e., postage, printing, literature) to the responses to the programming. Both transfers of funds require incremental installments of money for the convenience of our foreign brethren. My area of responsibility for the Hindi language TV program and follow-up costs up to \$25,000 USD each year.

Another large, budgeted item for my ministry abroad pertains to evangelistic and edification efforts in Guyana, South America. The countrywide series of workshops in Guyana for 2023 totaled about \$23,500, and the TV program there for which I'm responsible for facilitating funds costs about \$6,000 annually. Purchase and distribution of literature and Bibles runs about another \$5,000 per year. International travel from the USA to Guyana and back costs \$2,000 to \$3,000.

Besides at least two shipments of books, Bibles, etc. from here to South America, 3,000 copies of each new edition of *The Voice of Truth International* magazine ships directly from the printing company in India to Guyana. Congregations of the Lord's church around the nation receive some of the biblical materials. Also, our Guyanese brethren can disburse thousands of tracts and copies of *The Voice of Truth International* in just a few hours in marketplaces.

Weekly, I receive scans of donations received by my overseeing congregation – the Siwell Road Church of Christ in Jackson, Mississippi. Then, I send "Thank You" cards to the donors, and at the end of the year, I prepare and send contribution statements for tax purposes.

Monthly, I publish to the Internet *Gospel Gazette Online* – now in its 25th year of continuous publication. Thousands of articles by Christian men and women appear in the Archive, in addition to new articles that are available with each passing month. My daughter Rebecca Rushmore proofreads the *Gazette* articles and my books before they are published; she also helps us tremendously (from her home in Tennessee) with ministry and personal finances. *Gospel Gazette* costs thousands of dollars annually for webhosting, Internet service provider, webmaster services, search engines, an online bookstore, software, etc.

The World Evangelism team publishes *The Voice of Truth International* quarterly. I'm the Editor and do most of the layout for the magazine – 114 pages including the inside covers. Brethren Jerry Bates and Shane Fisher are the Associate Editors, and their wives, as well as Martha, Rebecca and Betty Choate, comprise the staff – writers, proofreaders. The literary output of many Christian men and women grace the pages of *VOTI*. My expenses related to publishing this magazine pertain to computer software and equipment.

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www.TheVoiceOfTruthInternational.com ~ www.WorldEvangelism.org

Periodically, I teach classes and may preach for the Wildwood, Florida Church of Christ, which requires specific preparation to complement the general preparation achieved over the past 50 years. Seldom have I purposely undertaken writing a book without first accumulating chapter-length articles over the decades. Presently, I have 20 books in print and 20 tracts in print. Later, this year I hope to have published volume 6 of my series of sermon outline books, which chronicle most of my preaching throughout my career as a Gospel preacher. Of course, I write Editorials for both *Gospel Gazette Online* and *The Voice of Truth International*.

This year, I've gone completely to digital receipts rather than amassing hundreds of receipts, which take up storage space I do not have. I scan receipts for digital transactions for tax purposes and to reconcile credit card charges; sometimes mysterious charges appear on statements or the numbers fail to match entries into our accounting software. Digital receipts are much, much easier to search than paper receipts in manilla folders.

Daily, processing emails from around the world is a time-consuming chore; I have directories for about 30 countries into which I place pertinent correspondence. Of course, a lot of junk comes via email these days, but some emails require a response.

Just a couple of weeks ago, I began recording some short videos and posting them to Facebook. Though most of them so far were recorded outdoors, even those ones need to be prepared in my office prior to publishing them online. All of them contain a spiritual lesson.

Aside from religious activities, I'm the President of the homeowners' association for the housing development in which Martha and I live. The Board of Directors meets infrequently, but there are matters that need to be addressed between meetings. We also have a management company to handle the bulk of what needs to be done. One tribal chief in the interior of Guyana told me that I was "Chief" over a larger village than his.

If I allowed it to occur, I could spend all my time in the office. Hence, because of family life, doctors' appointments, eating, sleeping, shopping, worshipping, property maintenance, etc., I cannot spend all of my time in the office. Therefore, it seems that I'm always falling behind in the office. The problem, for instance, with a monthly magazine is that it comes around relentlessly each month. The challenge with a quarterly magazine is that it takes a quarter to assemble it and send it off to a printing company. My office duties are varied and constant.

Family Health and Welfare

Martha was 75 years old on her birthday on July 12th. I'll turn 70 years old on January 3, 2024. Arthritis challenges both of us and sometimes triumphs. We're both diabetic, too. Some days, I'm not sure who's wearing out faster – Martha or me. Yet, we keep on keeping on the best we can. I think Martha has more ailments troubling her than I do, though, we're not always sure about that. However, it's not a contest; nobody wants to win that race. Barring unforeseen hindrances, I plan on returning to Guyana for four to six weeks from the end of January to the middle of March 2024. We'll have to wait until closer to our departure before we decide if Martha will be accompanying me; especially some of the interior places to which we go in Guyana are becoming more difficult for her.

Bryan, Martha's youngest son, continues to battle cancer. His health appears to be failing, and at this writing, he has been admitted once more to a hospital. He just finished his radiation and is almost finished with his chemo treatments. After Bryan regains his strength, more surgery lies ahead in his future at the University Hospital in Cleveland, Ohio.

Fundraising in the Immediate Future

It's not too early to gather funds for the upcoming series of workshops throughout Guyana, South America. Frankly, we need to start immediately (1) because we don't have funds on hand currently to cover that mission trip, (2) because anticipated costs for the mission trip and the annual fee for the TV program approach \$30,000, and (3) because advance funds are needed to sufficiently and in a timely way prepare for airfare to and inside the country, lodging, food for attendees, land and water transportation, etc. **Please send your check today to the Siwell Road Church of Christ, 4075 S. Siwell Road, Jackson, MS 39212, and mark Guyana on the memo line of the check.**

Maywood Missionary Retreat

Martha and I participated in the annual Maywood Missionary Retreat outside of Hamilton, Alabama. It occurred May 4-6. Each year, missionaries with whom we are loosely affiliated and other interested brethren gather for a recharge and to update one another on what we have been doing and where we have gone over the previous year. It's like a mini lectureship in the woods but with amenities. Naturally, we eat, too, and the food is always excellent.

Annual World Evangelism Team Meeting

This year's World Evangelism Team Meeting in Winona, Mississippi took place August 3-4. Departing

March — July 2023


Income	
Foreign Travel	\$150.00
Reimbursement	\$724.20
Rebates/Refunds/Discounts/Resale	\$79.68
Books Sales	\$213.21
Literature & Bibles	\$3,500.00
Contributions	\$46,454.88
Louis & Martha Rushmore	\$19,000.00
Total	\$70,121.97
Expenses	
Stateside Programs	\$44.06
Bank Fees	\$142.76
Business Entertainment & Gifts	\$45.67
North India TV	\$2,013.98
India Postage	\$1,013.98
Guyana TV	\$6,000.00
Guyana Shipping & Distribution	\$533.28
Guyana Love Offering	\$500.00
Medical Expenses	\$4,340.57
Auto Expenses	\$5,715.54
Stateside Travel	\$1,921.83
Internet (Gospel Gazette Online)	\$1,318.06
Office (supplies/equipment/ software subscriptions/help)	\$2,590.69
Postage/Shipping	\$318.65
Housing	\$31,247.75
Business Telephone	\$70.00
Newsletter	\$1,565.33
Total	\$59,382.15

Ocala, Florida where we live, Martha and I drove to a suburb of Atlanta, Georgia. There we retrieved our dear Guyanese brethren and coworkers, the Nigel Milo family of three. From Atlanta, we drove across Alabama to Winona. The get-together in Winona is primarily for our core team members, though some others who are dear to us come, too. All of us voluntarily cooperate and are amenable to our respective elderships. By cooperating, we are able to make a much larger impact on the lost world with the Gospel of Christ – via TV, radio, Internet, massive distribution of Bibles and literature, and short-term mission trips.

We rehearsed our respective activities over the past year, and we evaluated our collective efforts. As usually is the case when Christians come together, we ate – two days of fellowship meals as well as on Thursday evening a catfish (and chicken) buffet at a fish house.

Friday afternoon, we and the Milo family headed for our Ocala home. The following Friday, Martha and I drove them back to the home of Nigel's mother in metropolitan Atlanta, returning to our home the following day.

Wildwood Church of Christ

When we are not traveling, Martha and I worship with the Wildwood, Florida Church of Christ. Over the past few months, I've had the opportunity to teach several Sunday morning and Wednesday evening Bible classes. Last year, the Wildwood congregation began giving monthly support for our mission work and ministry. 

Clarification: I have not taken a cash salary for several years. All remuneration associated with my ministry and mission work is in the form of housing, auto, medical and insurance benefits. In addition, Martha and I usually make a monthly contribution of \$2,500 to \$3,000 to the working fund, making us the largest monthly supporters of our ministry and mission work. Last year, we gave \$35,000.00 to this ministry.

Yes! We want to help Louis & Martha Rushmore in foreign missions to India, Myanmar, Sri Lanka, Singapore & Guyana.

- ☐ Here is a onetime gift of \$_____ to be used as needed.
- ☐ I (we) plan to send a monthly gift of \$_____ beginning _____ (month).
- ☐ Here is my (our) gift of \$_____ for English language literature & Bibles.
- ☐ Here is my (our) gift of \$_____ toward overseas travel & missions.
- ☐ Here is my (our) gift of \$_____ to print foreign language literature.
- ☐ Here is my (our) gift of \$_____ for ☐ India TV ☐ Guyana TV & Internet.
- ☐ I (we) plan to include the World Evangelism labors of Louis Rushmore in our will.
- ☐ The _____ Church of Christ is closing, and we wish to contribute the assets to the World Evangelism labors of Louis Rushmore.

Name _____ Address _____
 City/State/Zip _____
 Phone _____ Email _____

**Mail to the Rushmores' overseeing congregation:
 Siwell Road Church of Christ, 4075 S. Siwell Road, Jackson, MS 39212**

So, the Saga Began

Martha Lynn Rushmore

We were already wondering if it was going to be possible for me to go to Guyana in 2023 for our annual mission trip there. I was trying my best to convince myself and Louis I could go. I wanted to go because I enjoy doing this work for our Lord and Savior. He has been so good to me, and I want to do what I can for Him and for His church.

However, the choice whether I would be going to Guyana was made for me. On December 2, 2022, my youngest son, Bryan, was diagnosed with mouth cancer. He was scheduled for surgery on January 30, 2023 in Youngstown, Ohio. Therefore, I went to Ohio to be with him and with my daughter-in-law, Melissa. I remained there for 45 days, often sleeping in the hospital.

Before the surgery, Bryan had to have some preliminary tests and minor surgeries. He had to have all his bottom teeth pulled and have a PEG tube put in for feeding. The cancer surgery was to take 12 hours, but it took 17½ hours. It was a very long night! The doctor was pleased with the outcome of Bryan's surgery. He was positive that he and his team had gotten all the cancer. Prayers were answered.

Now the saga really began. You have heard of Murphy's law, "Nothing is as easy as it looks. Everything takes longer than you think. Anything that can go wrong will go wrong..." Well, Bryan had to find out if this were true. In his case, it was very true, though no fault of his own. The whole problem in a nutshell was that he was allergic to heparin – a blood thinner – and because of this, he unfortunately had to have 16 more surgeries. The heparin was causing his blood to clot. Luckily, there was a doctor on staff who ordered a test for an allergy to heparin. What a difference this made in his life. God answered another of my hard prayed prayers. "Please God, save Bryan's life; he needs more time." The next morning upon entering his room, he was a different man than when we left the night before.

Bryan was to have radiation and chemo no longer than eight weeks after his first surgery. It did not happen. Finally, he got a new oncologist, and this doctor wanted Bryan to have both these procedures as a precaution. Bryan just finished them, and his blood count, confusion and other factors resulted in Bryan being admitted once more into the hospital. Happily, he is doing much better. Hopefully, he will be home again soon.

I did go up north and spent a week with my children to help in whatever way I could. At least, Melissa could go to work and not worry about leaving Bryan alone. We had a good but short visit. I rode to Ohio with my son Jim and his family on their way to visit his in-laws.

Traveling north, we stopped and saw my nephew and his family; we had not met my nephew's wife and little girl before. We had a good visit and worshipped with them Sunday morning. We also for the first time got to hear my nephew preach. He's a good preacher for the Lord, just like his dad and his grandpa (Denver Cooper, my father).

The next thing to which Bryan is looking forward – or **not** – is one more surgery on his mouth. Lord willing, this will be his last – #18. Please, please keep him and our family in your prayers. If all goes as planned, I will be with him most of the time at the hospital as his wife must work.

While Jim's family and I were still in Ohio – across the state from each other, Jim called from his in-laws to tell me that they had covid – four out of the six of them. I told him we needed to head home. There was no need to continue his trip as planned because he could not see anyone and could not go to worship at our former home congregation. I called Louis and told him of the circumstances and asked him to get me a flight home. I did not want to be exposed to covid. Furthermore, we did not want them anywhere near Bryan, as he did not need any more medical complications. So, I flew home unaffected by covid. I got home on Sunday, and we began a road trip on Monday.

Now, to a good thing in our lives. On Monday, July 31, we headed to the outskirts of Atlanta, Georgia to pick up brother Nigel, sister Jasmine and brother Zab Milo who reside and work for the Lord in Linden, Guyana, South America. They were staying with his mother who lives in the USA. This is the family with whom we work when we go to Guyana. We added the Milos' luggage to our car and headed to Winona, Mississippi for the annual team meeting with our co-laborers for the Lord in different mission fields. Some of us are the goers, and some who were there are senders, while others do mission work in the USA. There are plenty of areas in our country in need of mission work.

There were about 30 in attendance for our 2-day meeting. It was wonderful to see old friends and make new friends. The reports were so great to hear of all the work going on for the Lord's church all over

Asia, Europe, South America, Africa and of course the USA. We came away from the meeting rejuvenated and ready to do more work. After the meeting ended on Friday, we headed toward our home in Ocala, Florida.

Upon arriving home on Saturday evening and emptying the car of all the luggage and books, we had to go to the grocery store. I think I tried to buy out the store. I got what we needed for the week and also picked up things I thought Jasmine and Zab would like (junk food), since the latter is a teenager. Nigel is pursuing a vegetarian diet presently, and so we didn't need to buy much variety of food for him beyond vegetables.

On Sunday, brother Nigel taught the Bible class and preached during the morning worship for the Wildwood, Florida Church of Christ. We came home to a nice home crockpot, cooked meal. Of course, I had to have my afternoon nap. We played games and visited.

On Monday, Louis had to do his yardwork and some other chores around the house that were needed. Nigel and Zab helped him with what they could. Then, we cleaned up, and the good times began. Over the next two days, we went shopping – visiting many stores. The Milos do not have as many shopping areas to visit in Guyana. They, as do I, enjoy going into different stores.

Following a good breakfast at home Tuesday morning, the five of us headed to Silver Springs State Park about 15 miles away. The park is known for its glass bottom boats and as the source of the Silver Springs River. Often, we take visitors to our home to Silver Springs because it is both beautiful and unique. We walked around the beginning of the river as it rises from springs and flows full width through a jungle-like setting. While in the boat, we saw an alligator, various diving birds, turtles and monkeys – yes monkeys in Florida, though not native to the USA.

Before going to Bible class on Wednesday, we took the Milos to the Russell Stover's candy outlet in Wildwood, Florida. Afterward, we headed to the local Dairy Queen for supper. Later at the meetinghouse, Louis taught the auditorium class. Sister Jasmine and I went to the Ladies class taught by sister Sarah (the preacher's wife) about "Prayer." Then, we headed home for some more visiting before retiring to bed.

On Thursday, we all hopped into the car and headed back to Wildwood. The guys dropped Jasmine and me off at a Christian sister's home where every Thursday ladies enjoy a game day. We have lots of good food that we ladies bring with us, good conversations, teasing, laughing and board games. It is a great bonding time for those ladies who attend. We have made special friendships that will last a lifetime.

Louis and I do not go to as many countries as some of our brethren, but our efforts have seen the Word go all over the world – into all seven continents – via the *Gospel Gazette Online* (Internet magazine) and *The Voice of Truth International* (printed magazine), as well as tracts and books. Louis works on these magazines almost daily – some days for many hours while on other days for less time. I also do what I can to be the helpmeet for my husband and a servant of our Lord. There are many office tasks that we accomplish daily.

I know I am prejudiced about how hard and faithfully Louis works for the Lord. He is first and foremost trying to be the best Christian and worker for the Lord he can and knows how to be. Secondly, he is a wonderful example and leader for me, our children, our grandchildren, friends and acquaintances so we

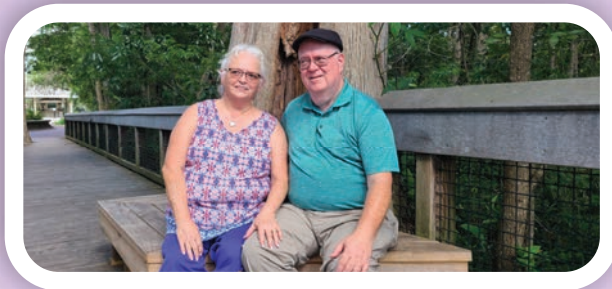




"...Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. He who believes and is baptized will be saved..." (Mark 16:15-16).

can all enjoy a heavenly reward someday.

We covet your prayers. Any financial help would be very much appreciated. Thank you all in advance for your encouragement and moral support, too. 📖



Team Meeting



Louis & Martha Rushmore
World Evangelism
P.O. Box 72
Winona, MS 38967

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