



RUSHMORE NEWSLETTER

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Bittersweet Victory!

By Louis Rushmore

Friday, February First, the lingering, excruciating pain buffeting J.C. Choate's mortal tabernacle came to end; brother Choate passed away at 12:20 p.m. Under the circumstances of his failing health and his life-long exit strategy (in Christ), brother Choate's passing was his personal victory. To the best of the ability of family, co-workers and friends, we attempted to temper grief with the joy J.C. now knows (we are persuaded). Fourteen preachers, from speakers to song leaders to pallbearers, participated in brother Choate's funeral and graveside services.

Betty and J.C. Choate prepared for this phase of the Christian relay race of service by selecting two couples to help perpetuate *World Evangelism*: Jerry and Paula Bates as well as Bonnie and me. While J.C.'s passing for us is a bittersweet victory, we are committed to seek comfort of God (2 Corinthians 1:3-4), and serve God loyally until we, too, pass the baton to others when we can no longer serve owing to human mortality. 📖

Make Me an Appointment

By Louis Rushmore

My wife, Bonnie, and I are involved in the most important labor for God in which we have ever been involved. Despite 35 years of ministry, 10 years teaching in a school of preaching, publishing *Gospel Gazette Online* since 1999, writing several books and numerous articles, and such like, absolutely nothing we have ever attempted for the Lord compares with our current investment of ourselves in the service of Jesus Christ.

As team members in World Evangelism, we have the potential of contributing to the salvation of many thousands of souls and the edification of many more Christians around the globe. This 45-year-old evangelistic effort has grown over the decades to include (1) an international Gospel magazine (*Voice of Truth International*) consisting of a printing from 30,000 to 70,000 each quarter, (2) 36 foreign radio and 8 foreign TV programs, (3) 9 overseas Bible schools, (4) a monthly Internet Gospel magazine read all over the planet (www.gospelgazette.com), (5) numerous campaigns abroad annually, (6) massive literature distribution in Asia and Africa, and (7) plans to publish a new Bible school curriculum, written by brothers and sisters in Christ, which curriculum majors in (a) application to our times and (b) emphasis on the identity and exclusivity of the church over which Jesus Christ is Head and for which he will one day return to take back with him to Heaven.

As one of only two couples in Winona, MS at the World Evangelism building, Bonnie and I are chest-high deep in the various publishing aspects of this ministry, daily correspondence and communication worldwide, fundraising among our brethren and even facilities maintenance, etc. On February 5, 2008, less than a week ago as I write this, we buried the beloved J.C. Choate, but the work goes on, as he wanted it to progress after his departure. However, in order

Sponsor:

Vermilion Church of Christ
5116 Driftwood Drive
Vermilion, Ohio 44089

Louis & Bonnie Rushmore
705 Devine Street
Winona, Mississippi 38967

662.283.9946
rushmore@gospelgazette.com
www.gospelgazette.com
www.worldevangelism.org

Co-workers with
J.C. & Betty Choate
& others

Involved in
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Voice of Truth International
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Phoebe

By Bonnie Rushmore

I recently had the pleasure of listening to Sister Sue Crabtree at a Ladies' program sponsored by the Winona church of Christ in Winona, MS. Sister Crabtree presented her lesson, "Ladies Leading Ladies." Her presentation was divided in two segments. The first segment discussed the three basic learning types, with an emphasis on incorporating all three aspects into our presentations as we teach. The second segment discussed the importance of reaching out to the lost around us. The material was presented in an informative, entertaining manner. I encourage all women to avail themselves of the opportunity to listen to a future presentation of this material.

During the lesson, Sister Crabtree made the statement, "Phebe taught many the Gospel by delivering Paul's letter to the church at Rome." The Bible records Phebe's name only once (Romans 16:1-2). The Bible does not mention the names of any to whom Phebe taught the Gospel. Romans 16:1 states that Phebe was "a servant of the church at Cenchrea" and that she helped many including Paul. Yet, Phebe taught many the Gospel by delivering the Roman letter. All who study Romans 6:1-14 learn that baptism is a burial; once baptized we are a new creature and have a hope of a new life with Christ. Yes, Phebe is still teaching many long after she delivered Paul's letter to the church at Rome.

Just as Phebe taught many without meeting them, you can teach the Gospel of Christ to others without meeting them face-to-face. When you send tracts, you are teaching lost souls who read those tracts. When you financially support missionaries, you are teaching lost souls through the efforts of the missionaries. Just a few dollars a month, combined with several others who contribute a few dollars a month, will enable a missionary to reach out to lost souls across the world. Those who are currently contributing to our support are teaching lost souls they may never meet as we print and mail books across the country and around the world. When we make trips overseas to teach, you will have a part in the teaching as well. You have a part in teaching souls in countries we as Americans cannot visit through *Gospel Gazette Online*. We and all who we influence with the Gospel thank you for your continued financial and moral support.

Attending the Ladies' program at Winona was just one of the many activities in which we have been involved this month. We have traveled to

Huntsville, AL; Louisville, MS; Marshall, AR and Center Ridge, AR. To each of the congregations and the members, we thank you for the kind hospitality shown.

We helped co-workers Jerry & Paula Bates move out of the one bedroom apartment attached to the World Evangelism building into their new house. Then, we set up beds in the apartment for visiting team members or missionaries who need a place to stay.

Our dear friends, Bob and Martha Noland, visited for a week as they consider moving to Louisville, MS to work with the church there. Several team members with World Evangelism gathered in Winona Jan. 24-25 to make the final preparations for the School of Evangelism curriculum and to discuss the upcoming retreat in May.

I am trying to learn the Quark program used to typeset *Voice of Truth International* and the books published through World Evangelism. Eventually, I will succeed in learning the program and be of better assistance to Betty in getting the publications to the printer. I am also trying to learn Microsoft Access, the program used to print labels for mailing *Voice of Truth International* and the Choate newsletter. Fortunately, Dennis Larsen came to Winona for a few days to fine-tune the database and give some hands-on instructions. Hopefully, future mailings will be completed with a little less frustration and a be little less time consuming. At least, we are striving toward that goal.

We have printed flyers, envelopes and stationery, reprinted our daughter's book, *What Makes Us Tick*, and we are beginning to reprint 2000 copies of *Beverage Alcohol*. In the near future, we will reprint one or more titles of books currently published through World Evangelism.

We have appointments scheduled for the next several weekends in Alabama and plan on attended the FHU lectureship the first week of February. As usual, we feel we are behind in all that we try to do. As one young Christian once said, "We can rest when we arrive in Heaven."📖

Have Car, Will Travel

Please, help make appointments for Bonnie and me with congregations that I might apprise them of this good work. Often, elders, preachers and other Christians have contacts throughout the states that we might be able to visit if you will just let us know who they are. Bonnie and I are willing to drive up to eight hours in any direction from Winona, MS. We solicit your prayers, moral support and help with appointments.

Bad Call/Good Call

By Louis Rushmore

Saturday, January 26 began somewhat tenuously following an icy night and early morning in Mississippi and Tennessee; fortunately, we did not skate along the highways enroute to Southaven, MS, outside of Memphis, TN. That morning, Bonnie and I met with brethren from around the country who have an interest in mission work in the nation of Myanmar (Burma).

After eating the noon meal with fellow World Evangelism team members in a local Chinese restaurant, we pointed our shuttle toward the Ozark Mountains in Arkansas. Miscalculating the necessary commuting time, we arrived an hour late for our supper appointment with brother and sister Whitelaw, and their guests, brother and sister Lee.

Months earlier, Fred Whitelaw corresponded with me respecting *Gospel Gazette Online*. I immediately emailed brother Whitelaw, expressing delight of having re-established contact with him after 20 years or so since I spent a night in his Florida home. Subsequently, the Grand View congregation for which he preaches provided monthly support for Bonnie and me in West Virginia, and later in Winona, MS.

Now sitting down for supper in the Whitelaw's Arkansas home, Fred said to Joyce, "He says that he knows us, and he spent the night in our home in Florida." Fred implied and stated to another, "But I just can't place him." After comparing notes, it was obvious that we had never met each other before! When Bonnie and I visited Florida and stayed overnight, this Fred Whitelaw no longer lived in Florida, and Fred and Joyce never lived in the Florida city we visited then.

We all laughed at the misguided path that led to that very occasion at Fred and Joyce's dinner table. We became fast friends; it is as though we have known each other for decades, and now we have stayed overnight in the Whitelaw's home.

Sunday morning, it was my pleasure to speak twice to the Grand View church. Between Bible class and worship, I noticed hand fans in the songbook racks, but one especially aroused my attention and amused me. It read on one side, "Bad Call," and "Good Call" on the other side. When I rose to preach, I asked if this fan were used by Grand View members when Fred preached. Brother Whitelaw answered, "I thought I got rid of all of those!" What a good visit we had with the brethren in Marshall, AR. 📖

Erupting Enthusiasm

By Louis Rushmore

Recently, Bonnie and I worshipped with the Mastin Lake Rd. church of Christ in Huntsville, AL. I prefaced the worship our with a map class for children. For years, I have sought to teach Bible maps at every opportunity to youngsters who are two-years-old and up, and with great success. Though I taught preacher students for 10 years, my most proficient student respecting Bible maps has reached the ripe old age of four-years-old.

As on every occasion I do this, the children did not fail to astound their parents with how much they could learn about Bible geography in such a few moments. I am sure that no group of young ones with whom I have worked were more enthusiastic than these; they not only raised their hands, but stood (not still) to elicit attention to volunteer.

Sometimes, I remove the maps at the end of the session to reveal a blank wall. Once a child selects a spot (any spot) to represent Jerusalem, the children can indicated the location of the respective sites in relationship to each other.

The funny names by which I introduce Bible places intrigue youngsters and adults alike, and lead to better knowledge of the biblical locations and events. The reason little ones are so eager and enthusiastic is because they can demonstrate that they can do it. They are teachable, and we need to teach them. Let's ignite the erupting enthusiasm of our youth! 📖

(Continued from page 1 Appointment)

for the work to progress effectively, soul conscious brethren must empower us financially to meet the obligations of world evangelism of this magnitude and scope.

You can help immeasurably by making an appointment at a congregation for Bonnie and me that lies within an eight-hour drive of Winona, MS. I will gladly present a media sermon on evangelism in general and respecting the work in which we are involved in particular. Evangelism is the lifeblood of the Lord's church, and it is through soul conscious individual Christians and soul conscious churches of Christ that evangelism is possible at all. Dear Brethren, please pray for souls and this good work, for which I hope that you, too, will be as zealous as are we (Titus 2:14). 📖

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2 Corinthians 8:20-21
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October 16, 2007—January 31, 2008

Expenses

Moving	\$117.70
Auto Expenses	\$3,100.18
Travel	\$575.97
Equipment	\$1,253.48
Office Equipment & Supplies	\$130.63
Shipping	\$363.61
Internet	\$151.79
Printing Expenses	\$3,291.09
Office Telephone	\$420.96
Medical Treatment	\$414.00
Bank Fees	\$16.76
Medical Insurance	\$0.00
Life Insurance	\$209.43
Housing	\$1,157.44
Salary	\$4,184.36

Beginning Balance	\$2,467.42
Income	
Contributions	\$9,783.10
Printing Equipment	\$200.00
Printing/Book Sales	\$4,327.22
Travel	\$200.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$14,510.32

TOTAL EXPENSES	\$15,387.40
BALANCE	-\$877.08
Ending Balance	\$1,590.34

Yes, we want to help the Rushmores save souls as they labor with the Choates & others in worldwide evangelism.

Here is a onetime gift of \$_____ to help perpetuate the proven work of evangelism in which Bonnie & Louis are participating.

I (we) plan to send a monthly contribution of \$_____, beginning _____ (month) to help the Rushmores spread the Gospel far and near.

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Mail to: Vermilion Church of Christ, 5116 Driftwood Dr., Vermilion, OH 44089