

Evangelistically Speaking

Mission Evangelism

A Ministry Directed by the Elders of the Levy Church of Christ

EVANGELISTICALLY
SPEAKING

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EDITOR: Ted Knight
CO-EDITOR: Marty Knight

Please send address
changes to:
P.O. Box 1297
Conway, AR 72033-1297

From Ted's Pen

**"The hope of the righteous
will be gladness, but the
expectation of the wicked
will perish."**

Proverbs 10:28

It may seem at time that the wicked people of the world hold the upper hand in the battle between righteousness and wickedness. However, the promise of the Lord of victory is clear throughout the entire Word of God. When the challenge of the wicked seems so powerful and the strength of the foe of the righteous seems to be increasing, we must seek to strengthen our faith and continue with the forward march to victory.

God and His people are going to win! Make no mistake about it! We are indeed marching to victory and we must not let Satan and his agents deceive us and lead us to condemnation.

We are very happy to report a fruitful and enjoyable month of work during the month of October. I had postponed my trip to Romania the last of September and the first week of October, so I was available to preach on October 7. I took advantage of that time to give a report on our work and to preach at two of our supporting congregations. We were at

Bigelow on Sunday morning and at Plumerville that evening. Both of these congregations have helped us in our work since the beginning of this ministry and they both continue to be a great source of encouragement to us.

On Sunday, October 14 I began the first of four meetings in succession. The first meeting was with the congregation at New Blaine, Arkansas where I have preached in several meetings through the years. Brother Bill Griffin from Dardanelle, Arkansas has been preaching at New Blaine for several months and it was a pleasure to meet him and his wife, Linda. We wish for them a good and long work with the church at New Blaine.

It was a genuine pleasure to be with the church at Greenbrier, Arkansas for a gospel meeting October 21-24. The church at Greenbrier is special to us since I preached there for twelve years prior to beginning our present work. This was my first meeting with them since we left there in November 1991 and what a joy it was to be with them. They had worked hard preparing for the meeting, knocking on doors the two Saturdays before the meeting began, and promoting it for a long time in other ways.

The attendance was very good and part of the reason for that was the support of area congregations in addition to the visitors from the Greenbrier area. They not only encouraged us by inviting me to participate in the meeting, but in their support financially, their encouragement and especially the prayers offered on our behalf on a regular basis. I thank God for our beloved brethren at Greenbrier.

On October 28-31 I preached in a gospel meeting with the church that meets at Fifth and Greenwich in Russellville, Arkansas. My association with this fine congregation has always been a pleasure as well. Brother Travis Sweet has been preaching there for more than 20 years and he and his lovely wife Jean are loved deeply by the brethren.

Our work in November will involve being with the church at Portia, Arkansas November 2-4 and then I will leave for Romania on November 8. I will be working with Brother and Sister Harvey Starling and seven others in Pitesti, Craiova, Bradu, and Budeasa. I sincerely covet your prayers for our safe travel and fruitful work in Romania.

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From Ted's Pen (Continued)

FUNDS NEEDED

We have been notified that we will possibly lose the support of one congregation at the end of this year due to some internal problems which resulted in the loss of some members of the congregation and, of course, a decrease in contributions. They have not yet determined for sure if they will need to discontinue the support entirely or decrease the amount, but we need to begin making plans to replace this support if at all possible. The amount of their support has been \$400 per month and that would be a sizable loss if it becomes necessary to discontinue all of it.

We have not had an increase in the amount that we receive in over two years. Our health insurance premiums have continued to climb about every six months to a present level of \$1,162.62 each month. We feel that we cannot afford to be without the insurance, but it is difficult to deal with the continued increases in premiums.

There are some ways that maybe you could help us. First, if you could help with regular monthly support that would be great. Second, we are nearing the end of the year when many people make special contributions to various works. Perhaps you could help in this way.

You cannot know how I dislike making appeals for money! That is especially true when all of us are being challenged to help with so many good works right now and the economy experiencing problems as well. I wish that we were completely self-supporting, but that is not the case. So, I don't know anything to do but let our friends

and brethren know when we need assistance. So, if you can help us with our support, we would appreciate hearing from you.

ROMANIA

I am happy to report that there have been at least four more baptisms in Romania since our last report. Vernon and Pat Starling were accompanied by four other workers to Romania during October and one was baptized in Pitesti, taught by Pat Starling, and three were baptized in Craiova.

Two of the baptisms were an elderly couple who have begun worshipping with two Christians in a small village outside of Craiova. We had a young couple with two children who became Christians in Craiova but they live in a village several miles away. They are not able to make the trip into Craiova for worship, so they began worshipping in their home and invited others to worship with them. The elderly couple began worshipping with Marin and Mary and now they are also Christians. We are doing what we can to help start a congregation in that village. Brother Jim Davis from the Liberty congregation here in Conway went out to meet with them in August and preached the gospel there.

We are now working with FIVE different groups in our work in Romania. We have a congregation of about 15 meeting in Budeasa, one of about 12 meeting in Bradu, and of course the two congregations meeting in Pitesti and Craiova. I am thrilled to see the work spreading out into these villages and other cities. It is amazing to see how the

gospel spreads and people become Christians and congregations can be established in so many places.

Our plans for the work in Romania for the year 2002 are already made. Barbara and I will be going for the month of February and will be accompanied by Cindy Tatum from Turlock, California. We will also be there in June for the first VBS to be conducted by Romanian teachers. Barbara and I will be there to assist in whatever way we are needed, but the teaching will be done by the Romanian Christians.

I will accompany Harvey Starling to Romania in September for the third session of the Romanian Bible Training School. We are anticipating a student body of about 50 and even at that there are some who will not get to attend because we simply will not be able to handle more people. So, we are looking forward to a wonderful year in Romania in 2002 as well as a full schedule here in the U.S.

IS THERE ANY WORD FROM THE LORD?

Jeremiah 37:17

The events of the past several weeks and the problems which we anticipate in the months to come, have been trying to say the least. It seems that problems are arising from every corner. In the midst of this, we may ask our self, "Is there any word from the Lord?" And, the answer is, "Yes, indeed there is!" Let me suggest just a few for your consideration.

- **There is a message of faith for an age of doubt and fear.**

- **There is a message of hope for an age of despair.**
- **There is a message of peace for an age of war.**
- **There is a message of love for an age of hate.**
- **There is a message of salvation for a world that is lost.**
- **There is a message warning for a world that had turned away from God.**
- **There is a message that demands strict obedience to His word.**
- **There is a message of equality for an age of inequality.**

The message is found in God's word! Study it often and diligently. Share it with others. Teach it to your children. Be strengthened by it's power.

A PERSONAL NOTE

You will receive this report a few days before the day that we call Thanksgiving Day. Barbara and I want you to know that we are extremely thankful for your love, your prayers, your financial support, and the many, many, other things that you do to make our world such a beautiful world. We are not only thankful for you on Thanksgiving Day, but the coming of that day does sharpen our memories a little and helps us to remember the abundant blessings of a loving Father and a loving and wonderful family of brothers and sisters in Christ. May God bless each of you with a great Thanksgiving Day.

- Ted

UPCOMING PLANS

NOVEMBER 2-4

Gospel Meeting
Portia, Arkansas

NOVEMBER 8-19

Craiova, Romania
Pitesti, Romania
Bradu, Romania
Budeasa, Romania

November 2001

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2 Gospel Meeting at Portia, Arkansas	2 Gospel Meeting at Portia, Arkansas
2 Gospel Meeting at Portia, Arkansas	5	6	7	8 Romania	9 Romania	10 Romania
11 Romania	12 Romania	13 Romania	14 Romania	15 Romania	16 Romania	17 Romania
18 Romania	19 Romania	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

THE CHRISTIAN AND CIVIL RIGHTS by Marty Knight

Imagine that your child has come home from school and told you that he was forced to pray to a god in whom you do not believe. Try to picture your child being forced to do something you feel is wrong simply because he is in the minority. How mad and hurt would you be? How long would it take you to contact a lawyer about stopping that situation?

Over the past several weeks we have come to realize just how fortunate we are in these United States. We take so many freedoms for granted. A great deal has been said concerning a society on the other side of the world where freedom is suppressed. Having two daughters, I am especially sensitive to the oppression of women in that society. There seems to be so many things

wrong with that culture. We can't imagine a place where people do not have the right to practice their religious beliefs without fear of persecution.

Now, I want you go back to that example. You probably imagined that this could only happen if you were living in a place such as Afghanistan. However, we are in serious danger of that very thing happening right here in our own country.

A lot is being said right now about prayer. Business owners are exercising their rights by displaying signs that say "Pray For Our Country." As a Christian I am thrilled to see a shift toward spiritual things and a dependence upon God. However, there is another recent trend that concerns me and that is prayer being mandated

by public groups, especially in our schools and at public events such as athletic contests.

Our society places you in one of two camps: either you believe that our schools should promote prayer or you are an anti-religious fanatic. I suggest to you that there is a third alternative. As Christians we have spiritual rights and blessings. As Americans we have certain civil liberties that are also blessings. Freedoms guaranteed by laws we should respect. One of those is the gift of being able to worship God as we see fit.

That wonderful right is jeopardized when we allow, or even ask, government agencies to dictate who we will pray to and where. I am so thankful for the wisdom exercised by our founding fathers in separating

church and state and I hope that never changes. You see, if the majority rules then someday Christians may find themselves in the minority being forced to pray to a pagan god simply because the majority feel that is the proper thing to do. I don't believe any of us would want that to happen.

One of the grossest misconceptions of our day is that God has been kicked out of our schools. He only has been if we allow that happen. Our children still have the right to pray—IF we teach them to do so. As an American Christian I hope that the schools my kids attend will teach them what they need academically and leave the faith training to me. And may we never enact laws which someday could be turned around and keep us from worshipping our God.

GIFTS OF MEMORIAL AND HONOR

One of the ways that you can help our work is by sending in a contribution in memory or in honor of those whom you love. We have received the following memorials and honorariums in recent weeks.

In Memory of

Thelma Wiseman

From

Dennis and Shelby Cooper

In Memory of

Aubrey Vanwinkle

From

Ted and Barbara Knight

IF YOU CAN ASSIST THE
KNIGHTS IN THEIR WORK
FOR THE LORD, PLEASE
SEND YOUR DONATIONS
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