

# Evangelistically Speaking

## *Mission Evangelism*

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

*"No man is a follower of Jesus unless he is a fisher of men"*

### EVANGELISTICALLY SPEAKING

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## From Ted's Pen

**"And many of the Samaritans of that city believed on Him because of the word of the woman who testified, 'He told me all that I ever did.'"  
- John 4:39**

Jesus had been to Jacob's well where he had met a woman and had a conversation. He told her some things about herself that He could not have known if He had not been the Son of God. Following their encounter the woman left her water pot and went into the city and began to encourage others to go and see Jesus. We have not met Jesus at Jacob's well, but we have met Him through His word. May we dedicate ourselves to the task of telling others about the One Who knows all that we have ever done.

The month of August began in Craiova, Romania. We left on July 31 and arrived in Bucharest on August 1. There are many problems with flying these days: unexpected delays, cancelled flights, schedule changes, and other things. We arrived on Thursday afternoon and our luggage arrived late Saturday

night with all of our food, clothing, and other necessities. Other than some food-related illness, we were able to carry on with our work without a lot of problems. Barbara and Roy Dunavin ate some tomatoes in a restaurant that had been washed in local water and both of them got very sick for about two days.

I could not help but be a bit discouraged with our work in Craiova this time. It seemed to be one of those trips where everything that could go wrong did go wrong. We learned just before our arrival that a camp for young Christians from all over Romania was being conducted in Cluj, Romania at the very same time. Several of the Christians from Craiova attended "Camp Hope" as campers or counselors.

So, we missed some of the leaders of the congregation who left the next day after our arrival. We also learned that the crops were just ready for harvest at that very time. The people in Romania depend very much upon the produce that they grow and when it is ready they must harvest or they will have little

food in the winter. Some of the Christians had to be in the country for that reason.

We also learned that about 700 Jehovah's Witnesses arrived in the city at almost the same time that we did to conduct a huge campaign for which they had advertised heavily. No doubt this interfered with the attendance of some non-Christians at our services. So, our campaign was less successful than we had hoped.

However, Barbara, Roy and Joyce Dunavin, and I worked as hard as possible and had a good number of Bible studies during the day to go along with some very good services in the evening. Attendance at the evening services averaged about 38. We will do better planning next time and hopefully not have so many conflicting activities.

We rejoiced with the angels on Saturday, August 11 when we were called to Pitesti, Romania to baptize two wonderful ladies into Christ. One of the ladies was Gabriela Enache who is 31 years of age.

*(Continued on Page 2)*

## From Ted's Pen (Continued)

She first came to study with us in February and I conducted the first study with her. I then asked her to do some additional study with Barbara. Barbara had several studies with Gabi in February and then again in June. We were thrilled to learn of her decision to become a Christian.

The other lady who was baptized is Rodica Popescu. She first came to study with us in August, 1998. What a lady! Through the years she had become a member of at least two denominational groups, but continued to discover things that were not in harmony with the Scriptures and so she continued her search for the truth. Pat Starling and some others also studied with her.

I don't think that I have ever studied with anyone who was more cautious and more adamant about knowing exactly what the Scriptures teach. She said on several occasions, "I have been a member of other churches and I found that they were not right. I want to know that I am right if I change again." So, we had some very enthusiastic studies. Here are some excerpts from email messages that she sent to me:

*"I am thankful for our studies and I now know that if I died I would go to hell. I do not want that to happen. We will take care of the event (baptism) when you come again. And, I promise that I will not come to study empty handed."*

Rodica and I had become good friends through all of

our studies and I felt that she was just continuing to procrastinate. I told her one time, "Rodica Popescu, you are going to die and go to hell because you put off obedience to the Lord!" She looked a bit shocked but was not offended by my blunt statement. Here is a message that she sent after she became a Christian:

*"Both I and Gabi were happy to have been baptized, understanding in this way to obey the Lord. I will try to live as much as possible for our Lord Jesus Christ, confessing Him before people. I will keep on studying with the same determination and I will do my best to bring as many people to Jesus. I hope I'm not more like Emperor Agrippa and now I am a child of God. I have not been stubborn, but I studied in many churches many doctrines. Although my children are away from home, I'm not alone because I have lots of sisters and brothers."*

Rodica brought Gabi to study and has brought many others. In fact, another lady was baptized the last week of August after studying with Pat Starling and she too was brought by Rodica. I'm now studying some with Rodica's daughter, Cristina, who lives in Germany. I have also corresponded some with her son who recently has moved to Prague. So, we believe that she is going to be a great soul winner in the future.

We have just learned that another lady was also baptized following studies with Pat, so now we have four new sisters in Christ in Pitesti. Harvey Starling taught special classes

on the subject of "Church Leadership" for all of the men of the congregation in Pitesti on August 25-26. Perhaps the greatest need that we have in the church in Romania - as well as in the United States - is for more men to step forward to study the word and qualify themselves to lead the church of Christ in the way that it should be led. We will continue to teach and encourage the men of the congregations where we are working to try to build leadership in the local congregations.

It was wonderful to be with the church at Cotter, Arkansas for a gospel meeting August 25-28. This was one of the best attended meetings that I have conducted in a long, long, time. Brethren came from many of the area congregations and supported the preaching of the gospel. Some of them brought vans full of people. More importantly, several visitors from the community came. Brother Ron Davenport has been preaching at Cotter for almost thirty years! That is just wonderful.

The month of August was enjoyable and we believe that good was done in the Kingdom. We thank God for the opportunities that we were given to teach and preach His message of salvation in Christ Jesus.

### HEALTH CONCERNS

Several months ago Barbara's ear, nose, and throat specialist told her that she had an infected saliva gland in the left side of her neck. After several

weeks of medication he told her that surgery would be necessary. Barbara consulted another doctor and he told her that he thought that it could be cleared up with an anti-inflammatory medicine and that surgery would not be necessary. So, she followed the prescribed procedure which did not work. She went back to the first doctor and he again recommended surgery.

On August 30 she had the surgery for removal of the troubled gland. The surgery was successful and there is no sign of a malignancy in the tissue that was removed! We are so relieved and thankful. The doctor believes that this problem came from the radiation treatments that she had for throat cancer in 1995 and does not anticipate any further problems. Thank you so much for all of your prayers, cards, call, and encouragement during this time.

On September 16 our daughter, Kathy Hall, will meet with her doctor in Little Rock at UAMS to discuss treatment for the cancer that she was diagnosed with in March of this year. Her most recent examination was not good. We surely ask for your prayers for our Kathy and her family during this time.

Brethren, as always, we are so thankful for each and every one of you who support us in so many different ways. We are blessed to work together with you to reach lost souls. God bless you all.

- Ted

**UPCOMING PLANS**

*September 2002*

**SEPTEMBER 8**  
Gravel Hill, Arkansas

**SEPTEMBER 10**  
Central Arkansas Fellowship  
Plummerville, Arkansas

**SEPTEMBER 15-18**  
Heber Springs, Arkansas

**SEPTEMBER 22**  
Hoxie, Arkansas

**SEPTEMBER 28**  
Ladies Day (Barbara)  
Heber Springs, Arkansas

**SEPTEMBER 29**  
Levy, North Little Rock  
50th Anniversary and  
Homecoming Celebration

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8 <i>Gravel Hill, AR</i>	9	10 <i>Central Arkansas Fellowship, Plummerville, AR</i>	11	12	13	14
15 <i>Gospel Meeting, Heber Springs, AR</i>	16 <i>Gospel Meeting, Heber Springs, AR</i>	17 <i>Gospel Meeting, Heber Springs, AR</i>	18 <i>Gospel Meeting, Heber Springs, AR</i>	19	20	21
22 <i>Hoxie, AR</i>	23	24	25	26	27	28 <i>(Barbara) Ladies Day, Heber Springs, AR</i>
29 <i>Levy's 50th Anniversary and Homecoming Celebration</i>	30					

**FIRING YOUR PISTOL? OR JUST POINTING? by Ted Knight**

I recently contacted the Census Bureau in Washington, D.C. and learned that the population of the world on September 1, 2002 is estimated to be 6,247,410,800. I recently read that there are approximately 3,000,000 Christians in the world.

Now, let's do a little arithmetic: 6,247,410,800 less 3,000,000 means there are 6,244,410,800 people in the world who are not Christians and are headed for destruction according to 2 Thessalonians 1:7-9. And, that is assuming that all 3,000,000 who are Christians today remain faithful!

Brethren, do you think that we really understand the

enormity of the task that we have before us? Jesus told us that we are to "go preach the gospel to every creature" in Mark 16:15. This is not a suggestion or a recommendation to Christians - IT IS A COMMAND OF GOD!

I was watching an Andy Griffith Show recently and Barney Fife was sitting at Andy's desk cleaning his gun when Andy walked in. Andy asked, "Barney, what are you doing?" Barney replied, "I'm cleaning my gun."

Andy asked, "Why are you cleaning it? You never shoot it." To which Barney replied, "No, but I point it a lot!"

I thought to myself: that describes a lot of us regarding evangelism. We talk about it a lot. We attend or host workshops and lectureships; read books; listen to tapes; watch videos; and a host of other things - all in the name of helping us in our evangelism efforts.

But, it seems to me that we seldom get down to really doing much evangelism. We make plans and establish programs, but do we ever really get down to the reality of evangelizing our community?

Can I inquire as to the condition of your evangelistic weapon? Have you ever shot it or are you just pointing it? Why, some of

us may have even holstered it and rarely take it out for cleaning.

Why not get out your weapon - THE WORD OF GOD! Sharpen your skills through study of it! Put into practice some of the things that you have learned at those workshops, read in books, or heard on tapes!

Begin firing those gospel bullets at some of the 6,244,410,800 targets - souls who are lost in this world! God will bless your loving and sincere efforts to teach others and souls will be won to the glory of God.

- Ted

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## GIFTS OF MEMORIAL AND HONOR

*In Honor of*  
**Cal Trollinger**

*By*  
**Marty and Lisa Knight**

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*In Memory of*  
**Billie Trollinger**

*By*  
**Marty and Lisa Knight**

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