

Evangelistically Speaking

Volume 17 Issue 3

March 2008

*Please join us in prayer
for the following items:*

- Pray that God will send forth workers to help in the harvest
- Praise God for His bountiful blessings in this day and age
- Ask God to bless those in the mission field with strength, good health, wisdom, and opportunity
- Pray for the church plant team in Vilonia and ask that God will bless their efforts according to His will

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From Ted's Pen

"Make a joyful shout to God,
all the earth! Sing out the
honor of His name; Make His
praise glorious."

Psalm 66:1-2

The evidence is overwhelming that God is worthy of our praise and service every day. I cannot even begin to imagine how dreadful life would be with God and His presence at all times.

There are some words that I try to remember to say every morning when I first awake and every night just before I go to sleep. May I share them with you and encourage you to develop your own words or use these? Regardless of how troubled I am or discouraged I may be, I find strength and help in these words:



I completed my last trip to Romania just days—perhaps even hours—before the last issue of this publication was printed. So, I didn't get a chance to share with you the plans that were made while I was in Cluj. I want to do so now.

As you may be aware, the purpose of this trip was to plan the work that will be conducted in 2008. It will be a tremendous blessing having Brother Claudiu

"I have been saved by the grace of God, I believed, repented, and was washed in His blood. He will be with me every second of this day, I will remember His presence with each word that I say. Thank you, Dear God, for the salvation you bring. I exalt you, Oh Lord, Your praises I sing. I belong to you, mind, body, and soul. Please help me, my Father, to reach heaven my goal."

The month of February began with the church at Greenbrier for their annual Missions Day. On this day they give special emphasis to the many areas of mission work that they support and the elders ask the congregation for a special contribution which is used specifically for



mission projects. The last that I heard the contribution exceeded \$17,500 and more funds were expected. It was a wonderful day with the brethren whom we have loved for so many years.

On February 6 we left for a long and much anticipated trip to Casa Grande, Arizona where I would be privileged to preach the gospel.

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Marty's Thoughts

Murtaza in Cluj on a full-time basis as their preacher. He is doing a fine job and has matured far beyond his 25 years. We are very proud of him. In August of this year he plans to marry Anca Dinu, a fine Christian young lady from the city of Sibiu, Romania.

As I told those in attendance at the Romania-Albania Conference in January, it warms my heart as I consider the homes that are now being formed as young Romanian Christians join together to serve God and one another. Another couple from Pitesti will marry in August. We have worked closely with all of these young people over the years and are so proud of them! As you pray, please offer a prayer on their behalf asking God to bless these Christian homes that are being formed.

Now, on to the plans for 2008!

Young Adult Retreat

Since 1997 the Christian teens in Romania have met in Cluj for a youth camp. The missionaries in Cluj at that time started this camp as a means to bring the Christian youth of Romania together for an extended period of edification and fellowship. Those involved in that first camp are now in their 20's and they sorely miss this opportunity to feed the soul by being with brethren.

Through the church in Cluj, we have agreed to host the first of what we hope to make an annual event—a retreat for the young adult Christians from across Romania.

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From Ted's Pen (Continued)

However, when we got on the plane from Atlanta to fly to Phoenix, we were seated in a section of three seats and the man sitting next to the window was sneezing, coughing, and blowing his nose for the entire four hour flight. We had taken our flu shots and were hopeful that we would be fine. Almost exactly 48 hours later I begin to feel bad and 24 hours later Barbara began coming down with the same symptoms.

For the next two weeks I was sicker than I ever remember being and Barbara and I both were confined to bed. We went to the emergency room and the doctor said that we had the flu and gave me some Tamiflu and gave Barbara an IV with medication in it. She told us not to even think of flying home on Tuesday, February 12, but we did anyway. The flight took almost 10 hours and by the time we arrived home we both just fell into the bed. On Sunday, February 17 we went to the emergency room in Conway and both were given medication in an IV again and sent home.

For the first time in my memory I was unable to worship with the church for two Lord's days in a row. The doctor said that the flu shot was not effective except in about 40% of the cases and, of course, we had to come in contact with a strain not included in the 40%. I pray that I will never have the flu again!!

It was a real pleasure to be with the church in Gainesville, Missouri on Sunday, February 24. We were anxious until the last moment as to whether we could make that trip because of our illness and the bad weather forecasts. However, everything worked out fine and we were blessed to be with the brethren at Gainesville. Brother and Sister Don Rackley were our very gracious hosts again as they have been many times over the years.

In spite of such a difficult month there were some things that brought us great joy as well. My

youngest brother, Jack, and his wife, Gina, live at Bay, Arkansas where we all grew up. Jack had not been a faithful Christian for many years, but in recent months had begun attending worship again and thinking about his relationship to God.

I talked with him about making things right in his life, but he wanted to wait until Gina was ready to become a Christian too. I urged him to take the lead as he should and one morning he called and said, "I told Gina last night that I am going to go to church and make my life right with God and she could do whatever she wanted to. This morning Gina said, 'I need to talk to you. I want to be baptized.'"

We made arrangements to go to Bay and were there when they got off work and went to the building and baptized Gina into Christ. Brother Tim Wilkes preaches at Bay and he and his wife and two of the elders and their wives also came to be with us for this wonderful occasion. Brother Wilkes led us in a prayer for Jack and Gina as they begin their life in Christ together.

It was also a joy to baptize Chris Turner into Christ. Chris will marry our granddaughter, Melanie, on July 12 and we rejoiced that after studies of the word together Chris said, "I want to be baptized right now." We went to the building of the Robinson and Center congregation and Chris was immersed into Christ.

A few weeks ago we were privileged to be with several of our brothers and sisters who work for the Lord in Albania and Kosovo. As you know there are now some events taking place in that part of the world that present some dangers, especially to Americans in that area. I hope that you will pray for all of the Christians who live and work in that country that peace will soon prevail and the Lord's work can continue without interruption.

Marty will be reporting in this issue about his most recent trip to Cluj, Romania. While the receptivity of many is not what it was 10-15 years ago, there are still millions of people in Romania who have never heard the gospel. Hundreds of thousands of them live in Cluj and we are working diligently to present the message of salvation to as many as possible. Marty will tell you of our plans for this year in the city of Cluj.

We hope that you are making plans to attend the Evangelistically Speaking Lectureships on April 18- 20 at Mars Hill. We're looking forward to our

tenth year in this series and are thankful to the brethren at Mars Hill for hosting. We hope to see you there.

We also want to congratulate our youngest granddaughter, Kyndall, on being chosen as Faulkner County Teen of the Year by the local Optimist Club. She has always been the Teen of the Year in our book, but we are proud that others recognize her achievements, as well.

May God bless you is our prayer. We love you and thank you for your support.

- Ted

Schedule

Ted and Barbara

MARCH 2

Hattieville, Arkansas

MARCH 3

Center Ridge, Arkansas

MARCH 9

Formosa, Arkansas

MARCH 11

Central Arkansas Christian Fellowship
Plumerville, Arkansas

MARCH 16

Southside—Cabot, Arkansas

MARCH 23-27

Pea Ridge, Arkansas

MARCH 30-APRIL 2

Caney, Arkansas

2009

ROMANIA—ALBANIA
MISSIONS CONFERENCE

North Stafford church of Christ
Stafford, Virginia

JANUARY 9-11, 2009

Visit the website for details:
<http://www.romaniaalbaniaconference.com>

Marty's Thoughts (Continued)

The event will be held on May 1-3 at the same facility where these brothers and sisters once met for the youth camp. I'm thankful that Robert and Michal Swain will be traveling to Cluj for three weeks to help conduct this event and to teach Bible studies. We had initially made plans for 35-40 to attend, but I received news last week that over 60 have made reservations! We are thrilled at such response!

We need a sponsor for this event. I have asked that the attendees provide their own transportation to and from Cluj, but we are covering the cost of renting the facility and for transportation for the teachers. If your congregation would like to serve as a sponsor for this event, I would love to talk with you. I am confident that this event will be instrumental in growing the faith of these young people.

Family Development

Romania suffered Communist rule for over 50 years and they still endure the results of decades of Godless dictatorship. One of the ways in which this is felt the most is the home. During the month of June we have tentatively made plans to conduct a Family Development Seminar in the city of Cluj.

This would be a public event held in the House of Culture in the city center of Cluj. There are a number of needs for this event, the most prominent being teachers. I am searching for a qualified teacher—preferably a husband and wife team—who are willing to go a teach this event. If you're interested, please let me know soon! The dates are flexible and this can be held any time during the month of June.

City-Wide Evangelism

On August 1-13 I will take a campaign team to the city of Cluj to conduct a city-wide evangelistic effort. This will be similar to the one held in August 2007 that resulted in three baptisms. With Claudiu in Cluj, we are making

plans to do even more advertising and publicity than in past efforts. There are needs with this work, as well. Three to four experienced Bible teachers are needed. If you have an interest in this, please let me know soon.

Teaching Teams

It is a common occurrence for teaching teams to leave behind a good prospect or two. I can't tell you how many times we have seen students near the point of obedience, only to have the teacher leave for home.

Two groups of teachers will be in Cluj during the months of September and October to follow-up on the work done during the summer months. One congregation from Arkansas will be sending a team of workers in September, followed by teachers from Kentucky and Texas during the month of October.

Leadership Development

Another area where the church in Romania needs attention is in the development of leaders. During November, I will be in Cluj to host a leadership development seminar. This will be offered to men from across the country and we may provide some assistance to them in their travel. A sponsor for this event is needed. I would also like for an elder to go with me. If any of you elders out there are interested in joining me for this effort, please let me know. The dates are November 1-13.

As you can see, we have a full slate of activities scheduled in Cluj during 2008 and there are a number of opportunities for you to participate. We need your financial support; we need those of you who are willing to go and teach; we need your sponsorship of activities; and we need your prayers. Please let me know if you have questions regarding any of these plans and your possible participation. May God bless you!

- Marty

TENTH ANNUAL EVANGELISTICALLY SPEAKING LECTURESHIPS

*"Building an Evangelistic
Church for the Lord"*

APRIL 18-20, 2008

Mars Hill church of Christ
VILONIA, ARKANSAS

Speakers

David Lipe—Friday, 7:00 p.m.
"God's Message, God's Challenge, Our Choice"

Jim Davis—Saturday, 9:30 a.m.
"Speaking the Truth"

Randy Rankin—Saturday, 10:30 a.m.
"Speaking the Truth in Love"

Oran Burt—Saturday, 11:30 a.m.
"Come and Learn, Go and Teach"

Robert Swain—Sunday, 10:00 a.m.
"Paul the Missionary"

David Riley—Sunday, 11:00 a.m.
"The Worth of a Soul"

Ted Knight—Sunday, 6:00 p.m.
"The Joys that are Before Us"

Join us for great fellowship, periods of outstanding singing, and a tremendous lunch on Saturday.

For details visit <http://www.churchofchristmarshill.org>

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CONTACT INFORMATION:

Ted—ted.knight@sbcglobal.net
P.O. Box 1297
Conway, AR 72033
Phone: 501.327.6116

Marty—martyknight@alltel.net
70 Weaver Circle
Vilonia, AR 72173
Day Phone: 501.269.0450
Evening Phone: 501.796.4124

GIFTS OF MEMORIAL AND HONOR

In Honor of
DUB AND PEGGY MITCHELL
Marty and Eldean Coker

In Honor of
CHARLES (C.W.) KNIGHT
Steve and Kim Knight

In Honor of
RACHEL KNIGHT
Steve and Kim Knight

In Memory of
J.V. AND GENEVA STARLING
Steve and Kim Knight

In Memory of
ALLIE KIRKLAND
Ted and Barbara Knight

In Memory of
JOE MIDDLETON
Marty and Lisa Knight

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