

Evangelistically Speaking

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

- Pray for the churches in Cluj-Napoca and Sibiu, Romania as they go through periods of transition.
- Ask God to open doors of opportunity for them as they labor in those places.

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From Ted's Pen

I can understand fully why the apostle Paul so often told those he had taught and worked with in spreading the gospel how much he loved and appreciated them for their fellowship in that great work.

It is difficult to put into words what we really feel for being blessed to serve the Lord in the ministry that we started almost twenty years ago and for the faithful and loyal support of so many brethren who know us, love us, and have confidence in us as we strive to reach as many as possible with the gospel of Christ. We just want you to know how much we love and appreciate you and the opportunities that we have to be partners in the greatest work on earth. May God bless every one of you.

On Sunday, July 3 it was my pleasure to preach at the Harding Street congregation in Morrilton, Arkansas and fill in for Brother Charlie Bane who had broken his ankle in an accident a few days earlier. We had planned to be at home that weekend because of Barbara's inability to travel and then quietly spend the Fourth of July at our house together. So, when the need arose for me to preach at Harding Street I was very happy to do so.

The 22nd Annual Northwest Arkansas Lectures were conducted on July 8-10 at Belle-

fonte, Arkansas. The theme this year was, "The Glorious Church" and every lesson was prepared and delivered very well. I have spoken on every one of these programs and it is one of the highlights of the year for me.

This was the first time that My Lady did not get to attend at all and all of us missed her very much. I came away with an even greater feeling of gratitude for the church which Jesus purchased with His own blood. It is indeed a glorious church. Thanks to Brother Ray Crawford who directs the program each year and to the Bellefonte elders for continuing such a great work for this long, and hopefully for many years to come.

I was privileged to attend some of the services of the Gospel Crusade which was conducted on the campus of UCA here in Conway on July 10-15. There were great crowds from 500 to 650 for all six nights and the great singing, preaching, and fellowship was wonderful. God's word was preached with love and simplicity and I expect that great good will come from it.

On July 17-20 I was privileged to be with the church at Mt. Judea, Arkansas for a gospel meeting. What a joy it was! An attendance record was set on Monday night and then on Tuesday



night we had ONE more, so a new record was established. The church at Mt. Judea has recently selected elders and on Sunday the 17th three deacons were added to the work. This is the first time in more than SIXTY years that the church there has had elders and deacons. We had a great meeting. On July 24 I preached for the church at Hattieville, Arkansas and it was great to be with them.

BARBARA'S HEALTH

On July 12 Barbara returned to Dr. John Brizzolara in Little Rock for her assigned examination following the surgery of June 13. Brethren, we rejoiced so greatly when he told her that she was doing very, very, well. He told her that she could go with me to the meeting at Mt. Judea, but could not go for the entire day on Sunday. However, she did get to attend every service except the Sunday afternoon service.

It was her first time in FIVE weeks to be able to worship with the church. I cannot tell you how much it meant to

(Continued on Page 2)

From Ted's Pen (Continued)

me to have her with me for the week. He told us that in a few more weeks she should feel better than she has felt since the year before the original surgery and the three following years during which she had three other surgeries. We just rejoice and praise God and love and thank all of you for your prayers for this good outcome.

ANNIVERSARY

My Lady and I celebrated our FIFTY-THIRD anniversary on July 24. What a great life it has been for these 53 years and we thank God for every minute of every year. You are all invited in 2058 when we celebrate our 100 years together! You will need to be in heaven to attend that one.

ROMANIA

When you read these words there will be a team of eight workers in Cluj-Napoca, Romania, led by Brother Robert Swain who will take the lead in the Vacation Bible School on August 1-5. The Romanian Christians are excited about this VBS and will be working with their American brothers

and sisters to teach the children. We are anticipating a great VBS, as well as their teaching one-on-one Bible studies, a special Ladies class, and evening Bible studies. Please pray for their work and for their safe travel to and from Romania.

The seven congregations in the districts of Arges and Dolj conducted VBS programs and one-on-one studies recently, as well. I have heard reports of five baptisms and others who are very close to obeying the gospel. Praise God for that good work.

This issue of ES may have to carry us through September because of our schedule being so heavy. In case we can't publish one in September, here is our schedule. September 2-12 we will be in Michigan City, Indiana and Oskaloosa, Iowa. It is good to make one trip for both of these congregations. September 16-18 we will be at Cave City, Arkansas. We have not yet firmed up the schedule for September 25. May God bless you and keep you is our prayer. We love you!

SCHEDULE

JULY 31—AUGUST 3
Gospel Meeting—Black Oak, Arkansas

AUGUST 7—10
Gospel Meeting—Bay, Arkansas

AUGUST 14
Ben's Branch, Arkansas

AUGUST 21-24
Gospel Meeting—Gravel Hill, Arkansas

AUGUST 28
Hoxie, Arkansas

WEBSITES AND INFORMATION

Evangelistically Speaking Online:
<http://www.evangelisticallyspeaking.net>

Cluj-Napoca Church of Christ:
<http://www.bisericaluihristoscluj.com>

Levy Church of Christ:
<http://www.levychurch.com>

Vilonia Church of Christ:
<http://www.viloniachurch.org>

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PERSISTENCE PAYS

I was listening to the radio a few days ago and a beautiful piece of music was played. The announcer then told that the composer was a man named William Walton, a very famous composer, who died in 1983. He then told a story about Mr. Walton that I found to be fascinating. I did some research and learned that William Walton met his soon-to-be wife one day when she introduced him at a press conference for the Argentine press corps. He told her that night that he was going to marry her.

For the next two weeks he went to see her every day and told her that he intended to marry her. Finally, he went to see her, but did not mention marrying her and she asked him why he did not mention it. He said, "Because I have told you that for two weeks and you dismissed it, seemingly thinking that I was joking." She then said to him, "Ask one more time." When he did she accepted and they were married two months later.

On a Saturday afternoon several years ago a man called and asked me to meet him at the church building. Our purpose in going there was to baptize his brother. He told me that he had studied with his brother for twenty years and urged him to become a Christian, to no avail. However, that afternoon his brother called and requested to be baptized into Christ. I thought that day, "We must never give up on someone." If his brother had decided after nineteen years that he would just stop encouraging this man to become a Christian, it might never have happened.

Jesus taught us a powerful lesson in Luke 18 about persistence in prayer. The persistence of the widow finally brought her the desired results. He knew the importance of this quality and taught His disciples to develop persistence in their work for Him.

What does it mean to be "persistent?"

1. *To go on resolutely or stubbornly in spite of opposition, importunity or warning.*
2. *To remain unchanged or fixed in a specified character, condition, or position.*
3. *To be insistent in the repetition or pressing of a question or an opinion.*

I do not believe that these definitions are suggesting that we remain in a position of error or wrong but that we should maintain a commitment to what we believe until we are proven wrong.

Persistence in evangelism is most important. It is really easy for us to give up on someone whom we may have studied with and prayed for, but they have not responded positively to the gospel. I can think of people right now whom I had decided would never obey the Lord, but they did. I have been thrilled to see people walk down the aisle to make their lives right with God and I must confess that I had given up on them. That is a mistake that I try not to make any more.

Please do not every give up on someone. Do not underestimate the power of God! God has told us to plant the seed and we must be persistent about that task. There may be a time to shake the dust off your feet and go to others who might be more responsive, but exercise great care and caution before walking away. **BE PERSISTENT SEEKERS OF SOULS!** It may make the difference in someone being saved or lost.

- Ted Knight

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GIFTS OF MEMORIAL AND HONOR

In Memory of
COHEN LAWRENCE
By
Ted and Barbara Knight
Marty and Lisa Knight

In Memory of
BARBARA McDONOUGH
By
Dan and Jan Davis

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