

GOSPEL EXPRESS EVANGELISTIC MINISTRIES

NEWSLETTER Vol. 34 No. 272

May - June 2017

- VILLAGE GOSPEL MEETINGS
- MINI BIBLE SCHOOLS
- YOUTH SESSIONS
- STAFF TRAINING SESSIONS
- SLUM VISITATION

INDIA MISSION 2017

Partnering with Good Life Ministries

"I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst" ~ **Jesus**

No matter in what country, culture, state, etc we find ourselves, JESUS is the Bread of Life that brings salvation to the lost, life to the backslidden, and fulfillment to the saint of God who is fully surrendered to Him! Our family is very grateful for the opportunity to present the Bread of Life to the people in India. In addition to partnering with GLM, our four oldest were very blessed to participate in a Children's Retreat in Northeast India (Churachandpur) that is organized by For One Life. The

smiling faces on those precious children has a way of melting your heart. Thank you to all who helped make this mission possible! ~*Dave* Miller Family



IMPACTING INDIA

As Chairman of Good Life Ministries, I can say we greatly anticipated ministering together with the Miller Family in Hyderabad and leerja, India. The goal was to preach the Gospel, teach biblical principles to the core Good Life Team, incorporate sound equipment training, and to show the Indian people the beauty of family ministering together. Our prayers were answered!

Thank you to Gospel Express leadership for allowing combined ministries to bless each other. The gifts and talents the Millers brought had God's anointing as they poured out their hearts to the precious souls in India!

~*Joel Barkman*; Chairman of GLM



INDIA MISSION 2017



Testimonies from Good Life Staff

We were really encouraged by your family, especially when Brother Dave shared about the importance of pronouncing blessings upon our children... and to see that you are doing that in your own family. We together want to glorify God and bless our children in that manner.

~Simon

I was really encouraged by Sister Ruth Ann's message in the ladies meeting. I learned how to pray in the presence of the Lord. It really encouraged and directed my prayer life.

~Simon's Wife, Abigail

Thank you for visiting our school and for your singing. They were beautiful songs, especially when you were using those wonderful instruments. Some of the young people were really inspired and we were hoping that someday we would be able to introduce them to learn to play instruments... and the importance of glorifying God through music. ~Brother Ratnakar (Principal, GLM School)

It was my dream to be a good sound engineer. Your guidance was so helpful to me. Thank you very much.

~Dilip

I've been thinking about your teachings. It opened my eyes to see the open door that God has made available to enter the Holy of Holies. All these years it felt like I was out of the light, but my prayer life and experience about the Holy of Holies has now become true in my life.

~Brother Sambabu

I learned so many new things and realized my mistakes. I made a call to one of my friends to whom I have not spoken to since last year. During that call I literally begged him for forgiveness. He also felt very sorry about what had happened. You know what? I know we are close friends again. Thank you for inspiring us and teaching us.

~Brother Avinash

Having two children of my own its exciting to get involved in ministry. We learned it's important to clear up issues before ministering to others. It really touched my heart.

~Sister Sunitha (Teacher, GLM School)

The skit was a big hit in our Kid's Clubs. Some of the children in the area are still talking about it.

~Brother Suresh

It really blesses and inspires me to see your children are willing to serve the Lord alongside of you. As a parent of 2 boys ages 11 & 13, I used to think of how beautiful it would be to serve the Lord as a family. You told me you don't force your children into ministry, but rather have a heart to heart relationship with them.

Thank you! ~Brother Sujeeth

I loved the music and singing, the harp is amazing. I had seen it on the internet, but I've now seen it played live and it amazed me.

~Akhil (Computer Faculty)

During the Gospel and Revival meetings, many people cried and several of them came to know the Lord for the first time.

~Brother Jayana

God made you and your family to be an example to many people like me. Your life is a song, louder than your words. The way you work together, the way you present yourself in front of others. I want to continue doing the same.

~Brother John David



CANADA TEAM

"A father of the fatherless, a defender of widows, is God in His holy habitation."
- Psalms 68:5

We count it a high honor as a family to be serving those close to the heart of God – widows & inmates. There is a surprising amount of similarities in these two groups. Both widows and inmates spend a majority of their time alone and therefore crave fellowship. They all long for a purpose to keep going when life has turned upside down.

In either circumstance they are facing disappointment, loneliness, and often depression.



The widows banquet ministry started in 2002 as Margie was recovering from a surgery and felt God ask her to reach out to some widowed neighbors. That Christmas we hosted 15 widows in our home for a

Penner Family



banquet & music. Since then, our contact list has increased to over 1,500 widows in 10 different communities in Manitoba. We have also traveled to additional provinces and states, along with Belize and Mexico, to help them get started. These banquets give the widows a chance to get to know each other, building friendships that help them after we leave. We always share the gospel message, realizing that many of these ladies would never step foot in a church service but will listen with open hearts in a banquet setting.

In the past 7 years we have seen first-hand the difference it makes when inmates see a complete family serving the Lord. As Jake shares his personal testimony many

COMPASSION MINISTRY

men realize that it's not too late to fight for their own families – to rise up and be men of God.

No matter how much we enjoy personally ministering to the widows and inmates, our heart is really to share the vision with local churches in reaching the lonely in their communities.



We will do whatever we can to fan the flames of compassion in Christians.

The world takes notice when a church-going neighbor not only loves by his words, but also loves by his actions.

If you or your church would be interested in having us come share the vision, please send an email to jake@gospelexpress.ca. Thank you for partnering with Gospel Express in serving "the least of these."

~Julia, for the Penner's

Family Ministry Brings Laughter and Tears

"Made you look" put the icing on the cake!"

Gospel Express extends a warm welcome to the Mel Stoltzfus Family, from Halifax, PA. Mel and Katie Ann have 8 children and spent the month of February ministering in the Carolinas and Florida. Singing in the South Carolina prisons was a highlight. Katie Ann said, "To see so many mothers in prison and how they became so broken when the children sang... that really touched my heart." I wish I could have captured the prisoner's expressions as



they caught glimpses of the little ones playing "Made you look." They were seated on a bench behind the rest of the family as they were singing. Men were watching the children just be children - a rare treat for most of them.



Welcome: Stoltzfus Family

They also worked on a new recording, which should be available later this spring. When 12-year old Josh played a special lick on his guitar the studio musicians were in awe. Veteran musician, David Johnson, said, "Son, that guitar lick was first done by Lester Flatt and Earl Scruffs in 1949. You are amazing!"

Please keep the Stoltzfus Family in your prayers as their schedule increases under the umbrella of the ministry here.

~Nelson Coblenz



South Carolina

I was especially blessed to talk with Michael who got saved last year during the crusade. He continues to love the Lord and is singing in the choir. It was such a blessing to my heart to spend the week sharing Christ and seeing He still saves whosoever will believe on Him. Glory to His Name!

~Eli Yoder, Volunteer



We really enjoyed the experience of going into the SC prisons as a family. We found it amazing how children singing and being themselves touches the hearts of the inmates. All of us would agree that it's a rewarding place to sing and we definitely want to do it again!

*~The Melvin Stoltzfus Family
(see page 3)*



We were so blessed by the opportunity to minister behind the fences as unto Christ. It was a tremendous blessing to witness firsthand the power of God at work. Before each service we gathered in prayer, asking for the ability to sing and the Lord miraculously answered each night. All glory belongs to our Father for doing His work, not because of us, but in spite of us.

~The Randy Thiessen Family

For the **grace** of God that brings **salvation** has appeared to all men. - *Titus 2:11*

Discipleship Seminars

Bondage to Freedom was cancelled at the prison the first day, so instead we were allowed to go to lock-up for several hours. We met several inmates that we were impressed with; one even prayed a prayer of blessing on us and encouraged us in our ministry. The following day we were given extra time to do the seminar. The men were very eager to hear the teachings of God's Word.

~Jim Schrock, Instructor



Seminar Instructors

I really enjoyed the Bondage to Freedom Seminar! Even though I am incarcerated, now going into my 23rd year, I am "free" in Jesus. Thank you for teaching us the ways of the Lord.

~John



The people that came to teach the seminar did an outstanding job. I enjoyed the seminar so much that I sent all four books in the mail to my wife back home. Hopefully she will get as much out of them as I did. Thank you.

~Darrin

Thank you for the Conflict Resolution seminar. It was very powerful and filled with the presence of God! My eyes were opened to a lot of struggles I am dealing with.

~Dylan



Prison Crusade

We love prison ministry and consider it a privilege to serve our brothers and sisters in prison. *When we shared with friends and family that we were going into the prisons, they felt sorry and afraid for our family. When we experienced the blessings received from being a part of and sharing in the prison evangelism, we felt sorry for them.*

~The Layne Chitan Family



The crusade was a reminder of the desperate need for men and women who are willing to sow seeds and be a vessel for the Holy Spirit to work through. An encounter that gave me reason to rejoice was when one man came to the altar requesting prayer because he is not hearing anything from his family. Two days later he came up to me with a smile, saying that he just got off the phone with his family! Prayer works! Another encounter left me burdened - an 18 year old in lock up. He broke down and cried as he said he has no mom or dad (nobody). Thank you Gospel Express for making it possible that I can go to what some call the lowest of mankind. I call them created in the image of my God.

~John Helmuth, Volunteer



For **whoever** (that includes inmates) calls on the name of the **Lord** shall be saved!

- Romans 10:13

THANK YOU
to everyone who makes these crusades possible!
WARDENS • CHAPLAINS • OFFICERS
VOLUNTEERS • EVANGELISTS
SINGING TEAMS • PRAYER WARRIORS
\$KINGDOM INVESTORS\$

Bible Course Correspondence Ministry

I have the privilege of opening the many letters of requests, testimonies, and appreciation we receive from inmates each week. Our passion is that through these Bible studies men and women come face to face with Jesus Christ, the only one that can transform lives. Many of you cannot physically minister to the incarcerated, but by supporting this work you are heeding the words of Jesus in Mt. 25:36. Many unsung heroes serve behind the scenes to grade the tests. May God

richly bless everyone who donates and serves in this vital ministry outreach. God bless you!

~Melvin Yoder,
Discipleship Materials Coordinator

I have learned so much about the book of Romans. This Bible study is very informative. It has also brought me closer to God, renewed my faith, and opened up the doors to my heart.

~Theresa



Thank you so much for the Romans studies. I thought I was a Christian for a long time, but was really trying to earn salvation. Your lesson has set me free. Thank you!
~FL Inmate

I would like to share this curriculum with my family who have been in the dark. Your ministry inspired me to be all I can be for Christ and be His light that shines in a dark world.

~Kelli

UNDER CONSTRUCTION!

36' x 80' Multi-Purpose Building



- 2,894 sq. ft. living space for houseparent's and volunteer staff
- 2,880 sq. ft. finished storage space - a permanent space for the Bible courses, Bibles, and discipleship materials, and sound equipment
- 1570 sq. ft. unfinished basement - general storage

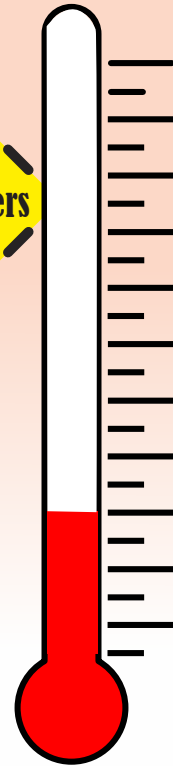


NEEDED

- Skilled Trades/ Laborers
- Materials
- Finances

Construction Budget

\$613,580



Funds Raised

\$147,610

LATEST NEWS FLASH!

Framing is now underway, but we are in need of various skilled labor crews. If you or a crew would be available for a few days or a week or two we'd love to hear from you. We would also have longer term work for 1-2 people with general construction experience to keep the project moving forward.

Financially speaking the project still looks really big, as evidenced by the thermometer at left. We are hoping the estimated budget can be significantly reduced as some people are able to bless the ministry with donated labor and/or materials.

**Call Mervin Wengerd
828-859-7003 to help.**

from PAIN to Purpose MULLETT FAMILY



THE BUS PROJECT

Over the last 5 months, Pain to Purpose has been raising funds to replace the motorhome that our family has been traveling in

since 2009. A few months ago a bus was purchased, and renovations have now begun to adapt it for our family's use. What has unfolded before our eyes has been simply amazing, and we are so thankful for the prayer and generous support of God's people. There is \$8,500 needed yet to reach the goal amount to finish the project.



\$151,500 raised; only \$8500 needed!

We are humbled, yet rejoicing in God's provision!

I experienced freedom through the "Pain to Purpose" seminar. The Holy Spirit began to deal with me. I shared [about] the pain, and my heart was breaking. As my Christian family came around me and prayed, God began to eradicate the pain and anger, and as I sat down I began to smile inside and out. I want to thank the Mullett's for sharing.

~Michael (Inmate)

I've gone through a lot of pain, and after the seminar, I realized this pain can and will be changed into a purpose. Our time together was special; the impact was life changing... Thank You!

~Emanuel (Inmate)

It was a privilege to have the Mullett family at our prison. Their time of singing and preaching touched many lives here at CTCF.

~Chaplain Matt Overholt

The way [the Mullett family] has let hardships and pain increase their faith in God is an example for me, as well as the men in prison. I really appreciated the small group settings [for discussion time]. Thank you so much for sharing your family with us as well as your experiences and time.

~Chaplain Abner King



PRISON TESTIMONIES

Singspiration Tour 2017

Southwest and Mexico



The Spring Tour this year was largely “new turf” and thousands of new faces. We were indeed recipients of God’s divine favor. The Holy Spirit filled hungry hearts, despite the language barrier in some of the communities in Mexico. Comments like “We were so blessed... God filled our hearts... so encouraged, strengthened, and challenged” all gave witness to that fact. The flu bug made its rounds, but most nights there were 20 vocalists, along with the 5 families that shared between the group singing. Sound technician, James Yoder, assisted by Dave Miller, certainly had his hands full but did a great job.

We thank God for all you prayer warriors as we traveled the 25,000 combined miles, sharing 13 services in 17 days. Our sincere gratitude to those who served us food, night after night, including those enchiladas with guacamole, onions, hot sauce, and eye brow raising hot peppers (so I was told!!) ☺ Above all, we give glory to God for gracing us with His presence. That is what made this journey of worship and praise an oasis of life giving water for all of us.

~ Nelson Coblenz



FUN TIMES

Someone had a birthday in Mexico



HELP

Are you at a crossroads?

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES
PERSONAL GAIN

MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES
SERVING OTHERS
SURRENDER

MY FOCUS

NEEDED

EVANGELISTIC MINISTRY SECRETARY
An opportunity to use your creativity and computer experience to be a tremendous blessing for the ministry. Design and work with publicity/ communications with churches, prisons, and various ministry personnel. Experience with graphic design would be helpful but not essential. Looking for a 2-year commitment. **This can be a full time paid position.** Timeframe - immediate opening.

HOUSEPARENTS - Be a blessing as you socialize with the VS staff and serve in a mentorship role while secretaries are away from home/parents. This is ideal for a retired/semi-retired couple. Timeframe - July.

If you want more information call **Lonnie at 828-859-7003** to discuss the possibilities. You can also email mail@gospelexpressonline.org.

The Miller's

NEW CD

Song Titles:

- I Will Sing of My Redeemer
- King of Love
- Everything to Me
- Turning to the Light
- When Trials Come
- Deep, Deep Love
- As Long As You Are Glorified
- Testify
- Living Waters
- Let It Be Jesus

KING OF Love

KING OF Love

*See the enclosed response card to order or visit our website www.gospelexpressonline.org

7



Lots of
GOOD FOOD
Friday evening and
all day/evening on
Saturday!

APRIL 27-29, 2017 Annual PA Benefit Auction Weekend

Mel's Stables, 834 Wallace Road, New Holland, PA 17557

Guest Groups Friday Night

Thursday, April 27 7:00 PM Cattle Auction (Call 717-222-6316 for more info)

Friday, April 28 4:30 PM Pig Roast & Big John's Chicken
(Full Meal - Carry out Available \$10 each)
5:30 PM Singspiriration
6:00-6:45 PM Auction
6:45 PM Singing Continues

Guest Group Saturday Night

Saturday April 29 7:00-10:00 AM "All-You-Can-Eat" Breakfast
8:15-8:45 AM Singin' & Pickin'
8:30 AM Candy Drop
9:00 AM Auction Begins
6:00 PM Singspiriration



Stutzman Youth



Stoltzfus Family



Testify



Singing also Provided by
Gospel Express Teams

Special **TOOL TENT** featuring: Golf carts, construction equipment, various other power tools, etc. Sale also includes: **OUTDOOR FURNITURE** (2 swing sets, 2 gazebos, more), 12' X 24' **GARAGE** and various **SHEDS**, dog kennel, chicken coop, Africa items, plants, **INDOOR FURNITURE**, and much more. For details and info on the auction and items to donate, call 717-875-7637.

OUR LARGEST ANNUAL FUNDRAISER This event supports the general ministry of Gospel Express.

A portion is shared with our sister Ministries: Living Hope International, Door of Hope, & Florida Chaplaincy Program.

Team Schedules

*Visit our website or call the office 828-859-7003 to confirm dates before traveling long distances

NELSON & SARAH COBLENTZ

April 27-29 Benefit Auction Weekend - New Holland, PA
May 3-5 Mel Stoltzfus Family Recording
May 8-12 Annual Scheduling Meetings - Columbus, NC
June 16-23 Alaska Singing Cruise
July 28-30 CMC Conference - Kidron, OH

MILLER FAMILY

April 22 Derry Mennonite Church - Danville, PA (Ladies Meeting)
April 23 Vicksburg Mennonite Church - Mifflinburg, PA (AM)
April 23 Burkholder's Youth Center - Mifflinburg, PA (PM)
April 27-29 Benefit Auction Weekend - New Holland, PA
May 8-12 Annual Scheduling Meetings - Columbus, NC
May 31-June 1 Faith Menn Church - Hillsdale, MI (Revivals)
June 2 Cornerstone Chapel - Borchester, WI
June 4 Christian Faith Church - Winkler, MB (AM)
June 4 New Life Fellowship - Winkler, MB (PM)
June 6 Cherry Coulee Christian Academy - Bow Island, AB
June 7 Picture Butte Menn Church - Picture Butte, AB
June 9-11 Prairie Christian Fellowship - Magrath, AB (Revivals)
June 13 Lakeside Christian Church - Rexford, MT
June 14 Whitepine Menn Church - Trout Creek, MT
June 16-23 Alaska Singing Cruise
June 25 Seattle, WA
June 27 Cody, WY (Location TBD)
June 29 Milford Menn Church - Milford, NE
July 2-7 Prairie Camp - Goshen, IN

MULLETT FAMILY

April 27-29 Benefit Auction Weekend - New Holland, PA
April 30 Gap View Church - Gap, PA
May 8-12 Annual Scheduling Meetings - Columbus, NC
July 16 Middlecreek Area Community Center - Beaver Springs, PA (2:00 pm)
July 23 New Covenant Mennonite Church - New Holland, PA (10:00 am)
July 28-30 BMA Convention - Lancaster Pa

MERVIN WENGERD BTF = Bondage to Freedom, CR = Conflict Resolution

April 27-29 Benefit Auction Weekend - New Holland, PA
April 30 PA Church
May 1-3 *BTF - Baylor CI, DE
May 8-12 Annual Scheduling Meetings - Columbus, NC
May 16,23,30 *CR - Tyger River CI, SC
July 20-22 *CR - Huttonsville CC, WV
July 23 OH Church
July 24&25 *BTF - Belmont CI, OH
July 26&27 *BTF - Noble CI, OH

HARBOUR LIGHTS (PENNER FAMILY)

April 23 Life Mennonite Fellowship - Willow Street, PA (AM)
April 27-29 Benefit Auction Weekend - New Holland, PA
April 30 Green Terrace Mennonite Church - Wernersville, PA (AM)
May 2 Widows Banquet - Honey Brook, PA
May 3-8 Churches enroute to MB
May 15-June 30... Prisons in MB and SK

Visit our website for updates on scheduling, ministry team news, recordings, and more: www.gospelexpressonline.org

GOSPEL EXPRESS EVANGELISTIC TEAM INC. PO Box 217, Lynn, NC 28750 • 828-859-7003 • mail@gospelexpressonline.org