



# PILGRIM NEWS & NOTES

Official Publication of the Midwest Pilgrim Holiness Church

April 1, 2015

## THE GRACE OF GOD

*And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. - II Corinthians 12:9*

Annie Johnson Flint was born to Eldon and Jean Johnson on Christmas Eve in 1866. Her parents loved her dearly! She was their greatest treasure!

When Annie was only 3 years of age, her mother died giving birth to her baby sister. Her daddy was also suffering with an incurable disease. Shortly before he died (when Annie was only 6), he gave her to a family with the last name of Flint, who raised her in the Baptist church.

It was during a revival, at the age of 8, that she became a Christian. Although she didn't join the church until ten years later, her faith in Christ never wavered!

A friend described her as, "A pretty, dark-haired girl with a clear complexion and long black curls." The friend also said, "Every Saturday afternoon we met as a select literary society of two to read from our favorite poets, and then we attempted verse ourselves."

It wasn't long until BOTH of her adoptive parents passed away, leaving Annie an orphan once again. To describe the unbelievable sorrow that crept into Annie's life just isn't possible. There was little money in the bank and Annie said she had come to a "Red Sea place" in her life!

She developed severe arthritis that would eventually cripple her body, leaving her an invalid and confined to a wheelchair for the rest of her life. What would she do?

Instead of blaming God and sinking into dark depression, she chose JOY, and to rest in God! It was in one of her darkest moments that she took a pencil in her crippled hands and penned these words:

*He giveth more Grace, when the burdens grow greater, He sendeth more strength when the labors increase,  
To added affliction, He addeth His mercy, to multiplied trials, His multiplied peace!*

*When we have exhausted our store of endurance, when our strength has failed, ere the day is half done,  
When we've reached the end of our hoarded resources, our Father's full giving has only begun!*

*His love has no limit, His grace has no measure, His power has no boundaries known unto men  
For out of His infinite riches in Jesus, He giveth, and giveth, and giveth again!*

**The theme for this issue of *Pilgrim News and Notes* is simply, GRACE.** As a child of God, there will be times when you will go through the fire! Trouble eventually finds its way to every door step, but if you are a Christian, you have the assurance that HIS GRACE will ALWAYS be sufficient for you!

We trust you are encouraged and uplifted by reading this issue of *Pilgrim News and Notes*.

# FROM THE CONFERENCE PRESIDENT

*Rev. James A. Southerland, Sr., originally served as the first General Secretary of the Midwest Pilgrim Holiness Church, and then in 1970, he was elected to the position of President, and served in that capacity until 1986. He was re-elected to that position in 2003, and has ably served in that capacity up to the present time. He may be contacted via email [HERE](#)*

## BE TRUE, SON, BE TRUE

It is truly appalling to look at the change that is being demonstrated among holiness people in this day. Social media places a "hole in the wall" to look in on the private lives of many of our people. In a lot of cases we could tell no difference between average professors in more liberal churches and some conservative ones. Entertainment practices, both public and private, need to be reviewed in light of an omniscient God. Some take liberties on vacation, or away from home, that they would not in an environment where they are well known. Have we lost a "carefulness" we once had in our department, our practices and our appetites? Worldliness is a condition of the heart.

Rev. Morris Chalfant, one of the great Nazarene pioneer pastors and missionaries, wrote in a little, age-stained booklet about dangers of change. Not all change is necessary or bad. Change that is brought about by drifting and lukewarmness is deceptive and destructive.

Rev. Chalfant wrote, "Just before I left for a term of missionary service in Africa for our church. My father wrote in my Bible these words of advice. He was a pioneer of our beloved Zion, and though he be dead, yet may he speak to our beloved Zion now. These instruction held me steady in the heart of Africa as a missionary and in recent years, as I have served as a pastor of two downtown city churches. The last time I saw him alive he again repeated these instructions to me. His last words to me were, 'Son, be true to these instructions, Son, be true.'

- Be true to God regardless of personal cost
- Remember to pray every day, have a stated place, time, hold to it. It will tell in time and eternity.
- Be always engaged in doing something useful. Rest and recreation are useful.
- Be loyal in every way to everyone. Be loyal to leadership. Guard confidences.
- God is in heaven, thou art upon earth, therefore let thy words be few.
- Life is so short. Eternity is so long. Don't try to fool God or other people.
- Remember God is always on hand to help you every time you need Him.
- Next to God, cultivate your friends.
- Give attention to home and wife and family and your living relatives.
- Be true to Bible Holiness with standards.
- Write inoffensively.

Let us lift up our voices in defense of the precious doctrine of second blessing Holiness. Cry aloud until we stem the tide of encroaching pacifism. Recapture the militancy that characterized our pioneer preachers and laymen. Preach it until our hearts are aflame. Preach it until the Zeal of the Lord has consumed us. Preach it until hell is enraged. Preach it until sinners wilt and come weeping to God. Preach it until hypocrites rage. Preach it until the fire falls. Preach it until we know that we have God's message for this hour. Preach it with the assurance that we came into the world to preach it. Preach it until all men know what we stand for and if need be, die for. So help us God. 'Holiness without which no man shall see the Lord.' Heb.12:14" AMEN!

- Rev. James A. Southerland, Sr.



Drawn by Jacynda Manns

## *News from around the Conference*

*All news on this page has been submitted by various Pilgrim churches. We reserve the right to edit the submissions as necessary. - Editor*

### **Lima, OH - (by Pastor Don Nichols)**

Weather has played havoc with our schedule of services the past couple of months. But God has met with us and we thank Him for answering so many prayers. On January 10th Nathan and Mandy Bailey, of Meadville, PA, had a baby girl, Rebekah Sharae. She weighed 7 lbs., 3 oz., and was 21 inches long. Grandparents are Steve and Cathy Bailey, and great-grandmothers, Esther (Zeits) Bailey and Pauline Snyder.

Russell Hefner has attended our church several times over the last several years, though he was raised in an area Mennonite Church. He is a nephew to Wendy Bailey. He attended a Mennonite Bible School for a six weeks program, and contacted Bro. Nichols about an offering for our church on Antigua. His school raised an offering each Sunday morning, and would give it to a cause selected by a vote of the students. Russell presented the need for a church in Antigua, and the students voted to give the offering toward that need. \$390 came in, and was sent to our Conference for the building.

The last Saturday in January, a Rummage/bake sale was held in the School Commons to raise money to help pay the expenses of sending students to the annual Student Convention. Over \$800 was raised. Early in February, the Young Adult Sunday School class, led by Marea Pouzar, raised money to buy a microwave oven for the mission house on Dominica. The missionaries were very grateful. The Young Adult class has also been sensitive to the needs of the congregation, reaching out to those who may be struggling, by providing a Sunday meal for them. They have chosen someone different each month.

February 10, Peighton Mae Rose was born, weighing 7 lbs., 4 oz., and was 19 inches long. Her parents are Ryan and Rachel Rose, and she has a big brother, Spencer. Maternal grandparents are Bill and Lynette Spencer. **(Continued on next page)**

*If you have church news that you would like to submit for publication in this section, please send it to [pauldplemmons@yahoo.com](mailto:pauldplemmons@yahoo.com)*

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### **Lima, OH - (Continued)**

Lucille King, widow of former Lima Bible Missionary Church pastor, Paul King, passed away February 14th. Our church provided a meal in the School Commons for family and friends after the funeral.

Pastor and Mrs. Nichols took a few days off in February, attending the last weekend of Sea Breeze Camp at Hobe Sound, FL, and a few days relaxing in south Florida including a brief cruise to Grand Bahama. Brother Nichols also represented the Conference at a meeting of the ministerial students after the evening service the last Thursday evening.

Brother and Sister Nichols were able to have prayer with a lady in the James Cancer Center in Columbus, Ohio. Cindy Sergent has brain cancer, and was ready to pray to be saved. Her family had been touched by our Good News Club effort over thirty years previously. Sister Nichols put together a Sunshine Basket for the family.



On March 5th, the Nichols met Matthew and Sherry Mims at the Marion County Courthouse in Indianapolis, IN, for the adoption of Lucas Josiah Mims. They have had him since birth and Bro. Nichols dedicated him to the Lord here at the church last fall. **(Continue on next page)**



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### **Lima, OH - (Continued)**



We lost a heat exchange in one of our HVAC units and decided to replace the whole unit since it had been installed in 1998. The new unit is a Lennox 105,000 BTU Furnace with a 5 ton air conditioner. We are thankful that the work has been completed and the new unit is operational. It is one of two that service our sanctuary.

The Nichols attended the Annual Gideon Pastor's Banquet at an area restaurant. The Ohio President of Gideon's International, Moze Beechy, was the speaker. He told how several years ago, a ladder had kicked back on him and he fell to the ground. It appeared he would be paralyzed from the waist down with neither bowel or bladder control. He told how God, in answer to the prayers of His people, had marvelously healed him, allowing him to walk without assistance and regain control of bowel and bladder. A Gideon will speak in our morning service, March 15th, and an offering will be received for Bibles. We are hoping to raise \$1,000 in this offering. We know we can't go wrong in purchasing Bibles for distribution.



We are seeking the Lord and trusting for revival as we hold services with Rev. Dan Plemmons as evangelist March 24-29. We appreciate your prayers and if you are in the area, the evening services are at 7:30 during the week. Sunday evening starts at 6:00.

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# Pastor to Pastor

Ministering to those who minister to others . . .

Rev. Roger Russell

## His Grace Will ALWAYS be Sufficient

I want to preface this article by saying that it was suggested that I write about this experience in my life...

When a person accepts a call to the ministry, it is said that they will greatly reduce their chances of making it to Heaven because of the increased temptations that are sure to come their way. One thing that has been my refuge many times is the promise from Scripture, *“My grace is sufficient.”* Would it be any more sure if God’s Word said *“My Grace is sufficient PLUS?”* A thousand times NO, it is sufficient! Hallelujah.

Pastors will need to avail themselves of this abundant grace during misunderstanding, false accusations, personal trouble and the list goes on and on. Where do you go for encouragement when your whole world has just crumbled at your feet? The Psalmist had to encourage himself. God doesn’t call a person to preach and then abandon them in the heat of the battle. There are so many wonderful examples of God’s Grace throughout history. However, we need to be sensitive to the Spirit because God never puts any of His children through the fire just to be an example to someone else. If you think God allowed Job to go through what he did just to be an example to men or devils then you haven’t read far enough in the Book. Job finally saw himself as God saw him, as a man who loved God and hated evil, yet there was a better experience for Job. God Himself allowed the things in his life to bring him to the events of chapter forty-two where he faced the *“self issue”* and said, *“I abhor myself.”* From that point on, things turned around for Job and he became twice the man he was before. When trouble comes, prayerfully examine yourself, perhaps a little humble pie would be in order. Don’t believe Satan when he tells you the people will think less of you, because it is just the opposite. Been there, done that, and it will bond you with the church.

When personal tragedy comes where do you go? I go to the Grace Warehouse, and I can tell you that it works! Sitting in a watch night service on December 31st, 1974, my wife Phyllis leaned over to me and said, *“I have one year left to work for God.”* My mind went back to the day when she came out of her private devotional time with God with her face all blotched, eyes swollen and said, *“I settled it today that if I have to die to see my children saved I am ready.”*

Sometimes we do puzzles at our house. I would imagine everyone would start by looking for the pieces with straight lines to make the border. When we have the border we might arrange the pieces according to color. God has a master plan for our lives but we don’t have the picture on the box to frequently observe as we work. God knows exactly what He is doing and that is to make a beautiful life that depicts the life of Christ. As we try to figure out what God is doing it would be like putting the puzzle together from the back side. When we put a puzzle together we do it by connecting each part to build the scene in that particular

**(Continued on next page)**

part of the puzzle. God is already in tomorrow and He may put a piece out in the middle which we may not think has anything to do with our lives, but Faith is still substance and God still knows what He is doing.

In June of 1974, we felt definitely led of the Lord to take a church where there had been an affair between a former pastor and a member of the church. The first Sunday, there were 13 in attendance and 6 of them were our family. Like David, I had to encourage myself in the Lord. Seemingly everywhere I went, people wanted to bring up that scandal. I finally started telling them, "You know, I was in Africa when that took place, but I am here now, and I am asking to be your pastor."

We had gone to my parents in Illinois for Christmas, and the grandparents were having a great time with the grandchildren whom they missed while we were in Africa. With kisses and hugs, we sent our 4 children (ages 5 to 12) off to bed. My wife woke me up around three o'clock or so and said, "I am coughing up fresh blood and I think we should go to the hospital." To make a long story short, by 4:00 that afternoon she was with the Savior she loved. She had asthma real bad but in Africa the humidity was very low and we had almost forgotten how it used to be. That evening with hugs and kisses I was telling our little ones that their momma was gone. I marvel at the grace God gives in abundance when we need to draw from the bountiful supply. **IT IS SUFFICIENT!! Yes, you have probably guessed it by now that it was New Year's Eve 1975. . .** Exactly one year to the day that she had said, "I have one year to work for God." Of those four children, three of them are vitally involved in conservative holiness churches, and one is with her mother skipping on the hills of Glory.

What do you do when you are the pastor of a devastated, struggling church for only six months, and the parsonage Queen has been called to a higher position? You go to the Grace Warehouse, and you will find it SUFFICIENT!! I went to my church board, and asked to live in the parsonage until I found something else. Evidently they had talked it over and said they had another proposition. They arranged for someone to come to the parsonage once a week to clean and one family within walking distance had us for dinner every Sunday. We didn't have a full church but it was solid to build on, and by God's grace, we were able to see a lady restored to God, the church and the organ bench. Don't you just love a church like that? Pastor, there is enough grace to go around. After eight years when the Lord led us to move on, by His grace, and a lot of calling in the community, the attendance had come up to the high sixties and low seventies. God be praised.

It was not all roses and my cooking was not the best. Sometimes we need to laugh at ourselves... I decided cream of wheat was the order of the day for breakfast one morning, so I got the box and read the directions. It instructed me to use a certain amount of water, so I said to myself, "Mom used milk, so I will too!" My first mistake was that I started out with too much meal. After changing pans and using all the milk, it was still too thick so I added some water. In the end, I set it aside and decided to cook corn flakes. I knew I could cook corn flakes as good as any one.

Breakfast done and now what to do with my experiment? I decided that perhaps since the dog loved to chew on things that he might enjoy it so into the dog's pan it went. He finally rooted it out and I got the message. I couldn't even make dog food, so I put it in the burn barrel and low and behold it wouldn't burn. A few days later, I saw Keith (my oldest) bouncing something about the size of a softball on the sidewalk, and I discovered that my Cream of Wheat was good for something after all!

**(Continued on next page)**

Here I was with a flock of the Lord to pastor and a brood of my own for which to care. Back to the warehouse for another load of grace, and guess what, it wasn't empty, but it was SUFFICIENT!! I also found that God was still putting the puzzle together.

First, I must tell you how God was putting someone else's puzzle together. I was told by a good friend of a certain lady from Alabama. It seemed no one could figure out why she was not married. I did not know she existed and had never heard her name. I knew her sister and her brother who lived in Pennsylvania. I asked her brother if he would introduce us and he said a flat no. Then he went on to say, "I have introduced my sister to some of the finest men walking and she is immediately turned off so you don't want me involved." My next question was, "How do you suggest that I meet her?" He said, "Her phone number is...." In a Saturday night prayer meeting at the church, she was earnestly seeking God's will for her life. She prayed something like this, "Lord, I am not complaining and I am happy to teach the rest of my life, but I would like to marry and have a family if it would be Your will." The very next day, on Sunday, she was spending the weekend with David and Mary Frost while her folks were out of town. She had forgotten some lesson plans back at the house and had gone back to get them for Monday's classes.

In that same perhaps fifteen minute time span seven hundred miles away, there was a man trying to figure out how God was putting the puzzle together. I remember sitting on the edge of the bed getting ready to dial a new phone number and praying this little prayer, "Lord, if this phone call doesn't come to some good, please don't let me ever meet this lady the longest day that I live." The phone was answered.

Carole went back to her friends and later told me how they laughed about this widower with four children who had called right out of the blue and wanted to correspond, while that widower was trying to get himself ready to preach a Sunday evening message.

Unless you have been in those shoes with all sorts of questions running through your mind, then feeble words can't convey the trauma. "What will people think since it has only been a short time since Phyllis' passing?" Time to visit the Grace Warehouse and find it SUFFICIENT. In the warehouse was the realization "that I was dead to the opinions of others through a crisis experience, and I could remember the time and the place" that my little brood was more important to me than all the Conference gossips. God's grace was still SUFFICIENT for that too.

To make a long story short, I met Carole on April 17th, got engaged July 4th, and married on August 24th. The lessons I learned through that experience are many and varied, but the main one is that "love is a commitment and I had fulfilled one commitment and by the SUFFICIENCY of God's grace was making another." I am amazed at how God, who is already in tomorrow, places the pieces of our lives at His will. One day we shall see the right side of the puzzle. If I read my Bible right, the love we cherish so much here on earth will be eclipsed by a greater love for all eternity.

**Pastor friend, YOU can TRUST when you cannot see, and do not understand!**





# A Woman's Perspective . . .

By Stephanie Burley

## Modesty: Revisiting God's Design

It is no secret that women love clothing. Just ask any man who's ever had to wait while his woman did some shopping! Whether at Saks Fifth Avenue or the Goodwill, you'll find women of all ages engaging in the thrill of the hunt. But there is a much greater purpose for clothing than to simply gratify ourselves with an attractive wardrobe. Clothing was God's idea, so it makes perfect sense to look to His Word for instruction as we seek to glorify Him through our apparel (I Corinthians 6:19-20, 10:31). Whether we've been pursuing modesty of dress for fifty years or just five minutes, it is always beneficial to reassess our commitment to these essential truths.

For the God-pleasing woman, clothing is meant to do three things:

**Cover** – In the Book of Genesis we find the account of Adam and Eve's sin. Until the moment they sinned, they were naked and unashamed. However, once sin entered, Adam and Eve immediately felt revealed and vulnerable and attempted to clothe themselves. God came to them and demonstrated His love by providing adequate coverage with coats of skins. Since that time, clothing has been an expected part of civilized culture.

**Conceal** – The modestly dressed woman realizes she must focus on more than just covering herself. Before publicly wearing an outfit, she is careful to make an honest assessment of what her choice reveals. When looking at her, what will others first see? Will they be impressed by her countenance and the beauty of her radiant femininity? Or will they be drawn to her covered yet revealed body?

**Communicate** – Clothing is a language of its own. Modest clothing does not necessarily indicate a modest heart, but a modest heart will certainly dictate a modest wardrobe. When a Christian woman who practices principles of modesty enters a public place, she speaks volumes without saying a word. She is different, as she is supposed to be (Romans 12:2). Christ is glorified through her deportment, and uses her as an example to draw others to Himself. Many women excuse indecent clothing by saying, "God looks at my heart, not my clothes." They recoil at guidelines that infringe on their "right" to wear what they want. They, inadvertently or otherwise, become a stumbling block for men who are struggling to maintain purity. Our clothing says something. It says a lot, actually, and we need to be honest about the messages we send through our apparel.

**So, should you wear it? Ask yourself three questions:**

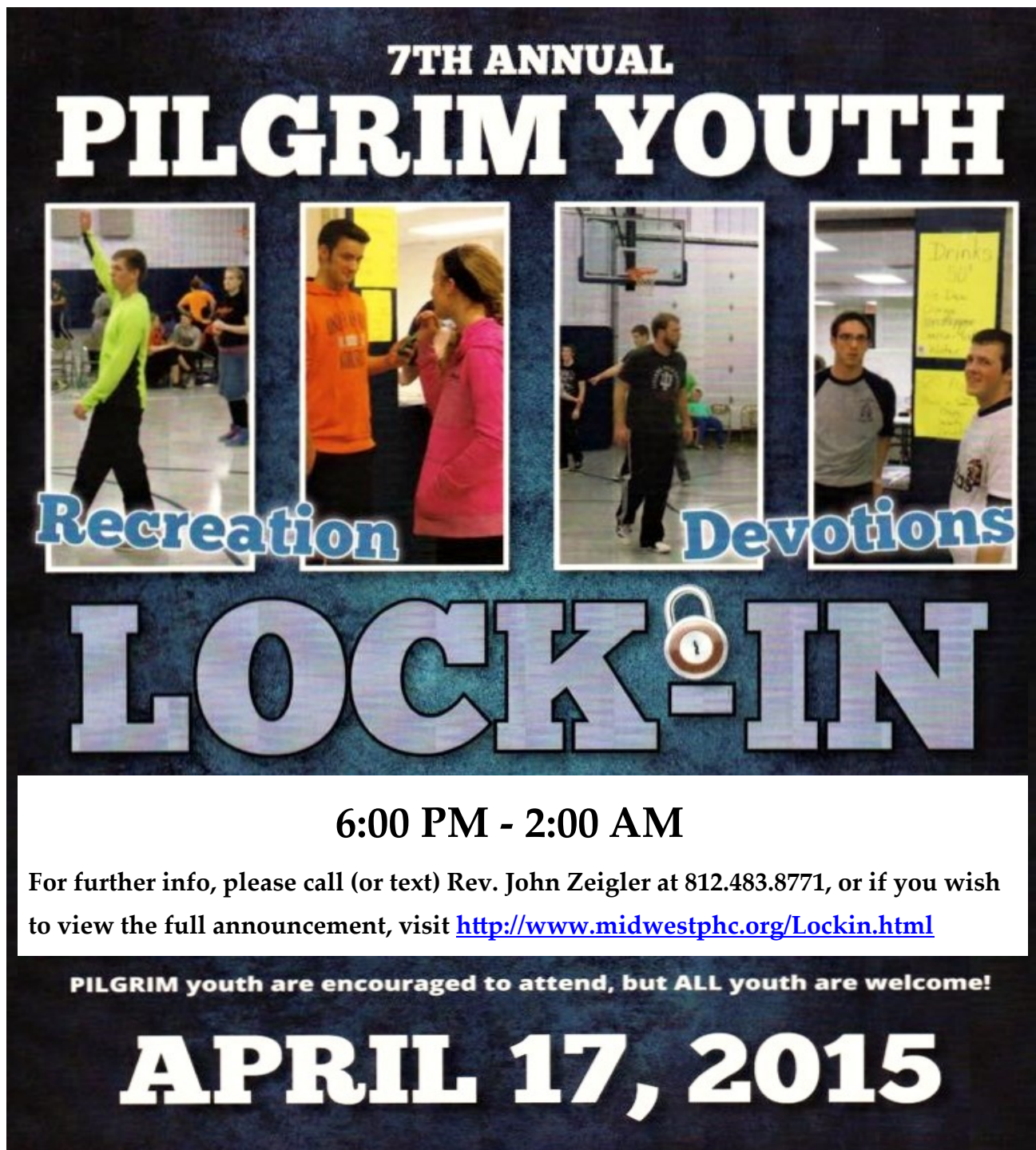
- **Is it modest?** You'll find a wide variety of opinions on what this word entails, so I encourage you to read and study the Scriptures, pray, use the three c's listed above, and seek Godly counsel.
- **Is it feminine?** During the 19th century, American culture began to shift dramatically. A strong, fierce movement arose and revolutionized women's rights. Although some of the changes were positive (the 19th Amendment to the Constitution, popularly known as the Anthony Amendment), femininity lost a prominent place in society. Unfortunately, the trend has continued until the level of respect and dignity women have for themselves as delicate creatures has been all but lost. The general tone of the Scriptures indicates that women and men are to be dressed differently. Specifically, Deuteronomy 22:5 addresses this principle. God did a beautiful thing when He created woman, and our heartfelt response to Him should be one of gratitude and surrender.

**(Continued on next page)**

- **Is it appropriate?** Will the outfit remain modest throughout the situations encountered while wearing it? An article of clothing that may be modest in one setting can quickly become immodest in the course of the activity. This is why it is important to put thought into our wardrobe. Different situations will require different types of clothing, but let us not use appropriateness as an excuse to abandon modesty and femininity. There are numerous shops that sell modest, feminine clothing so that ladies can participate in a variety of activities while remaining both modest and feminine. If it is impossible to meet these two requirements, we should consider whether the activity itself (not just the clothing) is appropriate for a woman.

As in all matters, look to the Word, not the world. Remember, you're dressing to bring honor to God. What we wear indicates who we're serving. It's either Christ or the culture. As we dress within Biblical guidelines, we find plenty of room for individual expression and freedom.

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**7TH ANNUAL  
PILGRIM YOUTH  
LOCK-IN**

Recreation

Devotions

**6:00 PM - 2:00 AM**

For further info, please call (or text) Rev. John Zeigler at 812.483.8771, or if you wish to view the full announcement, visit <http://www.midwestphc.org/Lockin.html>

**PILGRIM youth are encouraged to attend, but ALL youth are welcome!**

**APRIL 17, 2015**

# He'll Furnish the Grace

By Gloria McGinnis

I have been asked to give the story behind my husband, Coy McGinnis', song entitled, *He Will Furnish The Grace*. Many of you heard him tell the story in person and I certainly cannot tell it as he did. I will, however, attempt to give my perspective of the events of those years which gave birth to the song which has given comfort and assurance to many of you.

As I was reading over the words once again I realized that each verse speaks to a different ministry of God's grace and how Coy wished to testify of that grace. I think that much of the appeal of the song comes from the fact that it addresses the inner needs that we all have.

The first verse speaks to the need of the spiritual man. Coy was converted at the age of sixteen and called of God to the ministry shortly after that. This verse takes him back to that time when he had nothing to offer God but a broken heart and life and to his need of **God's saving grace**. In simplicity that is all God wants from any of us. He wants us to furnish the man or the woman and he will provide all the grace we need for the rest of our lives.

Verse two speaks of **God's assuring grace**. That grace he provides for a daily consistent walk with him through the ups and downs of life. God never fails, He keeps his word, He has a plan and He stands beside us although we're undeserving. Throughout the years, Coy and I found God's grace sufficient as we raised our family, pastored churches and as he evangelized. We never lost sight of our need of God's grace.

Verse three speaks of **God's comforting grace** in our times of suffering. Suffering is surely a common denominator among us all. We've had some ourselves. We raised four sons: Ray, Brent, Craig, Scott, and a foster-son, Mike. Our youngest son, Scott, was born with a condition called Tuberous Sclerosis Complex or TSC for short. At ten months of age he started having seizures. When we took him to the pediatrician he was very concerned with his large tummy. After tests were completed he was diagnosed with epilepsy and polycystic kidney disease. It wasn't until he was seven years of age that we got a proper diagnosis of TSC. It was at that time that we found out, as a result of the TSC, that he had a malignant brain tumor the size of a golf ball. He had surgery on Dec. 1, 1975. The surgery was successful in removing the tumor but the optic nerve and blood vessels were damaged and he never recovered his sight. There are many stories I could tell of how God helped us through that time, but time and space will not permit.

Just a week before Scott went into the hospital I had a miscarriage. I was about five months along in the pregnancy and had had complications right along. Scott had been asking for a baby sister. Well, the baby was a girl but God decided she would be better off in his hands so he took her to live with him. We just weren't meant to have a daughter, I suppose. We never really named our daughter, but Scott did. He called her Janie. She was always his little sister to him.

In Feb. of 1978, we had a house fire. We had just returned home from a camp in Florida. We awoke in the night to flames coming through our bedroom wall from the enclosed porch where we had a wood stove burning. We were never sure if the fire started from the stove or from a low hanging electric line that was heavy with ice and near the roof. Regardless of the cause, we barely escaped with our lives. We grabbed Scott and I grabbed a bag of clothes that I had washed at the laundromat that day. Our son, Craig, carried the microwave oven out. Those were the only items, except ourselves, that we were able to save. But God was merciful to us. Thankfully, the three older boys were staying with other people that night. It was terribly cold with snow and ice, but I remember Coy standing in the snow in his slippers

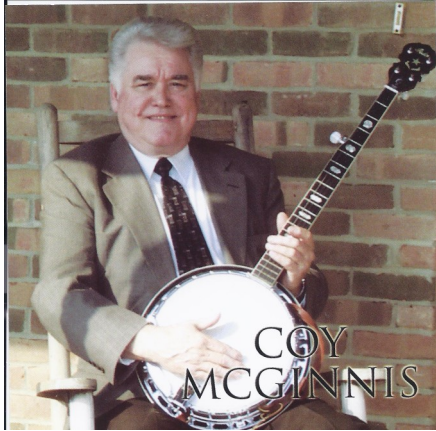


watching the house burn and saying with Job: “The Lord gave, and the Lord hath taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord.” Oh, the assurance and comfort of God’s grace in those special times of need.

In the years since Coy wrote the words of the song, we have found them to be so very true as he dealt with his health problems, diabetes, heart disease and finally cancer that took him in 2006. They were true for me as I continued to care for Scott until he died of kidney failure in 2009 at the age of 41. They are still true for me today in 2015. I am blessed to have my remaining children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. One day there will be a family reunion in Heaven where I will visualize Coy, Scott and Janie walking hand in hand to meet me. I would just like to say that if you too will furnish the man or the woman **He will furnish the grace** for whatever you face in your life.

If anyone is interested, I do have some CD’s of Coy’s music.

My email address is: [grannymac@columbus.rr.com](mailto:grannymac@columbus.rr.com). My phone # is: 740-858-4672



## He’ll Furnish The Grace

Written by Rev. Coy McGinnis

### VERSE I

When I came to Jesus, I had nothing to bring, my substance I’d wasted on life’s foolish things  
I wanted forgiveness and freedom from sin, so I bowed before the Savior, and I said to Him

### Chorus

I’ll furnish the man, if you’ll furnish the grace, let me take your hand, let me look on your face  
I’ll do what you bid me, I’ll follow your plan, I’ll furnish the man, if you’ll furnish the grace

### VERSE II

Sometimes, I’m tested, sometimes I’m tried, sometimes it seems like something’s broken inside But  
when I feel I can’t stand anymore, that’s when He pours out His spirit my faith to restore

### VERSE III

The Lord has never failed me, not even one time, He’s kept all His promises, I’ve tried to keep mine  
Alone, I can’t make it, but God has a plan, it’s unmerited favor for meritless man

### CHORUS

He’ll furnish the grace if you’ll furnish the man, give Him your heart, He’ll take your hand  
Do what He bids you, follow His plan, He’ll furnish the grace, if you will furnish the man

# Grace . . . In the Hard Times

By Danielle Watters

Elisabeth glanced up as her year-old daughter's voice floated to her through the humid, tropical air of the Ecuadorian evening. The young woman was sandy haired and wearing a simple thin cotton skirt and blouse, and her almost lanky form was bent over her journal in weary concentration. She allowed her pen to drift from the page as her clear blue eyes followed the bouncing, blond form of her child. Valerie was gregarious and intelligent with tousled white-blond hair and brow furrowed in concentration, her little lips pursed and her tiny finger pointing intently as she prattled to her pet parrot. Betty smiled absently at the sight, but her quiet eyes were veiled by the trouble and sadness that she'd been expressing through the only means she could; her pen. She ached everywhere. Her eyes ached from crying (or wanting to), her head ached from thinking, her arms ached with emptiness and her heart... her heart held the vastest ache of all. Like an endless ocean of grief, waves of pain washed over her ceaselessly during the day and unrelentingly at night. Night was perhaps the worst of all, because that's when he'd come to her in her dreams. Her Jim. Laughing and lively and intense as ever, he'd bend to kiss her and she would begin to melt into his arms but then, she'd pull back and realize that it wasn't real. It was only a dream, and Jim was dead, and if she let him kiss her it would rend her heart even more to leave him when she awoke. It was odd, that she knew this even in her dream, but knowing she was dreaming didn't make it any easier to resist the comfort of her husband's phantom arms. It didn't make it any easier to awaken and leave him there in her memory. To rise and go throughout the motions of a normal day in the home she and Valerie now shared with another missionary family. The home Jim himself had made for her, for them to live in together as a family of three. He had also built the solid wood table—(which the other family's daughter had carelessly burned with a tabletop fire) --and all the memories made here were meant to be shared with him, not without him.

Jim and 4 of his missionary colleagues were murdered on the sandy banks of the Curaray River by the unreached people group with whom they were trying to establish friendly contact. Jim and the other men--Ed, Pete, Nate, and Roger- had carried a deep burden for the salvation of "Auca" people ("Auca" is a contemptuous Quechua Indian word meaning "savage, or enemy"), and had spent months carefully planning and executing what they hoped would be a successful attempt to befriend the tribe. Their ultimate goal was to be able to share the message of Christ's love with them. Instead, they had been ambushed. "We just came to meet you. We aren't going to hurt you. Why are you killing us?" one of the missionaries had begged using the few broken Auca words he had learned. His pleas were silenced as a nine foot hardwood spear impaled his chest. The ruthless spears silenced each of the men's voices forever; their remains had been found the next morning, floating in the river. Five widows and nine fatherless children were left to grieve.

Auca. "Enemy." If any word on earth described Betty's relationship to these hostile, mysterious savages it was that. Their spears had killed not only her husband, but also the hopes and dreams they had shared; the beautiful little missionary family in the humble hand-built home and all the vision, happiness and security that Jim's lusty love of life and passion for his God had offered. She had no reason to love them and she had every reason to hate them or at least dismiss their memory. In our world, where small differences or niggling offenses merit a person's being written off as anathema, Elisabeth would have been free to walk away from Ecuador, the Aucas, and all the painful associations there without any judgment from her fellow missionaries or the church Stateside. She expressed her desires very differently though. "[Jim's death] gives me a much more personal desire to reach them. The fact that Jesus Christ died for all makes me interested in the salvation of all, but the fact that Jim loved and died for the Aucas intensifies my love for them." When the opportunity presented itself Elisabeth jumped at the chance to learn the Auca language and, less than two years after the

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murder of her husband, she was journeying with Valerie and a nervous group of Indian guides to the settlement of the Aucas. There, with God’s aid she penetrated the wall that her husband could not. “And so,” Elisabeth later wrote in her book *The Savage My Kinsmen*, “We had come—to these who have been called one of the most savage tribes on earth. We were in their homes. We were outsiders, however, and we had come to show them the Way. ...We knew that we must earn that right. We must live with them, love them, try to understand them...”

The story of Jim, Elisabeth, and the Auca people is saturated throughout and eternally watermarked by droplets of Grace. Grace: love, mercy and favor given to one who can’t earn it. Jim incarnated Christ’s grace to us as he offered his life and love to those who could just as easily kill him as accept him; those who had done nothing whatsoever to earn Jim’s love and sacrifice. Roman’s 5:6-10 describes how strikingly parallel each believer’s story is to the story of the Aucas:

*“For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. For one will scarcely die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die—but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us...For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life.”*

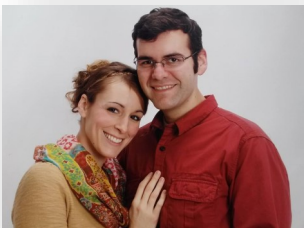
Elisabeth incarnated the grace of God, too, as she reached out to those who had killed the one she most loved on earth. Like the Father, she chose to love those for which her loved one had died instead of holding his death to their account. She offered them a chance of redemption, and in time many of them eagerly grasped it. Grace. For the first time perhaps in the history of their people, they saw it and understood that it was for them.

If you search for the Auca tribe today on Indigenous people group lists, you may be hard pressed to find much official information about them. Look instead for the Huaorani tribe. As Elisabeth came to know these “Savage enemies,” she learned that their actual name is “Huaorani,” meaning simply, “The People.” Grace revealed to the world that the tribe’s identity was not in their sin and shame, (Auca,) but rather in their intrinsic value as people made in the image of God and designed to glorify Him through their collective culture and individual lives. How strikingly this name change parallels our own identity shift once we’ve encountered the grace of Jesus!

*1 Peter 2:9-10- “But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. Once you were not a people, but now you are God’s people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.”*

Perhaps, if you’ve heard the story of the Huaorani and the Elliots before, you’ve identified more closely with Jim and Elisabeth—the American missionaries already enlightened by God’s truth—than with the savages to whom they gave their love and offered their lives. Maybe our stories follow the Huaorani more closely than we realize, though. Enemies offered love and becoming a treasured people. May we, too, be grace-bearers to our brothers and sisters and to those in the world who don’t deserve it and can’t earn it.

After all, we are all “Aucas” saved by grace.



*Danielle is married to Ryan Watters, the Dean of Men at God’s Bible School & College in Cincinnati, Oh. For several years, she served as the personal assistant to Elisabeth Elliott. We thank her for her contribution to this issue of Pilgrim News & Notes.*



# Highlighting the Laity

In the farmland of southern Illinois, among soybeans and cornfields, lives a young family that is endeavoring to serve God with all their hearts.



**Chris and Kezia Jackman** and their little ones are striving to follow after the BEST things that God has for them, and this is a bit of their story.

Kezia is the youngest of nine Morley children. Born in western Pennsylvania, she grew up actively participating in the family music ministry. The Morley Family Singers and Handbell Ringers traveled mostly in the eastern states, ministering at churches of every denomination and events of every kind---from nursing homes to county fairs to civic club meetings. After studying piano several years, she became proficient on the concert harp which the Lord miraculously provided for her as a young teen. After giving her heart to the Lord at 15, Kezia had a growing desire to prepare for whatever ministry the Lord would open for her. While studying at Penn View Bible Institute in Penns Creek, PA, she believed that ministry would involve mission work overseas. However, after receiving her 4-year diploma at PVBI, it became clear that ministry overseas would not be happening. In 2004, she felt that God was leading her to pursue more advanced musical training, which took her to God's Bible School in Cincinnati, OH. After a few months of grueling training there, Kezia became increasingly convinced that her calling was going to be of a more domestic nature. God was preparing her to meet the man who would steal her heart. . . .

Chris Jackman grew up in the heart of southern Illinois, a farm boy to the core. He demonstrated an inclination toward mechanics before he was in second grade by tearing apart the family lawnmower, finding the problem, fixing it, and putting the machine back together again. His family grew wheat, soybeans, and corn on the land and raised hogs on the farm. Chris has happy memories of not only working hard with his family but also of playing hard when there was the opportunity. God protected him several times from serious injury during work AND play. He's always known how to have fun, and was voted class clown in his senior year of high school. However, he has always had a heart to serve the Lord, surrendering fully to God in his early 20's. With farming in his blood, Chris pursued an associate's degree at Wabash Valley College, culminating in working at JL Farm Equipment across the river in Princeton, IN. He's been there nearly 20 years, doing general mechanics on Case IH farm machinery while specializing in working on MacDon headers.

God clearly wrote the love story of Chris and Kezia, because neither could have dreamed up the delightful way God brought them together. An eastern girl and a mid-western boy---what a cultural dynamic! Their marriage in the summer of 2007 was the union of two hearts that had faced many disappointments and even heartbreak. Yet it was the bringing together of two souls who were committed first to knowing God and following Him, and then to finding out how to serve and love each other. They have not always found these commitments to be easy, but they have found it to be the way of immeasurable blessing.

Chris had bought and fixed up a place 1½ miles from his birthplace, so he had only to pack a few bags and ride the 4-wheeler down to his new home. (Well, sort of.) Kezia had to move across the country, but she has found that the domestic life suits her to a T. Being a stay-at-home wife, cooking, canning, cleaning, sewing, gardening, and hanging laundry in the fresh country air, are the delights of her life. She teaches 20+ piano students in her home on a weekly basis, so she's still got a bit of musical outlet.

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God has blessed this union with two darling daughters, Elisabeth Nicole (4½) and Lydia Ruth (2), with another precious addition due in the late summer. Homeschooling is on the radar for their future, Lord willing. Life is never dull in this household as they work and grow together. Their hearts rejoice in the miracles God has done to give them a happy home and family.



Being a part of the Ste. Marie Pilgrim Holiness Church is very important to this family. Chris' grandpa, Rev. Harold Jackman, has pastored this church for over 50 years, the only pastor Chris has ever known. The influence of this godly man has carried down through the lives of Chris' parents and now into Chris' own family. They feel immeasurably blessed to be counted worthy to carry on the torch that Grandpa Harold lit, unto the 3rd and 4th generation, and by God's grace, for many generations to come.

As a young family, they try to fill their small roles faithfully, with Chris serving as Sunday School secretary, Kezia being missionary president and organist, and the girls providing comic relief coupled with many hugs and kisses. The Jackmans don't feel as though they cut a large swath, but they pray that God's presence in their lives can be a light among co-workers and in the community around.

**Editor's note:**

*We trust you have enjoyed being able to get better acquainted with this wonderful family. It is our desire to be able to highlight some of the wonderful laity across the Pilgrim Conference who are faithful to Christ, and play a BIG role in the success of their local church!*

# Vice President Nichols Represents the Pilgrim Conference in Florida

By Don Nichols



At a recent meeting of the Conference Council, Rev. Southerland mentioned that we needed someone to represent our Conference at a meeting of the ministerial students sponsored by the Ministerial Department of Hobe Sound Bible College. The meeting is open to all denominational leaders, heads of missionary organizations, etc., to connect ministerial students with opportunities to minister after leaving college. Since Ruth and I were planning to fly to Florida for the last weekend of the camp, I offered to represent the Conference.

I contacted Paul Stetler to see how many ministerial students to expect and was told there are fifteen students in the ministerial department. Ruth and I went to some area office supply stores and put together bags with some items to give the students. I wrote some Conference information on a note pad for each and set up a table with our gift sacks, along with several copies of our new Conference Discipline. Dr. Bubb gave each ministry representative a folder with the bio of each ministry student.

The meeting followed the Thursday evening camp meeting service and was held in the school cafeteria. Pizza and drinks were served to all who cared to eat, and then the meeting was opened by Dr. David Bubb, Chairman of the Ministerial Department. Paul Stetler introduced the leaders, passing the microphone around and allowing us to each speak for a few minutes. I thanked Dr. Bubb for the privilege of connecting with the students, gave a greeting from Rev. Southerland, and then sketched an overview of the Conference, camp/conference grounds improvement and churches.

I encouraged them to pursue ministry and not to be fearful of taking a church if they sense God is calling them. After the larger meeting there was an opportunity for the students to stop by our table and ask questions. Several students and staff affiliated with the Conference attend/serve there.

I was able to have lunch with Jonathan Stratton and discuss ordination as well as his educational pursuits; his wife was recently installed as the Education Department Chairperson.

Ruth and I visited with Glenn and Beverly Halstead; I visited briefly with Dr. Randall McElwain, and told him we are looking forward to his ministry in our camp meeting this summer; we visited briefly with his mother, Sis. Marjorie McElwain, who hopes to come to camp with him; I was able to speak briefly with Joel Veyon, who didn't get off work in time for the ministry meeting but met with me and got a Discipline and gift bag a little later; we visited momentarily with two young men from the Corydon PHC who are in their first year at Hobe Sound; we also got to visit with several others associated with the Conference who were down for the camp. We were happy to reconnect and fellowship with Pilgrims we hadn't seen for quite a while. - DN



# PERSONAL EVANGELISM, & MENTORING, LOCAL CHURCH GROWTH



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Rev. Jeremy Fuller



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**-MUSICIANS-**  
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held at **Frankfort Camp Ministries** 1058 Freeman St. Frankfort, Ind.



# About Pilgrim News & Notes

*Pilgrim News & Notes* is the official publication of the Midwest Pilgrim Holiness Church, and is published bi-monthly.

The main goal of *Pilgrim News & Notes* is to be an encouragement to our readers, as well as a source of information to those with connections or interests in our Conference.

All submissions are welcome, however, we reserve the right to edit as necessary, to fit design and space needs. Not all submissions will be published.

Please email all submissions to the editor via the contact info below:

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## ***Conference Info:***

**Conference President**, Rev. James A. Southerland, Sr.

**Conference Vice President**, Rev. Don Nichols

**Conference Secretary**, Rev. Mark Arnett

**Conference Treasurer**, Rev. Bryan Line

**Conference Mission's Representative**, Dr. Craig Dahler

**Conference Youth Director**, Rev. John Zeigler

*"Trying to do the Lord's work in your very own strength is the most exhausting and tedious of all work. But when you are filled with the Spirit, the ministry of Jesus just flows out of you."* - Corrie ten Boom

*"Worrying is carrying tomorrow's load with today's strength - carrying two days at once! It is moving into tomorrow **ahead of time!** Worrying doesn't empty tomorrow of its sorrow, it empties today of its strength."* - Corrie ten Boom