

Voice of Baptists

CHARLES PATTERSON
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37083

"The Voice of him that crieth in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God."
Isaiah 40:3

VOL. 7

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NO. 10



ARE WE MISSIONARY?

by Kenneth W. Massey

"And as ye go, preach, saying, The kingdom of heaven is at hand."
Matthew 10:7

A missionary Baptist church is one sent by God to someone in sin that he may hear the glorious gospel of Christ and be saved. When men are called of God to carry the message into remote areas of the world, the true churches must send them.

Every scriptural mission begins with the local church. All godly authority and right to expect power has been placed within the framework of this organic depot of gospel truth. Matthew 28:18-20.

Preachers should never be free lance missionaries but always ministers sent by the Holy Spirit and the churches. Acts 13:1-4.

Let us reason a moment. Regardless of how dilatory we may have been towards *missions* in the past, I trust that none of us will dispute the necessity of them. Only a fool would say, "I do not believe in forwarding the gospel of Jesus Christ." Where would we be today in West Tennessee if Elder Birdwell and Joseph Morris and others had not come to this area and planted Shiloh and Mt. Comfort churches? Need we be reminded that both of those churches were first *missions*, and then later were organized into independent church units.

Certainly the greatest beneficiary of gospel address would be the poor lost sinner, but when we refuse to advance the story of Jesus and His great salvation we are, in fact, penalizing the Godhead. You see God cannot receive as much glory in eternity from the sufferers in hell as He will from His family in glory. With our support and help "this gospel of the Kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations" and multitudes that otherwise would have ended up in torment shall be fellow companions of our joy in heaven.

Churches refusing to extend their opportunities through mission enterprise are acting selfish and unwise. God set this work in motion and we are each church and generation a link within the great chain of perpetuity. Have you or your church broken the chain? God forbid that we go further insensitive of so great command. Joel 1:3, Mark 16:15.

Take the missionary out of and separate from the church and he loses that intangible unction from God. With today's acceleration

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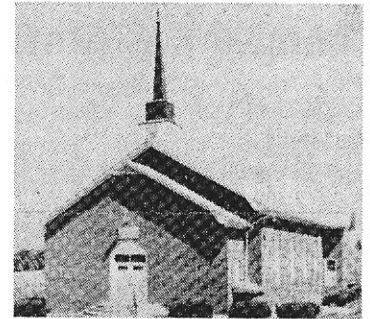
NOTICE!!

The Fellowship Missionary Baptist Church worshipping at 1032 S. Holmes Avenue, Indianapolis, Indiana 46221, takes this method to announce a mission effort that is in progress in Anchorage, Alaska. Bro. Terry Lyles has the burden for the work in Anchorage and he and his family (wife and son) have been on the field in Anchorage since July of 1984. Services are being conducted at 1023 East 6th Ave. in Anchorage, Alaska. At the present time there are two services on Sunday at the above address. Bro. Lyles is a licensed preacher of Fellowship M.B.C. and has authority from Fellowship Church to hold public services at the above address. We consider Bro. Lyles and the work in Anchorage to be worthy of Baptist considerations and prayers. Please pray for this work.

Done by the order of the Fellowship M.B.C. in conference December 15, 1984.

Dean Hauskins, church clerk
Calvin Perrigo, moderator

OLD UNION BAPTIST MINISTERS SCHOOL



March 27-29

All ministers are extended a special invitation and welcome to attend three exciting days of instruction and fellowship at the Old Union Baptist Ministers School.

Several outstanding themes have been selected for this year, for example - "Coping with the Ministry," "Exalting Christ in Sermon" and "O, Thou Man of God."

These and other subjects will be presented by Elders H. C. Vanderpool, Howard Taylor, James H. Smith, Jerry Reynolds, Calvin Perrigo and Billy Moran.

If you need additional information and details concerning lodging, etc., please write to C. R. Hayes, 866 Lain Ave., Bowling Green, KY 42101.

This is a grand opportunity to become aware of other churches across our land and to meet other servants of the most high God. You can discuss with them every aspect of the ministry and receive a broader view of God's Kingdom on earth. **MAKE YOUR PLANS TO ATTEND!**

**SORRY - NO ISSUE WAS
PUBLISHED IN JANUARY**

VOICE OF BAPTISTS

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Staff Writer Reynolds Changes Pastorates

Dear Brother Massey and
Readers of the Voice of Baptists,

I wish to send my thanks to all who have prayerfully and financially, and in any other special way, supported our mission in the state of West Virginia. My family and I are leaving this field of labor the first of the year, 1985, after 11½ years, feeling that God has now freed his servant from this burden and appointed another field of labor. We leave behind a church of the Lord Jesus Christ, an old-fashioned Baptist Church, commending them to God and his preserving power. We leave behind many friends whom we hope to meet again in a better world than this, feeling that we have done all that we could for them, however small that may have been. Please do not forget the people here in your prayers, and remember us as we continue our journey.

Any correspondence to the church here may now be directed to: Old Time Baptist Church of Elizabeth, Route 3, Box 344, Elizabeth, W. Va. 26143.

Please continue your faithful support of the word of God in destitute places. You will never know the greatness of its worth until God reveals it in the eternity to come. May God bless you always.

Privileged to be your unworthy servant,
Elder Jerry A. Reynolds
(Editor's note - Brother Reynolds is the newly elected pastor of Old Union Baptist Church in Bowling Green, Kentucky. We send our prayers and best wishes for God's richest blessings upon Bro. Reynolds and Old Union Church.)

NEWS FROM CALIFORNIA



Dear Friends,

We arrived back to our place in Santa Paula, California safely, after spending some time in Nashville, from October 16th till November 6th. We had no trouble on the way back, though my vision was somewhat blurred because of the eye surgery I had on my right eye on our way to Tennessee; but both of us together could make out all the road signs. I didn't intend to drive any at night; we did, however, let dark overtake us one evening before we could get a motel, as we were trying to make it from Flagstaff, Arizona to Kingman but couldn't make it. So we found a place between at Ash Ford, Arizona, and we made out without much difficulty. I don't think we will try that long drive again without a second driver, for it is just a little too much. Next time we might take a plane which is just about as cheap, considering the wear on the body.

On our way to Tennessee we did have some trouble, if you would call it that. Before we got out of California the transmission on our car locked, and I thought we couldn't make it any farther, we were in the desert and no service near, but we prayed and got the car rolling again, and it ran smoothly across the desert to Needles, California; with the desert behind us and in sight of service, at the end of the ramp at Needles at a stop sign, it locked again. This must have been where the Lord wanted it to lock and not unlock. We put the car in service, and the service man found the trouble, but told us they would have to order the part and that it would take two days to get it, but it took five days. We had put up in a motel to wait, and during this time, two days after, my right eye was giving me pain, so much so that I had to see a doctor. I went to a local hospital in Needles, but the doctor there wanted me to see a specialist; he called one in Lake Havasa City, Arizona, forty-five miles away. The service garage furnished a car, and they arranged for me a driver. When the specialist examined my eye he said he must perform major surgery on my eye; he asked if my wife was with me, and I told him that she was back in Needles at the motel. He said that he would call her; he did and Annie Laura gave her consent for him to go ahead with the treatment. The doctor indicated that my eye was at the point to rupture and that

Lazer Beam surgery would relieve the pressure. He performed the surgery and stopped the pain, but he said I would have to continue to use medication to keep down the fluid.

Do we see God's providence working in the affairs of life? Certainly He is working even ahead of us, for those who love Him and are the called according to His purpose (Romans 8:28). The Bible says: "And it shall come to pass, that before they call, I will answer; and while they are yet speaking, I will hear." Isaiah 65:24. He knows our needs and knows how and when to come in to supply those needs. God knew what was coming when we started on our trip to Tennessee, and there were people already in His mind to help when we needed them so much, and He let the car give trouble at the right time and at the right place. I don't tell these experiences to play on people's sympathy, but I am trying to show how dependent we were on the Lord; we were brought low, and He helped us (Psalm 116:6). And what I am telling might help somebody's faith. I am not telling it to make you feel sorry for us to get support. Thus far our needs have been supplied, and we are trying to be grateful to the Lord and His people who support us and pray that He will bless you for it.

It was good to get back to church at Nyland on Sunday morning after we got back on Saturday. We were glad to see the folks and worship and fellowship with them again. We had a good feeling service, and the Lord blessed me in my preaching from the text: "Forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before. I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus." Philippians 3:13,14.

Brother Jeffrey Elliot, the young preacher who came from Illinois to pastor the church at Downey, California, was with us in our mid-week service this past Wednesday and preached for us. We enjoyed having him and his father-in-law, Brother Larry Taylor, who came with him. We enjoyed Brother Elliot's message and a good talk from Brother Taylor. Brother Taylor and wife were here to be with their daughter who gave birth to their fourth son. We believe Brother Elliot has made a big sacrifice in coming to California to pastor a small church, and he with a large family. I admire the young preacher for being so brave. May the Lord bless his ministry in this area, where his type is so much needed.

I went to Ventura yesterday, November 23rd, and had Lazer Beam treatment on my other eye. The doctor said it would be just a matter of time until the fluid would be in that eye, and when it did I might have an acute attack in it. So I went ahead with it, and both eyes seem to be doing well. I had to have my glasses changed to take out some of the blur. Annie Laura seems to be feeling better

in recent days. She had her blood checked yesterday and it is just about normal. The Lord has been mighty good to us, bless His good name. Continue to pray for us.

In His service,
Henry and Annie Laura Smith
350 S. Steckel Drive, Apt. 19
Santa Paula, California 93060
Phone 805-525-6887

ALASKA MISSIONARY WRITES

Greetings to you back home from Alaska,

I wanted to inform all of you about the goodness of our Lord Jesus Christ toward us in Alaska. We serve the greatest power that has ever been known to this world or mankind. The Lord has been so good to my family and I, that there are not words to express my thankfulness and joy toward Him. He blessed us with a beautiful and healthy baby boy on the fifth day of November. Before the end of November, He had provided us with a larger apartment with an extra bedroom that allowed children. As of the end of November, we were still looking for a building that we can afford to hold services on Sunday morning. I hope and pray during the first part of the new year, we will be able to have found a place to worship. We are still having services every Sunday morning with a nice family in our apartment that I met during our first week in Alaska. I feel that a building is necessary to hold services in because of the difference of the peoples' ideas and viewpoints about mission work. Most people do not feel comfortable enough meeting in someone else's home, because they feel that they are imposing on my family. I realize that it is very important to adjust to the culture of people that I now live with, so please pray that the Lord will provide us with a building in order to reach out to the unsaved that live in Alaska.

We have adjusted very well to the different life style and climate since our arrival in July, because it was very difficult getting used to nineteen hours of daylight when we first arrived in Anchorage. But after a few weeks of this, it was now very normal to us eastern folks. After a few more months passed, the daylight began to decrease very rapidly as the long winter months ahead were approaching, which would begin in October. We are now receiving about five hours of sunlight a day with the long dark cold hours that are left.

We are very much looking ahead to the new year at what God has in store for us here in Alaska. We have met many people and

some which have a very sound testimony of passing from death unto life. Many of those people have been very nice to us in desiring to help us in any way possible.

I would like to thank all of you that have prayed for us, and especially the ones who have supported us with their finances. I pray that the Lord has blessed you for your thoughtfulness and generosity toward the work here in Alaska.

There are times we miss the good fellowship with God's great people, and our families back home; but we know that the Lord's work in this world is more important than what we always desire. The Lord has been very good to us, and we trust He is being good to you also in a mighty way.

Please remember to pray for our parents back home, because I know it must be very hard on them being so far away from us, and the fact that they have never seen their grandson. But we pray for them every day asking the Lord to supply them grace even as He does to us when the lonely times appear.

May God bless all of your churches and families is my prayer. Please note our new address and telephone number in this letter.

With Love from your Missionary in Alaska,
Terry A. Lyles and Family
1900 Beaver Place, Apt. #5
Anchorage, Alaska 99504
(907) 337-7779

OREGON NEWS

I thought I should write you to inform you of our new address. I have been called to pastor Hauser Missionary Baptist Church and we have moved already. Our address is: 130 Driftwood Inn Rd., North Bend, OR 97459, Ph. 503-756-0694.

The house we're living in is almost directly behind the church house, so we're within walking distance. It was a rather quick move, but the Lord provided the opportunity, the house at a much lower cost than we were paying; therefore we took advantage of the situation.

I hope no one is confused about this work here in Oregon, especially the situation that exists in Albany-Corvallis area. However, at this moment it seemed there was nothing more I could do there and all indications pointed this way. I still hope and pray for the Lord's work to prosper in the Albany-Corvallis area as well as in Salem and all other parts of the Northwest. Perhaps my work here will be instrumental in the furtherance of the gospel to these areas indirectly. The Lord knows how to accomplish these things even though we do not.

I ask all to remember Bro. and Sister Swanson in your prayers. We love them dearly and I know their desires for the Lord's work.

In closing, I want to thank everyone who has helped me financially, especially my home church, Grace Missionary Baptist Church, for their ever loving devotion to the Lord's work.

Your Brother and Servant of the Lord,
Steve Perrigo

MISSIONS or SMALL CHURCHES in Remote Areas

(Your financial assistance for these missions and churches is needed and would be greatly appreciated.)

CHURCHVILLE BAPTIST MISSION

Churchville, W. Va.

Elder Stanley Keen

Hiland Drive

Buckhannon, WV 26301

NYLAND BAPTIST CHURCH

Elder J. H. Smith, Pastor

350 S. Steckel Dr., Apt. #19

Santa Paula, CA

BATESVILLE BAPTIST MISSION

Elder M. V. Hammack, c/o Reid Brock

Route 1, Box 180A

Bald Knob, AR 72010

GLORIA GARDENS CHURCH

Elder Jeff Elliott, Pastor

8115 Gardendale St.

Downey, CA 90242

COLORADO BAPTIST CHURCH

Elder Gary Duncan, Pastor

4639 S. Laredo

Aurora, CO 80015

HAUSER BAPTIST CHURCH

Steve Perrigo, Pastor

130 N. Driftwood Inn Rd.

North Bend, OR 97459

ANCHORAGE BAPTIST MISSION

Terry Lyles

1900 Beaver Place, Apt. #5

Anchorage, Alaska 99504

OLD-TIME BAPTIST CHURCH

Route 3, Box 344

Elizabeth, WV 26143

YOUR COMMENTS

Dear Bro. Massey:

Enclosed is our semi-annual donation to the Voice of Baptists. We appreciate you, your staff, and all the writers of the wonderful paper. Look forward each month to receiving it and reading it from beginning to end.

Our church is getting ready this Spring to build a new addition to our church building. The Lord has blessed us this past year. We look forward to the new year.

Much continued success to you in the work of the Lord.

Bro. Gilliam Johnson, Treas.
Freedom Baptist Church
Speedway, IN

Mt. Calvary Church sends an offering in support of the "Voice of Baptists." Please continue to send us a bundle each month.

Bro. Colin Dyer, Treas.
Mt. Calvary Baptist Church
Nashville, TN

Think the paper is wonderful. I am still reading an article from the January, 1984 issue concerning prayer. It sure has helped me a lot.

Mary E. Goodall
Lafayette, TN

Enclosed is an offering for the "Voice of Baptists" paper. We're so thankful for getting the paper each month. Sure enjoy reading the articles and letters. Thanks for the past. May God bless you and the staff in the future.

Mr. & Mrs. Estel B. Carter
Toledo, OH

Yesterday they gave me the paper, "Voice of Baptists," and it was a little late. But I said, "thank the Lord." I want to get the paper every month.

Mrs. Ollie Prince
Camden, TN

I enjoy the "Voice of Baptists." Please keep sending it this way. May God bless each one that helps get the paper out. Am sending along a contribution.

Mildred Ludwig
Madison, TN

It causes us to rejoice to see how your building program is progressing. We pray many souls will be saved in 1985, also God's children will grow in grace and knowledge of the truth. Enclosed is a check for paper expense.

Mrs. W. T. Swanson
Albany, OR

I am sorry that I have waited so long to write you and express my thanks for the "Voice of Baptists." Look forward to receiving it each month. Enjoy all the good messages from the staff writers. I especially enjoyed the article by the late Bro. F. L. Ray in the November issue, titled "The Last Day."

May God continue to bless you in your efforts in editing this good little paper is my prayer. Enclosed is a check to help in the Cause.

Grace Yates
Ridge Farm, IL

Greetings! May the Lord bless you in your labors for the paper and your respective labor in the Lord's work.

The "Voice" is one I enjoy reading and hearing about my fellow Christians' labors. There is a great need for the Baptists to be more aware of one another; where we are and what is being accomplished for the Lord. I have still ringing in my ears the message Bro. Reynolds preached on "Awareness" at the Old Union School in 1981.

Please continue your labors in this work as God allows the opportunity from your other responsibilities. Please remember us here at Friendship in your prayers.

Elder Del Compton
Pastor, Friendship Baptist Church
Columbus, IN

In response to your "correspondence month," I'd like to add my voice to those who say, "thanks!" for the "Voice of Baptists." The well-written articles and other thought-provoking and informative items are very enlightening.

Keep up your good work with the "VB."
Bary Witcher
Lafayette, TN

Tonight as we sit in our Sunday night service we are but very few. Our pastor, Bro. Compton, suggested that we do something a little different. He wanted us to remember the people who are special to us in some way by writing to them. I chose to write to the staff of the "Voice of Baptists." Our church receives the publication each month and appreciate it to the fullest.

I have only met you once (at Fellowship Church in Indianapolis), but I believe first time impressions are lasting.

May God richly bless the efforts of you and staff.

Bob Brown
Columbus, IN

I love "Voice of Baptists" for the fellowship and Baptist doctrine. Please keep up the good work. Thank you for sending it to me. I am sending some money to help get the paper to lost sinners.

Leon Sherron
Portland, TN

Enclosed is an offering to be used for the publishing of "Voice of Baptists."

We appreciate the paper and enjoy reading it. God bless.

Mr. & Mrs. Ross Walker
Polk, MO

I am enclosing a little offering for "Voice of Baptists." We hope that you can continue to publish it. I appreciate the fact that it must take a lot of time to put it together.

God bless you in your work there and elsewhere.

Marvin Payne
Springfield, MO

Enclosed is a donation for the paper. I enjoy the paper very much and hope it will continue to be a success. Best wishes for a Happy New Year.

Fred R. Wix
Jacksonville, FL



ARE WE MISSIONARY? (Continued from Page 1)

of well-organized crusades led by famous evangelists, the church's identity is suffering immensely. However, she may suffer in part because of her delinquency toward mission works. Instead of spending our years criticizing the efforts of those who perhaps are deceiving many, may we press forward as soldiers into war declaring the grandest story of them all - JESUS SAVES! JESUS SAVES! Remove the bushels from over our candlesticks, trim the wicks, and seek for oil until all our lights are brightly shining.

"If the light that is in thee be darkness, how great is that darkness?" Matthew 6:23.

PLEASE SEEK OUT A REPUTABLE MISSIONARY BAPTIST ON SOME MISSION FIELD AND BEGIN SUPPORTING HIM.

We have recommended several in this issue. Pray about it and begin sending light to others.