



God's Missionary Church

Department of Home Missions

Home Missionary
Rodney Keister

Street Evangelism &
Outreach Ministries

September 2011 Newsletter
Keister's Chronicles for
June, July, & part of Aug



To GOD Be The GLORY!

“Declare his glory among the heathen, his wonders among all people.”

Psalms 96:3

Oh how everyday I am reminded that all the good we may have done, is only because of what the Lord has done in our hearts and His providential leadings in the things we've accomplished for the Kingdom of God! To God Be The Glory, good things He has done! As you read on, be sure to give God all the praise and Glory for What HE has done!

Proclaiming Clear Biblical Salvation through Jesus Christ who produces a transformed life!

An exciting launch into the full-time mission...

These last three months have flown by like lightning. I started a newsletter in July and again in August, but was not able to finish them because of so many things to do with the transition from pastoring, moving, mission trips, and the occasions of the enemy's attacks. I'm not one to blame the enemy for every little thing that goes wrong, but the war is real and I truly believe that my choice to do the will of God has brought on a fresh battle ground in the war upon our families flesh, spirits, and the ministry work. Your prayers are desperately needed! In the midst of all this, I have good news that while the enemy has marshaled his host, Christ has brought the victory! To God Be The Glory!



Let me bring you up to date from when I last wrote in June. We have wrapped up the pastorate at Northampton God's Missionary Church and seen God graciously provide a good pastor to take our place. With many churches today going without a pastor, it sure was refreshing to see God do as He said He would do and take care of the church. God faithfully fulfilled His spoken word to me and provided them a good pastor. Praise God for working out all the details for the church! Please pray for their new pastor Rev. David Walter and this transitional time for the church and congregation.

Through many delays, including kidney stone problems, two deaths in the family, and many other things that befell us, we completed the move of all our belongings to an awesome house just 5 miles from Penn View Christian Academy and Bible Institute. (Read the article on the House from God and Moving Madness to learn of the trials we had to overcome to see His providence come to pass.)

We held some mission deputation services in various areas of PA during the month of June, that helped us greatly to springboard into the full time work. We took two mission trips, one in July to OH and WV, and then one to MO, AR, and OK in August. I'll share some of the details about these trips in chronological order, but Lord-willing shall conclude my August mission trip report in my upcoming newsletter. It was exciting to see

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God draw many seekers as we ministered in Jesus' Name.

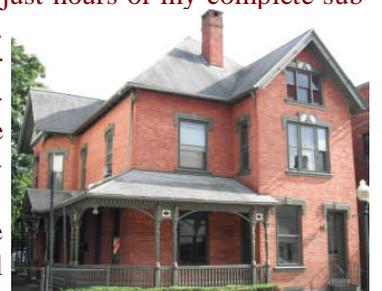
The Lord also guided us to expand our equipment to aid us in doing mobile ministries, including: a pop-up canopy, two portable stages, stairs for the stages, a wireless mic, a battery powered rechargeable PA system for preaching at events and open air, a copier/fax/printer for the new ministry office, and a used paper folding machine to do our newsletter folding on – a great answer to prayer. (Be sure to read the full article about the Mobile Preaching Project)

A House from God... (June)

If we consider where Jesus lived while he ministered abroad we would be terrified to live that way. Remember: "...Jesus said.... Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests; but the Son of man hath not where to lay his head." Luke 9:58. I was starting to feel a little like this in my search for where we were to live. Nothing seemed to turn up for us to find a place. Then in God's timing, He worked out all the details.

The Lord has graciously provided a place for us to live in Mifflinburg, PA. There were, however, times of waiting upon the Lord, and an enormous trial in the process of the Lord's provision of a place to live. Upon our searching for housing near Penn View Christian Academy, the only place that seemed to open up for us to rent was a very small half of a house in Mifflinburg, PA. The rooms were so small that we were looking at getting rid of everything but the bare necessities of living. We would have had to sandwich our ministry office in the small living room / kitchen, creating a nearly impossible atmosphere to run the mission work. After a couple days and through prayer, I fully surrendered my will and was willing to move into this tiny half a house if that was the door God was going to open. GOD HAD OTHER PLANS UPON MY SURRENDERED WILL!!!! As He often does for each of us. A continuous consecrated will, releases the God anointed guidance and blessings of the Lord.

Within a few short hours after my surrendered will I handed in paper work to the potential landlord of this small house. That was the seal that released God to pour out a HUGE blessing on us that I still can't believe is happening! You see, after handing in that paper work, I called a good friend and brother in the Lord who lives in the Mifflinburg area, to ask if he knew this landlord and how he handles his tenants and properties. Through this phone call, God miraculously opened the door to a place three times the size of the tiny house with a rent-to-own arrangement. It was then in just hours of my complete submission to surrender my will of where we would live that God's providence could manifest. God has blessed us with far more than we ever imagined! Now we have plenty of space for our family dwelling, ministry & media office, and storage for the new mobile ministry equipment. There is also the possibility of renting an apartment or commercial space out of the building too, and/or the possibility of using the commercial office space for a Biblical counseling office as an addition to our mission ministry.



If God leads to proceed with a Biblical counseling office, I do not want it to be some modern doctrinally bent psychotherapy-twisted comfy-cozy conscience-soothing clinical practice, but rather counsel from the Word of God with a Holy Spirit led scriptural deliver-

A House from God... (continued from page 1)

ance from sin causing conditions and addictions brought through God anointed counsel and conviction by a faith based deliverance through a soul cleansing supernatural action of Christ's atonement applied to a clearly repentant soul. For the few who have some clear medical psychological problem I will refer them to a medical professional. And of course those who are struggling to heal from hurts and overcome problems we will provide counsel from God's Word to help them.

You can see this house has so much potential for the Lord to do all kind of things. Please pray God gives us wisdom to know his exact will and what we are to do. Lord willing, we'll share more pictures and details of the new house and the direction we receive from the Lord in future newsletters.

Please join us in praying for God's guidance in decisions and His provisions as we need to do renovations in order to use the space we have wisely and consider how, or if, we should rent out some of the space or use it all for our family housing and ministries. Pray God shows us His full will for every part of this house that He has provided and that God will continue to provide for all of the monthly building expenses.

Moving Madness... (June-Aug)

What a lot of work that nobody ever expects. I was optimistic that I could complete the move in a few short weeks, how WRONG I was. Life has so many bumps along the way that we never expect or plan for. Little did I know that I would enter in another serious bout of kidney stones that ripped time from our plans and that I would lose two loved ones during this time. One was my mother's companion of 20+ years, Donny Kratzer, who I was finally getting to know after being around him a little more frequent over the last few years. My dear beloved grandfather Dayton Aurand, Sr. (Pap) was the second one we lost just a few weeks later. Pap was the man who God used to plant some seeds early in my coming to the Lord in 1998-1999. He meant a lot to me and lived a life that was a good example for me in so many ways. He was so thrilled to know I got saved and excited that I answered a ministry call, probably due to some of his prayers of consecrating his grandchildren to Christ. I will miss him dearly, and long to see him in Heaven!



#1 Pap

So with the many set backs, the passing of both of these loved ones, and drastic changes in moving plans that interfered with my ability to be at our conference campmeeting very much, I lost a lot of time to work on newsletters and had to shorten my planned August mission trip. This caused a spiral of extra travels moving and drained my moving budget beyond expectations. But through it all I know God was with us and helped us to accomplish all that was done. We moved our things in many trips with a few helpers at each location. A special Thank You to all of you who helped us pack and move, we could not have done it without your help. While I am so thankful for everyone's help I feel led of the Lord to mention several by name: Chris and Rob Zweifel and their daughter, as they were the only ones who read in my newsletter of our need of help, and actually contacted me to volunteer without being asked. They demonstrated their love for their brethren without being asked or rallied by someone to help. Thank you Zweifels! And a special thank you to the Cliff Taylor family who also openly volunteered when I talked of moving who drove their truck and trailer to move all my large furniture early in July. Thank you Taylors! And a special thank you to Rev. Stephen Aurand for the use of his truck and Randy Aurand's for the use of his trailer.

Our moves went like this. In June, after finding the house, I attempted to start getting things ready to move. Then we lost Donny, and some plans went on hold until after the funeral. Next we moved all the large furniture while we had helpers on the first Saturday in July. We then left for Hanover campmeeting for 6 days where I continued to wrestle with kidney stone attacks. We returned from camp with 4 days planned to pack more and move, but skipped them to spend time with my Grandfather before he died. The funeral was during the time frame I was scheduled to be at churches in OH & WV. So I left for the mission trip in OH, and returned for a Monday viewing and Tuesday funeral, and left again Wednesday morning for my next services in OH on Wed. night. I returned from part two of the OH/WV mission trip and went to our annual GMC Conference. Then we returned to Northampton for more packing and another round of moving things with a borrowed pickup truck and trailer. We spent some time at our conference campmeeting between unpacking and getting a little settled. I had to postpone a few days of outreach for the Tent Meetings I had planned to be part of in Joplin MO, to be able to complete my moving. It took two trips to Northampton with a rented U-haul trailer and my mini-van.

On the same day we dropped off our last load in Mifflinburg, we packed and loaded our luggage and left for Chicago, IL after midnight. We stopped only for about 3.5 hr of sleep because we had to be in Chicago to pick up the portable stages before the loading dock closed on Friday for the weekend. We needed the stages for ministering in MO, AR, & OK. What a close call...as we finished moving August 11th and made it to Chicago on August 12th with one hour to spare! In a state of utter exhaustion, we left the next day for Joplin MO where we arrived just in time to do the preaching at the tent meetings on Saturday night. We did finally get caught up on some lost sleep at MO, but consequently were unable to do the level of outreach planned because of all the delays that exhausted us and because of a failed attempt getting an email version of my newsletter out while in Joplin because of technical difficulties. We Praise God for all His help through these trying times and that they are over!

While the whole summer has been a blur, I learned to be watchful of distractions and to not let people persuade you into being places your body, mind, and soul can't handle. The mission trips were ordained of God, the delays and distractions were from Satan and his attempt to foil the work of God and crack us under the pressure of it all. I praise God for lessons learned and the victory over the works of darkness. **TO GOD BE THE GLORY!**

Praise God for... Page 2

- God's providence coming to pass in facilitating this full time mission work.
- Finding a house to live in!
- God meeting the needs!
- Souls saved on our mission trips to OH, WV, MO, AR, & OK.
- The open doors for mission deputation over the summer
- Safety in all our travels!
- God's hand upon our dog, as He used her to help lead many children to seek the Lord at the Altar.
- Supplying needed appliances and furnishings
- Help we had moving
- Used Paper Folding Machine given to me, and successful repairs made
- Continued and new supporters
- Gabrielle's enrollment in Penn View Christian Academy
- Repairs made to our high



mileage minivan. We're praying and hoping it will continue to function a little while longer while we wait upon the Lord for

Media Ministry Updates

In 2.6 years there have been nearly 7000 sermons on CDs distributed and approximately 2100 sermons downloaded or listened to from our websites. To GOD alone be the Glory!

New Sermon Releases coming soon to:

FreedomGospel.com

What's Required for Revival
by David Fulton
New Columbia, PA Sept.2011

Pentecost
by David Middleton
Northampton, PA May 2006

Keister's Mission Service
by Rodney Keister
Middleport, OH July-2011

Youth Service with Dog Sermon Illustration & Keister's Testimony
By Rodney Keister
Charleston, WV July 2011

Prayer Requests:

- Souls to be saved as we do outreach & preach meetings
- Volunteers for clerical work and preparations of tracts, Bibles, CDs, and newsletters.
- Good mp3 or CD Sermons to be sent to us for production
- A good truck with good fuel economy & Camper suitable for 4 seasons
- Bibles (regular & large print)
- God's center will and wisdom for running the mission work
- My Family, health, & protection from the forces of darkness
- Faithful prayer and support to fulfill the will of God
- More open doors for mission deputation services
- Redesign of websites
- Wisdom to pace myself so I don't overload or neglect family or personal responsibilities.
- **Scheduled Events** (Lord Willing)
 - ◇ Sept. 24, Outreach in Camp Hill, PA before there Revival begins
 - ◇ Sept. 25 (AM, Fill-in preacher for opening service of Camp Hill's Revival)
 - ◇ Oct. 12-16, Outreach with Evangelistic/Revival Meetings, Washington Court House, OH
 - ◇ Nov. 16-20, Outreach with Evangelistic/Revival Meetings, Delmar, MD
- **Mission Deputation** (Lord Willing)
 - Sept. 25, Duncannon, PA
 - Oct. 5, New Columbia, PA
 - Oct. 30, Northampton PA
 - Nov. 20, Delmar, MD
- **Targeted Evangelism** (Lord Willing)
 - ◇ Street Evangelism in Williamsport, PA
 - ◇ College Evangelism: PSU, Bloomsburg Univ., more....
 - ◇ Winter trip: Street Evangelism & Outreach Mission tour in AZ. (*summer trip was postponed because of excessive heat & lack of time and funds*)

Ohio & WV Mission Services and Outreach... (July)

I enjoyed a wonderful trip in July to several churches in OH and one in WV. I started out in Zanesville, OH by sharing my testimony in the Sunday morning service at the Carey Street Mission church with Pastor Gabe Norris. To God Be The Glory for the lady who prayed through in the meeting. I was deeply moved when after the lady got saved, that Bro. Norris from the pulpit searched for volunteer mentors to be in contact with her. Each volunteer taking a different day of the week to be the one to call or visit her answering her questions and encouraging her in the way to walk with the Lord. This mentoring is critically important, for we are not only called to win souls but to teach them the ways of the Lord, this takes more interaction than just Wednesday nights and Sunday services. I was impressed to find so many discipleship methods being employed in their ministry in Zanesville OH. I can see how they work to help new and growing Christians blossom into solid Christians. This is why as I evangelize wherever I go, I direct those I meet to a local pastor or point them to the church search part of my website where they can find a spiritual church to be helped by.

Shortly after lunch I left for Middleport, OH for an evening deputation service with Pastor Doug Cox and his congregation. God's presence was there in the service as I was led to encourage the congregation to be about our Father's business of reaching the lost. I also shared an update on the mission work and about the full time transition. On Monday morning I departed for my grandfathers viewing and funeral back in PA. Then I return to OH on Wed. night for a deputation service at Rutland, OH with Pastor Tomek and congregation. On Thursday we did outreach with the Tomek boys for their VBS by going door to door handing out flyers, tracts, and witnessing to people. When I seen Stevie Tomek back at Penn View recently, he acknowledge they had a good turn out for their VBS. Praise God for what He has done!

Then on to Charleston WV for a Thursday evening deputation service where I had the opportunity to minister to some of their children & youth during in the first part of the service. While I did not have our family dog with us, I was led of the Lord to tell the story of how my dog helps me do a sermon. I shared the whole series of events that take place illustrating the effects of sin on our lives and how confession, repentance, and humbling ourselves in faith before Christ brings about a change of heart. At the conclusion of telling the dog sermon, I went on to share my testimony on a child's level paralleling the dog situation in the Cage of Sin to my sinful life and the Dogs humbling herself to how I got saved and delivered from sin. This was followed by a mid-service altar call where God led seekers to prayer. Among the several children that came to the altar; one young boy really captured my heart as he was very sincere in his seeking but was not sure if he got through in praying for salvation. So after talking a bit with him and giving scripture about God's promises to save him when he fully confesses and is willing to depart from his sins forever, he earnestly prayed again with a real affirmation in his heart that the work was done. I then continued the evening service and shared an update about our mission work. It was an awesome thing to see these children seek the Lord, encourage all present to be soul winners, and share the hand of God moving in our mission work too.

Next I traveled to OH on Friday after an Eye appointment in Beckley WV with Bro. Holliday. I had plans to do some street ministry in Charleston on the way north from Beckley, but the clouds opened up and dumped a load of rain just as I approached the city. I do believe this was ordained of God so I would continue my journey north and make it in time to go to the Jackson County Fair office.

At the fair office I met the lady in charge and explained my desire to setup a prayer booth and do outreach the next day. God opened the door to an exciting time of event evangelism with Pastor Steve Robins & his daughter Kim, and a few teens from another church.

When the group of us arrived at the fairgrounds, it had been raining all day and the forecast did not look good. We sat in the car, waiting and praying for God to clear the rain. When it looked like it might clear, we decided to attempt setup. Throughout the entire time we carried our equipment and supplies to the location for setup, it was still raining lightly. We continued to pray as we setup the canopy. By the time we had the portable gazebo stretched out, the rain ceased to fall, and we operated the rest of the evening without a drop

of rain. Praise God for answering prayer! I learned through this, that sometimes we must just start moving in faith as if prayer has been answered before our faith can become sight. The rain did not stop until we were in the process of setting up. When does faith become sight? Remember: **"...faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen."** Hebrews 11:1 So as we moved in faith, God answered prayer. There have been many times God has held back the rain or stopped it from falling for His work to go forward. I can remember one time specifically in Allentown when the forecast was for rain sure and true, but God held it off until I packed up and started toward the van. Then I hurried as I just got the equipment in the van the rain fully descended upon the city. Praise GOD!

At the fair there were several opportunities to evangelize members of the sheriff's department, as well as the many passing by our stand, and the friendly little girl who frequently watched us through the window of the camper right behind our stand. *See the picture.* There were teenagers from two local churches who participated in our outreach. It was a great experience for them as God helped overcome their fears to step out of their comfort zone to witness to the lost. My heart also goes out to the many teenagers we ministered to at this fair as there were opportunities to talk to teen couples serving the Lord.. We were invited back for next year. I hope the local churches will seize the open opportunity each year.



We wrapped up our OH-WV tour with a mission deputation service on Sunday morning in Washington Court House OH, with Pastor James Kemp and then came back to Bro. Robins church in Jackson, OH for an evening missions service. The Oak Hill church lifted their service to join us for another mission deputation service.

Mobile Preaching Project – sponsors needed!

Once again God has worked in mysterious ways after we saw a clear need for portable equipment for ministering abroad. We needed portable folding stages, stairs for the stages, a wireless mic, and a rechargeable battery powered sound system for our ministry. How was this all going to work out?

The stages are needed so we can use them in traveling and setting up for preaching and services in the outdoors, and for use in churches for a unique, very deeply spiritual sermon using our family dog as an interwoven illustration. We had scheduled services where the mobile stages were desperately needed for our August trip to MO, AR, and OK. To acquire these stages the cost would be \$273 for each stage, and I figured I needed at least two, more may be helpful, but two will get us started. Because of the cost, I was not sure how we would purchase stages for services already scheduled in MO and AR. Plus the cost to have the stages shipped to MO where we were starting our ministry tour, would have been \$125. But I found out that if I picked them up in Chicago, IL, on my way to MO, I could save the \$125 shipping. It was only 2.5 hours out of my way to get the stages instead of shipping them. So I was urgently wanting to get the stages ordered but didn't know how to do it with no funds. Through prayer God opened a door to acquire these stages in time for our trip.

The providence of the Lord began when I was talking to a brother on the phone and mentioned the need to purchase portable stages. He responded that he wanted to check a few things out and get back to me. Within a short period of time, I received his return call with the good news that he had raised \$200 toward this project. Praise God! This is wonderful. There was an urgent need to get them ordered and paid for since I was leaving in a week for our planned MO & AR mission trip. Thank God a relative was willing to pay for one stage with her credit card until the \$200 would arrive after I left on my trip.

I did not know how I could order the second stage and was praying God would grant me wisdom. It was then that God laid it on my heart to call a specific brother and explain the need for sponsors for this project. In expressing the need the brother said he would buy the second stage until I could raise more sponsors. So we praise the Lord we were able to buy two stages, but now we are looking for more sponsors to complete this project and pay back the generous helpers who bought the stages in advance. If you are interested in being one of these sponsors, please call me at 484-894-6001 to find out the remaining balance on this project before sending money.



Also as part of this project there was a need of a wireless lapel mic. God so graciously supplied that mic at one of our meetings, when the pastor purchased a wireless mic for me and had it shipped in time to use it for the service. So at this point we need to raise approximately \$496 to cover the balance on **Mobile Preaching Project**. I thank you dearly for your prayers and support.

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This mission work is supported by designated donations to: GMC, Dept. of Home Missions 29436 Connelly Mill Rd Delmar, MD 21875 clearly memo check: "Support for Keister"

Thank you for your prayers and support! Send Correspondence to: Rev. Rodney Keister, Evangelist@keisters.net

For regular monthly supporter there is a handy card with monthly check boxes we can send you or you may download it from our website: GodsMissionary.com (Donations) Online donations can be made on our website too.

Tent Meetings in Joplin, MO, Aug.

We arrived much later in the week than originally planned, exhausted and worn out from our crazy moving schedule and our sleepless night getting to Chicago, IL. But we arrived safely and ready to preach on Sat. night, just in time for the preaching part of the tent meeting service. We had a good service, with a couple of seekers that night. With some good rest that night, we were ready to preach again in the morning at Pastor Randy Albertson's, Church of God Holiness in Joplin. Randy's wife, his brother Tim and sister-in-law also help with the church and tent meetings. Sunday Evening we traveled to Carthage, MO for a service at the Church of God Holiness with Pastor Poff. On Monday back in Joplin, we did some door to door outreach preparing for the Tuesday night tent meeting service where we shared the dog sermon and my testimony. On Tuesday during the day we did more door to door and an unusual form of outreach (I've written a separate article you may read next, called "Hunting for Homeless"). We concluded our visit to Joplin after the Wed. night prayer meeting and a brief gathering at the tent for prayer and encouraging words. Then we left Thursday morning for AR.



Remember Joplin was hit by tornados. While the majority of broken up homes and businesses were cleaned up already, we were shocked to see the vacant streets and shopping plazas, gone from nearly a mile wide section of the city. Whole houses and stores just gone. Approximately 1/3 of the city was displaced by the five converging tornados that formed into one huge monster tornado. We were briefly acquainted with their terror as we heard people tell us their experiences. Pray for Joplin to rebuild and for revival to take place in men's hearts.

Hunting for Homeless... (Joplin, MO, August)

I've been to many kinds of places witnessing from door to door to city streets to community events, but this outreach would be far different than any before. In Joplin, MO, there are many homeless. Pastor Randy Albertson wanted to go where the homeless people stayed in some barren forest lands in the city. So we went on a hike to find some homeless people with food in hand and hearts full of hope to get some of them to come to the tent meetings. Our walk started out through a small forest section next to the tent meeting location. Then while crossing the street I stepped on a railroad track and my foot slipped off the track and stretched some ligaments of my foot and ankle. This didn't seem too bad at the moment but within a short while I realized it was now getting worse, as my frequent case of Plantar Fasciitis (*inflamed tendon in the bottom of the foot*) went to severely full blown.

With the Lord's help, I didn't let the injury stop me from making the journey. We continued on our trek through these desolate areas. While we did not encounter any homeless people, we saw where they stay. As you look at the pictures, I pray it reminds us of just how good we all have it. We have homes to sleep in, food to eat, and all the basics in life. What do they have, just another damp dreary night in the wild.



While at the location you see in these pictures above, a heavy burden to pray came on me from the Lord. We bowed our heads and sought the Lord for their souls and restoration. Oh, that we would catch a fresh glimpse of the burden for the lost. This experience changed me! We left tracts, food, and a flyer for the tent meetings at each place we found evidence of someone's shelters in the wild. Please pray for Joplin, MO and the Albertsons as they minister to win the lost in Joplin.

Don't miss the next issue! As we share what the Lord did in Gentry, AR, and Colcord, OK. Souls saved!