

# *the* **Lighthouse**

A Publication of **The Gospel Mission, Inc.** Established 1912

64 Burns Ave., P.O. Box 1141 Dayton, Ohio 45401 • Phone: (937) 223-4513, Fax: (937) 223-4246  
E-mail: [Director@GospelMissionDayton.org](mailto:Director@GospelMissionDayton.org) • Web: [www.GospelMissionDayton.org](http://www.GospelMissionDayton.org)

## *Good News, Great Opportunities*

Greetings in the Name of our Lord and Savior. The Lord has been very gracious in all the new work He has brought our way. We thank Him for keeping us busy in the greatest business that has ever come to this planet....the business of spreading the Good News of Christ. We think you will be encouraged by the things the Lord is doing here.

There certainly seems to be a lack of good news today throughout the world. We seem to be so overshadowed with all of the evil and vice. The Psalmist wrote, *Fret not thyself because of evildoers...trust in the Lord and do good.* Even in the midst of turmoil on the streets or in the world we must listen to the Lord. He has the total plan in mind. Everyday is an opportunity to do the good things of the Lord to His honor and glory. Through the many good deeds that the mission is able to do, we endeavor to show the love and compassion of Christ even to what society would call the least desirable. So, even in the face of evil, the Lord enables us to continue to tell the Good News.

This probably has been the busiest start of the year on record. We can not even imagine what the year holds for us. We know that the Lord has always been there for us when the challenges increased. This year we will be celebrating 95 years of serving the Lord and that has been by trusting the Lord a day at a time. We seek your prayers and support to keep us in the middle of the conflict. That is the purpose for which God designed us. For such a time as this we put on the whole armor of God and move forward.

We have received many letters, notes and comments of encouragement from our congregation. So many of them encourage us to keep moving forward and never let up on the ministry of the Gospel of Christ. It truly is the power of God unto salvation and can save to the uttermost. We always want the mission to be the *Light that shineth in darkness.* A sense of urgency seems to be the prevailing burden on our hearts. We pray for the blessing of open hearts to receive the Good News as the truth and we pray people do it now!

Once again we appreciate your support of this ministry....the Lord is working in the most wonderful fashion to bring souls to himself.

By His grace,



Ken Clarkston  
Chaplain, CEO

### ***Monthly Prayer Letter and Report***

It is important to keep this ministry in prayer. The Lord only knows what each hour holds. If you wake up in the middle of the night thinking of the mission...it probably means we are in need of prayer. We would like to build our prayer team and you can be part of the team by asking us to put you on our email prayer letter distribution. We would like to see this increased many times over. Please let us know at [Director@GMission.org](mailto:Director@GMission.org). Please note "prayer team" in the subject line.

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## *Trickle Down Effect*

The daily attendance is growing and it is due, in part, to the reduction of higher paying jobs. When companies reduce their number of employees, then less and less support services are needed such as those who work in the sandwich shops, custodial positions, mail room, etc. Many of these people are already on the edge of making it. Many have found themselves at the mission for assistance. Our crowds have been so big that there was standing room only for services until we took down some walls. Previously, we had thought about enlarging the chapel back to its original size but it seemed like such a job it never went further than talk since it wasn't needed. We have now restored an original 1/4 of the chapel and hope to complete the other 1/4 soon. This will bring the chapel back to full size.

One of our volunteers was aware of our need. He made a phone call and a crew came in. The walls came down and seats went up all in one day! Praise God for brothers in the Lord that hear and go into action. He will be doing the same thing when we get the other portion ready to come down.

As a result of more people attending, requirements on the food services have increased. We now have two dining rooms. A general purpose room is now used for our Bistro. Yes, Bistro, with stand up tables. If the people want to, they can opt for a huge Dagwood sandwich, fruit and salad cup, chips, desert and drink; no options. This would allow them to have their meal within 5 minutes or less eat and be on the road in a very short while. Everyone loves this option and the new food selections. God has once again swiftly provided for our needs.

So, the Lord showed us how to suddenly take in the larger crowds and handle them with quality service and Christian compassion. While we were still planning, God was working. Thank you Lord.

## *The Glorious Gospel!*

It is good to tell the story and share in the testimony of what the Lord is doing. It seems as if the local news strives to have the worst news of our community as the featured story every night. Even in the reality of daily strife there is truly a genuine hope....it is Jesus Christ without apology! *For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ; for it is the power of God unto salvation.*

As we examine the condition of the inner city, and then look at the condition of the world, this planet has become one big neighborhood that may not be too safe anymore. We daily minister the Good News....this is the only hope that is there. The Word of God is the only way that we can reconcile the day in which we live. We trust in the Almighty to bring His will to pass. People at one time believed that man would finally bring everything into harmony and live happily ever after. Hope in mankind to save the world is a dead issue...it is now survival. Even now the non-religious man can begin to see that evil never stops working and will always work to have its own way.

It should point us all to the work and goodness of God and especially since man has failed to stabilize life despite all of his technology.

You may think that poor and homeless people wouldn't even think of these things but in many ways they confront them daily and they ask very intelligent questions which need solid biblical answers. Many who are already familiar with hopelessness are looking for hope and reason. Many have been driven to despair and are at the total end of resources and health. Whether they failed society or society failed them is not the question. They are souls sinking fast. We are to be the lighthouse on the shore. We are to throw out the lifeline.

Our faith in Christ as Savior and Deliverer and God is not a sugar pill approach to life. God has invited us to reason together with Him. There is no philosophical faith that reaches the depth of our soul like the power of Jesus Christ. He brings reason and meaning to life and gives us the sure hope of eternity with Him. Now that is the Glorious Gospel.



## *Nehemiah University; What A Place!*

There is so much going on at Nehemiah University that only a few words can be said about each portion of the ministry. The Nehemiah Xtreme Tutoring (NXT) youth education program is turning out to be a great investment in our youth. Fantastic things are taking place as youth of the community are coming back up to speed in their education. This is a full time school for special students.

The Nehemiah University for Computer Technology (NUCT) has just had another wonderful graduation of students for the winter quarter. These are very proud adults. They can learn all of the Microsoft Office technology as well as computer building.

The Nehemiah University for Bible Education (NUBE) has had wonderful attendance this last year moving through the entire Bible. *Faith comes by hearing.*

The Nehemiah University for After School Programs (ASP) runs continually for our community youth. A fine selection of activities, kids meals and adult mentoring are always on the agenda.

The Nehemiah University Meeting Place (NUMP) provides a place for community meetings and various training sessions. Our way of providing more for our community.

Well, that is some of the major operations of the Nehemiah University. We are so very thankful for all of those who did and are investing in this ministry. The dividends are great. Please keep those prayers and resources coming in. If there is something that you would like to do or provide for the university, please contact us. There are always educational needs.

## *Lend a Helping Hand to Camp Jabez*

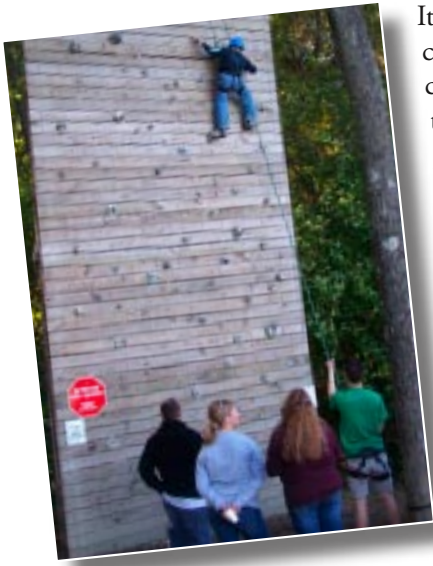
We have learned through the years that there is usually someone that God has in mind who can meet our needs according to His riches in glory. So, we share our needs depending on Him to meet those needs. To show that God answers prayer and in His way and time we now have a pickup truck being readied for camp. God knew our need. Someone donated a nice car to us and before we could sell it, someone offered to trade a 3/4 ton pickup truck for it and the deal was done.

- Other items on our needs list is a large, professional tree shredder... for work to be done with our woods; the chips go on our pathways.
- We are driving a 1983 Chevy Busset (27 passengers) for our youth and seniors....we are not sure how many more miles we can get on it. We are looking for options there.
- We are looking for commitments of 1000 bales of hay starting mid-year.
- We are looking for construction people to extend a roof line behind our barn to get our equipment out of direct weather.
- On the less expensive side, we are in need of lawn and garden tools that can keep large groups of volunteers busy like rakes, shovels, wheel barrows, etc.
- On the financial side, we need to build our monthly investors to keep the basics paid for.

Since we are here as a missionary organization our emphasis is on Christ and we do not take government money for any portion of our operation. Your investments soon add up. We are able to get a lot of mileage out of each dollar because of our many volunteers and material donations. Your assistance with any of the above would be greatly appreciated as we work to make Camp Jabez shine for the glory of God.



## *Camp Jabez 2007, Excitement Ahead!*



It is with great anticipation that we come to another year of summer camp. The Lord is working through the many wonderful things that are going on. Summer camp is a special time for youth to take a break from the norm and get close to the things of God. We have a winning combination with our magnificent woods, our great fishing, really fresh air, babbling brooks, wild life, horses and of course, the Word of God. Many a youth has been reached with the Gospel of Christ when he is drawn away from everyday circumstances and time is spent with God.

There are many new items on the agenda. The web site will give you a good overview. The Gospel Mission has ministered to youth since our beginning in 1912. We have many ministry means to reach out to them. The camp has given us many new opportunities to share the Gospel of Christ with those looking for answers. Our summer camp is open to all youth. It is a win-win situation for all concerned. This environment provides a blending of inner city youth with suburban youth. God's grace brings together a harmony that the campers will always remember. There are great lessons to be learned concerning acceptance of someone who is outside of your norm.

We would like to encourage churches, groups and individuals to go to our web site, take a look at what all is involved and sign up your group or youngster today. It will be well worth your investment in many ways. Email or call today for a great summer camp experience or camp picnic.

### *Come to Camp Jabez*

The facilities of Camp Jabez are available to all of our Christian friends on the weekends when not in use. You can have your family outing, group or church picnic in a private beautiful place. This is another win-win situation where your picnic is supporting the entire camp ministry. This provides a double return on your investment. Call or check the web site for all of the details and plan to be with us this year.



Office Phone: (937) 223-4513

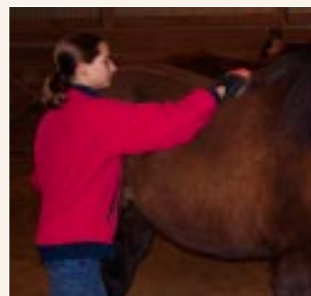
Website URL: [www.CampJabez.org](http://www.CampJabez.org)

## *New Developments at The Camp*

From a missionary perspective, we want the best tools possible to reach out to those who come our way. By the will and grace of God, there are many things planned for the camp. We did much in the way of improvements last year but more infrastructure projects are planned to provide additional means to be efficient in our operation and provide the safest and highest quality environment. For example, we will be changing the barn floor from dirt to washed sand to keep the dust to a minimum level. This will greatly improve conditions for those who have various allergies. We are really looking forward to this improvement. Much more is planned.

Some new items for youth this year will be our Zip line which will be about 400' feet long. This consists of a wild ride through the woods and over the lake and a safe landing on the shore after a few times of going back and forth over the water. Then there is the possibility that you will be hit with the water canon as you zoom over Lake Jabez! This kind of thing seems to even bring the boy out of some of the older staff.

We will be putting in a few bridges for our campers and horses to expand the utility of the trails. Building bridges in the woods is a fun experience for many of our supporting volunteers. We praise the Lord for the many who have responded to the call to be co-laborers in Christ with us. If you or a group would like to be a part of our maintenance and development support team, please contact us. This is a good area to make a commitment to serve in this ministry.



### *Jr. Wranglers, Mission Field*

One of our very successful programs is our Jr. Wrangler ministry. The function of this ministry is to get young people involved and well trained in such a way that they can assist other youth during our camps. The Wranglers are in training and will be well prepared by the time camp starts.

We are still in need of short term Mission Field Volunteers. During the summer many youth go various places on mission excursions. We do have openings for mission field volunteers this year right here at home. We ask for at least two week commitments. You will spend about eight hours a day in mission service working with the youth.