

The

Lighthouse

A Publication of

The Gospel Mission, Inc.

Established 1912

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Greetings in His precious Name from our mission post in the city.

We look forward to the work the Lord has in store for us in 2023 as we know it will be guided by Him. The great motivation for the work comes from our desire to be His servants. Nehemiah found his strength where we all can. *Nehemiah 8:10, for the joy of the LORD is your strength.* We work to bring joy and glory to the Lord and He provides all we need to carry out His will for the work ahead.

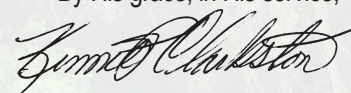
Of course there will be things that we will not anticipate but thank the Lord that He is the perfect daily planner. That removes the fear from the unknown; He knows and takes us by the hand. A great verse for the year is *Isaiah 41:10, Fear thou not; for I am with thee; be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness.*

We cannot thank everyone enough for all of the various support you bring to us. We aim to be good and faithful servants of funds, materials and labor. It is a blessing to see how God brings it all together to serve His purpose. Our receipt system always shows the total of your latest contributions; let us know if we have missed something.

Our greatest daily concern is salvation for the lost. Unfortunately, we have lost several in 2022 due to overdose. They are here one day hearing the Gospel and the next day they are gone never to be under its invitation again. This is a sad condition for many. We pray for a revival among the hardened and those that are under the influence of such mind and body controlling substances. God is able to deliver. *Hebrews 7:25 says, Wherefore He is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by Him, seeing He ever liveth to make intercession for them.*

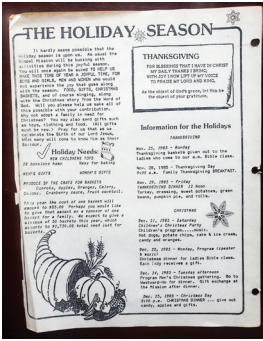
Thanks for receiving the Lighthouse and keeping us in prayer.
 By the grace of God we will labor until He comes again.

By His grace, in His service,



Dr. Kenneth P. Clarkston
 Chaplain, Director

The 40th Volume of the Lighthouse



How can it be? Almost every quarter of the year a Lighthouse Newsletter went out to our supporters. It makes for blessed memories as one peruses the history and accomplishments the Lord has brought our way. We can only say “Thank you Lord for the wonder of it all.” We pray much treasure has been laid up in Heaven through the Lord’s work here. Our first issues were done with typewriter and cut

and paste designs. Then a black and white photographic plate was made which ran on the printing press. Technology has made it much easier and more vivid. As we reflect, we thank you Lord for the many answered prayers that we now can see. You are so faithful!

And the light shineth in darkness;

John 1:5

Volunteer Opportunitites

Do you believe the words of Jesus in [Matthew 9:37](#)?

Then saith He unto his disciples, The harvest truly is plenteous, but the labourers are few; well the words are very true and we practice [Matthew 9:38](#), Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth labourers into his harvest.



Perhaps you could be an answer to prayer. There are many positions open that need to be filled. From pots and pans to plumbers...from drivers to drywallers...from cleaners to carpenters...from meal service to maintenance, and even a librarian.

We normally have a **Volunteer Orientation** the **2nd Saturday of each month from 11 AM until about 12:30 PM.**

Please let us know if you would like to attend.



Star Spangled Banner



The first Monday of every month is Star Spangled Banner day. All of the congregation stands, sees the flag and the words on the big screen and sings along. It really is a special time for many of the Vets and others who still believe in America. We are thankful to still have such freedoms.

To God be the glory!

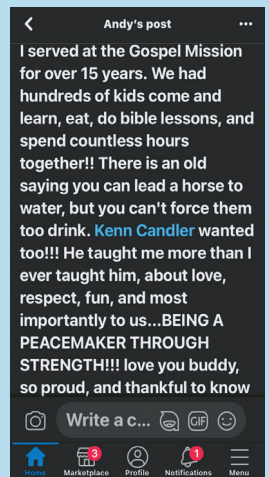
From our Youth

Kennedy (“Kenn”) Candler was active with our youth group for many years, both with our evening programs and our Saturday morning basketball program. Kenn graduated from Meadowdale High School in 2018, where he lettered



in track. Kenn then enlisted with the Army National Guard in 2019, and he continues to serve our country in an Airborne Special Services Unit (to date, Kenn has made 12 jumps!!). In addition to his armed forces service, Kenn serves as an IT Administrator for

the State of West Virginia and he currently resides in Charleston. “We really enjoyed having Kenn as part of our youth program,” says Andy Leakas, the long-time youth director. “He has a heart for the Lord and for people.”



A True Thanksgiving

Thanksgiving is a time for us everyday. It is a matter of everyday living to be thankful.



Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, and into His courts with praise: be thankful unto Him, and bless His name.

Psalm 100:4

O give thanks unto the LORD; for He is good; for His mercy endureth forever.

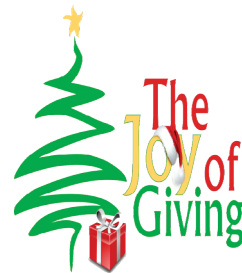
1Chronicles 16:34

The verses go on and on. So when the Thanksgiving holiday rolls around, thankfulness should be a manifestation of our heart. It is more than a special once-a-year meal. It is a reminder of His daily provision. The Gospel Mission always provides a tremendous buffet for our Thanksgiving meal with a huge variety of selections. Can God furnish a table in the wilderness? Yes, and how abundantly!

A special thank you to the individuals, churches and restaurants that have a heart for this ministry.

thankful

Christmas Blessings



We had a very blessed time of Christmas. We are so thankful for the many gifts that were supplied; so many happy people. Every gift is custom assembled for each individual. They fill out a form of sizes and other details and have a seat while all of the Lord's helpers put together a very special Christmas for them. Sue and daughter Kim head up this tremendous job. You have seen the pictures of the elves at the North Pole in all of the hustle and bustle and stacks of goodies being sorted! Everyone received a Gospel Tract and plenty of Bibles were available.



We praise the Lord for all of these people; may they come to know Him.

Christmas Youth Party



We really enjoy our youth and the special events that we are able to have; they are a joy to be with! The covid situation, as you can imagine, caused many issues about meeting together. We are working to re-build those relationships. We are very thankful for the A & S Party Rental staff who did a marvelous job in providing wonderful equipment for the youth to play on...even an ice skating rink! A special shout to the Brothers and Sisters in the Lord that pull so much together for the mission's outreach.

Christmas with the Girls

One of several special events for the Christmas season was a trip to Dayton History. It is a unique place to learn about things as they used to be in the very place where they live. You might even find an early picture of The Gospel Mission in their first location; shown



"Jesus Saves" sign on front of first mission



here in the 1913 flood aftermath. The God's Girls ministry has been going for several decades and it has had a wonderful impact on many young ladies. We thank Misty and many dedicated volunteers who have been with these young ladies pointing them toward living for the Lord.

The Year 2022 in Passing

It just seems amazing that we can even reflect on 2022 in passing since it seems like it was just 2002.

Twenty years, two decades! We must thank the Lord for our health and strength that has sustained us in the quick passing of time as we await His return. There have been challenges and obstacles but our reflection on God's presence gave us confidence that He was with us all the way. In reality, no year is any different. The world is the world.

For the wisdom of this world is foolishness with God.

I Corinthians 3:19

The year 2022 has passed as another moment of eternity for the Christian. What a blessing to know of our eternal life and that a year is nothing to the Lord as we look forward to spending eternity with Him.

...we spend our years as a tale that is told.

Psalms 90:9

The Most Important Understanding About Life

What could be the most important understanding about our life on planet earth? With our Bible view of eternity and the Lord pointing out the brevity of life, it would seem that we should have a healthy balance of living as a visitor to planet earth with the forward look of hope and joy to our eternal home Heaven. Abraham's faith provides the answer in *Hebrews 11:10*,

For he looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God. He knew that he was a stranger and pilgrim on the earth.

As we preach every day, Christ needs to be our tour guide (Savior) on the journey home. Even most of the world will say that "there is no place like home." The Lord has provided gifts and grace to live here and serve Him. He reminds us of our accountability, I Corinthians 3. Yes, our journey here will end in God's time and home we go. A spiritual understanding of God's design for His children will provide strength through the trials and tribulations and rough roads of this brief life.

Daily the Good News is shared and the affirmation of such Scriptures bring much joy to those who are down and out and struggling. Homeless; well truly every Christian is, as we are just passing through to our home in Heaven.



Camp Registration



www.CampJabez.org Sue Clarkston - Camp Director

Registration is in full swing for Camp Jabez 2023! Another exciting year of Christian outdoor fun, games and the Lord. Please see the web site for lots of details and pictures. There is a Q and A on the Home Page under "About" that will answer many questions. Feel free to give us a call; we answer...no "leave your message." Don't wait too long to secure a spot. As of the first of the year, we are about a third filled! We pray for a Christ life-impacting time for all attending. We seek His blessings on the youth, the counselors and even our well trained horses; a beautiful creation of God.

WWW.CampJabez.org / 937-223-4513



The Gospel Mission, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. All gifts to this ministry are tax deductible.

