



Lighthouse Missionary Outreach

Over fourteen years of ministry to the Caribbean

David & Debbie Goodrum - Directors



Summer 2006 Newsletter

"A Family Reunion"

One of the things I like most about our ministry is the way the Lord brings together people of differing church affiliation but of kindred spirit, united by the common calling: "Go ye into all the world." When asked, I usually say I am ordained by a major denomination but that I am a 'minister to the Body of Christ.' And I prefer it that way.

Afterall, with much to do and now little time left to do it in, it only makes sense to look beyond our small differences and work together to the furtherance of God's Kingdom, which is, of course, our one true purpose in this life.



Pastor Paul Evans and member Gwen Ashley with some of the much clothing and supplies donated by their congregation, the First Pentecostal Holiness Church of Wilmington, NC

We are about to set sail again for Central America, to Belize and Guatemala. Donations of supplies have been coming in from every direction! Baby food,

clothing, medicines & vitamins, toys, and Bibles with teaching tools. Offerings for anything else we can carry have come from as far away as Tennessee and Florida. A Sunday school class at the Scottshill Baptist Church gave an offering for children's videos, a Saturday morning prayer and Bible study group of only four men gave several hundred dollars, and a family handed me a check for \$250.00 marked simply "Bibles" after seeing the photographs of our last voyage. "Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for the brethren to dwell together in unity!" [Psa 133:1]



Our SUV is seen here filled to the top with donations gathered by the Holly Ridge ,NC, Church of God.

As we depart in a few weeks we request your continued prayers [it is, afterall, the peek of hurricane season.] We sail with a commission: to represent all of you - carrying your love and encouragement to a very needy world. And the message that we are 'family' - call us distant cousins if you must - having one Father, one Lord, one faith [see Eph 4:5,6] and one hope - that of coming together one day in a glorious place in perfect unity! Now that will be one family reunion!!!

A special "Thank You" to all of the families and churches who have helped to make this ministry possible. For fear of leaving someone out or drawing unwanted attention to those who happily give to the Lord "in secret so that he may reward them openly"(Mat 6:4) may we just say that you are a wonderful cross-section of all that is good about our faith, the proof of just how 'amazing' is His 'grace.' God bless you all !!

Multiplying Ourselves

Something will be new onboard Faith (our 40' trimaran sailboat) during this next mission trip: two new crew members. Kyle & Lorin Van Zandt, who have felt a calling into missions work with a special leading to do so 'by sea' rather than 'by land', will be assisting us and learning all they can about seamanship and the mission field. This is a wonderful opportunity for us to share from our over twenty years in the Caribbean and Europe.



Lorin & Kyle Van Zandt

I have said many times I could gladly use some help on deck [it seems that as I get older the sails and anchors get heavier !!] But to be able to 'pass along' a 'mantle' for ministry to such a couple with both great vision and great compassion is a priviledge not always enjoyed within the lifetime of some ministers.

Not one of us can ever do enough - but many of us can! Is this why Jesus called a ragmuffin twelve rather than a capable few? Afterall, it's by His Spirit things really get done anyway. So, why do some church leaders take the "If-I-want-it-done-right-I'll-do-it-myself" attitude, and consequently leave out many who want to participate in ministry activities? (And here I was under the impression that we believe in a "priesthood of believers.") Some observers have suggested it may be from vanity or insecurity! I prefer the assumption that most don't understand: when we teach others to do what we do we subtract from our labor by multiplying ourselves.



The 'new crew' helping out with repairs to Ephesians.

I had a professor in seminary who frequently reminded us that a good pastor spends his whole life working himself out of a job. Building ministers is far more important than expanding your ministry. In other words, the key to building a great church is to build great people. It is hardly a compliment that when some pastors die so does their life's work.

Pray for Kyle and Lorin, that their calling becomes clear to them in every possible way. Pray for us that we will be "gentle...apt to teach, patient", for these are the qualities of "the servant of the Lord" [2Tim 3:24] committing truth to "faithful men, who shall be able to teach others

The Van Zandts are members of Calvary Baptist Church of Winston Salem, NC. They have resigned their position with their church to step out in faith to be 'sailing missionaries'. If you feel lead to support them please make donations payable to: OAR Foundation 110 Ashbourne Lake Ct. Clemmons, NC 27012 (indicate offering is for the Van Zandts)

"A Heart For Missions"

Many things became more clear and more dear to me this past Spring. I began to have heart trouble. With blood pressure at extremely dangerous levels, doubt that I would ever return to the mission field was a daily companion. I cannot tell you the emptiness, the ache, that such brings to one whose whole sense of purpose is in being needed and who lives for the opportunity of meeting those needs. But, as the experience of my ordeal came to fruition, I accepted an important truth: God's pleasure in us is not in what we do but in whom we are - not in quality of performance but in character of heart.



Carting our puppet stage

Does our heart long for the things of His longing? Does His passion stir a restless ambition to manifest the kindness of His grace to a peoples not yet touched by His Good News? And do we weep at the very knowing that, with each breath of ours, a soul in this world slips into unending darkness? Such is a heart for missions!

The few special hours I spent recently with Kyle and Lorin gave me cause to rehearse some of the important moments of the past thirty years of my ministry, circumstances which allowed me to reaffirm my convictions. Kyle's uncomplicated joy of service was a reminder of how natural any labor or sacrifice in the Master's name ought to be. His willingness to forsake anything and everything for the privilege of the missionary call transported me to the days when my only care was whether I might, by any chance, fail God's will.



Rowing church supplies to shore

Ten years ago, also in the Spring, I had just sailed into the Bahamas with my wife and three children to begin another mission journey around the islands. Many things were planned for that trip - it would be a fruitful endeavor. I was asked during the morning service of our first Sunday there to return and 'give the message' that evening.



Preaching in the Bahamas



Giving out Bibles last?

But in the afternoon I began to have unusual chest pains, undoubtedly trouble with my heart. Knowing that my father had passed at a young age with such a condition - it was reasonable to be concerned. What to do? If I went on to minister in what is usually a long, and exhausting island service, would it be my

I cannot tell you every thought which played in my spirit (for there were so many: the care of my children, the regret of failing to achieve a fuller life's work, the love for my wife)...but one more opportunity to speak as God's missionary was an unpassable one, irregardless of the consequence. It carried me into the pulpit that night - the altars filled and souls were saved. Now I continue on, secured in knowing that, when given such choices, I will favor the better one: that which is not for my interests but for those of a Savior who, dismissing His own concerns, sacrificed to save yours and mine. That, indeed, is a heart for missions!!



Clothing for orphans

... David A. Goodrum

Mission Projects for You or Your Church

Our dear friend Myra has an exciting vision to build a feeding center and school for her poverty stricken area of Guatemala. Any financial help or a visit by church groups would be greatly appreciated. See her website at: wmotw.com for more about her faithful ministry to the needy. Do remember Myra in your prayers.



Pastor Martinez' church suffered during the past hurricane season as well as the passing of time. The roof has many holes in it and the rafters need to be replaced. A group of men could get the work done as well as enjoy the beauty of Guatemala. Call for information: 910-200-8065



Ephesians is for sale!! We need to sell our first mission boat to help pay off the balance owed on our new trimaran. She is a very special boat and will give a lot of pleasure. If you know anyone who may be interested please suggest that they call us at 910-200-8065 (leave a message). The price is very reasonable, especially if used for ministry purposes.

Watch our website!! As we set sail we will update our website with pictures and stories of our travel as often as we can. By the way - if you do a Google search for 'sailing missionaries', we come up first!! Five families from around the country (including Kyle & Lorin) have now emailed us wanting to know how to become boating missionaries after finding our website!!

Sponsors needed! We have been serving the Caribbean & Central America during the past fourteen years, reaching children through our 'Children's Crusades'; providing training for pastors, teachers, and youth workers; and also ministering to boating families from around the world. We use our boat to carry medical supplies & clothing to needy nations. Ours is a faith supported ministry relying on love offerings and personal gifts. Thank you for any help you can give us towards our expenses as we sail onward for Jesus... *David & Debbie Goodrum*

Website: www.SailingServant.org

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