

THE EMBERS

Thoughts from the Revival Trail



PULPITAFLEAME
MINISTRIES

Pulpit Aflame Ministries

January - March 2019



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Prayer Requests

- Full Schedule of Meetings
Many open dates for 2019
- Monthly Support
- Special support for 2019
Missions Trip

Praises

- God's blessings on the meetings
- New video studio under construction (more details later)
- Safety in travel

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Let Us Go Again...

Acts 15:36 And some days after Paul said unto Barnabas, Let us go again and visit our brethren in every city where we have preached the word of the Lord, and see how they do.

One of the greatest joys and biggest responsibilities of ministry is to go back to visit those that we have ministered to and check on their spiritual condition.

In the Summer of 2009, I made my first visit to Papua New Guinea to work with Missionary Jason Russell. I was able to preach in churches in three different areas of PNG and to teach in the Bible School in Wipim. It was one of the most amazing opportunities I have ever had in the ministry. Last Summer I was able to return to the country and preach in a national youth camp/conference (Youth Quest 2018) in Port Moresby. Over 200 young people had come from all over the country to attend the meeting. I was also able to preach in two different churches in the area of Port Moresby. Brother Russell and I then travelled to the island of Daru, where he ministers. I taught a Bible School Intensive Class on Baptist Heroes of the Faith and preached a revival meeting. We then travelled to Perth, Western Australia to preach in the B.L.A.S.T. Winter Camp among the aboriginal people hosted by Pastor Dala Momo. We also preached a weekend of Revival Services at his church in Kalgoorlie. God worked in an amazing way in each of these meetings. Many young people surrendered to "do the Will of God" for their lives. Some are already in Bible College! Many were saved and multitudes of decisions were made regarding personal holiness. I am sure the Good Lord did as much of a work in my heart as He did in their hearts!

We have been invited to return to participate in the same meetings in July 2019. We would begin our travel on about June 28 and would return around July 24. I will again be working with Missionary Jason Russell. We will preach in the Youth Quest 2019, B.L.A.S.T. Youth Camp, teach in Daru Bible School, and preach in many churches. As the Apostle Paul said in Acts 15:36 it is my desire to "go again and visit our brethren in every city where we have preached the word of the Lord." My life and ministry vision were forever changed during my time in Papua New Guinea and Western Australia. I am humbled and thrilled by the opportunity to once again minister to these wonderful people. The expenses for this trip would be \$5,000 and will only be possible with the help and generosity of God's people. Would you ask God how He would have you help? I would be honored to come to your church to present our ministry and explain the opportunity set before us. To schedule us for a meeting, please contact us at pulpitaflame@gmail.com or 586-350-6021.

Time to Update the "Bus Book"

In 1993 we published our book, "Bus Promotions Made Easy." It is a collection of over one years worth of "ready to copy" bus promotion flyers with detailed instructions on how to run each promotion. It features a six-week campaign with "Baptist Bucks" artwork for a "General Store." Also included are many bus ministry forms and helps. In the last quarter of a century these promotions and bus ministry helps have been used in hundred's of churches!



It is now time to update the book and bring it into the 21st Century! This time we plan to include over 100 promotion and computer files for each flyer. This will allow the user to make changes as needed for their church. The files will be in several different formats, Microsoft Publisher, Word, Pages for the Mac and PDF.

We need your help! We would like to include your best or most creative bus ministry promotion ideas. We would like for you to send us copies of your bus flyer, any artwork you have used, and details of your promotion. Credit will be given to the church that sends in the idea. We will create editable artwork for each and the electronic files will be included in the final publication. We have created a special email address to submit your ideas. Please use BusBook2019@gmail.com for your submission.



Ministry Update

The following is a brief synopsis of our ministry since our last newsletter.

Sheridan Road Baptist Church, Saginaw, Michigan January 13

It was my joy to once again to preach at Sheridan Road Baptist Church for Pastor Lou Jurva. I have preached many different kinds of meetings at Sheridan Road over the years. I have conducted a "Setting Sail for Church Growth Conference," Vacation Bible Schools, Revival Meetings, and even a high school graduation! Pastor Jurva has been a friend for many years and is the model of faithfulness. The theme for this meeting was "The Stewardship of Your Life and Opportunities." Pastor Jurva asked me to preach about the challenges we have faced in our ministries and how the Lord helps us to keep moving forward for Him. Each of us are given abilities (talents) as well as opportunities. We must not waste them. The Bible says, "...we must all appear before the Judgement Seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in the body..." (2 Corinthians 5:10) As Believers, we must make every day count, we are to "Redeem the Time!" I am thankful for pastors who challenge their people to do all they can for God.



In addition to the "Setting Sail for Church Growth Conference" we also conducted individualized "Ministry Mentoring." This is part of our "Training Timothy's" program and involves discussing with the pastor areas where his staff would like to improve, or areas of difficulty and weakness in the functioning of the ministries of their local church. After identifying areas of need, individualized instruction is given. This is done in a group or classroom setting as well as meeting with the staff members individually. During the weekend I met with Pastor Finn and his staff for 2 hours of staff training. We covered topics of how a staff can work together, focus on ministry, scheduling, and ministry planning. I then spent additional time with a staff member to answer specific questions and give instruction.

On Sunday we helped the pastor to introduce their theme for the year, "Families Reaching Families." This program is designed to challenge, instruct, and equip every member family of the church to commit to reaching one family during the year. That means that by the end of the year each family will have someone new attending church faithfully, growing in their faith, and serving in the local church. We preached messages both Sunday morning and evening to go with the theme and then distributed materials to help the membership to track their prospects. We also provided the banners to be placed in areas around the church to keep the people focused on the



First Baptist Church, Morley, Michigan

January 18-20

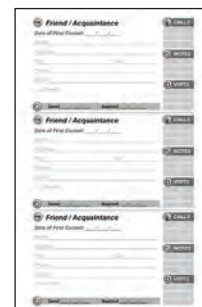
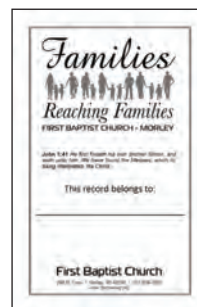
On January 18 we began a "Setting Sail for Church Growth Conference" at the First Baptist Church in Morley, Michigan with Pastor Steve Finn. We had representatives from four churches attend the meeting. The meeting went for 3 hours on Friday and 5 hours on Saturday. We covered the following topics:



1. The Purpose of Sunday School
2. Vision for Your Ministry
3. Charting the Course
4. Teacher/Bus Worker Guidelines
5. What Makes a Bible Teacher Effective?
6. How Do Students Learn?
7. Principles of Bible Teaching
8. Protecting the Sheep (establishing Child Safety policies)



theme. Please contact our office if you are interested in conducting your own "Families Reaching Families" Campaign or scheduling "Ministry Mentoring" for your church staff.

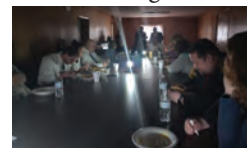


Westside Bible Baptist Church, Flint, Michigan February 24

Pastor Brad Lake and I have been friends for over 40 years, we served in the Bus Ministry together while we were in Bible College. Brother Lake has been pastor at Westside Bible Baptist Church in Flint for three decades and I have preached many meetings at Westside Bible Baptist over the years. During this meeting we introduced a commitment campaign called "Average Joe or Barnabas." Using the life of Barnabas, we challenged the people in their church attendance, tithing, giving, and ministry involvement. After the morning service we had a dinner on the grounds followed by an afternoon service and then a men's meeting. In addition to preaching in the services I led the singing in all of the services.



An interesting addition to the business of the



day was the weather forecast for the day. Powerful storms moved through the area during

the "dinner on the grounds" following the morning service. As winds with speeds of 30-50 mph came through the area the power went out in the church building. We finished the meal with lanterns and started the afternoon service with the lanterns. About halfway through the message the lights came back on. (I was accused of preaching until the lights came on!)

Following the afternoon service, we conducted a “men’s meeting” where we challenged the men of the church to step up in their commitment to the Lord, the church and in their support of the pastor. The men had a great spirit and were very receptive. Pastor Lake has reported that the people are keeping their commitments and that the offerings and attendances are up.



Battle Creek Baptist Temple, Battle Creek, Michigan
March 3



Pastor Lyle Dye asked me to fill the pulpit for him as he was out of town for a few weeks. It was a tremendous joy to be in the services at Battle Creek Baptist Temple! The people have a warm and welcoming spirit. It was a wonderful to be a part of their song service. These people LOVE to sing. Brother Ed Whiting led the singing and directed the services. Brother Whiting has had a long ministry and was once an associate of Pastor



Bob Kelly. I enjoyed reminiscing with him about his friend Dr. Charles Weigel and other giants of the faith. The piano playing and the specials were also a great blessing. I was able to teach a combined Sunday School Class, the

morning service and the evening service. I had liberty in preaching and the people were very responsive to the preaching and the altar was full.

I am so thankful for men like Pastor Dye who have labored for thirty years in the same place, serving their people without the notoriety and fanfare of men who pastor in larger places. Praise the Lord of people who are faithful and content to “bloom where they are planted.”



Trident Baptist Church, Goose Creek, South Carolina
March 4-10

Following the meeting in Battle Creek, MI Rhonda and I drove through the night to Goose Creek, SC to be with our good friend, Pastor Eric Tharp. We arrived Monday night at about 6:30 pm. On Monday evenings from 7-9 pm Pastor Tharp conducts “Men’s Leadership Training” classes for the men of his church. I was able to teach for the second hour on the Discipleship based upon the life and ministry of Barnabas. I am thankful for pastors who invest in the lives of their men. We need a revival of participation and leadership of men in our churches.



I preached in the Wednesday evening service, taught a combined Sunday School, and preached in the Sunday morning and evening service. There were many visitors in the services on Sunday. Having been

at Trident back in September and October for three weeks it is wonderful to see the advances the church has made under Pastor Tharp. The attendances are up, the spirit in the church is fantastic, the men have really stepped up, the bus ministry is growing, and the people are excited about what God is doing there.

While at the church I also spent several hours mentoring a young preacher serving at Trident. It is a joy to see young men who have a hunger to serve the Lord. Please pray for this church as they recover from many challenging situations and strive to make a lasting impact on their area for Christ.



Emmanuel Missionary Baptist Church, Warren, MI

March 17

Pastor Tracey Harrell contacted me on Saturday, March 16 to ask if I could fill the pulpit for him in both services on Sunday, March 17. He needed to be out of town to visit his best friend, a pastor, who was dying of cancer. I was able to preach in both services, morning and evening. Many people responded during the invitations and many expressed that they were helped by the messages. I am thankful for opportunities to help local churches and pastors. NOTE: If you have need someone to fill the pulpit please give me a call!

Technology & Ministry



During my time in Papua New Guinea last summer I had very limited access to the internet and we were often without power and this had limited use of our electronics. That limited my ability to put out updates on social media. The updates you saw were usually me “liking” or sharing what others were posting.

It is startling how much we have come to depend on having a computer or cellphone, the ability to search for something on the internet, and communicate with others. It is striking how much we, as Americans, rely on the internet, social media, and modern conveniences. Most of us never consider “not” having electricity, running water, cellphone service, and the internet.

Those who know me are aware that I am a tech head! I love technology and utilize it as much as possible, but we must never get so enamored with the tech that we forget they are only tools to help up “do” ministry and the Christian life. We do not need ANY tech to read and study our Bible. We do not need a social media account to witness to a lost person or to disciple a new convert. Ministry is about PEOPLE! We entered the ministry to win people. We entered the ministry to help people. We pastor people, not buildings. We have lost the ability and desire to connect with real people. Take the time to connect with someone TODAY! While I was without power and without access to the internet and social media, I was always able to open my Bible and read it, win people to Jesus Christ, disciple converts, and preach in a public service.

Today, would you consider the following PERSONAL acts? Give out a tract, witness to someone, or study the Bible with someone.

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

PRAYER LETTER FOR

Doug & Rhonda Brandenburg

Publications Available

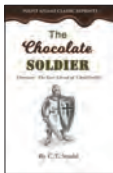
These, and many more helpful resources are available from Pulpit Aflame Publications. You may contact us online at www.pulpitaflame.com/store



Classic Reprints Helpful booklets from preachers of the past that MUST be known by this generation of Believers.



Will a Saved Person Ever Be Lost? By Dr. Thomas F. Duff **\$2.00**
Many Believers wonder, and even worry, if their faith in Jesus Christ was enough to get them to Heaven, surely there must to it than that! Don't I have to do something to keep my salvation? Can I lose it? Can I do something to have it taken away? This study is to help those who struggle with their eternal security.



The Chocolate Soldier By Missionary C.T. Studd **\$2.00**
This booklet was written in 1912 as an appeal to Christians to go to the mission field. This great missionary was concerned about the laziness of Believers and their lack of tenacity in serving the Lord and challenged them to not "melt" in battle. This booklet will challenge you!

Ministry Helps



Setting Sail for Church Growth **\$25.00**
The revised edition of our book, "Setting Sail for Church Growth," is off the press and is available for purchase in our online bookstore. This book is the manual used during our "Setting Sail for Church Growth Conferences." It contains 130 pages of material to better equip your Sunday School teachers, Children's Church & Bus Ministry workers. Sections include:

1. Charting the Course
2. Enlisting & Equipping the Crew
3. Loading the Passengers
4. Setting Sail
5. The Captain's Log
6. Ship Security

Fifteen different forms are included to help your ministry run more efficiently and to assist you in follow-up and discipleship.

Helps for your Christian Walk



Moments With the Master **\$8.00**
This book is a practical guide for your personal walk with God and includes the Bible study on "The Purpose of Bible Study," a one year Bible reading schedule, places to record your Bible study thoughts, a simple journal for your prayer list, and recommended verses to memorize.



My Weekly Checklist **\$2.00**
We do not walk with God because we want to, we walk with God because we plan to! This practical guide will help to keep you on track in your walk with God. It is an accountability record to monitor and motivate your church attendance, Bible reading, prayer time, worship time, witnessing, and ministry involvement. Get one today!

Audio CD sets

Be a Man (3 cd set in album) **\$10.00**
Be a Man! is a series of 3 messages for men and their sons.

Repentance and Faith (3 cd set in album) **\$10.00**
Three strong and clear messages on the Doctrine of Repentance and its association to saving faith and soulwinning.

What Baptists Believe (Overview) (3 cd set in album) **\$10.00**
Three messages that are an overview of the 54 lesson series on Baptist Distinctives.

Decisions and Divine Appointments (5 cd set in album) **\$15.00**
A five sermon series from the Book of Ruth.