

# GOD'S REVIVALIST

December 2021

*and Bible Advocate*







# thinking out loud

## GOD'S PROVISION

**N**ow Elijah the Tishbite, of Tishbe in Gilead, said to Ahab, "As the Lord, the God of Israel, lives, before whom I stand, there shall be neither dew nor rain these years, except by my word." And the word of the Lord came to him: "Depart from here and turn eastward and hide yourself by the brook Cherith, which is east of the Jordan. You shall drink from the brook, and I have commanded the ravens to feed you there." So he went and did according to the word of the Lord. He went and lived by the brook Cherith that is east of the Jordan. And the ravens brought him bread and meat in the morning, and bread and meat in the evening, and he drank from the brook. —I Kings 17:1-6 (ESV)

In today's highly industrialized society, we do not adequately appreciate the importance of water. We turn on the spigot, and there is water. If we experience a dry spell, the government pumps water in from other places or taps reserves from reservoirs that are maintained for this very need.

Things were not always so easy. Such is the context of this time when God declared that there would be no dew or rain for "years" except at His command. This drought was a test to see whom the people would trust—the Lord God or the popular pagan deity of the day, Baal, the god of storm and rain.

In the middle of this privation, God made sure the needs of His prophet Elijah were met. He sent him to the brook Cherith, where he would have not only water to drink, but also two meals flown in daily.

What can we learn from this? First, God understands our times of trouble—they do not catch Him "off guard." However, in order for us to be recipients of God's provisions, we have to stay in the place where He wants us. During difficult times, the human tendency is to move on, to try something else, to see how others are coping. But God's provisions are enjoyed when we remain obedient to Him.

So, whatever the difficulty life is throwing at you, make sure you are attentive to God's direction. Go where He tells you. Do what He tells you. Stay put until you receive further directions from Him. Do that, and your needs will be supplied. —KF ■

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*God's Revivalist and Bible Advocate* (ISSN 0745-0788) is published monthly except for combined issues in January-February and June-July-August for **\$12.00 per year (\$28.00, Canada; \$60.00, other countries)** by the Revivalist Press of God's Bible School, College and Missionary Training Home, 1810 Young Street, Cincinnati, Ohio 45202. Periodical postage paid at Cincinnati, Ohio, and at additional mailing offices. **POSTMASTER: send address changes to God's Revivalist and Bible Advocate, 1810 Young Street, Cincinnati, Ohio 45202.**

*God's Revivalist and Bible Advocate*, the official organ of God's Bible School, is a magazine founded by Martin Wells Knapp in July of 1888. We seek to proclaim the good news of salvation; to stir a revival spirit among Christians; to stimulate Christian growth and responsible Christian living; to present the happenings and interests of God's Bible School.

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# the president's page



## CHRISTMAS CANCELED?

by Dr. Rodney S. Loper, President

Will Christmas be canceled? If you listen to news reports, you may come to that conclusion: ships unable to unload their cargo; stores unable to keep their shelves stocked; warnings of higher prices alerting consumers to a potentially difficult shopping experience.

As I read through some of these reports, the thought occurred to me, “Why do we spend so much time, effort, and energy filling our shopping carts and cluttering our porches with boxes?” Is it because we need all these items? Is it because this is the only time of the year that we splurge? Is it because the prices are so low? The answer to all these questions is an emphatic “NO!” So, what is the point? Why do we do it?

Well, for Christians, this is a time for celebration. We celebrate—or at least we *should*—the greatest Gift that was ever given. This Gift wasn’t an after-thought. Scripture tells us that it was all a part of God’s plan from the very foundation of the world.

If there is one quality about Christmas that is remarkable, it is the spirit of giving! This spirit actually flows down from God! James testifies, “Every good present and every perfect gift comes from above, from the Father who made the sun, moon, and stars. The Father doesn’t change like the shifting shadows produced by the sun and the moon” (James 1:17 GW). He is ever giving with a heart full of love. He is ever shining!

Wherever God is manifested, we see light and warmth, life and harmony, joy and beauty. He steps onto the edge of nothingness, and the first thing He says is, “Let there be light,” because He is the Father of Lights. From Him flow beauty and balance, bounty and variety. Plants spring forth, reaching their branches and stems towards the sky, seeking the light He made. Rivers gush forth to feed the green valleys. Roses and flowers, the roy-



alty of the plant realm, unfurl their petals as colorful banners and yield their fragrance to the wings of the wind. Every creature, great and small, including man himself, springs forth to thrive and roam this vast planet encircled by the lights of the solar system that mark its seasons. All because the Father of Lights showed up!

On a starlit night long ago, the Giver produced the most amazing gift that has ever been unwrapped and enjoyed by mankind. It was actually called "the Light of the World." It was so amazing that It caused the angels to break the glassy silence of the night to sing of Its coming: "Glory to God in the Highest. Peace on Earth, Good will toward men!"

Wisemen discovered a special light shining in the dark sky. They had searched the Scriptures and understood its significance. They packed their belongings and made a long journey to express their gratitude to the Father of Lights by giving precious things in return.

All God's people who have been touched by His love, love giving as well. So, will Christmas be canceled this year? No, because Christians understand that it is about more than just the gifts we receive from one another; we celebrate because we have received the greatest gift—Jesus Christ!

This Christmas season, everywhere we look we can see the

heart of God. Presents are piled under Christmas trees, complete with shiny bikes and porcelain dolls. Smiles are on faces as reunions bring those from long distances. Sons and daughters embrace elderly mom and dad, while little grandchildren are swept up in granddad's arms. Grandma's kitchen is filled with scrumptious smells and goodies awaiting grasping hands. Busy shoppers drop coins in red kettles enabling the Salvation Army to give help to those less fortunate. Lighthearted music fills the streets, and smiles light up the faces of those lost in the wonder of Christmas.

No, Christmas has not died, nor has it been canceled. Giving is everywhere. So, friend, let us pause, and ponder the phrase timeless in its message, "For God so loved the world that He GAVE...His own Son."

God, the Giver, has never stopped giving to those who will receive Him, who have not locked their doors and turned a deaf ear to His distinctive knock. He yearns to give to you. Open the door and let Him come in, spreading His warmth and cheer. May you blossom and bloom as the light of His presence shines upon you as it does upon creation. May you hear the phrase as the Son of God comes to you, "Arise, Shine, for thy Light is come! 📖"



The Rodney Loper family wishes you a

*Merry Christmas*  
and Happy New Year



background ©Stock: photons



# Alive to the Gospel at Christmastime

by Michelle Ule

I grew up in a secular family for whom Christmas was an event featuring a holiday scene across the mantle, a tree hauled into the house on my father's birthday, and Coke in the stocking found leaning across the hearth on Christmas morning.

When we got older, we attended a perfunctory mass on Christmas Eve, joined a big party at a friend's house, and awoke the next morning to presents and an hour-long trip to Grammy's house.

We're Sicilian. We had pasta for Christmas dinner and chocolate pie for dessert.

The Christmas I was fifteen, however, my attitude changed.

Shocked to realize the babe in the manger was really the Creator of the Universe purposefully limited to the body of an infant, I began to reconsider Christmas details. While I naturally was familiar with Jesus, until that 1972 Christmas, I never actually KNEW Jesus.

The glorious musical canon proclaimed at Trinity Lutheran Church in San Pedro, California, drew me to the congregation. I had never "worshiped" in a service where folks broke into four-part harmony and sang with such gusto. As a small church with a homey, wooden interior, Trinity Lutheran had an intimate, warm feel.



But at the center was Jesus. He just seemed more accessible to me the way these Lutherans told the story.

"O come, O come, Emmanuel"—God with us. I hadn't known the meaning of the name Emmanuel before. "God with us" rang in my ears—a soul awakening to the notion the Baby in the manger wasn't just a story, but the Changer of the world Who ransomed me away from the sin that bound me to a life of unease.

Jesus' birth, life, and death seemed more significant the more time I spent with people who actively sought to know Jesus and to read what the Bible said about Him.

That Christmas I heard new carols—as well as Handel's *Messiah* for the first time. My heart soared with the words. Even today, the chorus of "Hark the Herald Angels Sing," shimmers with joy. I remember the piney smell of evergreen wreaths mixing with the rosy scent of candles lit to celebrate birth. The Advent wreath symbolized a church body looking forward to salvation and rejoicing along the way.

And there in the middle, the focus of all, was Jesus—confounding all mankind with the simplicity of His birth, the humility of His coming, and the promise of redemption.

I staggered all through that first Christmas alive to the gospel. Everywhere I turned, the halos shone, the angels sang, the shepherds celebrated.

And so did I. ■

**Michelle Ule** is the biographer of Kathleen "Biddy" Chambers (Mrs. Oswald Chambers: The Woman Behind the Bestselling Devotional, Baker Books, 2017) and the author of *A Poppy in Remembrance* (CreateSpace, 2018), a WWI coming-of-age novel featuring Oswald and Biddy Chambers as characters. You can learn more about Michelle at [www.michelleule.com](http://www.michelleule.com).



# God Moves in a Mysterious Way

is  
this the  
right  
road  
home?

by Rosalind Goforth



In 1888, Hudson Taylor, the founder of the China Inland Mission, warned new missionary appointees Rosalind and Jonathan Goforth of the anti-foreigner sentiments prevalent in the North Honan region. He said: "If you would enter that Province [Honan], you must go forward on your knees." Taylor's warning proved to be true. The anti-foreign sentiments held by the people in the province of Honan, China, proved to be an obstacle to missionary work. Eventually, the mission was able to thrive and began to establish hospitals and work with the people in the region. This is an excerpt from an article written by Rosalind.

**T** rue it is that "God moves in a mysterious way His wonders to perform." In all of these thirty-six years of proving God's greatness in China in hard pioneer service, perhaps no other incident that I can recall ever brought to me the sense of the close presence and His love and tender compassion for His children.

It was in the late winter of 1922. My husband and I had spent the winter leading a band of Chinese evangelists, men and women, through a region most terribly affected by the great famine of 1921. When we reached the out-station, I found myself struggling with a

terrible cold which seemed to grip every part of my being. We found the place we were to live in was a veritable ice house of a barn. A bitter north wind swept through dozens of holes in the roof and walls. The floor was of damp earth. Outside a misty rain kept falling. Then came, unexpectedly, three hungry missionary travellers, who left us with our supplies depleted.

After these friends departed, I felt a sense of deep depression. Too ill to go to the meeting, I paced the rough earthen floor, longing oh so intensely for some place where I could get warm. As I paced as quickly as



my strength would permit, I looked up and cried, "Oh, God, why, oh, why should I be called to bear such hardness when so many of my sisters know nothing of a life like this?"

Yes, that great "WHY?" seemed for a moment to eclipse everything else. Just then a man appeared at the door with a box and letter. It seemed that our friends who had just been with us, on reaching home, had their wives make up a box of fresh provisions. They had seen into our circumstances and had sent things to us at once.

As I began to unpack the box, I took out a bottle of grape juice which was wrapped in an old torn paper. I saw it was a copy of *The Life of Faith*, five years old. My eyes were attracted by a little poem [published anonymously]; and, oh, the thrill of hope and joy and peace which came as I memorized the words:

*Is this the right road home, O Lord?  
The clouds are dark and still,  
The stony path is hard to tread,  
Each step brings some fresh ill.  
I thought the way would brighter grow,  
And that the sun with warmth would glow,  
And joyous songs from free hearts flow.  
Is this the right road home?*

*Yes, child, this very path I trod,  
The clouds were dark for Me,  
The stony path was sharp and hard.  
Not sight but faith, could see  
That at the end the sun shines bright,  
Forever where there is no night,  
And glad hearts rest from earth's fierce fight,  
It IS the right road Home!*

This timely and blessed message lifted me out of hopelessness and into a place of sweet rest in God which carried me through the weeks that followed till we reached the main station, where loving hands nursed me back to health and strength. ■

**Rosalind Goforth** (1864-1942), missionary and author, was born in London, England, but moved to Montreal, Canada, at the age of three. She married Canadian Presbyterian minister Jonathan Goforth in 1887. In 1888, they were sent to pioneer missionary endeavors in North Honan (current day Henan, China). Their work there was difficult, and they lost five of their eleven children to sickness. Their time in China, and later Manchuria, spanned more than 40 years.

This excerpt from an article written by Rosalind Goforth is quoted in an online article by Elizabeth Drudge, "Stories about the Songs in 'Echoes of Triumph #3: Is This the Right Road Home?'" ([www.echoes-of-triumph-songbooks.com](http://www.echoes-of-triumph-songbooks.com)).

# Letters

## TO THE EDITOR

Letters should be emailed to [revivalist@gbs.edu](mailto:revivalist@gbs.edu) or addressed to the Editorial Office, 1810 Young Street, Cincinnati, OH 45202. Letters reprinted here do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the editor of God's Revivalist nor those of the administration of God's Bible School. Names and locations of writers will be withheld at their specific request or at the discretion of the editor. We reserve the right to edit and condense.

I am 89 and still am blessed with the articles I read in *God's Revivalist*!

HOWARD VANMETER  
Leitchfield, KY

Thank you for *God's Revivalist*! Please renew my subscription for four more years. It is my favorite periodical!

CAROL WEST  
Gentry, MO

Your publication has continued to improve with each year of existence! Thanks for promoting issues of great importance. May God bless this publication and institution advocating holy living.

LOIS COLE  
Maryville, TN

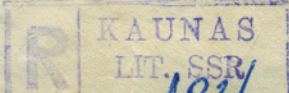
I particularly enjoyed the issue dedicated to Dr. Allan Brown and reading his (and his wife's) biography. I had the privilege of sitting in both of their classrooms at Hobe Sound Bible College in the mid-80s to early 90s. I've often said I wish I could go back as an adult and sit in those classrooms and just listen to all I heard back then. I've been so thankful for the opportunities I've had to hear Dr. Brown speak at various settings (revivals, camp meetings, Youth Challenge, marriage summits, etc.) over the years, and I hope to have many more. No words can express the gratitude I have for his life and ministry.

MARY ELLEN (OLSEN) HUFF  
Hobe Sound, FL

We so much enjoyed the *God's Revivalist* that featured Dr. Allan Brown. We so enjoy his writings and sermons. We love GBS and pray for you all.

JUDY (RODGERS) BINGAMAN  
North Pole, AK

NOVEMBER 2021





# KEEPING



# TIME WITH GOD

## The Christian Year, Part 3

# Christmas and Epiphany

*God With Us*

*Continuation of a Yearlong Series*

*by Larry D. Smith*

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## December 25, 2021, CHRISTMAS DAY

*The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ. Christmastide continues 12 days through January 5.*

## January 6, 2022, EPIPHANY

*The revelation of Christ to the Gentiles; the coming of the Magi. Epiphanytide continues through March 1.*

It was a frosty Christmas Eve many years ago, and worship services were being held in churches throughout Holland. In one of these, a noble old sanctuary in Amsterdam, the congregation was filing into the pews as the great pipe organ in the loft above filled the hallowed space with soaring melody. But there was little excitement about the sermon they were soon to hear, for the announced preacher was known to be harsh, negative, and condemnatory. Sure enough, he mounted the pulpit steps and launched into a tedious harangue on the horrors of sin, hellfire, and damnation.

So his hearers fidgeted, twisted, and moaned as the preacher droned on and on. No one knew how to confront the situation—no one, that is, but the organist who, barely before the sermon ended, struck a thunderous chord upon his magnificent instrument, then began to play loudly the most joyous and exciting Christmas music in his repertoire.

“Faster! faster! faster!” someone urged the boys hired to pump air into the organ’s pipes and reeds. They quickly re-

sponded, working the bellows more vigorously than ever before, thus enabling the organist to pull out more stops and attack his keyboards with increasing volume, majesty, and excitement. Soon the walls of that old church were echoing with exalted and swelling music. “Hallelujah! The kingdom of this world has become the Kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ. And He shall reign forever and ever! Hallelujah!” So the congregation left that evening with beaming smiles, humming the glorious music still pouring out the open doors, greeting each other with all the joys of Christmas, and rejoicing that Jesus Christ had come to us in Bethlehem.

It is true, of course, that somber topics of great scriptural significance must be clearly and sensitively addressed, but Christmas Eve is a time for joyful celebration, not vehement condemnation. On that night we join Christians all over the world to give thanks for the Incarnation of Our Lord Jesus Christ, the eternal Son of God, Who in Mary’s womb took upon Himself our flesh, and became forever one of us.



This was all according to the will of His Father, Who freely gave us His Son so that He might “suffer death upon the cross for our redemption,” as the old prayer book communion service affirms. So as we kneel beside those rustic shepherds, we murmur Charles Wesley’s words: *“Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; Hail the incarnate deity! Pleased as man with men to dwell, Jesus our Immanuel!”*

All this we gladly affirm at every service of Christian worship. But we do so now with special fervor as we commemorate Christmas Day, which is observed by most Christians on December 25. This is the festival of the Nativity of Our Savior, Jesus Christ; but in our observance of the Christian Year, Christmas is also a season lasting twelve days, traditionally known as “Christmastide,” and ending with the great festival of the Epiphany on January 6.

“The early Christians of the East celebrated the birth of Christ on January 6 (they converted a pagan celebration of the birth of a god on this date into the birth of Jesus since the birthday of Jesus is not known),” as Dr. Robert Webber explains. “In the West, Christians began to celebrate Christmas on December 25 (they converted the pagan festival of the Invincible Sun into the birth of Jesus). Eventually these two dates became the boundaries of the Christmas season, with the celebration of the birth of Jesus on December 25 representing the beginning of the festival, and the celebration of the manifestation of Christ to the world through the visit of the Magi on January 6 (Epiphany) representing the end of the Christmas festival.”<sup>1</sup>

As we rejoice in the glory of this sacred season, we ponder again the mystery of the Incarnation—how that Our Lord Jesus, God the Son, became fully human, while remaining fully God, so that He might become the mediator of our salvation, bringing sinful man and a holy God together again in relationship, as Dr. Mark Bird, professor of systematic theology at God’s Bible School and College, explains. He notes that there were various opinions, even heresies, in the ancient Church about this essential doctrine of our Faith; but in the year AD 451, the famous Council of Chalcedon, after careful deliberation, appealing to Scripture and the “holy fathers” of antiquity, issued the Chalcedonian Definition, which is still considered the standard of Christian orthodoxy.

“It affirmed five basic things,” Dr. Bird continues. “(1) Christ’s divine nature is everything God is. He is ‘perfect in divinity’ and thus possesses all the attributes of God. (2) Christ’s human nature is everything that man is (except being sinful). He is ‘perfect in humanity.’ This means He has both a human body and a human soul, just like we do. (3) The Incarnate Son is one person. He is not divided into

two persons. He lives and acts as a single person. His two natures are undivided. (4) In the union of the divine nature and the human nature, the natures remain distinct and unchanged. There is no mixing of the natures to produce some sort of third nature. Christ’s two natures are ‘unconfused.’ They remain one hundred percent divine and one hundred percent human. (5) The divine-human union is permanent—never to be separated even into eternity. The two natures are ‘inseparable.’”

All this may seem complicated, but upon the truth defined so carefully at Chalcedon rests the hope of our salvation. It also explains why Christmas is so essential to the Christian Year, as we keep time with God, humbly tracing the life of His dear Son. The 12 days of Christmas lead us directly to the great festival of the Epiphany, on January 6, marking the coming of the Wise Men or Magi. This is significant because on this day the Church celebrates Jesus’ first “manifestation to the Gentiles,” that is, to non-Jewish people; and as such, Epiphany points to the Great Commission He has given us to lift up His name everywhere.

“The time after Epiphany may be as short as four weeks and as long as eight weeks, depending on the date of Easter.... The time after Epiphany is marked by two special events, one on the first Sunday, the other on the last. The first Sunday celebrates the baptism of the Lord, and the last His Transfiguration.... It is also a good season for evangelism and missions, since the theme of the texts continue to express various ways in which Christ is manifested as the One Who has come to save the world.”<sup>2</sup>

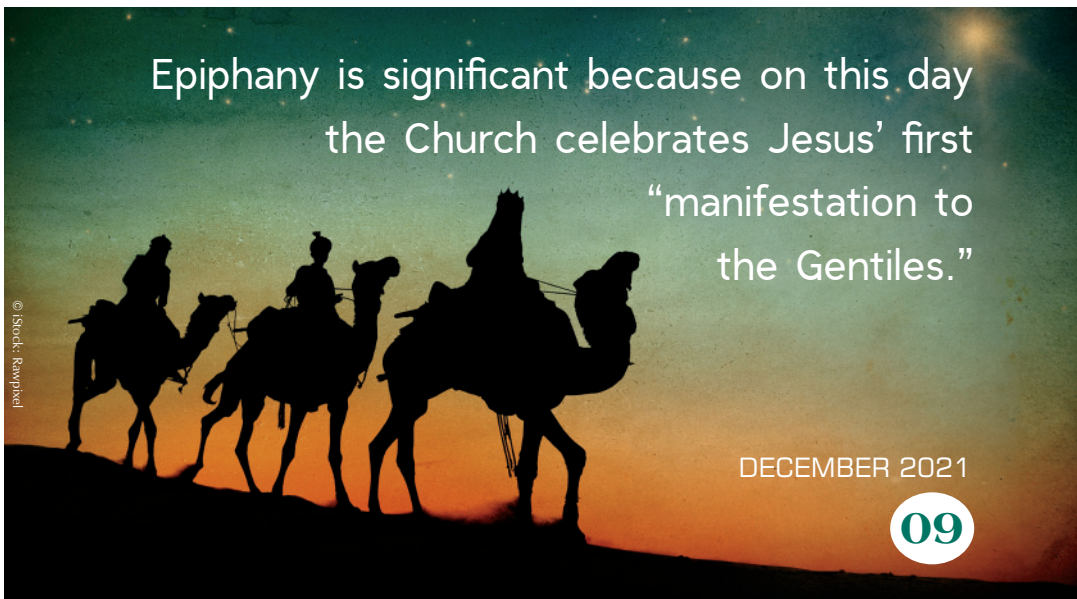
Yes, it’s Christmas once again. So let’s pump the organ with renewed vigor, pull out all the stops, and join the joyous melody! Faster, faster, faster! *Hallelujah! The Lord God omnipotent reigneth! Hallelujah!* ■

*(The next installment will focus on Ash Wednesday and Lent.)*

**Dr. Larry D. Smith** served as a GBS instructor and editor of God’s Revivalist from 1995 until his retirement in 2016. He lives in Cincinnati, OH, with his wife, Carol (Wiseman) (’78 BA).

1. Webber, Robert. *The Complete Library of Christian Worship*. Peabody, MA: Hendrickson Publishers, 1995. Vol. 5: *The Services of the Christian Year*, p.158.
2. *Ibid.*, p.209.

Epiphany is significant because on this day  
the Church celebrates Jesus’ first  
“manifestation to  
the Gentiles.”



DECEMBER 2021





## ALDRSGATE FORUM

Aldersgate Forum met at Higher Ground Conference and Retreat Center in West Harrison, IN, October 26-28. Dr. Tom McCall from Asbury Theological Seminary presented three plenary sessions based on his 2019 Crossway book, *Against God and Nature: The Doctrine of Sin*. Attendees received a free copy of Dr. McCall's book as part of their forum registration.



Dr. Tom McCall at the forum

Responses to the book were given by Drs. Phil Brown, Stephen Smith, David Fry, Brian Black, and Andrew Graham. On Thursday morning, the GBS faculty shared with the forum what they believe and teach about the doctrine of sin, followed by a question/answer session and discussion.

About 40 people attended the forum, which included times

of fellowship as well as lectures and discussions. Cheryl Watters, Kara Watters, and Brenda Miles assisted as hostesses.

Next year's forum will be meeting October 25-27, 2022, at Higher Ground Conference and Retreat Center with guest plenary speaker Dr. Hans Madueme. The forum will be focused on interpreting and preaching Genesis 1-11, with sessions related to creationism, evolution, and the historical Adam.



# REVIVALIST FAMILY

*On these pages, we feature items about GBS alumni, significant events scheduled throughout the "Revivalist Family," and brief news notes from across the Holiness Movement.*

## WEDDINGS



The couple live in Florence, KY.

**Emily Covert (2020-current) to Caleb King (2020)**, August 1, at the city hall in Cheviot, OH, with Ralph Winkler officiating. Caleb is a Chick-fil-A assistant manager. Emily serves as a personal assistant while she finishes her GBS classes online.



**Christiana ("Christi") Frederick (HS '15, BA '19) to Matthew Potter (BA '17)**, November 5, at Latonia Baptist Church, Covington, KY, with Revs. Keith Waggoner II and Mark Potter officiating. Parents of the bride are long-term GBS staff/faculty

members Dave and Charlotte (Potteiger) Frederick. Matthew is an Access Coordinator at The Christ Hospital, Cincinnati, OH, and Christi is Program Manager and Executive Assistant at Aviatra Accelerators, Covington, KY. The Potters live in Southgate, KY.

## DEATHS



**Robert Warren Keep**, 76, of Moneta, VA, stepped into the glories of heaven on Saturday, June 19, 2021. "Bob" was born to James and Velma (Brown) Keep on June 29, 1944, in Ypsilanti, MI. Theirs was not a Christian home until Bob was in his late teens. However, a Sunday school teacher by the name of "Uncle Frank" would pick up Bob and his siblings each Sunday and take them to a Grand Rapids Free Methodist Church. During and following his years in high school, he was involved in ROTC,



## FRIEND AND SIBLING DAY

Friend and Sibling Day 2021 was a great time for friends, siblings, and students alike to enjoy each other's company and share what life on the Hilltop is like. We were honored to host around 20 potential students along with their families for the event.

After the guests arrived on October 26, they were taken on a tour of campus, followed by a trip to

Skyline Chili for its world-famous and unique chili/spaghetti mix, and a trip to a city lookout at a local park. Some chose to participate in the college intramurals that evening, and snacked on pizza and specialty "handcrafted sodas" out of the snack bar.

The following day, the students enjoyed a local coffee shop, sat in on some classes, and participated ➡



but a call to preach led him to Bible college. In 1964, Bob enrolled at GBS (1964-67). While there, he met fellow student Grace Hickman (1966). They married on March 25, 1967. He later transferred to Allegheny Wesleyan Methodist College in Salem, OH, where he received a ThB.

In 1970, the Keeps returned to Cincinnati where Bob supported his growing family by working in The Christ Hospital emergency room. In 1971, Bob began his pastoral ministry and served in Michigan, West Virginia, Ohio, Washington, and Pennsylvania, building churches and parsonages in several of these pastorates. The three Keep children all attended Union Bible College and Academy, where they met and married their spouses—all of whom were children of James and Sue Keaton. In 1991, James Keaton asked Bob to join the UBC team as Dean of Student Affairs. Bob had a great impact on many of the young ministerial students during his six years in that role.

Bob spent his last nine working years as an over-the-road truck driver in order to enable his wife to care for their aging parents. Retirement found Bob and Grace living near their son Tim and his family in Ohio. A move to Moneta, VA, in 2018, enabled Bob and Grace to be near their other two children (Janel and Dave) and their families. Bob thoroughly enjoyed hunting, camping, boating, and fishing. He had a positive impact on the people he met, and he dearly loved his children and grandchildren and spent quality time with them.

Bob is survived by his wife of 54 years, Grace; daughter, Janel Keaton; sons, Timothy and Dave; 16 grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren; his brother, Richard; and many wonderful friends. Services were held at EastLake Community Church, Moneta, VA, with the Rev. Travis Johnson officiating.

**Elizabeth "Liz" Nelson**, 78, of Oakland City, IN, passed away September 15, 2021, at Riverwalk Village in Noblesville, IN. She was born in 1943 to Eugene ➡



➡ in a downtown “escape room” experience. The day ended with the annual harvest party hosted by Student Government. The GBS family was happy to give prospective students a taste of college life at GBS in the great city of Cincinnati!

### HARVEST PARTY

The annual Harvest Party was held at the Justice Farm on the evening of October 27. Bill and Janet Justice and their family have been very gracious to open their farm and home to our campus family for many years. Highlights of the evening included “walking tacos” (with various fixings mixed

into single-serving bags of tortilla chips), a bonfire, and a pumpkin carving contest. About twenty contestants plied their skills to compete for gift cards to various restau-



## REVIVALIST FAMILY continued

➡ and Avis (Jenkins) Sharp. She spent her early years in Somerville but lived most of her life in Oakland City. In 1964, Liz married Gerald “Corky” Nelson. She worked in the cafeteria at Gibson General Hospital until her retirement in 2009. She enjoyed gardening, cooking, researching family history, listening to her grandchildren’s many musical abilities, and visiting with family.



Liz is survived by her son, Theron Nelson-Mercer, son-in-law, James Kessen (BA ’90); seven grandchildren; sister, Betty (Sharp) Lepeau; brothers, Robert and Gerald Sharp; and many nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her husband, Gerald, and daughter, Cassandra “Cassie” Kessen (BRE ’88). After years of harboring bitterness over her daughter’s death, Liz made her peace with God before she died. She was a GBS donor and a *God’s Revivalist* subscriber. A number of her grandchildren also attended GBS: Crystal (Kessen) Powers (BA ’15), Hollie (Kessen) Hosier (BA ’17), Heather Kessen (BA ’19), and Candace Kessen (AA ’20).

A funeral service was held at Corn-Colvin Funeral Home in Oakland City with Rev. Amber Cook officiating. Burial followed at Somerville Cemetery in Somerville, IN.



**Richard Jay Raines**, 88, of New Castle, IN, went to be with the Lord, October 14, 2021, while at home surrounded by his family. He was born on March 23, 1933, in Lansing, MI, the son of the late Jay and Irene Raines. Richard served in the Heavy Artillery Division of the U.S. Army (1953-55) during the Korean War. On New Year’s Day 1954, he married the love of his life, Mary Ellen Bush.

The Raineses pastored churches for 55 years including missionary service in Grand Bahama, Dominica, and Blind River, Ontario, for 28 years. Richard was an active member of the Pilgrim Holiness Church in New Castle. He enjoyed fishing, woodworking, gardening, and fixing things with his hands. Most of all he loved people.

Surviving Richard are his wife, Mary; five children, Tom, Linda Davison, Don, Rob, and Cheryl Belcher; 17 grandchildren; 21 great-grandchildren; sister, Dora Metzmaker; adopted brother, Darwin Lamoreaux; and numerous nieces and nephews. Funeral services were held at Sproles Family Funeral Home in New Castle with Pastor Don Raines, Associate Pastor Cale Manley, and Rev. Don Davison officiating. Burial followed at South Mound Cemetery West Lawn Addition with military honors conducted by the United States Army and American Legion.



rants. Interacting with the farm's horses was an added bonus. The attendees, which included visitors from Friend and Sibling Day, also enjoyed playing various games, such as Cornhole, Spikeball, and Nine Square in the Air. ■



Richard's children Don (BRE '85), Linda (1984), and Cheryl (1995) attended GBS, as did a number of his grandchildren. Linda's husband, Don Davison (BRE '83) served in GBS public relations for many years.



**Winston Wehrman, 87, of**

Independence, KY, ended his earthly sojourn on October 31, 2021. A GBS alumnus (BA '58) and missionary to Papua New Guinea, his obituary, biography, and tributes can be found on pp.22-23.



**John Clarke Poe, 95, of Loveland,**

OH, died November 2, 2021. He was married to the late Jean (Collins) Poe. He is survived by his daughters Judy Von Elkins and Joyce Lynn Cremeans; four grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren. John supported GBS, and both daughters attended the school: Judy (1971) and Joyce (1977).

A funeral service was held at Tufts Schildmeyer Family Funeral Home, Loveland, OH. Interment with military honors followed at Rest Haven Memorial Park, Evendale, OH. The family requests that memorial contributions be directed to The Gideons International, PO Box 97251, Washington, DC 20090-7251 or God's Bible School and College.



**Harold E. Fourman, 80, of Port Clinton, OH,** entered into the joy of the Lord on Saturday, November 6, 2021, surrounded by his family who sang him into glory. He was born July 28, 1941, in Arcanum, OH, the son of Leonard and Eunice (Phipps) Fourman. On October 9, 1960, he married his sweetheart, Kayetta F. Welbaum. Harold became general manager of Champaign Landmark, a farm product raw material merchant wholesalers industry. He held that position until his retirement. He served GBS as a trustee from 1993 to 2000, and from then to present as internal auditor. In this capacity he institutionalized a robust system of accounting and budgeting at the school. Kayetta assisted him in the financial office at GBS. All three of his children attended GBS and met their spouses there: Teresa Cravens (1981-85), Krista Jeffries (1992-93), and Deron Fourman (BRE '90). Teresa served in several capacities at GBS (2005-18), including business manager, and her husband Mark was on the ministerial faculty (2006-11, 2014-19) and continues as a college adjunct. Many of Harold's grandchildren are also GBS alumni. In addition to lending his financial expertise to GBS, Harold also helped many churches across the country audit their books. He was proud to be a member of the Bible Methodist Church in Port Clinton.

Surviving are his wife Kayetta; daughters Teresa Cravens, Krista Jeffries; son Rev. Deron Fourman; ten grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; and siblings Bruce Fourman and Alice Martin. Funeral services were conducted at the Neidecker, Crosser & Priesman Funeral Home, Port Clinton, officiated by Harold's son-in-law, Rev. Mark Cravens, and son, Rev. Deron Fourman. Interment followed in Newcomer Cemetery, Arcanum, OH. ■





# CAMPUS IMPROVE

There are many exciting improvements that have been accomplished on campus this past year. We believe that each generation must preserve and enhance the facilities that God has entrusted to us. This is accomplished through careful planning and sacrificial giving. As we highlight a few of the improvements, we would like you to rejoice with us, but also know that we are thankful for many of you who gave to help us accomplish these tasks.

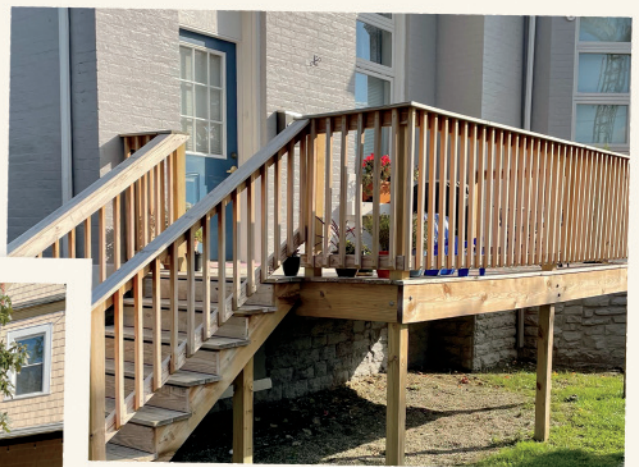
## Window Replacement

This year we focused on replacing old, inefficient windows. As you can imagine, this is a multi-year project. This year we were able to replace the windows in the Women's Residence Hall. We are appreciative for Arender Premier Installers who replaced them at cost. We have also replaced the windows in the back half of the Standley Administration Building (shown top left).

## Property Acquisitions and Remodeling

Recently we were able to purchase several properties. These include a single-family home at 414 Carmalt Street, and the apartment/condo building at 548/550 Carmalt. Most of these were subjected to extensive remodeling.

We were also able to remodel a few of the current residences that we use for employee housing, including the complete remodeling of two houses



CONSTRUCTION

GOD'S REVIVALIST and BIBLE

CONSTRUCTION





(535 and 537) on Channing Street. We also replaced old, deteriorated decks on five of our residences and erected a landscape retaining wall in a common-use area of campus between two Young Street residences (bottom photo p.14).

## Resealing Brick

One of the major preventative maintenance items we were able to accomplish was the sealing of our brick buildings. As you know, one of the marks of this storied campus is its brick buildings, one of which has been here since our beginning; others are nearly a century old. The key to ensuring the longevity of these buildings is to apply a high-quality sealant. We were able to seal the Knapp Memorial Building (Men's Residence Hall), Revivalist Memorial Building (Women's Residence Hall), Miller-Deets Student Center, Flexon Memorial Library, and the Standley Administration Building this year.

## Continuing Restroom Renovation

As you are probably aware, we have been engaged in a long-term project to renovate all of the common restrooms in the Women's Residence Hall. This year we were able to complete the final restroom on the first floor (guest floor). In last year's December issue of *God's Revivalist*, we asked for your financial support to complete this project, and you responded. Thanks!





# CONSTRUCTION! CONSTRUCTION!



## Painting

Hundreds of gallons of paint are used each year to keep our facilities looking good. Painting has at least two immediate impacts—in addition to beautification, it also is a preventative maintenance as it protects the surfaces from deterioration. Several houses were painted (such as 1800 Josephine Street, shown left) as well as many of our high-traffic, common-use areas on campus. The stairwells in both the residence halls were repaired (plaster cracks and drywall breaks fixed) and then repainted.

## Equipment Upgrades

We were delighted to be able to upgrade some of our old and inefficient kitchen equipment. By the end of this year, our serving lines, ovens, and salad bar equipment will be completely new! We also have redecorated the student area, making it more attractive.

In addition to these visually apparent upgrades, a number of locations have had their heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) units replaced: Aldersgate Christian Academy, Gale Center, and classrooms in the lower level of the Knapp Memorial Building. By the end of the year, we will have also replaced every air conditioning unit in the Knapp Memorial Building—a large project indeed!



# CONSTRUCTION!



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### Miscellaneous Items

Of course, there are a myriad of other things happening around campus. The facilities crew continues to work with the campus "Fix-It" System. In the past 12 months, they have successfully addressed and closed nearly 1700 "fix-it" requests. That is a load in and of itself!

Additionally, there are always miscellaneous projects being tackled. Whether it is installing permanent, built-in closets in the Men's Residence Hall, soundproofing the wall between Classrooms A and B, refurbishing several chapel chairs that were coming apart (we purchased 200 seat covers for future repairs), or refinishing the front doors of some of our buildings (Standley Administration Building and 1803 Young Street), there are always improvements taking place! 📌



## OPPORTUNITY TO PARTICIPATE

Without your loyal assistance, we could not accomplish these projects. The "Revivalist Family" is made up of faithful GBS supporters who have stood beside us and made it possible for us to move forward for over a century. While we have made many improvements and updates on our campus, the most important thing has remained the same: Our purpose has not changed and our mission is clear—training students to do the work of ministry. So many of you have been faithful in giving to help us train students, and for this we are thankful. Every gift directly or indirectly supports all students on this campus and impacts every future ministry to which God has called them.

A gift of \$25, \$50, \$100, or \$500 would mean a great deal to the school. Gifts of any amount would be so much appreciated and go a long way in meeting the needs that are facing us at this time.

Maybe you would like to give a significant year-end gift that not only helps GBS but also could benefit you at tax time.

To make a donation by check, send it to 1810 Young Street, Cincinnati, OH 45202. To donate by credit card or give online, visit [www.gbs.edu/givenow](http://www.gbs.edu/givenow); or you may call the school at 1-800-486-4637 and ask for the Development Office.

Thank you for standing with us!

President Rodney Loper

GOD'S BIBLE SCHOOL  
& COLLEGE

DECEMBER 2021



## Dear Phil

Prayer as “forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors.”

Thus, there are three terms that Jesus uses when directing his followers to pray for forgiveness: debts, trespasses, and sins. My best understanding is that they all mean the same thing. Whether it is sin, trespass, or debt, Jesus has in mind violations of God’s will. Given the way the words sin and trespass are used in the NT, Jesus most likely has in mind intentional violations of God’s word, or as it is often phrased, “willful transgressions of a known law of God.” So, the answer to your second question is, “No, the ‘trespass’ form of the Lord’s Prayer is not Roman Catholic, but broadly shared by English Catholics, Anglicans, Lutherans, and Methodists.”

This topic raises another question. Why would Jesus teach His disciples to pray “forgive us our sins,” if he expected His disciples to “go and sin no more?” A couple options are available; both may be correct. First, given the shortness of the Lord’s Prayer and the nature of its structure, it is likely that Jesus was providing His disciples a framework for prayer, not primarily a prayer to repeat verbatim. By a framework for prayer, I mean that each of the petitions directs us to topics that deserve our focused attention when we pray. Second, the petition “forgive us our sins” clearly conditions the request for forgiveness on whether we have forgiven others (“forgive us...as we have forgiven”). Obviously, others aren’t sinning against us constantly. It seems likely that this petition’s purpose is two-fold: to motivate us to self-inspection and repentance (if necessary), and to remind us that we must forgive others if we desire to be forgiven.

Blessings,  
Phil ■

**Dr. A. Philip Brown II** is the Graduate Program director and a member of the ministerial faculty at God’s Bible School and College.

## “TRESPASSES” OR “DEBTS” IN THE “LORD’S PRAYER”?

**Why do people quote the Lord’s Prayer as “forgive us our trespasses” when Jesus said “debts?” Isn’t this the Roman Catholic version of the Lord’s prayer? —Janet**

Dear Janet,

Thanks for the question. I’ve learned a few things working on the answer.

First, I was reminded of the importance of context. You’re right that Matthew’s version of the Lord’s Prayer uses the word “debts” (*opheilema*; Matt. 6:12). The question is, “What does Jesus mean by ‘debts?’” In the next two verses after the Lord’s Prayer, Jesus says, “For if ye forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you: But if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses” (Matt. 6:14-15). The word trespass (*paraptoma*) means “a violation of moral standards” (BDAG) or “a deviation from living according to what has been revealed as the right way to live,” i.e., sin or transgression (Friberg). Jesus’ explanation helps us see that in context “forgive us our debts” is the same as “forgive us our trespasses.” If we have any remaining doubts on this point, we can look at Matthew 18:21-35 where Jesus illustrates the need for forgiveness of sins with a parable about a debtor whose vast debt was forgiven by his king.

Second, I was also reminded that the parallel account in Luke 11

uses a different wording: “Forgive us our sins, for we ourselves also forgive everyone who is indebted to us” (Luke 11:4). In this version of Jesus’ prayer, Luke uses the standard Greek word for sin (*hamartia*) for the first part of the petition and the word for “debtor” in the second part. This confirms our understanding that by “debts” Jesus meant sins.

Third, I learned that the Lord’s Prayer in Matthew was first translated using the word “trespasses” by William Tyndale in 1526. Tyndale translated it, “And forgeve vs oure treaspases even as we forgeve oure trespassers.” (Yes, that’s how the words were spelled back then!) Tyndale’s translation appears to have been adopted by the 1549 Anglican *Book of Common Prayer*. Because of the wide use of the *Book of Common Prayer*, the “trespasses” form of the Lord’s Prayer became standard in English Catholic, Anglican, and Methodist congregations. Other English versions (Coverdale, Great Bible, Bishop’s, Geneva, King James) did not follow Tyndale and translated Matthew 6:12 using “debts” and “debtors.” For this reason, people who grew up using the KJV, generally learn that line of the Lord’s





## student focus

### BOTH A MOM AND A DAD

A report by Nicholas Zill of the Institute for Family Studies found that 53.1 percent of U.S. high school seniors in 2019 were living with both biological parents, an increase from 51.3 percent in 2016 and 49.7 percent in 2012. This uptick involved multiple racial groups. Zill wrote, "It is too early to say for certain, but growing numbers of actual and would-be parents seem to be heeding the conventional wisdom that a stable, two-parent family helps children flourish educationally, socially, and economically."

### UK METHODISTS CHANGE MARRIAGE STANCE

The Methodist Church of the United Kingdom changed its marriage stance by passing two resolutions approving the blessing of same-sex unions and recognizing cohabiting couples. The 256-45 vote also authorized its ministers to perform same-sex marriages and use Methodist churches for same-sex wedding ceremonies.

### TOWER OF BABEL

On the fifth anniversary of the Ark Encounter, which features a 510-foot-long wooden Noah's ark, founder Ken Ham has announced the expansion of the Bible-themed park in Kentucky will include a Tower of Babel attraction. Mr. Ham

says, "Next year, we will start fundraising for a Tower of Babel attraction...where among other things we will help people understand what genetics research and the Bible say about the origin of all the people groups around the world."

This new aspect of the Answers in Genesis ministry is scheduled to open in three or four years.

### SUPREME COURT TO HEAR CHRISTIAN FLAG CASE

In 2017, the Christian civic organization Camp Constitution requested that the Christian flag be allowed to fly on a city hall flagpole that is open to the public in Boston, Massachusetts. The city has a policy that encourages groups to fly their flags temporarily on the pole in order to "foster diversity and build and strengthen connections among Boston's many communities." However, the city denied Camp Constitution's request because of the flag's religious symbol—a red cross on a blue rectangular background. Liberty Counsel, which is representing Camp Constitution, claims the city's action violated the First Amendment. During the previous 12 years, Liberty Counsel says, the city approved 284 flags—including LGBT pride flags and ethnic flags—while issuing no denials. The lower courts sided with the city. The U.S. Supreme Court has agreed to hear this case, although a date for Supreme Court oral arguments has not been set. ■

**ALYSSA BUTLER** experienced salvation at Rock Lake Youth Camp in Michigan at the age of 14. She grew up in West Terre Haute, IN, where she attended public school and was often ridiculed for her Christian stand. During her junior year of high school, she attended VIP Days at GBS and felt God leading her to GBS. She reports that being at the Bible college has changed her life in many ways. "My relationship with Jesus has never been stronger, and I am surrounded by so many amazing people here on campus. GBS feels like home!" She enjoys singing in the College Choir, exploring Cincinnati with her friends, and trying new foods.

Alyssa is working on a BA in Elementary Education with plans to graduate in 2024. She wants to become the best elementary school teacher she can be. Her main concern for her future is following God's will. "There is nothing I would not do for Him. I am so excited to see where the Lord leads me in life!" ■

**Seventy-five percent of our students receive some form of financial aid which enables them to attend GBS. If you would like to support students with financial needs, you may send a gift to:**

**Student Fund  
God's Bible School and College  
1810 Young Street  
Cincinnati, OH 45202**

**or give online anytime at  
[www.gbs.edu/givenow](http://www.gbs.edu/givenow)**





## — Called Unto Holiness —

*In this space we use writers both past and present to discuss various aspects of Christian holiness.*

### WHY SOME FAIL TO SEE AND OBTAIN THE GREAT BLESSING

*by Beverly Carradine*

*"One of these causes for some people not seeing and obtaining the great blessing is the lack of a clear, definite preaching on the subject."*

**I**t is remarkable, when this doctrine is properly presented, what a flame of holy fire begins to burn at once in many hearts, and how many enter into the gracious experience. On the other hand, the work declines when the pulpit becomes silent. So it blazed in the time of Wesley and Asbury, who constantly pressed it, and so it declined for forty or fifty years because the preachers were silent; and so it swelled again and rolled on in the time of such men as Finney and Inskip, who enjoyed and urged it on the people.

In a large Southern city two persons possessed the blessing of entire sanctification for twenty-five years or more, but they did not proclaim it, and the pulpits were silent at the same time, and there was not a single additional experience. But a few years ago, a preacher conducted a revival meeting at that place, presented the doctrine, and some forty people at once swept into the blessing. This remarkable revival or languishing of the experience conditional upon the faithful preaching and witnessing of God's servants is not to be used as an argument against the strength or divinity of the doctrine. The fact is that the same thing prevails in regard to every doctrine. The knowledge of justification by faith died out in the Church because of not being preached: and there are many doubters today in regard to the doctrine of hell, because we lack the tender, tearful, solemn, and awful preaching that brings conviction.

Two facts have forcibly impressed us. One is that a general kind of preaching on sanctification; or when it is presented as a far-away attainment, as being a vague, endlessly progressive work; that such preaching never awakens opposition, never seems to move the people, and never results in a case of entire sanctification. The explanation of the last fact is evident. What is the use of

struggling for a thing that is not to be obtained? A remarkable proof of the truth of the second work is seen in the fact that it invariably infuriates the devil, is opposed by worldly church members, awakens a great antagonism on one side and as great a hope and pursuit on the other, and results in every case in a number obtaining the blessing. The second fact is that a preacher who has not the blessing of entire sanctification may preach on the subject as often as he will, and two curious results will be observable. First, no one will become offended; and second, no one will obtain the blessed experience.

It is the confession of the experience that so arouses Satan. He is willing for people to declare the fact of the experience, if they will not say that they have it. This accounts for the first result in the above case. As for the second, the failure of the people to enter into the blessing under such preaching is accounted for by a fact that has always been manifest in the spiritual life, and that is that a man cannot lead or lift people higher in the divine life than he has gone himself. Let the reader look where he will, and at whom he will, and tell us what preacher who denies the doctrine of entire sanctification by faith can show us souls rejoicing in purity of heart and perfect love as the result of the preaching of gradual sanctification. While on the other hand there are hundreds of ministers in the land who "press the instantaneous blessing" (Wesley) who can point to two and three hundred witnesses every year. ■

**Beverly Carradine** (1848–1931) was an American Methodist minister and a leading evangelist for the holiness movement. He was a productive author, writing primarily on the subject of sanctification. This article is an edited excerpt adapted from his book, *The Old Man*, Kentucky Methodist Publishing Company, 1896, pp. 254–56.





*GBS alumni are encouraged to submit updates on their lives and current ministries. —KF*

## A GOD-ORDAINED “CHANCE” MEETING AT A SNACK STAND

Wanting to escape the hustle and bustle of day-to-day life in the city center and to take a brief break from some ministry responsibilities in Tegucigalpa, Honduras, we decided to take a family day at a popular mountain tourist area—El Picacho—still within the city, but a nice place to relax and enjoy time away from the normal activities. Before climbing up to the beautiful Jesus statue overlooking the city, we decided to let our children stop for a popsicle at a small food stand. Two of the owners came out and started talking. Over the course of our conversation, one of them found out we were missionaries.

It turned out that this lady had a heart for ministry. She invited me to come and share with some of the women to whom she ministers. I quickly agreed to visit. It wasn't until later that we found out she also had a children's ministry. We exchanged phone information, and it was then we found out the most amazing information! God had ordained this meeting. She showed us a picture on a phone of her son and his wife. We could not believe our eyes! We knew her family!

Her son Abner was my husband Wesley's tutor in the language

school (Rio Grande Bible College) we had attended in Edinburg, Texas. We had him for meals in our home.

Yet, it gets even better! I had taught her daughter-in-law's sister and brother at the GBS academy—about 4,740 miles from Tegucigalpa! It really wasn't until this meeting that I truly understood the statement, “The sun never sets on the students of God's Bible School.” Out of the 1.4 million residents of Tegucigalpa, how had this meeting happened? It had to have been God!

When Elsa and I realized our connection, we cried! God brought us together! Since this time, she has

invited us to her home, and we have had the opportunity to share the gospel using child evangelism!

What an opportunity! A day to relax—a treat at a snack stand—turned into a ministry opportunity we believe was ordained by God. But it started on the campus of GBS!

**Janna (Hooker) Cressman** (BA '01) is a missionary educator serving with her husband Wesley in Honduras (Hope International Missions) since 2015. She previously taught at GBS in both the college and Aldersgate Christian Academy and continues serving as an adjunct professor. The Cressmans have two children: Carter, 3, and Ella, 8.



Top Left: Elsa (right) gives Janna (left) a gift of flowers. Top Right: Wes Cressman and the boys' team win the Bible verse game. Bottom: the original child evangelism group.



## WINSTON WEHRMAN ENDS EARTHLY SOJOURN

*Winston Wehrman, of Independence, KY, passed away October 31, 2021, at the age of 85. He is survived by his wife of 60 years, Joanna; daughters, Brenda Wehrman, Katherine Dendler (BA '91), and Ruth Ann Winters (HS '88, 1989); three sons-in-law; six grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren; extended family and friends. The funeral was held at Community Family Church, Independence, KY, and was viewed online by many in the U.S. and Papua New Guinea. The service was officiated by Rev. Tommy Banks, and various relatives shared personal recollections, songs, and Scripture recitations. A committal service followed for the immediate family.*

*Winston was a GBS supporter and lifetime subscriber to God's Revivalist. He loved to read the Bible; his favorite scripture verses were Psalm 91, Psalm 103, John 14, and Matthew 28:20.*

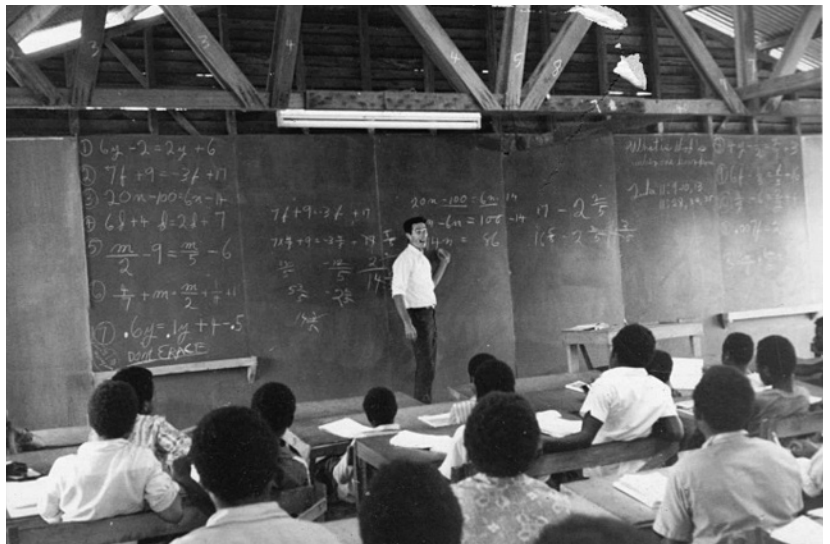
Winston Wehrman was born February 24, 1936, to Arthur and Catherine Wehrman, prosperous Missouri farmers who attended and supported a Fire Baptized Holiness (Bible Holiness) Church. During boyhood, the very energetic Winston was a good student who excelled in math and had a notable entrepreneurial streak. He professed salvation at age seven and entire sanctification at fourteen. After graduation from Independence Bible School, Independence, KS, in 1954, Winston attended the local community college. However, sensing a call from God, he transferred to GBS in 1956. Anna Orndorff (CWC '58, ThB '61, BA '68), also a student during that time, remembers him as "the one who always raised the most money for the GBS Thanksgiving dinners."

While Winston was at GBS, missionary G.T. Bustin came to speak. Bustin was impressed with Winston's zeal and worked behind the scenes to connect Winston with his daughter Joanna, who was in nurse's training in Indianapolis, IN. The two dated three years. Winston completed his BA in 1958, and Joanna completed her RN training in 1960. The two were married shortly thereafter. While Winston taught at Independence Bible School, Independence, KS, he earned an MA in Education from nearby Pittsburgh College.

In early 1964, the Wehrmans boarded a ship for Papua New Guinea to join the missionary work that G.T. Bustin had started there in 1948. (All six of Bustin's children became missionaries.) The Wehrmans were first stationed at Kauapena. In 1971 they moved to Pabrabuk, where Winston founded Papua

New Guinea Bible Institute in 1972 and served as its first principal. Joanna stayed busy practicing medicine in community clinics. Their next move was to coastal Lae, which had a 500-member church and a Christian school. Altogether they ministered in PNG from March 1964 to December 1986 before returning to the U.S., where Winston taught at several different colleges. Joanna served as the GBS school nurse from 1987 to 1989.

In one of his later visits to PNG, Winston was accompanied by his son-in-law, Rev. Scott Winters (husband of his daughter Ruth Ann). Scott made this observation of their time there together: "I got to see him operate in his element. God made him and built him for that calling—for the people of PNG. He embraced the people."



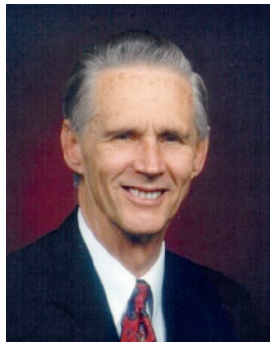
Top: The young Winston Wehrman Family during deputation travels.

Bottom: Winston teaches math to students in Papua New Guinea.



## WINSTON'S SURPRISE

For twenty years my brother Winston Wehrman (BA '58), [see previous page] and his wife were missionaries in Papua New Guinea, where he founded Papua New Guinea Bible Institute at Pabrabuk Station. Many years later, after he had returned to the States, he called to tell me he had received some exciting news.



A missionary and a national were flying over the most remote part of PNG and decided to touch down. The people there had never seen an airplane or white people before, and they all ran away when the plane landed—everyone except one man, who walked up to them and said, “Where are you from?”

“Kaupena,” they replied.

“I know that place. I went to school at Pabrabuk. My name is Richard. I’ve been preaching the gospel here and have 3,000 converts.”

The special part of this story to me is that my brother’s vision for founding the school had been to send out revivalists to the remote areas of Papua New Guinea. He had left the country without ever seeing the results he had anticipated.

Sometimes the fruit of our labors are not visible, or they are not what we thought God would provide. Someday, though, we’ll see that He answered our prayers with much greater wisdom than we could have imagined! —Aletha Hinthorn

## ROANNA THAWLEY EARNS LAW DEGREE

On May 15, 2021, Roanna Thawley (AA '12) graduated summa cum laude, with a Juris Doctor from Cleveland-Marshall College of Law at Cleveland State University. The graduation ceremony was held at Progressive Field, the Cleveland Indians’ stadium. She served as a law clerk at Polito Rodstrom Burke, LLP in Fairview Park, OH, while she prepared for her admission to the Ohio bar. She passed the exam and was sworn into the Ohio Bar as a licensed attorney on November 8, 2021. She will continue with Polito Rodstrom Burke where as an associate attorney she will practice estate planning and settlement, trust law, elder law and Medicaid planning, adoption law, small business planning, and some real estate transactions. Congratulations, Roanna! ■



## GOOD NEWS

by Sonja Vernon

*“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.... Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.” —Luke 4:18-19, 21b (ESV)*

In the last year and a half, we have been inundated with bad news. It’s everywhere. We can’t get away from it. We find ourselves looking for something to lift our spirits, to remind us that everything isn’t as bleak as it seems. The world into which Jesus came was dark too. The people who had been chosen by God were living under Roman rule, their dream of a Messiah seemingly crushed. But then, scattered rumors of good news—an angel, a star, an itinerant preacher who told them He had come to fulfill the promise recorded in Isaiah. It looked nothing like they thought it would, but it was good news indeed! Captives would be freed, the blind made to see, the oppressed set at liberty. What appeared to be tragedy, an untimely death, only led to more good news—resurrection, ascension, and the arrival of the Holy Spirit. And the way was opened for the whole of humanity to enter into the beautiful reality that death had been defeated, man was reconciled to God, and abundant and eternal life was available to all! And with the passing of time, hope continues to rise as the promise nears complete fulfillment. The end of the story is better than we can ever imagine. Everything will be put right at last. Our world is dying for good news. We dare not keep it to ourselves! ■

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God's Bible School & College  
wishes you a

*Merry Christmas!*

