



Monthly Newsletter

February 2013

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### From The Pastor's Pen

Have you ever felt inadequate or insufficient when it comes to living and witnessing for God? I know many times, I bow my head and ask the Lord how could I ever be of use to you? Recently my family and I were greatly encouraged as we were reading through the Gospel of John. In John 1:6-9, God introduces us to John the Baptist and his relationship with the Word (Jesus Christ). First, we are introduced to his nature, "there was a man." Second we are introduced to his authority, "he was sent by God." Third, we are introduced to his name, "John," which interestingly means *the grace of God*. Then finally we are introduced to his purpose in that "he came for a witness."

What is fascinating to me is that when God chooses to speak to mankind and to reach them with His Word, He sends a person. Why would God choose to use you or me in this way? Why not send the angelic host to shout forth the Gospel? Surely this would be more effective; would it not? I believe the answer is that when God uses us to see people saved, grow and mature in their walk with Him-God gets all the glory! He sends that man or woman with all His authority and then empowers them and when people turn to the Lord, He is praised.

What is the application: First, let us surrender ourselves to the Lord and ask Him to use us to be witnesses for Him in our living and in our speech. Second, let us thank the Lord that when He asks us to do something that seems impossible, He empowers us for that task and sends us with all His authority. May God use each one of us for His glory!

*-Lee Peterson*

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### Calendar of Events

- ❖ Men's Prayer every Tuesday at 8:00 am
- ❖ February 9<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> is church clean up
- ❖ Wed. Bible Study begin Feb. 6<sup>th</sup>
- ❖ Small Group Bible Study begin Feb. 24<sup>th</sup>
- ❖ Ladies Bible Study begins Feb 16<sup>th</sup>

### February Birthdays

- ❖ Dirk Stassen-11<sup>th</sup>
- ❖ Holly Elliott- 14<sup>th</sup>
- ❖ Paul Schultz-18<sup>th</sup>

### February Anniversaries

- ❖ Phil and Dorothy van Schoor February 7<sup>th</sup>

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### Announcements

- ❖ Volunteers needed for Sunday School, Crèche, Church Clean-up and Recording Ministry
- ❖ The Peterson family arrived safely in America. Please continue to pray for the Peterson family.

## Counting On You

by Fred.D. Jarvis

"Help! Help!" the victim shouted,  
"Help before I sink and drown."  
The men on board saw his struggle-  
Saw him bobbing up and down.

Quick the lifeguard shed his clothing.  
"Hold the ropes!" he shouted out.  
Down he plunged into the water,  
"I am coming." was his shout.

When at last, with strength exhausted,  
He arrived beside the lad,  
Back he called to those on shipboard,  
"What has happened, are you mad?"

They all looked with consternation  
And each blamed the other man,  
Not a soul had grabbed the life-rope,  
Not one had lent a hand.

Sad, Indeed this awful story,  
What a tragic, sad neglect.  
But some folks at home are guilty  
Of the same thing I suspect.

Far away in distant countries  
We are trying to be true,  
Giving all to tell the story,  
Can we count, my friend on you?

Then by prayer, oh please uphold us  
As we go into the deep.  
Now we pray you will not fail us,  
But your vigil always keep.

Maybe you can't go in person  
To a far-off distant land,  
But by prayer and gifts and interest,  
You can lend a helping hand

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## Works Of God Testimonies

Dear Lakeside Baptist Church

This is just a short note to thank you for the love offering you collected for us, and your commitment to support us while we are serving alongside you in Sedgfield. Your generous gift and willingness to give to the Lord is a blessing and encouragement to us, and we praise God for

your generosity. Your gift will greatly assist us to cover some of the expenses we have incurred as we seek to join you all in a couple of weeks.

We pray that the Lord will richly bless you all for the love that you have demonstrated toward us.

We look forward to seeing you all soon.  
In Christ

*-Elliott Family*

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Dear Lakeside,

I have missed you all so much. Besides being extremely busy and literally freezing (it was -23 degrees C here the other night), life here has been good. I'm studying hard, working diligently, and hoping to come home as soon as I can!

I wanted to share some encouragement with you all that I received this week in one of our daily chapel services. The speaker preached on Psalms 42. It talks about the anguish and despair the psalmist was going through, and the questions he had about why he was going through all that hurt. He repeatedly states, however, that his hope is in God. verse 11 says, "Why art thou cast down, O my soul? and why art thou disquieted within me? hope thou in God: for I shall yet praise him, who is the health of my countenance, and my God." These words and the preacher's message went straight to my heart. There are many things I have been struggling with, one of them being the distance that exists between me and my church family - you all - back home, but I have learnt that nothing helps the pain more than knowing I serve that God that the psalmist was hoping in and praying to.

These last few months in America have helped me grow as a person, but more so as a Christian. Even though the lessons have been tough and some heartbreaking, I am thankful for the opportunity God has given me to grow. His grace and love have been so evident in my life.

I also wanted to add that even though being able to fellowship with likeminded believers on this side of the world has been a great joy, there is nothing like your family in Christ at home. I miss you and love you Lakeside.

Much love and prayer,  
Bianca

*-Bianca Harrison*

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