

"For we preach not ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord." II Corinthians 4:5

Dr. Terry R. Ellis, President | Dr. Ricky Dunsford, Executive Vice President

May and June Newsletter 2018



"That the name of our Lord Jesus Christ may be glorified in you, and ye in him,..." II Thes. 1:12

Dear Pastor, Church and Faithful Supporters,

Nothing in life is more gratifying and fulfilling to know that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ! I trust that you will take time to read II Thes. 1:11-12. We cannot thank the Lord and you enough, for your prayer and faithful monthly support as we continue to be and extension of your missions outreach worldwide.

### Southeast Travel's

The month's of May and June found us much in the vehicle with over 6,000 plus miles travelled in 6 different southeast states updating our supporters in seven Churches, two Missions Conferences, two Camp meetings and one night in a youth camp meeting. The Lord blessed us to see 5 souls saved!

### **International Work Week**

Every year, around the first week of May, our missionaries, who labour in the International Outreach of the Rock of Ages come together for a work week at the main office in Cleveland, Tn. Many of our men are tradesman and save the ministry a great deal of money annual on building, a/c and ground maintenance. It is a wonderful week to be together and cherish each other's friendship, fellowship as we labour together! Field Staff and Advanced Leadership Meetings

This week of meetings is set aside for the leaders of the Rock of Ages Ministries in all departments who serve on field staff. The last two days of the week are for missionaries who may be moving up in leadership rolls as the ministry continues to grow. It is a wonderful week to be challenged by our President and Vice-President from the scriptures concerning leadership.

### News from the West Indies (Island of St. Lucia)

Br. Francis Thomas, is back on the island after having cataract surgery on both eyes. He is doing well and the work in the Bardelais prison continues on a regular basis. In May and June, we have been privileged to see 8 souls saved! The Lord blessed to be able to give out five cases of bibles and gospel literature.

### **Brazil Rock of Ages Conference**

We have been working very diligent concerning the Conference that is schedule to take place the fourth week of August. My, it is very exciting to see the hand of the Lord on the growth of the ministry in the last three years! In May and June, we have seen 50 precious souls come to know Christ as Saviour!

## **Praise and Prayer Request**

Our oldest granddaughter Anna graduated from High School and continues in medical field.

Jonathan and his family have relocated to North Carolina.

Safety in International and domestic travels worldwide.

Power of the God to preach his word and many souls to be saved!

Michael adams

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March April Newsletter 2018

"Moreover it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful." I Corinthians 4:2

Dear Pastor, Church and Faithful Supporters,



## A milestone of the journey

Donna and I would like to start our newsletter giving God all the honour, glory and praise for allowing us by his grace and strength to complete three decades of missionary service with the Rock of Ages Ministries the end of March. We were 32 years of age, 13 years of marriage and three young children when we were accepted as missionaries on April 1, 1988. Many of you have supported us from the very first day and many more have supported us along the way! We don't have words to express our thanks for your faithful prayers and financial support and we rejoice in knowing the fruit that is laid to your account in glory over these many years!

## **Teaching in our Missions School in Tennessee**

March found us traveling to supporting churches and updating them along with teaching in our Missions School at the Rock of Ages Ministries headquarters in Cleveland TN. The Lord blessed us with two new missionary families. We continue to pray that the Lord of the harvest will send forth labourers!

## **Brazil Missions School moves to the Portuguese Language**

In April, we were back in Brazil to teach our third annual Missions School with interpreters being used all three years. This year, 80% of our classes were taught by four of our Brazilian veteran missionaries who have been with us for sixteen years. Next year, 100% of the classes will be taught in their native tongue. That will allow us to accomplish our three-year goal of Missions School taught fully in the Portuguese language as we move forward in the future.

## New Advanced Leadership Training for our Veteran Brazil Missionaries

We held our first Advanced Leadership training classes for our men who lead the ministry. It was a wonderful two days and the Lord challenged each one to have a greater vision to reach their nation. At present, we have seven pastors along with 69 volunteers who work along side our missionaries as an outreach out of the local churches. The volunteer base continues to grow on a monthly basis.

## **Brazilian Rock of Ages Conference in August**

Please pray for the Conference August 22–26, 2018. The President and Vice President of Rock of Ages will join us as we continue to pray the Lord raise up missionaries and volunteers. This Conference allows us to meet new pastors and open doors of opportunity to present the ministry to local churches and see missionaries gain monthly support.

## Countries we are working in and new doors of opportunity

Please continue to pray for us as we work and labour with our missionary families in Brazil, Guatemala and St. Lucia in the West Indies. At present, we have several doors of opportunity in other countries and will be looking to take survey trips to meet with the pastors and churches for partnership in reaching the souls of mankind with the gospel in their countires! Michael adams

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#### **January February Newsletter 2018**

Dear Pastor, Church and Faithful Supporters,

We Praise the Lord for a New Year to serve him as we look toward the eastern sky as our redemption draweth nigh! Could this be the year that he calls his bride home! Until then, may we continue to fulfil the "Great Commission" given to the church as we partner together to reach this world for Christ!

January, we were in the country of the Philippines where we helped establish the work in 1997. It was a blessing to be back in the country for our thirty-sixth time. Some of our national families and workers have been with us now for 15 years! Wow how time flies! They continue to labour in the men and women's prisons on the Islands of Luzon and Negros on a weekly basis as our Prisoner's Bible Institute continues in the institutions! We were honoured to be back with pastors and churches that have supported the ministry there for all these years! We were blessed to be in the Talisay City Jail for services, on the island of Negros and saw 35 men and women prisoners trust Christ as their Saviour! We have some open doors of opportunity there that we would ask you to pray with us as we continue to move forward.

While in the Philippines the last day, I seem to have contracted a parasite that seemed to work on me for about two weeks after getting back home! With some natural remedy's and essential oils, we believe that we were able to solve the problem. There is a first time for everything, but I hope that is the last! Amen!!

February found us at the Alabama Campaign in Montgomery, Alabama with the team labouring in 10 institutions overall. Our mission field that week was Elmore prison with 229 in the three night services with 11 men trusting Christ as Saviour. As is walked up to one man's bunk, with a smile on his face and greeting he gave me, his name was Gordon! He assured me of his eternal salvation through the blood of the Lord Jesus Christ and his request was real! He said, "Preacher, would you please pray for my youngest brother Lawren. I was a bad example to him as being the eldest brother, and I have a genuine burden to see him saved" He said, "There is nothing like the power of the word of God in a persons life, and I'm going to send him some Rock of Ages literature, ask him to read it and ask the Lord to convict his soul and his need of being saved!" (Acts 4:12). Not everyone you meet in prison is lost! Please pray for Lawren! The campaign finished up the week with 241 precious souls saved in all ten institutions! To God be the glory!

As we pen this newsletter, we are preparing daily for our 3rd annual Missions School, that we oversee in Brazil in April of each year, just like the one at our home office in Cleveland, TN. There has been a lot of prayer, preparation, translation and time went into the last three years as to set the bar for the school in the years to come as the ministry continues to grow! We will have our first two-day Advanced Leadership Training for our four veteran Brazilian missionaries of seventeen years as they step up in leadership positions. There are many exciting doors of opportunity as we look to reach the 690,000 plus men and women inmates of that country! Rejoice with us in fruit laid to your account in glory from our 2017 Brazil year ending report.

Prisons Visited: 38

Attendance in Prison Services: 16,224

Total Prison Services: 421 Professions of Faith: 2,672

Donna and I want to thank you for your continued faithful support through the years!

Michael adams



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October - December Newsletter 2017

Dear Pastor Church and Faithful Supporters,

As our pastor was preaching on Christmas eve, the Lord brought this scripture to mind, "But when the fullness of time was come, God sent for his Son,...." Gal. 4:4. Those days were dark, despondent, dismal, discouraging and disappointing times before his coming! Yet, God sent forth his Son wrapped in swaddling clothes lying in a manger to redeem mankind from his sin through the blood of the Lord Jesus!

Two Thousand years later, again we see difficult times where the whole earth is darkened by sin and filled with violence, yet, this time, when he comes, he will be King of Kings and Lord of Lords!! So as we look for his soon return, may we be faithful, as we partner together, to reach a world with the gospel.

The last several months has seen us very busy on the road preaching in Missions Conferences in Georgia, South Carolina and North Carolina. We were blessed to see one young girl walk the isle for salvation at New Grace Baptist Church in Iron Station, NC.

Please pray for us as we plan in 2018 to travel to our supporting churches and rehearse all that God is and has been doing upon the mission fields! Acts 14:27

We were in our staff meeting at the home office in Cleveland, Tn. along with the Christmas Luncheon for many of our staff and families that help to oversee the ministry stateside and worldwide.

The meeting with the Director of the Prison Department in the West Indies, on the island of St. Lucia turned out to be very positive concerning the Rock of Ages continued ministry in the Bardalais Prison. We want to commend Br. Francis Thomas along with our volunteer Br. Frank for their faithfulness there!

The Hill family in Guatemala continues to settle in on the mission field. Br. Josh has already preached in Spanish and is very excited about what the Lord is and will do in the future. Please pray for the entire family as they continue to adjust to culture and environment on the mission field.

Since our ROA Brazil National Conference took place in August, the work has been growing abundantly! I received news from Br. John, our Director there, that 15 ladies received Christ as their Saviour in the women's Christmas prison service in Rebeirao Preto. The greatest gift a person could ever receive! Eternal life in Christ! Fifteen new church volunteers have joined us since the Conference in August!

Our trips next year to Brazil will included teaching in our third annual missions school, advanced leadership training for our leaders, along with training for our church volunteers who work with us on a weekly basis. We will be making trips to St. Lucia and Guatemala as the ministries expand there!

Thanks for allowing us to be an extension of your missions outreach once again this year!

Donna and I would like to take time to thank each of you for the Christmas cards, gifts, Christmas offerings and your continued faithful missions support to us for another year as your missionaries!

We would ask that you continue to pray for our health, wisdom, safety as we travel and a great harvest of souls in the upcoming year! Please pray that God would send forth labourers into his harvest! Matt. 9:38 Happy New Year to all and may the Lord's blessings be upon you is our prayer!

Michael adams