



RUSHMORE NEWSLETTER

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SEPTEMBER 2009

That Changes Everything!

By Louis Rushmore

Unfortunately, Bonnie and I had to cancel our week of teaching in Nepal, which was to have begun October 12th. The American missionary to Nepal sadly informed me that because of a shortfall in funds, which he attributes to the economic downturn, he can neither afford to go to Nepal himself in October nor financially underwrite the planned week of teaching. In lieu of teaching in Nepal, we were invited to teach in a seminar in Bangladesh for a week. However, a similar financial shortfall makes it impossible for us to accept this invitation either. In addition, we have been invited for me to preach and for us to teach in New Zealand, but again insufficient funds make that impossible also at this time.

Presently, though, Bonnie and I still expect to be in several cities in India, Sri Lanka and Myanmar (Burma) in October and in November. We are grateful for the moral support and gracious gifts that we have received thus far to make these missionary trips possible. We covet your prayers. We respectfully request that each reader of this newsletter encourage any and all congregations and brethren across our great brotherhood with whom he or she has any influence to be mission minded. Furthermore, help us make appointments for me to preach about evangelism at various churches, or send me contact information (including phone numbers) for those churches. Remember, our dear Lord preceding his Ascension only gave His followers **one job to do** (Mark 16:15-16)! I'm willing to do that job. Are you willing to help me?

Breaking, Urgent News!

On August 27, we paid **\$5,392** for our plane tickets to India, Sri Lanka, Myanmar (Burma) and back to the United States. A conservative estimate of additional expenditures once we arrive overseas is at least another **\$3,000** (for air and ground travel as well as lodging in India, seminar and outstation meetings in India, necessary expenses while in Sri Lanka and lodging as well as attendant expenses for our three weeks in Burma). To break even with no allowances for unanticipated expenses (e.g., make alternate travel plans abroad due to civil unrest or cancellation of flights, etc.) we are about \$1,000 short. That means we have less than 30 days before our departure to persuade good brethren and congregations to give \$1,000 or more before we begin this present journey on October 7. May God's will be done, and may your will, your prayers and our prayers and will conform to God's will.

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Helping to continue the
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Janet Barrier, Jerry & Paula
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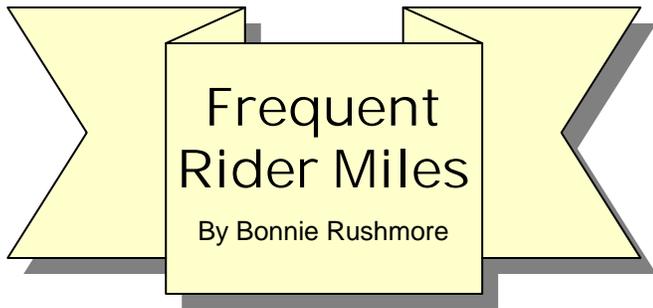
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Louis Rushmore

Gospel Gazette Online, Editor

Voice of Truth International,
Associate Editor



Frequent Rider Miles

By Bonnie Rushmore

It has been said that, “time flies when you’re having fun.” I would like to add to that “time flies when your ‘to do list’ is longer than the hours in a day or the days in a week.” At least that is the way it seems the last few weeks.

Louis and I average about 3,000 miles in the car each month. That’s a total of 30,000 each year after you subtract miles for the 6-8 weeks we spend overseas. Add 25,000 plus flying miles (per trip overseas) for a total of approximately 55,000 miles a year spent sitting on a seat in motion. Most weekends and some Wednesdays find us visiting congregations to tell them about evangelism.

Since our last writing we have visited churches in AL, MS, FL, TN and PA; hosted the annual World Evangelism team meeting; a work crew from the Strickland Church of Christ moved hundreds of boxes of books off the floor onto pallets in the warehouse (a few more hundred boxes still need to be moved) and Prissy Sellers, a wonderful Christian lady, came to spend a couple of days helping in the office. As I write this, we are on the return leg of a trip to Pennsylvania, Ohio and West Virginia. Tomorrow morning Louis will speak in Cynthiana, KY, and tomorrow evening he will speak in Benton, KY. Following services we will drive about three hours to our daughter’s home in Collierville, TN to spend the night. Monday morning, we will drive two hours home completing a ten day journey of 2,900 miles.

Picking up where our last newsletter ended, the last Saturday of June found us in Collierville, TN at Rebecca’s house, placing us close to our Sunday appointments. Sunday morning we worshiped with the East Memphis Church of Christ. Louis had the privilege of teaching the Bible class and presenting the sermon. From there we drove across town to meet with the East Frasier Church of Christ for a 3:00 p.m. service.

July fifth, we left Winona early Sunday morning for Clinton, MS where Louis taught the Bible Class and preached during the worship service. We enjoyed a leisurely lunch with brother and sister Gardner before doing some much needed shopping while waiting for our evening appointment with the Siwell Road Church of Christ in Jackson, MS. As always, we were well received by both congregations.

July 11th and 12th found us in Tuscumbia, AL worshipping with the Spring Valley Church of Christ

Sunday morning. Following lunch with brother and sister Riner at the local Shoney’s restaurant, we steered the car for Jasper, AL. We arrived with time to spare at the Blackwater Macedonia Church of Christ for our evening appointment. As usual, we were well received by both congregations and enjoyed worshipping with the brethren. Words cannot express the appreciation we have for brethren who for many years have and continue to support the work of World Evangelism with prayers, words of encouragement and financially.

Saturday afternoon July 18th, we travelled to Collierville, TN where we spent the night at our daughter’s home in preparation for our morning appointment in Dyersburg, TN. Since Rebecca left Friday morning for Guyana, we did not see her on this trip. We appreciate her willingness to turn her home into a bed and breakfast (even in her absence) when we are passing through the area. Early Sunday morning, we left for the St. Joseph Ave. Church of Christ in Dyersburg, TN where Louis taught the Bible class and preached for the morning worship. Following a period of food and fellowship with brother and sister Stacy, we left for the Bethel Church of Christ in Martin, TN. Occasionally, as we travel about someone will forget to tell the rest of the congregation about our visit. This was one of those occasions. The elder with whom Louis arranged the appointment forgot to inform the preacher or anyone else of the scheduled date. He apologized to the congregation for his memory loss and brother Hutchins was kind to postpone his prepared lesson for a later date. We planned to drive home to Winona following the evening service; however, we lingered long at the restaurant enjoying pizza and fellowship with the Hutchins and opted to spend the night once again in Collierville, TN.

We intended to leave Friday afternoon and take two days to drive to Jacksonville, FL for our July 26th appointment with the Riverview Church of Christ. However, Betty decided to have the carpets in the office cleaned on Friday. We reasoned that one cannot work in an office with wet carpet and left Friday morning for a leisurely drive to Jacksonville. The trip was not all fun and games as we stopped along the way in Montgomery, AL to purchase glue for the bookbinder, and I often work on the laptop as Louis drives. Louis taught Bible class and preached during both worship services. We enjoyed spending time with the congregation and became acquainted with brother and sister Cross. Monday morning we toured Jacksonville Landing while waiting for a lunch appointment with brother Miles Peebles, minister for the Chaffee Road congregation. We left Jacksonville late that afternoon and took two days to drive home.

Over the past three or four months, my mother has been suffering with repeated infections. The middle of July my brother called to say that the doctor ordered a CT scan of the abdomen. The test showed gall stones embedded in her liver and bile duct. We

were quite surprised as she had her gallbladder removed 30 some years ago (the doctors say this is not uncommon). An appointment was scheduled with a surgeon. My brother and I discussed her current medical condition and our concerns with surgery at her age and medical history. Since I am 800 or more miles away, I left the appointment with the surgeon to my brother. He called a few days later to say that surgery was the only option. Laser outpatient surgery was scheduled for August 13th in Erie, PA. Louis and I were planning a trip north to visit mom and contact churches in the area in the middle of September; after evaluating all options, we decided to move that trip to begin August 9th.

On short notice, Louis scheduled an appointment with the Erie (PA) Church of Christ for Wednesday, August 12th. I was impressed with the number and behavior of the teenagers at this congregation. Before services, several teens introduced themselves and welcomed us to the service. After class, several teens commented that they enjoyed the presentation about our work. Louis asked one young man if he wanted to go with us on our next trip. He replied, "After I go to band camp."

Our son, Raymond, and his family were spending the week of August 9-15 at the 4H fair in Hartford, OH. Eli, our 10 year old grandson, was showing two Pigmy goats on Monday. We drove Sunday afternoon and Monday morning August 9-10 to arrive at the fairgrounds around 1:00 p.m. in plenty of time for Eli's competition and a few hours with Nate, Eli, Vanessa and Raymond.

We stopped in Hanoverton, OH late Monday night, Tuesday and Wednesday morning for a short visit with dear friends, Bob and Martha Noland, who always graciously open their home to us. As Martha put it, "Your bed is made for when and as long as you need it." Wednesday afternoon, we drove to Cambridge Springs, PA to visit mom at the nursing home before going to Erie for Bible class.

We met my two brothers, one sister-in-law, sister and mother at the hospital about 8:20 a.m. Thursday morning. Surgery was scheduled for 9:30 a.m. The nurse estimated the procedure to take about 30-45 minutes. About two hours after taking her to the operating room the doctor came to talk with us. The procedure lasted about an hour and a half; he could only remove seven or eight stones of the total of 25 (a record number of gall stones in one individual for him). The doctor felt it was too risky to try to continue. Mom will have the same procedure again on September 2 to try to remove the balance of the stones. Please, keep her in your prayers. We left the hospital about 5:30 p.m. We were delayed by mom's low blood pressure and a lengthy wait for the wheel-chair van to return mom to the nursing home. Friday morning mom was doing well and complaining about the clear broth diet for breakfast.

On this trip to PA, we squeezed in a visit with two

of Louis' brothers, their wives (whom we have not seen in a few years) and his father. We headed to WV from Louis' dad's home to deliver books to Emanuel & Judy Daugherty, arriving almost an hour late due to two traffic jams in construction areas. The Daugherty's kindly invited us to lodge with them Friday night. We enjoyed their hospitality and Louis made a brief visit to Emanuel's train room. Saturday morning, we continued our journey arriving in Cynthiana, KY later that evening. Sunday morning we worshipped with the Licking Valley Church of Christ. This small congregation currently meets in a conference room at the local hospital. After a leisurely lunch at the local Mexican restaurant with the Besson family, we headed for the Benton, KY. We arrived in plenty of time for worship services at the Walnut Grove congregation. After services we traveled to Rebecca's to spend the night before continuing our journey home Monday morning.

Sunday morning, August 23rd, we worshipped with the Collierville congregation before travelling to Portland, TN for an evening appointment. Louis preached for the Fountain Head Church of Christ. Since we were about six hours from home, the congregation provided lodging for us in a "corn crib," remodeled as a guest house, owned by the Tucker family, a preacher for another congregation across the state line in Kentucky.

August 27th brought several individuals to Winona for the two day school of Missions. Louis was scheduled to teach Bible Maps to the 6-11 year-old class at Polishing the Pulpit in Sevierville, TN at 6:00 p.m. on Friday, requiring us to leave Winona at 7:30 A.M., missing classes on Friday.

This year about 1,400 Christians gathered in Sevierville to attend the annual Polishing the Pulpit program geared for families. Throughout the day, one can choose to attend classes for elders, preachers, deacons, members, and teens. Ladies only classes with topics for elders' wives, deacons' wives and preachers' wives are presented by well-qualified women. Classes and activities were scheduled for children 2-11 during the daytime classes. Louis and I taught three classes each to the children, listened to many lectures and enjoyed Christian fellowship. It was an uplifting and encouraging week.

Our lives are busy with rarely a dull moment. As we travel, I typeset *The Voice of Truth International* and work on other computer related projects. We leave for India, Sri Lanka and Burma on October 7th. I am still preparing my lessons for those occasions. Yes, life is busy, but I would not have it any other way.

If you are in Mississippi (or close by), come by for a visit. Call first to make sure we are in town! We love to have company and extend hospitality as has been shown to us as we travel. If you stay for a few days, we may find some work for you, making you even more of a partner with us in spreading the Gospel around the world. 

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Yes, we want to help the Rushmores save souls as they labor with the Choates & others in worldwide evangelism.

Here is a onetime gift of \$_____ to help perpetuate the proven work of evangelism in which Bonnie & Louis are participating.

I (we) plan to send a monthly contribution of \$_____, beginning _____ (month) to help the Rushmores spread the Gospel far and near.

Name _____ Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Mail to: Vermilion Church of Christ, 5116 Driftwood Dr., Vermilion, OH 44089

Rushmore Evangelism Fund: July—August 2009 Report

Beginning Available Balance	\$8,175.92	Printing Expenses	\$1,489.06
Beginning Foreign Travel Balance	\$818.74	Office Telephone	\$420.59
Beginning Philip's Computer Balance	\$30.00	Medical Treatment	\$120.00
Beginning Tracts (for Asia) Balance	\$100.00	Bank Fees	\$11.18
Income		Medical Insurance	\$0.00
Contributions	\$7,313.00	Life Insurance	\$100.58
Printing/Book Sales	\$590.00	Lectureship	\$410.00
Foreign Travel	\$7,130.00	Housing	\$812.57
Travel	\$1,331.00	Teaching Bags (Burma)	\$78.29
Tracts (for Asia)	\$500.00	Salary	\$3,010.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$16,864.00	TOTAL EXPENSES	\$16,051.64
Expenses		MONTHLY BALANCE	\$812.36
Auto Expenses	\$1,043.04	Available Balance	\$6,766.36
Stateside Travel	\$1,811.36	Foreign Travel Balance	\$2,405.64
Foreign Travel (tickets & visas)	\$5,543.10	Philip's Computer Balance	\$30.00
Office	\$850.73	Tracts (for Asia) Balance	\$600.00
Postage & Shipping	\$257.03		
Equipment	\$94.11		