

August 14, 2007

Dear Ministerial Colleague:

We have just completed the **96<sup>th</sup> Tennessee District Assembly** and we are thanking God for His beautiful visitation there. Each of the conventions and services were crowned with His presence and we are still rejoicing in His work among us. Our thanks are extended to **Lynn and Robin Holmes** and the marvelous **staff** of *Memphis Calvary* church. They welcomed us with open arms and were wonderful hosts in our time there. We enjoyed **General Superintendent Dr. Jim Diehl's** moving messages. The presence of God was felt from the opening of the Sunday School Ministries Convention on Wednesday to the very last moment on Friday.

Now we embark upon a new year and each of us is in the process of setting goals for the next 12 months. As we dream visions of what God can do among us in our churches, we are excited to know He is going to use us as "kingdom people." Carol and I are praying that God will give you the desires of your heart as it relates to kingdom work in this new church year.

We have just completed a successful summer camp program. I would like to thank **Paul and Martha Ann Eby** for their work at the camp. Also I would like to express my appreciation to the five camp directors. This big task was fulfilled by **Chris Johnson**, director of *Senior High* camp; Jeremy Pass, director of *Junior High* camp; **Tonya Marks**, director of *Preteen* camp; **Robin Buess**, director of *Middler* camp; and **Carol Waller**, director of *Primary* camp. The work of these persons resulted in life-changing moments in our children and teenagers. We rejoice in God's goodness.

*Sumner County Living Springs* church, under the direction of **Steve and Michelle Waller**, had their launch Sunday recently with 237 in attendance. They are off to a good start and we rejoice with them. We welcome new pastors to our churches. Since you received the last newsletter from me, **Scott and Jane Langford** has begun his ministry in *Madison*, **Josh and Wendy Wallace** has begun his ministry in *Camden*, and **Ku-In Kang** and **Kwang Soo Lee** have begun their work at *Nashville Dale*. We are also saying goodbye to one of our ministers who has accepted a new assignment in West Virginia. **Casey Shorr**, long-time pastor at *Woodlawn* church, will be moving to pastor the *Pierpont* church in Morgantown, West Virginia. We will miss Casey and Rhonda Shorr. We thank them for their faithful labors here and know God will use them in this new assignment.

We continue to pray for a number of persons who are going through difficult times. **Don Simmons** recently had heart by-pass surgery. **Keith Coss**, our pastor at *Nashville Center Point*, has been having some physical problems and has spent several days in the hospital. We pray for **Bill Allen**, co-pastor of *Nashville Community Fellowship* church, whose mother has been ill recently, and we pray for **Gary Henecke**, pastor of *Nashville First* church, in the recent loss of his ninety-three-year-old mother who lived in Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

We celebrate the one year anniversary of *Jackson Thrive* church. **Rev. Herbert Halstead** gave his first annual report to the congregation a few days ago and they are rejoicing in the way God has helped. *Clarksville Korean* church, under the direction of **Young-Bum Lee**, recently held their second anniversary service. Their special speaker was **Dr. Don Owens**, *former missionary to Korea and General Superintendent emeritus*. They joined with *Clarksville Grace* church and had a wonderful Sunday evening service. We rejoice with *Clarksville Grace*. Even in the interim time between pastors, the church has continued to do well. Recently they had **Dr. Bill Burch** for *Faith Promise* and over \$92,000 was pledged. This was an increase over last year's Faith Promise pledging of approximately \$30,000. We are grateful for **Dr. Tim Green** and his serving as interim pastor of *Clarksville Grace*.

I just received a note from **Bob Field**, pastor of *Springfield*, that blessed me. He said, "I just wanted to brag on our church. They have gone from complaining about budgets to 'let's get them paid.' We have already paid all budgets in full, except World Evangelism Fund, which we do with the traditional Thanksgiving and Easter offerings." That is a beautiful testimony to a loving Pastor who has led his people to discover the joy of being part of a world-wide ministry.

In just a few days, September 11–13, we will be in Gatlinburg for the **Tennessee District Ministers and Mates' Retreat**. I hope you will be able to meet with us at that time. The retreat will be held at the *Music Road Inn* and we will have good times of fellowship and inspiration. Our special speaker is **Rev. Gary Moore** from Yuba City, California. He will be sharing from God's Word and encouraging us with the way God has blessed the work of the church at Yuba City. If you are unable to attend because of the cost, please let me know immediately so that I may find a source of help for you.

As you begin this new church year, we are praying God will encourage your work. Remember, we are not manufacturers, we are farmers. We cannot build the kingdom of God, we can only embrace it. As farmers, we sow the seed, water, weed and pray for the harvest to come. God actually grows the kingdom. Our task is simply to sow seeds into the lives of people and help them become Spirit-filled disciples. As we continue our work of building people, Christ will build His church. Be encouraged today because the One who is working effectively in your church is God himself. He desires that the kingdom will be built and we are praying that He will release His power into your church in new ways in this new church year.

Pleased with the Prospects,

***Bob Broadbooks***