FALL 2020 Newsletter

Many showed up and were greatly blessed by the Amos Stoltzfus family's singing and sharing the gospel through song and preaching. We were also extremely thankful to have Amos share his testimony at one of the services, then to see how the Holy Spirit opened and soften the people's hearts for them to receive the redeeming power of god's love!!.

I was deeply touched when Amos shared the story about when he decided to visit a local church one Sunday morning while living a life as the prodigal son. At the end of that service the ministers greeted him with a handshake and thank him for coming. In spite of his sinful lifestyle

> they invited him to visit again. It reminded me that love God's love draws people to Jesus, and he wants that love to flow through us as Christians. For we have known the power of God unto salvation and if we are willing to reach out in love to those that are hurting or those that are in need of God's forgiveness, they too can receive forgiveness and find freedom through Christ our Lord. Let us not be ashamed of God's love and the Gospel

What a blessing it was to meet your family this summer and have you here in Osage Iowa for community revival meetings. Our prayer was that the Holy Spirit could use your family's singing for an opportunity to bring our community together to worship the Lord and hear the Gospel message.

I had heard of the prison ministry in Pennsylvania that you are involve with through some brothers in the community but had never heard your family sing. of Christ. Rom 1:16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth; to the Jew first, and to the Greek.

Here is a testimony of what happen at one of the services. My 7-year-old daughter was at the alter broken and weeping. When we came home, she said to my wife "mom it seems like there is nothing bad in my heart anymore". I Praise the Lord that His Spirit draws people of all ages to Him!! We thank you as a family for being obedient to





Osage, IA

EVANGELISTIC MINISTRY



the will of God and traveling around the country and ministering to communities, churches, and prisons.

The Sunday morning service was also a highlight, you invited the youth to come to the front and then ask the parents to speak words of life and encouragement to them. Then you prayed for them and ask the pastors to pray a blessing over each of the families. I believe it's time that fathers in the church rise up and be the leaders that God has called us to be in our homes. God bless your family and ministry!

~ Ivan Burkholder

Thank-you for coming to Osage, Iowa for a weekend of Revival meetings. I very much appreciated it and was encouraged with the family singing and the messages Amos preached each service. It was such a blessing to see the Spirit of God directing each service. God faithfully encouraged and convicted our hearts as the Word of God was preached.

I also very much appreciated the emphasis on family relationships and the importance of us fathers turning our hearts toward our children. It is a muchneeded message in our day and something the Lord continues to work on in my life, so it was a tremendous encouragement and reminder to be faithful in our calling as fathers and mothers.

Praise the Lord for answering our prayers He is faithful! We really enjoyed getting to know your family.

God Bless you as you continue to labor for him!

~Clifford Miller



NEW CD: Amazing God



Song List:

- 1. SO MUCH TO THANK HIM FOR
- 2. THERE IS A FOUNTAIN
- 3. WAIT TILL YOU SEE MY BRAND-NEW HOME
- 4. IT'S NOT LONG UNTIL FOREVER
- 5. GOD IS GOOD
- 6. ONLY JESUS
- 7. I AM REDEEMED
- 8. AMAZING GOD
- 9. BIG ENOUGH
- 10. WE SHALL MEET

3 Ways to Order

- 1. phone call the office at (570) 837-0649
- 2. email recordings@lightofhope.org
- 3. website at www.lightofhope.org

Therefore, I remind you to stir up the gift of God which is in you through the laying on of my hands. For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind. -2 Timothy 1:6-7



14,000 Miles

Pennsylvania ~ Minnesota ~ Wiseonsin ~ Montana Washington ~ Iowa ~ Kentueky Tennessee ~ South Carolina

We stand amazed at the goodness of God, and his faithfulness that He has shown to us on our summer tour. Even though not all went as was originally planned, God knew what was best for us this past summer.

But a few weeks before leaving for tour, worry and fear had started to put a grip on me. With the spread of covid-19 and all the riots and violence that were happening in different cities in America, I wondered if it is worth the risk. My faith was being tested, but then I thought of Timothy who also needed encouragement to go on with Christ in spite of the difficult trails he was facing. The apostle Paul wrote a letter to encourage Timothy to fan into flame the gift that God has given him. For God has not given us the spirit of fear, but of love, power and of a sound mind. It's amazing what God will do in and through us when we embrace the truth of God's word in all that we do.

After our first service in Hadley, Pennsylvania, we made our way towards Wisconsin. After an hour and half of traveling on I-80, I had happened to look in my mirror, and witness an unexpected scene unfold as our trailer with all our musical equipment unhooked from our motorhome. Driving on a busy Interstate, you can only imagine what went through my mind. In a matter of seconds, the





cement barrier, totaling the trailer. Everything inside the trailer was ok except for a pi-



ano stand and a few broken cd's. God was in every detail of that accident, and no other vehicles were involved which was only a miracle. The trailer got hauled to a garage. The next morning the inspectors did a full inspection on the damaged trailer to see what could've caused the trailer to unhook. The inspector gazed at me with a puzzled look on his face and said, "We are not able find any reason why the trailer unhooked, for whatever reason God did not want you to go any farther last night. He has other plans for you today." By Monday afternoon a new trailer was purchased. Praise the Lord! We serve an Amazing God.

We thank God for the opportunity to be able worship the Lord with many believers that we never met before. The love and hospitality you have shown to us was amazing. God bless you richly.

And to our Home Church, friends, and family, we extend a heartfelt thank you for your support! We couldn't have done it without you. Whether you prayed, helped financially, or encouraged us, we greatly appreciated it. To God be the glory; great things He has done.

Light of Hope Chicken BBQ & Gospel Sing Volleyball & Spike Ball Journament Lancaster, Pa.

On behalf of Light of Hope Lancaster banquet committee, I would like to thank everyone that participated in the fundraiser at Bird-In-Hand; I was blessed to see so many people come together for one purpose, Jesus Christ. I was reminded of the faithfulness of our God and how he provided for us so richly. Although it was not the way we planned in the beginning of the year, God had another plan for us. We look forward to what God has for us next year.

~Lancaster Banquet Committee / Alvin Smucker

Our hearts are filled with deep gratitude as we reflect on the Chicken BBQ & Gospel Sing event. The day was mixed with lots of emotions as we observed others diligently giving their all to the task and duty given them. Due to the spirit of unity amongst laborers God blessed us with, His presence and blessing was with us throughout the day.

Thank you to each of the committee members, food vendors, chicken BBQ crew, food servers, car parkers, ushers, and many others who with joint effort helped make the event possible.

Not to forget the hundreds of young people who came out to support the volleyball and spike ball tournament, we thank you for your support It was greatly appreciated. It was an honor to have the Melvin Stoltzfus family from Gospel Express Ministries join our family for the evening singspiration.

Thanks again for your labor of love that you have shown towards His name (Jesus)

~Amos Stoltzfus/Executive Director



1 Corinthians 12:12 It was September 11, 2020, anticipation was high. We were hosting the first Light of Hope Banquet/fundraiser in the Chambersburg area. We had spent time in prayer imploring God to bless the ministry and all the work we had put into preparing.

We are grateful for the good attendance and those who contributed to the work that Amos & Linda Stoltzfus and family are doing to share Christ to those in prison. "Never underestimate the power of prayer" was the key point of a former inmate who shared his testimony of bondage to freedom. I was encouraged to hear that God is not being kept from the prisons in this time of lock down. There are believers rising up inside the prisons calling men to repentance. Because of their thirst for truth they are reaching out to us for discipleship courses and Bibles which can be sent to them in the prison.

The inspiring songs that Amos & his family sang pointed to the One who is good all the time. We all are born a slave to sin, but God sent His only Son to pay a debt we could not pay and to redeem each one of us, breaking the chains of sin that drag us down. Some glorious day we will gather around the throne and worship the Lamb and sing a song that not even the angels can sing. I am Redeemed, by the Blood of the Lamb!

It was a blessing to see the hand of God at work in the hearts of men as well as being shown what Amos and Linda are planning as they move forward in the ministry.











God bless each of you for your effort and labor of love you have shown towards this ministry. A special thank you to the banquet committee and to those who helped with the banquet in Chambersburg, PA.

Your support was truly a blessing.

~Banquet Committee / Reuben & Lois Hege

Prison Ministry NEWS

The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but the word of our God shall stand for ever. – Isaiah 40:8

My name is Terry Carroll. I am an inmate in Northumberland County Jail. The other day the Deputy Warden came to me with the Daily Bread and a handful of your Rebound seminar materials. Couple of us sat around the table and we started to look over the rebound booklets. James and I finished looking over it as a devotional. We both agreed we can use it as a devotional. We are the ones who do a bible study every morning and just started to do one in the evening.

As you know due to the virus no one can go into jails or prisons. So, we have been doing this on our own. We would like to know if there are other seminars you could share with us. I have been here for over fourteen months and I have been sentenced with state time. I have been doing my devotions for some time at a table in my day room. And have had others come and join with me. So that has developed into the bible studies. Back last June a young man who was placed in my cell started reading my bible. So, I had my wife send a bible into him. From that God has been working through me so that others would be able to receive one as well. As of this date He has blessed our sharing. There are over one hundred and twenty bibles here and four of them have been sent to guys wives and girlfriends as well as to one at rehab. What started out with my wife and I praying for them. There are now two churches, one small group, and three bible study groups my wife is part of have been helping to cover the costs. God has taken a bad situation and has made others to see and receive His Word! As we all sit here praying that soon John who is the chaplain and others who volunteer here as well. God is good.

~ Terry Carroll, Inmate

Prison Ministry Update

Due to the covid-19 pandemic, all prisons across America have closed their doors to hands-on ministry. Prison schedules for 2020 have all been canceled. 132,000 inmates and 28,000 prison staff have been tested positive for covid-19. 1,100plus inmates have died from the virus. With the spread of the virus in the prisons it does not look promising for the prison doors to open soon for hands-on ministry inside the prisons. It could go months before we see any changes. Let us continue to pray for the Chaplains as they go through this season in ministry. It has been a difficult time for many of them. Many volunteer chaplains are not able enter into the institutions, which has increased the workload for the head chaplains, beyond what we can ever imagine.

We as ministry are excited to announce a new avenue of ministry that is in the birthing stages. We decided to publish a series of bible study courses, and a yearly devotional booklet for inmates. Please pray for us we seek wisdom and direction for the future of the prison ministry.

~ Light of Hope Evangelistic Ministry

Prison Chaplain Report

Due to the Corona Virus, I was furloughed from Perry completely from April 2 – July 6; 93 days! Volunteers have not been allowed into Perry since March 13th and you are deeply missed and loved here. There is a 5 o'clock prayer time here every day; the inmates and some of the staff pray for the institution, the community, you, and your families; 7 days a week. Life at Perry is mostly on hiatus; the entire prison is locked down tight! Perry is on quarantine and has been since July 2nd when our first positive case of the COVID virus was detected. We had 136 inmates to test positive and two died due to the virus. Inmates have not been allowed to gather in groups, no classes, programs, or church. Screening protocols for any staff entering the institution are extremely stringent and we are working short staffed most days. We have many volunteers who are going through extensive medical troubles and some are fighting for their lives. As for an update on when volunteers will be allowed back in.... sadly, I do not have a straight answer for you at this time. It seems that even the leadership here does not seem to know when the restrictions will be loosened. The moment that we receive guidance from headquarters, I will pass that information to you all right away.

We are living in a new world which daily heaps anxiety and fear on top of our other responsibilities. The "new normal" as they are calling it is not so very normal and shows no immediate evidence of being so. Thank God we are Christians and have placed our faith, and our very lives in the loving Care of Jesus. He is able to keep you safe in the midst of the storms of life. Hide yourselves in the shadow of His wings. In the midst of the lock down, God is not locked out. There is a strong revival continuing here at Perry. Many men have come to see their deep need for the constant love and care of God during these dark days. The light of Jesus is shining brighter than ever here, and many are hungry and passionate for Him.

In these difficult times I encourage you to lean hard on God. I am always available if I may be of any service to you or your families. Again, may the grace and peace of Our Lord Jesus Christ continue to bless and keep you and yours. Remember that I and the men here love you deeply and miss you badly. We pray to see your smiling faces soon.



Our original office building is a 12x24 which was built in 2008 has accommodated us well. But due to the growth of the ministry the past 10 years the ministry has started a new office building fund in 2016. Land was purchased in 2018 to build a 1600 square ft office which will contain three office rooms, a receptionist area, a kitchen area as well as a conference room. In addition to the office, we will be adding a 44x60 warehouse/garage to keep all vehicles and trailers parked indoors. The garage will also contain a room for the storage of bibles and ministry materials, and a room for sound equipment and accessories.

We are starting this project with vision and lots of faith for additional financial/ material donations and labor toward the cause. \$211,104.50 has been raised and approximately \$44,000 is still needed to complete the project. If you are interested in assisting in any way, call Amos Stoltzfus at our office 570.837.0649. You can also contribute through the enclosed response envelope, or on-line at www.lightofhope. org and note "new building project."

We are waiting for all the final building permits to clear; Excavation & Sewage is expected to begin in the middle of October. Starting Phase 1 will be determined all building permits are approved and labor availability. We are seeking for volunteers with construction experience.

WINDOWS & SIDING • DRYWALL • INSULATION • CARPENTRY APPLIANCES • ROOFING • HVAC • PAINTING

Building contractors / experienced framers are needed for Phase 2

Phases 1. (Exterior Construction) November 2020 project

- Framing
- Roofing & Siding
- Phase 2. (Interior Construction)

November 2020-March 2021

- Drywallers
- Painters
- Flooring

Phase 3. (Excavating)

- Driveway Paving
- Landscaping

To donate items or time and labor call the office at (570) 837-0649 or email info@lightofhope.org

Ministry Schedule



Amos Stoltzfus Family EVANGELISTIC TEAM

Chicken BBQ & Gospel Sing,
Buffalo Mennonite Church, Lewisburg, PA
Banquet Committee Meeting, Chambersburg, PA
Committee Appreciation Supper
Locus Grove Mennonite Church, Belleville, PA
JVC Church Mifflintown, PA
Shade Mountain Christian Fellowship Church,
Juniata, PA
Singspiration, Perry County, PA (Tentative)
Prison Chaplain Meetings
Philadelphia Prisons (Tentative)
New Year's Gospel Singspiration,
Ephrata Business Center, Ephrata, PA

If you would like to schedule the Amos Stoltzfus family to sing at your church or community, call the office at (570) 837-0649.

Light of Hope Evangelistic Ministry

PO Box 131 • Mifflinburg, PA 17844 Phone: 570-837-0649 • Email: info@lightofhope.com

Save the Dates New Year's Eve Gospel Sing

Ephrata Business Center Thursday December 31st @ 6:30 p.m.

Free admission A free will offering will be lifted to support the ongoing prison ministry & new office building project. For more information call (570) 837-0649





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