



Impressions of the Journey

VOLUME XIV ISSUE 3

WINTER 2006

Thanksgiving

I must confess to you my friends that I am having a hard time writing this newsletter. It is Thanksgiving weekend and I am thinking a lot about the things, the many things, for which I can give thanks. But as I started out I was remembering Thanksgivings gone by and I found myself thankful yes but also a little wistful as well. I miss those times of the family gathering around the table. There were so many of us sometimes we had several tables! It was good to be together and as I think of times together I feel a little sad that those times are gone.

I thought too of the times when we had our immediate family together and again I felt joy and sadness. I guess memories are bittersweet aren't they. They are sweet because of the joy of being together but bitter because those days are gone. Our families are far apart and getting home for a weekend is very close to impossible.

We are so very blessed that we get to see our family often because of what God has called us to do that it is a bit silly and, yes, selfish for me to long for the family to be together on one certain day! So why don't I spend some

time telling what I am thankful for.

I am thankful for God calling me to serve Him in this ministry. I am especially thankful that He has called Jim to serve by my side. We are both vagabonds at heart so what more wonderful life for us than to travel wherever He leads. We have had a blessed year in this ministry. We have traveled close to 30,000 miles with no accidents or troubles. We have had two flat tires!!! WOW is all we can say at that.

Because of traveling we have visited Joe and Kerry several times and had marvelous times of Grandparenting! We get to have our boys (Max and Dalton) with us overnight numerous times when we are in Vermont. In fact usually when we talk to Dalton (the 2 year old) the first thing he says is "I want to come to youse house!" There are so many grandparents who get to see their grandchildren maybe once a year and we get to see ours many times.

Also we are able to see Tom when we travel south in the winter as well as when we make our return trip. In addition for the last two years he has come to Vermont in August while we were there. Now that is true joy to have the whole family together.

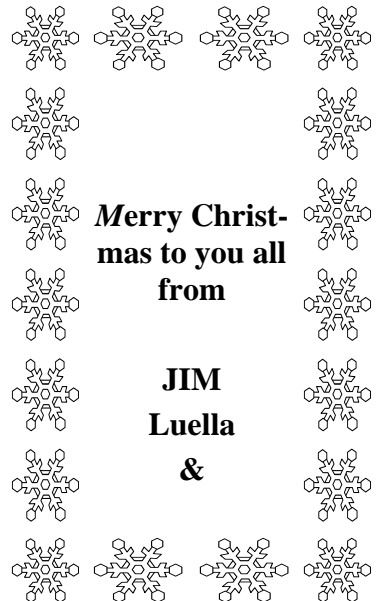
I am thankful for our extended family and friends who are scattered out in the many places that we get to go for ministry. I often told my children not to allow themselves to lose touch with old friends. But when you are far apart it is hard to maintain the ties. We, however, are blessed to be able to pick up the phone and make a date to see our family and friends as we travel.

As I look back over this letter I realize that I have only scratched the surface of what I am thankful for but I know you get the idea. I am sure you realize too that when we sit down to think about it we find that what we are grateful for is not the things we have but the people and the memories.

One other thing I am grateful for is you who read this letter. WE are thankful for the love and prayers and support you give us. You know that 30,000 miles with only two flat tires is a result of prayers for us! Thank you.



- 1 Focus for Luella as she completes the paperwork for the incorporation.
2. Safe travel to Georgia for winter ministry tour.
- 3 A full calendar for the winter tour



Leaves from the Family Tree



We are looking forward to spending Christmas in Vermont again this year. Mom will be able to go with us again also. It is a blessing for the boys to know their “nanny Peg”. Not all children have great grandparents that they get to know. We will see Dad before we leave and then as soon as we return. We will be there for a week. That is just long enough to enjoy the last minute rush.

Unfortunately Tom can't be with us for Christmas. One of the down sides of working in the restaurant business is needing to be there over the holidays. They close on Christmas day but must be open before and after! We had hoped to see him during hunting season but he won't be able to come home for that this year either. He has been moved to a new restaurant and is quite busy there. So he will not be able to take time off for hunting.

We are excited about his move because it brings him closer to PA. It is a promotion for him and an affirmation of his abilities. They wanted a strong manager to come into this restaurant and asked him to take the job. Tom really thrives on challenges and this is a big one so he is enjoying himself. We will see him on our way south at the beginning of the year and will probably stop again on the return trip.

Mom and Dad are doing well. Mom is busy as the prayer coordinator at our church and that keeps her busy and challenged. They have just moved the prayer room so she has been spending some time getting things moved around and settled.

Dad is doing as well as can be expected. He is in a wonderful facility and well cared for. We have good visits and poor ones. He always played cards so we try to keep that up. Some days he is really on top of it and some days just not sure which game he is playing. But he always seems to enjoy our visits and he knows us. Hal will get up for a visit in January while we are away. Dad really enjoys Hal's visits and every once in a while on his better days he will ask Mom when Hal is coming for a visit.

Tape and DVD order form

Mary the Mother of Jesus	VHS	\$15.00
Mary Magdalene	VHS	\$15.00
Ruth & Mrs. Noah	VHS	\$15.00
Martha & Sarah	VHS	\$15.00
	DVD	\$15.00
The Woman at the Well/Queen Esther	VHS	\$15.00
Elizabeth & Lydia	VHS	\$15.00
	DVD	\$15.00
All 6 Videos (Get 1 FREE, no S&H)	VHS	\$75.00

Add \$2.00 per tape for shipping and handling total enclosed_____

Make checks payable to “Visitors from the Past”
 mail order to
 PO Box 121
 Sykesville, PA 15865

Calendar 2007

January

1-5 National Congress on Evangelism, Myrtle Beach SC. Attending

5-7 Annual meeting National Association of United Methodist Evangelists, Myrtle Beach, SC

14 Shomberg Road Baptist church, Columbus GA, morning worship 10:30 am contact **Joy Medlock**, *Minister of Missions and Families* Joy@srblife.com for details and directions.

16 XYZ senior citizens meeting 11:00am, St Mark UM, Columbus GA, contact the church office (706) 327-3376 for details and directions.

17 St Peter UM, Columbus, GA, Wednesday evening family dinner 6:00pm with program to follow. Contact Rev John Stephens (706) 561-9391 for further details and directions.

18 Wynnton UM, Columbus GA, Senior Citizens meeting and luncheon 11:00am. Contact Susan Simpson 706-324-2424 for details.

21 Howard UM, Howard, GA evening service 6:00pm. Contact Pastor Mark Sasser (478) 862-3923 for details.

23 Northern Cluster Laity dinner and meeting 7:00 pm, Vidette UM Vidette, GA. Contact Pastor Tip Carrol (706) 547-6666(H) (706) 554-2354(O) for details.

24 Louisville UM senior citizens, Louisville, GA, Call Susan Monteith 706-554-6314 for details.

28 University Avenue Assembly of God, Columbus, GA, morning worship 11:00 am. Contact Pastor Jerry Sauls (706) 563-4622 706-320-9521 for details.

28 St Mark Um, Columbus, GA evening worship 6:00 pm. Contact Pastor Jimmy Duke (706) 327-3376 for details.

29 Open Door Community Center, Columbus, GA Senior citizens lunch. Contact John Boulineau (706)323-5518 for details.

31 St Luke UM, Columbus, GA family night dinner 5:30 pm. Contact Cindy Garrard [cindy@stlukeum.com] for details.

February

4 Midway UMC, Columbus GA, morning and evening worship. Contact Pastor Paul Buckheister 706-561-1230 for details

6 Mt Zion Achievers club, Mt Zion Baptist church, Columbus, GA lunch and program. Contact the church office 706-324-1232 for details.

7 St Paul UM, Columbus, GA family night dinner 6:00 pm. Contact the church (706)327-7419 for details.

14 Rose Hill Um, Columbus, GA Wednesday evening dinner. Contact the church (706) 323-5761 for details.

26 District ministers meeting 10:00 am Columbus Ga.

March

11 Wesley Heights Um, Columbus GA morning worship 10:00 am. Contact Naomi Bright (706) 689-7547 for details.

25 Faith Bible church Lumber City PA morning and evening worship 11:00 am and 6:00 pm. Contact Pastor Scott Schultz jssschul@localnet.com (814)236-0810 for details.

31 Visitors from the Past board of directors organizational meeting 10:00 am Lakeside UM.

April

1 Grace UM Coal center, PA morning worship. Contact Pastor Dan Owen Church Phone: 724.483.4448 Church for details.

8 Maple Springs Church of the Brethren, Davidsville, PA Easter Sunrise service 6:30 am. Contact Sandy Watkins (814)479-7760 for details.

13 Christian Women's Banquet, Camp Allegheny, Stoystown, PA. Dinner and program beginning 6:30 pm. Contact Annette Shaw 814-754-5485 for details.

14 First Mennonite Church Johnstown, PA lady's retreat day. Contact Pastor Patti Simonsick 814-479-2697 or Pat Bowers 814-539-5973 for details.

15 Trinity UM, Scalp Level, Windber, PA 9:30 am. Contact Pastor Art Moffat (814)467-9051 for details.

15 First Mennonite Church, Johnstown, PA worship 5:30 pm. Contact Pastor Patti Simonsick 814-479-2697 or Pat Bowers 814-539-5973 for details

16 Johnstown Quota Club, Laurelview Village, Davidsville, PA meeting at 6:00 pm. Contact Jane Helsel (814)288-3073 for details.

17 Chippewa Women's Club, Chippewa, PA 1:00 pm. Contact Mary Platz (724)843-5657 for details.

20 Arbutus Manor Auxiliary luncheon 12:00 noon Johnstown, PA. Contact Eleanor Callihan (814) 467-4570 for details.

21 Bethany United Methodist, Portage, PA dinner and program 6:30 pm. Contact Dixie Lewis 736-3971 for details.

22 Marienville United Methodist, Marienville, PA morning worship 11:00 am. Contact Nelia Jackowitz (814) 927-8506 for details.

See website for additional calendar dates



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