

Inside Wyoming

The Newsletter of the Wyoming Ave. Baptist Church

Vol. 1, No. 2 ~ October 27, 2002

**WHERE IS YOUR
MISSION FIELD?**



**JUST OPEN YOUR
FRONT DOOR!**

“You shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.” Acts 1:8

Update on the Pastor

Pastor Rice has been in Moss Rehab undergoing therapy for almost two weeks now, and is making some progress. He has gone from being able to walk only two or three steps to walking 75 feet or more with a walker, and being able to go up two stairs. He is expected to remain at Moss for another couple weeks, until he is able to perform the tasks he will need at home without assistance. Please pray that his therapy would be productive and that his healing would continue.

If you have any needs for visitation or pastoral care during the Pastor's absence, please contact the Assistant to the Pastor, Rev. Daniel Ndimantang. He may be reached at home, (215) 324-2260, or on his cell phone, (267) 918-2534. You may also call the Chairman of the Board of Deacons, Walter Hinchcliff at (610) 966-9408.

Inside Wyoming

Published approximately every two weeks by and for the members and friends of the Wyoming Avenue Baptist Church.

If you would like to contribute an article or other information to *Inside Wyoming*, please contact the editor, Walter Rice, Jr., at 215-820-0165. The deadline for contributions is the Wednesday before publication.

Reformation Sunday

by Walter Rice, Jr.

Today is Reformation Sunday. It had its start almost 500 years ago on October 31, 1517, when Martin Luther nailed his Ninety-Five Theses to the door of the chapel in Wittenberg, Germany. He was disputing the Roman Catholic practice of indulgences, pieces of paper that the church required people to buy so that their sins would be forgiven or so that their loved ones could enter into Heaven.

After many years of struggling with guilt, Luther discovered in the Bible that we are justified by *faith*, which means that our sins are forgiven and we are made right with God through faith in Jesus Christ. It is not by works of penance or by paying money to the church that our sins are forgiven, but by faith in the blood of Christ.

Luther was at the forefront of a major reformation in the Catholic Church, which would later be known as the Protestant Reformation. This Reformation had five rallying cries or mottos, known as the "five solas," that identified what the reformers believed. These same cries identify what we believe today, as we seek to hold true to the Word of God.

The five mottos in Latin are *Sola Scriptura*, *Sola Fide*, *Sola Gratia*, *Solo Christo*, and *Soli Deo Gloria*: "Scripture Alone," "Faith Alone," "Grace Alone," "Christ Alone," and "To God Alone be the Glory." On this Reformation Sunday, as we

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Dr. Emberger Challenges Congregation at Missions Conference

by *Walter Rice, Jr.*

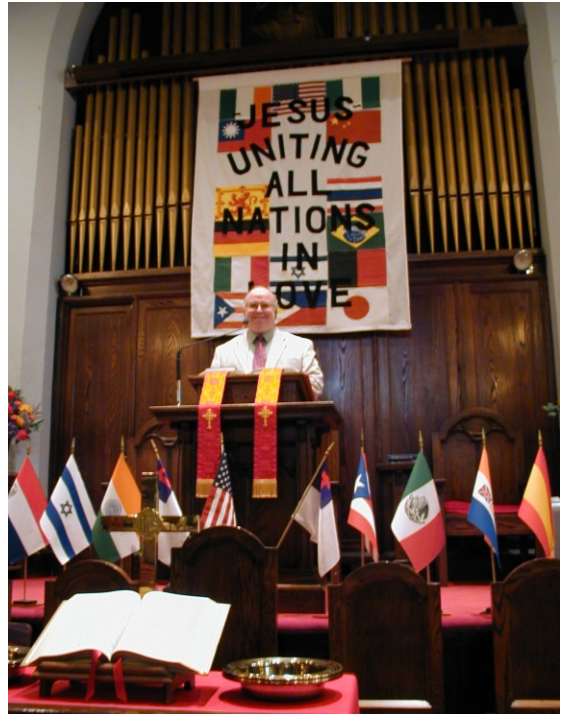
On Sunday, October 20, Dr. Robert Emberger, the director of the Whosoever Gospel Mission in Germantown, was our speaker at the first session of Wyoming's 2002 Missions Conference.

Speaking from Acts 1:8, "But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth," Rev. Emberger explained how the Whosoever Gospel Mission is fulfilling this call, how in many ways it is our "Judea" or "Samaria."

The mission is a witness to Christ in a different neighborhood, to a group of people with whom we wouldn't normally associate. As many Jews looked upon the Samaritans as inferior and to be despised, so do many in our city look down upon men who may be homeless or addicted to drugs or alcohol. These are the people the mission serves, taking the gospel "to the end of the earth."

Rev. Emberger called each of us to evangelize Christ in our "Jerusalem," that is the neighborhood around our church and the neighborhoods in which we live. He called us to take part in a "gospel show and tell," making known the good news of Christ not only in word, but also in the way we live.

As the Samaritan in Jesus' parable saw a man in need and had compassion on him, so



too we must recognize that the people around us are in great need and are like the man, "near death," for they do not know Christ. Rev. Emberger challenged us to likewise have compassion on the people who are around us, working to fill their need by showing and telling them about the love of Christ and the salvation that He offers.

As Rev. Emberger said, we must "look beyond the graffiti, beyond the blight, and see the people. And have compassion, as did the Samaritan."

Cafeteria Manager Honored

by *Walter Rice, Sr.*

Our own Marni Selorio, manager of the Thurgood Marshall Elementary School Cafeteria, has been honored by the Philadelphia School District with the “Triple ‘O’” award for Outstanding Overall Operation.



Marni has managed the cafeteria at Marshall since it opened in September of 1997. Prior to that he managed the cafeterias at Vare and then at Kensington High School.

Evaluations are conducted to judge cleanliness and food quality as well as the level of participation and customer satisfaction among the school students and staff. Under Marni's leadership, each of these cafeterias advanced at least one full level in the school district's rating system.

To engage the students, Marni must create menus that attract the students'

Women's Ministries

by *Wanda Eibner*

The ladies group known in recent years as the ABW Women's Ministries grew from the same group of ladies known as the Ladies' Missionary Society. Before that, many years ago, it was the Ladies' Aide Society. I've been coming to church since I was a teenager, and at that time the Ladies' Aide was a huge organization with a large membership. They gave dinners, catered weddings, and raised a lot of money for the church. Now we are a much smaller group, but we still meet, pray for missionaries, send Christmas gifts to a children's mission, roll bandages for use in India, send material squares to the Philippines, and send greeting cards to shut-ins. We meet once a month, work, and enjoy fellowship with one another. We would really like to have more members, so come join us!

interest. Because the teachers and administrative staff are also served, Marni actually creates up to four complete menus to serve over 700 breakfasts and 700 lunches every day. No mystery meat here! Everything is labeled for the “customers” and there is something for everyone.

Congratulations to Marni and his staff of seven on this excellent accomplishment.

“Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, and not for men, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving.” Colossians 3:23-24 (NIV)

Wyoming Girls Guild: Christian Women-in-Training

by *Becky Crockett*

The Wyoming Ave. Baptist Girls Guild is a club for girls ages 6 through high school but those older can come too! Moms, grandmoms, older sisters, aunts...all women are welcome to attend but remember, if you come, you might get put to work! The group studies what it means to be a Christian woman and do things to help others.

Some of our activities include preparing labels from Campbell's products for redemption by missionary organizations, making cookies for local ministries, and sorting donations of baby items and maternity clothes for Alpha Pregnancy Services.

At Guild, the girls also eat lunch together and have a short Bible study time at the end of each meeting to learn more about why they are doing all these things to help others, and about being a better Christian. We meet on the 2nd Saturday of every month from September through June, typically from 12:30 pm to 3:00 pm.

On Oct. 12, we went shopping for gifts to be put into shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child. An organization called Samaritan's Purse organizes O.C.C. every year. People all over the world send shoeboxes filled with toys, school supplies, and other necessary items to collection



points which then send all of the boxes they receive to the shipping center in North Carolina. From there the boxes get sent to countries all around the world.

Last year, Operation Christmas Child collected more than 5 million shoeboxes and sent them along with Bibles and tracts to more than 95 countries, including Afghanistan, Russia, and even to places here in the US! Lead by Franklin Graham,
continued on next page

Girls Guild, *cont'd from previous page*

the son of the Rev. Billy Graham, Samaritan's Purse takes the message of Christ's love and salvation to wherever it is needed. In 2001, they were one of the first organizations to set up a counseling site at the World Trade Center.

During our November meeting on the 9th, we will make cookies to be given to the Whosoever Gospel Mission and to Race Track Ministries at Philadelphia Park. Race Track Ministries uses the cookies we bake as a way to introduce themselves to the itinerant workers and their families who care for the horses at the track, as well as to show them God's love. The men at Whosoever really enjoy getting the homemade cookies, a definite change for

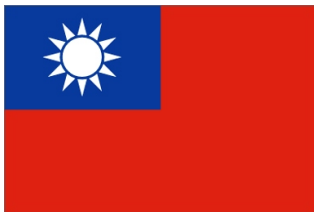
the store bought cookies and treats that they normally get. The cookies are Guild's way of spreading happiness during the holidays.

The picture here of Ariel is from February when the girls made gifts for Pastor and Mary to give to our shut-ins. They put together baskets filled with Hershey Kisses and peppermints and decorated with a big bear and hearts.

The girls are always in need of more Campbell's soup labels, empty cookie tins and shoeboxes, donations for Alpha, and would gladly welcome any donations. The Girls Guild is a finically self-supporting missions group and always welcomes any donations to their ministry. If you have any questions or know a girl who might like to attend, be sure to see Becky before or after church!

Flags of the World

Can you identify the countries that these flags belong to? Each flag is from a country in which Wyoming sponsors a missionary. The list of countries is Togo, Zambia, Taiwan, Haiti, and Germany. See if you can figure out which country goes with each flag!



Reformation Sunday, cont'd from page 2

look back to the work and teachings of Luther, Zwingli, Calvin, and others as they called the people of God back to the Bible, it is good to be reminded of these truths from the Bible that cannot be compromised.

Sola Scriptura (pronounced so'-la scrip-too'-rah) means "Scripture Alone," and reminds us that the Bible alone is the Word of God, and that all that we need to know for salvation, for faith, and for religious practice is contained in Scripture. History and tradition and ritual may be helpful, but they cannot take the place of the Bible, for it alone is inspired by God, inerrant and infallible, and is a sure foundation (2 Timothy 3:16).

Sola Fide (so'-la fee'-day) means "Faith Alone." The only thing that saves us from hell and brings us into eternal life is faith in Jesus Christ, in His death and resurrection. It is not in the physical acts of baptism, or communion, or works of repentance that we are saved, but by faith alone. Acts 16:31 makes it clear: "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved."

Sola Gratia (so'-la grah'-tee-ah) means "Grace Alone." Ephesians 2:8-9 expresses the truth that salvation is only by the grace of God and only by faith, saying, "For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest any man should boast." We cannot earn salvation, and we most definitely do not deserve it, but God gives it to us freely. Salvation is by grace alone.

Solo Christo (so'-lo chris'-tow) means "Christ Alone." It is only in Christ that we are saved. In John 14:6, Jesus said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me." We don't need to go through a priest for our sins to be forgiven, for the way to the Father is through Christ alone.

Soli Deo Gloria (so'-lee day'-oh glor'-ee-ah) means "To God Alone be the Glory." The song of the angels announcing Christ's birth, "Glory to God in the Highest," must be the cry of our lives, for in everything, God alone deserves the glory for our salvation, for our faith, and even for our good works. In all we do we must remember that the glory goes to God alone.

PRAYER CORNER

Far more important than giving our money, one of the best ways that we can support the work of missionaries is to pray for them. But sometimes we don't know what to pray for. The Bible gives us examples of how we should pray for missionaries.

Take the missionary list in our church bulletin, and try praying through the following scriptures for our missionaries:

Ephesians 6:19-20

Colossians 4:3-4

2 Thessalonians 3:1-2

"Lazy Cook" Cake

- 1 - 16oz can of crushed pineapples
- 1 - pkg angel food cake mix

Dump in bowl, juice and all. Mix gently, do not over mix. Bake in tube pan at 350° until done. Serve to God's people.

submitted by Pat Hales

The cover image is a photograph of a missions banner created by Diana Ianovale.

PRAYER CORNER

In future issues, we will feature a "Prayer Corner" with your prayer requests and thanksgiving for the ways the Lord has blessed you.

Hopefully this will become a "Prayer Page," so start submitting items for prayer and praise! Submit them on a 3x5 card, or call Walter Rice, Jr., to get listed.

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