

June - July 2023

Dear Faithful Friends,

Joy in Serving Jesus

There is joy in serving Jesus, As I journey on my way, Joy that fills the heart with praises, Ev'ry hour and ev'ry day. **Refrain**

There is joy, joy, Joy in serving Jesus, Joy that throbs within my heart; Ev'ry moment, ev'ry hour, As I draw upon His power, There is joy, joy, Joy that never shall depart.

What a wonderful song that Oswald J. Smith penned for us to sing unto the LORD. It brings glory to God and excites and encourages the soul to not only serve Jesus, but serve Him with joy. We began the month of June with an old friend in Iowa and had blessed services with him, his family, and church. They are faithfully serving the LORD and are in need of our prayers to obtain a building. Pray for Pastor Rik Parcell and Harvest Baptist Church in Mt. Pleasant, IA. We then traveled to Memphis, TN and had an instructive and challenging week at Fundamental Baptist World-Wide Mission AIM Conference. The preaching was convicting and encouraging while the daily classes were very beneficial. It was great to spend a few weeks with friends and preachers and see on their faces and in their actions that there truly is *joy in serving Jesus*.

We then were blessed to participate in a VBS/Missions Conference in Madison, AL. To be able to meet various families who are serving the LORD on the field of missions was a blessing; while their zeal and love for the LORD was contagious. Madison Baptist showed their true burden and love for the same LORD in the manner in which they gave themselves to the week of VBS. My wife and I were able to teach the 5th grade girls and were humbled to see four girls from our class make a profession of faith in Christ. Fruit abounding to your account is a *joy in serving Jesus*.

We ended the month of June on Sunday the 25th in Atoka, TN and Southaven, MS. We were well taken care of by both churches as well as motivated by these two fine pastors and their churches. They have a love for missions and souls and it reflected in fellowship and discourse around our mission's table. Thank you for your support and care of us. Pastor Weems and Pastor Knepshield, thank you for demonstrating a *joy in serving Jesus*.

Onward to the month of July where we found ourselves in MO, WI, IN, and IL. In Kahoka, MO we were with a good friend and former Amish, Pastor Glen Yoder. Such a wonderful testimony and a blessing to be around both him and his church. The next week found us in Fond du Lac and Oshkosh, WI. One church had a young pastor while the other had a pastor who has been serving for quite some time. Both Lighthouse Bible Baptist Church and Wyldewood Baptist Church love the LORD and are giving of themselves to reach their towns with Gospel of Jesus Christ. Thank you for your generosity and sacrifice. What a *joy in serving Jesus*.

Sending Church

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In between our Wisconsin trips, we spent a Sunday in Richmond, IN. It was a blessing to see God's blessing upon Richmond Baptist and the building God has given them. They love to serve the LORD in all facets of ministries, especially when it comes to missions. It did us good to spend time with the pastor, his wife and family. Seeing them serve Jesus together reminded us of our family and the 18+ years we spent at Tabernacle Baptist in Quincy. There is *joy in serving Jesus* together as a family.

We made our way back up to Manitowoc, WI on the 23rd of July. We enjoyed our visit with Open Bible Baptist and the wonderful folks there. The pastor and his wife were on a relaxing vacation and the people kept things going and never missed a beat. The Tessman family took very good care of us and we even spent some time out on the river. What a blessing to see God's handiwork in His creation and enjoy a nice view of Lake Michigan. To see all the children and teens serving God and participating in the church service was delightful. The evening service had us travel down to Chicago, where we were excited to be with the church where everything started for me, Garfield Ridge Baptist. I was thankful that they were able to have us on such short notice. Being able to share our calling to Poland and spending time with the pastor and his family was a special time. There is *joy in serving Jesus* for all ages.

Lastly, we filled the pulpit all day for a good friend in the ministry on the last Sunday in July. Pastor Courtney Lewis and Cornerstone Baptist have a special place in our hearts. Pastor Lewis was saved as a bus kid from the projects of Chicago and is practically family. My children affectionately refer to him as Uncle Courtney. He initially came to Garfield Ridge during our VBS. His enthusiasm and love for serving the LORD has definitely spread to the good folks of Cornerstone. From their own VBS, to the bus route, to soulwinning, they are really reaching their Jerusalem for Jesus Christ. An eleven year old in VBS to pastor of a growing church on Chicago's Southside brings glory to God that there is no greater *joy in serving Jesus*.

Pray for us as we travel out west in the states of SD, WY, ID, UT, AR, and NM during the month of August and into the first week of September. We thank the LORD for churches who have sacrificed and decided to partner with us in reaching the country of Poland. We thank you for your prayers and financial support. As of June and July 2023, we want to thank the following churches for joining us in our endeavor to fulfill God's will. Sumter Baptist, Sumter, SC; Old Paths Baptist, Jefferson City, MO; First Baptist Atoka, Atoka, TN; Clearview Baptist, Southaven, MS.

There is joy in serving Jesus, Joy that triumphs over pain, Fills my soul with heaven's music, Till I join the glad refrain.

Sincerely,

Gary & Lisa Zdziarski

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