

August 2017

ALAN HARRIS MINISTRIES

So being affectionately desirous of you, we were willing to have imparted unto you, not the gospel of God only, but also our own souls, because ye were dear unto us. - 1 Thessalonians 2:6



Dear Friends,

Vacations are over and school is back in session. Gardens are being harvested and we are enjoying fresh produce picked from local farms. Soon the fields will be ready for harvest as well. Since our house is in rural Indiana, we have only to look outside our front door to see the when the fields are ready to harvest. In the same manner, if we take the time to simply look around us, we can see the truth of Jesus' words in John 4:35, "Say not ye, there are yet four months, and then cometh harvest? Behold, I say unto you, lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest." As we mentioned in a recent newsletter, we have always taken very seriously the command of Jesus in Matthew 9:38 and Luke 10:2 to pray for God to send forth laborers. Have you ever prayed that God would do something, and then He tells *you* to do it? It seems that as we have continued to pray for God to send laborers, He has opened doors for *us* to work in more white harvest fields ourselves. Since our first trip to the Philippines in 2012 we have continued to be involved in ministry there. Then last spring, God opened the door for Alan to join a team going to India. In March of 2018, Alan will be returning to India with Angie. Missionaries from other countries have invited us to come and minister in their areas as well. It is exciting to see how God is working and how people are eagerly receiving the Gospel. As we have contemplated these new doors of opportunity, God has impressed it on our hearts to develop a new area of emphasis that we are calling, "A Heart for the Harvest." You can expect to see regular Heart for the Harvest updates in each newsletter. We will also be planning special events and benefit concerts to share what God is doing and to raise awareness and funding for more frequent work with foreign missionaries. It is our desire to establish a consistent support base specifically for Heart for the Harvest so that when a missionary contacts us, we can be prepared to go as God directs. Please pray with us as we continue to develop this area of ministry.



Since last month's newsletter, we have enjoyed an unusual number of opportunities to minister in our own community. We have ministered at our home church, **Calvary Baptist in Connersville** on two different Sundays and also for the Lamplighters senior adult ministry. Even closer to home is **Connersville Baptist Temple** where we have ministered on four different Sundays as they are completing their pastor search. **Landmark Church** in Cincinnati has a wonderful Legacy adult ministry, and we enjoyed presenting a program for them in August as well. We also ministered at **First Baptist Church in Winamac, Indiana**, and **Bible Baptist Church in Metamora, Indiana**. We are thankful for the opportunity to minister in these churches annually.



Pastor John Reynolds at the 70th Anniversary of Calvary Baptist Church in Connersville, IN

Anniversary of Calvary Baptist Church. What an honor to be able to speak for this special event in the church Alan has attended since he was an infant! We also enjoyed singing in a community choir with soloist Joseph Habedank for a neighborhood block party outreach. Another outreach in our community is The Haven directed by Holly Dunn. Every Friday night, Holly hosts FUEL, a safe gathering



Lindsay and Joseph Habedank at Faith Builders Block Party in Connersville, IN



place for teens to be loved, fed, encouraged, and disciplined. During August, the theme for FUEL devotion time was marriage and family. Holly invited us to present a program with this theme, and we gratefully accepted her invitation. Most of the students who attend FUEL have little exposure to healthy family relationships. Holly is someone who is not satisfied with just observing or lamenting the needs of our community. She actively works to be the arms of Jesus to the youth of our area, and we love partnering with her when we are able. Sometimes the harvest is fairly obvious and ready to gather as in the Philippines and some areas of India. Sometimes there are crops that require rolling up the sleeves and digging through some weeds and debris to discover. Some harvest

fields are on the other side of the globe, and some are in our own town. As fall approaches, we pray that the Lord of the harvest will continue to use us and that He will send forth more laborers into the white harvest fields. Whether or not you are able to physically labor, everyone can obey the command of Jesus to pray for more laborers. As always, we can never thank you enough for your prayers for us and for your financial support and encouragement. We pray that God will open your eyes to the harvest that is ripe in your own circle of influence.

With sincere gratitude,
Alan and Angie Harris

Please allow us to share a personal need. As some of you know, our oldest son Alex is married to a wonderful Filipina whom he met on a mission trip with us in 2014. They had a “courthouse wedding” in January 2016, at the town hall in Navotas, Ellain’s home town in Metro Manila. Alex then returned home to his position as youth pastor at Landmark Church in Cincinnati. After much prayer and clear confirmation from God, Alex resigned his position at Landmark and went to Manila to live with his wife in November 2016, when they were also able to have a church wedding ceremony. Due to many unexpected delays, Ellain is still waiting for the approval of her US visa. **Please pray that the visa will be approved soon.** We recently learned that there has been another delay at the National Visa Center in New Hampshire. Apparently another of the documents we sent is either unsatisfactory or was lost. Many of you reading this know Alex and are praying for our family. We will keep you updated. *If any of you would like to help in the remaining costs of the visa and travel expenses,* we would be greatly appreciative. If you want to donate to this need, you can use the enclosed reply card with a note that it is for Alex. You can also donate online at alanharrisministries.org/donations.html with a note that it is for Alex. Any amount would be a blessing. Regardless, we ask that you pray with us for God’s provision and our perseverance as we trust His perfect timing in this visa journey.



IMPORTANT UPDATE

After much prayerful consideration, we have decided to cancel the “Harris Family Homecoming Concert” this year. Thank you to those of you who have supported this special event for the past 10 years. We are planning to come back in 2018 with a Heart for the Harvest concert. We will continue to feature the Alan Harris Trio and will also feature highlights from ministry with the missionaries with whom God has allowed us to partner.

PRAY FERVENTLY PRAY BELIEVING PRAY

- Mission trip to India March 5-17, 2018.
- Mission trip to the Philippines re-scheduled for November 2018.

Please pray for our teams and our plans to come together according to God’s will, as well as for the financial needs to be met and many souls to be saved.



SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER 2017

Thank you for your prayers as we travel!

- Sept 3-AM: Capital Bible Church, Harrisburg, PA
- Sept 10: Connersville Baptist Temple, Connersville, IN
- Sept 11-12: Tabernacle Baptist Church, Crane, TX
- Sept 24: Harmony Baptist Church, Marengo, OH
- Oct 1-2: Open Door Church, Chambersburg, PA
- Oct 8: New Life Church, New Cumberland, PA
- Oct 15: Hillcrest Baptist Church, Richmond, IN
- Oct 22-AM: Good Shepherd Bapt Ch, Lafayette, IN
- Oct 29: First Baptist Church, Centerville, IN