

By LeRoy Jackson and Jim McConnell - Prison Ministry

This has been a wonderful year working in God's vineyard doing prison ministry. Our services are still well attended; the order is good and the responses have been encouraging. The hands are few but God has given the increase. We see many souls coming to the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. There are many obstacles but we endure through Christ. I'm reminded how Gideon was preparing for battle and God said, "You have too many lest you vaunt yourself up against me." Yes, we need more help and God will send them, but I'm seeing God use the few to His glory.

The prison ministry needs much prayer. On the men's side Bro. LeRoy is in charge and faithfully goes just about every month. Bro. Jim goes frequently; occasionally others, like Bro. Kennedy, pitch in to bring the message. On the ladies' side, we are so short-handed it is sometimes difficult to schedule two visits each month. We go to Doylestown the first Saturday evening of each month. Praise the Lord that we have 'recovered' our inmate services contact person, so we can again encourage anyone, who might be interested, to get approved and join the team. Please let us know if you are interested.

We also want to develop an inward ministry (to our own members) in our own assembly with anyone who may have incarcerated family members. We want any such persons to make themselves known to us and let us know how we might help.

Keiyo Soy Ministries 5th Annual **"Walk for Water—Walk for Life"** 5K Walk/Run-A-Thon **Saturday, March 22 at 9 a.m.** Register at www.ksmministries.com *Help provide clean drinking water to many in northern Kenya.* 



Box Top Collection for Henry Houston Elementary School until March 30th

# My Day ... One Fine Sunday in February

Continued...

Bidding everyone goodbye, I almost made it half way out the door when I felt someone tap me on my left shoulder, *"Where are you going?" "Home"* I said. A gentleman coaxed me back in and said, *"There is a message here for you."* I turned around and walked towards the Sanctuary, where I sat with my host and coworker Jasper Haughton.

The strong message focused on sin and the coming of the Lord, and the preacher also railed against wonton and reckless living. What really convicted me was when he said, "Some of you were out partying the night before and just barely showed up to church today." Secondly, he said, "As were the days of Noah, so will be the last days." I remembered my grandparents and Aunt Cynthia telling me that the Lord is coming soon. My stubborn will was broken when the preacher said, "Some of you may be hoping to give your life to the Lord some day! While you are waiting for that 'someday' to come, DEATH could overtake you, and you could go to hell without making a better decision." Coincidentally, I was recently in a car accident that could have taken my life. That thought got to me! I was overcome by a feeling of urgency, which became a deep burden on my heart. The preacher was now inviting troubled souls to come to the altar for prayer. I asked myself, "Should I go? Will he pray for me?" I was filled with fear and I hardly knew how I got to the altar. I remember crying to God for His mercy. "I am sorry, I am sorry," I repeated again and again.

Today, thank God, my fears are gone! So are my sins. God has put a deep settled peace in my heart, and it is my determination to live for His glory. I now desire to help others find Jesus, the only way to God.  $\diamond$ 

#### Coming in April

GCA's Annual Missions Conference April 4-6, 2014 Theme: "Power Up For Missions



Flag Football **May 2014** Sat.11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. Ages 12-14, 15-17

Coming in May

GCA Annual Family Retreat

May 16-18, 2014

Harvey Cedars Bible Conf. Center, NJ







By Jim McConnell
- Adult Sunday School Teacher

Jesus said, "The Truth shall set you free." (John 8:32) The first thing we should take from this statement is that freedom begins in the mind. This is a tremendous insight because it so readily seems that freedom is a matter of circumstances. It's important that we get that, because the freedom of the mind that Jesus was talking about is the transforming freedom that Paul talks about.

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March 2014

Volume 2, Issue 4

### Why I Love GCA

By Andre' Wright - Voices of Praise Choir Member

I became a member of Germantown Christian Assembly as a young boy. As I grew older I really started to appreciate all that GCA had to offer in supporting my spiritual growth. Through the years I visited a few other churches but none could come close in matching the warmth and the sense of family that I felt at GCA.

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### Please drop them off in the Sunday School Office.

The Purpose of this Newsletter

This Ministry Newsletter is intended to support the vision of the church to be Christ-centered, empowered by the Holy Spirit, to build lives that glorify and worship God by emphasizing the Word, Evangelism, Discipleship and Caring for the whole man. We hope this Newsletter will play an important role in encouraging the members of our assembly to fearlessly stand closer together, for the cause of the gospel of Christ.



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Disclaimer: The opinions expressed in each of the articles herein are those of each individual author or contributor and not necessarily those held by the GCA Reflections Staff or GCA leadership.

A special thank you to all who contributed to this issue of GCA Reflections.

#### Why I Love GCA

#### Continued...

This church preaches from God's Word, not man's opinions, which has been edifying to me spiritually. Any given Sunday at GCA, one can take a look around and see the love that the GCA family has for God, making the worship experience even more powerful. GCA welcomes people with open arms making visitors feel welcome and loved. Within the church there are godly men who set excellent examples of what a man of God is supposed to look like.



Go ahead and chuckle at these Christian pick-up lines — just don't expect them to be very effective!

• Now I know why Solomon had 700 wives ... because he never met you.

• For you, I would slay two Goliaths.

• The Word says, "Give drink to the thirsty, and feed the hungry"; how about dinner?

• Your hair is like a flock of goats descending from Gilead.

• I believe one of my ribs belongs to you.

• How many times do I have to walk around you to make you fall for me?

• You really float my ark.

# My Testimony

By Truphena Korich

- Praise & Worship Team Member

I was brought up in a Christian family of six children. I grew up going to Sunday School and thought that I was on my way to heaven. My parents made sure that we knew our Bible verses. Every evening we spent time reading the Bible, memorizing memory verses and giving testimonies but I didn't have a personal relationship with The Lord.

I remember while my dad would say his testimony, I would wish I had such a relationship with this Person that my dad had. He kept saying, "I am on my way to heaven, and I know for sure that if I die today I will be with my Savior."

> GCA Kids Club for ages 5-12 Sign-up in the church lobby or call 215-242-5550

#### Be Transformed - By the Renewing of Your Mind Romans 12:2

Continued...

That change from bondage to freedom comes when we make it our habit to superimpose God's Truth upon our thoughts, our will, our emotions and our desires. That change frees the individual from the power of his or her circumstances. Now having said that, doesn't mean it is easy. In fact, it involves a painful yielding of control which rebels against everything within our human spirit and nature. Nevertheless, it is the path to follow because it works. It is guaranteed to work: but it is seldom instantaneous. The transformation Paul mentions is a process by which, over time, God's truth gains control of how we think about things so that we are no longer controlled by the patterns of sin and the pain and limitations of our circumstances. Thus, this emancipating transformation is the process by which the power of Truth brings what we think into line with what we know, regardless of how we may feel at the time...and that...is what sets the prisoner free.  $\diamond$ 

## My Day ... One Fine Sunday in February

By Floyd Johnson

At the age of fourteen, that time

came. An evangelist from Zaire came

to my church. He preached and at the

end he asked if there was anyone who

wanted to give his/her life to The Lord.

I raised my hand. My life was

changed, but not without many

challenges especially through my

I praise God for preserving my life

and testimony. I started witnessing for

Him and joining youth groups and

going to youth camps. I grew more in

The Lord as I participated in youth

camps and that is where I met my

husband. God has been faithful. He

has blessed me beyond my

teenage years.

comprehension.  $\diamond$ 

- Usher and Men's Chorus Member

I vividly remember getting out of bed, peering outside at snow flurries, wondering if this was the best day to visit my friend Jasper's church. Maybe the flurries created the best excuse for me to stay home. Yes, I mused, this is just the out I needed. My thoughts were interrupted by the sharp chimes of a telephone, (in those days, there were no cell phones or texting). Fearing the call would wake my grandfather, I quickly grabbed the phone. *"Hello."* The voice said, *"This is Jasper, you are still coming, right?" "Umm, well,"* I said sheepishly, *"It's flurrying and besides, what is the church's location?"* Jasper brushed aside my excuses and retorted. *"It's just a snow squall that won't last long. The location is 52<sup>nd</sup> and Baltimore Avenue, and it is easy to find."* Then he hit me with the popular line, *"You can't miss it; in fact, I will meet you if you get stuck."* Well, his persistence made me commit.

Gradually, the morning became bright and sunny but very chilly. I made some wrong turns and eventually Jasper had to meet me; this was before the introduction of the Global Positioning System. The church was formerly an old movie theatre, as evidenced by its architecture, façade, marquee, wide open hall, and tall doors. The building was remodeled to house a "Church of God" congregation, a place of worship and praise.

I participated in Sunday School and at the end I felt free to voice a burning matter that troubled me. Recently my car was stolen and the checkbook in the car was falsified against my account. This was the first valley in my life and it was a real nightmare. I believe I told the church that I wanted the death penalty for thieves! The saints tried to comfort me and related that sister 'so-and-so' had her car stolen, but she prayed to the God Most High. The good sister not only got her

car back, but the thief was convicted. I was not impressed. I believed that only intense "holy rollers" could get such results. I was skeptical and did not believe it could happen for me.

I intended to leave after Sunday School. The members were very friendly and peaceful. The plain floors and chairs really were not appealing to me; I preferred a more upscale setting. *Continues on page 6.* 



"I'll bet it waits until after the geography test."

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