

“I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.” John 8:12



April 3, 2005

First Christian Church of Sylvania

Faith Promise Mission Rally April 3, 2005

The Missions Committee here at First Christian Church would like to thank you in advance for your interest and support in the furthering of the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ through Missions.

This booklet was prepared in order to inform the members of our congregation of the work that our church is doing, both here and abroad. In making our members aware of our mission endeavors, we pray that each member will do as much as they can in working for our Lord through missions.

This is the second Faith Promise Mission Rally for First Christian Church of Sylvania. During the first one, two years ago, the church was challenged to promise \$26,000, but because of God’s leading his people, First Christian Church, promised well over that goal. This year the Missions Committee is challenging the church body to promise \$30,000. With your help and

God’s leading this too can be accomplished.

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This booklet contains information and prayer needs of all of the missions/missionaries that this church supports. There are two basic categories of emphasis that the church focuses on: Foreign Missions and Home Missions. Foreign Missions consist of the “classic” idea of missions, those pertaining to overseas. Home Missions, which is still part of the Great Commission, consists of, for example, programs with emphasis in education, inner city youth, camps, and even local evangelism.

The Missions Committee encourages you to keep this booklet so that you can remember each of these missionaries/mission organizations in prayer.



Foreign Missions

Christian Missionary Fellowship International

Contacts: Brian and Tabitha Hauser

Location: Ivory Coast, Africa

About this ministry-

Christian Missionary Fellowship has been in the Ivory Coast for several years. During that time they have planted churches, administered leadership training, and provided medical services among the two million Agni and Attie people. A small percentage of the people call themselves Muslim but continue in animistic religion. Brian and Tabitha Hauser have been in the Ivory coast for only a couple of years providing bible studies and leadership training.

Prayer Needs-

- The people in this area are tolerant to both Muslims and Christians and considers both religions to be the same. Pray for Brian to have the wisdom to minister to these people. Additionally, pray that the Holy Spirit will guide them into the Truth.
- Brian has indicated that there is a movement among the youth in the immediate area and that they are open to the teachings of Christ. Currently, Brian is using a teaching method called "Life Transformation Groups". This teaching method emphasizes reading scriptures repetitively and the use of small groups. Pray that Brian will be able to connect with the youth and will be able to relay the truth and grace found in Jesus Christ.

Foreign Missions

Jamaica Christian Mission

Contact: Terry Johnson

Location: Jamaica

About this ministry-

Jamaica Christian Mission exists to evangelize the island of Jamaica and provide spiritual guidance to the Christians there through education, training, and financial support. First Christian Church of Sylvania has supported Terry and Elena Johnson for several years now.

Shine Jesus Shine

Verse 1

Lord the light of Your love is shining
In the midst of the darkness shining
Jesus Light of the World shine upon us
Set us free by the truth You now bring us
Shine on me shine on me (**Chorus**)

Verse 2

Lord I come to Your awesome presence
From the shadows into Your radiance
By the blood I may enter Your brightness
Search me try me consume all my darkness
Shine on me shine on me (**Chorus**)

Verse 3

As we gaze on Your kingly brightness
So our faces display Your likeness
Ever changing from glory to glory
Mirror'd here may our lives tell Your story
Shine on me shine on me (**Chorus twice**)

Chorus

Shine Jesus shine
Fill this land
With the Father's glory
Blaze Spirit blaze
Set our hearts on fire
Flow river flow
Flood the nations
With grace and mercy
Send forth Your Word Lord
And let there be light
Graham Kendrick

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Faith Promise Contribution Guide

This year's goal is get \$30,000 worth of promises for the missions/missionaries sponsored by First Christian Church. In order to meet that goal, we need the whole church family to participate and contribute to the Faith Promise Mission Rally. To put this in perspective, \$30,000 is equivalent to \$2,500 a month. To collect \$2,500 a month, the missions program needs to at least have 25 families giving at a minimum of \$100 each. Therefore, in order to meet that goal the missions committee has identified a suggested giving range, 25% to 30% of the total tithe to the church.

The following is a guide to aid you in determining the amount of money you might want to promise for the church sponsored missions. To use this guide first determine the approximate amount you are planning on giving to the church, then use the next two columns as a recommended amount you could promise to the missions program.

Total Tithe	Contribution 25%	Contribution 30%
\$ 10.00	\$ 2.50	\$ 3.00
\$ 20.00	\$ 5.00	\$ 6.00
\$ 30.00	\$ 7.50	\$ 9.00
\$ 40.00	\$ 10.00	\$ 12.00
\$ 50.00	\$ 12.50	\$ 15.00
\$ 100.00	\$ 25.00	\$ 30.00
\$ 200.00	\$ 50.00	\$ 60.00
\$ 400.00	\$ 100.00	\$ 120.00
\$ 800.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 240.00

Missions Committee Members

Carolyn Bazemore
 Christie Durance
 Beth Hill
 Jeremy Hill
 Ronald Nunnally
 Rose Nunnally
 George Pevey
 Chip Weaver
 Kristy Weaver

Prayer Needs-

- Pray for the camp program as they train leaders for the church of tomorrow. Pray that mission teams from the US will head to Kingston this summer to help with these programs.
- Pray for the Adult Retreat and for leaders to emerge from the congregations.
- Pray for the Youth Jamboree and that the youth will learn to walk closer with the Lord.
- Pray for the work of the Johnson Family as they strive to establish new congregations across the island.
- Pray for the various work teams who travel to the island for camp, VBS programs and work projects.

Foreign Missions

Reaching The Billions

Contact: David Poling

Location: Hong Kong

About this ministry-

David and Lynn have served in Hong Kong since 1979. Their primary work in Hong Kong has been with the Chinese Christian Seminary, an evening Bible College.

The Chinese government took over Hong Kong in 1997. Since then the people of Hong Kong have had the "freedom of religious belief and freedom to preach, conduct, and participate in religious activities in public". Because of this dramatic change in the culture, there has been a new demand for religion, including Christianity. This hunger for the biblical teaching of Christ is currently growing faster than the ability to train pastors and church leaders. The Chinese Christian Seminary, where David Poling teaches, provides the people of Hong Kong a strong academic program that prepares them to spread the Good News.

Prayer Need-

Shortly before Christmas, the Chinese government's Religious Affairs Bureau (RAB) told a nearby church that they were illegal and should stop meeting. This particular group was started by a government church. However, the government refused to recognize their application to be a legal church and so, the mother church abandoned them. For the past year, a

group of relatively new Christians have been pushed into the leadership of this church. They have done a good job and the church has grown.

However, the church meets on the fourth floor of a residential building. The fire department does not approve since, were there a fire, they could not all evacuate down the single- narrow stairwell. The RAB does not approve because churches are not supposed to meet in residences. Previously, the RAB had ignored this technicality, but neighbors have complained about the singing and so they had to issue a warning.

After soul-searching and prayer, the church contacted the RAB and asked if they could “gradually” stop meeting. The RAB said that was fine. No one has bothered to explain what “gradually” means. Meanwhile, they are looking for a location that will satisfy government requirements. Pray that they find one soon.

Foreign Missions

John Stone

Location: Haiti

About this ministry-

John Stone has been in Haiti since October 1999. The majority of his ministry in Haiti was with the Living Hope Haiti Christian Mission in Camathe. While serving there he was a Field Coordinator, overseeing the daily operations at the mission. Moreover, he performed vital daily functions in construction, cabinetry, and installing plumbing and electrical systems. John Stone has left the Living Hope Haiti Christian Mission, but is still living in the area and seeking a new calling.

Prayer Needs-

- Pray for John Stone and his upcoming marriage. Pray for their relationship to be centered around God and to be a ministry in and of itself to the people of Haiti.
- Pray for John Stone’s mother who recently became ill and for John as he deals with this situation.
- Pray for John Stone’s new calling from God and that he and his wife will follow God’s leading, no matter where it may lead them.

*Prayer and Fasting

There are several benefits that come from fasting. First, fasting increases our sense of humility and dependence on the Lord (for our hunger and physical weakness continually remind us how we are not really strong in ourselves but need the Lord). Second, fasting allows us to give more attention to prayer (for we are not spending time on eating). Third, it is a continual reminder that, just as we sacrifice some personal comfort to the Lord by not eating, we must continually sacrifice all of ourselves to Him.

It was in the context of worship, prayer, and fasting, that the Holy Spirit in Acts 13:2 said, “Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul [Paul] for the work to which I have called them.” In both the Old Testament and the New Testament there are many examples of believers praying and fasting. However, today, relatively few Christians both fast and pray. On the other hand, Muslims stop and pray five times a day, and for one month out of the year engage in a limited fast (from dawn to sunset).

In the Bible, fasting and prayer are not a way of forcing God to grant our requests. Rather, fasting and prayer prepare us to accept the will of God. We wrestle with God in prayer and fasting that we might be defeated by Him and so gain greater spiritual victory in our lives. Fasting helps us to discipline our wills, which are often reluctant to serve the Lord as He desires.

In Scripture we are provided several purposes for prayer and fasting.

PURPOSE	SCRIPTURE	PERSON(S)
To be instructed by God	Exodus 34:28	Moses
To be victorious in battle	Judges 20:24-28	Israel
To seek granting of prayer	1 Samuel 1:7	Hannah
To overcome fear	1 Kings 19:8	Elijah
To have physical safety	Ezra 8:21-23	Ezra
To express mourning	Nehemiah 1:4	Nehemiah
To express repentance	Jonah 3:4-10; Acts 9:8-9	Nineveh Paul
To overcome temptation	Matthew 4:1-11	Jesus
To set aside one to service	Acts 13:3; 14:23	Paul, elders, and others

In the context of our Missions Rally, the first and the last purposes are perhaps our greatest concerns.

Prayer Needs-

- Pray that the summer camp program will be a tool for developing and creating personal relationships with Jesus Christ.
- Pray that the camp leaders stay focused and dedicated to God's will for the camp programs and the facility.
- Pray for growth and new funding sources so that the camp can remain viable into the distant future.

Home Missions - College Ministry

Christian Campus Fellowship

Contact: Danny Groover

Location: Statesboro, GA

About this ministry-

Christian Campus Fellowship is a non-denominational ministry dedicated to providing opportunities for Christian worship, service, fellowship and study to the Georgia Southern community.

The Georgia Southern Christian Campus Fellowship began in the fall of 1995 under the leadership of Danny and Michelle Groover. Eight students attended the very first CCF Bible Study. This past year alone, over 240 different students have participated in the life of CCF.

Prayer Needs-

- Pray for the three students who became Christians during the Gatlinburg retreat. Specifically, pray for their spiritual growth, becoming involved in a church, and their commitment to reading the Bible and praying daily.
- Pray for the summer Thursday night Bible study program.
- Pray for Danny Groover and the leadership of Christian Campus Fellowship as they plan for next year's retreats, Bible studies, and mission projects.

Home Missions - Education

Atlanta Christian College

Location: Atlanta, Georgia

About this ministry-

Atlanta Christian College believes that the goal of education is the development of the total person. The curriculum – biblical and theological studies, arts and sciences, and various professional studies – and the learning environment are designed to encourage students to grow spiritually, intellectually, socially, physically, and professionally. There is currently about 400 students that attend Atlanta Christian College.

Prayer Needs-

- Pray for the students at the college to seek God's will and to live their lives accordingly.
- Pray for the students that will be on various mission fields around the world this summer.
- Pray for the administrators at the college and their need to seek God's direction in all matters of the college.

Home Missions - Education

Johnson Bible College

Location: Knoxville, TN

About this ministry-

Founded in 1893, Johnson Bible College is the second oldest continuing Bible College in America. While having a long and rich heritage, God is blessing JBC with some of the most dramatic growth and expansion in the College's history. Since the mid 1990's, enrollment has grown by over 85% to 850 in 2003. Faculty and staff have also been added with 26 full time faculty, 32 adjunct faculty, and a staff of 140 serving at the College.

Prayer Needs-

Pray for some of the faculty members and their ability to reach the students and teach the Good News.

- Dr. Carl Bridges - Professor, New Testament
- Mr. Darris Brock - Lecturer, Bible and Hermeneutics

- Mr. Steve Cook - Instructor, Old Testament
- Dr. Dennis Gaertner - Professor, New Testament
- Dr. Gerald Mattingly - Professor, Bible; Honors Program Coordinator
- Dr. Jody Owens - Assistant Professor, Ministry
- Dr. David Reece - Professor, Old Testament
- Mr. John Rumble - Instructor, New Testament
- Dr. Tom Smith - Professor, History and Theology

Home Missions - Evangelism and Training

Evangelical Ministries of Sylvania

Contact: Charles Martin

Location: Sylvania, GA

About this ministry-

Evangelical Ministries of Sylvania, Inc. (EMOS) was founded in January 1978 to work with pastors, missionaries, teachers, and others in the church who often have limited time to devote to in-depth biblical and theological research, limited resources, including reference works and scholarly monographs, and/or a limited academic background in biblical and theological studies as well as practical theology and missions. EMOS stand ready to assist church leaders in their biblical task (Eph. 4:12) of equipping believers for ministry.

Prayer Needs-

- More Patrons so that EMOS can continue to provide free materials, resources, and research to churches, pastors, missionaries, and teachers
- Funding for physical expansion of the library (not part of budget, but failure to do this could close EMOS in early 2006)
- Volunteer librarian to shelf-classify by author's last name different sections of the research library
- Volunteer editor to assist with editing and proof reading of the Bulletin and teaching notes

Home Missions - Inner City

Christian City

Location: Union City, GA

About this ministry-

Christian City ministers to the needs of families with particular emphasis on children, the aged, and the infirm, by providing high quality, efficient, effective and affordable residential, health and social services delivered in accordance with the principles of the teachings of Jesus Christ.

Today, Christian City is licensed to care for 86 children, 200 convalescent residents, 300 Life-Lease retirement residents, 300 retirement apartment residents and 200 residents in Sparks Inn Retirement Center. Christian City has 400 employees and over 150 volunteers working to meet the needs of their 1100 residents.

Prayer Needs-

- Pray that the 150 volunteers at Christian City will continue to do God's work for the glory of God, not for their own interest or gain.
- Pray that Christian City will continue to faithfully follow God's teachings as they minister to those that God has brought their way.
- Pray that the 86 children, 200 convalescent residents, and the remaining 800 other residents will be open to God's will for their life.

Home Missions - Camp

Coastal Empire Christian Camp

Location: Hiltonia, Georgia

About this ministry-

Since the establishment of the camp approximately 30 years ago, many of our young people have learned to know and grow in the Lord. This facility, located in Hiltonia, provides a summer camp and retreat ministry to the Christian Churches of the Coastal Empire. The camp also hosts retreats for men and women in the Fall and leadership retreats. Through the years many improvements have been made at the camp and plans for more upgrades are being made.