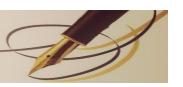
From the Pastor's Pen...



Greetings to all of you in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. It's hard to imagine that we are already in the month of March. Let me begin this edition of the Pastor's Pen by saying thank you to each and everyone of you who made the service for Bro. Mark and Mrs. Joni so special for them. We had a tremendous service and they were very much honored by your testimonies and gifts.

Let me urge each of you to begin praying concerning two matters. First of all, begin seeking The Lord concerning our Missions Conference in April. It will be here before we know it. I've said it numerous times, but this is the most important meeting our church will have. I'm asking each of you to earnestly pray and seek The Lord about how He would have you to give to our Faith Promise Missions program this year. I think each of us can do "a little more." Let's all work together and make this the BEST missions conference we have ever had. Also, you need to be considering and praying about our Missions trip in July to the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in Pine Ridge, SD. Within the next month, we will need to have a good idea how many people will be going. This trip will be a great blessing to us as we try to be a blessing to these needy people.

Let me end this month's letter with a short devotion. I heard a story about a fellow who was carrying a heavy bag of grain down a road. Another fellow in a wagon saw this man carrying his heavy bag of grain and said, "Sir, you need a ride? Get in the wagon with me, and I'll take you where you need to go." And so the man got up in the wagon and they went toward his destination. Time passed, and the driver looked behind him to see if the man was comfortable. He couldn't believe what he saw—the man still had the bag of grain on his shoulder. He said, "Man, put that down and rest while we ride!" But the man said, "No thank you. It's enough to ask you to carry me without having you carry this also." Have you ever done that to the Lord? You trusted in the Lord for salvation but you walk through this life carrying all of life's burdens on your own. If you and I can trust Jesus to save our souls, then why can't we trust Him to carry the burdens of everyday life?"

Psalm 55:22 says, "Cast thy burden upon the LORD, and He shall sustain thee: He shall never suffer the righteous to be moved."

1 Peter 5:7 says, "Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you."

If anyone of you need me for anything this month, don't hesitate to call me.

I love you all, Bro. Wesley