

On The Shoulders of Giants

Frank Harris



In Luke 6:38 it reads,

"Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again."

Too many think that this just means money, but the scripture

does not say that. It just says to give freely of whatever you have, whether that is your time, or your money, or your talents. God knew that that was the only way a church could be run. That is by selfless, caring people who are ready to give freely of what they have, to help out and to show their love for God and how much they care for the people around them. In the many years that I have been attending this church and the short time I have been writing this Newsletter I have had the privilege of knowing some very great individuals who just quietly work in the background sharing their passion for God and their love for people, making this church work like God wants it to.

Frank Harris is one such person, working, doing what needs to be done. He was not born in a hospital but a farmhouse out on Drake Road. He has lived in Middletown all his life and attended Garfield Elementary, Mckinley Junior High and Middletown High schools.

When Frank was a child he says, "My Aunt and Uncle used to invite me to their church which was the Full Gospel Tabernacle, a pentecostal church." "We went as guests on Christmas and Easter." "I was introduced to Pentecost though by my Grandma Hayslip when I was 3-4 years old. She would take me to this small Pentecostal church in Clarksville, Ohio. This was a church of about 25 to 30 people and it was electrified. When you got touched you felt real power."

Frank remembers that one day he was at home and his parents were in bed and he felt the Holy Spirit dealing with him, leading me into the living room and I accepted the Lord there. "This is when I started going to the Full Gospel Tabernacle regularly and where my mother came back to the Lord a week after I got saved." His dad, who had been raised Methodist, noticed the change in his wife and son and decided he wanted it as well, so his mom led his dad to the Lord one night in their bedroom.

In 1962 he was drafted into the armed forces and served two years in the Medical Corps attached to an artillery unit. He says, "My one medical duty was issuing cotton wads to the men as ear plugs to protect their hearing."



Frank was discharged January 14, 1964 and after this they felt the need to move to another church and knew some people from Clayton Street. They called the parsonage there and talked to Virginia Jenkins the pastor's wife (Haskell Jenkins) about attending. They went and were welcomed and fell in love with it. They officially joined the Clayton Street church in 1965, with Frank joining the choir shortly after and has never quit.



Frank worked in the Junior Boy's department and also taught a Sunday School class. He was assistant Sunday School director working with Arlie Lawson. He has served on the Pastor's Council under Bro. Sargent and Bro. Watkins. Frank has worked under seven different pastors; Haskell Jenkins, Jack Adams, Robert Graham, Lane Sargent, Paul Gregory, W. D Watkins and Ray

Phillips.

When Garry Turner was setting up the orchestra, he asked Frank if he could help him separate all the music for each instrument. Well, Frank jumped right in and did just that. He not only separated the music, but set it up for practice and made sure each musician had their music in front of them for every service.

Frank's mom Gracie, starting at Harlan Park and at Stratford Heights, always took great pride in keeping

Frank Harris

our church clean. Later on though, as she grew older, she could not get around quite as well, so Frank pitched in and helped her for many years.

He retired from the Post Office after 30 years working as a clerk and as a carrier. He would sort the mail for the individual routes for the carriers, and he also would work the front desk selling stamps and such to the public.

Frank says, "All my church work was such a joy. Working with everybody from the pastor right on down!"

Frank, like all these other wonderful people I have written about, just pitched in and helped wherever he was needed, getting the job done and giving his best to the Lord. Without people like Frank and so many others, God's work could not get done. After all, God gave His very best to us, should we give any less!

SOUTHERN OHIO YOUTH CAMP



Senior High for ages 15-17 is June 15-19 with speaker Pastor Kevin McGlamery.

Junior High for ages 12-14 is June 22-26 with speaker Pastor Glen Walters and Force Student Ministries.

Kids Alive for ages 10-12 is June 29-July 3 with speaker Pastor Freddy Todd.

Adventure Time for ages 7-9 is July 6-9 with speaker Pastor Sandy Crowe.

SOMETHING NEW; Moving up Weekend Retreat for ages 18-30 is July 10-12 with speaker Pastor Eric Petree and special music by Blake Mason.

Registration time is Mondays at 1:00PM

Checkout last day at 11:00AM

The cost is \$100 for all camps except Adventure Time which is \$80.

CROCODILE DOCK VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL



ARE YOUR KIDS READY TO SINK THEIR TEETH IN **BIG FUN!!!**

That's just what they'll do at Crocodile Dock, where fearless kids shine God's light! Crocodile Dock is filled with incredible Bible-learning that kids see, hear, touch, and even taste! Bible Point crafts, team-building games, cool Bible songs, and tasty treats are just a few of the Crocodile Dock activities that help faith flow into real life. (Since everything is hands-on, kids might get a little messy. Be sure to send them in play clothes and safe shoes.) Plus, we'll help kids discover how to see God in everyday life--something we call God Sightings. Get ready to hear *that* phrase a lot!

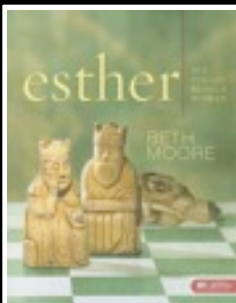
SAVE THE DATE FOR VBS

MONDAY, JUNE 15--FRIDAY, JUNE 19

10:00AM-12:00PM

You will find preregistration forms in Rock Island hallway or online at shcog.com. Those interested in working contact Miss Carolyn.

Esther, It's Tough Being a Woman



On our first night for this course we had 53 women come and it was standing room only in the class room and everybody enjoyed it. The next class is moving into the gym and will be staying there to make room for everybody who wants to attend.

If you didn't make it to the first class and have missed a video see Linda Ingham and come join us every Wednesday at 7:30pm in the gym.

ROCK ISLAND CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

By Carolyn Perfetti



Carolyn was born in Lakewood, Ohio near Cleveland. She was raised in the Lorain Church of God by her godly parents, being the second generation in her family born into the Church of God. She was saved at 3 years old and could quote Psalm 23.

She cut her teeth on the pews and was taught to live by her faith. Her father was a very generous, caring man who would sometimes give his last dollar to a person in need, and they would have to pray the car home because they had no gas. God though would always supply the need because someone would always call wanting a ride to work and would supply the gas money.

One time, because of a GM strike, her father was out of work for a year and a half. They relied on God and prayer for these hard times and never missed church or went hungry. Carolyn and her brother both had a paper route, her mom took in ironing, and her dad repaired cars and took in odd jobs. "Everybody pitched in to help and you learned the difference between wants and needs. God always supplied the needs." She says.

Carolyn was 15 when she taught her first Sunday School class, being paired with another teacher in the 2 and 3 year olds. At 16 she became the only teacher with 15 kids. She remembers one kid named Manuel who told her that his daddy had shot his other daddy, and he had to walk over a dead body to get on the bus to Sunday School. She helped in Children's Church and played the piano until she got married.

She also sang in a trio, playing the piano for 3 years. They were asked to sing in a Northern Ohio Campmeeting as well as other events and services.

Carolyn met her husband in church one evening service. The pastor had been scolding the church for not being friendly; she noticed Frank who was a newcomer, so she went up to him after service and shook his hand saying, "Hi, I'm Carolyn Sharp, at least you know someone in this

church." This began a short engagement and a long romance.



The day after getting married, she moved to Lebanon, Ohio, and started going to Lebanon Church of God under Pastor Harold Stevens. She taught 2 and 3 year olds and started a Children's Church there. After a year, they transferred their membership to Harlan Park under Pastor Lane Sargent.

There she taught the 2 and 3 year olds in the little house behind the church. Later she became the Preschool Department head and moved over to the basement of the church, working with Bob Kelly to fix it up. "He transformed it from a dungeon to a beautiful classroom." she says. She even painted a mural on the wall.



Moving to Stratford Heights, she became a teacher again. She then served as Family Life Night director and won a state award for best director of the year.

After that she started a discipleship class for 4, 5 and 6 graders and wrote most of the curriculum for it. They would have to keep a daily journal and memorize scriptures. They would also have homework to turn in which was graded. They would have monthly outings, some just for fun and others for community service. Some of the things were; helping a farmer bring in his crops and cleaning the sanctuary. The competition was 'who could get the dirtiest rag.' Some of the fun things they did were; going to the circus, ice skating, and even burying a time capsule for 5 years. The kids involved talk about the class to this day.



Seeing the need for discipleship for all, she promotes Youth Camp, VBS and the Royal Rangers/Missionettes program. Attending these programs is one of the best ways to instill the Word of God in fun and concentrated ways.

About 12 years ago Pastor Watkins asked her to run a VBS program for the first time in many years. He was so impressed with how she ran that VBS that he asked her to take over the Children's Ministry.



At Rock Island our goal is to prepare the children to be strong in the Lord, and His word, as they

ROCK ISLAND CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

live for Jesus and continue to be part of the world. Inside all children is the making of someone special and given the right start, all kids can stretch into their natural potential.

Each Sunday the preschoolers(4 and 5 year olds) meet in room 205. Loberta Turner and Roxie Gilbert who have worked together for 40 years run this class. Illness has kept Roxie out for a year but Hannah Watson has stepped in to help. They usually have 15 to 20 kids in class.

Miss Carolyn runs the Rock Island Children's Church every Sunday morning in the Family Life Center. With the help of Gregg Gentry, they have skits, games, scripture memorization, story time and the teaching of God's Word to life applications.

To protect our children, Miss Carolyn set up the Rock Island security. The purpose of this ministry is to make sure that only an approved parent or guardian

picks up their child. Everyone entering the gym on Sunday mornings must clear the secured area. This is run by volunteers, if you are interested, you can sign up in the Rock Island hallway

Looking toward the future, Miss Carolyn is seeking someone who is an enthusiastic, motivated music leader to lead praise and worship in Rock Island Children's Church. This person will help develop a children's praise team that will do praise and worship each week. This person will work with the Rock Island team, developing songs that coordinate with the theme and will serve each Sunday morning at 10:45 during the Rock Island hour. You will need to commit for six months. Miss Carolyn coordinates this ministry, high school teens and adults can apply.

We are excited to share Jesus with your children in Rock Island. Come be a part, Sundays at 10:45AM.

GOD IS OUR ROCK!

NAOMI'S CIRCLE

by Barb Rogers

This is our Widow's Outreach Ministry and is named for Naomi out of the book of Ruth. Naomi means "pleasant, delight, grace, beauty." Once Naomi's husband and both sons died she chose to return to Bethlehem-Judah which means "House of Bread-Praise." Part of Naomi's purpose was to mentor Ruth, her widowed daughter-in-law, and to prepare her for Boaz. She also helped in the birthing of worship through Ruth that would restore her own life. Obed, Ruth's son by Boaz, her Kinsmen-Redeemer, was credited to Naomi, as she became his nurse.(Ruth 4:14-17)

US Census statistics state:

- There are 12 million widows in the US.
- Half of all women over the age of 65 will become widows.
- The average age of a widow is between 53 and 55 years old.
- Half of the women that are over 65 live on \$550 a month or less
- 8 of 10 married women are going to be widows.

The word of God contains 120 scriptures that talk about widows:

- In Exodus God hears the widows' cry.
- In Proverbs He establishes her boundaries.
- In Psalms He is her defender and He sustains her.

•In Isaiah He declares to be her husband.

•In Deuteronomy God provides justice.

•In Psalms He revives and restores her.



This ministry began in September, 2007 with the understanding that God has a concern for. James 1:27 reads, "Pure and undefiled religion before God and the Father is this; to visit the orphans and widows in their trouble and to keep oneself unspotted from the world." We offer this ministry as a warm fellowship for women who have lost their husbands and who are in need of understanding, comfort and times of sharing. We also offer help to those who occasionally need transportation or assistance around their home.

Our mission is to plead the case of, provide assistance to, and promote the spiritual growth and ministry of widows.

Based on Isaiah 1:17, Naomi's Circle strives to fulfill the biblical mandate to "plead for the widow" in a variety of ways, including:

•Distributing a monthly newsletter.

•Maintaining a prayer list that is distributed to 82 widows currently on our mailing list to be "Prayer Warriors." Intercessors to the throne room of God on behalf of the needs of our church family, our community and our nation.

•Offering a faith-based GriefShare DVD series to assist widows through their journey of

Naomi's Circle

grief. This ongoing mission is to care for and love these ladies on their journey into and through widowhood by providing emotional and spiritual support.

•Hosting a quarterly luncheon in honor of our widows. During the luncheon we have a devotion, distribute a craft and hand out door prizes donated by area businesses. Fun, food and fellowship is had by all.

The goal of our ministry is Job 29:13; *"I caused the widow's heart to sing for joy."*

A dinner to honor our widows was held on March 27th and it was a time of devotion and fellowship.

I would like to express my appreciation to all the ladies who baked cakes and cookies for the dinner. We also want

to extend our thanks to area businesses who contributed to make Naomi's circle dinner special for our ladies.

The were; *Frisch's, Steak-N-Shake, Bob Evans, Wendy's, Bath & Body Works, Master Cuts, Kroger, Golden-Dragon, Elliot Auto Bath, Midas, McDonalds, Lees Famous Recipe, Captain D's, Subway, Danbarry Cinema, O'Charley's, El Rancho Grande, Middletown Journal, Drury Inn, Fairfield Inn, and Trenton Corner Flower Shop.*

We have a Ladies Tea, Saturday, June 27th at 12pm at the church.

I welcome the opportunity to answer any questions you may have. Please contact Barb Rogers, Widow's Ministry Coordinator at

513-727-0077 or at barbrogers@sbcglobal.net.



The House
Under Construction
Opening this Fall
Sundays at 9:30am
Christian Education Ministries



PASTOR APPRECIATION DAY



COMING
SUNDAY, JULY 19TH

THIS IS OUR DAY TO SHOW OUR APPRECIATION TO OUR PASTOR FOR ALL THE HARD WORK AND LOVE HE GIVES US!

FEEL FREE TO BRING A CARD OR SMALL GIFT TO SHOW HOW MUCH YOU LOVE OUR PASTOR!

FURTHER INFORMATION WILL BE COMING IN THE NEXT NEWSLETTER .

Church of God Campmeeting

June 8-10th at **Potters House** in Columbus.

June 11 and 12th at **Princeton Pike.**

SPEAKERS

June 8th speaker is Dr. Raymond Culpeper.

June 9th speaker is Tim Oldfield.

June 10th speaker is Larry Timmerman.

June 11th speaker is Larry Timmerman.

June 12th speaker is Mark Williams.



4419 Nelson Road
Middletown, Ohio 45042
(513) 423-0797
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Pastor Ray Phillips

www.shcog.com

MISSION STATEMENT

We will passionately embrace God, connect with one another, pursue discipleship into all the world through Jesus Christ!

The Church of God of Middletown, Ohio
Stratford Heights Church of God
4419 Nelson Road
Middletown, Ohio 45042

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

OPPORTUNITIES FOR WORSHIP

SUNDAY

Early Morning Worship-8:30am
Sunday School-9:30am
Morning Worship-10:45am
Evening Worship-6:00pm

TUESDAY

Oasis-6:30pm

WEDNESDAY

Missionettes & Royal Rangers-7:00pm
Family Life Night-7:30pm

Noah's Ministry for children 0-3 years old
offered for all services except 8:30am.

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