



Colossians 3:17



# Thank You Notes

The Newsletter of Giving Thanks Ministries

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***We Wish You A Merry, Joyous Christmas and a Blessed, Glorious 2014!!***

*Beloved, I pray that you may prosper in all things and be in health, just as your soul prospers. 3 John 2*

Yesterday, Don said, "2013 evaporated!!" Some of you can identify with his conclusion. While looking back over the short months, I ask myself if I did anything of eternal value. We older folks remember a song "Only One Life." We sang, "Only one life, so soon it will pass. Only what's done for Christ will last." I pray that each of us has honored the Lord with our lives this past year.

Time we spent in 2013 with family and friends was a treat. We, along with Caroline and her family, hosted the McMurry Family reunion in July. I was able to visit my Eastern North Carolina family and attend my high school class reunion. We also enjoyed being with, ministering with, and studying God's word with friends. I appreciate immensely the counsel and help given by those on the Board of Directors of Giving Thanks Ministries.

We hope we are helping our wonderful children teach our grandchildren of God's love and plans for their lives. We look forward to 2014. If God allows, we will watch grandchildren play basketball, soccer, baseball and football. We plan to visit out-of-state friends and family, and I look forward to ministering both locally and away from home.



We enjoy visiting our youngest gang of grandchildren! Joseph is student pastor at Carmel Baptist Church in Charlotte, North Carolina. Lisa works as an administrative assistant at the same church and decorates beautiful cakes for her enticing Enterprise. Walker (9), Fletcher (7), and Cooper (5) attend Carmel Christian School, play baseball, Upward basketball, and master the equipment at Squirrel Lake Park when PawPaw and MiMi take them there.

We were excited to see Rock City with Max(10), Heather, Zach(12), Donald, Grace (13) and Trey (16). Donald teaches Bible, Heather teaches fourth grade, and the children attend Providence Christian Academy in Murfreesboro, Tennessee. Trey can now DRIVE them to Chapel Hill Community Baptist Church, where Donald pastors. All four children play basketball. PawPaw helped Donald paint their driveway with the lines (in Carolina blue) of the court.



What a joy to live near Caroline and her family! We attended football games that Scott coaches for Woodland High School where he teaches. We watched Brennan (10) play soccer and Justin (8) play baseball and indoor soccer. Caroline is the reading and media coordinator for Fayette County Schools. We have the privilege of being with the boys while their parents attend Bible Study on Monday nights.

We are trusting God for Caroline's health. In September, she underwent breast cancer surgery and is now in radiation treatments. She is doing well. Join us in prayer for her complete healing.

Christmas is the perfect time for us to celebrate what God is doing around the world. "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten son, that whoever believes in Him might have everlasting life." John 3:16 NKJV Hearing and reading news from missionaries thrills my heart. People everywhere need to know salvation through Christ and the joy and peace He brings. Baptists around the globe have the opportunity this time of year to give to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for international missions. Lottie Moon gave her life telling the people of China about Jesus. She died on Christmas Eve, so we take the offering at Christmas. I hope you will be generous this year in helping your church reach its goal.





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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

"And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him."  
Colossians 3:17 NIV

## *Giving Thanks Ministries Report*

Flint River Baptist Association, Southside Baptist Network, and Fairburn Baptist Association each allowed Giving Thanks Ministries to display information and inform people of our work at their annual meetings.

A missions group from DeVotie Baptist Church in Griffin, Georgia, met at our home to learn about and pray for missionaries.



In October, the Board of Directors for Giving Thanks Ministries met at the home of Monty and Carolyn Lewis in Fairborn, Ohio. I appreciate their support, prayers, encouragement, counsel and especially their technological skills!

## *Giving Thanks Ministries Event Schedule*

The Ladies group of New Salem Baptist Church in Griffin, Georgia, is called Circle of Friends. At their Christmas Tea while I am speaking, I will decorate a wreath, using ornaments that symbolize characteristics of friendships. Think of the ornaments you would use.

A missions group at Fayetteville First Baptist Church, Fayetteville, Georgia, has invited me to give my testimony of missions and ministry with them in December. I always delight in telling the part of His story that He allows to involve me.

To begin 2014, the ladies of Bethel Baptist Church, Griffin, Georgia, plan a time to relax, be together, and grow in the knowledge of God's Word. I'm looking forward to sharing with them.

Call to Praise is the theme of the Women's Spring Retreat at Seneca Lake Baptist Assembly in Ohio May 16-17. I'm looking forward to being with many old and new friends to praise and glorify the Lord together!

*Don't Forget to Like Giving Thanks Ministries Page on Facebook!!*