

**VOLUME 13, ISSUE 1
SPRING 2011**

MISSION STATEMENT

Shepherds Fold Ministries was created to reach out with encouragement and help to pastors, ministerial staff, and their families across all denominational, cultural, and ethnic lines.



**Gene & Joyce Williams
Founders & Directors**

**SHEPHERDS FOLD
MINISTRIES**
(a 501c.3 organization)

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Encouraging and Affirming Pastors and Their Families

Shepherds' Fold Ministries

*"He restores my soul."
Ps. 23:3*

NEWSLETTER



Shepherds' Fold

DAY OF RENEWAL XIII

Thursday, October 6, 2011, will be our Thirteenth Annual Day of Renewal. This time of spiritual refreshment has become very special to many pastors and spouses. We are privileged to have GLORIA GAITHER as our special guest speaker. Her words of encouragement will uplift us and enlighten our hearts. Plan now to be part of this special day. Here are the details:



Gloria Gaither

- First Evangelical Free Church
1825 North Woodlawn
Wichita, Kansas
9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
- Free Outback dinner at 4:30 for first 200 registrants at
First Church of the Nazarene, 1400 East Kellogg
- Evening of Praise at 7:00 p.m. at Central Christian Church,
North Rock and 29th Street

DOR is provided free of charge to pastors, spouses and staff by some laymen who really love those who serve in ministry.

**WE WILL FEED YOU!!!
REMEMBER TO REGISTER!**
Online at: www.shepherdsfoldministries.org
Or via e-mail at: williamsgj@aol.com

Evening Of Praise

Plan now to enjoy an evening of great music from the combined choirs and orchestras of some of our leading churches. This has become a great time of celebration when we invite laymen to join their pastors in an Evening of Praise.

Reflections---Day Of Renewal XII

It was a joy to welcome the return of Dr. H. B. London, Jr., for his fourth Day of Renewal with us last October. He ministered to approximately 220 pastors and spouses who gathered from 35 denominations and came from 6 states. Once again, we enjoyed the music ministry of Clint Dunn and Peter Abood along with the praise team. The wonderful staff at First Evangelical Free Church graciously welcomed us for the 12th time, sharing their beautiful facility with us. Thank you once again, Annie Garrett, and your intercessors from Tabernacle Bible Church, who gathered in the prayer room, praying throughout the day. We have great appreciation for Justin, Proprietor of OUTBACK RESTAURANT on North Rock Road, and his staff for once again providing dinner for our entire group! DOR was topped off when about 1,000 gathered for a glorious time of celebration at Central Christian Church with combined choirs and orchestras from 6 churches gloriously proclaiming songs of praise.



Dr. H. B. London, Jr.

*"Man's extremity is
God's opportunity."*

Matthew Henry

YOU MIGHT BE A PREACHER IF...

You've ever wanted to wish people a
"Merry Christmas" at Easter 'cause
that's the next time you'll see them.



Reprinted by permission of Albury Publishing from *You Might Be A Preacher If...* By Stan Toler and Mark Hollingsworth. Note: This book may be purchased at your Christian Bookstore.

*"God is too good to do
wrong, too wise to make a
mistake, and He loves us!"*

Gene Williams

Our friend, Ron Williams, sent this old
song to us:

My Heavenly Father Watches Over Me

W. C. Martin and Charles Gabriel

*The valley may be dark, the shadows
deep
But O, The Shepherd guards His lonely
sheep;
And thru the gloom, He'll lead me home
My heav'nly Father watches over me.*

*I trust in God, I know He cares for me,
On mountain bleak or on the stormy sea;
Tho' billows roll, He keeps my soul,
My heav'nly Father watches over me.*

Pastors & Friends Enjoyed Israel Pilgrimage

When God gives us an assignment, get ready for a blessing! During my devotions one morning, the Lord clearly impressed upon my heart the call to take ten pastors to the Holy Land. He indicated that these were to be pastors who had never made that pilgrimage.

Frankly, having made the journey nineteen times, I was not exactly excited about the effort involved in making a trip possible. However, I have learned that an assignment from God is not work; it is an opportunity to serve Him---and that always brings great blessings.

So Joyce and I went to work and the group was organized. These pastors and some of their wives came from all over the country and a variety of different denominations. Other laymen joined the pilgrimage with a total of 42. We didn't wear any labels but were just brothers and sisters--fellow servants---pilgrims--who shared a great journey.

We had a number of challenges, like being delayed by two snow days in New York City. That made our time in Israel very hurried, but our people were troopers and God made up for the problems. As He always does, He used that adaptability to accomplish His will and by richly blessing our journeys. Overall, the group had a great time, and many pastors are planning to return to Israel.

I am grateful that God trusted us with this assignment. To see the pastors and laymen have such a great time was a real blessing!



The Garden Tomb



Valley of Megiddo



The Wailing Wall

Check out our website: www.shepherdsfoldministries.org
Notice our links: Day of Renewal Registration and Books

The Lambs Report



One of the greatest blessings we receive is getting word of “lambs” who have surrendered their lives to the Lord. A pastor/father contacted us a few months ago with the great news that his son had re-surrendered his life to the Lord. His prodigal had begun making some bad choices as a teenager in high school and spiraled into the “far country” of drug addiction with all that goes with that. The faithful shepherd and his heartbroken wife continued to pray for him as their precious son wandered aimlessly through the quicksand of Satan’s wastelands. Finally, in desperation, he found his way back to the “fold”. That long awaited knock came on their front door in the middle of the night. Imagine their joy when he said, “Dad, Mom, could I come home? I really need help. I need Jesus!” As they wept and prayed together their son re-surrendered his life. Tears streamed down their faces as they saw the look of despair replaced with forgiveness, joy and hope. He enrolled in AA, found a job, never missed a service at church, and read the Bible voraciously. Today, he is sharing his testimony with everyone who will listen! Again, we love the promise of Isaiah 49:25: “I will contend with those who contend with you, and your children I will save.”

“We should not only be courageous in our asking but confident of His answer.”

HELP NEEDED!!!

SFM is entirely dependent on financial gifts to carry on its work. We appreciate so very much the prayers and financial support of those churches and individuals who have enabled us to minister to pastors and their families around the world. As a 501c.3 approved organization, your gifts to SFM are tax deductible. The need for support for those who are in ministry is very real. Can you help?? It is our great privilege and blessing to do what the Lord has called us to do through SFM. And it is very rewarding to hear responses from around the world. Thank you for partnering with us.

“We should not only be courageous in our asking but confident of His answer.”

Return to India

We have been requested to return to India for the fifth time in 2012 to speak for a Southeast Asia Pastors and Spouses Retreat. Please pray with us as we look toward this great opportunity to once again minister to our beloved friends in this area. These wonderful ambassadors serve in the midst of great persecution and challenges that we cannot imagine. It is always such a blessing to us and so humbling to spend time with these precious shepherds.

“You’ve been pastoring a long time if you know someone who joined the church because it had the best potlucks. Or you remember Sunday night church and also when a ‘small group’ was the midweek service.” Dr. Stan Toler

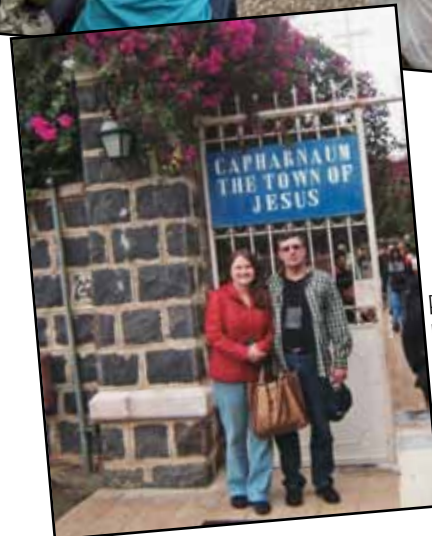


Pastor Brent & Jim Van Hook

Baptizing in the Jordan River



Boat ride on Sea of Galilee

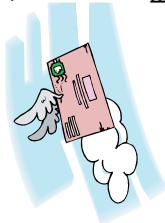


Pastor Terry and Karen Deaver

NOTES OF APPRECIATION

"We appreciate our time together. Thanks for lunch, golf, and great fellowship. That meant a lot. God bless both of you in your great ministry." *Nashville*

"Thank you for caring for and loving us. Both of you are very special people." *North Carolina*



"You were such a blessing to all of us. Thank you for being so incredibly transparent. It is great to be refreshed and renewed in the Lord and our ministry." *Wichita*

"I could hardly express the surprise when you asked about our child. We appreciate all the prayers you offer up to the Lord. We do see evidence that the Holy Spirit is truly moving and guiding. Thank you for your Lambs ministry."

"I can't describe the kindred spirit we feel for both of you. The family of God is an amazing gift. We love and appreciate you more than we can say." *North Carolina*

"Israel was definitely a joy. It was great getting to know both of you better. I knew from the first class I took with you my life was going to be changed in a positive way as was my ministry. We are encouraged knowing both of you and being able to learn from you." *Kansas*

"We received your very timely check from SFM and can't tell you how very much we needed it. We have been going through some very difficult times, but God has been faithful to supply our needs. Thanks so much for your generous spirits." *Florida*

"I found Day of Renewal to be a true rest and renewal in the Lord. I am deeply grateful to both of you for making this possible for us as well as so many other shepherds. Both of you are beautiful, faithful servants of our Lord." *Oklahoma*

"The books you sent have really been a blessing as we have gone through this very tough time. I know God is working the night shift with us in this dark time in our lives. Thank you for your ministry. Only eternity will reveal what He has done through SFM." *Kansas*

"Thanks for the wonderful encouragement of DOR. We both needed a day of refreshment, and once again hearing the Word presented by H. B. London was a real blessing. We appreciate the complimentary books and Outback dinner as well. Evening of Praise was a joyous celebration." *Missouri*

"Israel was an absolute highlight of our lives and ministry. Thank you for being OUR shepherds and for including us in the fold." *Kansas*

"Thank you so much for the delightful supper and encouraging evening of conversation. We appreciate the time and resources you invest in pastors in our area." *Wichita*

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"He restores my soul." Ps. 23:3

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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

TO:

SCHEDULED HIGHLIGHTS SPRING 2011

- MARCH**
- 2 Share with Prayer Partners, Tabernacle Bible Church
 - 5 Joyce-Speaker for Kansas District Wesleyan Women in Ministry Conference, Hesston KS
 - 8 Pastors' Mentoring Group, Salina KS
 - 9-22 Meetings in Nashville TN
 - 25 Israel Group Gathering at our house
- APRIL**
- 4 Pastors' Mentoring Group, Wichita
 - 5 Pastors' Mentoring Group, Salina KS
 - 10 Gene preaching at Tabernacle Bible Church
- MAY**
- 2 Pastors' Mentoring Group, Wichita
 - 3 Pastors' Mentoring Group, Salina KS
 - 6-7 Gene—Workshop speaker for pastors attending the Iron on Iron Men's Conference in Joplin MO
 - 7 Joyce---Speaker for Daughters of the King Mother's Day Banquet, Roanoke, Virginia
 - 16 SFM Board Meeting
- JUNE**
- 19-21 Kansas District Assembly
 - 22-29 Nashville TN, Foundations of Faith
- JULY**
- 15-18 Sunil and Sarah Dandge from Bangalore India to be with us

WE TREASURE YOUR PRAYERS...

You will never know how much your prayers mean to us. Gene has been dealing with Bell's Palsy for 2½ years. Although he has lost 30+ pounds, his diabetes is under good control with medication and exercise. Joyce's cardio issues seem to be stable. We ask for the Great Physician's touch according to His will. Remember, we are praying for you as well.

"You've been pastoring a long time if you know someone who joined the church because it had the best potlucks. Or you remember Sunday night church and when a 'small group' was the midweek service."