



THE GOOD NEWS



The Chic Shaver Center for Evangelism Newsletter December 2020

Reversal of Fortune

My wife, Jenni, recalls a funny story from her teenage years. While the details are hard to remember today, she had had a very difficult week at school. Everything, it seemed, had gone wrong. Her father, Farrel, knowing the week she had just experienced, had secretly stopped at a flower shop and picked up a dozen roses for her. Farrel placed them in her upstairs bedroom.

When Jenni walked in the door Friday afternoon, Farrel asked her if she would get something for him from her bedroom. Frustrated in the moment from her rough week and her father's immediate request, she headed up to her room with her head down. What a surprise to find flowers waiting for her because of her father's great love! Humbled and blessed, Jenni hugged and thanked her father for her reversal of fortune that day. Christmas is a season defined by a *reversal of fortune* for the entire world.

Isaiah 8 includes one of the darkest of prophecies given for Israel. Isaiah declared that distress, darkness, fear, and gloom would be thrust upon God's people for their disobedience, waywardness, and sin. As quickly as the prophecy left Isaiah's mouth, however, we hear hope in his words. Isaiah 9 begins, "Nevertheless...."

The reversal of fortune is described as the dawning of a great light. God has shattered the yoke that has burdened His people (Isaiah 9:4). What humankind could not do, God did! This great light has come as a Divine Child born for you and for me. Listen to Isaiah's words in Isaiah 9:6...

*For to us a child is born,
to us a son is given,
and the government will be on his shoulders.
And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.*

The story of Christmas, a reversal of fortune, is retold every time someone lost in sin is reconciled to God by faith in Jesus. Light dawns. Freedom overcomes. Peace prevails.

This year, as we share the Christmas story from Luke 2, consider sharing your personal Christmas story with others. How has Christ brought a reversal of fortune in your life? What joy to know Him! What peace to walk in Him! Light of the World, have your way in us.

- Dr. Scott Rainey - Global Director of SDMI

A Very Good Year

Nancy and I continue a very sweet marriage. Nancy's Alzheimer's progresses, but Nancy is happy, still singing for Jesus, and baking triple berry cobbler. Nancy says I am taking good care of her, and it is a joy to do it. We celebrated our 61st anniversary in June.

I said before that before I die, I'd like to have another great family vacation in Treasure Island, Florida. Twenty family members made it happen in June.

I wanted to experience one event at the Kauffman – the finest auditorium in Kansas City. Thanks to a gift from Disciples' class, we saw "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory" Another dream – to visit Yellowstone National Park. In August we spent three wonderful days in the park tucked in ahead of revivals in Montana and Wyoming.

Despite Covid19, amazingly I was able to lead witness and prayer seminars and revivals in nine cities from Florida to Montana. Spiritual highlights included 33 seeking God in a Venice, FL night service after a holiness message, Indianapolis, IN highest night attendance in ten years, 34 seeking God in Great Falls MT, Harrisonville, MO night crowd average only ten less than Sunday morning worship.

I have dreamed for over ten years about writing a daily devotional book on holiness in understandable language. By September I wrote my 365th devotional. They were now in process of typing and arrangement. Hopefully, this can be delivered to the publisher by year's end or early 2021.

On January 5th, I retired from 45 years of teaching disciple class. It was also my 85th birthday and the class showered us with cards and gifts. One gift was a handcrafted walking stick with our life story carved on it, done by Ernie Loganbill, who has done similar sticks for Senator Bob Dole and Mother Teresa and 280 others.

The Global Ministry Center of the Church of the Nazarene has decided to translate my Basic Bible Studies for the Spirit Filled and Sanctified Life into the ten most prominent languages (beyond English) of the Nazarene world. This means seventy percent of Nazarenes would have this study in their native language.

I have considered this year to be my final year of conducting revivals. I believe I have conducted close to 900 revivals in 65 years of ministry.

The Spirit of God has been very close to Nancy and me this past year. We enter in new year with excitement to see what God will do. Yes, this has been a very good year.

- Chic Shaver

Kansas City District Mission Area Revivals

Who would have known in the Fall of 2019, as we begin to plan District Mission Area Revivals with Dr. Chic Shaver, that we would be dealing with COVID-19 in the Fall of 2020? God knew.

Last year the Kansas City District received a significant gift of \$50,000 as an investment in evangelistic efforts on the district. The funds were invested in several ways, including District Mission Area Revivals. The revivals were held Sunday through Wednesday with Saturday morning "Witnessing Without Fear" seminars at each. These Mission Area Revivals provided evangelism opportunities, strengthened the churches involved, promoted connections among area churches, and helped celebrate a ministry career that has touched thousands of lives through Dr. Shaver's teaching, preaching, and Basic Bible Studies.

We have received reports from our pastors of souls that were saved, believers that were sanctified, and churches that were blessed. In addition, 78 individuals participated in the "Witnessing Without Fear" seminars.

We are so grateful for our churches and pastors (Harrisonville/Steve Suttles, Bonner Springs/Nathan Hann, St. Joseph First/Brandon Shotten) that intentionally created space for God to work and who leaned into this opportunity, despite COVID-19. (The Mission Area Revival at Topeka First [Pastor Branson Roberts] has been rescheduled for Spring 2021.) Attendance was strong, even in the mist of the challenges presented by COVID-19, and many are now putting their new training and passion to work in their communities as a result. In addition to the onsite attendance, the online participation was even more outstanding.

We are grateful to Dr. Shaver for his willingness to invest in our district and for God's anointing upon his ministry.

- Eddie Estep-Kansas City District Superintendent

Revival Out of Covid

Harrisonville Church of the Nazarene, in Harrisonville, Missouri hosted a revival with Dr. Charles (Chic) Shaver on September 19 – 23. On Saturday, September 19, 45 people attended his Witnessing Without Fear Seminar, and many are putting their new training and passion to work in the community as a result! The church had an all church JESUS CAN campaign scheduled to begin right after the revival services as an outreach to the community. The witnessing seminar gave the people some very necessary information and inspiration to go out and reach new people for the Kingdom.

Attendance was strong even in the midst of the challenges presented by COVID and increased three nights in a row from Sunday evening through Tuesday evening. In addition to in person attendance, online attendance was strong. In this time of COVID restrictions, it is possible that close to 100 people or so were participating in the services with the online attenders factored in for attendance. The church did not even average 100 on Sunday mornings last year. Helping the attendance numbers a little bit, were representatives from two other churches on the district, so the revival is having impact beyond the church, as well.

Many people found help at the altars. One college-age young man that I (Steve) have been mentoring went to the altar on Sunday night and was sanctified. I strongly believe that would not have happened if we had not held these revival services. People were at the altars each service that the altars were opened. As always, Dr. Shaver gave an anointed presentation of his salvation experience on Wednesday evening. Our people were so inspired by this story of God's amazing power and grace.

I believe these revival services were just what Harrisonville needed coming out of six months of social distancing measures. People, and pastor included, were feeling a little tired from all the extra work and strain COVID has put on the church activities. I sense a new wave of momentum and heightened morale following the revival services.

As a pastor, I still include revival services as a part of the regular rhythm of our church year. I have hosted Dr. Shaver more than any other evangelist over the years, and each time God has been faithful to revive His people. Things happen in times of spiritual intensity and focus that otherwise do not happen. Like anything else, they work if we are willing to work them!

- Steve Shuttars -Senior Pastor

Winning Souls in the Midst of Covid

Leading up to the revival was certainly challenging. Since the church had not had a revival in many years, we weren't sure how people would respond. Then, add the challenges of being in the middle of a pandemic (the COVID-19) and in a county where we'd been seeing cases on the rise, and people being very cautious about gathering and mingling, etc. left us wondering how it would turn out.

But God came in spite of it and brought us some great victories anyway! Had several significant first-time folks (who we've been working on for quite a few months), came to service for the first time, and came to the altar and gave their hearts to the Lord! Had a couple of folks receive the blessing of sanctification, as well!

So, while Covid may have hampered our in-person attendance, God was still able to move in a real and lasting way, to accomplish His purpose!

So, while our largest in-person attendance was 86, and our lowest was 50, our "online" participation was really outstanding!

According to the figures that we got from our website, and our Facebook live-streaming page, our online activity was recorded as such:

Saturday Seminar - In-Person -26.....online -248
 Sun. AM - In-Person - 86.....online - 508
 Sun. PM - In-Person - 56.....online - 141
 Mon. - In-Person - 52.....online - 110
 Tue. - In-Person - 61.....online - 240
 Wed. - In-Person - 57.....online - 142

We received comments, questions, etc. by Facebook messenger, and private messages, and emails during the revival that were very encouraging. Had the opportunity to actually pray with some over the phone! To God be the glory!

Last Sunday, we had 6-7 people stand and gave testimony as to how the revival impacted their lives personally, and how God spurred them to make an even deeper commitment to making sure He was first in their lives and not let the world's values take residence in their life. What a blessing to this pastor's heart to hear these folks testify with such conviction and passion.

- Nathan Haas-Bonner Springs church of the Nazarene Pastor

Thank you Joy, Welcome Margo

Joy Parke concluded her work as Managing Director at the Center in August. She served this position five years. Numerous other duties, including those directly for the Lord's Kingdom, prompted this change. However, she still is assisting me in preparations of the devotional book. Her work has been spectacular. Thank you Joy

Margo Manning is the new Managing Director of the Center. She is a faithful follower of Jesus Christ, active in First Church of the Nazarene, Kansas City. I have known her family, back to her grandparents when the Pinkerton family moved here from Guyana, South America in the 1970's. Her mother is Cheryl (Pinkerton) Manning. Margo is part of a beautiful line of godliness and is already doing exceptional work for the Center. Welcome Margo.

- Chic Shaver

I am truly excited and blessed to have this opportunity to learn and share God's word through the ministry of evangelism. I have been blessed to be brought up in the word of God from a young age. Over the years my faith and relationship with God has evolved. My family have been members of Kansas City First church since the 70's when my grandparents (Thomas and Beatrice Pinkerton) came to the United States. (Dr. Shaver was the first person my grandparents met when they came to the church). I am a graduate of Kansas State University with a Bachelors in Hospitality (Class of 2014). I am currently a member of the church worship team and choir. I am excited to be apart of CSCE and to grow in this ministry.

- Margo Manning

The Center's Future and Finances

In the last newsletter, we reported that due to the increased influence of the Evangelism Center in promoting key themes of evangelism, witness, revival, and holiness, the Center would continue its ministry, even after my death. The need of the key theme's promotion, the leadership of Dr. Scott Rainey and the guidance of the Spirit of God make this possible.

The Center has operated on a budget of about \$20,000 per year. Our costs are the salary of the Managing Director (seven hours a week), publication and mailing of the quarterly newsletter, office equipment and supplies, scholarships, and gifts of discipleship materials. I receive no salary from the Center and pay into it to reimburse it for the help it gives me in carrying out my revivals.

Usually we make no financial appeals because people so spontaneously send funds. However, recently contributions have been less. Would you consider sending a gift this Christmas season to continue this significant ministry? Checks may be made out to CSCE. I believe \$7,400 would enable us to end the year with all bills paid.

Recently someone has suggested that an endowment be established for the Evangelism Center. That means a significant amount of money be deposited in a financially producing fund. For example, a \$200,000 investment with a yearly earning of 5% would produce \$10,000 a year for the Center. Let us know if you have interest in this potential project.

Thank you so much for those who have given faithfully since our beginning in 1992.

Our financial commitment to you: The CSCE pledges integrity in gift management and financial accountability. We are committed to honorable stewardship of the money God has given us to do the work of evangelism. We are a faith ministry and depend wholly upon God to supply our needs through the sensitivity and obedience of His people. All contributions to CSCE are 100% tax deductible. As a ministry under K.C. First Church of the Nazarene, you will receive a yearly record of your donations from the church.

MINISTRY UPDATE

	Total Attendance	Seekers
First Church of Nazarene Kansas City, MO	200	16
Church of The Nazarene Cody, WY	25	
First Church of the Nazarene Great Falls, MT	253	34
Witness Seminar	26	
Church of the Nazarene Riverton, WY	291	10
Witness Seminar	25	
Church of the Nazarene Harrisonville, MO	349	14
Witness Seminar	46	
Church of the Nazarene Bonner Springs, KS	285	
Witness Seminar	26	
First Church of the Nazarene St. Joseph, MO	143	7
Witness Seminar	8	
Southport Church of the Nazarene Indianapolis, IN	473	19
Prayer Seminar	37	
Church of the Nazarene Auburn, IN	230	
Witness Seminar	21	
Online Attendance	412	
First Church of the Nazarene Topeka, KS	Postponed	
Grace point church of the Nazarene	370	18

John Wesley on Perfect Love To Miss Godfrey, July 31, 1784

"And see that you go on to perfection, till you know all that love of God that passeth knowledge."

-The Works of John Wesley (Kansas City, Mo: Nazarene Publishing House, n.d.)XIII, 42

Translation of Basic Bible Studies for the Spirit Filled and Sanctified Life.

Daryll Stanton and I discovered that the Basic Bible Studies for the Spirit Filled and Sanctified Life were only available in the following languages:

English, Spanish, Kinyarwanda (language of Rwanda), Thai and Vietnamese

We have decided that we need to increase the number of languages so that our global areas can disciple people toward this wonderful life of entire sanctification. In the months ahead, we will translate the lessons into the following languages: Portuguese, Bengali (language of Bangladesh), Haitian, French, Tsonga (language of Southern Mozambique and South Africa), Tok Pisin (language of New Guinea), Hindi (language in many states of India), Swahili (language of many east African countries) Swati (language of ESwatini, formerly known as Swaziland), Chichewa (language of Malawi and Zambia)

These languages were chosen strategically because of the number of Nazarenes in each language group. Once this is completed, the BBSSFL will be translated and available in the native tongue of 70% of Nazarenes worldwide! This project is being done by SDMI and being overseen by Daryll Stanton.

Scott Rainey

Because You Gave We Gave

- ◆ Basic Bible Studies to Prison Ministry and Rescue Mission Ministry in Great Falls, Montana
- ◆ Evangelism scholarship funds given to Nazarene Theological Seminary
- ◆ Discipleship materials to pastors and leaders in Montana, Wyoming, Kansas, Missouri, Indiana
- ◆ Evangelism resources to the new Professor of Evangelism at Nazarene Seminary, Dr. David Sharpes
- ◆ Disciples material to a young pastor starting at his first church.
- ◆ Devotional material to a leader in campus ministry at a college campus.
- ◆ 100 Basic Bible Studies for Christian Literature for Africa

Contribution were made in Memory of....

Harold Graves, Sr Pat Phillips
 Paul Hendrickson Andrew Riddle
 Clarence Lux Eugene and Edna Sanford

Covid Diagnosis

Just before we finished completing this newsletter on November 13th, I (Chic) was diagnosed with Covid. But later on the 13th I had remarkable improvement.