

2008 Year in Review Camp Hill Church of Christ

It says in Acts 14:27 *And when they had arrived and gathered the church together, they {began} to report all things that God had done with them and how He had opened a door of faith to the Gentiles.*

To appreciate the purpose of this morning's sermon, it is necessary to look at the specific words "*to report all things*". Basically put, Paul and Barnabas had just completed the first missionary journey into Asia with the gospel of Jesus. For the last two years, they accomplished much for the kingdom of God. Summarizing the mission, they first traveled 80 miles southwest by boat to the island of Cyprus and a towns called Salamis and Paphos. While there they preached the word, converted some souls and confronted a sorcerer. After a number of weeks there, they left the island of Cyprus and headed toward mainland Asia (modern day Turkey). Traveling up to Perga by the river Cestrus, possible home-sickness got to Mark and he left the mission team. They preached the gospel some more and headed another 100 miles further inland to a place called Pisidian Antioch. By this time, Paul had become the head of the mission team, taking over for Barnabas. They were expelled from that community by the hostilities of the Jews and departed for Iconium. They were once again persecuted and would have been killed had they not been privy to the plot by the angry Jews to stone them. From there they traveled a few miles southwest to Lystra and continued to preach the word. Some people converted, but some became very hostile. In the midst of the hostilities, Paul was stoned and half dead and left for dead outside the city gates. Since he was only half-dead, that meant that he was also half-alive. They traveled the next day southeast to Derbe. There they preached much and gained many converts.

Over the next few months, they traveled back the way they came over the couple months, making many more converts and appointing elders in the new congregations. Upon arriving back in Antioch of Syria, their starting point from two years prior, they gave a report. It said they began "*to report all things*", meaning they rehearsed and relived the adventure for the whole church. It was in this report that the church was energized and gained a focus for the issues they lay ahead.

This has always been the way of the church. This precedent that we have here in Acts is the precedent that we will use here this morning. We are going to "report all things" to the church for the last year concerning the happenings of the church. This morning we will rehearse and re-live the calendar year of 2008 for the church family.

Marriages

- Francis and Masa Jusa Amara
- Josh and Samantha Deitch

Engagements

- Josh Trayer and Julia Deitch
- Justin Smith and Melissa Young
- Jake Cantrell and Gwendolyn Scott

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Births

- Sadie Hamilton
- Catriona Marrs
- Caelin Brannon
- Penelope Gaskins
- Troy Cheese
- Lumbai Amara

Spiritual Births

- Marcia Peasely
- Brooke Taylor
- Raul Anivartarti
- Emily Salness

Graduations

- Huang Trong
- Natalie Hamilton
- Natalie Kridlow
- Jake Dowler
- Christian Yoder
- Lake Ober
- Michael McCullough
- Sarah Blaine
- Justin Smith –College
- Carrie Cantrell –College
- Josh Deitch –College
- Phil Davis -College
- Jonathon Davis -College

New Members

- The Michael Green Family
- The Craig Buck Family
- The Carl Brooks Family
- The Richard Davis Family
- The Earl Wilbourne Family
- The Chris Lampson Family
- The Josh Deitch Family
- The Heather Caudill Family
- The Ben Ferrell Family
- Roland Williams
- Cindy Carle
- Several faithfully attending families that we hope will make permanent

Deaths

- Donald Shaw
- Christopher Dipofi

Missions

- Three of us from the congregation, Bob Williams, Ivan Martin and Doug Hamilton made a three-week trip to Ghana, West Africa. We taught in the preacher schools
- Angelina finished her AIM obligation in Grass Valley, CA.
- Felicia began the Honduras portion of her AIM.

Major Church Happenings

- Purchased the Property Next Door
- The Clearwire Communications contract.

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- Church Retreat at Manatawny
- Appointment of Brian Dowler as an Elder

Ministries

Car Ministry

- Saved tens of thousands of dollars again last year.
- Was able to participate in some good quality, greasy time together with some of the guys.

Youth Ministry

- Bible Bowl
- Boys Night Out Ministry
- PCC Camp
- Idlewilde
- Youth Advance
- Toys for Tots

Military Ministry

- Letters of Encouragement
- Care Packages

Church Softball Ministry

- Once again, dozens of members of the congregation would gather a couple of nights a week to demonstrate why they never made it to the Big Leagues.
- It is okay to have a good down-time away from the church building with the saints.

Technology Ministry

- Weekly Emails
- Website
- CD Ministry
- Focus on Truth
- Cell-phone

Small Home-group Study Ministry

- Our congregation held more than 32 small group studies in homes over the last year.
- Over 65% of the congregation participated in these studies at one-time or another.
- We covered a range of topics including Gospel Rehabilitation Therapy, Philippians, Proverbs, 1John, Prayer, Service, Leadership, Creation, James, the Afterlife, Singing, Parenting, Miracles, the Church and Addiction just to name a few.

Special Moments of Joy:

- Bob Williams, Faynelle Evans, Eddy Shaw turned 80
- Phil Davis won the National Championship in Wrestling
- In June during a sermon invitation, over 50 people came forward.
- Ivan was on Oprah.
- Andrew Hamilton won State Championship in Water Polo.
- The last Sunday of the year was 217 in attendance. That was a record.