

MINISTRY UPDATE

P.O. Box 128, 575 St Rt 250 N • Savannah, Ohio 44874 • (419) 962-1515 • WWW.MapMinistry.org • JKeim@MapMinistry.org

Prayer Request

There is a health clinic about to birth in Seymour, Mo. This has been on my heart for over two years, and on Doug Downs heart for a lot longer. Mr. Downs graduates with his P.A. in May, with a heart to open this clinic for the Amish and Mennonite community only. This clinic will be located right in the midst of the Amish community.

Mr. Downs and his family needs prayer for the Lord to lead him in all aspects of this project. Mr. Downs will not only be treating the sick, but also have the opportunity to pray with his patients.

There is a great need for honest medical care in this area, and with the Great Physician on board, bodies and hearts can be healed, and many lives reached for the Lord. (I had a patient once tell me, "I have never had a nurse pray with me like you do"). Please pray for Doug as he works through finals, and that all the pieces will come together for this wonderful ministry.

Sincerely, Elaine

Financial Update

Thanks to ALL who continue to give faithfully. It's making a difference; so far in 2009, 58 people have send us testimonies of salvation.

We appreciate the extra gifts that have come in to help with the SonLight Club and restroom projects. MAP, at this point is running behind, just a bit.

Dear Friend:

May 2009

A few weeks ago, I got in the car and headed out to a week's worth of church and Bible conference meetings. My trip took me out through Missouri, where I had an awesome time presenting the ministry and meeting up with a bunch of young people who had left the Amish. After that, I went on to Illinois where I had an opportunity to listen to some God anointed preaching, as well as present MAP to about 50 pastors and lay people.

As I was heading back home on day seven, I was thinking to myself, Joe, "God gave you a perfect and prosperous trip." But that all

changed quickly, when I had to stop and get gas, about 30 minutes from home. I had just paid for my gas and was headed back to my car when a man approached me, asking if I could possibly give him some gas money so that he could get his little baby girl back home.

Without thinking, I reached for my wallet, pulled out a \$10 bill, and handed it to the man. At that very moment, something told me, Joe, "you just got conned out of a \$10 bill." And within seconds, my gut feelings turned into reality, as I watched the man take off in his car and my \$10 bill.

Passing On The Torch!

— By Joe Keim



Thursday evening

The Apostle Paul writes to Timothy: "the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the

same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also." (2 Tim 2:2)

One of my passions in life has long been to mentor and disciple young and growing Christians. Few things in my life give me greater joy than to watch a baby Christian grow into a strong and usable vessel for the Lord.

Pictured here are the four groups that I have personally been meeting with each week. Our Saturday morning group started out with 2 and has grown to a high of 17.



Tuesday Morning

In our meetings, we study God's Word, pray for one another, watch DVD's on how to live the Christian life, cry on each others shoulders, encourage and exhort each other, etc.

Our goal, as a ministry, is to duplicate these mentoring and discipleship groups throughout the Amish culture. Already, we have seen more than a dozen groups spring up in several different states.

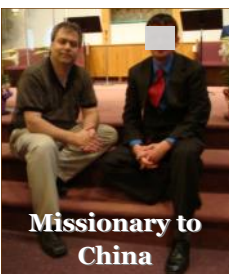
Please let us know if you are interested in getting involved by leading a former Amish support group in your own area.



Saturday Morning



Wednesday Morning



Missionary to China

Last month, I had the awesome privilege of hearing Tom (former Amish) share his burden and calling to the mission field in China. Wow! This is a man on fire for the Lord. He is not just filled, but is overflowing with passion for the Chinese people. He said, "Joe, I set foot in China May 11th, 2006, 1:44 pm and my life has never been the same since!" I would highly recommend churches to have Tom in for a presentation. He has already raised over 50% of his support. Call us for more details, if interested.

Testimony: Amish Voice

This past week someone handed me a copy of the Amish Voice and when I read the article on baptism and communion, I learned so much. Is there any way that you could add me to your list to receive future copies of the Amish Voice? MS — KY

Fun Facts: Cell Phones

When it comes to the former Amish and cell phones, two things come to mind:

1. When calling someone, you never know for sure who is going to pick up the phone. You see, for some, the cell phones get passed around to one another like hot cakes. And many times, those who own the family share plan and have at least several people on the plan, end up paying more than they bargained for.
2. It is not uncommon to hear ringers go off that sound like auctioneers, roosters, cows, turkeys, crying and laughing babies.

Forsaking the Past and Moving on For Jesus

The following young men have all been involved in Bible studies throughout the winter months and on Easter Sunday, six of them took the next step, after salvation, and followed the Lord' command and got baptized.



Mose

More than 50 former Amish young people and friends came out to witness the baptisms; it was a day we will never forget.

After the baptisms, the gospel was preached, an invitation was given, and several turned their lives over to the Lord for salvation.



Abram

I am humbled, amazed, and ever so thankful to the men who have invested their lives into these young men. Yes, mentoring works!

Here is a testimony from a couple who poured their lives into a couple of these young men.

Sam and Laura Schwartz write: *As we look back over the years, leaving the Amish in 2004, we have been blessed with so many opportunities and privileges to give construction jobs to many of the young boys*



David

that have left the Amish culture. As we continue to share what God did and does in our lives, we also see fruit in many different ways. On Easter Sunday, we were blessed, as we witnessed the baptisms of three of our employees. God is Faithful!!!!



David

Johnny was given an English study Bible when he was still Amish. One night, as he was reading the Bible, he realized his need for a Savior and right there at his bedside, he gave his life to Christ. Later, when his parents found out that he claimed assurance of salvation, after reading of the English Bible, they asked for the Bible and burned it. They informed him that the English Bible was misleading; he should only read the German Bible.



Johnny

Thanks to Eli Raber who had a big part in leading Johnny to the plain and simple truth that Jesus alone can save mankind from sin.



Harvey

To read the testimonies of these and other young people, please go to the following web site: <http://mapministry.org/WrittenTestimonies.php>

Computer Classes

by Tom Thomas—MAP Board Member

Thanks to Abe Abraham from California, who gave MAP four desktop computers to get started with computer classes. Secondly, a big thank-you to Tom and Pat, members of our board, who just finished teaching a 2-month computer class, with 7 students in attendance.

Tom writes: A fundamentals of computers class was given at the MAP Ministry office in March and April. Our last class for the spring was April 27, 2009.

Topics studied included basic computer components, computer operating systems, word processing, spreadsheets, internet operations and applications, e-mail, search engines and photo editing.

We also developed a simple budget utilizing spreadsheet applications, inserted pictures into word processing documents and downloaded information off the internet into saved files to e-mail.

Along with a specific list of topics covered, we frequently took time to answer questions and address specific computer setup needs of all participants. A lot of time was spent on usage of open source programs such as OpenOffice and PCLinuxOS. This was the first offering of

the class and we expect to provide additional classes in the fall.

We had a great time in fellowship, learning and sharing. Pat and I were really blessed in growing our friendships with Roy, Lizzie, Lizzie, Becky, Eli, Ervin and Lovina. What a blessing to share Monday nights



with wonderful brothers and sisters in Christ. The privilege of teaching this class has resulted in friendships which will last for eternity.

Softball Ministry

by Eli Raber—Assistant to the Director of MAP

About a month ago Joe asked me to get a softball team together for the Former Amish guys. Immediately, I told him, I think that's impossible. Needless to say, I was in for a big surprise.



William agreed to help and started out by making phone calls, telling everyone who he thought would be interested in playing and before we knew it, a whole team had come together. We almost didn't have enough time to get the games scheduled before more wanted to join.



So we decided, we might as well start a second team and that team was booked in no time as well. As amazing as it sounds, 33 people signed up and we

still have more that want to be a part of the teams.

Looking back, I don't know where I was coming from, but I realize now that when it is God's plan, it is going to happen and we just go along for the ride.

I continue to be amazed by what God does from day to day. Romans 8:31 says, "What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?" We now have both teams in the league; Thanks to our sponsors William and Burnell. We hope we can play with the same teams next year, all over again.

SonLight Club Promotion

by Bill Dunn—Director of Development

During our annual review of all the MAP Ministry Programs, we recognized the need for a special program which would encourage our SonLight Club students to be more faithful in reading and returning their lessons.

After much prayer and many meetings, we created the "Bee Faithful" Program which encourages all the students to, not only "Bee Faithful" in returning their lessons, but also motivate the drop out students to become re-enrolled in the club.

The "Bee Faithful" Program works like this; each student receives a poster of a farm scene, as listed here. Every time the student returns their lesson, they receive a sticker that gets placed on the poster. Just as God is

complete, we ask the students to make sure their farm scene is complete with all of God's creation. Stickers include bumblebees, birds, butterflies, frog, dog, cat and apples. In all, there are 25 stickers that a student can receive.



It will take the student about 12 months to obtain all the stickers. However, if the student is quick to

read and return their lessons they can complete the poster even faster.

The "Bee Faithful" Program will cost an extra \$5,000 over the next 12 months;

The goal is two-fold:

1. We are praying that more souls will put their faith and trust in Christ for salvation.
2. Disciple those who are already saved.

Note from Joe: *We are very thankful for all the volunteers who have helped us out with the extra workload.*



Email Question/Answer

Hi Joe, I have run into a problem in talking to the Amish boys I work with. They say my Bible doesn't say the same thing as theirs. If I'm not mistaken, they use a German Bible translated by Martin Luther. Do you know where I might find one of these? I've done searches on the "Amish Bible," and all I have found is a new Bible written in Plattdeitch and English. I would really appreciate your help, if you have time.

~ T.B.

Joe Answers:

You are right, the Amish use the German Bible, translated by a man named Martin Luther. I have heard the following statements come from Amish people on numerous occasions:

1. German is the Holy Language (all their spiritual books are written in German).
2. German is the language used by the Lord throughout the Old and New Testaments.
3. German is the language used in heaven.

The English and German Bible translations are very similar. However, there is at least one area where the translations differ in meaning and that is the "Sermon on the Mount" passage in Matthew 5. Where the English translation uses the word "Blessed" in verses 3-11, the German uses the word "Selig", which means "saved" in English. As you know, if we were to insert the word "saved" in place of "blessed" we would all of a sudden be looking at a works salvation. That is exactly what has happened in the Amish church. The ministers preach this popular portion of scripture as proof that salvation is of works.

The following bookstore sells Bibles that have German on one side and KJV on the other:

Yoder's Variety, 7802 Salt Creek Road, Fredericksburg, OH 44627
Phone: 330-695-5593



PO Box 128
575 St. Rt. 250 N
Savannah, Ohio 44874

Non Profit Org.
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
ASHLAND, OH
PERMIT NO 188

**ADDRESS CORRECTION
REQUESTED**

British Film Crew, Seek Amish Youth

A film crew from Great Britain is interested in recruiting six young Amish people to live with local families in England for several weeks. The goal is for the youth to offer insights into the British culture through their own Amish cultural point of view.

Anne-Claire Pilley, assistant producer of Keo Films of London, said the chosen participants will receive an all-expense paid trip to England for a four to six-weeks stay. The documentary film crew are hoping to learn what the Amish youth think of the British culture and of how the British people live their lives.

"We have found that their fresh perspective on our everyday lives can offer us valuable insights into the state of society and stimulates debate about how we should be living in the modern world," Pilley said. The documentary is one part of a series that explores cultures through exchange programs.

Pilley further states that the documentary will try to portray the Amish in a more honest manner. She wants to move away from the typical extremes portrayed by other films of the Amish community "either as a tourist fantasy land of horse and buggies or as a community in crisis full of rebellious teenagers."

"We will seek to show that these are real, three-dimensional people, who are at an important crossroads in their spiritual and personal lives," she said. "We hope that their short trip to England will help them to understand better the world around them, and be a great experience for a small group of people who might otherwise not get the opportunity to travel such distances."

Ex-Amish Henry Yoder Chases Bull Riding Dream

When Henry Yoder was 17 years old, he began chasing a dream to become a professional bull rider. He was living in the small town of Jamesport, Mo., population 505. Being raised in an Amish community, bull riding was originally not a part of his family's plans for him, nor a part of his own life plan. But, Yoder pointed out that he rode horses all of his life in the Amish community. "My uncle introduced bull riding to me, and I instantly took to it," he explained.

He loved the sport so much, that he eventually left his Amish home and became a professional bull rider when he was just 18 years old. Because of that decision, he lost the support of his Amish family which forced him to earn his own living.

"I was completely broke when I left," Yoder said. "I work for everything I have. I have chosen to go on to a different lifestyle, away from the Amish lifestyle."

Henry Yoder took a part-time job in Garnett, Kansas to earn a living, while at the same time, he pursued riding bulls professionally. He was so successful, that he no longer has to work part-time in other jobs to support himself.