



# MISSION TO AMISH PEOPLE

Life Transition Ministry  
Living Room Bible Institute  
Prayer/Bible Study Groups  
SonLight Club—Amish Voice  
Donation Center—Audio & Tract  
Church Presentations and Workshops

PO Box 128 • Savannah, Ohio 44874 • (419) 962-1515 • WWW.MapMinistry.org • JKeim@MapMinistry.org

Hello Friend:

November 2008

By the time you receive this ministry update, we will all know who God allowed to be placed in the President's seat. And, in case it is not the one you voted for, **please be encouraged to know that man in himself has no power but what the Lord gives him.** God's Word tells us very clearly in Romans 13:1, **For there is no power but of God: the powers that be, are ordained of God.**

### 22<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary Get-a-Way

In October, Esther and I took two days off and went to our favorite hideout, which is located in the hills of southern OH. **It is a place so far off the main highway that even the wild animals can easily get lost.** Each year we take turns to plan our anniversary getaway. Sometimes we go to a marriage seminar. This year it was Esther's turn to plan our activities. Several days before take off, I received an email from Esther that read...



*In order for us to focus on our marriage and on God only; when we leave here, we are not allowed to talk about the kids, finances, church or the ministry. If we mess up we have to give the other one a discipline. Please have mercy!!!! Of course it has to be something safe. Just thought I'd give you a day to think about it. I'll have the rest of our agenda for the weekend when we arrive at our destination.*

What made this event even more special is the fact that **the cabin where we stayed at was paid for by one of the couples who serves on the MAP board.**

### To Our Dear And Generous Supporters

We cannot help but praise God daily for how His family continually provides the finances for the outreaches that are happening at the MAP Ministry. **Even hard times have not stopped God's family from giving generously.**

Several times during the year we would wonder how God was going to make ends meet, and than at the right time, in comes an extra \$200, \$500, \$1,000 or \$2,000. **We are truly blessed beyond words! Thank you!**

In August we let our "online" prayer warriors know that we were in need of several used computers and within hours we were getting responses from as far away as California, wanting to know how they could help. Below are two testimonies from people who gave toward this very special need.



**Tom from PA...***I am excited to get it [computer] to you, what a joy it is for me to be able to do something for you all. I'll take care of the shipping and everything else, just enjoy!*

**Abe from CA...***Please use them [2 computers] to God's glory. I am so happy to be able to help; I just felt led to do this when I found them and knew you needed them. When the time of need comes again, please let me know, maybe I can help again.*

Lord willing, we will start holding computer classes at the office, early next year. Tom, one of our board members has made it known that he would like to teach the class.

### Indiana Trip And God's Gift

As more and more Amish and former people are coming to the Lord through

the SonLight Club Bible studies and face to face contacts, we realize the dire need to establish small mentoring/support groups, located in and around Amish communities.

In September, four of us made a 3-day trip to Indiana with one goal in mind—**for God to give MAP a godly leader in the Goshen area; one who will come along side our other (Indiana) giants in the faith (Jake and Levi Hochstetler) to help lead an already established support group in that area.**

Even though we had spent several months praying fervently that God would prepare hearts and meeting places, we started experiencing various kinds of opposition a week before leaving on our trip. In one mysterious case, a 14 year old Amish girl left a message on our office phone, pleading that we would stay away from the state of Indiana.

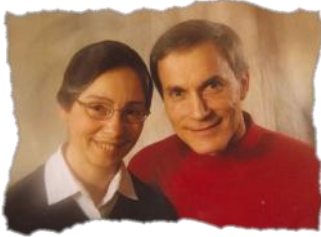
The time finally came for the Vallowes, and us to make the trip. One of the first things we did when we arrived at the Hochstetler home on Friday night was read (1<sup>st</sup> Tim chap 3) and (Titus chap 1), and than we prayed, **Dear Lord, please give us a Leader who meets the scriptural qualifications, as set forth in your Word.**

On Saturday night we got together with an even larger group of people, and



again we expressed our burden and desire for a (1<sup>st</sup> Timothy 3) leader to come forth and help the MAP ministry with prayer/Bible study support groups in Indiana.

It wasn't until Sunday morning, and after we had shared the MAP Ministry at one of the local churches in that same area, **that God showed us very clearly that His chosen couple was Willard and Judy.**



Willard and Judy have been married for 28 years and have experienced the

Lords grace and faithfulness. [Willard writes] *The Lord has given us the gift of Eternal Life and a love for people. Our passion is to come-along-side through home Bible studies, one on one relationships, in sharing Gods Word in life's spiritual struggles. We are excited about the opportunities in working with MAP Ministries.*

They have 3 children, Preston, who is married and lives in Goshen, IN., a daughter Lindsey, also married and lives in Oklahoma City, OK, and Carlton who is 18 and lives at home and plans to attend Rose-dale Bible College in January.

### GED Celebration

It is always such a joy to see our young people succeed in their reach for more education. **Last month we celebrated three more victories with food, games, testimonies, and some hearty music for the soul.** About 75 people turned out for the celebration event.



Rachel (Left) just recently got engaged and is very excited about her future. **I had the wonderful privilege of being Rachel's pastor for almost two years; we are all very proud of her.**

Eli (center) is without a doubt headed for ministry. Over the past year he has said on a number of occasions, Joe, "God is calling me to work with you in the MAP Ministry." **And I might add, Eli is one of the sharpest young Christian men you could ever find on this side of heaven.**

**We thank Wayne and Chris Vallowe for the impact they have had on Eli through the mentoring ministry.**

Barbara (right) started out in our home, soon after she left her Amish community in Kentucky. She now has her own apartment and works a full time job at the Ashland University. After Barbara received her GED she signed up for classes at the University where she worked at for several years. **We thank Esther (my wife) for the impact she has had on Barbara through the mentoring ministry; we love her dearly and claim her as one of our own.**

### Ministry Update/Amish Church Meal

In October, we had the privilege of ministering in our home church. And, whenever we get that opportunity, we always try to make it a special day for all the ones who have left the Amish and live nearby.



people coming along side and mentoring them.



involved in the ministry through volunteering, mentoring, and board activities.

A group of former Amish got up and sang a



familiar German song that we were all so used to hearing when we were growing up.

**The icing on the cake for this year's update included the all time famous Amish church meal.** I say *all time famous* because there is hardly any other meal that quite measures up to the one that we (as

Amish people) ate after every single church service. The meal includes hot



[bread-beans-milk] soup, cheese, sliced

bread and peanut butter, sweet pickles, red beets, cookies, and coffee. And, believe it or not, **after 20 years of not having the meal, I was able to know the smell, long before I ever got to the dining hall.**

I would also like to thank Lovina and all the ones that jumped in and helped make the meal possible. It was absolutely outstanding to



watch all the excitement and teamwork going on a week before and also during the special event.

### Mentoring The Young In Faith

I would like to end our update by sharing something with you that continues to be a passion of mine, even more so as the days goes by. **And that passion is to see older men and women in the faith come around the younger Christians and mentor them.** Just imagine the powerful impact we could have on the younger generation if we all became good at doing this.

About 6 weeks ago I received an email from Eli who lives an hour south of us. He wrote...

*Hello Joe, you probably don't know me but I have been reading your newsletter for a few years now. The newsletter is always very interesting to me, maybe because I am a former Amish. The reason I am writing to you, in the September newsletter you wrote that you are looking for mentors and I felt like God was telling me to contact you and offer to be a mentor. ~ Eli*



Needless to say, we have met with Eli on two occasions and are excited what God is going to do. **Please pray with us as we seek a network of leaders who fit the description of 1<sup>st</sup> Tim 3.**

God's richest blessings to you!  
Joe for the MAP Team