The Manbeck Messenger



"Look! I am sending my messenger, and he will prepare the way before me" (Malachi 3:1a)

NOVEMBER 2026

Monthly Newsletter

Rock Manbeck's Zion E. C. Church

"Seeking to know Christ and make Him known"

110 Wild Cherry Road
Schuylkill Haven, PA 17972
570-345-3545
www.manbecks.org

MANBECK'S "ZION" SERVICES

SUNDAY

WORSHIP...9:00 AM
SUNDAY SCHOOL...10:40 AM

MANBECKS YOUTH...(Go to www.manbecks.org for Dates & Time



"Got Questions?"

What must I do to be saved? Who gave you authority to do these things? Are you a king? Where is your kindgom?

An interesting study would be to look at all the questions that people ask Jesus. Sometimes they are from people trying to trap Jesus; sometime they are asked out of desperation. Others times they seem inconsequential, like *"did you get lunch somewhere else?" or "where should we eat the Passover?"* Every time they're asked, no matter what the motive, these questions are opportunities to gain insight into who God is and what His kingdom is like.

We are told to ask too; although we don't always qet the answers were looking for. People in the Gospels didn't. Jesus often answered questions with another question. In fact He asked more questions (305) than were asked of Him (183). But, as the second Person of the Godhead, with all wisdom and knowledge, every response from Jesus is full of insight and gets to the heart of the issue at hand.



As you know , we have a wide range of ages of kids at home from toddlers to teenagers. (I think I mention them in every article.) With that wide age range come a wide range of questions. Often the most profound questions come from the younger (less inhibited) ones *"What does 'washed in the blood' mean?" "If God knows everything, why did he make Satan as an angel who would end up causing so much evil?" "Why do people hate Israel so much if they're God's nation?"* To be honest, they sometimes stump me at the moment. (Is this why my hair is a few shades whiter than it used to be?)

The bottom line, God is not intimated or offended by our questions, none of them. He rewards those who seek truth! (Matt. 7:7-11, Jn 8:31-32). In fact He seems to be more frustrated with those who think they have all the answers.



With that in mind, I offer an invitation. In planning for 2027, I'd like to start a new Sunday School focused on looking at those nagging questions that come up when you're reading the Bible. We want your questions! You can email them to our church email, text them to my cell phone, OR I'm putting a box at the church to collect your questions – just write them down and drop them in the box. I certainly don't have all the answers, but I know Who does! Truth is, I've probably had some of the same questions. So I look forward to investigating these together. Jesus will undoubtedly use the opportunity to reveal more of Himself to us.

-- Journeying with you, Pastor Kyle

PINE GROVE AREA COUNCIL OF CHURCHES

Don't' forget December 10 at Friedensburg Country Restaurant eat out night. Tickets are on the table in the foyer. We are still collecting any brand of ink cartridges. You can give them to Cathy or put them back on the desk in the fellowship hall. We will use them for either buying ink for Church School or purchasing church supplies at Staples.

Please continue to pray for the Church School and Council of Churches and all it does for the community.

* * * * *

CHURCH CLEANING

A cleaning schedule is posted for 2026 on the inside of the church door in the vestibule. Church cleaning is done by individuals in our church who volunteer for a month. If you would like to volunteer, just sign your name on the sign-up sheet behind the month you would like to clean. Thank you!

* * * * *

SPECIAL OFFERINGS

The Benevolent Offering will be received on November 8. This offering helps people who may be in need in our Church family and in our community.

The Monthly Special Offering will be received on November 29. This offering will to to Child Evangelism Fellowship for the needs of the ministry. Please give as the Lord leads you to support these ministries. Envelopes are provided in your weekly bulletin. You may also mail your offerings to:

Deborah Reiter
159 Spittler Road
Pine Grove, PA 17963

* * * * *

GOOD NEWS CLUB

Good News Club has started back up. So far there are only 13 children enrolled. Club is held on Thursdays from 3:10 to 4:45. If you would like to help financially with snacks, please see Cathy Nagle.

CEF is still looking for volunteers to help with clubs in unreached areas. Also they are looking for a Local Coordinator and an administrative assistant. If you know anyone who would like to volunteer or work for CEF, please call Shelley Hikes at 570-544-8042.

Please continue to pray for this vital ministry.

SPECIAL MUSIC

Nov. 1 – Lily Flynn
Nov. 8 – Deb Reiter
Nov. 15 – Flutes
Nov. 22 – Judy & Ardella
Nov. 29 – Rosa Roth

Dec. 6 – Children's Christmas Program
Dec. 13 – Ardella & Cathy
Dec. 20 – Eve Kurtz
Dec. 27 – Chris Nickel

If you are unable to fulfill your obligation throughout the year, please contact Ardella or Judy. If you would like to be added or taken off for special music, please see Cathy Nagle.

* * * * *

USHERS

Nov. 1 – Kurtz family
Nov. 8 – Flynn family
Nov. 15 – Chris & Cathy
Nov. 22 – Wayne & Bob
Nov. 29 – Betsy & Willis

Dec. 6 – Laura & Faith
Dec. 13 – Roth family
Dec. 20 – Larue & Florence
Dec. 27 – Kelly & Jason

* * * * *

JUNIOR CHURCH AND NURSERY

The children will be dismissed for Jr. Church which is taught by Lori Roth. The nursery schedule for five and under is listed below. We are looking for more volunteers to serve. Please see Lori Roth.

Nov. 1 – Jen Flynn
Nov. 8 – Deb Reiter
Nov. 15 – Ardella Newswanger
Nov. 22 – Wayne & Donna
Nov. 29 – Cathy Nagle

Dec. 6 – Sandy Hrichak
Dec. 13 – Laura Fritz
Dec. 20 – Chris Nickel
Dec. 27 – Kelly Brown

The world does not pay for what a person knows. But it does pay for what a person does with what he knows.

God evidently does not intend us all to be rich, or powerful, or great; but He does intend us all to be friends.

Quit griping about your church; if it were perfect, you couldn't belong.

If the church wants a better preacher, it only needs to pray for the one it has.

OFFICIAL BOARD NEWS

The Board meeting was held on Tuesday, October 20 at 7:00 P.M. There were seven members present. Items discussed are as follows:

- Next communion will be held on January 3, 2027
- The sand mount issue has been taken care of
- Mini-splits were cleaned and we are going on an annual cleaning plan
- Oil burner will get serviced
- Ladies bathroom estimate was $12,675.00. We will hold off on that for now
- Will look for a certified inspector locally for the chairlift.
- Directory is still in the works
- Christmas Child: No packing party and boxes are due on November 15
- Joshua Roth asked to redesign website. Permission granted. And do we want to start up on giving which would mean more work for Deb.
- Children's Christmas Musical: December 6 at 6:00 p.m.
- Chrismon Service: Sunday, November 29
- We are having YouTube issues
- Movie nights for church on Friday nights sometime in late January early February. Showing would be Chronicles of Narnia series.
- Day Camp: July 12-16, 2027
- Suggestion on getting an AED for the church. Will look into any problem with that.
- Pastoral Relations Meeting to be held on November 10 at 7:00 p.m.
- Next Board meeting will be held on November 17 at 7:00 p.m.

* * * * *

LADIES LUNCHEON

Ladies luncheon will be starting up. We'll post place, time and date in the bulleting as it becomes available.

Thanksgiving

Thanksgiving is loved ones
Who come miles and miles
To be greeted with kisses
And welcoming smiles.
Thanksgiving is turkey
And all of the rest
Of the fruits of the harvest
With which we've been blessed.
Thanksgiving is praise
For our Father above,
For His bountiful goodness
And the gift of His love.

Virginia Blanck Moore

Fall Events

Nov. 7th

Xmas Musical Rehearsals start

SATURDAYS in NOVEMBER

Nov. 15th

YOUTH "Fall Blitz"

Fall 'craziness' for youth of all ages

Nov. 15th

SHOEBOX COLLECTION

Help us send Xmas gift boxes around the world!

Nov. 20th

FRIDAY NIGHT PRAISE!

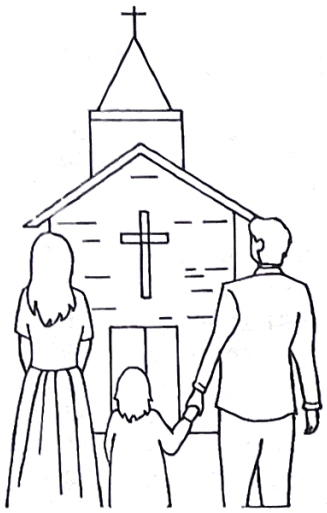
Join us for a night of "thankful" worship & fellowship

MARK YOUR CALENDARS...

CHRISTMAS HAPPENINGS



Nov. 29th	Christmon Service
Dec. 6th	Kids Christmas Program (at 6pm)
Dec. 20th	Church Brunch (Xmas Party)



Why go to Church?

A church goer wrote a letter to the editor of the newspaper and complained that it made no sense to go to church every Sunday. "I've gone for 30 years now," he wrote, "and in that time I have heard something like 3,000 sermons. But for the life of me, I can't remember a single one of them. So I think I'm wasting my time and the pastors are wasting theirs by giving sermons at all."

This started a real controversy in the "Letters to the Editor" column, much to the delight of the editor. It went on for weeks until someone wrote this clincher:

I've been married for 30 years now. In that time my wife has cooked some 32,000 meals. But for the life of me, I cannot recall the entire menu for a single one of those meals. But I do know this: They all nourished me and gave me the strength I needed to do my work. If my wife had not given me these meals, I would be physically dead today. Likewise, if I had not gone to church for nourishment, I would be spiritually dead today!"

When You thought I Wasn't Looking



When you thought I wasn,'t looking I saw you hang my first painting on the refrigerator, and I immediately wanted to paint another one.

When you thought I wasn't looking I saw you feed a stray cat, and I learned that it was good to be kind to animals.

When you thought I wasn't looking I saw you make my favorite cake for me, and I learned that the little things can be the special things in life.

When you thought I wasn't looking I heard you say a prayer, and I knew that there is a God I could always talk to, and I learned to trust in Him.

When you thought I wasn't looking I saw you make a meal and take it to a friend who was sick, and I learned that we all have to help take care of each other.

When you thought I wasn't looking I saw you take care of our house and everyone in it, and I learned we have to take care of what we are given.

When you thought I wasn't looking I saw how you handled your responsibilities. even when you didn't feel good, and I learned that I would have to be responsible when I grow up.

When you thought I wasn't looking I saw tears come from your eyes, and I learned that sometimes things hurt, but it's alright to cry.

When you thought I wasn't looking I saw that you cared, and I wanted to be everything that I could be.

When you thought I wasn't looking I learned most of life's lessons that I need to know to be a good productive person when I grow up.

GENERAL FUND

9/14/2026 through 10/19/2026

Date	Num	Description	Category	Amount
BALANCE 9/13/2026				**14,194.35**
9/20/2026	DEP		Church Offering	1,189.00
9/26/2026	ACH	PA Dept. Of Revenue	State Taxes	-137.82
9/26/2026	ACH	Nationwide	Pension	-420.00
9/26/2026	5878	Jason Brown	Maintenance	-200.00
9/27/2026	DEP		Church Offering	1,074.00
9/27/2026	DEP	Weekday Church School	Special Offering	295.00
9/30/2026	5879	Pastor Kyle Roth	Pastor Salary	-2,159.91
9/30/2026	DEP		Interest Inc	3.29
9/30/2026	fee	bank Service Fee	Bank Charge	-2.00
10/3/2026	ACH	Comcast	Telephone-Internet	-199.61
10/4/2026	DEP		Church Offering	4,312.00
10/4/2026	DEP	Weekday Church School	Special Offering	70.00
10/5/2026	5880	PPI	Electric	-169.16
10/11/2026	DEP		Church Offering	2,412.00
10/13/2026	5881	E. C Church	Apportionment	-377.37
10/13/2026	5882	E. C. Global Ministries	Supported Missionaries	-500.00
10/13/2026	5883	Pastor Kyle Roth	Pastor Salary	-2,159.91
10/15/2026	Auto		Safe Deposit Box	-55.00
10/18/2026	DEP		Church Offering	1,270.00
9/14/2026 - 10/19/2026				**4,244.51**
BALANCE 10/19/2026				**18,438.86**

TOTAL INFLOWS	**10,625.29**
TOTAL OUTFLOWS	**-6,380.78**
NET TOTAL	**4,244.51**

Beginning Balance as of 9-14-2026	**$14,194.35**
Ending Balance as of 10-19-2026	**$18,438.86**
CD at C.A.C.L. Financial	**$39,646.05**
Total Balance of General Fund	**$58,084.91**

BUILDING FUND

9/14/2026 through 10/19/2026

Date	Description	Category	Amount
BALANCE 9/13/2026			**24,872.54**
9/14/2026	Redeposit Change	Other Inc	200.00
9/14/2026	Pig Roast	Fundraising	1,355.00
9/14/2026		Benevolent Fund	244.00
9/27/2026	Fundraising Check	Other Inc	1,100.00
10/1/2026		Interest Inc	1.56
10/11/2026		Building Fund	88.00
10/11/2026	Change For Autumn Stroll	Misc.	-1,000.00
10/19/2026	Redeposit Change	Other Inc	1,000.00
10/19/2026	Autumn Stroll	Fundraising	8,011.00
10/19/2026		Building Fund	50.00
9/14/2026 - 10/19/2026			**11,029.56**
BALANCE 10/19/2026			**35,902.10**

TOTAL INFLOWS	**12,029.56**
TOTAL OUTFLOWS	**-1,000.00**
NET TOTAL	**11,029.56**

Beginning Balance as of 9-14-2026	$26,671.54
Ending Balance as of 10-19-2026	$35,902.10
CD at C.A.C.L. Financial	$60,241.61
Minus Memorial Funds	$ 3,055.90
Minus Benevolent Funds	$ 3,595.00
Total Balance of Building Fund	$89,492.81

OAM MINISTRIES

Dear Friends,

Are you ready for some football? The North Carolina State Wolfpack has seven home football games each year and on game day, 59,000 football fans head to Carter Finley Stadium to cheer on their team. So far this fall, we have brought the gospel of Jesus Christ to two games with five more to go. We usually set up at two to three locations and proclaim the gospel, pass out gospel literature and engage people in conversation for three hours before we close our time in prayer and head home. I am blessed with a good team of workers who join us each
game if possible. As brother Daniel Springs was preaching last weekend in the pedestrian tunnel a student asked, "Aren't you the guys who preach on campus?" Of course the answer is
obviously, "Yes."
As most jobs have an hourly and daily schedule, so do we, as each Monday and Tuesday we are on the Campuses of UNC and NC State. We are blessed to have access to each campus with no limitations. In fact, the head of security at UNC stops by from time to time to check on us and thank us for being there. I have been sharing Jesus with a Chinese student at UNC for the last two years. He asked me, "Do you ever get lonely?" He struggles with being away from home and being separated from his family. It is a joy to share with him how our primary relationship should be with God and to be His child. He has not yet trusted Christ, but I believe it is just a matter of time
One thing that is cool is to see a lot of young men on campus on fire for the Lord and bold in their witness. One of our friends, who is on the wrestling team leads a group of believers who are out on Franklin St. each Friday night in Chapel Hill. At the same time, some of the students are gravitating to the Orthodox and Catholic Church, which is leading them into
the deadness of religion instead of a relationship with Christ. In God's plan, all those years in Philly has trained me how to engage those who are engaged in Catholicism. Our weekly presence on the campuses has allowed us to meet many believers who come to us for counsel and prayer. It is a blessing to encourage and support them.

One of our prayers is always for the Lord to bring us more help, because there is much to do. We have seen the Lord increase our team to ten people who are consistently joining us from time to time as their schedule allows. On Thursdays, we usually have a team on campus and one at the courthouse. The Wake County Courthouse is a busy place every day of the week as there are many hearings, weddings, papers to be filed, etc. A few weeks back as I was preaching a man was intently listening until an unexpected storm stirred up the wind and the rain came pouring down. Our team headed for shelter for about a half hour and as the rain let up, we continued on with our outreach. That same man who had been intently

ɜaring came to me with a question, "What did you mean when you said that
e need deliverance?" It was a great opportunity to open up the gospel and
ıare how it delivers us from the penalty of sin, the power of sin and one day
e presence of sin.

week later I met a woman broken about her addiction and her impending
ial for theft. As we hear a lot, she said, "I will get right with God when I fix up
y life." I asked her, "How long have you been trying to fix up your life? Has
worked yet or have you quit trying?" She started to cry as she understood
ɜr hopeless state. Just like all the folks Jesus
ɜaled, delivered, raised from the dead and forgave, he was their only hope
ıd help. I asked her, "When are you finally going to trust Jesus?" Her
ɜsponse was, "Right now," and she began to cry out to the Lord. My friends,
ıe fields are truly white unto harvest. There are a lot of broken people out
ıere who need help.
hanks for all the prayers and support. God Bless.
Joe

lovember Birthdays

3	Sue Reiter		24	Robert Schaeffer*
	Joe Toy*		27	Tara Miller
17	Matthew Kurtz		28	Willis Kimmel
*Denotes Missionaries we support.				

lovember Anniversaries

19	Jonathan & Jennifer Flynn	

NEWS FROM Brian & Missy Wagner

Greetings from warm and sunny Kijabe! The sun is shining, the grass is freshly mowed, parrots are migrating through the campus, and colobus monkeys are playing in our trees while eating the succulent leaves. In the past two weeks, we have had several vivid reminders of why we do what we do.

Student Baptisms

Just 10 days ago we had the privilege of hearing the testimonies of eight students who chose to be baptized! Each student shared their testimony and their personal, heartfelt story of discovering who God is and how much he loves them. Many had hard experiences and had to wrestle with God, ultimately surrendering to his love and redemption found only in Jesus. This is a good reminder of why we do what we what we do!

Connections with Alumni and Parents

Just a few days ago, we had lunch with a Korean couple who are retiring after 40 years of ministry in Africa. As they shared some of their story, they asked if we remembered their children. Brian had taught both of their children, who graduated in 2000 and 2002! We are the only staff members still at RVA from those years and these dear parents were so excited to connect with us. Both of their children are married and involved in ministry around the world. We've also recently connected with other alumni who are now serving as missionaries in East Africa. More reminders of why we do what we do!

AIM Spiritual Life Conference

As our students departed on Saturday morning, AIM missionaries from Kenya and Tanzania began arriving at RVA. We were excited that RVA was again hosting the conference, for the first time since 2017. The speaker, a Kenyan pastor at a church in Nairobi, shared from the Books of Daniel and Revelation, reminding us why we do what we do. We were challenged to be different from the world, to dwell on the sovereignty of God, and to recognize that missions is the fruit of worship. One quote that stood out was that modern Christianity often says to God, "I will follow you because you make my life better"; but biblical Christianity says, "I will follow you because YOU are better than life!"

Lots of thought-provoking questions from our speaker:

* Will we choose obedience over deliverance?
* Will we worship even if it kills us?
* Will we weep for those facing a Christ-less eternity?
* Will we keep Christ at the center of our lives?
* Will we partner with God in turning rebels into worshippers?

You are appreciated, as you continue to support us through faithful prayer and giving. Without you, we would not have the privilege of being able to do what we do for so many years as we serve and support many families and their children from across Africa and beyond.

In His Service and for His Glory,

Brian and Missy

Farr Flyer

Waiting… What is God Going to Do?

"But those who wait on the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint."— Isaiah 40:31

Waiting: Active Spiritual Preparation

Waiting can sound passive.

We often think of waiting as the space between what we want to do and when we are finally able to do it. But recently, God has been teaching us something different: Waiting on the Lord is not inactivity. It is active spiritual preparation for what God is preparing us to do. That lesson has become increasingly important both in our ministry with partners and in our family.

Learning to Depend on a Trustworthy God

There is tremendous urgency in Bible translation. We want every community to have access to God's Word, and we rejoice at the extraordinary pace at which new translation work is beginning. But urgency can tempt us to depend upon our strategies, technology, experience and plans. Waiting on God and his timing reminds us where the power and direction will come from. Isaiah doesn't say that those with the best strategy will renew their strength. He says that those who wait upon the Lord will renew their strength. So we are learning with our translation partners to ask different questions:

God, what are You already doing here? What needs to happen spiritually before we move forward? Where do we need reconciliation, healing or unity? What are You asking us to surrender? And where are You asking us simply to trust You? That posture changes the work. Instead of asking God to bless what we have decided to do, we seek to discern what He is doing and join Him in it.

Preparing Before We Move

I have recently been able to take two trips and once again spend time face-to-face with ministry partners and communities in the Solomon Islands and Vanuatu. We are becoming increasingly aware that the most important work doesn't begin with a plan, funds, a training or even people. It begins with prayer. Before moving into the work, we spent time with each community in fasting and prayer, waiting upon the Lord—to listen, discern and protect the leaders, communities, and teams doing the work.

In the Solomon Islands and Vanuatu communities, spiritual realities mean dealing with demonic forces and helping the local leaders/churches focus on spiritual disciplines together. There are histories of conflict, fear, division, traditional spiritual practices and other strongholds that have shaped these communities for generations. Engaging in Bible translation without acknowledging the spiritual landscape can be result in divided efforts or even leaders being taken out of the work. We fasted; we kneeled beside them. We asked God to reveal areas that needed healing or reconciliation. We prayed for unity and spiritual protection. We asked God to prepare translators, churches, leaders and families for what He wants to accomplish through His Word during our training together. We continue waiting on God together looking forward in faith to what he will do! Will you walk beside our translation partners as they prepare spiritually for the work God has called them to do?

And God is Teaching Us the Same Lesson at Home

Interestingly, God has been teaching Anita and me this same lesson with our children. When our kids were younger, so much of parenting involved doing. We could set schedules, establish boundaries, teach lessons, solve problems and make many of the decisions. As they became young adults, that changed. We can still counsel. We can encourage. We can listen. We can speak truth. But increasingly, we have perceptively less control and we entrust them to God. And that has made our prayers more intentional.

We are praying not simply for their circumstances to work out, but for their spiritual formation. We pray that each of them would know Christ more deeply. We pray for godly friendships and mentors. We pray that God would reveal areas of fear, insecurity or temptation. And we pray against spiritual strongholds and patterns that may have been carried through their family history. We are asking God to do in them what we cannot do for them. Perhaps that is one of the hardest forms of waiting. As parents, we naturally want to fix things. But God keeps reminding us that our children belong to Him before they belong to us. Our calling is not to control their journey but to love them, speak truth, pray intentionally, and walk beside them as they learn to hear and trust God for themselves.

The Same Posture

The more we think about it, the more we realize that God is teaching us the same lesson in two very different places. With ministry partners, we walk beside them and prepare spiritually before moving into the work. With our children, we walk beside them, pray intentionally, and trust God to

accomplish the work in their hearts that only He can do. In both places, the temptation is to run ahead. And in both places, God keeps inviting us to wait. Not passive waiting. Prayerful waiting. Listening waiting. Discerning waiting. Expectant waiting. Waiting that prepares the ground for what God wants to do next.

Will You Wait and Pray With Us?

1. Waiting on God for our ministry partners and communities Spiritual covering and protection over churches, leaders, translators and their families. Discernment to recognize and address spiritual strongholds, division and obstacles to the work. Unity, reconciliation and hearts prepared to receive and respond to God's Word. Wisdom to know when to wait and when to move forward.

2. Waiting on God for our children Deepening personal faith and spiritual maturity for Brandon, Abby, JJ and Sierra. Godly friendships, mentors and wise decisions as they navigate new seasons of life. Freedom from fear, insecurity and generational patterns that could hinder their spiritual growth. Wisdom for Anita and me to know when to guide, when to just listen and to release them entirely to God's care.

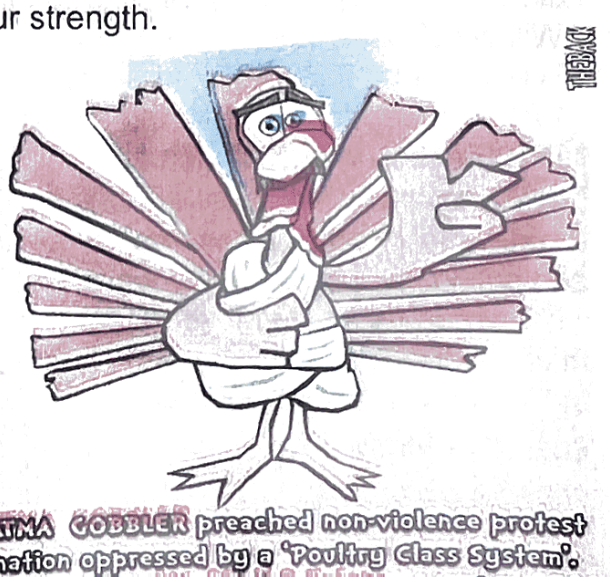
3. Waiting on God for renewed strength Continued physical strength and health as I return to international travel and ministry. While the wound on my foot has completely closed, I still struggle with discoloration and swelling. I am so grateful to be cleared to travel. Spiritual discernment, patience and renewed dependence upon God for both Anita and me. Faith to trust God's timing, even when the next steps are unclear.

Thank you for walking alongside us, praying with us and helping make this ministry possible. We are grateful that we don't wait alone. We wait together, trusting the One who promises to renew our strength.

With gratitude,

Jamie & Anita

All V.P saying is give PEACE a chance. and... EAT MOR CHIKIN.





A lady went into her local meat market and told the butcher she wanted to buy a turkey for Thanksgiving.

The butcher had sold all of his turkeys except one very little turkey.

He showed it to the lady and the lady said, "Do you have another turkey I could buy? That one is too little."

The butcher, anxious to sell his last turkey said, "I will take this one into the cooler and see if I have a larger one. He took the little turkey with him and unknown to the lady he brought out the same turkey.

"How is this one?" he asked.

"That is a little one too," the lady said. "I'll take them both."

For the New Year:

A short course in human relations ...

The *six* most important words:
"I admit I made a mistake."

The *five* most important words:
"You did a good job."

The *four* most important words:
"What is your opinion?"

The *three* most important words:
"If you please."

The *two* most important words:
"Thank you."

The *one* most important word:
"We."

The *least* important word:
"I."

Lord keep us mindful of your word above all others during the coming new year!
-Zona B. Davis

A Prayer for Thanksgiving

Lord, behold our family here assembled.

We thank thee for this place in which we dwell, for the love that unites us, for the peace accorded us this day, for the health, the work, the food, and the bright skies that make our lives delightful, for our friends, in all parts of the earth.

Give us courage, gaiety, and the quiet mind. Spare to us our friends, soften to us our enemies. Bless us, if it may be, in all our innocent endeavors. If it may not, give us the strength to encounter that which is to come.

May we be brave in peril, constant in tribulation, temperate in wrath, and in all changes of fortune loyal and loving to one another. As the clay to the potter, as the windmill to the wind, as children of their sire, we beseech of thee this help and mercy for Christ's sake. Amen.

Robert Louis Stevenson