

The Maranatha Village Trumpet



The Lord Cometh! □

April – June 2021

Volume XXXV 2

The Faces of Maranatha

Dr. Jerry Webber



Jerry

Over time I've managed to visit, drive through, or touch down in 49 out of 50 states and a few foreign countries, but there's nowhere I'd rather live than on my little corner of these hallowed acres. There are no majestic mountains in sight, and it's not possible to hear ocean waves breaking on the shores from here. But grand as those things are, none has the allure of this former scrubland in the heart of Florida's citrus country.

However, it's not the beauty of the grounds that holds my affection—it's the people. Maranatha Village is more than a location; it's a place where God has led like-minded believers to (as our Mission states) "worship and serve God together, cultivate meaningful friendships and care for one another's needs 'til Jesus comes."

It's amazing the way God places people here in time to meet critical needs. In case you haven't met them yet, let me introduce you to four such individuals. Each is a relatively new member of the Maranatha family. And each one fills a vital role in serving you on the Village staff.



Kathy Withers: If you have visited the "front office" or phoned in recently, you have already "met" Kathy, our newest addition. She and husband Dave had barely moved into their new home at 248 Timothy Road when word went out that someone was needed to replace the newly retired Jeanne Mullineaux. Kathy, coming from the position of Director of Development for

America's Keswick in Whiting, New Jersey, was God's answer to our prayers, and now serves as Office Manager.

Steve Smith: Steve and his wife Rita came to Maranatha in April 2020 and reside at 222 Timothy Road. Steve is the newest member of our maintenance staff. Raised on a farm in Illinois and trained as a machinist/tool-and-die maker, he has often used his skills to supplement income in the course of mission work and pastoral ministry, as did the apostle Paul. He now happily uses those abilities to meet the needs of fellow residents.



Linda Byers: Linda has recently assumed oversight of the Maranatha Village Guest House, succeeding Marlys Johnson. She'll be able to keep a close eye on things from her new location at 59 Daniel Road when renovations are complete. She and husband Dennis currently reside at 238 Maranatha Boulevard, and moved here from South Bend, Indiana,

where Linda worked for a general practice physician. Both attended Piedmont Bible College.

Tom Dillon: Tom works in our accounting department as an understudy to Jerry Johnson, and with a view to succeeding him as Business Manager. With a background in Personnel and Human Relations, and in pursuit of a graduate degree in counseling, Tom is well-suited for this position. He moved here in October 2020 with his parents, Les & Audrey Dillon, former residents "coming back." They live together at 40 Maranatha Blvd.





The Administrator's Perspective!

□ Anatomy Of A Volunteer □

Dr. Jerry Webber, Administrator



Jerry

In a recent *Odds 'n Ends* newsletter, I cited the vital role of volunteers in making Maranatha Village what it is today. I said, ***“Circulate through the community most any day, and you will see people loving God and loving one another by just doing what they can do, when they can do it.”*** That, by any standard of measurement, is what volunteerism is all about.

Volunteers differ from one another in what they do and how they do it. Some find fulfillment in raking and blowing leaves. Others love to paint. Some use their “green thumbs” to make bare spots beautiful. Still others cook and bake or stitch and sew to meet needs and brighten lives. Some provide comfort by writing notes of encouragement, while others devote themselves to intercessory prayer. What each one shares is a desire to give of themselves willingly, sacrificially, and often anonymously for others, asking nothing in return.

What makes a volunteer tick? Are there hallmarks that characterize these special individuals? I don't think it's a complete list, but it seems to me that volunteers typically think and act in the following ways.

A volunteer thinks creatively. He (or she) doesn't just accept things the way they are, but constantly looks for ways to make a difference. He finds satisfaction in opportunities of service that will enrich others. Simply said, he looks for things to do.

A volunteer acts purposefully. In a retirement com-

munity, it would be easy to, well, retire. There is every reason to withdraw at some point from that which has supported our lifestyle. But retiring is not the equivalent of resigning. While we can, God expects us to engage in purposeful activity that will make a difference for time and eternity.

A volunteer walks humbly. The volunteers I appreciate most never draw attention to themselves. They quietly go about their business; if you try to praise them, they are embarrassed. Praise is not what they are working for. Their outlook on rewards is long-term.

A volunteer labors passionately. It's awfully hard to tell the difference between a volunteer and someone who is paid for what he does. A volunteer responds, not to remuneration, but to an internal prodding, unrelated to compensation. Volunteers are motivated, not externally, but internally.

A volunteer works cooperatively. While it's true that many prefer to work alone, most volunteers are primarily concerned with ***“getting 'er done.”*** They therefore are more inclined to cooperate with others toward that end. Seeing the big picture, accomplishing projects that benefit the organization and/or the people who make it up, that's what floats their boat.

I've said it before and I'll say it again: Maranatha Village would not be what it is today, or have hope for being better tomorrow, if it weren't for our volunteers. While we can't possibly reward them in a way befitting their contribution, we say from our hearts, ***“thank you, thank you, thank you!”***

The Professor's Bike Shop

Stephen Kintner



Stephen

on numerous mission trips around the globe, been the commander of a CAP squadron, been an aircraft mechanic, been the handyman for a museum, and even raised sheep. The professor has tried to embrace every opportunity God gave him to help and encourage others.

All that activity came to a screeching halt on December 13, 2015, the day the professor had a stroke. A big one. One that would change his life in profound ways. From up in the air to a wheelchair. From searching for planes to searching for names. From teaching others how to control air traffic to teaching himself how to brush his teeth with his left hand.

Thanks to God's mercy and grace, the professor did not die that December day. He learned to walk again, albeit with a distinctive gait. He learned to talk again, with lingering remnants of the once severe apraxia and aphasia. And he learned to function with a nonfunctioning right arm. To God



The professor's (aka Steve Kintner) life has been one of serving and helping - from training missionary pilots, to being an air traffic controller, to teaching air traffic control at a university. He has piloted Angel Flights and CAP missions, been

be the glory.

God has even given the professor opportunities to continue helping and serving others. Tucked in a corner of the carport is "The Professor's Bike Shop." No, it is not a "real" bike shop, no stacks of new merchandise, rows of shiny wheels, or cash registers. What you will find is a couple of chairs,



Checking Rear Wheel

rubber mats, rows of wrenches and a guy happily helping others by repairing their bikes. If you need help with your bike or trike, feel free to stop by and see the professor at the corner of Gabriel and Daniel. Whether you find him smeared with grease, dusted with rust, clanging tools, or sitting and watching paint dry, he'll be glad to see you!



Replacing Old Tube

Editor's Comments

Through the years at Maranatha Village, there have been many bicycles set aside that needed to be repaired. The tricycle on the left at the bottom is an example. However, the picture on the right is the same tricycle which was repaired by Steve Kintner. What a magnificent repair job done to this old tricycle! You will see a number of repaired bicycles and tricycles being ridden around the Village. Steve has enjoyed repairing some of these old bicycles and tricycles.



New Village Residents

Dave & Kathy Withers



Dave & Kathy

When Dave and Kathy first met in the early 1980s, neither were walking in a relationship with Jesus Christ. Even though they both attended church and youth group, their lives did not reflect the biblical

teachings they had learned in Sunday school.

After they were married in 1985, Kathy was impressed with the example of Dave's parents, Cecil and Bea. She recalls sitting down for dinner and hearing prayers that were from their hearts not just a repetitious prayer from memory. Eventually Kathy, thinking about her years going to church, decided that her children should go, too. She began to attend her in-laws' church, First Baptist Church in Jersey City, New Jersey. As a regular visitor, the pastor had asked to meet with her. Having knowledge of Bible stories from the past, Kathy thought she knew enough to get by and felt confident she could answer his questions. After three meetings, the pastor asked her if Jesus Christ was her Savior. In her heart, she knew she had known a form of religion but did not have a relationship like the one she had seen in Cecil and Bea's lives. That day she prayed to receive Christ. Many had been praying for Dave and four years later, in 1992, Dave was saved at a Billy Graham crusade at the Meadowland's Arena.

In the years that followed, Dave and Kathy served in their local church. Kathy facilitated women's Bible studies and served in the women's ministry. Dave enjoyed facilitating men's Bible studies and participating in *Strong27*, a men's mentoring program. When their home church began plans to plant their third church, Dave and Kathy were asked to be part of the lead team to begin a new work in Lakehurst, New Jersey, where Proving Ground Church was birthed in April of 2020.

Before moving to Maranatha Village, Kathy served

for 16 years at "America's Keswick," an addiction recovery and Bible conference ministry. She began her time at Keswick working in the bookstore, then moved into guest services and development. At the end of her service, Kathy was the director of development. After Dave retired from his full-time career with Pathmark Supermarkets, he was asked to serve at Keswick as the head lifeguard and pool operator. He served in this position for 8 years.

The process of coming to Maranatha Village felt very much like the call on Abraham's life to pack up and go and wait on the Lord to reveal where He would take him. After investigating a move to South Carolina, Georgia, or the Tampa area, God led Dave and Kathy to Sebring. Each step of the move from selling their home in two days, to a rental at Maranatha Village becoming available, to the purchase of their mobile home, were all clear indicators that God had a plan and was leading the way. In January, Dave was able to find a part-time job and Kathy applied for the open position at the Village office where she is now working. God provided for their needs quickly!

When not working, Dave enjoys gardening, and Kathy likes reading and baking as time allows. Together they enjoy traveling for just a day or longer when they can and time with friends and family. They look forward to establishing friendships and seeking avenues of service as they get to know others at Maranatha Village and their local church.

□ Faith □

Faith is dead to doubts, dumb to discouragements, blind to impossibilities, knows nothing but success. Faith lifts its hands up through the threatening clouds, lays hold of Him who has all power in heaven and earth. Faith makes the uplook good, the outlook bright, the inlook favorable, and the future glorious.

V. Raymond Edman



Facts About Cinnamon and Honey

“Honey is the only food on the planet that will not spoil or rot. It will do what some call turning to sugar. In reality honey is always honey.

However, when left in a cool dark place for a long time it will do what I rather call “crystallizing.” When this happens, loosen the lid, boil some water, and sit the honey container in the hot water, off the heat and let it liquefy. It is then as good as it ever was. Never boil honey or put it in a microwave. To do so will kill the enzymes in the honey.

It is found that a mixture of honey and Cinnamon cures most diseases. Honey is produced in most of the countries of the world. Scientists of today also accept

honey as a ‘Ram Ban’ (very effective) medicine for all kinds of diseases.

Honey can be used without any side effects for any kind of diseases.

Today’s science says that even though honey is sweet, if taken in the right dosage as a medicine, it does not harm diabetic patients.

Weekly World News, a magazine in Canada, in its issue dated 17 January 1995 has given a list of diseases that can be cured by honey and cinnamon as researched by western scientists.” **(To be continued in the next issue.)**

Submitted by Dorla Abrams

Baked Eggs

MIX together:

1/2 pound cheese, cubed

1 pound ham, cubed

7 slices bread, cubed

Mix and put in 9x13" greased dish

Mix and pour over cubed ingredients:

4 eggs

2 cups milk

1/2 teaspoon mustard

Cover and refrigerate overnight.

In the morning, pour

1/4 cup melted butter over mixture.

Bake 1 hour at 350 degrees.

Submitted by Sharon Hoopes

Wacky Cake

MIX together:

3 cups flour

6 tablespoons cocoa

2 teaspoons soda

1 teaspoon salt

ADD to flour mixture:

2 teaspoons vanilla

2 tablespoons vinegar

1/2 cup + 2 tablespoons Wesson oil

2 cups water

Bake 350 degrees for 30 minutes in a 9x13" pan.

Submitted by Pat Wells



New Village Residents

Dan & Beth Crosier



Beth & Dan

Dan: While growing up in upstate New York in a non-Christian home with eight siblings, I learned at a young age to battle for survival. At six months old, I lost my dad to an auto accident, and at age 14, my mom passed

away unexpectedly from a brain hemorrhage. The next two years are a bit foggy. Somehow this thing called Christianity kept showing up in the form of a girlfriend (now my wife) and a church family who took me into their home and patiently nurtured me the best they knew how. Slowly all things started to make sense, and at the age of 16 or 17, I asked Christ to be my Savior. God has shown me His grace over the years though I certainly have not deserved it. I am grateful for the people God has placed in my life as they have taught and mentored me.

Occupationally I have worn many hats. I spent 27 years in the printing industry, during 17 of which I owned and operated my own shop. When the digital age arrived, I left printing behind and worked for our local utility company. While I had the print shop, the Lord allowed me to pursue my love of the game of basketball as a coach in the local high school.

Beth and I have taught and mentored young couples in our church over the years, and we consider hospital-

ity as a gift with which God has blessed us both.

Beth: God graciously allowed me to be brought up in a home where the love of Christ was exemplified and magnified. At the age of five, I began asking questions about eternal life when my grandfather died, and my mom led me to Christ. God has been my light and salvation, walking alongside me and speaking to me through His Word and through friends, family and great teachers.

I retired on December 4, 2020, as an elementary teacher: 17 years teaching first grade, four years as a math specialist, and this past fall I had the privilege of teaching third grade. But an even greater blessing has been the privilege of being a mom to three children: Heather, who is married to John Bishop; Erika, who is married to Josh Waters, and our son Brian. Even though our six grandchildren (three boys, three girls) live in Charlotte, North Carolina, we see them several times a year and cherish our times together.

We have loved every minute here at Maranatha Village! We came here at the end of December and had plans to rent a villa for two months. But, as you guessed it, we bought! 17 Maranatha is now our winter home. Living at the Village is about the people. We have met wonderful friends who are the hands and feet of Jesus. And of course, being so close to my three cousins and their wives (Littles: Gary and Terri, Dave and Kathy, John and Linda) is awesome! Thank you for making us feel welcome and loved.

This Story Teaches Two Lessons

There is power of life and death in the tongue. An encouraging word to someone who is down can lift them up and help them make it through the day. A destructive word to someone who is down can be what it takes to kill them. Be careful of what you say. Speak life to those who cross your path. The power of words... it is sometimes hard to understand that an

encouraging word can go such a long way. So from this day forward, think before you speak.

“Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and those who love it will eat its fruit.” (Proverbs 18:21)

(copied)

Let's Go Fishing

Don Laven



Queen Fleet Deep Sea

A group of fifteen men and women from Maranatha Village took a fishing trip on Thursday, February 25, 2021, to Clearwater, Florida, which was a different location than where we have been going for the past six years. We left Slip #52 of Marina Cantina in Clearwater, boarding Queen Fleet Deep Sea 75-foot boat at 9 AM, returning at 5 PM. We went out into the Gulf of Mexico about 20 miles on one of the most beautiful days in the month of February. The water was calm, temperature at 78 degrees, with full sunshine. You could not have asked for a better day to relax. But good fishing days ask for more wind and waves, so our success was not as good as last year when we caught 180. We blame it on smooth waters, but many of us feel that the Bottle Nose Dolphins (Mom and Dad) grabbed the fish before we could hook them. They followed the boat to wherever we stopped



to “bottom fish.” They were our main attraction for the day, just plain fun to watch! Wayne Mott did the best job of pulling in the fish. He caught 26 out of our combined catch of 60 for the group. Wayne took Bruce Hendsbee’s place in catching the most fish. Bruce fishes with us every year but had to miss this time due to heart valve surgery. We caught Grunts, Hogfish, Sand Perch, and some other varieties. One of the unusual catches of the day was a very large Octopus that Jack Werkema hooked, which flipped off the hook just as it was being pulled out of the water. All in all, it was a great day of fun and fellowship! **LET’S GO FISHING...** See You All Next Year!



~ Looking To The Future ~

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We look back on the accomplishments of the past, but we also recognize the opportunities of the future. Maranatha Village’s motto through the years has been to “care for one another’s needs ’til Jesus comes.” The focus has always been on people – serving one another as we serve the Lord.

Would you be willing to help strengthen and preserve this unique place to honor the Lord and the

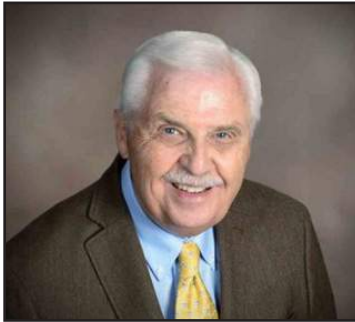
future mission of Maranatha Village? In the coming months, we will be considering several “projects for progress” that will give our residents, their extended family members, and friends the opportunity to participate in a tangible and financial way in these potential developments. Would you pray with us about those opportunities?

**Dr. Gerry Carlson –
Marketing and Development**



□ Looking To The Future □

“For the LORD is good; His mercy is everlasting, And His truth endures to all generations.” Psalm 100:5

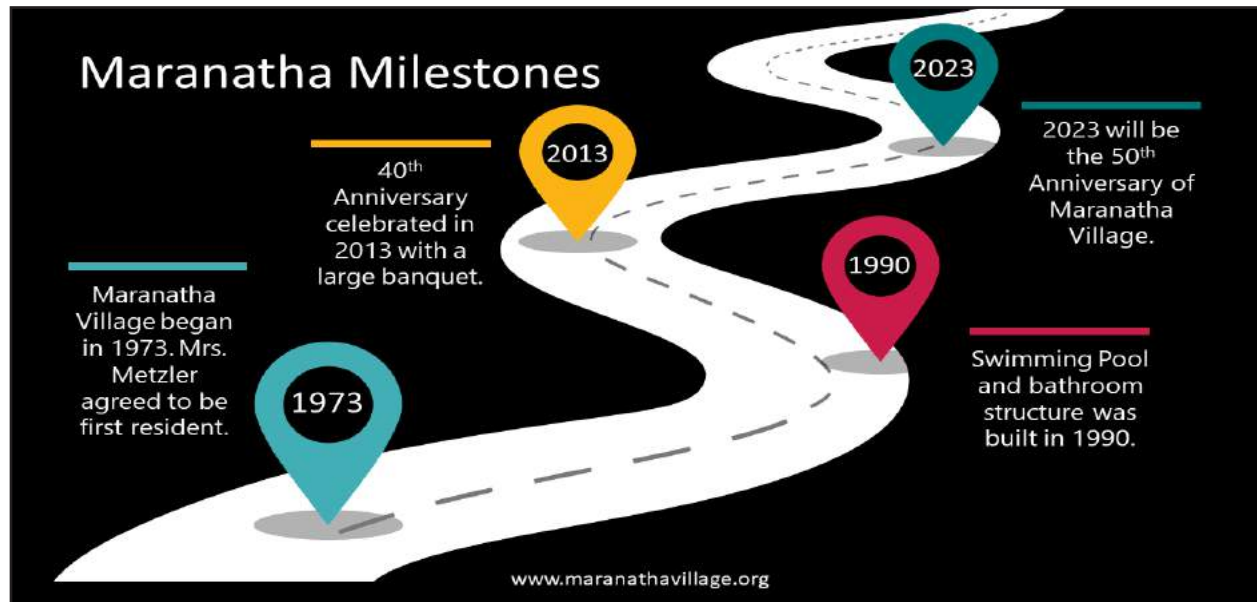


Gerry

In 2023 Maranatha Village will recognize its 50th Anniversary with an appropriate and joyful celebration. Anniversaries are a great time to look back and recognize God’s faithfulness and His sustaining goodness. So much has been accomplished from the initial vision of Floyd Conway and a small band of helpers who joined him in launching the Village in 1973.

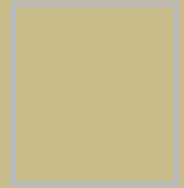
Maranatha Village has served God’s servants for almost half a century. Much has been accomplished during those years. The Lord has provided many workers, sufficient financial and material resources, and many residents year after year. Here is a list of some blessings the Lord has brought to our Village.

- | | |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maranatha Baptist Church facilities • Sunshine Lodge becomes Maranatha Manor • Renovation of the Village Office • Beautiful heated swimming pool • Fellowship Acres golf course • Fitness Center at 4 Ruth Street | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Craft Cottage at 11 Gabriel Street • Fogle Pavilion • Disc golf course • Wagon Wheel mini-golf course • Improvements to the grounds and facilities • Hundreds of residents and winter guests |
|--|---|



From a rough piece of Florida farmland, God has shaped a beautiful campus that honors the Lord and serves His saints. With all the natural beauty of the Village and the attractive facilities that have been built, many visitors comment that it is the people who really make Maranatha Village a special place. *continued on page 10*

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*“Believe on the
Lord Jesus Christ
and you will be saved.”*

Northeast Picnic Gala



The first annual Northeast Picnic Gala (formerly New York Picnic) is in the books! A wonderful time was had by all! We had representation from Maryland, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, New York, Vermont, and New Hampshire. Folks were welcomed to brightly colored tables, bringing with them s-o-o-o many good things to eat! Our resident photographer, Annie Waldron, got us all to behave long enough for a group picture.

Then the fun really began --- *The White Elephant*

Gift Exchange. Be sure to ask Jim Russo about his treasure! While Covid concerns kept some away this year, we look forward to them joining us next year.

A BIG thank you to Elaine Edmondson for her invaluable input and Deb Kershaw and Lorraine Emery’s willingness to oversee the planning. Look out— Deb is good at delegating! Also a big shout out to all who attended the picnic and helped get Hamman Hall ship-shape after the festivities. “Many hands make light work.” Thank you!