

# TRUCKSTOP MINISTRIES, INC. NEWS



J A N / F E B / M A R 2 0 2 6

## COMMEMORATING FORTY-FIVE YEARS OF MINISTRY

It is amazing to consider that Truckstop Ministries, Inc. held its first-ever Fellowship Meeting **forty-five years ago** this March at Transport City Atlanta (later to be the Atlanta TA)! It's just as amazing when you consider how much has changed since that first meeting. For a short while, that was the only location we had, meeting every Sunday at 10am, and Chaplain Joe Hunter was happy. But God wasn't done yet. Before long, we were holding meetings at a second Atlanta location, and then a third just south of the city.

In our 10th Anniversary newsletter (1991), we wrote that "we have opened three new Chapels this year, and Don [Ferrell] is in the process of building our third mobile unit...." On the back of that newsletter, we listed all nine of our locations! As we published our 20th Anniversary newsletter, we had just committed to purchasing 15 trailers and were asking for prayer for finances to turn them into Chapels and for volunteers to staff them. By our 25th Anniversary newsletter, we had 67 Chapels; by our 30th, we had 75 Chapels; and by our 35th we had 84 Chapels!

The only thing you can rely on (in this world) is that things are going to change. But what man may see as a setback, God means it as an opportunity. That first truck stop has since been torn down, but TMI is still going strong. We may have reduced location-wise from a high of 85 Chapels to 59 currently, but our online presence has continued to grow. As of this writing, over 8,000 people follow our Facebook page.

Yes, a lot has changed in the last 45 years, and a lot will change in the next 45 — but what Chaplain Joe said in the very first newsletter hasn't changed at all: "Our number one objective is to get the gospel of Jesus Christ to America's Truckers"!



*Chaplain Joe & Jan Hunter, Founders of TMI, with their children Joey & Julie*

## From the Board:

Many of you may have heard of the recent leadership change here at Truckstop Ministries, Inc. TMI is led by a Governing Board of Directors, and we are actively overseeing things during this time of transition. We have asked David Owen to step in as Interim President.

This ministry was founded with a vision. That vision is to see a Chapel ministry established at every truck stop worldwide (in conjunction with other trucking ministries), open 24 hours a day, seven days a week, for the purpose of carrying the Great Commission to the Truckers of the world. In order to accomplish this, it takes commitment from you, the Driver, as well as the faithful workers of TMI.

We will continue to provide you with as many resources as possible, like Chaplains and Assistants fully committed to serving Truckers across this nation. We provide you with Fellowship Meetings, devotionals, Christian advice based on God's Word, hospital visitations, personal outreach, our online presence, quarterly newsletters, free Bible study correspondence courses, 24-hour Trucker Prayer Line, gospel tracts, and other printed materials. We want to see you thrive in Christ. It is our responsibility to help you to become a disciple maker.

A disciple maker is a Christian willing to take the time to minister and teach others. We at TMI want you to fall in love with God's Holy Word, and share it with as many Truckers as possible. You are on the front line in this battle against darkness, down in the trenches where it can get messy. So we are asking you to join us and be willing to roll up your sleeves, accept the challenge, and let's face it head on. Together we can defeat darkness by replacing it with the light of Christ as we continue moving forward. Thank you for all you are doing in the ministry and your continued support!

—TMI Governing Board of Directors

## Well Done, Good and Faithful Levites!

God loves you!!! What a way to bless God by restoring His Petro Ontario (CA) "Temple" for TMI on Veterans Day! To God be the glory, in Jesus' Name, amen!

I thank God and I pray for all our TMI Chaplains and our TMI Staff!

Your Brother in Christ,  
Chaplain Beto



## When the Drivers don't come to you...

...you go where the Drivers are & make sure they notice you! That's what Chaplain Guy Thomas does!

Chaplain Guy is one of our Chaplains at the Petro in Kingdom City, MO. His location—just like the vast majority of our locations—has been experiencing very low attendance. We at TMI have come to the conclusion that there are several factors that play into this — electronic logs (which greatly restrict when and for how long a Driver can stop), the availability of church services online (which does nothing to fill the need for fellowship with other believers), and the general spiritual state of people these days, to name a few.

Like Chaplain Dennis in the last issue, Chaplain Guy decided to tackle yet another element that can hinder attendance — visibility. With permission from management, he has a table set up inside the truck stop that Drivers pass by all day long! Along with New Testaments, tracts, CDs, and our location guides, there is also a sign letting Drivers know about the nightly Bible Study they have in our Chapel outside.

*Now that's getting creative!*







Drivers, how's your New Year going? I pray your journey has been safe so far. Allow me to share this thought with you. We're well into this year now and I'm sure we made New Years resolutions at midnight on the 31st of December, only to have broken them by January 2nd. We resolved to make changes because we have seen or heard of a better way, but the real problem is, we didn't commit to the idea.

An example of this lack of commitment is found in 2nd Peter. It reads, *"For if, after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, they are again entangled in them and overcome, the latter end is worse for them than the beginning. For it would have been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than having known it, to*

*turn from the holy commandment delivered to them."* (2 Peter 2:20-21)

If you go back to verse 1 of this chapter, you'll see Peter is talking about false prophets and teachers. They heard the Gospel. They saw the changes in the lives of true believers. They heard and saw enough in them to make some resolutions. But they were not committed. Their resolutions were soon abandoned as they turned away and returned to the old nature. As reflected in verse 22, they returned to wallowing in the mire because their resolutions were not sincere. There was no commitment. Because of the fact that they had heard and chose not to commit, their end was worse than their beginning. You see, to know and hear is only part of the whole. James said, *"You believe that there is one God. You do well. Even the demons believe-and tremble!"* (James 2:19) But demons have no hope.

I have good news for you. Unlike the demons, if you will resolve to make a commitment, your hope is secured. Paul wrote in the book of Romans, *"that if you*

*confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. For 'whoever calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved'"* (Romans 10:9-10, 13) That's called commitment.

Make a commitment, not a resolution. Resolve to commit to Jesus. No more lip service, no more half stepping, and no wallowing in the mire of doubt and self-pity. Take your stand today. After all, today is the first day of the rest of your life.

What a way to start out a new year. Resolve to commit!

May God grant you safe traveling mercies.

Blessings,

Chaplain Billy



Chaplain Billy Green  
Lebanon Junction, KY

## UPCOMING EVENTS



March 26-28  
Kentucky Expo  
Center  
Louisville, KY  
Booth #39126

Special thanks to everyone who donated to TMI in 2025 — those that sent year-end gifts, one-time gifts, and especially those that set up recurring gifts! May God bless each of you!

Thank you!

Donation statements should be going out by January 20. If you need one sooner, please call us here at the office.

## Ministry Family Happenings

*We extend our heartfelt condolences to:*

- Chaplain Tim & Kealyn Swanson (Bucksville, AL) in the loss of their son, Timothy Swanson, III.
- Mrs. Sue Armstrong & Family in the loss of her husband, former Chaplain Donnell Armstrong (New Paris, OH).
- The family of Chaplain Johnny Klugh (Commerce, GA) in his passing.

## Praise the Lord!

2025 • Ministry Contacts – 10,812  
YTD • Decisions for Christ – 694

1988 • Ministry Contacts – 766,713  
2025 • Decisions for Christ – 36,981

# 45 Years and Growing!

Yes a lot has changed with the Ministry in 45 years. God has walked through the valleys with us and climbed the mountains with us right behind Him. I don't have room to tell it all, but one of our blessings was in 2008-9 when He allowed us to purchase land and put offices on it.

I want to thank all of the office personnel that we have had over the years, especially Brad & Traci Isbell and Donna Owen that are still doing a great job at keeping everything running. Also to our Chaplains and Assistants that open the Chapels for Drivers to attend—you are amazing, thank you so much! Also to our Missionary Drivers for meeting the Drivers where they are with a Word of encouragement. God has blessed us with past and present Board Members and we're praying for more men in the Transportation Industry to join with us to continue to lead TMI with God's help.

To our faithful supporters that have given from day one and all those that join in giving each year—without your help we couldn't have done what has been accomplished thus far. There have been many people over the years that have helped get things done in so many wonderful ways.

Even though Chaplain Joe has moved on up to Heaven, his vision and mission is still being carried out. He loved Truck Drivers more than any man I know and he wanted them all to have the opportunity to know Jesus as Savior and have a place to Fellowship together.

I love you all, and thanks again for walking with us these many years!

*Joe Hunter*



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To reach us, you may call 770-775-2100, or write to PO Box 80, Jackson, GA 30233. You may also email us at [tmi@truckstopministries.org](mailto:tmi@truckstopministries.org).

All Scriptures quoted are from the New King James Version, unless otherwise noted.

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Prayer Box (A box at TMI HQ that holds all prayer requests sent in to us.)

The entire TMI Family  
TMI Board of Directors  
The Missionary Driver Program  
Chaplain David Owen & Family  
Bill & Nancy Blackmon  
Jan Hunter & Family  
Larry & Palma Simmons  
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Goedde  
Polly Mauthe  
Chaplain John Hunter  
Luke Swartz  
Karen Gardner  
Billy Jensen  
Chaplain Gene Gibson  
Paula Combs  
Gloria Grubbs

Chaplain Larry & Marlene Wrightsman

Shawn  
Africa Lockhart  
JP (Driver)  
Chaplain Rodney Williams  
Felicia  
Todd Knox  
Patrick Dolan  
Thomas (Driver)  
Jim Kelly  
Christopher Clemmerson  
Jerry  
Brett Cloyd  
Kiara  
Bradon Cox  
Tyler N  
Josie Hunter  
Tina Foster

## Let Us Pray With You!

Besides calling the Truckers' Prayer Line, you can easily send us prayer requests through the TMI App!

You can also email or text them to [requests@truckstopministries.org](mailto:requests@truckstopministries.org)

## **Do You Know For Certain That You Are Going To Heaven?**

No matter what you've done, or where you've come from — **JESUS LOVES YOU!**

If you have never repented of your sins (which means turned away from) and asked Jesus to forgive you—or if you have been a Christian but have let sin creep back into your life—please do so right now. Here is an example of what to pray:

**Father, I come to you in Jesus' name. I've sinned against You, but I repent and purpose to turn away from sin. Please forgive me and take control of my life. I believe Jesus died to pay for my sin and You raised Him from the dead. I receive Jesus as my Savior and my Lord from this day forward. Thank you for forgiving me and saving me. In Jesus' name I pray — AMEN!**

Now — if that's what you want to tell God, tell Him! You can use those words or you can use your own. If you are a Driver or the immediate family of a Driver and would like someone to pray with you, please call the Truckers Prayer Line on the back of this newsletter. If you want to know more about what it means to be a follower of Jesus, contact us about our Bible Study program.

## ***Truckstop Ministries, Inc.***

***operates on the generous donations of our supporters!***

If you would like to help support our Ministry, here are some ways you may do so!

- ☐ I would like to help with a general donation.
- ☐ I would like to **ADOPT A CHAPEL**. (Please specify which Chapel in the Memo section. If left blank, it will be applied where it's needed the most.)
- ☐ I would like to **ADOPT A CHAPLAIN**. (Please specify which Chaplain in the Fund section.)

***All donations are tax-deductible and greatly appreciated!***



## Things you can do (for FREE!):

☐ I would like to receive a paper newsletter in the mail.

*(Please give us your mailing address.)*

☐ I would like to receive the newsletter online.

☐ I would like to be enrolled in your correspondence Bible Study program.

*(For Truckers & their adult family members.  
Please give us your mailing address.)*

Chapel: Richmond Hill, GA T/A

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JOHN 14:27

## HOW TO CONTACT US:

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