We were able to see a lot of old friends at MATS 2024, and we were also able to make some new friends. Proverbs 18:24 (KJV) says, "a man that hath friends must show himself friendly: and there is a friend that sticketh closer than a brother."

So, how do we know when we have met a new friend or even when we see an old friend? According to the Bible, a friend is someone who shows himself or herself friendly. We had many people who visited our booth inside as well as our mobile



Chapel in the parking lot. We enjoyed every one of them because they showed themselves friendly.

I ask you this question — do you show yourself friendly?

# Are You A Disciple Of Christ?

Jesus also said in John 13:34-35, "a new commandment I give unto you, that ye love one another, as I have loved you, that ye also love one another. By this shall all men know that ye are my

disciples, if ye have love one to another."



Many friends and fellow disciples stayed and helped out with all the hard work that goes into packing up the booth and mobile Chapel. I call them friends and disciples for two biblical reasons: 1) they showed themselves friendly, and 2) they showed their love for us as disciples and followers of Jesus Christ.

Nancy and I were extremely grateful for the physical help and the great fellowship we had together with our fellow disciples. And because of the love and fellowship, even though we all were working very hard, it was a



great time and not a burden.

We all know that life is hard, but are we doing our part by being the hands and feet of Jesus to make the burden light on others? This is how the world may know that we are followers of Christ. Not by being self-righteous and judgmental but by showing our love to one another.

So, I ask you this question — are you really a disciple of Christ? If not, you can

be. The choice is yours. Will you choose to follow Christ?

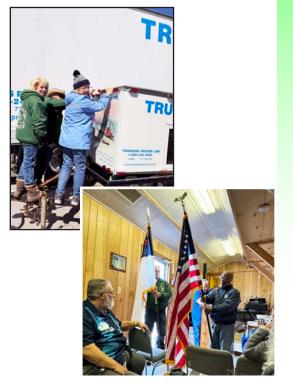
Let's keep truckin' for Jesus, together!

Your fellow servant,

Chaplain Bill



Chaplain Bill Blackmon President



# UPCOMING EVENTS

## **SUNDAY NIGHT SINGINGS**

North Baltimore (OH) Petro Inside the IHOP — 6pm

05/19 - Steve and Lisa / Peggy Hamilton

06/09 - Ed Ewing / Owen Stapley

07/14 - Dennis Jolly / John & Debbie Levier

More dates to be announced!



Come see our Mobile Chapel (and the Little Rig) at the following locations:

- ⇒ Shell Rotella SuperRigs (May 30 June 2, Texas Motor Speedway)
  - » Open House Come by for a visit!
  - » Fellowship Meeting: Sun, 06/02 @ 10 am
- ⇒ West Michigan Truck Show (June 7-9, Hudsonville, MI)
  - » Fellowship Meeting: Sun, 7/9 @ 10 am
- Lonesome Road Conference (July 28-30, Keenes,IL.)



It's been a while since I wrote an article and times have changed again. We are certainly getting closer to the return of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and events of the Last Days are happening very quickly, almost every day. We are on our yearly trip; this time, the west coast! This will be our 18th trip!

What comes to mind are the scriptures Matthew 18:10-14 and Luke 15:1-7. In the parable, Jesus questions, "If a man has a hundred sheep, and one of them goes astray, does he not leave the ninety-nine and go to the mountains to seek the one that is straying?" This parable is more important than we often think, especially with the climate we find in ministry now days. Often we have only one in attendance, rather than a room full like we used to. This parable is more important than we realize because we often find ourselves ministering to the 99 and not the one, and we can sometimes fail to recognize the

value of that one person to God.

Romans 11:29 (HCSB) states that "God's gracious gifts and calling are irrevocable." Ministry isn't always about numbers and volume and we shouldn't get discouraged when ministering to the one. God has called us into this ministry to carry the Gospel to the Drivers of this nation and we need to pray for patience, spiritual guidance, and wisdom as to how best to do that for every situation; each one can be very different. My biggest concern now days is that sometimes we want to throw in the towel because it "looks like" we're just spinning our wheels, so to speak. You see, we never know when we are planting a seed or watering one that's already been planted. We don't know when God is using us to give someone an opportunity, even if they don't respond. We have to remember, God sees the whole picture far beyond our limited vision and insight. Let's keep in mind that we need to approach ministering to the Drivers in faith, trust, prayer, and loving compassion because we may be their only window to hear the Gospel in their busy world. Romans 10:14-15 (HCSB), "But how can they call on Him in whom they have not

believed? And how can they believe without hearing about Him? And how can they hear without a preacher? <sup>15</sup>And how can they preach unless they are sent? As it is written: How welcome are the feet of those who announce the Gospel of good things!"

Being in the limelight of ministry isn't important to God. Obedience to His will and His call on your life is paramount. There is where you are the most effective for Him and the ministry He has called you into. In 2023, 863 people received Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior or rededicated their lives to Him, because you, as a Chaplain, were on station to which God called you. Countless more need you there at the Chapel so they can hear the Gospel or have Christian fellowship; whether it's a room full, a few trickle in, or the

one, God is counting on you to be faithful to be there. Thank you all for the great job of ministering in the TMI Chapels across the country. May God richly bless you!

Chaplain Jerry



# Praise the Lord!

2024

- Ministry Contacts 3071
- YTD
- Decisions for Christ 141

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# We extend our heartfelt condolences to:

- Chaplain Al DeLaCruz (N. Baltimore, OH) & Family in the loss of his brother, David DeLaCruz.
- Mrs. Cindy Jayroe & Family in the loss of her husband, former Chaplain Sammy Jayroe (Jackson, MS).
- The family of former **Chaplain Jerry Allen** (Ontario, CA) in his passing.
- TMI co-founder **Jan Hunter & Family** in the loss of her brother, **James E. Thomas**.
- Chaplain Tommy Ward (Port Wentworth, GA) & Family in the loss of his wife, Helen Ward.
- Mrs. Sarah Richards & Family in the loss of her husband, former Chaplain Ken Richards (Atlanta, GA).

We are all blessed by resurrection day because that action saved our sinful lives and through the acceptance of the risen saviour Christ and lord we have eternal life with him. Follow him and live ready for his soon return in the sky with the trumpet calls.

— Avon Phillips

**REMINDER** — We know you're used to seeing a prominent "Sympathy" section in our newsletter, but we know there are more things going on in the lives of our TMI Family than just home-goings.

We want to use this section to honor & recognize all kinds of important events — births, marriages, graduations, ordinations, and yes, home-goings, too. We'll fit in as many as we can, so please — send us (high-quality) photos and all pertinent information to newsletter@truckstopministries.org!





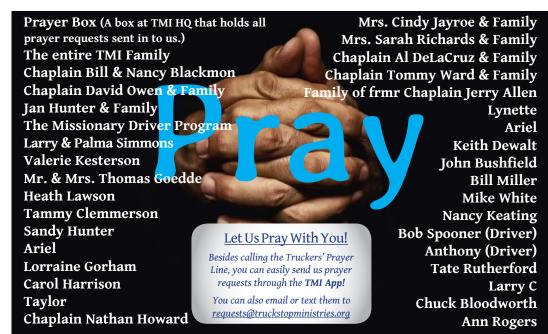


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To reach us, you may call 770-775-2100, or write to PO Box 80, Jackson, GA 30233. You may also email us at tmi@truckstopministries.org.

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

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### 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 <b>ADOPT A CHAPEL.</b> (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 <b>ADOPT A CHAPLAIN.</b> (Please specify which Chaplain in the Fund section.)

# Things you can do (for FREE!):

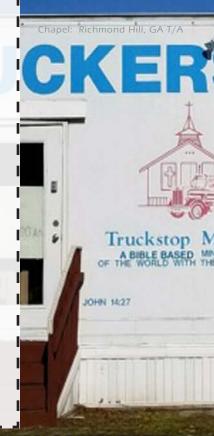
☐ I would like to receive a <u>paper</u> newsletter in the mail.

(Please give us your mailing address.)

☐ I would like to receive the newsletter online.

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

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



### **HOW TO CONTACT US:**

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