



*The Pilgrim Holiness Church of NY, Inc.*

## MISSIONARY BULLETIN

April 2018

Greetings in the Name of the Resurrected Christ,

The resurrection of Christ was the crowning sign pointing to the TRIUMPH OF TRUTH. The religious rulers of the day demanded a confirming sign of Jesus' authority. They were determined to discredit His character and marginalize His message. There was to be no sign except that of the prophet Jonah. The Jews, attending Sabbath services in the temple, had just witnessed Jesus purge His Father's house of the money changers and suppliers of the required animals for sacrifice. Such disruption of acceptable desecration required an explanation. Again Jesus refers to His resurrection as unmistakable evidence of His authority. The eastern expression 'three days' here and the 'three days and three nights' of Matthew 12:40 allow for the partial passing of day one and three. After three days, the fleshly temple of His body would be raised up incorruptible, a glorified body.

The exit of Jesus Christ from the sealed tomb fulfilled His prophetic declaration of John 2:19. He had said, 'After three days I will raise it up' and He did!! That was the sign or power of divine intervention, the actual miracle of life. However, Jesus did not come out of that tomb just to prove He was not a liar! He came out of that tomb as victor over sin, death and hell. The significance of the event was the TRIUMPH OF TRUTH. His resurrection was the crowning proof of the TRIUMPH OF TRUTH. His resurrection is the bedrock foundation of Christian faith. Jesus miracles: healing the born blind, healing the lepers and raising the dead identified and verified His deity and Messiahship. His crucifixion opened the fountain of atoning blood. His death satisfied the law of sin and death. His resurrection guaranteed the performance of grace upon every repentant sinner, who, having been dead in trespasses and sins, became alive in Christ and passed from death unto life. Hallelujah!! Glory to God!!!

### That None Should Perish

The first safeguard against perishing is The Will of God. "It is not the will of your Father which is in heaven that one of these little ones should perish." Matthew 18:14.

The second safeguard is The Message of the Cross. For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God." I Corinthians 1:18. From the believing thief on the cross, to Saul of Tarsus, to the town drunk in our communities, this power of God pardons from all sin, transforming the broken, burdened lost soul into a new creature born of the Holy Spirit. It is this unbelievable power of the cross that Rachael Denhollander spoke about at the sentencing hearing of Larry Nissar, the disgraced Michigan gymnastics physician. She prayed that he would feel the soul-crushing weight of guilt 'so you may someday experience true repentance and true forgiveness from God."

What is the message of the cross?

1. It is the mode of Execution: Philippians 2:8. "Christ became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross."
2. It is the place of reconciliation: Ephesians 2:16. "And that He might reconcile both unto God in one body by the cross."
3. It is the life of crucifixion: Galatians 2:20. "(Paul) I am crucified with Christ..." "If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross and follow me." Matthew 16:24.
4. It is the source of Exaltation: Galatians 6:14. "But God forbid that I should glory, save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ..."

It is no wonder that the Apostle Paul declared, "For I determined not to know anything among you, save Jesus Christ, and Him crucified." I Corinthians 2:2.

### News from the Field

*BRAZIL:* Classes at the Bible Institute started the 14<sup>th</sup> of March. There are nine students enrolled. Two classes are held each night. Wednesday night classes are "Old Testament Survey" taught by Pastor Agnei, and "Theology I or Christian Beliefs" taught by Bro. Mills. Friday night classes are "Public Speaking" taught by Pastor Eraldo and Old Testament Survey taught by Pastor Agnei. The students arrive by buses and are taken home by Bro. Mills. It takes 1 hour and 15 minutes travel time to make the circuit to the five churches.

Bro. Mills noticed that the rear tire on the Toyota appeared crooked. Expecting the worst, he praised the Lord it was only the rim had not been put on right!!!

The Brazilian Council has decided to begin a 5,000 reis fund from which the churches could take out a loan. No loan would go to an individual. The maximum loan would be 2,000 reis. Repayment would begin at the agreed time with 10% of the loan as the rate of payment. All loans would have to be for church projects.

Steve and Kezia have just received a letter from the State Department saying they approved the adoption of Sophia into the Mills family. Praise the Lord!! Her name is now officially Sophia Grace Mills. They plan to start the application for an immigrant visa for Sophia in December. This type of visa is required in Sophia's situation. Bro. Mills stated, "She is growing up right before our eyes!!!"

Bro. Steve Mills requests prayer as he teaches the class on Basic Christian Beliefs. He desires to teach Scriptural freedom from sin, heart holiness and modesty in attitude, attire and conversation. Please continue to pray for Evelyn and her boyfriend. It would be well to keep all the young people in our prayers.

*HAITI:* Thank you for praying for God to protect and provide us on the recent trip to Haiti. On March 20, 2018, Rev. Jonathon Fall and Rev. Ken Sickler flew out of Albany around 8:30 AM. With a stop in Charlotte, North Carolina and in Miami, Florida, we landed in Port-a-Prince at 5:15 PM. After an overnight stay in Carrefour, we rode through the city, up over Goat Mountain and into Mirebalais. There we met Pastor Roniald, exchanged money and headed to Saut d'Eau.

The weather was pleasant for us (though cool for the Haitians). Very little rain fell during the whole visit. In fact, it is very dry for Haiti at this time. The team was very grateful that electricity was in sufficient supply. There was more generator power at the hotel than ever before. The evening services were lighted by generator power. The team participated in the services from Wednesday through Sunday morning.

Thursday was a sightseeing day. Rev. Fall got to see our property in Mirebalais, local hydro electricity dam and our former compound in Saut d'Eau. Visits were made on Saturday afternoon to the daughter of Pastor Henrias and to the DesChamps church. Don Mobley took a 'shortcut' dirt road to get from Saut d'Eau to Mirebalais. Once away from the town, the country side was delightful, the people friendly and the roads about as rough as everywhere else!!"

The Lord heard the prayers of the people for revival. There were altar services both Wednesday and Thursday evenings. Friday's Pastors' Conference included 35 ministers and church leaders. Saturday morning was devoted to eight couples pledging their love and lives to each other. Rev. Fall preached in the Saturday evening service. The church was packed with some standing in the back (about 300).

Sunday morning began at 7 o'clock!! Over 30 candidates for baptism gathered at the local stream just outside of the village of Saut d'Eau. Pastor Fleurimond told the people he was planning to sleep at the church Saturday night to ensure those to be baptized got up in time!!! We were pleasantly surprised to get a call from Pastor Roniald at 7 AM telling us that they were all at the stream ready to start!! The morning service began around 9 AM and went until 1:30 PM. Besides the usual specials from each church present, nine children were dedicated, 5 men were ordained and the Intercessors for Christ were honored. Rev. Sickler preached 35 minutes. Pastor Fleurimond concluded the service enthusiastically emphasizing the main points of both Bro. Fall and Bro. Sickler's messages.

The team sat down to a table laden with the best Sunday meal the Haitians could provide!!! The picture included with this bulletin bears witness to this fact. The time had passed so quickly. Bro. Fall was ready to come back!!! God granted us safe flights to Albany and home. Thank you so much for your prayers and faithfulness to God's Kingdom building in Haiti. The theme for this year's Convention was 'Christ is ready to Return.'

Oh, I want to see Him, look upon His face.

There to sing forever of His saving Grace.

Looking for His soon return,

Rev. Ken Sickler  
Conference Missionary Secretary



Pastors' Convention



Pastors' Convention in Progress



Sunday Morning congregation



A Common house in rural Haiti



Sunday noon meal for us



Sunday Morning Baptismal Crowd



Ladies waiting in line for their turn.