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Meet Jim & Dorothy Rhoades— Retired, but Raring to Go!

by Victoria Fleenor

I first met Jim and Dorothy Rhoades last summer, when Jim was preparing to be baptized in the evening service with my oldest son, Geoffrey. (It's a little difficult to refrain from getting to know someone sitting next to you in a blue shower-curtain robe and bare feet.) I remember thinking that it was so special to see two of God's children following His example through baptism—but over 50 years apart. I loved that service! Since then, I have enjoyed seeing both Jim and his wife Dorothy each week at church. Jim's joyful countenance and ready smile, along with Dorothy's quiet, sweet spirit, have become a familiar part of our congregation.

Once again, as I talked with the Rhoades in preparation for this article, I was struck by how the Lord "makes our paths straight." Jim was adopted into a family of Wesleyan faith in Lansing, Michigan. He was led to a saving faith in Christ by his mother at the age of eight, but never was baptized until this past year. Dorothy hails from Chicago, Illinois, originally, but moved to Nashville later in life. She accepted the Lord there at a Baptist church (after growing up in the Methodist faith), and was baptized. Much later, the two were introduced right down the road at Key Heights, where Dorothy lived at the time, by Jim's daughter Pam. They will have been married 22 years this coming June.

Jim and Dorothy Rhoades have been at-



tending First Baptist since 2006; they became members in the summer of 2009. They moved from Clarksville to Lowell that year, and after visiting a few churches, decided to visit FBC after noticing advertisements for our special Easter breakfast & service. They remember enjoying meeting and talking with Earl and IlaJean Pomeroy that morning, and found our congregation to be friendly in the weeks following. Since then, they have grown to love our church—especially Pastor Sims and the music (Jim now lends his wonderful singing voice to our choir).

Both Jim and Dorothy are retired; Jim from various positions, but mainly the

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Cardboard Testimonies of January 31, 2010

Jim Moore	ANXIOUS	"PRAYER" - RECEIVE GOD'S PEACE
Mickey Bechill	BUSYNESS	SLOWIN' DOWN PUTTING GOD FIRST
Brenda Nauta	Doctor said I could not have children...	Gave birth to <u>3</u> children... it's a God thing!
Chris Bechill	BROKE LEG HIT DEER 55 MPH on MOTORCYCLE	-PRAISE GOD -WOMAN SAVED WHO WATCHED. I'M OK
Monica Pasquale	Put down and rejected by many throughout school. <u>Unforgiving</u> . Wrapped up in self.	FORGIVEN! <u>Set free</u> to forgive, to love God with all my heart and to love my neighbor as myself.
Mary Cooper	Spouse says I'm Brainwashed	ALL of me has been washed in the Blood of Jesus!
Bev Taylor	GRIEF-DEPRESSION -Lost only son -Many Family problems -Friends with many troubles, too -Too busy	FOUND God my ROCK and REST I trust in HIM God used <u>you</u> , too! Thank you
Ed Schwenke	7 years fearing my eternal destiny	I John 5:13 NO FEAR!
Jared McQueen	Diagnosed with malignant brain tumor at age <u>6</u>	By God's healing hand... age 9 ½ cancer free!
Earl and IlaJean Pomeroy	BUSINESS FAILED \$300,000.00 in DEBT	Praise GOD-- our Provider—Debt almost gone!
Diane Gerard	30+ years with same company Thankful my job is secure Because...	God is blessing GFS with <u>growth</u> in tough economic times!
Dave Pasquale	WIFE ANNE'S TERRIBLE ILLNESS	GOD'S PROTECTION AND HEALING OF ANNE
Pastor Dave Sims	AT DEATH'S DOOR in '93	ALIVE! BY PRAYER & PROVIDENCE
Don Green	Lost House In Bankruptcy	Living in Bigger House with Fireplace!
Lynn Green	Grew up with Abusive, Alcoholic Father	Six Children following the LORD! Dad's in HEAVEN!!!
Karen Onan	Fearful CANCER Returned	NO CANCER FOUND JANUARY 2010
Sara Onan	Baby Given For Adoption	THANKFUL GOD ADOPTED ME

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Karol Burnham	Didn't know JESUS. ALMOST ABORTED MY DAUGHTER	HE used HER to REACH ME!!!
Christina Kosbar	IN BAD CAR ACCIDENT 2006	I could have died STILL HERE! STILL SERVING!
Liz Mol	Aunt almost died from stroke	She is alive and well. God is alive, too!
Callie Ingram	Grandma went to be with Jesus when I was 2	Someday I'll see her again in heaven I accepted Jesus June 15, 2009

"Praise the LORD. Call upon His name. Declare His deeds among the peoples...
Sing to the LORD for He has done excellent things."
Isaiah 12:4 & 5

Strategic Sightings

By Earl Pomeroy—(mostly copied from the FBC website)

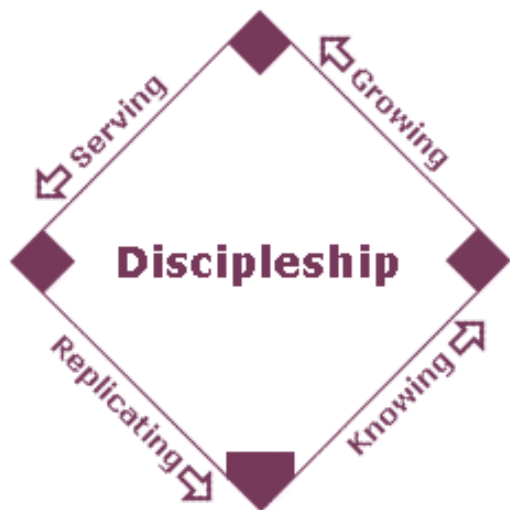
This is the first in a series of vignettes designed to introduce the FBC community of believers to the Ministry Teams that serve you.

MATURITY TEAM - providing and designing paths to grow together...

Maturity Team Description: The Maturity Team ministers in the areas of Sunday School, ABFs, Children's Church, youth leadership, Awana and VBS with their curriculum and staffing. This Team facilitates small group Bible studies and the Tuesday evening prayer time in leading the family of First Baptist Church toward a deeper commitment and spiritual maturity. It will help create and administer support groups and classes as needed.

Maturity Team Responsibilities: Sunday School, ABFs (TACCO plan), Awana, Children's Church, 5th Sunday Special Events in the ABF/S.S. hour, Children's Summer Ministries, and Christmas program, VBS, Library, Nursery, Prime Time (Senior Adults Ministry), Small Group Bible study, Support groups, Summer camp, Teacher training, Tuesday prayer time, eXcite Youth ministries (Ignite & Explode -Jr/Sr high youth groups), New Directions (College/Career), Bus Ministry, etc.

What you Can Do: Talk to a member of the Maturity Team and thank them for their willing and dedicated service to the body. They are: Chairperson, Nancy VanLaan, Bob Copland, Pastor Margesson, Dave Mersman, Karen Onan, Pastor Severn, Pastor Sims, Pastor Taylor.



He spoke -- the light was
He made man -- they chose
darkness
He died -- defeating the
darkness
He arose -- He IS the Light

(Continued from page 1)

printing business. He was a printing press operator for years, served in the Navy between the Korean and Vietnam Wars, then ran a small printing shop for many years. Dorothy worked as a nurse's aide for Kent Community Hospital and worked for Jim at the printing shop after retiring from there.

The Rhoades have a blended family of six children between them. Jim's four children are Jim (and wife Judy), Pam (and husband Rob), Steve (and wife Thanya), and Scott (engaged to fiancée Angela). Dorothy has two sons as well—Jim, married to Janet, and Eric, married to Angela. (You might remember praying for Dorothy's daughter-in-law Janet fighting cancer last year; she is currently in remission.) In addition, they brag of 15 grandchildren and three great-children!

Jim enjoys golfing, and Dorothy is planning to take lessons this year so she can join him on the course more often. Dorothy enjoys sewing and other crafts as hobbies. They both enjoy spending some of their extra time helping care for grandkids (they have a pool, which the grandkids love). They enjoy traveling when they are able; they have ample opportunities to do so, as their large brood is scattered across various states. This year, they look forward to traveling to California in July for son Scott's wedding.

Now that you know a little more about Jim and Dorothy, I hope you will take the time to share your story of God's leading your own paths with them! What a privilege for us to be able to experience His grace, love, and mercy as threads woven through the tapestry of our lives...and then to be able to share those stories of His faithfulness with each other. Don't you think that these reminders of God's love through the lives of others is one of the best Valentine's gifts of all?

WORDS WORTH REMEMBERING

What then shall we say about these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? Indeed, he who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all – how will he not also, along with him, freely give us all things? Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is the one who will condemn? Christ is the one who died (and more than that, he was raised), who is at the right hand of God, and who also is interceding for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will trouble, or distress, or persecution, or fam-

TAX TIME

Contributed by Kathy Casler

A tax assessor came one day to a poor Christian to determine the amount of taxes he would have to pay. The following conversation took place:

“What property do you possess?” asked the assessor.

“I am a very wealthy man,” replied the Christian.

“List your possessions, please,” the assessor instructed.

The Christian said:

“First, I have everlasting life, John 3:16

Second, I have a mansion in heaven, John 14:2

Third, I have peace that passes all understanding,

Philippians 4:7

Fourth, I have joy unspeakable, I Peter 1:8

Fifth, I have divine love which never fails,

I Corinthians 13:8

Sixth, I have a faithful wife, Proverbs 31:10

Seventh, I have healthy, happy, obedient children,

Exodus 20:12

Eighth, I have true, loyal friends, Proverbs 18:24

Ninth, I have songs in the night, Psalm 42:8

Tenth, I have a crown of life, James 1:12”

The tax assessor closed his book, and said, “Truly you are a very rich man, but your property is not subject to taxation.”

ine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? As it is written, **“For your sake we encounter death all day long; we were considered as sheep to be slaughtered.”**

No, in all these things we have complete victory through him who loved us! For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor heavenly rulers, nor things that are present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in creation will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 8:31-39 (Net Bible)

What Cancer Cannot Do

Author Anonymous
Contributed by Kathy Casler

- Cancer is so limited
- I cannot cripple love.
- It cannot shatter hope.
- It cannot corrode faith.
- It cannot kill friendship.
- It cannot eat away peace.
- It cannot silence courage.
- It cannot invade the soul.
- It cannot quench the spirit.
- It cannot reduce eternal life.
- It cannot shut out memories.
- It cannot destroy confidence.
- It cannot lessen the power of the resurrection.

One In Heart as of February 20, 2010

HAVE:

HP 20 ink cartridge
Woman willing to clean Fridays and Saturdays.
Contact Lorri Gabrion 897-8973

HVS tapes
"Shrek" and "Santa Clause"
Contact Kathy Casler 897-4295

Printer HP 2460
Contact John Gerard 890-6117

NEED/WANT

Good used vacuum cleaner
Card table
paty Schwenke - 949-3941 or 608-2542
2 small dressers or one medium dresser for couple
adopting 1 and 3 year-old boys.
Contact Monica Pasquale 942-0825

Think

SPRING

Eph 1:7 -- **Redemption**

Thank you, God. I really need that:
In-Christ-redemption.

This is not just any old redemption.

This redemption is
in Christ,
and through his blood.

Redemption:

Bought back from the slave market.
I was sold into slavery by my wicked and vicious internal brothers -
Pride, Self-centeredness, Hate, Lust, Envy, Greed, False Worship

I had run up charges bigger than the national debt and the heavenly IRS was hot on my trail for back taxes.

You stepped in, paid it all off in blood, issued an executive pardon, expunged the records, set up a place for me in your house, signed adoption papers, and you gave me a new in-Christ identity.

Wow, God -- That's crazy. **That's GRACE.** Only God could think of a weird deal like that!!

I love it!!!

That ought to be good for a major attitude adjustment – which I need right now.

Have a nice day.

Your friend, Earl.

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FBC Mission Statement

We endeavor to...

Magnify

The Lord, by bringing people to Jesus Christ and

Membership

In His Family, seeking to develop them to Christ-like

Maturity,

Equipping them for their

Ministry

In the Church.... And their life

Mission

In the world.

March Birthdays and Anniversaries

Name	Happy Birthday	Happy Anniversary
	to..	to..
Mickey Bechill	3/01	
Ernie Blanchard	3/01	
Jenna Mikelson (M.K.)	3/01	
Skyler Nauta	3/01	
Phil & Sherry Johnson		3/02
Anne Pasquale	3/02	
Jessie Godfrey	3/05	
Hunter Pham	3/05	
Kim Green	3/06	
Ellen Moore	3/06	
Kaily VanLaan	3/07	
Bill Green	3/08	
Jerry Buckingham	3/10	
Matt & Lori Gregory		3/11
Andrea Bradley	3/11	
Marissa McGlamery	3/11	
Hannah Bechill	3/12	
Juanita Sprague	3/12	
Amy Taylor	3/12	
Courtney Blanchard	3/13	
Alan Onan	3/13	
Bob Thompson (Missionary)	3/13	
Phil Johnson	3/14	
Nikki Steenwyk	3/15	
Haley Sobie	3/16	
Herb Whorley	3/16	
Scott Zalis, Jr.	3/16	
Terry Cavanaugh	3/17	
Randy & Gloria Ossewaarde		3/17
Diane Gerard	3/18	
Betty Morlock	3/19	
Callie Ingram	3/20	
Greg & Louise Green		3/23
Tori Yonker	3/24	
Phil & Diane Gerard		3/25
Neil Stiver	3/25	
Terry Watson	3/26	
Bill & Sue Green		3/27
Shelby Mayo (M.K.)	3/27	
Linda Milley	3/28	
Rick Raimer	3/28	
Ed & Elaine Smith		3/28
Heather Mikelson (Missionary)	3/28	
Joanne Schwarcz (Missionary)	3/30	

***I have set the Lord always before me.
Because he is at my right hand, I will not be shaken.
Psalm 16:8***