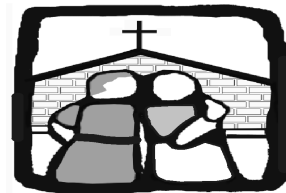


Onward Christian Soldiers



Connecting
Affirming
Reaching
Equipping
Sending



A Church That
C.A.R.E.S.

146 Leitersburg Street, Greencastle, PA 17225

www.greencastleub.org

Missions Conference

Sunday, March 6, 2022

Prelude

Scripture Reading #691

Worship Music

Missionary Moment

Hymn #375

Missions Message

FAITH PROMISE

Chorus/Prayer

Benediction

Pentecost Sunday was known in the old country as “White Sunday” or Witsunday. It was a popular day for new believers to be baptized because it marked the occasion when the disciples had been “baptized with power and the Holy Spirit.” Often these folks being baptized would wear white robes and would march from the church to a nearby river to be baptized.

Sabine Baring-Gould was a pastor in Horbury, England. He was an eccentric soul who did a lot of writing and traveling. He also taught classes in the village school, and often had his pet bat clinging to his shoulder while in the classroom! In 1865, when the children from his church decided to march in unison to a nearby church to join in a Sunday School rally (wearing their white robes), Sabine decided they needed a song to sing while they walked. On the evening before their “march,” he wrote the words that became a standard hymn in many parts of the world over the next century. ONWARD CHRISTIAN SOLDIERS. Sabine later said that the wide popularity of this song surprised him more than anything else in his life.



We have SOLDIERS because we have wars. We have wars because we have enemies. We have enemies because evil is always present. Evil is present because the Evil One tempts and influences men. The word SATAN means "adversary." Soldiers, then, fight not only to protect their country, but to destroy and drive back their enemy.

The Bible refers to each Christian as a fellow worker and fellow soldier (*Ph. 2:25*). It is a statement about the danger of our spiritual enemy and the nature of the conflict. We cannot walk with God and have a faith that is casual or ambivalent. A soldier trains to fight because when the enemy strikes, that is their duty and commitment. Soldiers are needed because WAR is REAL, military or spiritual. How can we be on the side of righteousness and not be a soldier?

We invite you to have supper on us!

5:00 – Meal provided in Multipurpose Room... sandwiches and fellowship... a great time to share stories and friendship

6:30 – Final service of our 2022 Conference... Peter Bellingham (by video) and OUB trips.

Would love to have you here!



The Altar Flowers are in celebration of Mel & Nancy Taylor's 20th anniversary

**Next Admin. Board Mtg.
Mon., 3/7/22, 6:30 pm**

Last Week	2/27/22
Attendance	235
General	\$ 11,258.00
Missions	\$ 2,626.50
Building Fund	\$ 1,397.50
Sunday School	85.00

What is a MISSIONARY? There are two implications from the word itself that means “*one who is sent out.*” First, they are sent **FROM** somewhere or someone. This implies a mission, a reason, a message, and objective. We do not randomly “send” someone. We send someone to communicate or deliver a product or make a connection. So this person conveys or assists or represents that which they are sent from. Early Christians were sent by church leaders in Jerusalem to distant cities or countries to deliver the “gospel message.” In fact, some of those first disciples of Jesus... Philip, Thomas, Peter, etc. traveled, lived, and even died in foreign places because Jesus had said to them, “As the Father has sent me, I am sending you” (*Jn. 20:21*)

Secondly, a missionary is sent **TO** somewhere. Now if the target is down the hall or across the street, “sent” is an overkill. Not really going anywhere. But, from the beginning, this word implied the crossing of a boundary or barrier. The missionary was sent “somewhere else.” It could be the distance of geography or the boundary of culture, or the barrier of language. They were being sent to a different group, or religion, or place. This always implies learning, adjustment, adaptation. So a missionary is an evangelist, but has the added requisite of translating the gospel into a form that is understood in the world to which they are sent. Cool beans!

A successful Christian missionary must **CONNECT** the message from where they are sent to where they are sent. And though this involves geography, the “Christian” component means that this message is sent not from the place of their earthly origin, but from heaven. So they go representing not their own country or tribe, but representing Christ, yet doing so by leaving their familiar home and crossing into a place unfamiliar. The original missionary word is “apostle” that combines the word stello (send) with apo (off from, away from). [Greek] Somehow this meaning was shared by the [Latin] word mitteo (or misseo) from which our English word is derived. God calls some folks to this particular exciting, challenging task... taking the familiar message to the unfamiliar place (*Eph. 4:11*). **PERHAPS HE IS CALLING YOU!**

This is why we (Otterbein U.B.) honor and support and participate with missionaries. We have financially supported folks serving in 35 countries on every continent. Literally, our gifts have made it possible for people who are sent... to go... and stay. In this we are following the expressed expectation of Jesus who was (himself) **SENT** from heaven to earth.