

# Victory newsletter

Spring 2020

## Renovation

Are you wondering why there's a picture of a different church on the first page of our Newsletter? The answer is, it's not a different church—this is *our* church!

A lot of changes have taken place during the time we have not had services in our church building, and the inside entrance looks very different! The flooring in the Worship Room and the lobby area was completed in March. With the addition of tables, chairs, and a counter, the lobby has been transformed into a coffee area. The décor strategically placed on the walls,



tables, and counters adds to the welcoming and friendly feel. It is now a comfortable place to sit and visit, which is exactly what we want our church family and visitors to do! The TV monitors will give information about current and upcoming events at church, service times, etc.

There are still a few details to be taken care of before we can say the project is finished. Many people have spent countless hours planning, shopping, scheduling vendors, and following up to get this far. Thanks to everyone who has helped make this a reality!





# CALL Mall: Children of Arkansas Loved for a Lifetime

When this quarantine first started, I thought we should close the CALL Mall and be "safe." However, there were children still being removed from homes for neglect and abuse. The children being at home all the time due to the schools closing probably didn't help, and children were being removed from home and placed with loving foster families. Therefore, there was the need for the Mall to be open so families could get clothing, shoes, and other items! The schedule was modified a bit. The Mall did not open on Saturday but remained open on Fridays and by appointments.



A DHS caseworker brought a woman to the Mall who had taken in her six nieces and nephews along with her own three to keep them from entering into the foster care system! God has blessed those children with mercy and love!

We continue to receive really great donations that sometimes include new items with the tags still on and never worn!!

Over \$400 was collected from Victory for The Walk for The Waiting! Overall, there was about \$110,000 raised for the virtual walk! This will be split among the three groups: The CALL, Immerse, and Project Zero. Thank you all for allowing The CALL Mall to be a mission of Victory Baptist Church. We've gotten several compliments on our church renovations!



The Mall has had some rearranging, and now the opposite seasonal clothing is stored in tubs underneath each size. This little move has opened up the donation room for easier sorting and hanging up clothing.

## Children Sing

Our Worship Leader, Josh Thomas, and his wife, Amanda, began singing with the preschool Sunday School classes several months ago. Singing is always an important part of class for these little ones. Songs help them learn important Biblical principles they will remember the rest of their lives.

The children sang "Deep and Wide" and "The B-I-B-L-E" at a Sunday morning worship service in March. We love to hear these precious voices singing songs that remind us about God's love!



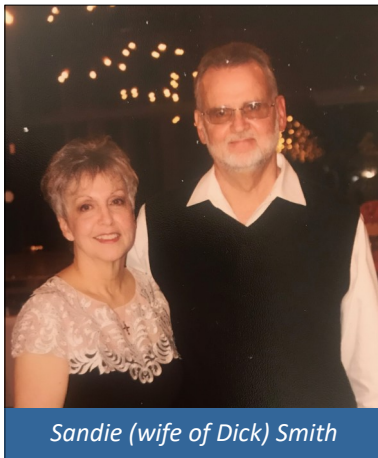
## New Members

If you haven't met our new members, look for them and introduce yourself!

Trent and Hannah have been visiting for several months. We're glad to have them!



Hannah & Trent Cleghorn



Sandie (wife of Dick) Smith



Butch & Melissa Higginbotham

Sandie has also been visiting for several months. She recently married Dick Smith, who has been a member for several years.

Many of you already know Butch and Melissa; Melissa is Julie Harper's twin sister!

---

## Online Services

Have you ever volunteered to do something? If you have, no doubt you've seen the scope of the task change. Change is sometimes slow and other times very quick. COVID changed everything quickly! Suddenly, in the projection/sound/live stream/worship team realm, *everything* changed! The previous goal was to provide a way for people to experience Victory services when they were unable to attend. Because of COVID, the new goal was to broadcast to EVERYONE since meeting face to face was impossible. Sounds easy, right? Well . . . .

Picture this: the musicians had to change everything, from where they stand on stage, to how songs were ordered to ensure Bro. Larry could go from speaking to playing drums and back to speaking without a bunch of dead air. The audio/visual/musician teams had to work out a new flow in order to provide a live feed that is acceptable. There was new hardware and software involved, not to mention 12 people, five or six instruments, mics, two computers, two cameras, two projectors, soundboard, and very little time to get this all together. That's a lot of moving parts to get lined up and pointing in the same direction! Inevitably, just before going live each service, one software or the other would decide to not play nice—and that's when the heart rates go up! If you ever hear them talking during service, it's not because they're talking about the 'big game' or lunch plans. It's probably because there's a technical issue. TV stations have many well-trained people who handle live streaming and several millions of dollars tied up in equipment. We have a group of awesome volunteers with some on-the-job training who are happy to do this, and the goal is to continue to get better; not for their glory, but His.

Some of the production crew is pictured to the right. If you would like to be a part of this crew, let one of them know!

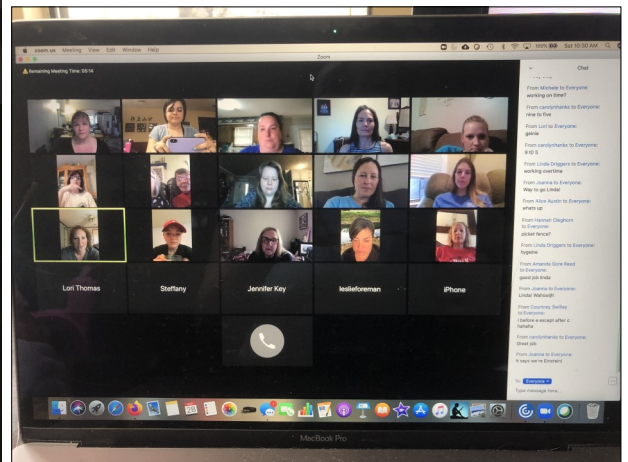


Darren Austin, Chad & Leslie Foreman, Aaron McGinty, Josh Clinton



The Connection had just gotten off to a GREAT start, when the pandemic restrictions threw us a curveball—as they did everyone! However, we did not let social distancing keep us from meeting virtually! We’ve had several meetings via Zoom, an online video-conferencing tool. Amanda Thomas and Steffany Hale found some games that could be played while Zooming, and everyone had a lot of fun with them!

I’m sure everyone will agree that Zoom meetings can be a bit challenging, but these ladies have enjoyed seeing each other and staying in touch. The goal of The Connection is to create opportunities for ladies to connect with each other, and it’s not as easy to do when we don’t meet in person. We have enjoyed seeing each other and staying in touch, but we are looking forward to seeing each other in person! The online meetings will only be for a short time, so we will do what we can until things get back to normal!



## Meanwhile, back at church . . .

While we didn’t have any gatherings in the church building for a time, the work of the Church did not stop! Staff and volunteers have worked tirelessly to prepare and provide online worship services for members and guests. (That has been quite a feat, as the “Online Services” article on page three attempts to explain!) The renovation efforts have continued, and are nearing completion! (See the article on page one.) And the church staff continued their weekly meetings while social distancing.

We have started meeting at the church again! For now, we have two services on Sunday morning, at 9:00 am and 11:00 am. The first service is for those who are at higher risk of getting sick, and we ask that everyone wear a mask. At the second service, a mask is not required, and this service is streamed on Facebook and YouTube. We are also meeting on Wednesday night at 6:30 pm. There are no Sunday School or children’s classes at this time, but we hope to get back to them soon!



*Church staff social distancing*

# RIM: Remote Island Ministries

In Palau, RIM has felt the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic along with most everyone around the world. Bro. Glen's plan was a voyage to the westernmost islands of Yap in March, April, and May. Because of mandatory quarantines in all ports, that plan has been put on hold.



The Knights also planned a trip to the States to attend the ABA Messenger Assembly in June. This trip has been cancelled for several reasons, among them travel restrictions and the cancellation of the Assembly meeting.

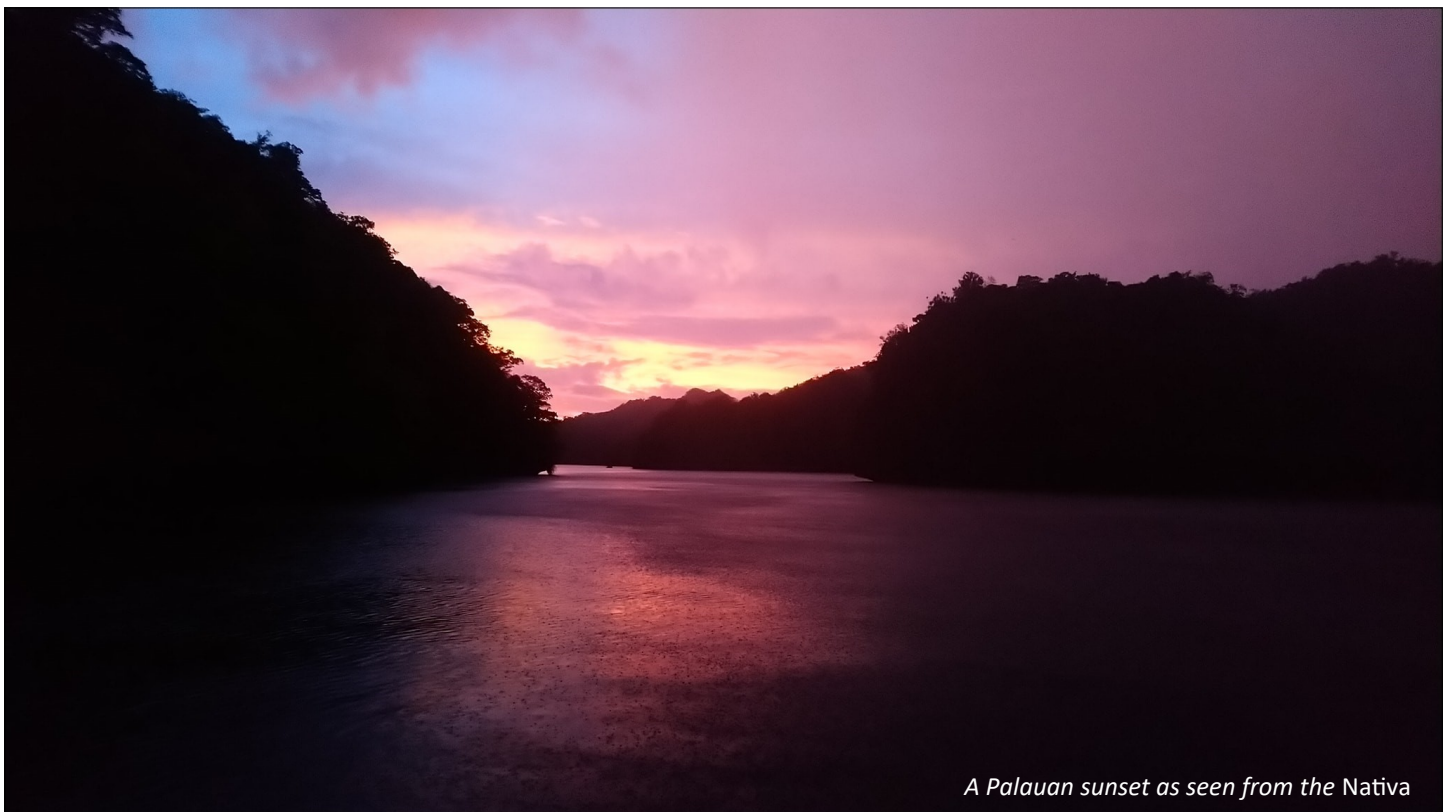
However, these changing plans have not put a stop to RIM's ministry! They have continued with their local outreach efforts and have even invited friends to their worship service on the *Nativa*. Bro. Glen is also streaming messages on

Facebook. On Easter, they introduced a new crew member to the traditions of Easter baskets and Easter egg hunts! There must be many places to hide Easter eggs on the *Nativa*!

You can keep up with Bro. Glen and Summer on Facebook. Bro. Glen also publishes a Newsletter about every two months; they are posted on our website, [victory1st.com](http://victory1st.com) under the "Missions" tab.



*Easter on the Nativa*



*A Palauan sunset as seen from the Nativa*





Non-Profit Organization  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
North Little Rock, Arkansas  
PERMIT NO. 329

## RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

If you do not wish to receive this newsletter or are receiving it in error, please call or text 501-658-0813 and leave your name/address.

## Our New Sign!

Some of us were beginning to think we were never going to get our new sign. The sign was scheduled to be installed in March, but the weather got in the way. March brought a lot of rain, and it continued through April and May, making the church yard too wet for the vehicles to drive on the yard as they needed to put up the sign.

However, it finally came to pass! The sign was installed the end of April, and the final touches were added the first of May. It is a large sign that can be seen from the road, and the lighting makes it visible at night. We are very pleased with how it looks!

