

# The Clarion of Christ Ministerial Fellowship

*-a non-denominational communion of ministries with the purpose of mutual encouragement, like minded fellowship and love toward one another.*

## The CMF Clarion

Welcome to the Clarion. It is our privilege to serve you, the reader, and our prayer would be that this instrument would be used to promote the growth of the Kingdom of God in your life.

The Clarion will be published on line on a quarterly basis.

Articles will be solicited by the editors and selected among authors of public domain. It is primarily a vehicle of expression for the members of Christ Ministerial Fellowship.

Prayer requests, photographs, and announcements may be sent in no later than September 20th for the next edition, to Bert and Arlene Ghilardi:  
aghilardi@stny.rr.com

Blessings upon all who read.



**Preaching in Tokyo, Japan**

Our Will, Relationships and Open Doors  
By Lou Pressman

Recently the Lord put it on my heart to ponder Ananias. Not the Ananias of Ananias and Sapphira. Not the Ananias the chief priest but the Ananias of Acts 9. This individual who previously was unseen pops into Scripture and is used mightily and except for Paul’s testimony many years later in Acts 22 is never heard from again. Ananias is placed or catapulted to a place he never asked for and didn’t wanted to be.

Acts 9 opens up with Saul, the unredeemed Paul, “breathing threats and murder” (NASB). Persecuting and now hunting down the Church had become his life, he was consumed and driven but unbeknownst to Ananias Saul had his fateful Damascus experience. Of course, Ananias doesn’t know about Saul’s dramatic change but nevertheless the Lord comes to Ananias with simple instructions, “Go to Saul, this is where he is and this is what I want you to do. “

If you have been a Christian for any length of time you know there is a huge difference between simple and easy. Was it simple? Sure, Ananias did not need a GPS to get there. Was it easy? Did Ananias want to go? No, for Ananias was rightly concerned for Saul was a dangerous man who persecuted the church but God makes His will known to Ananias.

These events stayed with Saul/Paul and in Paul’s later years testifies, “And a certain Ananias, a man who was devout by the standard of the Law, and well-spoken of by all the Jews who lived there, came to me,

and standing near said to me, 'Brother Saul, receive your sight!' And at that very time I looked up at him. "And he said, 'The God of our fathers has appointed you to know His will.....". Acts 22:12-14. For Ananias, for Saul, for us, isn't it about knowing and doing the will of God? Ananias allowed the Lord's will to eclipse his own.

Another thing that speaks to me is that once the will of God is ascertained by Ananias there is an immediacy to his action. It would seem that immediately, at once, Ananias departs and enters the house where Saul was staying.

I am never in favor of doing anything rashly or haphazardly but sometimes we could think things to death, as we would say "letting it die on the vine". The antidote to that is to seek the counsel of godly people to help you discern what the will of the Lord is for any given situation.

Acts 9:17a "And Ananias departed and entered the house" where Saul was. From the context we don't get the impression that Ananias explained himself to the household he entered. Such as, knock, knock, oh excuse me, are you eating? Is this an inconvenient time? I'm sorry if I am interrupting you. Now let me give you a lengthy explanation why I am here. No! Ananias doesn't even bother to knock. Ananias is a man on a mission and his mission is to do the will of God! We can safely glean that because Ananias had a sound relationship with the Lord he did things rightly and timely.

As we mature, we hopefully come to the realization that His will becomes our will. As some of you are aware of Bro. Ric Vargas and I recently completed a ministry trip to Japan. In this trip, as in other trips, there was preaching, teaching, healing, salvation, prophecy, fellowship, counseling, strengthening, and comforting. All within God's will and all for His glory alone.

In July we head to Bolivia and most likely this year also India then Colombia. How did these come about? Certainly the Lord and by the pattern He set forth. For all we have ever done and countries we have ever visited was because of proper relationships that have been formed. For truly the Lord goes ahead of us.

In each country there is at least one or two or more brethren we are in relationship with that have become door openers for us. They know us, our calling, they understand what we are about and they have the spiritual wherewithal to place us as the Lord directs them, the timing for each trip, to get maximum effectiveness.



**Typical street scene in La Paz, Bolivia**

From early on in our travels (for we have traveled together for seventeen years now) we realized we were also called to be door openers. God using us as a spearhead to make a way for other teams to follow after us. So what He has imparted to us, especially the ones of like precious faith within CMF, can be

imparted to our brethren in different parts of the body.

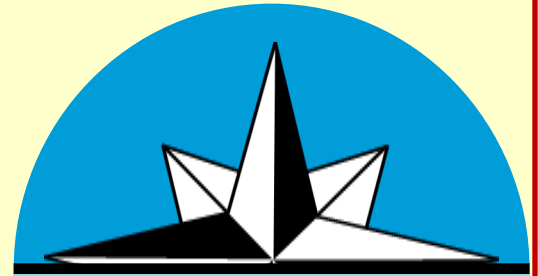
Not that in ourselves we are anything or have anything to offer but God has and is doing something within us, within our hearts. As part of the leadership of the CMF we need to be there for one another and let the Lord use us wherever He sees fit. Whether it be our local church or half way around the world.

As we are establishing a presence in various countries it seems logical to me to eventually send other teams, diverse teams, as it states in Acts 14:22 "to strengthening the souls of the disciples, encouraging them to continue in the faith, and saying, Through many tribulations we must enter the kingdom of God".

Who knows the potential we have yet to realize? What spiritual longings remain unfulfilled within you? The world uses the term global. I don't want a global view I want a kingdom view of everything.

Ric and I were prophetically launched out in Colombia, South America as a two-man team. It wasn't our thought nor our idea, but the Lord made it clear that it was His will bundling us together as a team. The leadership then, Bro. Valori, Gary Rich, Dan DeVitis along with Bert Ghilardi and Mark Waters confirmed this indeed was the will of God!

Let us all be open and submitted to whatever the Lord would have for us individually and as part of His body. For we are His workmanship and we are part of the greater pattern He has for His church! Blessings, Bro. LouΩ



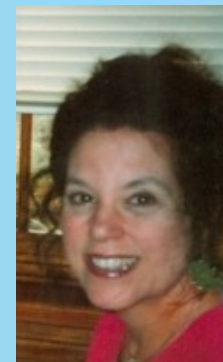
*In Loving Memory of*  
***Carolyn S. Penrosa***

*August 26, 1946-July 31, 2013*

*Teacher of the Word of God,*

*Co-pastor,*

*together with her husband John of*  
***Beacon House Full Gospel Church,***  
***Wallingford , CT***



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**c/o Bethany Christian Fellowship**

**311 South Elmira Street  
Athens, PA 18810-1117**

# Reconciliation in Philemon

By Seth Vargas

The epistle to Philemon is the 3rd shortest book in the bible, and is mostly an appeal from Paul to Philemon on behalf of his slave, Onesimus. Onesimus had wronged Philemon, and run away. If Onesimus took money or goods from Philemon is highly likely but not expressly said. His journey took him to Rome where the Apostle Paul was in prison. Paul led Onesimus to the Lord and sent him back to his master with two letters, the epistle to Philemon and the epistle to the Colossians. The two letters are directly intertwined, and it's possible Paul saw an opportunity to encourage the church at Colassae when this situation arose.

There are many commentaries on Philemon and Colossians that do a thorough job of comparing the texts, so I will leave that to them. What I want to explore here is the example of the Gospel shown through the individuals named in this letter, and what I believe that means for us. Philemon is an epistle about reconciliation, about law, about a changing of status. It is here, at the end of Paul's letters (not chronologically but in book order) that we see a personal outworking of what he has preached. Yes, we have seen him jailed, wearied, persecuted, but now we see him giving of himself when it gives him absolutely no benefit. The benefit is completely for the individual, and the church. In his lowly, imprisoned state Paul is still serving, still finding a way to preach the Gospel.

Onesimus was a lawbreaker in that he separated himself from his master. Although he "belonged" to Philemon, in his heart Philemon was not his master. We too were once only God's creation, not children, with Him being our "master" by right and not by choice. All of the earth

is his, but not everyone on it admits to that fact. Philemon was a Christian, and according to Paul's letter, a good one, so we can surmise he was good to those in his household.

We don't know why Onesimus ran away, and Paul does not list his sins one by one. Instead, his sin and redemption are universally applied to our own: a wayward member of the house that on becoming reconciled is elevated to a new status. (Philemon 15-16)

Paul acts in this letter in the role of Christ as intercessor, appealing on behalf of the criminal to the master (verse 10). In his choosing to appeal to Philemon, rather than command him Paul reveals something about the work of reconciliation that Christ performed on our behalf: the Father listens to the cry of the Son, not because he demands it by right, but because what the Son cares about, the Father cares about also. The work of reconciling God and Man was not a labor the Son did not care about. The lamb slain judicially before the foundation of the world experientially laid his life down for our sakes. Paul appeals to

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Philemon's Christian sensibilities not to manipulate him but to remind him of his own debt and sin that were washed away, of his own status as a gentile being transformed into that of a son. As we contemplate the inner workings of God such as the trinity relating to itself and how salvation works, we must remember that the whole thing is wrapped in love. Jesus on the cross appeals to the Father one last time not on the basis of rights but on the basis of mercy when he pleads that we be forgiven, because we are unaware of what we do.

As we put ourselves in the position of Onesimus, we remember that the journey home that we are on is not a fool's errand, it's not subjective to our own interpretation of events, or based on how well we present our case before the Judge. Paul did not send Onesimus alone, but he sent him back with a word that insured everything Paul intended for him would come to pass. Christ, in His love and wisdom did not leave us alone, but he left His Holy Spirit to open our understanding to His words all the days of our lives.

We aren't approaching the throne of God with a boldness stemming from our own ability or experience, (and if we are heaven help us), but rather a boldness birthed out of knowing that the work and word of Christ is sufficient to cool the wrath of the master, and allow us access back in to a face to face relationship with Him.

Paul puts his name and own wealth on the line (verse 19), once again taking the place of Christ, who not only gave up the wealth of heaven to win the wretches of the earth, but now gives those wretches His own name, making them His own. Those that reviled against Christ while on the earth for making himself equal to God weren't aware of how in need they were for Christ to bring them in to the same relationship, which he desired to do (John 20:17).

As the letter of Colossians was read aloud to the church as instructed, with Onesimus and Philemon

present, surrounded by people that would be aware of their situation, the words in verse Colossians 3:11 would have a very real meaning to them: There is no slave or free, but Christ is all, and in all.

As Christians and as ministers we want to be the agent through which the lost are saved. We want to bring peace to situations, and solutions to families or churches in need. We feel the call to practical ministry when we read this short letter, and rightly so. We should never forget that before we were made useful, we were untrustworthy. Before we were messengers, we were thieves. Jesus loved us enough to write down our pardon and sign it with His own hand and He is presenting us to our master, confident in his work.Ω



Seth Vargas is a graduate of Pinecrest Bible Training Center. He lives with his wife, Jeanmarie, and their son, Job on Long Island, NY.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Emmanuel Fellowship Youth Camp

July 17-22 Ages 12-20

Cost: \$300 For information call  
Seth Vargas 631-988-9183 ;  
seth.vargas@mail.com

### Women's Retreat

Sept. 23, 24 Bethany Christian Fellowship,  
Athens, PA Ages 16 and up Cost: \$30  
For information call Arlene Ghilardi  
607 754-3709; aghilardi@stny.rr.com

### Fall Retreat Christ Ministerial Fellowship

This retreat is for pastors, elders, deacons  
and their spouses and all those who feel a  
call to ministry.

October 26-28 Tuscarora Inn & Confer-  
ence Center, Mt. Bethel, PA.  
Cost varies as to the accommodation cho-  
sen. To register call Mark Waters  
570 888-1055.

If anyone lacks the funds to attend a re-  
treat, please call the phone number pro-  
vided for information.

# The Ways of God

## By Ray DelliCarpini

Isaiah 30:18 states 'and therefore will the Lord wait, that He may be gracious unto you. And therefore will He be exalted that He may have mercy upon you: for the Lord is a God of judgement, blessed are all they that wait upon Him.'

For some time I have thought about this verse, as it relates to the Lord and the fulfillment of His purposes in our lives, individually and corporately. We all have our own aspirations, desires, and matters in which we desire to see the Lord move and cause things to come to pass. Yet God has his own timing that very often does not coincide with ours. It is incumbent upon us to learn to wait upon God, and recognize that God's desired end is to be gracious towards his people, and give us an expected end.

John chapter 7: 3-6 shows the contrast in Jesus's dealings with his disciples. He tells them, 'my time is not yet come, but your time is always ready'. The impatience and desire upon the part of the disciples to see the Lord respond in a certain way, and a certain time is an expression of unbelief on their part. 'Even his disciples did not believe in Him'. Even though their intentions seemed noble and worthy, the Lord has to correct them.

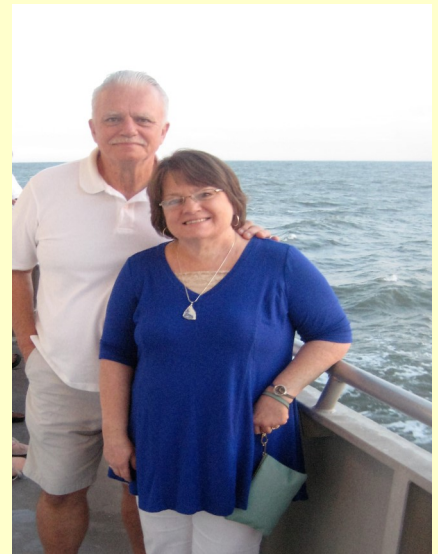
God's timing and God's ultimate desire is to be merciful and gracious toward his people, and yet circumstances and situations can obscure that in our lives. God's timing requires us to learn to wait upon him, not pressing or projecting things we want to see him do, no matter how good it may seem to us. Adjustments, radical and minor, have to be made as we learn of God's timing and His ways; as Saul so dramatically learned on the road to Damascus and three years in the deserts of Arabia.

The verse in Isaiah also states that God's desire is to be merciful and gracious to his people. Knowing and experiencing the mercy and goodness of God, is vital to us at the outset and continuance of our journey in Christ.

Moses says to God in Exodus chapter 33:18 'I beseech thee, shew me thy glory'. God answers in verse 19 'I will make all my goodness pass before thee, and I will proclaim the name of the Lord before thee; and will be gracious unto whom I will be gracious, and I will shew mercy on whom I will shew mercy'. When our faith is being tested, we need to stand steadfast and confident in the love and graciousness of God in our lives and trust confidently that God does all things well. Let us not be weary in well doing, for in due season we shall reap if we faint not. Galatians 6:9

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Ray and Beverly DelliCarpini live in Eagleville, Pennsylvania. They have been married for 40 years, and in ministry for 36. They have 4 grown children, and 3 grandchildren with one on the way.





## George H. Warnock

September 22, 1917  
to May 23, 2016

Bro. Warnock known to many of us, went home to be with the Lord at the age of 98 near his home in Cranbrook, British Columbia, Canada. Over the years he

ministered in many of our

churches and we found him to be a humble, "ordinary" man without the airs of religiosity, but carrying a rich teaching word and heavy anointing. He is best known for many of his books: The Feast of Tabernacles, the Beauty for Ashes Series and Crowned with Oil. Here is an excerpt from "The High Calling":

Let not the height of the Vision dismay you, or discourage you as you walk towards it. Remember this..., that the high calling is not too high for you, or God would not have called you to it. And take courage in the fact that the HIGH calling is really an UPWARD call, as the Greek word means, and as it is translated in some versions. It is an UPWARD call! This gives us hope and courage. If it were simply "high," I could very well look up and say, "It is just too high for me." I might gaze at the heights of the call, and flounder in discouragement. But it is an UPWARD call! God is saying to you and to me, "I am calling you UPWARD... I want you to go on... I want you to come higher... I do not want you to stay where you are, frustrated and perplexed and bewildered. The reason you abide in those realms is because you do not see the Vision. And if you see it you think I have set before you a goal that you know you can never reach. You do not understand that I only ask you to take one step at a time, and I only ask you to climb the steps with Me, as you take My yoke upon you, and learn from Me... for I am meek and lowly in heart, and ye shall find rest unto your souls."

And so we take but one step at a time, and God is pleased. But we must not lag behind or yield to the enticements that come our way from time to time to take a shortcut. For there are many that appear to be good. You can get gifts of the Spirit freely. You might even develop for yourself a ministry, that may satisfy your heart for a season, and from which you might find a certain fulfillment. And certainly you need His gifts! But pray God that He will cause you to sit and learn from ministries that will lead you to His feet... ministries that will encourage you to take His yoke, and follow His ways. Gifts and ministries must not be considered to be in any sense ultimate... they are but means to the end... and the end pursuit of gift and ministry is to come to know Him, to be joined in like spirit unto others in the Family of God who are seeking to come to the "fullness" of Him... so that together you might be able to comprehend, to apprehend, to receive fully... the living Christ, in the full expression of His being.Ω

## PRAYER REQUESTS

### Physical Needs:

- ◆ Joseph and Gloria Nieves
- ◆ Steve Wilber
- ◆ Gary Keeney, member of Bethany CF, Athens, PA

### MISSION TRIPS

**Missionaries:** Lou Pressman, Ric Vargas

**Bolivia:** July 15– August 1.

**India:** August/September  
Melchizedec: Visakhapatnam, AP, India

**Cali, Colombia:**

November 25- December 12

### Youth Retreat-July 17-22

Pray for the staff: Michelle Goodman, Gary & Dana Rose, Gary Sclafani, Seth Vargas, Mark Reed, Lori Minotto, Cindy Rinehart; that the Campers-meet with the Lord.



This and other writings can be  
accessed on:  
<[www.georgewarnock.com](http://www.georgewarnock.com)>

# FAITH HOPE LOVE

By Tom Kerr

My friend Mark Waters mentioned a thought that the word of God should activate a moving of the Spirit of God in our lives. As I thought of his words, I was reminded of Hebrews 4:12: "the word of God is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword." I was further reminded of sharp words that activated a work of God's Spirit in me; words of truth that changed my thoughts, my attitude, and my behavior. Unfortunately, it has been a very long time since I heard those most profound words that were delivered to my mind and heart by prophetic ministries over 35 years ago. Why don't we hear such words today? I Corinthians 13:13. "But now faith, hope and love abide, these three, but the greatest of these is love." We hear a lot of preaching on the love of God these days, "It is not that we love God, but that He loved us", "God so loved the world..." etc. and truly, the greatest is love, but not to the exclusion of hope, and faith, and truth.

As a young believer, I was taught the hope of the new covenant, that God wanted to forgive us and transform us even more than we could ask or think. We were taught that God takes children, sets them in as sons and makes them fathers. I could go on all day how alive these word pictures of hope are still active in me today. I live in the hope of the gospel that God will bring "many sons into the glory". I asked the brethren of our ministerial group why we don't preach these new testament concepts of sonship and the two answers I received were (1) these teachings were abused (2) people can't relate to these "religious" terms. My answer to this is that everything in Christianity has been abused including the Bible. The concepts and word pictures given in the Bible are inspired and can give life again and again because the word of God is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword. They need

to be taught because the American church is not accustomed to the word of righteousness! Does the church really know the hope of the Gospel? That hope is that we can be changed into His likeness. And how else do we change except by the sharp word of truth?

When was the last time you heard a word that pierced as far as the division of soul and spirit and judged the thoughts and intentions of the heart? In other words, when was the last time we received such a revelation of God's thought on a matter that we repented to never go back to our old attitudes, motives or behavior? The church will never fulfill God's purpose without words of faith, hope, and love in concert with one another.Ω

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Tom and Carol Kerr live in Newton, NJ. They have sons, two married and one engaged to be married and they have three grandchildren. They fellowship with Lost Coin Fellowship in Ringwood, NJ.

## ***Next Clarion: October 1***

Submission deadline is

September 20.

What do we need for the next edition?

- ⇒ Photos
- ⇒ Prayer requests
- ⇒ Testimonies
- ⇒ Announcements
- ⇒ For the record: births, deaths, celebrations, contact information changes, ministry news

Send your contributions to Bert Ghilardi,  
[aghilardi@stny.rr.com](mailto:aghilardi@stny.rr.com)