



*"The Lord Cometh"*

# The Maranatha Village Trumpet

February - March 2016

Helping One Another Until Jesus Comes

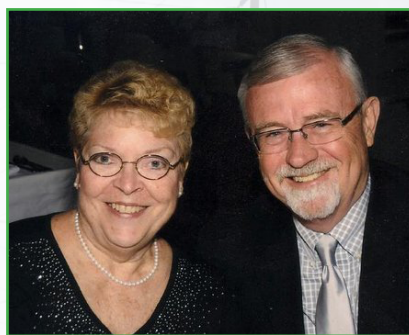
VOL. XXX 2

## Maranatha Village Welcomes New Administrator

The arrival of the New Year brings with it the departure of our Village Manager, Allen Lowe. With his departure coming in April, the Village welcomes its new **Administrator, Dr. Gerald Webber**. As he takes up the challenge of this new position, he is faced with continuing to build and solidify the organization as well as strengthening and expanding both internal and external relationships.

These days could hardly be more interesting, because the world and the marketplace are changing, and so are we. Maranatha Village will soon have three departmental managers, one each over Maintenance, Housing, and Business. The Administrator, as Chief Executive Officer, will give overall leadership, and the Managers will report directly to him.

One company had this to say about being a CEO. "It is one of the most coveted and least understood jobs in a company. Everyone believes that CEOs can do whatever they want, are all powerful, and are magically competent. Of course, nothing could be further from the truth. By its very nature, the job description of a CEO means meeting the needs of employees, customers, investors, communities, and the law." In a ministry/business like this, of course, it basically means that he is the "chief servant."



*Kathy and Jerry*

We trust this will help move the Village forward, resulting in products and services that better meet the needs of the Village and its residents.

Gerald (Jerry) Webber comes to us with the following credentials, and in part, I quote from or paraphrase the resume the Board of Directors used to evaluate his suitability for this position:

### Professional Development

In addition to nearly 20 years of pastoral leadership (working with members, prospects, boards, committees, and external organizations), the 22+ years spent in organizational and administrative responsibilities should provide a skillset for this position. One God-given "gift" is the ability to communicate with people both individually and publicly with candor, honesty and integrity. This

should be helpful in overseeing staff and dealing with residents and external contacts.

### Pertinent Skills

Oral/written communication, staff management, conflict resolution, team building, and public promotion.

### Work History

Jerry Webber has pastored in Minnesota, Indiana, and Michigan, which was followed by one term of church planting in New Zealand. From New Zealand, he became a Field Administrator for Baptist Mid-Missions of Cleveland, OH. During this time his job was the general oversight of 400+ missionary personnel working in 17 Field Councils in Asia, the Pacific Basin, and North America. He moved from Baptist Mid-Missions to become President of Continental Baptist Missions, where he served as President and Chief Executive Officer, managing a staff of 15 in their home office.

He recently retired after nearly nine years as Senior Pastor of Maranatha Baptist Church. He is also a trustee of Central Baptist Seminary (Plymouth, MN) and has served two terms on the Council of 18 of the GARBC.

Welcome aboard, Dr. Webber!

Robert G. Watterson, Coeditor



## The Administrator's Perspective

# The Challenge of Change

By Dr. Gerald Webber



Jerry

Let's face it—change can be hard, even if it's inevitable. Other than God Himself (*"I am the Lord, I do not change"*), virtually everything in this world is subject to revision, for better or for worse.

Washington Irving observed that even an uncomfortable change is sometimes to be preferred to a fixed state of being. He said in his *Tales of a Traveler*, "There is a certain relief in change....I have found in traveling in a stagecoach, it is often a comfort to shift one's position and be bruised in a new place."

I don't suppose it's the perfect metaphor, but perhaps someone will find solace therein as we undergo a change in Village leadership. That change hopefully will stimulate some progress, but wherein it doesn't, perhaps a "shift in position" may provide a bit of comfort.

The truth is, if you haven't already surmised it, the new Administrator is woefully ill-equipped to do many of the things done by previous Village Managers.

Built on the vision (and, I hasten to say, the untiring labors and unselfish financial investment) of founder Floyd Conway, Maranatha Village has prospered and grown under the leadership and direction of Cecil Akam, Paul Whipple, Don Esseltine, Wes Halstead, and most recently, Allen Lowe. And I would be remiss to overlook Earl Harriman, whose steady hand on the financial rudder kept us solvent through two major recessions. I am beholden to each of these men, and am keenly aware that, in many ways, the gifts and abilities they had far exceed my own. If you see my head above water, remember that I am standing on their shoulders.

I am also quick to add that I could not hold the position of Administrator on a part time basis, except

for the reorganization devised and proposed by my immediate predecessor. Allen has given us a prescription for shared leadership, based on the appointment of three managers over the three divisions of Business, Housing and Maintenance. While we seek (at the time of this writing) to fill these positions with capable managers, Allen is staying on to guide me through a four-month transition. I cannot overestimate the value of his tutelage, or the selflessness of his efforts to make me look more capable than I really am. Thank you, Allen.

As I said, change is hard, especially for those of our era. But it's also unavoidable, and in many cases, hugely beneficial. Who hasn't had the experience of buying a new (or newer) car, and stressing over the array of gadgets and features he never saw before? And who of those frustrated souls didn't ultimately come to consider those strange new "options" to be "standard equipment" the next time around?

I invite you to join me in this new adventure, and to pray that the changes we see will redound to the glory of God and the good of our Maranatha family. And, if any of those changes cause discomfort, at least try to rejoice in being "bruised in a new place."



### Mini Golf Project

Goal is: .....\$20,000.00

Donations as of Jan. 12, 2016.....\$12,439.00

Thank you to those who have given.

Village Office



# *New Village Resident*

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## *Lois Dunkerton, PhD*



*Lois*

I grew up in a good Christian home with my parents Gordon and Alice, and two brothers Steve and Tim. We lived on the homestead family farm in Dunkerton, Iowa, until I was six. The town was named after our ancestors who gave land to the railroad for the train track, so the family name was on the depot. When I was four, Dad took Steve and me along with neighbor children to a children's revival at Walnut Street Baptist Church in Waterloo, Iowa, where Dr. G. Arthur Woolsey was the pastor. When the invitation was given, Dad asked our row of kids if anyone wanted to go forward to get saved, and I responded. Since I was a quiet, shy child, this clearly was the leading of the Holy Spirit. My salvation was genuine, and is the first thing I remember of my life. Later we moved to Baltimore, MD, to stay with my mom's parents, where I attended first and second grades, and Tim was born. I experienced some life memories at the public school where the children were mostly Jewish. On their holidays a few of us would come to school and the Jewish children would swarm the playground during recess and then run home when the bell rang to go inside. While we attended my mom's parents' church on Sunday mornings, one Sunday evening my dad took Steve and me to the Townsend

Ave. Baptist Church, and they had a beautiful baptism service. For years I wanted to be baptized, but my parents made us wait until we were teens. They thought that we would then understand the meaning. After the two-year stay in Baltimore, we moved back to Dunkerton, Iowa, where I attended school until high school. Then our family moved to Waterloo, Iowa, so we could have a more competitive schooling. We attended Walnut Street Baptist Church and David Moore was the pastor. My dad worked for the Carnation Dairy and farmed, and Mom taught junior high math. Upon graduation, I was awarded the Carnation scholarship which paid for my undergraduate education at Iowa State University where I majored in chemistry. During my time at Iowa State, I was active in Campus Baptist Church in Ames and in CBF. I had the privilege of seeing some of my college friends saved and helping them grow in the Lord. I was awarded two undergraduate summer research fellowships, the second of which took me to Cornell University in Ithaca, NY. That summer gave me a head start and I went back to Cornell for my MS and PhD degrees. I attended Brooktondale Baptist Church and was active in their children's ministry, and even had a brief stint coaching the girls' basketball team for the Christian school. I always had a love for helping children get saved, especially the ones who came from unsaved and dysfunc-

tional families. After grad school I was awarded an NIH fellowship which took me to Harvard for two years. The difference in Boston was that I would pick up children from the projects on Sunday on our church bus. The Lord blessed my research there and helped me land the first real job in my field of pharmaceutical and new drug substance research. I had academic positions both at University of Southern California and Southern Illinois University in Carbondale, IL. Later I transitioned to pharmaceutical research at companies working in the areas of new cancer drugs, neurological drugs, and making new molecules for the army at Walter Reed. I most recently retired from Upsher Smith Pharmaceuticals in Maple Grove, MN. I was active in several GARB churches and two independent Baptist churches during those years. My philosophy was that my secular employment was for the purpose of supporting the Lord's work, and the Lord blessed me with good jobs. During the last few years I was able to be close to my mom in her final years, to promote her to Heaven and settle the family estate. She had lived 17 years in a retirement community in Waterloo, IA, which although run by Christians allows anyone to live there. It greatly frustrated me when I would visit her that all the witnessing and Bible studies she did were not bearing fruit because the vast majority of unsaved residents were too set in their ways to

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# THANK YOU!

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Anytime is always a good time to say “thank you.” The first Village-wide picnic, making use of the new Fogle Pavilion, was held on January 21st, and what a great time everyone had. In the midst of a rough week of weather, the Lord gave us a perfect day. Thank you, Don Laven, and your crew of hamburger flippers (must have been good for there were none left). Thank you, Elaine Edmondson, and your crew of table setters. Thank you, Jan Burgess, and your musical crew. Thank you, Lucky Shepard, for providing wonderful sound equipment. Thank you, Phil Townley, for the

new Conway Memorial Park sign. Thank you, Janelle Conway, for helping get so many of the Conway family here for the occasion. Thank you, Ellen Reed, for your imagination-grabbing insights into the early beginnings of Maranatha Village. Thank you, Sam Hammel, for painting the tables and pavilion floor.

For all who attended and did things to make it a fun, fulfilling and fabulous day – THANK YOU! And if I left anyone out, thank you for being so kind as to forgive me.

Carl Barton

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## VILLAGE RESIDENTS SURVEYED

Often the question “How many years of Christian ministry are represented by residents living in Maranatha Village?” is asked.

Selma Barton was asked to do an informal survey to provide an idea of what the answer to that question might be. Here are the results of that informal survey.

Missions.....	1405 years
Church ministry.....	1656 years
Christian Education (College and under graduate).....	902 years
Evangelism, Music, Radio, Publishing, Camp, Children’s Home, Gospel teams.....	242 years

The total number of years of full time Christian Ministry of those living in Maranatha Village on this date is four thousand two hundred and five years (4,205). To God Be the Glory!

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## TRIVIA

1. In 1841, New Zealand became a colony of what country?
  2. Belgian Adolphe Sax invented what musical instrument?
  3. In 1863, was baseball player Eddie Cuthbert the first to steal a base, hit a home run, or pitch a perfect game?
  4. What two cities united to form the capital of Hungary in 1873?
  5. What prize did Harper Lee win in 1961 for her novel “*To Kill a Mockingbird*?”
- (Answers: Page 6)

## On The Lighter Side

Memory is the key, but only if you remember where the lock is!

If it’s zero degrees outside today, and it’s supposed to be twice as cold tomorrow, how cold is it going to be?

Everyone has a photographic memory - it’s just that some of us have run out of film.

Genius may have its limitations, but stupidity is not thus handicapped.

# *New Village Residents*

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## *Dave & Carol Ashenfelder*



*Dave & Carol*

What a privilege it is to be able to share with you how God brought us to Maranatha Village. It's always exciting for us to read and hear the many different ways God has worked in individuals' lives to accomplish His purpose. Our original home church was in the Cleveland, Ohio, area. Both of us came to know the Lord through the ministry of Northfield Baptist Church and Pastor Lynn Rogers, who discipled us for over 25 years. Over the years, we both matured in our faith through serving in many areas of the church. We married there and reared our 5 children to adulthood with that sound foundation. How thankful we are to have that foundation to draw from all these years.

In His providence, after years of Dave working in the construction business and then in insurance for Baptist Life, and Carol, managing

an orthodontic office and caring for a family of 7, we moved to South Carolina. We had invested in a motel there. We were total novices in the motel business, and the Lord had much to teach us in our 17 years in that business. Ten years into the motel business, we also purchased and remodeled a Bed and Breakfast. We found this very fulfilling with lots of opportunities for ministry. Our children were involved in both businesses with us and very helpful. They presented us with 12 grandchildren, and we were all able to make many great memories at the Bed and Breakfast.

After 12 years at the Bed and Breakfast, we were approaching retirement and followed our original plan to retire in the Greenville, SC area. This was in 2001. God opened many doors for us to see this come about, and we were thrilled to be able to be a part of a new church start just 15 minutes from our new home. This was an answer to many years of prayer. During the next 12 years, we began vacationing in the winters in Florida and eventually

began looking for a place we could get for a 3-4 month stay every year. It was during this time that friends of ours introduced us to Carl and Selma Barton while they were visiting family in South Carolina. This was our first knowledge of Maranatha Village, and we were definitely interested. We asked Carl to send us information, which he did, and we eventually came for a weekend visit, and then made reservations for 2 winter months. We really thought this was too good to be true. After spending 2 winters here, we became really excited about the opportunities for ministry and fellowship and made the decision to move here full-time, our second retirement, and downsize. We truly feel this is "The Upward Way" — the name we put on our new home here at 16 Daniel Road. Our God is so good, and we are so blessed to be here! Come by for tea, anytime.

P.S Any good grandparent couldn't fail to include that we are now proud great-grandparents to eleven!

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## *Lois Dunkerton*

(continued from page 3)

be drawn to salvation. I had read about Maranatha Village and decided this was the place the Lord wanted me to retire. When I visited in April 2015 for ten days to finalize the details of my new living arrangement, I did not want to go home. The Lord has seen fit to provide me a new place to live even though the legal situation was a temporary setback. I am still praying along with all of you that the resolution of the legal situation will give glory to God. During this time I have had a chance to witness to several people involved with my

case and clearly remind them that all I have belongs to the Lord, so He is in charge of the outcome. We are just caretakers of our assets until the Lord takes us home or the Rapture comes. My favorite verse for now is Romans 8:28, which keeps me going. I have greatly enjoyed my stay here and pray that I can be a blessing and help to our Village.



# Cook's Korner

## Sweet Potato Casserole

6 cups cooked mashed sweet potatoes  
1 cup sugar  
1/2 stick margarine or butter melted  
2 eggs  
1/3 cup milk  
1 tsp vanilla

Mix all together and put into greased casserole

Topping...mix together:

1 cup light brown sugar  
1 cup chopped pecans and/or 1 cup coconut  
1/3 cup plain flour  
1/2 stick melted margarine or butter

Put on top and bake 30 minutes at 350° degrees or until bubbly

## Holly Berry Cheesecakes

3 8 oz. pkg. cream cheese softened  
1 cup sugar  
5 eggs  
1 tsp. vanilla  
24 vanilla wafers  
1 can cherry pie filling



In a large bowl, combine cream cheese and sugar. Beat until fluffy. Add eggs and vanilla. Beat until smooth. Line muffin tins with paper cups. Place 1 vanilla wafer in each cup. Fill 3/4 full with cream cheese mixture. Bake at 350° for 30 minutes until filling is set. Cool 5 minutes. Carefully remove from tins and cool on wire rack. Top each with pie filling. Refrigerate.

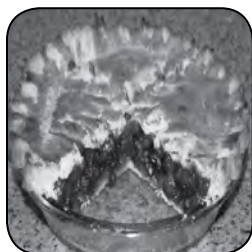
Mrs. Carol Ashenfelder

## Old—Fashioned Raisin Pie

A country fair winning recipe from years ago.

### INGREDIENTS

2 cups Sun-Maid Natural Raisins  
2 cups water  
1/2 cup packed brown sugar  
2 tablespoons cornstarch  
1/2 teaspoon cinnamon  
1/4 teaspoon salt  
1 tablespoon vinegar  
1 tablespoon butter or margarine  
1 double unbaked pie crust



(continues next column)

### DIRECTIONS:

COMBINE raisins and water and boil for 5 minutes. BLEND sugar, constarch, cinnamon and salt. ADD to raisin liquid and cook, stirring until clear. REMOVE from heat. STIR in vinegar and butter/margarine. Cool slightly. Turn into pastry-lined pan. COVER with top pastry or lattice strips. BAKE 425° about 30 minutes or until crust is golden brown.  
1 pie/8 servings





# 2016 Winter Season Activities



**Matt Morrell** was raised in a pastor's home and graduated from Northland International University (B.A.) in 1998. He earned his Master of Divinity degree from Central Baptist Theological Seminary in 2002 and his Doctor of Ministry from Northland International University in 2010.

Matt and his wife, Kim, have five young children. In addition to pastoring, he became president of Central Baptist Theological Seminary in January 2015. Matt has spoken and taught in multiple venues at home and overseas, including ministry at Central Baptist Seminary's Romanian campus and at Faith Baptist Bible College in Cochin, India.



**Artisans in Brass** is an ensemble of Christian professionals, located across the United States. They feature a combination of sacred and classical music that spans more than five centuries. Group members have created arrangements of hymns and transcriptions of popular classics.



**Dr. Bud Steadman** began his ministry as Executive Director of Baptist World Mission in April 2009. Prior to coming to BWM, he served as senior pastor of Community Baptist Church in South Bend, IN for 13 years.

He was born in 1953 in Kingsport, TN, into an unchurched, nominal Christian home. At the age of 10, he heard the Gospel and was saved. After being called to preach at age 15, he attended Bob Jones University, receiving a Bachelor of Arts in Bible in 1975 and a Master of Ministry in 1990. He is married to Ruth Ann Bauman of Farmington, NM, whom he met during college. The Steadmans have been married for 40 years, and have three children and two grandchildren. His commitment to missions is reflected in his having traveled to various mission fields.



**"Forever Be Sure"** is a music publication and performance ministry that composes new hymns, vocal songs and arrangements for God's glory and the building up of Christ's Body, the Church. Primarily a family ministry, FBS travels throughout the year with other like-minded musicians, presenting the songs that have been born out of their personal walk with the Lord and the study of His Word.

## Bible Conference Schedule for 2016

**February 14 - 17**  
Sunday-Wednesday

**Dr. Matt Morrell, Pastor**  
4th Baptist Church, Minneapolis

**Sunday - 9:00 & 10:00 AM**  
**Nightly: 6:00 PM**

**March 13-16**  
Sunday-Wednesday

**Dr. Bud Steadman, Exec Director**  
Baptist World Missions

**Sunday - 9:00 & 10:00 AM**  
**Nightly: 6:00 PM**

## Musical Concert Schedule for 2016

**February 19, 2016**  
Friday Night 7:00 p.m.  
**"Artisans in Brass"**

**March 18, 2016**  
Friday Night 7:00 p.m.  
Ladies' Quartet  
**"Forever Be Sure"**

# Maranatha Village

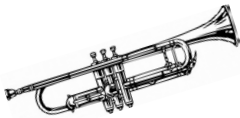
11 MARANATHA BOULEVARD  
SEBRING, FL 33870-6817

863-385-7897

fax 863-385-7954

john316@maranathavillage.org

maranathavillage.churchpage.us



**“Believe on the  
Lord Jesus Christ  
and you will be saved.”**

## *Fogle Family Celebration*



*The Fogle Family*

On January 9, 2016 Lester and Martha Fogle, (deceased Maranatha Village residents) were remembered and honored at a gathering

under the recently constructed Fogle pavilion.

The Fogle family raised the money to build a wonderful pavilion to the memory of their parents, grandparents and great-grandparents. Maranatha Village will find many uses for this pavilion and the Village extends heartfelt appreciation and thanks for this wonderful addition to the Conway Memorial Park.

The new walk was constructed by Fred McNeil in memory of his late wife, Evie. The Fogle Pavilion took one year to construct and cost \$22,772.54.



*Concrete Walk In Memory of Evie McNeil*

## *Christmas Wheelfest Parade*



*Wanda Gough  
Winter*



*Chuck & Patty Ladd  
Bible*



*Chuck & Rose Cousins  
Christmas*