

The Maranatha Village Trumpet



"The Lord Cometh!"

April-June 2023

Volume XXXVII 2

Tremendous Blessings!

Maranatha's Marketing & Development

Kaye Halstead



Kaye

I start this new year and my position as the new Director of Marketing and Development at Maranatha Village with thankfulness. I have experienced innumerable blessings throughout my life. I was raised in a Christian home and was saved at the age of seven during Vacation Bible School at my home church, First Baptist of Morristown, Minnesota. Our church attended Bass Lake Camp in Winnebago, Minnesota, every summer.

I was part of the kitchen staff for several weeks each season. It was there that I saw the need to follow the Lord in believer's baptism and also to commit my life to whatever He would have me do.

I attended Faith Baptist Bible College in Ankeny, Iowa, where I received my Associate of Arts degree with an emphasis on the secretarial field. I was hired by Mayo Clinic to work as a summer intern secretary in their Echo Lab. I enjoyed the experience but was not ready to start my career because I desired to be a medical secretary after my internship. Next I attended Austin Community College where I received my Medical Secretarial Certificate. I returned to Mayo Clinic and floated to different departments before receiving my assignment to support three cardiologists. As a single woman, I opened my apartment to many individuals who were patients at the Clinic, undergoing testing, surgery, and treatment.

While working at Mayo, I attended Calvary Baptist Church in Rochester, Minnesota, where I was active in working in the Awana program, singing in the choir, and providing special music. One of the choir members decided

to go on a mission to find a companion for me. She arranged a family blind date which included her husband, two children, and her own mother! Brian and I dated for nine months, were engaged for nine months, and married on June 25, 1988. This year we will celebrate our 35th wedding anniversary, which is another huge blessing.

Brian was a teacher at Victory Christian Academy so I changed my membership to Victory after we got married. I taught the four and five-year olds on Wednesday evenings, sang in the choir, provided special music, and helped in the nursery. Our two children, Adam and Ashlee attended Victory Christian Academy through middle school. We then changed churches and joined Cornerstone Baptist Church in Pine Island, Minnesota. Again, I was active in all aspects of the ministry as well as providing secretarial support for the church for two years while also working my full-time job at Mayo Clinic. I returned to college at Saint Mary's University, taking night classes while Adam was attending Clearwater Christian College and Ashlee was still in high school. I obtained my Bachelor's Degree in Human Resource Management the same year Adam received his Bachelor's Degree in Biology/Chemistry from Clearwater. We own a couple of rental properties, so I am familiar with meeting new people and making them feel comfortable. My 41-year Mayo Clinic career consisted of being the personal executive assistant to the chairman of cardiology for 25 years while also managing the office staff, helping international patients, and escorting donors/benefactors and international patients to their appointments.

I feel blessed beyond measure to be here at Maranatha and to serve as the new Director of Marketing and Development. I look forward to being used by God in the office and among our new neighbors and friends in the Village.



We Must Look to the Past!

Brian Halstead, Administrator



Brian

Spring is upon us. Many of our winter residents have left for the northern regions. It is a season for new life and vigor, the start of renewed purpose and plan. We all have a high calling since we are in Christ, but the battle rages on. There is a race to win, so until the race is run, until the prize is won, until we reach the finish

line, we press on.

What is ahead for us? Only God knows our future, and we pray for wisdom and direction. In the present, we remain vigilant in the ministry and service of the Village. However, now is a time to reflect on the memories of the past, the history, the blessings, and the people of days gone by. As we ponder the 50th anniversary of Maranatha Village, we recognize a rich heritage, a legacy. God used Floyd Conway to see a need and led him to establish a Baptist retirement facility for missionaries, pastors, and laymen. It could have been anywhere, but we are blessed that God opened the door in Sebring, Florida. The ministry is about the people, and there have been many who have lived here and contributed to the longevity of this place. A thank-you seems minuscule in comparison to the immense gratitude we have for each one who has had a part in this association. We remember the leadership of the past managers/administrators, the many board members who have served the Village admirably, and the dedicated office and maintenance staff for their hours of devotion and commitment to our community. We would not be where we are today without selfless volunteers giving of their time and money to sustain us. Ultimately, it's all about the people. Each

resident that lives here makes us who we are.

Now we need to continue this legacy to the praise, honor, and glory of our Lord. How can we carry on in *"Living the Legacy"*? To leave a legacy means giving something that will be valued and treasured by those who remain. Our meaningful thoughts and actions help ensure that we will continue the mission of Maranatha Village now and into the future. ***Our motto remains strong: "Serving one another until Jesus comes."*** We must have a serving attitude and a dedicated commitment to all residents so that we can pass our legacy to each other and every new prospective resident.

God has blessed Maranatha Village during these past 50 years, but as a resident we need to renew our promise to the Village contract that we signed and affirm our commitment to God. His promise is that He is ever with us and protects us no matter how great the storms of life may be, and His faithfulness means that, whatever develops, He will never leave nor forsake us.

"This is what the past is for! Every experience God gives us, every person He puts in our lives is the perfect preparation for the future that only He can see."

C. T. Boom, The Hiding Place

We have needs, we have goals, and we serve a God who is great and mighty, but we need you. Can you make Maranatha Village a part of your giving program? We ask you to prayerfully consider supporting us monetarily with a biweekly, monthly, or a one-time gift of love. We are asking you to think of Maranatha Village as you ponder your estate planning and periodic endowments. Would you become a needed benefactor of our organization?

We are actively pursuing options in repairing our infrastructure's waterlines by surveying and analyzing a selected oval and a section (continued on page eleven)

New Village Residents

David & Diana Conrad



Diana & David

In answer to the question, “Where are you from?” I pause because my home town is Akron, Ohio but my most recent address was Xenia, Ohio. If I add a third address, Avon Park, Florida, those three places cover 50 years of my life. So, I will

start at the beginning. I was born to Samuel M. and Louise Hughes Conrad in Athens, Ohio, on December 4, 1957. My parents immediately moved to Akron where my dad took a job as a Linotype operator at the Akron Beacon Journal. I have two sisters, Debbie Cody and Becky Shrum. I lived in Akron until I was 21 years old when I married the love of my life, Diana Ruth Chapman on June 23, 1979.

I was blessed to grow up in a solid Christian home and to attend the Highview Ave. Baptist Church in Akron. In June, 1964, I was born again during Vacation Bible School with my mom as the teacher, who gave the lesson that included the plan of salvation. Two weeks later, I was baptized by our pastor, Dr. David E. Luttrell.

I attended Seiberling Elementary School, Goodyear Junior High School, Akron East High School, Green High School, Cedarville College, and Grace Theological Seminary.

Diana and I were married the summer before my senior year at Cedarville. After graduation in 1980, we moved to Winona Lake, Indiana, for my three-year seminary program. During those years, Diana served as the English secretary of the Spanish World Gospel Mission directed by Florent Toirac while I worked full-time at Owens Super-Valu during seminary. Our daughter Sarah was born in 1981. In May, 1982, I became the pastor of the Eel River Community Church, Pierceton, Indiana. Later I pastored the following churches: Ridgeline Baptist Church, Copley, Ohio; Vermillion Baptist Church, Perrysville, Ohio.; Evansville Baptist Church, Niles, Ohio; Bethany Baptist Church, Avon Park, Florida, and Calvary Baptist

Church, Xenia, Ohio. Our sons, Joseph and Paul, were born in Ashland, Ohio, during our years at Vermillion. It was a great privilege to serve the Lord as a pastor of these churches. We retired from pastoral ministry from Calvary Baptist on June 30, 2022.

Diana and I arrived here at Maranatha Village and became official residents on July 1, 2022. We live at 7 Luke as permanent residents. We have been blessed with countless brothers and sisters in Christ that we have met over the years. Now we are among a new group of believers and have already made so many special friends. We look forward to getting to know everyone here and to continue to serve our Lord Jesus Christ as He leads and opens the opportunities to do so. One special Scripture verse that I learned in college is Psalm 37:23: “The steps of a good man are ordered by the LORD: and He delighteth in his way.”

I (Diana) was born in Stamford, Connecticut, on November 19, 1958, and was blessed to be raised in a Christian home, the youngest of four children. I am thankful for my siblings, Judy, Shirley, and David. Dad was pastoring The Baptist Church of Danbury, Connecticut at the time. My parents, Joseph and Lucy Chapman (residents of Maranatha Village since 1988), served in the pastoral ministry for 38 years. Music has always been a big part of our family. I am so thankful for that. I played my flute in school and church and sang in various groups all through my growing up years and into adulthood. My dad went to be with the Lord at the age of 91 on March 10, 2017. We are blessed to live near Mom here at Maranatha Village and have good fellowship with her. I was under the sound of the Gospel from the time of my birth and I accepted Christ as my Savior at the age of six in Gallipolis, Ohio, where my dad was pastoring First Baptist Church. My dad baptized me soon after. This was a special time, one of which I will never forget. Attending elementary and junior high school in this small Ohio town was a blessing. My parents also served at the Faith Baptist Church, Rodney, Ohio (near Gallipolis). I lived in Springfield, Ohio, where Dad pastored Blessed Hope Baptist Church, and I graduated from Springfield North High School in 1976. I attended Grand Rapids Baptist College, taking secretarial courses. In January of 1978, *(continued on page 4)*

New Village Residents

Joyce Gibbens



Joyce

I was born to Christian parents, who farmed east of LeRoy, Illinois. I was saved at the age of six at the United Brethren Church in Saybrook, Illinois and baptized in the Sangamon River. I graduated from LeRoy High School in May of 1958 and married Frank Gibbens on June 15, 1958. I am blessed with three wonderful kids: Deana Doughman, Bill, and Steve Gibbens. I have two granddaughters and three greats. Frank passed away December 19, 2020. We had been married 62 years. I rededicated my life to Christ in January 2022 at Maranatha Baptist Church.

After Frank passed, Deana bought a mobile home here in Maranatha Village and completely remodeled it. She told me it was mine to use as long as I wanted. I feel so blessed to be here in the winter. God has been so good and directed my steps in so many ways. This Village is like a piece of heaven.

I enjoy singing in the choir, playing the piano, and reading. Some things are a little harder for me to do as I have inherited Macular Degeneration but getting shots in the eyes are such a blessing. When in Illinois, I volunteer at a thrift store, Shepherds Closet. I also learned from my neighbor how to make loom hats and have made many to donate to cancer centers and for the homeless. I make baby afghans also for a pregnancy crisis center and adult ones for veterans and first responders on hospice. I am very blessed!

Michelle Johnson

What a blessing it is to be living here at Maranatha Village. I am so thankful that the Lord led me here. *Jeremiah 31:3 says, "Yea, I have loved thee with an everlasting love; therefore with lovingkindness have I drawn thee."* This verse has given me the courage to take one step at a time.

I moved here from Concord, New Hampshire, where I was part of a new church plant called Granit State Baptist Church. Being a part of a new church encouraged a deeper commitment and growth in my Christian walk.

It was there that I met Jim and June Shepherd who mentioned a retirement community in Florida from where they had moved.

As time went on, a group of us would go out to Wendy's for lunch after church services, and the Shepherds were a part of the group. I got to know them better, and when I got closer to the age of retirement, I asked them to tell me more about where they had lived. They were delighted to give me more details of Maranatha Village. One thing led to another, and here I am!



Michelle

Diana Conrad

continued

I attended special meetings with my parents in the Orlando, Florida, area. The special speaker was Joseph Stowell II. During that service, I rededicated my life to the Lord. I married my sweet husband David on June 23, 1979, at Highview Avenue Baptist Church, Akron, Ohio, where Mom and Dad were serving as Pastor and wife. (My dad tied the knot...very tightly!) We have served in the pastoral ministry together for 40 years. We have three married children and seven grandchildren with another precious one soon to be born! Being a wife, mother, grandmother, and pastor's wife has been so rewarding! I count it a privilege to know and love Christ. A verse that has been precious to me is Ephesians 2:8,9 "For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: not of works, lest any man should boast." There is joy in serving Jesus!

Musing from the Manor!

Maranatha Village



Since the last Trumpet article, our days have been busy ones, filled with ordinary circumstances and common occurrences. But when we put on the lens of blessings and or difficulties over these days, there develop some stand-out gifts from God to delight us and others that direct us to pray.

If you remember last issue's identification of a need for storage, this report will delight your soul as God has provided funds that will greatly help meet this very important need! Additionally, we are almost a full house now, another blessing allowing us to be good stewards of our resources and daily ministries to our residents. We praise the Lord for these manifestations of God's commitment to this ministry!

We also were able to provide some Valentine's Day

celebrations with a special meal, games, decorations, and activities that make occasions like this memorable for our residents. Birthdays also add colorful surprises to our mealtimes and fellowships.

God's goodness is unmistakable as we look back over the past months, but there remain reasons for strong intercessions for our ministry needs. We continue without a full complement of aids and kitchen help: especially cooks. Will you pray with us for additional volunteers as well as others willing to be employed here in various positions? This is God's place, and those who work here need to be not only excellent laborers but also godly encouragers among us. Please pray for wisdom as we interview people and seek those whom the Lord would have us employ, people who will be faithful to their responsibilities and contribute to the spiritual vitality of our community. Finally, please pray for Patty as she seeks the mind of the Lord regarding the needs of the Manor and also desires to be an encouragement to those with whom she works.

Banes and Blessings, Provisions and Needs—these combine to define life here in the Manor, under the sovereign ownership of our holy and almighty God!

Pickleball To Arrive Soon!

Dan & Beth Crosier



Beth & Dan

In November 2021, I approached Jerry Johnson to see if the Village would be interested in Pickleball courts. He said it had briefly been discussed, and he asked if I would be willing to look into the cost of putting in courts. So the ball began to roll! Several meetings took place, and a fundraising event generated close to \$22,000. At the present, we have most of the funds to finish this project and only need final approval from the county to begin construction.

A good deal of time has been spent introducing and teaching the game to our residents. We have recently introduced a Thursday



morning women's class. Many visitors have enjoyed the opportunity to learn and to play as well.

When the county gives final approval, we have contractors lined up to finish the project and will have a permanent home for two pickleball courts with fencing and parking spaces provided. The equipment and the nets have already been purchased.

If you are interested in contributing additional funds for this project, please see Kathy at the Village office.



The Volunteer Voice!

John Pyche, Volunteer Coordinator



Linda & John

Time sure flies when you're having fun!! It's been months since we last wrote for *The Trumpet* and so much has been accomplished by the wonderful residents of Maranatha Village. Our biggest project this quarter was the replacing of 160 feet of the white fencing on Arbuckle Creek Road. Our Tom Sawyer Day was a complete success with over 20 volunteers painting 63 sections. And as of this writing, the entire fence has been completed by another of our "Secret Servers." Many of you volunteer and serve here in the Village without ever being asked, and we so appreciate your help. We have seen painters and weeders and sweepers and garbage collectors and fence trimmers and window washers and many others helping not only our Village, but also the people who live in it. Thank you for ministering.



Congratulations to our two winners of the "look-alike" *Tom Sawyer* contest. Martha Martens was the lady who looked the most like "Becky Thatcher" with her painted-on freckles and sunny disposition. And Chuck Cole was the clear winner for the men with his suspenders and hat (and not a baseball cap). Each of them were awarded a large Hershey's cookies-n-cream candy bar—white-washed personally for them. Special thanks to our volunteers who have begun the project of painting the outside of some of our villas. This project not only entails painting but cleaning yards, moving decor, trimming bushes, scooping trenches, and power washing just about everything.

For 50 years people in the Village have volunteered to help one another. Let us not grow weary in well-doing until He comes!



Watterson's Editorial Comments!



Bob

Ruth and I were missionaries with Baptist Mid-Missions for 36 years. We retired in 2009 and came to live at Maranatha Village that year. It was the best and greatest move that we have made in all our years of ministry. Living in the sunshine of Florida has been like living in the sunshine of Ghana, West Africa, where we served for 12 years. We were attached to the home office of Baptist Mid-Missions for 23 years after coming home from Africa.

These years at Maranatha Village have been busy for Ruth and me, and we have benefited richly from them. I started working full time with *The Trumpet* in December of 2014 as editor and graphic designer, and this issue of April, May, and June of 2023 will end my tenure with the *Village Trumpet*.

I have appreciated and enjoyed help from dozens and dozens of personnel through these years. There is no way to list all the names of those who have had a great part in developing and publishing this paper. It has been a joy to work with the Village administrators and others in the Village office. They have provided a great deal of time and materials to help develop *The Trumpet*, making possible on-time, consecutive publications. At first, we published it every two months in black and white and then, for the last few years, in color, quarterly. We have been printing 350 copies each quarter; mailing out from 60 to 100 copies each time, and I have been sending out approximately 114 emails of the paper to those who have asked for it.

Therefore, I would like to say a great big thank you to all those that have helped with the *Maranatha Village Trumpet* for the past nine years. It has been a tremendous and enjoyable time of ministry! Past issues are listed on the maranathavillage.org website.

Village Maintenance Department!

Bill Katka, Facilities Superintendent



Bill

Welcome to the quarterly edition of the maintenance crew in action. This article brings you behind the scenes of Maranatha Village's best kept secret organization. Our maintenance crew spends countless hours trying to make residents lives easier. Whether it's changing a light bulb or trying to keep the fountain spouting, our crew works daily to keep life around the Village going smoothly.

Some of the things our excellent crew do include: the aforementioned light bulb change; relighting the hot water heater at the Manor; reading the numbers at the water treatment plants; moving furniture into and out of villas; fixing water leaks; putting up shelving; replacing leaky water spigots; maintaining and fixing equipment; tree and bush trimming; and eating too

much sugar at our morning break. We have some excellent bakers and cooks in our Village, and it shows on our crew!

The latest big news is our updated fleet of work carts. Our administrator, Brian, found eight 2019 gas



golf carts from a company to our North. These carts will replace our present fleet of aging machines. One of the men who picks up our carts for repair commented that the cart he was picking up was older than he was, and he is a man who has a family of three school-age children. So, it was time for new work vehicles. Presently we are modifying these carts so they can be safely used for repair work around the Village. So, if you spot a gray Yamaha cart with a Village logo on the front and a maintenance man at the wheel, that is one of our new ones (the cart, not the maintenance man).

As we serve the Village, the maintenance crew is dedicated to helping those who need it. We really hope we can be a blessing to all of you living here at Maranatha Village.



Walt Lawton



Maintenance Workers

Fishing In the Gulf



On Monday, March 6, sixteen individuals from Maranatha Village went fishing in the Gulf of Mexico. Those who went were the following: Tom Moen, Tim Moen, Carolyn Murray, Dan Wickam, Bruce Hendsbee, Dale Peterson, Alene Peterson, Maureen Micka, Linda Underwood, Lora Stedwell, Patrick Blasdel, Duane Blasdel, Calvin Duvall, David Hughes, Tom Maynard, and Don Laven.

The group went out into the Gulf about 15 miles on the Dolphin Deep Sea Fishing Boat from Tarpon Springs. The

fishing bait used was squid. Catching fish started slowly, but as the day progressed, the fish started biting much better. We brought home 144 Grunts (a mild type of pan fish). Overall, we caught about 200 fish, but a lot of them weren't keepers including 15 Red Groupers which were not the legal length of 20 inches. We spent eight hours out in the Gulf on a calm clear sunny day with the temperature around 76 degrees. After fishing, we walked across the street from the dock to have supper at Hellas Greek Restaurant/Bakery. We arrived back home at 9:00 PM. A great time was had by all!

Submitted by Don Laven





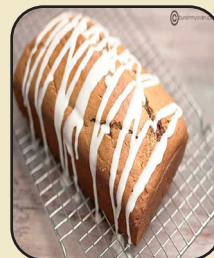
Cook's Korner

Whole Wheat Maple Cinnamon Bread

2 pkg yeast
2 eggs
¼ c warm water
¾ c maple syrup
1/3 c oil
2 ½ c whole wheat flour
1 tsp salt
1 tsp cinnamon
2 1/3 -3 c additional flour

Dissolve yeast in warm water. Add eggs. Heat milk, oil, and maple syrup. Add to yeast mixture. Stir in 2 ½ c flour, salt, and cinnamon. Add remaining flour to

form a stiff dough. Cover and let rise until doubled. Knead 5 minutes on floured board. Form in 2 pans and let rise until doubled. Bake at 375° for 20-30 minutes, until browned. May use food processor with dough hooks and let run 10 minutes after thoroughly mixed. No kneading necessary.



Dorothy Akam

Pull-Apart Herb Bread

2 garlic cloves, minced
½ c butter or margarine, melted
4 tubes (10 to 12 oz each) refrigerated biscuits
3 c shredded cheddar cheese
½ tsp dried basil
½ tsp fennel seed
½ tsp dried oregano

In a skillet, saute garlic in butter; set aside. Cut biscuits in half; place half of them in an even layer in a springform pan. Brush with butter mixture; sprinkle with half of the cheese and herbs. Repeat. Place the pan on a baking sheet. Bake 375° for 20 - 25 minutes or until golden brown. Remove from the pan. Serve warm. Serves eight.



Sue Lawton

Plum Muffins

2 c self-rising flour
2 c sugar
2 tsp allspice
1 c chopped walnuts
2 sm jars baby food plums
3 eggs, whisked
1 c oil

Add all ingredients and mix well. Bake at 350° for 15-17 minutes.

Marcella Harbison



* These recipes are from the Maranatha Village Cookbook. * The Cookbook is obtainable in the Village Office for \$10.00.

New Village Residents

Bill & Gloria Pittman



Gloria & Bill

We hail from the Southern Illinois region .. that's far away from Chicago! Our journey to Maranatha Village was one I never thought to entertain because Florida was the last place on earth I wanted to

spend more than a week in. That was our thought, but the Lord had blessings in store we had no idea about!

Ironically, the first time I ever heard the word "maranatha" was years ago through one of Bill's childhood friends who had become a recent believer. We were believers, too, but with a lot of sanctification and growing in faith yet to happen. The word was not familiar, but I soon learned it means "Come, O Lord," and I would always think of our friend when I came across it in the ensuing years. Little did we know that "maranatha" would make an appearance again in our lives!

In 2018, our friends Melvin and June Jones came to visit us a couple weeks after I had had open heart surgery. They mentioned they had just recently come from Maranatha Village, and spoke of it in glowing terms, thinking we would like to visit there after my recovery, so we made plans to come in 2020.

After 52 years of marriage, I was prepared, when in December of that year, Bill was wanting to stay put so

I proposed we go just for the month of January, and he liked that idea. After two weeks of being here, Bill was talking about buying, and then I was the one halting.

We arrived that first night; Florida was dark, and I was wondering if we had made the right decision. I had never seen moss hanging on trees, and most everyone was inside their homes, so it was a bit surreal. However, the next morning broke to bright sunshine and warm smiles and greetings from people everywhere! To be honest, we had lived an isolated life with mostly our family and church, so it was a bit of adjustment, making daily contact with everyone. But we needed the adjustment, and the Lord has used it! We enjoyed the villa the next year, and by the third year, when Gerry Carlson called and told us that the mobile we had glanced at and Maxine Brown had showed us might be available, we didn't hesitate, being eager to join the Maranatha Village family!

We have three children and seven grandchildren, ranging in ages 6-21. Our eldest son lives in Minneapolis, and his younger brother and family live on the same road we do in Mount Vernon, Illinois. He and his family were missionaries in Uzbekistan, Afghanistan, and Tajikistan, and yes, we've done some travelling! Our daughter, son-in-law, and three boys live 15 minutes away. Jason is the pastor of a local church. God has blessed us more than we deserve.

Minnesota Picnic



On February 29 at 4 pm, about fifty, one-time residents from the "Land of 10,000 Lakes" gathered for our annual picnic. Many of us haven't lived there for quite

some time, yet all seem to agree that Minnesota has left a mark on us as we thought back on lefse and lutefisk! We enjoyed sharing stories from our ministries, schools, and people who impacted us in the past. Of course, we all thought about weather and sports teams from Minnesota, too. We even enjoyed "Minnesota Twins" cupcakes as we discussed attending a spring training game next year! We considered changing our "*Minnesota Picnic*" to an "*Upper Midwest Picnic*" in the future.

This year besides our potluck picnic, we brought our own meat to grill with Dennis Byers and Gerry Carlson helping as grill masters. Our new Village manager, Brian Halstead, led us in old familiar choruses as we sat around the campfire. The weather was perfectly beautiful, and we are grateful for Doyle Wolford who gave us a hand in setting up and returning items we had borrowed. Doyle has never been to Minnesota, but he reflects the helpful spirit of unity at Maranatha Village! We happily included Ernie and Gen Schmidt's daughter and son-in-law this year as our younger representatives of Minnesota! It was a wonderful opportunity of good fellowship as we took a glimpse back over the years! *Colene Price*



New Village Residents

Keith & Ginny Thompson



Keith & Ginny

In my beginning, God saw to it that I was born in Newark, Ohio, to a World War I, US Army Master Gunnery Sergeant, divorced father of two, and a farm girl. At one year and three months, I was enrolled in Central Church of Christ Sunday school, also in Newark, Ohio. At

approximately two years of age, the family moved to Corning, New York, where I remember being in the upstairs nursery of the Congregational Church playing with alphabet blocks. As I grew older, I became aware that my father was the Sunday school teacher of the Junior boys. My father was going to teach about the second coming of Jesus, but the pastor said no, so we left the Congregational Church and went to North Baptist Church. My mother worked as lead cook for a three-month long stint at summer family Bible camp at Ontario Bible Conference. I worked in the Christian Leadership Training program for the summer as well, four years in a row. I heard that whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. August 28, 1960, I called upon the name of the Lord to save me. As I went down into the baptismal waters of the North Baptist Church in Corning, New York, I saw myself as dying to my old life and alive to a new life with Jesus.

After graduation from high school and serving in the United States Marine Corps in America and Vietnam, I had the opportunity of joining a Christian singing group. I judged myself not to be a very good Christian and wondered whether I should get better first or just go ahead and join. I did not know what the right thing was to do. If I joined the Christian singing group, I would be in a place where God could influence me. So, I joined. It was through that decision that I met my wife Ginny while we were working together at Days of Decision Bible Conference.

Ginny and I were married, raised two girls thru pre-school, Christian Elementary School, Christian High school, and four years of Baptist Bible College. When the girls were married, we became empty nesters. They had children, and we left Pine City, New York, and moved to

New Woodstock, New York. There we became members of the GARBC Open Door Baptist Church and met Shirley Warner who rented her place to us at Maranatha Village. I felt at home here because it had a certain Bible conference feeling. Ginny loved it because of all the friends and activities she enjoyed.

I (Ginny) am thankful for being raised in a Christian home and for my Godly heritage. Attending church from infancy, I knew all about Jesus, but it wasn't until I was ten that it became personal that Jesus died for my sins. It was in services with Evangelist Shreckengost that I asked Jesus to forgive my sins and come into my heart. Soon after, I was baptized in a country creek.

After graduating high school and a year of business school, I had a career as a secretary. In 1969, the Lord laid on my heart to leave a good job, to be the secretary to the Executive Director of Days of Decision Family Bible Conference near Liberty, New York. It was while working there that I met Keith. In July 1972 we were married, and over the next few years, we had two daughters. Staying home with my babies was a blessing. Once they were in school, the Lord allowed me to be secretary in the church and Christian school they attended. After our girls graduated from Baptist Bible College, I continued my career until I learned I would be a grandmother for the second time. At that time, I retired to enjoy my grand babies. We now have eight teenage Grand Blessings.

In 2014, we sold our home of 40 plus years and moved to be near a daughter. It was at this new church that a family owned a mobile home here at Maranatha Village. They rented it to us as they were not able to be here that winter. As we were driving here, I said to Keith, "I'm thankful to have a place in Florida to visit, but that is not where I want to settle." After renting for five years, we bought a mobile and increased the time we spent here at Maranatha. This October we became Florida residents and sold our New York home. Now Maranatha Village is "HOME"! We love the Christian atmosphere, the fellowship, the great messages, and music. We are thankful for all the love and prayer support we have had throughout my cancer surgery, chemo, my COVID, and the sale of our home. God has shown us His faithfulness throughout the years, and He has blessed us greatly! My life verses are Romans 12:1,2. To God be the Glory!

~ 1% Age Group ~

INTERESTING FACTS FOR YOU ...



1930 Ford Model A Gateway

This special group was born between 1930 & 1946 = 16 years. In 2022, the age range is between 76 & 92. Are you, or do you know, someone “still here?”

• ***You are the smallest group of children born since the early 1900s.***

• You are the last generation, climbing out of the depression, who can remember the winds of war and the impact of a world at war that rattled the structure of our daily lives for years.

• You are the last to remember ration books for everything from gas to sugar to shoes to stoves.

• You saved tin foil and poured fried meat fat into tin cans.

• You can remember milk being delivered to your house early in the morning and placed in the “milk box” on the porch.

• You are the last generation who spent childhood without television; instead, you “imagined” what you heard on the radio.

• With no TV until the 1950s, you spent your childhood “playing outside.”

• There was no Little League.

• There was no city playground for kids.

• The lack of television in your early years meant that you had little real understanding of what the world was like.

• Telephones were one to a house, often shared (party lines), and hung on the wall in the kitchen (no cares about privacy).

• Computers were called calculators; they were hand-cranked.

• Typewriters were driven by pounding fingers, throwing the carriage, and changing the ribbon.

• ‘INTERNET’ and ‘GOOGLE’ were words that did not exist.

• Newspapers and magazines were written for adults and the news was broadcast on your radio in the evening.

• New highways would bring jobs and mobility.

• The radio network expanded from 3 stations to thousands.

• Your parents were suddenly free from the confines of the depression and the war, and they threw themselves into working hard to make a living for their families.

• You weren’t neglected, but you weren’t today’s all-consuming family focus.

• They were glad you played by yourselves.

• They were busy discovering the post war world.

• You entered a world of overflowing plenty and opportunity; a world where you were welcomed, enjoyed ourselves and felt secure in your future although the depression and poverty was deeply remembered.

• Polio was still a crippler.

• You came of age in the ‘50s and ‘60s.

• You are the last generation to experience an interlude when there were no threats to our homeland.

• The second world war was over and the cold war, terrorism, global warming, and perpetual economic insecurity had yet to haunt life with unease.

• Only your generation can remember both a time of great war and a time when our world was secure and full of bright promise and plenty.

• You grew up at the best possible time, a time when the world was getting better.

• You are “The Last Ones.”

More than 99% of you are now retired, and you feel privileged to have “lived in the best of times!” Amen!

<https://www.westernoutdoortimes>

We Must Look to the Past!

continued

of the mobile community. We would then perform an evaluation of cost factors including design, parts, excavation, labor, etc. and develop a plan to replace these decaying pipes. Our hope is to be able to get a cost proposal quickly and begin to implement a stra-

tegic plan to completely repair our system piece by piece. Pray for us to have wisdom and discernment in the coming days and months ahead.

Maranatha Village Trumpet

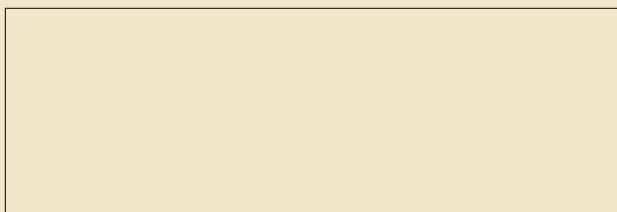
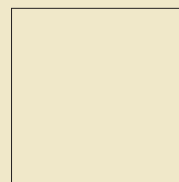
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***“Believe on the
Lord Jesus Christ
and you will be saved.”***



DONATED BLOOD

T H A N K Y O U

Thank you for participating in the blood drive at Maranatha Village on February 22, 2023

Barb Wickham
Chuck Herrell
Dan Crosier
Douglas Peacock
Frances Haines
Gary Little
Joanne Duvall
Karen Eskelson
Linda Peacock

Mary Montgomery
Maxine Arter
Teresa Little
Calvin Duvall
Kitowski Heldt
Cynthia
Dave Willing
Earl Barton
Frederick Faust

Janet Jeffers
John Thorp
Larry Shreckengost
Mark Clark
Mary Wilson
Miles Jones
Veronica Margison