



## **RENEWAL NEWSLETTER - SUMMER - 2015**

Greetings, dear friends and co-laborers in Christ,

We are past due with our newsletter, but please know that our heart's desire is to keep you, our partners-in-ministry, informed and aware of what's been happening and what's coming up. Thank you for your faithfulness in prayer and financial support even when you don't know where we are or what we are doing. We consider it a special blessing to know that you trust God in us.

### **FIRST, THE FAMILY**

In this season of our lives, our family becomes even more important to us. There are now thirty-one of us and some are "still in production." Unfortunately, all of our children and their families are scattered across the United States, but we all make an effort to see each other at least once a year, if not more often. Robyn and Perry Balcom came recently to Alabama for a long week-end visit with a desire to help us with tasks around our home. Both Robyn and Perry were extremely helpful in getting some things done. Melody and Claire, our youngest granddaughter, came by and spent almost a week with us. What a delight to have them in Florence. Daughter Holly continues to need a miracle in her knee. Her good knee is now unstable. Anne and I just returned from a wonderful week-end in Braselton (Atlanta) GA with Amy and her family. The family surprised Jim with an early birthday party. (As of July 20, he is fully alive at age 78).

We are blessed to have four wonderful daughters, and their families, all of whom love and serve the Lord.

### **OUR STRATEGIC MISSION TO ISRAEL**

We are drawing closer and closer to the date for our mission to Israel. We depart Nashville, TN on September 25 and return on November 24. We will be a part of the Feast of Tabernacles Celebration up until October 7th, and then we will "be on our own" encouraging God's ministering servants in Israel for forty-eight days. We have secured our flights, Feast registration and our lodging for the forty-eight days. By His grace, we have found via the internet, a small apartment in the Jerusalem area for an affordable price.

Our Special Appeal for funds for Israel is still underway. We thank you, and we thank God, for the fifty plus donors who have contributed toward the Israel Special Appeal. We are well within reach of the financial amount we will need to successfully complete our mission "with all bills paid." Our overall goal for the Israel ministry, including both trips, is \$ 20,000. We have raised all but about \$ 4,000 which we believe will yet come in. You can still have a part in the Israel Mission, by sending your check made out to CSR, marked in some way, "For Israel." Mail to P.O.Box 1555, Florence, AL 35630. We will be accepting contributions up until the time of our departure.

## WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING?

Since our last newsletter, we have had a number of ministry opportunities, including:

- We shared our first Israel Journey with The Dwelling Place and presented a prayer lesson.
- We visited the Messianic congregation in Birmingham.
- We presented DVD's from the first Israel journey at Grace House.
- We traveled to Tupelo, MS to participate in the revival that seems to be coming to that city.
- Jim traveled to Washington, DC to attend a Christian Leader's meeting at the Israeli Embassy
- We participated in the Advisory Board Meeting of the International Christian Embassy-Jerusalem
- We traveled to Greensboro, SC to participate in the Memorial Service of long-time friend, Lonnie Smith, who went to be with the Lord at age 90. Remember his wife Barbara in your prayers.
- We traveled to Birmingham to hear Israel's Ambassador speak at the Jewish Temple.
- We continue to do our weekly radio program, "What On Earth Is God Doing?" **You can listen to our live radio broadcasts on Tuesdays at 1:00 PM (CST).** Go to [www.wbtgradio.com](http://www.wbtgradio.com) and then click on Muscle Shoals Trojans log at the bottom of the page. You will then be listening to the live stream and our program.
- Jim continues to meet with and encourage pastors and ministers, as God leads.

## WHAT'S COMING UP?

- We will be traveling to Austin, Texas to speak to a national gathering of Church of Christ campus ministers. We will be participating on a panel on "Campus Evangelism." On this journey, we will visit two of our board members in Texas, the Soulas and the Summers.
- Our friends, Bob Mason and Pat and Linda Wallace are coming for Jim's birthday week-end.
- The CSR Board will have it's annual meeting in August at the Poe's home in Braselton, GA
- We depart for Israel for eight weeks on September 25.
- The church we attend, Grace House, is doing a special month of emphasis in August on our Israel Mission. Thanks, Grace House!
- Hopefully, we will soon be completing the revision of our new website. You will like it once it is on line.

## HOW YOU CAN PRAY FOR US

Thanks to Madeline Soula, who has assumed the responsibility of organizing and operating a Prayer Shield for CSR and for us. We have desperately needed this. If you would like to be a part of our intercessory prayer team, contact Madeline for more information. 2 Silkbay Place, The Woodlands, TX 77382 or call her at 281 419 9053.

- Pray that the remaining funds we need for Israel will come in before we depart.
- Pray that God will open doors for us in Israel into Messianic churches and Arab churches.
- Pray for our continued good health.
- Pray for our family, their continued faithfulness to the Lord and to each other.

We consider it a privilege to pray for you. Send your prayer requests to us and we will include you in our prayer. Thanks again for loving us and walking with us.

Prayerfully and Expectantly,

Jim and Anne

