

LIGHT BEARERS MINISTRY
MISSION
UPDATE
December 2003



Find out why lives are being revolutionized by the message in this book. To order, please call 1-877-585-1111.

Being Thankful

by James Rafferty

There is one yearly holiday that, in my opinion, is underrated, and that holiday is Thanksgiving. While it doesn't involve gifts, free candy or romance, it does point us to a Biblical truth that can powerfully heal both the heart and soul—that truth is being thankful. The Bible says:

“Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful” (Colossians 3:15, NIV).

This past year I faced a medical crisis that threatened to destroy my thankfulness. (For more details see Risë's *Health Nugget* for this month.) Working through this experience has helped me to realize that our thankfulness is not rooted in present circumstances of life, but in Jesus Christ. Understanding this truth has helped me look at hard times as opportunities to grow. I am thankful that this present trial has enabled me to spend more time with my family, to slow down a little (okay, a lot), and to realize firsthand what people who come under the shadow of death are facing. I am also thankful for all the support and prayers that have encircled my family in these past few months.

Yes, disease is a negative thing, but I thank God that He can bring good out of negatives. He often brings good out of evil. Much evil comes through the visual media of television that floods our world, but God also uses that same technology to flood the world with the everlasting gospel. So we can be thankful even for modern media technology. As one viewer recently shared with us:

*Dear Light Bearers Ministry,
Praise the Lord for technology in which we can spread the word of the living God throughout all nations, kindreds, tongues, and people! I am filled with joy to receive the message of Christ daily through God's grace, prayer, reading the Bible, studies, fellowship and the programs on 3ABN. I watched your program today and was inspired to write and thank you for all of the work you do in getting God's word out to the people. I just want to encourage you and let you know that the Lord is working through you to touch the hearts of many people, and is saving souls every day.*

Your sister in Christ Jesus,
H.C.

Technology has so many negative effects on society today, yet God can use it to touch the lives of millions of people all over the world and I am thankful for that. So what are you thankful for? May I make a suggestion to get you started?

“Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us be thankful, and so worship God acceptably with reverence and awe” (Hebrews 12:28, NIV).

No matter what happens on this earth during the reign of sin in which we live, we can be thankful that we, by God's grace and power, are part of His unshakable kingdom. Amen!



All WORN Out

Light Bearers, as you know, is primarily a publishing and teaching ministry.

With regards to the publishing arm of our work, God has given us a unique role in His service: We are a “missionary publishing house.” By that term I mean that we are a publishing house wholly devoted to publishing evangelistic literature for the church in front-line mission fields around the world, absolutely free of charge. We exist for the single-minded purpose of putting mass quantities of gospel literature into the hands of those who need it most but who cannot pay for it due to circumstances of poverty. The year 2003 will close with about 70 million publications put into circulation.

This brings us to a very practical reality: Because we do not publish for profit, we have no profit margin with which to replace equipment when it's time to do so, and that time has come. Our six-color web press has been our workhorse, having printed over 500 million pages. We purchased it used, *real used*—it was 35 years old at the time. Given its age and the fact that we bought it used, it has served us well. But our workhorse is simply “all worn out.” In 2003 we struggled to meet our production schedule with repeated breakdowns, accumulating nearly three months of downtime for repairs.

On December 3 the Light Bearers Board of Directors decided we must put the old machine to rest and purchase a new web press as a replacement. Our research reveals that the best machine to fit our needs is a Sanden eight-color web press with a 29-inch paper width. Not only will this press replace our present dying workhorse, but it will also make possible the printing of the same amount of literature in one-fourth the time, or increase the ability to print four times as much

literature. This press will cost approximately \$900,000 to \$1.1 million, depending on how it is equipped. Presently we have \$79,000 in savings toward the purchase; we expect we can count on about a \$50,000 trade-in value on the old press if we trade it in. We may also trade our four-color Sanden toward the purchase, if need be, for an estimated \$120,000 trade-in. That gives us a possible total of \$249,000, with a remaining balance needed of about \$750,000.

With this need before you, our appeal is very specific. If you are a supporter of Light Bearers, we need your ongoing planned support to keep the literature going out the door in 2004. Please do not shift what you would normally give to this press need. To have a new press with no funding to print would be counterproductive. We need to acquire this press without deflating our publishing budget for 2004.

That said, we are asking friends of this ministry to prayerfully consider if you could possibly offer additional assistance above what you will already give for 2004 or the close of 2003. If you have received our newsletter for some time but have never contributed to the ministry, may we ask you to consider that now would be a great time to give your support for the purchase of this press? In either case, please mark your special contribution “NEW PRESS.”

You will rejoice with us in days ahead as many precious men and women are introduced to God's saving love through our partnership.

The letter to the right of this page is for your information and encouragement. We had no idea we were being evaluated, nor was this letter solicited; but the affirmation is uplifting.



by Ty Gibson





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November 26, 2003

Sue Gibson
Light Bearers Ministry
11 Ministry Place
P.O. Box 1888
Malo, WA 99150

Dear Sue Gibson:

At Charity Navigator, America's premier independent evaluator of charities, we work to advance a more efficient and responsive philanthropic marketplace by evaluating the financial health of over 2,600 of America's largest charities.

Among others, *The New York Times*, *BusinessWeek*, and *The Chronicle of Philanthropy* have profiled and celebrated our method of applying data-driven analysis to the charitable sector. Our web traffic has grown to over 60,000 distinct visitors in one month, making it the clear site of choice for accessing information needed to make smart giving choices. Furthermore, we have irrefutable data showing that users to our site give more than they planned to before viewing our findings.

We have recently updated our website, and your organization has received a new rating based on the most current financial information available. **We applaud your charitable efforts and congratulate you for receiving a 4-star rating from Charity Navigator for the second consecutive evaluation.** Receiving four out of a possible four stars indicates that your organization excels, as compared to other charities in America, in the area of strong fiscal management. This consistency in your rating is an exceptional feat, especially given the economic challenges all charities have had to face in the last year.

That said, we believe our service will be helpful to you. **Light Bearers Ministry's 4-star rating means your supporters can be assured of your efforts to maximize the impact of their donations.** Peggy Kirkpatrick, executive director of the Central Missouri Food Bank, told us that she received a \$1,000 donation from a donor who discovered her organization solely through their rating on Charity Navigator. "We now very proudly tell people about our four star rating and are deeply appreciative of the opportunity to highlight our efficiency and accountability."

We wish you continued success in your charitable endeavors.

Sincerely,

Trent Stamp
Executive Director

www.charitynavigator.org

ROLLIE REMEMBERED

This past November an accident took the life of Rollie Weekly, a personal friend of ours and a self-sacrificing supporter of Light Bearers Ministry. Rollie was a devoted husband, the father of two grown children, a man of genuine integrity in his community and one who loved and served God with all his might.

Many of us here at Light Bearers remember him as the large-hearted brother who made weekend trips from Glide, Oregon, with equipment, materials and a crew to lay the foundation of our publishing house addition. We can truly say of Rollie that a prince in Israel has fallen and we will miss him greatly. But we will see Rollie again on resurrection morning.



*Those who love in the Lord never see
each other for the last time*
-German Proverb

Events Schedule

- ◆ **January 9-10**
Diamond Lake/Newport Church Retreat, WA
James & Risë Rafferty—☎(208)437-4196
- ◆ **January 16-17**
Arlington SDA Church, TX
Ty Gibson—☎(214)564-0223
- ◆ **January 30-31**
Castle Rock SDA Church, WA
Ty Gibson—☎(360)274-6090
- ◆ **February 6-7**
Myrtle Creek SDA Church, OR
Herb Montgomery—☎(541)839-6800 or 863-5183
- ◆ **February 27-28**
Dallas North Brazilian SDA Church, TX
Herb Montgomery—☎(972)234-1117
- ◆ **March 19–April 3**
Minden, LA, Evangelism
Herb Montgomery—☎(318)371-9572

Lift Him Up

3ABN Schedule
(Sky Angel Channel 9710)

Tuesday	4:30 p.m. (PST)
	10:30 p.m. (PST)
Thursday	11:00 a.m. (PST)
Saturday	10:30 a.m. (PST)

Published by

Light Bearers Ministry

Light Bearers is a non-profit ministry, devoted to helping proclaim the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ through the spoken and published word. Donations made to Light Bearers Ministry are tax-deductible.

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