

Lewistown PA Highlights for 2016

Baptisms – 7

Our attendance for the year has been pretty steady around 30 –35. Our new directory shows that we reached 51 members this year.

We presented a 13 week seminar from Dave Ramsey about handling personal finances. The seminar was attended by 18 visitors from the community with about 6 of them finishing the series. We made some good contacts from the series.

Sojourners came to help us with a two week door knocking campaign in August. It was a great success for the church. We still have five new Christians that were baptized as a result of their effort. Some of these folks were “long term” visitors that never decided to be baptized until someone explained that they needed it. We also have a former member that was restored to us as a result of knocking on her door.

David Tarbet gave us a presentation of “How the bible came to us” over the summer. We had 38 visitors here for the first session on Friday evening. We had several former members that were persuaded to come and visit for the lessons. They were encouraged by the welcome they received and decided to be restored to our fellowship. We were able to restore six former members because God opened that door for us.

Our correspondence courses are still going on. We currently have about 10 that are active. We had four of our students come to hear the lessons on “How the bible came to us”. It was a delight to meet them all.

Our Friday morning small group bible study at the church building is still going strong. It is a very encouraging group.

We continue to struggle with health issues in the congregation and sin has always been lurking in the shadows. We just hold fast to the Lord and continue in prayer that He will lead us through. The work continues.

Personal Notes

Our personal story this year was a very interesting one. We had a brand new great granddaughter added to our family. We had our own personal ups and downs with our health. It's all part of growing into senior saints.

As the year ended, I was presented with a unique opportunity. I had a chance to return to our home congregation in Poughkeepsie NY. They presented us with an offer to return to our hometown and take over as the Evangelist for the church. This is the congregation where we were baptized all those years ago. Everybody has a church home that is very special to them and this one is ours.

We have decided to resign our position in the Lewistown congregation and return to Poughkeepsie NY to preach and teach there. One of our daughters live there and another is about a half hour away. We have an amazing opportunity because this is the first ministry work where I already know the members of the congregation as well as all the streets in town. They in turn already know me. We are excited to be near our family again and it is with great sadness that we bid farewell to the Lewistown congregation. This is just too good an opportunity for us to pass up.

Thank you all for your support and encouragement. May God Bless each and every one of you as you continue to labor for the kingdom.