

◆ LOVE PACKAGES ◆

August - September 2024

A WORD FROM THE DIRECTOR

Greetings to you in the Name of Jesus Christ.

This month of August I will reach two milestones in my life. On the 24th I turn 75. I feel a little old some days. I also start my 50th year of doing Love Packages. Love Packages was started in August of 1975, in my basement. It is amazing to think about what God has done these past years. Millions have heard the good news because of what we did together.

Sorry it has been such a long time since we last sent a newsletter. We have been extremely busy here. We have had a very successful 2024 so far - we shipped out 1500 tons of material to over 22 nations. Our goal for this year is to ship 110 containers, 2200 tons. Another really good thing that has happened was the "Decision" magazine published by the Billy Graham Association did a two page article about Love Packages in their March issue. You can go to their webpage and read it online. As a result of the article, our phones and email have been very busy. We are posting more and more pictures and reports on our Facebook page, so please follow us on Facebook and keep up with what God is doing with your material. You will see a lot of testimonies from all over the world on there. God truly is doing great things with the literature that you send. Keep up the good work folks! If you would like to receive this newsletter via email let us know. We have a new computer system that will allow us to send emails to all of you at no cost.

Yours for souls,

Steven Schmidt

UPDATE ON ALABAMA BUILDING:

Most of you know that we were told in June that we had to be out of the warehouse in Alabama by the end of August. We have rented that warehouse for years. Last week, Vern Everett and I went down to Alabama and helped Jason get moved into a new building in Decatur Alabama. We have not been able to find a building to purchase yet, but the building behind where we were, became available and it will work for us temporarily. The address is 60 B South Mountain Dr. Decatur AL. 35603. Although it is not as large as the building we were in - it looks like it will work for us until we find a place to buy or to build. We have started a fund to either purchase or build a warehouse in Decatur. If you would like to help with that, please designate your offering for the Alabama building fund. You can send your offering to either office. We are not going to use any funds given to purchase Bibles or for the funding of Love Packages shipments for this purpose. Also, if you have materials for Alabama, please contact Jason in advance at 256-355-3004, because if everyone brought the materials at the same time he would be overwhelmed.

TESTIMONIES FROM AROUND THE WORLD

Every week our distributors take our literature and use it to bring the good news to a lost world. Please take a few minutes to read and pray over these recent testimonies.

Zimbabwe: Ok, so here is the story. Our literature distributor gave some materials to a Pastor Joseph. Pastor Joseph was in front of his home one day when a couple of little girls came by. He started talking to them and gave them a couple of Christian children's books. They were so very glad to receive them. They took them home and their dad started reading the books to them at night before they went to sleep. A couple of weeks went by, and the dad came to Pastor Joseph and said, "I don't know anything about this Jesus, can I have some books for me and my wives?" So, Pastor Joseph gave him several books from Love packages.

One month went by, and he came back, and Pastor Joseph led him to faith in Christ. Later he came again and said, "Pastor, I need you to fill up your car with literature and come with me." They ended up giving literature away to hundreds of people that were waiting for them.

Again, he came and said, "You need to get a bigger vehicle and come with me - I have so many people who want to know about Christ." This time they filled a transit van full of Love Packages literature and away they went - and gave literature to thousands of people waiting to receive them.

It turns out that the little girl's dad was a leader of a cult and had never known about Christ, but when he received Christ, he wanted all of his followers to know Christ too. He has 40,000 followers. We have just received pictures and posted them on our Facebook page, these pictures show thousands of his followers re-

Testimonies From Around The World

ceiving New Testaments from Love Packages. Please pray for all of them to receive Christ. This group is called the White Robe Group.

Ghana: Rev. Ebenezer Manu, of Faith Arena Ministry reports that in December, they engaged in street, bus and open air evangelism. They reached out to about 3,000 people, out of which 50 received Christ as Savior for the first time and 60 others rededicated their lives to Christ. Some have joined the church. They gave out about 3,000 booklets.

South Africa: We would like to express our gratitude and appreciation for the free materials we received for both our Women's conference and the Pastors Retreat. On a personal note, one of the books I read was edifying and challenged me to embrace every trial that I have gone through as part of God's refining process in my spiritual walk. I have also had positive feedback from the ladies who attended the conference, that they were blessed by the reading material and the CD's they received. May God continue to bless those who share these materials with us for the extension of God's kingdom.

From Troy Illinois: Troy Methodist Middle School Students loved working at Love Packages during our mission trip last week. It was an amazing experience there - the sheer volume, the workload, the mission, was inspiring and memorable. During our devotions and debriefing, students brought up Love Packages on several occasions, including our wrap up. The lunch time stories were engaging even for the middle school boys - great job!

The Testimonies and stories lit a bit of a fire that eternal, life changing things are happening around the world through the gospel message. When our group traveled around Springfield one morning to pray for people, they were more confident, willing and engaging because of the stories from Love Packages...I've actually never seen middle schoolers pray for so many people (in laundromats, capitol building, etc.). Thank you for your ministry! We've been telling everyone about it and hope to come again soon!

India: The books I got from you are so useful and productive. Last year I got many books and this has changed my course of preaching, teaching and living. How wonderful they have been to me.

In Memory Of:

- Mother Pearl & Aunt Carrie Eckenberg by: Alma Henley Harris
- Alan Robertson by: Tom Davidson Family
- Mark Gray by: Jim Zuber
- John Wagner by: Dolores Wagner
- Lacey & Matthew Taylor by: Richard & Jeannette Taylor
- Anna Schaperjohn & Bob Burlingame by: Jeffrey Schaperjohn
- Larry Riley by: Linda Riley
- Richard & Frances Carter & their beloved daughter
- Karen Carter Gornto by: Marcia Wood
- Carol Meier by: Cindy Chuksudoon; Mr. & Mrs. Brian Dennis;
- Mr. & Mrs. John Dorsch; Lynn Richmond
- Jonathan Warnock by: Carol Ellsworth; Sylvia Dutton & Family;
- Harlan Beckel
- Kenneth F. and Amelia Ellis by: Robert K. Ellis
- Allen Bilderback by: The Dean Trummel Family
- Vance Turnage by: Don & Lana Boswell
- Glen & Freda Wilkins by: Glenda Wilkins
- Wendell McClinton by: Fred & Linda Berry
- Debbie Fuller by: Fred & Linda Berry
- Charles Jackson by: Karen Jackson; Morris & Audie Davis;
- Richard Kuhn
- James Johnson by: Dolores Johnson
- Nellie Williams by Joe & Emily Richardson
- Percy Boggan by: Judy Boggan
- Billy Neal by: White's Senior Adult SS Class Lindsay Lane Baptist Church in Athens, AL; Eddy & Elwanda McLemore: Sue Maddock;
- Michael & Kimberly Odom; his sister Janice Burrough
- Michael Powell by: Emily Thomas
- Earl Ballinger by: Eric Pugh Connect Group
- Dr Lee J. Hudson

In Honor Of:

- Tony Ditmore by: Parker's SS Class Immanuel Baptist
- Nathan Knight by: Emily Thomas
- John & Sandra Rogers by: Earl & Beverly Limeberger
- Kim Haines by: Sharon Walker
- Sue & Dan Rowton by: Lemira ARP Church, Sumter, SC

Volunteers

- Alabama—610
- Illinois—1480

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Alabama Building _____ **for Bibles** _____

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Thank you in advance for your help!



*A higher standard.
A higher purpose.*