



Christian Coffee House Ministry, Inc.

334 East Grand Avenue
Beloit, Wisconsin 53511
Phone (608) 365-0365

The Overflow

SUMMER - 1984

The last newsletter we published was dated April-June, 1983, so it has been over a year since you have heard from us. Some interesting comments have come out of this situation, for instance, #1: "We heard The Overflowing Cup was going under." or, #2: "We thought you took our name off the mailing list because we haven't contributed any money." Let me reply to the first comment: There have been times we thought we WERE going under! We know for certain that anytime God gives someone a vision for a work that He wants done, man is always trying to hold back what God is trying to do. But nothing can stop what God has ordained and just when we thought we couldn't hold on any longer and that we were going down for the last time, God parted the waters and threw us a "life preserver." We are glad to report that we are still afloat. (No pun intended even though our building is build over the river.) You know, faith makes the devil real nervous and he just might have a nervous breakdown when he reads this because we have no intention of going under and will continue to fight the good fight of faith.

To the second comment, I say: We would never take your name off of our mailing list just because you haven't contributed anything to the ministry. In fact, it isn't that easy to get taken off of our mailing list. The only time we would do that would be at your request. Our purpose in sending out the newsletter is not solely to solicit funds. It is, however, a blessing when people are moved to give to the ministry because the Holy Spirit speaks to them about our needs through the newsletter. Our main purpose is to keep those who might be interested in The Cup ministry informed of what's happening. We are sorry we haven't been able to do that on a regular basis but we just haven't had funds to pay for our last two newsletters, much less printing another one. The only way we are able to send this one to you is through God's gracious people, one of whom offered to do the printing free of charge. Our sincere thanks to STEINER PRESS, Loves Park, Illinois.

In our last newsletter we said we were anticipating some changes. Let me attempt to bring you up-to-date. After our BIG move from the "Old YMCA", which has finally become a parking lot, you know we have had our problems. It has really been a struggle to keep going because of the mountain of debt we incurred for moving and remodeling expenses. Naturally, having no funds to advertise our Bookstore or Coffee House activities, revenue and attendance really dropped off. We have been able to keep the lights on and pay the phone bill, mortgage payment and a few other monthly obligations but we haven't had anything left over for debt reduction. Last fall, Vickie had to take a job and since she had been keeping the Bookstore open everyday, that meant we had to close the store except for a half-day a week on Saturday. Now, we were down to the smallest staff we have ever had, and open the fewest number of hours since we started. This caused us to really evaluate the situation to say the least. Would the Lord want us to close? We found that hard to accept since ten and a half years ago we didn't even exist and surely He has a reason for keeping us going this long. Is the devil trying to put our lights out? What is it that is holding up the blessing? These are just some of the questions we were asking ourselves.

We had felt justified in trying to recover some of our expenses from the BIG move and knew we had a legal right to do so. So in October, 1982, we filed a law suit against the City of Beloit asking them to compensate us for some of our loss. It seemed as soon as we did that, things got even worse. Sometime after that, I (Pat) was watching the 700 Club and while Ben and Pat were praying for healing for physical problems, I was praying for a healing of finances, more specifically that God would remove our mountain of debt. Suddenly, Ben stopped and said that a lady in the T.V. audience was praying for a healing of finances and God was going to remove a mountain of debt. Well, needless to say, I just about had a glory fit!!! It was about that same time that the Lord confirmed in Dave's heart that God would forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. (Matt. 5:12). So we knew we had to forgive the City of Beloit and drop the law suit. The following letter from our Christian attorney (Thank God for him) expresses it so well we thought we would share it with you.

Sedor & McDONALD, S. C.

Attorneys at Law

JANESVILLE, WISCONSIN 53547

GILBERT D. SEDOR

PATRICK K. McDONALD

JACK C. HOAG

December 1, 1983

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P.O. BOX 1145
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Daniel T. Kelley
City Attorney
416 College Avenue
Beloit, WI 53511

Re: Overflowing Cup v. City of Beloit
Case No. 82 CV 483

Dear Tom:

My clients have engaged in a great deal of "prayerful reflection" and have come to the conclusion, that they should voluntarily dismiss their action against the City of Beloit. While it's their general view, and mine, that they have a valid claim against the City of Beloit, it's their belief, that they are spiritually directed to terminate the proceedings against the City.

Consequently, I'm authorized to present to you a proposal, that they'll agree to a voluntary dismissal, without the imposition of any costs, etc. at this juncture. If that's agreeable with you and the City of Beloit, please advise and I'll prepare the necessary stipulation and order for dismissal. Dismissal would be with prejudice.

While their action is contrary to my general recommendation, I'm not going to in any way dispute the validity of their conclusion, that they've been directed to release the City, and offer forgiveness to anyone responsible for the extreme, financial hardship the ministry has undergone.

Please let me hear from you at your first opportunity.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,

SEDOR & McDONALD, S.C.

By: *[Signature]*
Gilbert D. Sedor

GDS/kls

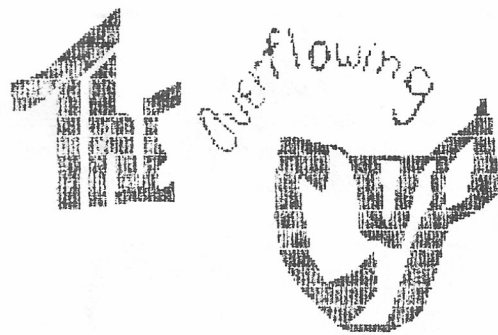
cc: David and Patricia Fogderud

As soon as the letter was sent (I don't think the City of Beloit had even received it yet), the hand of the Lord opened wide and He began to give us fresh inspiration and new direction. So in January of this year, we closed the Bookstore for a couple of weeks to re-arrange things and take an inventory. This change allowed us to operate more efficiently and also to create a warmer atmosphere and temperature in the Coffee House. The response to the changes we've made have been quite favorable and there seems to be a new excitement and interest about the things of the Lord. We are seeing decisions for Christ again and an increase in activity on Saturday nights. Even though my heart is really in our home and I prefer being there more than anyplace, I knew the Lord couldn't bless us if we weren't making the best use of what He had already given us. So, out of sheer obedience, I decided to adjust my lifestyle and keep the Bookstore open as much as possible. I realized the Bookstore is only an asset when it is open enough hours to be accessible. Since I made that decision, Vickie has had a change in her work situation and is now able to be there full-time. We have the store open more hours than it has ever been and the Lord is blessing our efforts.

GOOD NEWS!!! After three years of being packed away in boxes collecting dust, our LIBRARY is up and running! We are grateful to Virginia Trewyn for her diligence in getting the files back into shape and also those who have come in to help unpack books, alphabetize, type, dust etc. Will you please help us locate all of our missing library books? Look under the bed or up on your shelves and see if you might have forgotten to return some. Thanks!

MORE GOOD NEWS!!! For the first time since we moved to our new facility (the "Old JUPITER" building), we will resume weekly Bible studies. Mr. Frank Shappert from Belvidere, Illinois will once again be teaching for us. Frank has prepared an extensive series on "The Kingdom of God." The series is truly Based on the Scripture and is inter-denominational. If you respond by coming out and participating, the series will last approximately 26 weeks. We will meet on Friday nights, starting on Friday September 7, 1984. The doors will open at 7:00 p.m. and the Bible study will begin at 7:30 p.m. sharp. Don't miss this excellent opportunity!

That brings us up to where we are now. Here we are - a little bit wiser, a whole lot stronger in the Lord, still plugging away for Jesus and thankful that God isn't as interested in our SUCCESS as He is in our spiritual PROGRESS. We know He is more concerned with our FAITHFULNESS than He is our WEAKNESS. AND, we know that He never blesses negativeness. We know that He wants us to stay in the race, using what we've got to do what we can. At the present time, we are just concentrating on trying to get out of debt. Little by little, we are gaining on it but we don't feel a freedom to move ahead until these debts are paid. We are so appreciative of the forbearance our creditors have shown. I'm sure some of them have given up on us (others have sued us), but we WILL pay every cent we owe no matter how long it takes. I sincerely believe the Lord wants all of us to concentrate on getting free of debt so that we can be better prepared for whatever lies ahead without the hinderance that debt brings.



CHRISTIAN COFFEE HOUSE MINISTRY, INC.

334 East Grand Avenue - P.O. Box 594
Beloit Wisconsin 53511
Phone (608) 365-0365

ACTIVITIES CALENDAR FOR AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER, 1984

Please announce the following coming events for the OVERFLOWING CUP. We are located at 334 E. Grand Avenue (in the old JUPITER building) in Beloit, Wisconsin. For further information phone (608) 365-0365.

We are open every Saturday evening at 7:00 PM and the activities begin at 8:00 PM. There is no admission charge but a free will offering will be received. The BREADBASKET BOOKSTORE is open Monday through Saturday for your convenience.

- August 4th, Open Night -- A chance for all to share a song, testimony, or instrument. Come and join us in an evening of praise to God.
- August 11th, Mark Smith from Sturgeon Bay, Wi -- Come and hear this young singer, back by popular demand, perform his original folk style music. This excellent guitarist also presents a serious message of what God can do for a person that is not walking with the Lord.
- August 18th, Martin & Shannon Espinosa from Rockton, Il - Come and hear the testimony of this couple and what God has done for them in their marriage. Special music will be provided by Dave & Pat Fogderud.-
- August 25th, CLOSED - We encourage you to attend the Rock County Crusade all this week in Janesville, Wi.
- Sept 1st, Mystery Auction -- Come and join us this evening with a well known christian auctioneer from this area to help us raise money for the operation of the various functions of The Overflowing Cup Christian Coffee House Ministry. To add to the excitement of the evening some items will be auctioned off unidentified in sealed cardboard boxes.
- Sept 8th, Les & Kelly Puttkammer and Pastor Loy from Elmhurst, Il -- This group from Bethel Assembly will put on a program featuring a unique puppet and music ministry.
- Sept 15th, The Church Family from Janesville Wi -- This old time gospel trio also sings some Jimmy Swaggart and David Ingles style music. Come and welcome this trio in their first appearance at the Cup.
- Sept 22nd, Uzziah from Rockford, Il -- This progressive gospel rock group performs music in a style similar to Petra.
- Sept 29th, Tony Krawczyk from Oak Park, Il -- This talented guitarist performs and sings mostly original music in a style that varies from mellow folk to soft rock.

Submitted by:

David R. Rounds
David R. Rounds
Vice President

MARK YOUR CALENDAR: Starting Friday night, September 7, 1984, and every Friday night thereafter, Frank Shappert will teach a Bible study series on "The Kingdom of God" - Open at 7:00 p.m. and starts at 7:30 p.m. sharp. Welcome!

THANK YOU FOR HELPING US TO HELP OTHERS

Our most sincere thanks to all of you who have hung in there with us through thick and thin. We thank you from the bottom of our hearts for continuing to send your financial support even when you did not hear from us. We appreciate the churches that have asked us to present the ministry to their Home Missions Group and Outreach Committees and who have decided to help us on a monthly basis. Also, a big thank you to those who have been interested enough to come down for a tour of our facility.

We realize that this newsletter is quite lengthy but it is difficult to put one year into a few sentences. The latest occurrence in reference to what's happening is that we have met and become affiliated with OPERATION BLESSING and will be working with the Milwaukee Center to help each other minister to emergency needs in our area. OPERATION BLESSING is sponsored by The 700 Club in Virginia Beach, Virginia, and is seen on television nation-wide. They have a program of matching funds and will match any donation from a local church up to \$250.00. So why not talk to your church and see if they would like to "Help Us To Help Others."

Our most pressing need at the moment is a new roof. Every time it rains we have a hard time finding enough buckets to go around and have lost many books due to water damage in the Bookstore. Some money has been given toward this project but we still are a long way from our goal. We had applied to The Kresge Foundation for a challenge grant for help with the roof and a new storefront but because of the large number of applications they received some had to be turned down and ours was one of them. The next greatest need is still for an Emergency Housing facility. This seems to be AN EVER PRESENT problem and we are open to suggestions as to how this problem might be solved. I am currently working along with many other concerned individuals in the community to try to come up with an answer. A workshop is planned for October and we hope to see something happen as a result. In addition to the above-mentioned needs, we are always in need of more help. Our staff is presently stretched as far as we can stretch them so pray with us that God will raise up more dedicated and qualified people with servant's hearts to get involved.

WE JUST WANT WHAT THE LORD WANTS - no more or no less. I leave you with these words that express our feelings so well: "These sufferings of ours are for your benefit. And the more of you who are won to Christ, the more there are to thank Him for His great kindness, and the more the Lord is glorified. That is why we never give up. Though our bodies are dying, our inner strength in the Lord is growing every day. These troubles and sufferings of ours are, after all, quite small and won't last very long. Yet this short time of distress will result in God's richest blessing upon us forever and ever! So we do not look at what we can see right now, the troubles all around us, but we look forward to the joys in heaven which we have not yet seen. The troubles will soon be over, but the joys to come will last FOREVER!!!" (II Corinthians 4:15-18)

Love in Christ,
Pat Fogderud, Editor

Directors: David J. Fogderud, President
David R. Rounds, Vice President
Patricia A. Fogderud, Secretary/Treasurer

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PLEASE USE P.O. BOX 594 ON ALL CORRESPONDENCE

THE OVERFLOWING CUP
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