



A WORD FROM THE EDITOR

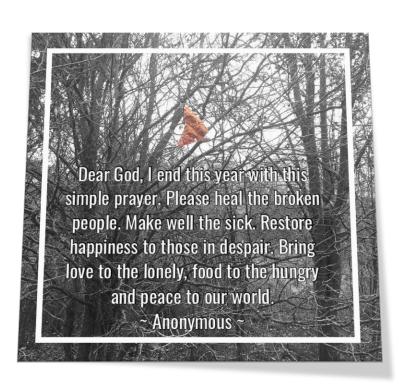
Happy New Year!!! I am excited for a fresh start after a year filled with sick loved ones, social distancing, and singing into a mask. Still, as tired as I am of pandemics, protests, and the ever-increasing political divide, 2020 wasn't *ALL* bad.

Seriously, in spite of so many setbacks we saw the world get a little smaller and the gospel being spread a lot further with so many churches adding live streaming to their repertoire. Also, personally speaking, 2020 was my healthiest year ever!!!

In this issue of *Go Scatter* I will be sharing highlights from last month, prayer requests, and we will also look at the fourth facet of Everyday Evangelism—SHARE.

Blessings,

Rev. Randy LeBaron
President & Founder





December was definitely retreat from the norm as far as speaking on Sunday mornings was concerned. After a number of months where I preached every single weekend I had not one but two Sundays off. Also, of the two churches that I spoke at, only one service was live. I commented on FB how surreal it was to sit in my living room and watch myself preaching on tv while sitting in my living room. That's 2020 for you! (3) Looking ahead to January, I only have one Sunday booked so far but thankfully I have some longer placements February interim through April.





"Refill with Randy" got off to a good start, and received a lot of positive replies for these episodes highlighting Wende's Christmases abroad, but since filming one highlighting the new coffee shop Hebrews 5:9 I have been having technical difficulties so it is on a temporary hiatus. Speaking of...



Hebrews 5:9 is a new coffee shop in Albion with a mission to glorify God and serve the community.

After venturing in and meeting the owner, Jim Nowaczewski, on opening day I knew that God was up to something because he liked sipping coffee, serving God, and sharing the love of Christ as much as I did! It should come as no surprise that I have frequented his establishment often and find it a great place to fellowship with friends as well as make new ones.



One of the funnest events that I got to participate in was the annual "Shop with a Cop" at Walmart. A few of us Chaplains joined up with local Law Enforcement to take a number of kids around to shop for their parents, their siblings, and then purchase something for themself.

I teamed up with Chief Jeff Gifaldi from the Sheriff's Office and we were off to the races with our little guy who was eager to get just the right gifts for his parents, his older brother, and his younger sister. It was a great way to spend a Saturday morning.

Later that same morning I got to pray with several people as we handed out food and clothes through Hands 4 Hope. And, on this particular Saturday as we were stationed outside The Hoag Library in Albion, we had an extra special volunteer handing out toys as well.



I am truly grateful for all those that I had the privilege of serving, and serving alongside, over this past year as well as for all of you who have supported me, encouraged me, prayed for me, and ultimately enabled me to continue the mission and ministry of GSM for another year!!!



Over the past few months I have been sharing about the four facets of Everyday Evangelism. We have already talked about starting each day in PRAYER, being AWARE, and learning to CARE so today we will focus on the final one--SHARE.

In reality the first three are great for preparing the soil, priming the pump, or whatever analogy you want to use to illustrate helping someone get to the point where they are willing to hear, and hopefully receive, the good news of the gospel but one thing remains. Paul writes in...

Romans 10:13-15 "For "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved." But how can they call on him to save them unless they believe in him? And how can they believe in him if they have never heard about him? And how can they hear about him unless someone tells them? And how will anyone go and tell them without being sent? That is why the Scriptures say, "How beautiful are the feet of messengers who bring good news!"" (NLT)

That's all great you say, but I am not an expert or an extrovert. I try to show others Christ's love but I do not feel qualified to share his gospel.

I love the quote from St. Francis of Assisi, "Preach the gospel everyday and, only if necessary, use words." The reality though is that it should be "when" and not "if" because someone cannot believe what they are not told.

So, knowing that, I believe that every Christian is called to share whenever a door opens. Peter writes in 1 Peter 3:15b that we should...

"Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have." (NIV)

With that in mind let me offer a few tips for those of you who may not feel like experts but who are still expected to share when opportunity arises.

- Remember that you are the expert on YOUR testimony and that no one can refute it!
- > Be sure to include:
 - Who you were before Christ
 - How you came to know Christ
 - Who you are now becoming in Christ
- Don't include the whole Bible but Do pick a passage or two that will help you to guide them toward receiving Christ (i.e. John 3:16, Romans 5:6-10, Romans 10:9-10...)
- Avoid insider/churchy language (i.e. bought with the blood of the lamp, sanctification..."
- Keep it to one written page. You can always share more if the person wants but rehearsing one page can give you the confidence to be ready to share at any time.
- Practice sharing it with another believer.
- Remember that the goal is to share the gospel—NOT to persuade someone to receive it right then and there. You do your part and then allow The Holy Spirit to work.
- Don't give up if you don't get the response you were hoping for. Remember that you can not force someone to hear a message they are not ready to receive but also that you should not underestimate the power of planting a seed.
- Pray Pray Pray!!!
 - Pray for discernment before sharing
 - Pray for guidance while sharing
 - Pray for the person often after sharing

These are just a few tips to get you started but if you want to learn more and/or if you want me to read or listen to your testimony and offer helpful feedback I would be glad to. Contact me at

Upcoming Speaking Dates...

- January 10th @Roberts Memorial Free Methodist Church (Cattaraugus, NY)
- o February 6th & 7th @Parma Christian Fellowship Church (Hilton, NY)
- o February 13th & 14th @Parma Christian Fellowship Church (Hilton, NY)
- o February 20th & 21st @Parma Christian Fellowship Church (Hilton, NY)
- February 27th & 28th @Parma Christian Fellowship Church (Hilton, NY)

Please Pray for...

- **±** My family's health in this new year. As I stated earlier, 2020 truly was my healthiest year, but it did end with a coronavirus scare followed up thankfully by a Negative Covid test.
- **±** Opportunities to grow GSM, to speak in more churches and organizations, to offer more services both online and in person, and to come beside other like-minded ministries.
- ± Discernment about which direction to take GSM in for the future in regard to 501c3 status. Currently GSM is incorporated as a non-profit in NYS but because of my affiliation with the Genesis Conference of the Free Methodist Church, where I am ordained and currently appointed as an Evangelist, I have been able to have any donors who wish to receive tax receipts for their gifts to go through them.
- ± All of the pastors and leaders who are struggling with the fact that church in the post-Covid era is not going to look like the church pre-Covid. Ask God to give them new creative energy and a renewed hope as they press on and seek to serve beyond the status quo.
- **±** More opportunities to scatter seeds daily through words and deeds.
- **±** Healing for our nation and an end to the pandemic.
- ± God to make a way for GSM to be more sustainable outside of speaking honorariums which can be hit or miss, especially in the COVID-19 era. Specifically, I would ask The Lord for some generous donors to view a larger gift to GSM as a Kingdom Investment and for the number of GSM Monthly Ministry Partners and GSM Monthly Church Partners to multiply.

Finally, I want to take a moment and thank the 80+ Donors who gave to the mission of GSM in 2020! And thank you to the 16 GSM Monthly Ministry Partners and the 2 Monthly GSM Church Partners!

SEEDERS \$25+	SCATTERERS \$50+	GARDENERS \$100+	HARVESTERS \$200+
Rob & Megan Hoose	Jean Dunn	Alan & Kathy Bliss	Mike & Andrea Stasko
Eric & Joella Liddle	Kyle & Jessy Holz	Larry & Bonnie Malakie	Denise Burris
Michael & Diane Stamp	Anonymous	George & Iva McKenna	
Donna Morse	Chuck & Donna Stevens	Jason & Jessica Runge	
Eric & Joella Liddle		Craig & Wenda Wagner	
SOWING CHURCH \$25+	SPONSORING CHURCH \$50+	SUPPORTING CHURCH \$100+	SENDING CHURCH \$200+
	Oak Orchard Assembly of God		
	Brockport Free Methodist Church		

If it is on your heart to become a GSM Monthly Ministry Partner or if you would like to support GSM with a one-time gift of any amount, please read the info. on the next page or click here https://goscatterministries.org/#01500a70-9efd-4ed2-b29d-3b1a4cd538fe



In addition to honorariums received for speaking engagements Pastor Randy relies on the generous support of individual donors and churches. As both the Conference Evangelist and the sole employee of GSM he has established different methods of fundraising much like a modern day missionary. To that end, and in an effort to create a consistent and sustainable support structure moving forward, we are launching the Monthly Ministry Partner Program. This is a great new way to invest, and take more of a vested interest, in furthering the gospel message through the ongoing mission and ministries of Pastor Randy and GSM. There are five different commitment levels to choose from for individuals and churches and each comes with benefits and services as a way of saying "Thank You" as well as keeping you up to date and engaged with the life of the ministry.

PLEASE E-MAIL ME at randylebaron@gmail.com with: (1) The giving method you will be using (see below), (2) The monthly amount you are committing to over the next year, (3) The day of the month it will be sent on, (4) Your contact info. (Full name, Phone, e-mail, address, etc.)

TO GIVE BY CHECK AND RECEIVE A YEAR-END TAX RECEIPT

Make your check out to: *Genesis Conference FMC* and write: *Evangelist Fund* in the memo line.

Mail to: Genesis Conference 2260 Westside Drive

P.O. Box 206

N. Chili, NY 14514

*For monthly giving I would suggest setting up automated e-checks from your bank.

TO GIVE ONLINE AND NOT RECEIVE A YEAR END TAX RECEIPT

You can either give directly through **PayPal** using **randylebaron@aol.com** or go to **GoScatterMinistries.org** and click the **DONATE** button at the bottom of the page.