

Healing *for the* Nations

Tom Shanklin Ministries

Fall 2010

This Issue. . .

Keep Your Eyes on the Prize!

Guys, Guns, and God

Minnesota Churches Unite

Burying the Old Man

We're Going on the Radio

Your World is Your Pulpit

Reaching the World with You!

Upcoming Meetings

Sunday, Nov. 7, 10 a.m., Living Word Church, Redwood Falls, Minnesota. 507-644-5528.

Sunday, Nov. 14, 10 a.m., For His Glory Church, Log Cabin, City Park, Spring Grove, MN. 507-725-2984.

Wednesday, Nov. 17, 3:30 p.m., Hillcrest Nursing Home, Mankato, MN.

Sunday, Dec. 5, 10 a.m., For His Glory Church, Log Cabin, City Park, Spring Grove, MN. 507-725-2984.

Scheduling

If you would like to schedule Tom or Susan Shanklin in your church or community, you can reach them at tom@shanklinministries.org or by mail.

Radio Outreach

Sundays, 8:45 a.m., KRJM, Mahanomen, MN, 101.5 FM. (Starting Nov. 21)

Mission

The mission of Tom Shanklin Ministries is to unite with the Body of Christ to reach the world with the Good News of Jesus Christ.

Ministry Partners

Healing for the Nations Newsletter and all the outreaches of Tom Shanklin Ministries are made possible by the prayers and financial support of our ministry partners.

On the Web

Check us out on the internet at www.ShanklinMinistries.org. There you will find videos, audio preaching, articles, an up-to-date itinerary, the latest news, Tom's Blog, our history, and much more. . .

Tom Shanklin
MINISTRIES

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Reaching the World with You

Keep Your Eyes on the Prize

"Say not ye, There are yet four months, and then cometh harvest? behold, I say unto you, Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest." John 4:35, KJV.



In the natural world, we are told to keep our eyes on the road, because if we are looking at the ditch, we may end up there. Jesus was giving his disciples the secret of effective evangelism. "Look on the fields, for they are white unto harvest." He didn't say, "Look at the problems in your life, or in the church." He didn't say, "Look at the economy." He didn't say, "Look at the circumstances around you." No, these are things that keep us from the goal. They are diversions. "Keep your eyes on the ripe fields."

All around us are spiritually destitute people—people who need Jesus in their lives. Yet we hardly notice. Why? Because our eyes are on other things. They are on our bank account, our career, our ministries, our personal needs. Our eyes are on the problems of the world, political controversies, and trivialities. Jesus said, "Keep your eyes on the fields." Why? Because they are ripe. There is no lack of candidates for salvation. There is no lack of people ready to receive Jesus. The only lack is for laborers, workers for the harvest fields of this world. The laborers are few, because they are distracted.

Satan's tactic is to allure us away from God's supreme task by other priorities. It may be priorities of career, priorities of family, or even priorities of religion. The voice of the enemy comes through peer pressure or family pressure, through temptation, and through strongholds of the mind. Even "good things" such as family or religious duties can be a distraction from the perfect will of God in your life. Oswald J. Smith said, "Oh my friends, we are loaded with countless church activities, while the real work of the church, that of evangelizing and winning the lost is almost entirely neglected."

Jesus gave His life for the harvest. His focus, His purpose, His passion was to seek and save the lost. Likewise, we must keep our focus on the needs of the lost, and seize the opportunities that are before us. We must have spiritual vision that lines up with the will of the Father. Keep your eyes on the prize!

Guys, Guns, and God in the UP

One of the unique and beautiful places in the world is Michigan's Upper Peninsula, where miles of awesome mixed forests, bear, moose, deer, fox, coyotes, wolves, and great white hunters abound. The UP, as it is affectionately called, has its share of economic woes and social problems, but its people are as down-to-earth, friendly, and bluntly honest as you will find anywhere. About 25 men gathered at a deer hunting camp to fellowship, listen to the Word of God, and shoot guns. Three pastors from the UP were speakers, along with me. The word we received was rich, encouraging and challenging. I spoke from Joshua 1 on the subject, "Wake Up the Men of War," challenging the men that it is time to expand their ministry and sphere of influence and to go possess the land. Then we all stood to pray to our Father that we could fulfill our destiny, come into our promised land,



and reach the UP and the world with the Good News of the Savior. Despite the abundance of .357 magnums, shotguns, and .45 caliber handguns, we weren't talking about natural warfare, but rather spiritual warfare. As for me, I probably hadn't shot a gun in 25 years, but I took a try a skeet shooting (or as I call them, clay pigeons). On my third shot, I hit the skeet high in the air with a 12 gauge shotgun. Then I quit, while I was ahead.

Working with Churches in NW Minnesota

For several years, we have been blessed to work together with a group of cooperating churches in Northwest Minnesota. I have found that when God's people come together in unity, for the cause of the Gospel, the Lord puts his blessing upon the meetings in a special way. Our meetings in October were no exception. On Oct. 2-3, the Christian Outpost of Twin Valley, Good News Fellowship Church of Gary, and Healing Waters Church of Mahnomen sponsored Hope and Healing Services with our ministry. God's presence was strong in all the meetings, including a men's breakfast held at the Red Apple Cafe in Mahnomen. The healing services were held at Good News Fellowship in Gary. A woman from the Mahnomen area who had been under afflictions in her body and soul for 12 years, came forward for prayer and was touched by God. Others testified that they received a great refreshing.



Pastors Kurt Svensgaard of Mahnomen, Norman Gullingsrud of Gary, and Wayne Thom of Twin Valley.

Burying the Old Man in SE Minnesota

On Oct. 10, I was in Spring Grove, MN, where we helped to start a church six years ago. For His Glory Church has been experiencing some fresh fire recently, and a new exuberance for the Lord, for which we are thankful. I shared a message on foundational truths of the Christian faith, such as repentance, water baptism, and the baptism of the Holy Spirit, with a special emphasis on water baptism. Afterwards, we had a baptism at Como Falls in Hokah, MN. A man, who has been attending the church for a number of years, was baptized, burying the old life in the rushing waters, and rising up in newness of life.



Reaching the World with You

We are thankful for the partners in ministry that God has given us. Sometimes it's through a prayer prompted by the Holy Spirit, or a word of encouragement you send by mail or e-mail, or through your faithful financial support, but in every way, you are a great blessing to us and to the work we are doing. I thank God for all we have been able to accomplish together. Now it's time to expand. This month we are starting a new radio outreach.

Susan and I are praying that we will be able to reach more souls with the Gospel than ever before, through our preaching and media ministry. Please agree with us that many people will come into the Kingdom of God. Give us souls, Lord! May God richly bless you, in Jesus name.



We're going on the Radio

Beginning on Nov. 21, Tom Shanklin Ministries will be on the radio in Northwest Minnesota. The focus of the broadcast will be the message of salvation through the work of Jesus Christ on the cross.

The program, called "Your Life Matters," will air on Sundays at 8:45 a.m. on KRJM, Mahnomen, 101.5 FM. The station's signal covers a radius of 50 to 70 miles in that part of the world, reaching such communities as Detroit Lakes, Thief River Falls, Bemidji, as well as the White Earth Indian Reservation. The program will follow the local Roman Catholic broadcast and proceed a popular program called "Talking with Heros," which consists of interviews with men and women on in the U.S. military all around the world.

Please pray for receptive hearts, and if you live in the Mahnomen area, be sure and tune in beginning Nov. 21.



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Home Fires. . .

Your World is Your Pulpit

Can't help be happy!

It's 36 degrees, but they say it feels like 23 degrees, and the wind is howling from the west and I can FEEL the change in the air. Ha ha.

Yes, who knows what tomorrow will bring. For me, I know I am safe in my Father's arms and the best is yet to come. . . for ME, but what about those beyond my borders of 3.3 acres?



Susan teaching stained glass as artist-in-residence at the Eagle Lake Elementary School.

I have CNN.com and NYTimes along with the Star Tribune and the local paper on my computer tool bar. I read throughout the day the misery, toil, and corrupt failings of my neighbors, states, and nations. You read it too somewhere, in the papers or on the evening news.

Our oldest daughter, Heidi, lives about an hour-and-a-half away in Minneapolis. It's my big adventure to drive into the city and see Heidi and little granddaughter, Eve. Many times we go to local thrift stores and a wonderful food coop. On one particular occasion a man walked up to the car asking for money. Me, small town country bumpkin that I am, kind of freaked out. Why, my granddaughter was in the back seat and Heidi was rolling down her window and asking what he WANTED! The man was a little disheveled and in need of seeing a dentist. He was asking for directions and bus fare. Unbeknownst to me, he was really begging for

money to buy alcohol, according to Heidi. She reached into the dashboard console and pulled a fist full of change and gave it to him. Heidi then rolled up her window and we left the man counting the change in the palm of his hand.

What will tomorrow bring the people we see in the grocery store, the retail store, on the news, and on the street? I, myself, hate to see people hurting, in lack, abused, and sad. I hate corruption and manipulation of mankind. I hate to see children in need of a hug and adults angry at the world. I could shake my head. I could frown. I could empty my bank account. I could look away. Or, I could do better.

I shall make my world my pulpit! I will take my light into the world of Mankato Minnesota. I will smile at people in the store and pick items off the floor and put them on the shelf again. I will give my tithe, offering, and alms. I will share the love of Christ where ever I go!

There are no man-made laws forbidding kindness, a joyful spirit or generosity. Whatever a man or women sows that shall they reap. I say, take your candle into the nursing home, school and mall.

Your world is your pulpit! Preach with joy. Preach deliverance. Preach with peace. Preach with your life. Preach the truth in love. You never know when the time is ripe for the living Gospel of Jesus Christ to spill out, onto and into one of these citizens of the world.

Fear not, for the Father knows those who are His. Fear not to walk into the world for the Father is right beside you. Fear not to smile from your pulpit. Fear not to extend your hand and say, "This is the Way."

Go!

Susan

Fall 2010



Our blessed grandchildren: Max and Kilian Shanklin, and Eve Hanzely. Front Cover: God's majesty on Lake Superior, Minnesota's North Shore.