



## Maine Maritime Ministry

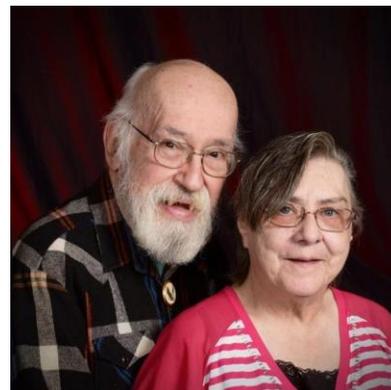
Sharing the love and gospel of Jesus along the coast of Maine and beyond

***“Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints. Psalm 116:15***

Dear Family & Friends,

March 12, 2018

This month we have had many precious deposits in heaven. The first to see the Lord was my dear friend **Hank Pinkham**. The first time I went to our new church in Maine, Hank was there sitting behind me. After service, we talked and found out that we had much in common. We both loved the Lord and served Him as pastors. Hank told me that he was suffering with Alzheimer’s and came to church whenever he could. Sometimes when he missed church, Vickie and I would visit him and his wife Lynn. When we heard he was soon going to be in the Lord’s presence, we went to visit him after church. Lynn said that he had not been too responsive. When I told him it was his old friend Chris, he perked right up and with a big smile on his face he said, “It is done!” He knew Jesus paid it all and he was ready to meet God. We read Scripture and sang “Amazing Grace,” having a wonderful last time on earth together.



Next was one of the dearest saints I ever had the pleasure to pastor, and a faithful supporter of ours, **Helen Wise**. She was an amazing lady and even started life that way. She was born a twin on 2/22/22. She was one of those saints that were “too good” for this earth. We went to visit her on one of our trips to New York and she asked, “Pastor, why doesn’t Jesus take me home, I am ready to be with Him.” Her prayer was answered on February 16, and she is in His presence now.

The next day **Coach Bena** went to be with our Lord. You may not know him but he was a wrestling legend. He was rated the number one High School coach in the country by having more wins in his career than any other coach.

Two of his athletes went on to win Olympic gold. He was the



coach for our son, Daniel, and later hired Dan as his assistant coach. At one of the regional finals, I had opportunity to share Christ with him at length on the floor of the big arena at Glens Falls. To my surprise, a couple of years later, he showed up at Camp Pinnacle, leading an Alpha group for those seeking Christ. Sometime between our talk and Camp, God won Coach Joe Bena to Himself. PTL! Even greater, coach Bena was leading other to Jesus as well!

You certainly heard by now that the great evangelist **Billy Graham** went to be with the Lord. Our generation was blessed by God to have him. We went to see his son Franklin Graham when he came to Augusta, Maine last year and I am glad to say that Billy’s legacy seems to be in good hands.

**Over please, more on other side >>>**

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This month my mother's best friend, and a faithful supporter, **Betty Eichhorn** went home to be with the Lord. Betty was a strong believer in Christ and helped strengthen the faith of all who met her. My Mom turned 90 on February 10 and Betty celebrated her birthday in the greatest fashion-- in Jesus' presence.

On the day of my second hip surgery, February 26, our dear friend and supporter **Roger Hannay** went to be with the Lord. Roger was the most generous and Godly man I knew. He taught me a lesson that his Dad taught him, "You should do your giving while you're living," He was a man of his word and God's as well. Pray for his dear wife Sherley, for Roger is



truly missed, but happier than ever!

We are all in God's very good hands.

This year Maine Maritime Ministry plans to build a boathouse; a place to protect, work and store our boats in the rough Maine winter. I suffered from sticker shock when I received an estimate for lumber. God gave us plenty of trees and many big pine trees blew over in storms, up to 42 inches in diameter! A lot of lumber for the taking! Better than rotting! A mill could pay for itself the first year and be used for many other ministry projects planned for the future. We are looking to our Lord to provide one and if the Lord leads you to give to this project it would greatly be appreciated.



Finally, Praise God for two successful hip replacement surgeries! I came home after being in the hospital only three days this time. I had a high fever again, but the surgeon concluded that it was probably caused by my brain injury. Praise the Lord, it cleared up faster the second time around!

Once again our family surprised us.

We were both talking in my study, when we heard the floor creaking. We looked over, and did Vickie ever scream! Here, to our shock, stood Abbie Joey, McKenzie, Emma and Jack! They traveled from New York, right after receiving over 30 inches of snow. (We had been spared that one—but got over a foot of snow a few days later.) We had a truly wonderful time with our beloved family!



Again, thank you all for your prayer and support! We love and appreciate each one of you!

*With all our love and gratitude! Your servant and His,  
Chris and Vickie Gerardi*

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