

Alleluia

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Bilingual Healing and Miracle Service Touches Many

By Trish Sanford

Friday, January 23rd, was the fourth Alleluia Healing and Miracle Service, taking place at St. Joseph Catholic Church right down the street from Faith Village. The team of about 40-50 members, who have regularly met for prayer and discussion at least twice a month for two years now, will have done their fifth healing service, taking place in Warner Robins, by the time this issue goes to print. Just as that team has faithfully met and answered the call to go as the Spirit leads them, God has been faithful to "show up" and bring healing and blessings

to many.

The very first service was unique because it was held at the soup kitchen in downtown Augusta and truly included the poor and alone. The January 23rd evening was unique in that it was bilingual (English/Spanish). The sanctuary was more than half full with the majority being non-Alleluia attendees. The successful turnout was greatly due to the very supportive clergy of St. Joseph, and not just Full Covenant member Father Mark Van Alstine. Long time St. Joseph deacon, Ray Morales, acted as

translator for the three-hour event and had helped coordinate the evening. Relative newcomer, both to St. Joseph and to America, Father Victor, also enthusiastically participated. In his talk, he referred to having had a personal, very intense, encounter with evil when he was younger and that he had experienced a profound spiritual healing in



A woman testifying to a healing of her hand

that time. His short testimony included the telling of when he experienced being slain in the Spirit and what that meant to him. These were facts about him that virtually no one at St. Joseph Church or in Alleluia Community had yet heard about, and while Father Victor stated that there was not time for him to share details, many seemed eager to hear his full testimony at some point in the future.

Each Healing and Miracle Service follows a very specific format designed chiefly to lead those who are not charismatic to a state of being ready and open for a miracle. After praise and worship and introductions, there was a time of repentance and spiritual warfare done in a simplified, non-frightening way by Chuck Hornsby. Mark Wilby gave a short Scripture-centered sermon. Several previously healed people came up to give testimony. They were Paul Bal-



Praying over each other for healing

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The following two articles are from our candidates for signing Covenant with Alleluia Community during the upcoming Birthday Celebration

Community is Extended Family

By Tony and Mary Cummings

While Mary has lived in Augusta and in Alleluia Community her entire life as the daughter of Full Covenant members Bill and Karin Phillips, Tony took a different path to get here. Tony moved to Augusta from Kentucky, went to college in Atlanta, moved back to Augusta and met Mary. He then moved back to Atlanta to go back to college, returning to Augusta and to the Community.

We were married in June of 2003 shortly after Tony moved back to Augusta. Throughout the following year, we lived within Faith Village but were not a part of the Community. Then one day, a good friend of ours, Larry Napier, asked us why we were not a part of the Community. His question was simple, "Why not?" That was a great question. We were living in the Community, experiencing and actively incorporating ourselves into community activities, and enjoying the fruits of community life – yet we were not members of the Community.

We began our journey with a man who was instrumental in Mary's upbringing and played a significant role in Tony's life as well, Bob Visintainer. Through his guidance we went underway and started our lives in Alleluia. Our journey to going underway was short and sweet, but our journey to signing the Covenant was one that took many unexpected turns and twists. Along the way, we had three beautiful children: Kailyn (10), Ethan (4), and Levi (3). Kailyn is currently in the 5th grade and is an honorary manager of the varsity girls basketball team.

Tony is a teacher and coach at Greenbrier High School and has been there since 2005. He has also helped Dennis McBride Jr. with the Alleluia



Tony and Mary Cummings with Kailyn, Ethan and Levi

varsity boys basketball team since 2005.

Mary worked at SunTrust for several years but took the second child in two years as a sign that she should stay at home with them. She has helped out with the Alleluia varsity girls team for numerous years beginning in 2006, before becoming the varsity coach in 2013.

Family is very paramount to both of us. With a family of over 50 members and continuously growing (enter baby Charlotte O'Neill), how could family not be important? We enjoy our crazy family gatherings such as Easter and Oktoberfest. It is through

these family gatherings that we truly learned about community life. These were family gatherings, but to Bob Visintainer, everyone was family, so at any given function there were numerous people who had been invited outside of the family.

We love our family dearly, and are truly looking forward to extending our family out to each and every one of our new covenant brothers and sisters.

Covenant Signing Ceremony
Saturday, February 7
Alleluia School Gym
10:00 a.m.

God Moved Me to Alleluia

by Allison Rae

Hi! I am Allison Rae. I was born in Miami, Florida, where my dad was stationed in the Navy. When I was three years old my family moved to Lexington, South Carolina, where I was pretty much raised. After being there for 27 years and in my comfort zone, God had different plans for me. I moved to Charlotte, North Carolina, in 2005 to join my sister and brother-in-law, Carolyn and Kevin King, and help support a church that they helped start. My journey there ended seven years later when I moved to Augusta, Georgia, to join the Alleluia Community.

I have two wonderful children, Drew 16 and Lyla 5, which I have raised as a single mom. The journey has not been easy, but with God by my side every step of the way, there have been many blessings. I thank Him for that!

I am currently working for Burns Memorial United Methodist Church where I am also a member and work with the children as the Children's Ministry Director. I enjoy my job and



Drew, Lyla and Allison Rae

feel God has blessed me with a wonderful opportunity to be able to minister to the children, provide for my family and be a mom! Praise Jesus for this!

I learned about the Alleluia Community when my sister, Carolyn, and her family moved here. When I came to visit each year, I would pray about

coming here. Then in 2012 God gave me peace about coming and moved me here! Alleluia has been a wonderful, powerful place for me and my family to be, and I'm so happy to be able to sign Covenant with all of you! Thank you for giving me this honor!

Faithfulness in Family Prayer

By Dick & Sharon Newton

These days daily family prayer is just the two of us. We pray together during breakfast and have extended prayers before meals. We pray for each other and over each other, but most of the time is spent in petition and thanksgiving for our children, their spouses and our grandchildren. We have four children, who are all married. We have nine grandchildren.

When we were raising the children, during the school year, we had family prayers Monday thru Friday the

first thing in the morning. Sharon covered the prayers in the summer, when the children slept in later. In the evening we had a time for an examination of conscience and an opportunity for reconciliation. Occasionally, calls were made, even to teachers, asking forgiveness. Once the children were in bed, We would pray over them individually and would include prayers for healing, protection and deliverance.

We had father's teachings on Sun-

day afternoon. Following the teaching, the children would put on a play where they acted out the theme of the teaching. Mary Elizabeth, our oldest, would be the director and the other three the actors. Even today they talk about the fun of it.

We pray through the house and outside around the house and over the cars using holy water and doing spiritual warfare. We do it about every three months now. In the past, when the children were growing up, we did it more frequently.

Like all families, we have our struggles, but our life together is rich and joyful. Christ is the center of our life, and family is at the center of our life in Christ.

Healing and Miracles Experienced

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ducci (healed of cancer), Sarah Wilby (healed of arm/shoulder/neck pain), and Bill Napier (healed of knee pain).

The bulk of the evening was then spent with the congregation praying for each other for very specific healings. The intercessor, prayer warrior, members of the team gave Words of Knowledge they had received to Chuck about a couple of particular people at the gathering that God wanted to heal. Then Chuck called out specific areas of the body that may be afflicted, such as neck, spine and arms. Those who had problems in those areas who would like prayers stood so that all those around them could physically lay hands on them and pray for an extensive period.

The team then asked (and sometimes gently led) those who had experienced a significant healing to fill out a short form with their testimony. A few of those were asked to come up to the microphone to share and to show what they could not do before, but are able to do after prayer, like running up and down the stairs at the altar. Many people in the crowd were gently crying, either because of a physical healing or just from the powerful experience of having hands laid on them for prayer.

Dan Almeter gave a concluding summary of how often healings are realized or confirmed by doctors after a service has ended and exhorted those people to let Alleluia know. He also spoke, for the benefit of those who had come for healing and not received it, about the great mystery of God and how He works differently in each life.

The official event ended with exposition of the Eucharist for those of the Catholic tradition. However,

Father Victor, at the urging of someone else, stayed to pray over whoever wanted him to lay hands on them specifically for being slain in the Spirit. The center aisle quickly filled with more than 60 people willing to stay late for the extra blessing. It was obvious that many of those who did in fact feel the Holy Spirit descend on them had not had the experience before. So many stayed for prayer that a couple of the other clergy and team members stepped in to assist in the praying so that the evening could conclude before 11p.m.

Please pray for this ministry and the team members. They are in many ways behind the scenes and not always on our minds, but they are being used by the Holy Spirit to change the lives of many who have never known the loving touch of someone praying specifically for them, or the feeling of the Holy Spirit coming upon them in a special way. The physical healings are awesome, and they build the faith of the believers, but the unseen healing of hearts and spirits is perhaps the biggest miracle this small band of faithful are taking out into the world.



A woman testifying to healing of her shoulder



Bill Napier testifying about his knees



Praying over each other for healing