



#8329 National
Capital Area
United Way



#21969
Combined Fed-
eral Campaign

Glad Tithings

Our mission is to equip Christians worldwide to apply biblical principles of life and time management and personal organization, that they might become leaders in effecting cultural change.



Ken Smith, Director

CSM Calendar

Dec. 12, 2009
LMS Leader's
Training Workshop
CSM Office, Fairfax, VA
8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

January 2010
Formation of LMS
classes
Washington metro,
Virginia Tidewater,
Atlanta, GA and
Williamsburg, MI

April 22, 2010
CSM Annual
Fellowship and
Fundraising Dinner



Ken Smith's Principles in Practice

A Testimony of Faithfulness

My mother-in-law Margaret Bell came to live with us in March 2009, when she was almost 97 years old. She had spent nearly seven years in an assisted living facility, but the time had come when she needed more care.

My wife Pat could not bear the thought of her mom living in a nursing home, and so our living room became Peg's master bedroom. We closed the front door of our home, directing all visitors to the side door as our new main entrance.

Pat and her sister decorated the living room as a bedroom, complete with photographs and memorabilia on the walls and a king size bed that dominated the landscape. A small bedroom on that level served as her TV sitting room.

"And now," as the late Paul Harvey would have said, "for the rest of the story."

Peg lived with us for 140 days, 32 days short of her 97th birthday. Up until two days before she graduated to glory, not a day went by that Peg didn't exclaim for all to hear how happy she was, living with her daughter and being cared for by her granddaughter.

To make all this possible, Pat (who still works full time) committed to caring for her mom in the early morning, in the evenings and during the night. Pat's daughter Kelly (an RN) quit her day job and served as Peg's caregiver during the day. In the beginning, it was a pleasure. Peg was ambulatory, interest-

ed in everything going on around her, eager to talk and play checkers.

Gradually that changed. She became more demanding. She required more assistance with daily necessities. She eventually fell and bruised herself, perhaps even cracking a rib or two. From that point on, she was in pain day and night. She was still positive and appreciative when she was not in pain, but the pain took its toll on everyone.

Pat was getting no sleep. She hired two trained caregivers to alternate nights. Mornings and evenings became more trying for Pat. Days became more trying for Kelly.

On Monday afternoon, July 27, a clergy friend of ours visited Peg and her assembled children, grandchildren and great grandchildren and encouraged her to greet her Savior. On Tuesday afternoon she became uncommunicative, and Pat and her sister spent both Tuesday and Wednesday evenings and nights with her. On Thursday, July 30, at 12:05 a.m., she entered into God's presence.

At the funeral, we became aware of how many lives Peg had touched, and how many people she had served. She had been a one (wo)man show at her senior center, even though it had a paid staff, serving as dance instructor, exercise instructor, head of public relations, chief welcomer to all newcomers and botanist. She had also acquired some 72 medals in the Golden Olympics, in shot put, discus, and bowling. She had taken her

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A Testimony of Faithfulness (cont. from page 1)

dance group, the “Happy Hoofers,” on the road. She had become a legend in her own time.

Peg’s life and her final days are a testimony - to Pat, to Kelly, to Peg, and to the Lord’s faithfulness to turn all things to good for those who love Him and are called according to His purpose (Romans 8:28).

If you have aging parents or grandparents, I hope this testimony gives you some insight on becoming more involved in their lives as they face their last days on this side of eternity. Not everyone will be able to do what Pat and Kelly did. Not everyone will have the time or finances to do all they would like. But everyone can do what the Lord would have them do...which might be more than they ever expected to be able to do.

Many of you may have already experienced or be facing far greater difficulties than did Peg, Pat and Kelly: serious illness, greater medical needs, not having daughters and granddaughters in the mix, without the necessary financial resources or a supportive spouse, and many more challenges.

I encourage you not to dwell on the negatives, but to give thought to the resources that you do have. Begin now to anticipate that one of your parents may exceed his or her life expectancy or financial resources. What should you be doing now to prepare for that possibility?

Communicate with your aging parent(s). Talk with them about their fears and concerns. Determine what they would like to see happen, whether or not you think you can provide it. One of the most important things you can do is demonstrate your concern, by asking questions and by listening.

Communicate with other family members. Find out who is willing and able to do what.

Begin to plan for the financial implications. Review your parents’ financial resources if they are willing to share that information. Determine what additional resources might be available within the family. Consider what the Lord would have you do.

Become more informed about resources available within the community where your parent lives or where you live. For example, Hospice has an incredible network in place to assist families well before the terminal stage of life. They offer nursing and medical oversight, equipment including a hospital bed, oxygen, prescriptions, medication, practical advice, caregiver volunteers and perhaps most important,

a caring and emotionally supportive attitude through all of their personnel.

And finally, pray. Ask for insight into what you need to focus on and how to do what will be required of you. Open yourself up to be willing to do what the Lord may want you to do. When it comes to your parents’ final days, purpose to receive the accolade “Well done, good and faithful servant.”

IN MEMORIAM

Margaret Kramer Bell

August 31, 1912 – July 30, 2009

Mother of Pat Smith

Ministry News

Thanks to all those who played in or assisted with CSM’s 9th Golf Marathon in September. Everyone had a great time while completing the marathon and meeting our fundraising goals.

Start the year off right by getting your life in line with God’s priorities through a Life Management Study class. We’re training new leaders for the course on December 12, 2009, and new classes will be forming in January. We expect to hold LMS in as many as a dozen locations.

Also, please circle April 22 on your calendar. That’s the date for the 2010 CSM Fellowship and Fundraising Dinner. We hope to announce our speaker shortly.

As planned, we are now piloting our new LMS curriculum for high school students at three Virginia schools: Christ Chapel Academy in Woodbridge, Northern Virginia Christian Academy in Fairfax and Word of Life Christian Academy in Springfield.

Is your name on our email list? More than 2,000 friends and supporters are now receiving weekly email messages from CSM called “God’s Plan for Your Life,” and we’ve gotten some great feedback on how useful these brief articles are to our readers. If you’re not receiving them, call CSM at 703-591-5000 and give us your email so we can put you on the list.

If you’d like personal help with debt reduction or trimming a packed schedule down to a reasonable size, CSM is continuing to offer one-on-one assistance. We can also help

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CSM is a ministry dedicated to assisting Christian individuals, families, ministries, and Christian-owned businesses achieve their potential in the area of stewardship. CSM’s National Board of Reference includes: Fred Barnes, executive editor, “The Weekly Standard”; Ron Blue, founder, Ron Blue & Co.; Dr. Bill Bright (1921-2003); Larry Burkett (1939-2003); Reid Carpenter, Pittsburgh Leadership Foundation; Howard Dayton, Co-founder, Crown Financial Ministries; Dr. Ted Engstrom (1916-2006); Roger Erickson, president, Christian Business Men’s Committee International (retired); Mike Farris, Chancellor, Patrick Henry College; Dr. Harry Greene, president, Good News Jail & Prison Ministry; Rt. Rev. John Guernsey; Rev. Richard C. Halverson (1916-1995); the Rt. Rev. Alden M. Hathaway, Bishop of Pittsburgh (retired); the Rt. Rev. John W. Howe, Bishop of Central Florida; Dr. Charles Hummell, InterVarsity Christian Fellowship (retired); Bishop Harry Jackson, Hope Christian Church; Rev. John Jenkins, First Baptist Church of Glen Arden, Md.; Dr. Beverly LaHaye, founder/chairman, Concerned Women for America; Hon. Ed Meese III, former U.S. Attorney General; the Rt. Rev. Martyn Minns, Bishop of CANA, Janet Parshall, syndicated talk show host; and the Rt. Rev. Dr. John H. Rodgers, Jr., Dean, President, Trinity School for Ministry (retired). The Pastor’s Board of Reference includes Pastor James Ahlemann, Pastor Larry Andes, Rev. George Beaven, Pastor Steve Brimmer, Rev. Warren Casiday; Rev. Wendel Cover; Pastor Amos Dodge, Rev. Paul Frey, Rev. David Glade, Pastor Tom Gulbranson, Rev. David Harper, Rev. Tom Herrick, Pastor John Hutchinson, Rev. Neil Lebbhar, Rev. Clancy Nixon, Pastor Vic Ransom, Pastor Bill Roberts, Pastor Dennis Rupert, Pastor Rob Seagears, Rev. John Speight, Rev. Tom Tarrants and Rev. John Yates. Serving on CSM’s Board of Directors responsible for day-to-day ministry operation are Jim Cope, Rick Groux, Frank Lewark, Jack Maier, John Reyle and Ken Smith.

with forming a board of accountability. Our one-on-one coaching is provided on an affordable sliding fee scale—in person, by telephone and by email. This could be a great way to wrap up 2009 and launch a fresh beginning in 2010.

Don't forget to visit our website for more information on CSM and upcoming events such as the spring banquet at www.csmin.org. We also offer materials for purchase as well as past issues of *Glad Tithings*.

Fall LMS Classes Conclude; Winter Classes Forming

Need to get organized? Want to make a fresh start in the new year? Then check with Christian Stewardship Ministries today at 703-591-5000 to find a Life Management Study class near you.

If you want to go deeper with God and get your life in line with biblical principles, the 12-week LMS class may be just what you're looking for. Classes will be forming in early January at many locations in metro Washington as well as other areas. If there's no class nearby, consider taking it online with our Internet LMS program. Your class will meet at the time you choose, 24/7, and you'll work with a trained facilitator to complete the study. Sign up at ilms@csmin.org.

During the fall, LMS classes are meeting in Virginia at Christ Chapel (Mountaintop) Church in Manassas, South County Church in Lorton, at Truro Church in Fairfax, and at Bethel Temple in Hampton. There's also a class in Williamsburg, Michigan.

Help CSM When You Give at the Office Mark 8329 for United Way, 21969 for Combined Federal Campaign

As we enter the charitable campaign season, remember to consider CSM for all or part of your donation if you give to the National Capital Area United Way or the Combined Federal Campaign. Just jot down **8329** for United Way or **21969** for Combined Federal Campaign in the designation block. That way you can support CSM while participating in charitable giving through your company or agency. The charities offer a variety of ways to give—by check or regular payroll deduction. However you choose to donate, your support is most welcome and deeply appreciated.

Needs & Blessings

If you have time available during the work week, CSM would welcome your assistance as a volunteer in our Fairfax, Virginia, office. We need help maintaining our computers and handling a variety of administrative tasks. Email ken@csmin.org if you can help.

Many thanks to CSM supporters who have assisted the ministry through their businesses, including:

John A.C. Keith, Esq.

Ourisman Toyota

Shepherd's Guide

Daniel H. Smith, Esq.

Joyful Dividends

From LMS Graduates

This course helped me look honestly at my life and my priorities. I discovered that God received the crumbs of my life, and my family was also receiving very little quality time. I spent too much time trying to keep the house neat and taking on others' responsibilities. I was forced to look carefully at my time commitments and was able to begin the process of putting my priorities in order. I have learned that my obedience to God is my number one priority. If I am obedient to Him first, I will benefit in all the other aspects of my life.

* * *

I have been able to confirm what my calling is. I am moving out in that with confidence and passion. And as I do, the Lord shows me a new aspect of it.

* * *

...Now I spend at least 30-60 minutes a day with the Lord. He is my first love again....I bought a digital clock and time my work every hour, come home early, spend time with my kids and my wife and have dinner together every day. I also can do other household stuff (fixing cars, lawn mowing). My wife is now very impressed and happy. May God continue to bless your ministry.

In Response to Email on God's Plan for Your Life

This has been an outstanding series on punctuality. You've covered practical, spiritual, common respect and other angles. You've given practical advice. It's been great. Please keep the good ideas coming.

Dan and Lynda Thompson: Putting Biblical Principles to Practice

Dan Thompson, senior associate pastor at Word of Life International Church in Springfield, Virginia, took the Life Management Study course with Ken Smith about five years ago and immediately wanted to bring it to his church. "We have a great place for teaching, and LMS is one of the best studies that explains life management principles in a practical sense."

His wife Lynda says the LMS course taught her "how to put things in order, to prioritize daily work habits." Most important is "spending time with God on a more intimate level. That's the key to furthering His kingdom."

The LMS also showed Dan how to say no and to feel okay about not taking on every single thing anyone asks him to do. "Saying yes to God is the most important thing. The LMS reminded me that God is first, my family second, and work and ministry come lower on the list."

Today, Dan is teaching his fourth LMS class at Word of Life, a multi-cultural congregation that boasts seven international choirs and draws 2,000 worshipers from 100 different nations to its Sunday morning services every week. He also serves on CSM's Advisory Council and the annual fellowship dinner committee, while Lynda is a volunteer for the banquet.

Of his commitment to CSM, Dan says, "Ken Smith is a man I admire for his transparency and his heart to help people. I think God's going to bless this ministry for years to come."

Involved in Christian ministry for 47 years, Dan and Lynda live in Gainesville, Virginia. They have five children, 16 grandchildren and one great grandchild.

Golfers Reach Holes and Goals at 9th Marathon

At the 9th Annual CSM Golf Marathon on September 18, golfers met the challenge of playing 50 holes of golf in one day at the Fairfax National Golf Club. Our valiant group began with breakfast at 6:30 a.m. followed by a shotgun start and the race around the course.

Those who took the challenge included: Chet Arnold, Jr.; Bob Belch; Danielle Connolly; Jim Fields; Otto Guenther; Jocelyn Hamilton; Steve Helms; Curt Marsh; Dean Merrill; Rod Nielsen; Charlie Pate; John Reyle; Scot Small; Pat Smith, Ernie Wakeham; and Lenora Woods.



Our prize winners for largest donations raised for the ministry are, in order of dollar value: Otto Guenther, Ernie Wakeham, Bob Belch and Jim Fields. Pat Smith raised even more than any of these golfers, but her relationship to the ministry precludes her winning the prize for largest fundraiser.

Sponsors and underwriters

Our 2009 CSM Golf Marathon sponsors and underwriters include: *Double Eagle*—Til and Anne Hazel; *Eagle*—Chet and Michelle Arnold, Jim and Mary McIlvaine, Dan and Amy Smith, Ken and Pat Smith, United Bank of Virginia; *Birdie*—JWO Enterprises, Gary Milton, Rod Nielsen, Robert and Mary Parrott, Piton Science & Technology, SNVC, Ernie and Diane Wakeham; *Par*—ABS Unlimited Auto Repair, Joseph Arnold, Conflict Resolution and Conciliation Services, Steve and Gay Craven, Dick and Fran Delap, Tom DeWitt, Roy and Sue Edwards, Don Emery, Jim and Janice Fields, Otto and Jan Guenther, Tom and Veletta Hall, Jocelyn Hamilton, Steve Helms, Bill and Barbara Hemma, Lee Kearney, James Klote, Dick Miller, OMNIPLEX World Services, Bruce W. Reyle and Co., John and Diane Sellers, Val and Catherine Sribar, Strategic Management, Dan and Mary Sullivan and Steve and JoAnna Templeton.

Committee members

Many thanks also to our Golf Marathon committee: Chet Arnold, Dennis Egan, Jim Fields, Otto Guenther, Jack Maier, Jeff Oster and Ken Smith.

Volunteers

Volunteers who helped everything flow smoothly included: Shirin Chase, Dennis Egan, Don Emery, Betty Graves, John Grimsley, Barbara Hemma, Bill Hemma, Vern Mann, Jeff Oster, Leticia Palacios, Bill Pile, John Sellers and Pat Smith.

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