

Dear friends,

Jackie and I hope that you have come through your summer with the presence of the Lord more real to you than ever before. We hope that this fall finds you more hungry for God, more determined to stay "under the shadow of His wings", and more zealous to fulfill His purpose for your life!

Family news...

Suddenly summer is over and two sons are married. We were privileged to have Jackie's mom, Alice Mickelson with us most of the summer. She was such a great blessing, but we hope she didn't over-do it, the way she kept things in order while we were scurrying through wedding mania. But now she is gone to Michigan, and we miss her. Jenni is in school, and the house is certainly quieter during the day. It has allowed me to return some of my work activity to my home office, which for a couple of years had been inhabited by Jay, and then this summer by crinolines (men, do you know what they are?), wedding dresses and veils, flowers, sewing projects, and other wedding paraphernalia.

Jeff and Jermaine's wedding went very well, with many people helping in every area. I wondered for a while if Jackie was going to get there in time, sewing 'till the last moment. For many days she was sewing "seed pearls" all along the edges of Jermaine's many layered wedding veil -- to me it looked like torture, but she loved it!

They were able to have a honeymoon in San Francisco, and are now settled in their downtown Minneapolis apartment, well, almost. With both working full time, and Jeff working two jobs, they don't have everything in order yet, but their new life has begun!

And it is a new chapter for Jackie and me, wondering if there is an "empty nest" syndrome. I asked a more "mature" pastor's wife what to expect, and she replied, "It's a myth. They begin to multiply." Well, in God's time... If Grandma Mickelson has her way, who is eagerly waiting for her first great grandchild, that time should be real soon! But I suspect school, careers, and other youthful challenges are of more concern to our new couples right now!

the Minnesota Prayer Watch...

In the last letter, I asked you to pray about the birthing of a men's prayer organization. I'd like to report that THE WATCHMEN, with chapters in local churches, will be piloted this fall by a group of churches in the region. Please continue to pray for this ministry of mobilizing men in prayer.

I would like you to pray also for the burden for schools of prayer in local churches. I would like to make these schools available to pastors, even though my time will be somewhat limited. Pray that God will open doors to the right churches for these schools of prayer.

Pray for Ruth, our administrative secretary, and her husband, Pete, our treasurer. Their responsibilities are increasing. Pray for Rick Souther, our assistant director, who will be leading the next two First Friday Prayer rallies in my absence. (And his wife Judy and their children) Pray also for this month's advertisement of the next Prayer Rally on October

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4; we are distributing flyers to many people who have not know about the First Friday Rallies. Pray for wisdom in these rallies, as we seek to cooperate with Intercessors for America in praying strategically for our nation which is in such desperate spiritual condition.

I will be the main speaker at a state wide Full Gospel Businessmen's Mini Convention on October 4-6. My subject, of course, will be on prayer. Pray that God will give His message for the hour to those who come from around our state. Jackie will also speak to women at this event.

and on to Asia...

We are planning to leave for Indonesia and India on October 22, and return on November 25. This will be a trip of five weeks. First we will go to Sumatra for a prayer outreach in Aceh, with our pastor Gordy, and two praying ladies. One of them is the mother of the missionaries we will join in Aceh.

From there, Jackie and I hope to have a couple days R&R in Singapore. We have been hoping for a "getaway" for about two years now, and maybe a stopover in Singapore will be just that. From there we will head to India, teaching at YWAM bases on intercessory prayer, plus leading a pastor's seminar.

Please pray for the finalization of the itinerary. Pray also for our travel funds for this trip. We have confidence and peace that we are to go...what we still lack are all the dollars needed for air tickets and other expenses! Are we foolish to say we are going? I don't believe so, but your prayers are important to the release of the funds. (About \$5000 is needed.) Each mission trip in our past has been provided by the Lord in a different way; so we are simply looking to Him to do it in His way.

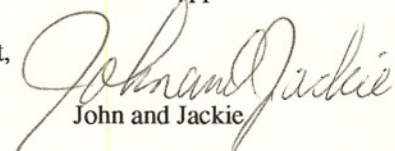
a word about our regular support...

Jackie and I are relying on your continuing prayer as the foundation of our support. Do not underestimate the power of your intercession for us, even as you read this letter!

And we rely on your continuing financial support as we move ahead in our God-given assignments. Thank you for your prayers and gifts.

"And my God shall supply all your needs according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus." Philippians 4:19

Yours in Christ,



John and Jackie

Prayer Points:

1. The WATCHMEN : for my communication with pastors, and for the pastors' communication with their men.
2. Schools of prayer in the churches, for the right open doors.
3. Ruth and Pete Oberg, and Rick and Judy Souther, our helpers in the MPW.
4. Prayer wisdom at First Friday Rallies; and our speaking at Full Gospel convention October 4-6.
5. Itinerary and funds for Asia trip, needed very soon.
6. The regular financial support for the Matthews.