

## Gratitude for His Grace Again. . .

November 2009

How can we say thanks for the things you have done for us? . . . . To the Lord . . . and to so many dear friends who have been glad to see us when we have come, who have supported us financially and with your prayers, who have hosted us in your homes as we have traveled around the country; and who have encouraged us with your words of affirmation. Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!

It has been over a year since we have sent out a newsletter to many of you. We continue to travel the country, singing as we go. We enjoy what we do and are continually blessed and encouraged by the words of the songs and the reassurance of God's faithfulness. He is a refuge for the soul, an anchor in the storms of life.

We meet so many interesting people! The other week we were chatting with a woman in a long-term care facility. She said, "People ask me how I can smile when I've been through so much — cancer, MS for 37 years, wheelchair bound. I tell them, the Lord is with me and He gives joy. He didn't promise a rose garden, but he promised to go with us in every situation and He does!"

Last week we sang to a lady who is 108 years old. She will be 109 next month. She is almost blind and very hard of hearing, but she could hear Willie singing. She held our hands and thanked us for coming. We are so grateful to be able to comfort and encourage many in the sunset days of their lives.

Our audience includes the very young as well. Our friend Yvonne Gill has been playing our DVD for her grandsons. They like the pictures and sing along as they watch. Daughter Sandy has her daughter, Shenny, listening to our CDs regularly, learning the words of the wonderful old hymns. Apparently Shenny was enthusiastically singing "It Is Well With My Soul" one day this summer. Uncle Glenn asked her, "Shenny, where's your soul?" Without skipping a beat, she lifted her little foot and pointed to the bottom of her shoe, "Right here!" she said.



With Ophia Snyder, former missionary in Puerto Rico, and her sister, Esther, at Crystal, MI, Oct 18, 2009

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Lambing was in full swing when we were in Kansas with Leonard and Marilyn Yoder. On a cold wet mid-October day, 17 little lambs were born. We gained a new appreciation for the work of a shepherd as we watched their daughter Dedra dry off the cold, soaking wet newborn lambs and bring them into the warmth of the barn and a heat lamp along with the ewe who was often clueless about her responsibilities as a mother. She patiently worked with the little lambs teaching them to nurse and be nourished. The song we sing about “A Wonderful Shepherd” who is leading us on gained new meaning as we sang it this fall and shared this story.

Currently we are working on an audio-visual project which we hope to be able to use this winter in our programs and later make available as part of a second DVD project for sale. Alan Allen and the talented team of musicians who work with Gospel Echoes have recorded some new tracks for us for some more wonderful old favorite hymns. Willie has been enjoying the freedom of photography with his digital camera and has a lot of new photos to use in this project.



Back: April Longenecker, Tim & Sandy Cox  
Front: Willie, Shenny Cox, Rodi



#### Family News:

- Granddaughter Shenny was 2 years old on August 16. She loves to talk and Grandpa and Grandma love to listen.
- We spent 3 days together as a family in a cabin along the Chesapeake Bay in July. A wonderful time to bond, playing in the sand and water.
- We have tickets, visas, and all our immunizations for a trip to Bangladesh to visit daughter April in December!

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Our desire is to faithfully carry on. We pray that we may be an encouragement to the elderly through our music and that those who have not yet affirmed faith in Jesus Christ may do so.



A 35 tomato cluster in Willie's garden!

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#### COMINGS & GOINGS:

- December — Trip to Bangladesh, Asia
- Jan 23 — March 4 — Winter Ministry Trip to IN, PA, VA, Southern ON, OH
- Feb 1 — 10 am — Menno Haven; 1:30 pm — Penn Hall, Chambersburg
- Feb 2 — 2 pm — Messiah Village, Mechanicsburg, PA
- Feb 3 — 2 pm — Pleasant View, Manheim
- Feb 4 — 7 pm — Landis Homes, Lititz, PA
- Feb 5 — 7 pm — Woodcrest Villa, Lancaster, PA