

Happy 30th Anniversary, DCC and Pastor Gary McManus

It was thirty years ago that Pastor Gary McManus came to serve as
Pastor at Daleville Christian Church. His first Sunday was May 26,
1985. Plans are in the works for participatory celebrations.

Get ready to party!



Daleville Christian Church

May 2015



From the Pastor

This month marks OUR 30th Anniversary! In a marriage, it is silly to think of the anniversary as belonging to one or the other partner. This is OUR anniversary-- Pastor McManus and Daleville Christian Church. A Pastor friend reminded me that some congregations CAN'T have ten year or twenty year or thirty year anniversaries--they just can't do it. With God's help, we have done it. You have followed Paul's instructions (1 Corinthians 16:15-18): (concerning the household of Stephanas) "they devoted themselves to the service of the Lord's people. . .submit and join in the work and labor at it. . .they refreshed my spirit and yours also. Such men deserve recognition." My friend helped remind me that just as in a long marriage, NO ONE assumes it was all roses but the longevity demonstrates that the relationship has endured hardship. So it is with us. Others may have their own list of difficulties (and only one is listed here) but I would mention the passing of Ralph Manger and Floyd McWilliams. These men / Elders had served DCC for over 50 years EACH! They led, they prayed. They had seen a dozen pastors come and go. When they were called home (both died in 2004), DCC faced serving without THEIR leadership--for the first time in fifty years! The Lord was gracious and His ministry continues in and through Daleville Christian Church. So, "Happy 30 Anniversary," Daleville Christian Church and Pastor Gary McManus. -- G

Daleville Christian Church will take up a special offering at the end of May. All money collected through this special offering will go directly to help support Sally Barrett's mission in Slovenia.

Update on . . . Sally Barrett



I am always praying that the gospel would be fresh on my mind. But this time of year (like for many others) it is even more so. And even then I think I can often take Christ's resurrection for granted. I wish that I did not because it is by far the most beautiful story ever and it effects us eternally.

It is a story that we are sharing with students daily. And once a year it is a story that many homes around the world take note of (whether they are believers or not). Therefore, it would seem only natural that we would celebrate this with our students.

The Wednesday before Easter we had an Easter Party for our students. The evening began with some snacks and mingling. Then following snacks we had a time of content that included one of the students leading us in two worship songs and my teammate Hayley sharing the meaning behind Easter in Slovene. Following this we played a few games and decorated Easter eggs (a tradition both in America and Slovenia).

During the party I was able to meet many students. One of those individuals was Marija. Marija is a believer but very much a baby in her faith. She was brought to the party by her friend Barbara who had met someone on our team the follow week doing a worldview survey. At the Easter party Marija met Katie, my roommate. Marija was very interested in what we were doing in Slovenia and the following week came to our discussion group, "Hrana za Dušo". At the discussion group she began to ask Katie questions about how she was able to be so bold in sharing her faith. Through that conversation, Katie was able to remind her of how significant the gospel is and to challenge Marija in her relationship with God. A few days later Marija asked to meet up with Katie to talk further.

Marija is a quiet individual and when you first meet her you have no idea what she is thinking or how she feels. On the surface one may thank that she isn't interested in learning more. However, she has initiated conversations with our team and appears to want to grow in her faith. This is just one story of the evidence of God at work in Slovenia. We are praying that we would see stories like this occur more. I pray we would be more aware of what God is doing here and the measures he is taking to bring people into a relationship with himself. God Bless, Sally

Prayer:

- ✓ For Marija as Katie beings to follow up with her and continues to challenge her in her faith.
- ✓ Follow up from our Emotional Intelligence seminar. It is a yearly event that allows for smooth and deep transitions into the gospel.
- ✓ We will be having a group of students coming on summer missions in about 3 weeks. Pray for them as they are waiting for support to come in.