



Come to My Waters . . .
Be Refreshed! Concerts

Bruce Family Ministries International

*Creating Excellence in Ministry by Equipping
People of the Word, People of Prayer, People of Worship – People of God!*

Dr. Sam & Mrs. Sandie Bruce

333 Highway 469 North
Florence, Mississippi 39073
drsambruce@aol.com

501(C)(3) Non-Profit Organization EIN: 64-0937051

Home: 1.601.845.8693

Mobile: 1.601.955.3176

Website: www.bruceministries.net

Fall 2007 Newsletter

Dear Friends & Family, Christmas greetings to you, in the name of the Prince of Peace! He is still King of Kings, and worthy of our highest praise, worship, thanksgiving, and service. As we near the end of 2007, we have much to praise our Lord for. He has been faithful to strengthen, support, and sustain us during some difficult times. In February, Sam's **Mom vacated her earthly home** in exchange for her heavenly home. We rejoice for her, but there is a big empty spot in our hearts. We miss her. In February, we had a **kitchen fire** that necessitated a complete renovation that was expensive and very time consuming, as well as frightening! In June, **Sandie had a "small stroke,"** and spent 2 weeks in the hospital in Ohio. She calls it a "bump in the road." She had no paralysis or hand to restore its dexterity. We had and we had to revamp our whole preach for the Church of God singing and giving awesome continues to bless everyone who difficult and joy-filled times – just THERE! We are working on our Fall 2007 Schedule. We plan to be in Oklahoma in February for the Mid-America Christian University Ministry Institute, and then to head west to Arizona and California for March and April. If your church would like to schedule us or has any questions about our ministry feel free to contact us. I hope you will be blessed by my Christmas devotion below, and please check out the **Spiritual Formation Retreat idea for your church, on the enclosed Bookmark.**



to cancel several ministry dates around the time of her recovery, Fall schedule, to stay closer to home. I did go to Nebraska to Campmeeting, and she stayed with our daughters. She is still testimonies. She is not a quitter. Her *sweet Sandie spirit* sees her! We rejoice in God's awesome, unfailing grace in both another evidence that He is Jehovah Shema, the Lord who is **Spring 2008 Schedule**, as you can see below, along with our

We hope you have an **awesome Christmas**, and a **joy-filled New Year**. **Let's all pray for a massive national and worldwide spiritual revival.** We love and appreciate you! And please keep Bruce ministries in your prayers. Love,

Sam & Sandie



Words from the WORD! The Midnight Clear (from Sam's Journal):

Listen, you'll hear the sounds . . . *The Sounds of Christmas* exploding like a bolt of lightning shattering the darkest, most hopeless night! As you well know, the landscape of our nation has changed drastically since the tragic events of September 11, 2001. This has been perhaps the deepest, darkest time in the history of this nation and much of the whole world. The sorrow, heartache, terror, loss, and fear that have gripped multitudes is unparalleled by anything most of us could mention or imagine. And yet, that is not the end of the story.

I've always loved that beautiful song, *It came upon a midnight clear, That glorious song of old, From angels bending near the earth To touch their harps of gold. Peace on the earth, goodwill to men, From heaven's all-gracious king. The world in solemn stillness lay To hear the angels sing.* This song rings a fresh new note of hope in my heart today. For you see, the song of the angels came not only at night, it came at a deep, dark, hopeless time in history. The world Jesus came into on that first Christmas needed desperately a word of peace, goodwill, hope and light to pierce and destroy the darkness.

Remember the words of the prophet Isaiah, through whom God spoke to give us some of the most wonderful pictures of the promised Messiah, the Savior of the world: ***The people walking in darkness have seen a great light*** (Isaiah 9:2). Then Luke described what happened on the *Midnight Clear*: ***An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified*** (Luke 2:9). And the landscape of all history was changed forever, for John brings it into clearer focus as he proclaims, ***In him was life, and that life was the light of men*** (John 1:4). He doesn't stop there, but he says, ***The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world*** (John 1:9). Then Jesus carried it a step further, saying, ***I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life*** (John 8:12). You see, *darkness* often carries with it fear, uncertainty, hopelessness – it can paralyze a person; but *light* brings courage, faith, and hope – it can set people free. I've learned that, on a dark night, when you're walking away from the light, the farther you go, the darker it gets. But when you're walking toward the light, the closer you come, the brighter it gets. That's why the song of the *Midnight Clear* is so important – *Jesus, the Light of the World*, still offers, in fresh, new and powerful ways – light, courage, faith, hope and new life to a dark, fearful, upside-down world, as He turns people's lives right-side-up. Hear Him

proclaim exuberantly, *So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand* (Isaiah 41:10). That is His promise to us as we celebrate Christmas 2007 and enter New Year 2008. So be sure you're always walking toward the Light introduced by the songs of angels on the *Midnight Clear*.



Because Some Have Asked: *Bruce Ministries is supported by donations from family, friends, & love offerings where ministry is performed. Since love offerings do not cover the costs of the ministry, donations from family and friends are deeply appreciated. The gifts of family and friends help make it possible for us to minister to congregations that cannot afford the full cost of our ministry. It is our desire to bless and strengthen ministries of all churches, regardless of size or ability to give adequate support. Thanks for your help! Bless you!!!*

Dear Sam & Sandie, I/we would like to help support the work of Bruce Ministries:

- Prayer Partner(s)
- Financially: \$ _____ Monthly Quarterly Annually One-time gift Other
- Recommending your ministry to others Prayer Warrior for Revival in the Land!!!!
- Note: _____

Name _____ Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____ Church _____

E-Mail _____ (if you want to receive occasional news notes)

Please pray with me for this: _____

**BFMI Is a 501(C)(3) non-profit organization. All Donations Are Tax Deductible:
A Receipt Will Be Sent to Donors**

Sam & Sandie's Fall 2007/Spring 2008 Ministry Schedule – Find a Place Near You & Come to See Us!

Place	City	State	Contact	Date	
Nebraska COG Camp	Cozad	NE		8/1-5/2007	pm
MS National Guard	Natchez-Eola Hotel	MS	Tom Fuller	8/10-12/2007	pm
Monterey United Methodist	Florence	MS	Milton Koon	8/12-15/07	pm
New Hope Community Church	Pearl	MS	Ken Sifford	8/19/2007	am
First Armenian Presbyterian Church	Fresno	CA	Mggrdch Melkonian	9/16/2007	am
Crossroads of Life Church	Byrum	MS	Butch Slaughter Bd Ch	9/30/2007	am
Graceway Nazarene	Summit	MS	David Smith	10/28/2007	am
New Hope Community Church	Pearl	MS	Butch Slaughter Bd Ch	11/4/2007	am
Laurel COG	Laurel	MS	Duane Parker	11/11/2007	am
Christ Temple Church of Christ Holiness	Jackson	MS	Joseph Campbell	11/18/2007	am
Lake CMC	Laurel	MS	Area Wide Service	11/18/2007	pm
Quest Community Church	Florence	MS	Ed Hauser	11/19/2007	pm
New Hope Community Church	Jackson	MS	Butch Slaughter Bd Ch	11/25/2007	am
Houston First Church of God	Houston	TX	Don Bergstrom	12/2/2007	pm
New Hope Community Church	Jackson	MS	Butch Slaughter Bd Ch	12/9/2007	am
Central Community COG	Jackson	MS	Al Lewis	12/16/2007	am
Quest Community Church	Florence	MS	Ed Hauser	12/16/2007	pm
New Hope Community Church	Jackson	MS	Butch Slaughter Bd Ch	12/23/2007	am
Bluff Springs COG	Union	MS	Jeff Hancock	12/30/2007	am
Philadelphia First COG	Philadelphia	MS	Keith Hall	01/4-6/08	
Tumage Chapel CMC	Foxworth	MS	Bob Whitehead	1/13/2008	am
Greater Enoch Grove Missionary Baptist	Florence	MS	Kevin Johnson	1/13/2008	pm
New Hope Community Church	Jackson	MS	Butch Slaughter Bd Ch	1/20/2007	am
New Hope Community Church	Jackson	MS	Butch Slaughter Bd Ch	1/27/2007	am
First Church of God	Clinton	OK	Roy Dobbs	2/3/2007	a&p
Mid-America Christian U: Ministry Refresher	Okla City	OK		02/4-6/2007	
MS National Guard Marriage Retreat	Natchez-Eola Hotel	MS	Tom Fuller	2/15-17/2008	pm
Tucson First Church of God	Tucson	AZ	Michael Simpson	2/24/2008	am

California: now booking - March & April 2008 - Call for information if you would like to book us!