

Good News!

Creative Ministries, Inc.

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S-t-r-e-t-c-h-e-d

Fay Nelson

“He drives me crazy!” she spluttered. “I can’t get rid of him...nothing I try has worked!” As my friend talked, her indignation increased. She had done everything she could think of, except shooting him, to get rid of him. And she failed. She sought advice, and counsel, and tried everything recommended to her. It all failed. She finally took a photo of the intruder who defied the odds and got what he wanted.



I began to feel sorry for him. I asked to see the photo, for the intruder had captured my heart. This

photo was taken through a closed window and screen, so it is not very clear. What IS clear is the determination and the focus of this little creature. He had a mission. He could envision his goal. He kept failing to achieve that goal and so he kept on trying, kept on stretching.

He was shouted at. He was outwitted on numerous occasions. But finally he found a solution. It was a big stretch. But he eventu-

ally reached his goal, ate his fill, and was satisfied.

Changing continents, cultures, and focus is a stretching experience. It’s one we have found stretched us, challenged us, and required a great deal of effort so that we could do what we were supposed to do, as well as we were able to do

it—both moving to and from the UK. But whether or not you relocate to another country, or community, being God’s light and witness is very much like such a move. It requires a re-ordering of the heart, the thoughts, and the purpose of our lives.

As we become new creatures, learn what it means to be our Father’s child, and begin to obey Him, we get stretched. Life as we know it changes, though everything may appear to be the same on the outside—same family, same job, same circumstances. The stretching comes as we move close to God, often with both subtle and loud opposition from those around us.

The stretching comes too as we go through daily life, receiving the

same inputs—but with changed hearts. The changed heart then means that our lives need to change.

The news these past few weeks has been full of dramatic events and dramatic reporting, all of it reflecting the views of the reporter or the network or the news group. Much of

the news has been bad, or tragic. It’s a stretch to listen and watch and have any peace at all. Yet the Good News is that God is in charge. We can trust Him. Regardless of what people do around us or to us, He loves us with a love that will never change, and He walks with us through every circumstance, comforting us, protecting us, caring for us.

We encourage you to follow the example of our little friend in the photo—as you’re stretching to obey God in your daily life, know that you can trust Him. We often teach children this memory verse: “Be strong and courageous. Do not tremble or be dismayed. For the Lord your God is with you wherever you go!” Joshua 1:9 Amen!

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We Recommend!



The Camel tells of an effective way of spreading Christianity across the Muslim world. Many of the principles apply to any culture where there is opposition to the Gospel



Stepping Up, A Journey Through the Psalms of Ascent (Psalms 120-134), is a recent Beth Moore Bible study and one that we find refreshing for this time. Videos of the teaching sessions are available on line for those who are not involved in a group Bible study.



If you have broadband internet and a need to communicate with people around the world, this service is awesome. You can talk via internet to others who have the service or phone most places for about 2 cents a minute. The quality is dependent on the quality of internet service, but we have been blessed to be able to keep in touch with many of our friends abroad using this service.



Prince Caspian, the continuation of **The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe**, is still playing in a few theaters, comes out on DVD December 2nd, and is always available in print. It delights and inspires in any form.



Davis Bunn is one of our favorite authors and this thriller deals with the entertainment industry. As always his characters are “real” and the stories of their conflicts as they live out their relationships with the Lord are encouraging.

Program Report

CliffAnn Perry

Thank you so much for praying for the ministry of the past few months. I will try to give you a glimpse of the time.

Kids Club For many months we worked with Westward Ho! Baptist's Kids' Club. The last few months were some of our favorite times as children grew closer to Jesus and our staff became more proficient. During our last one we had done ministry, shared our testimonies and told the kids that they could make a decision to ask Jesus to be their Savior at any time, to think about it and that we'd be happy to pray with them or they could pray on their own. One little boy came up during snacks and said he wanted to ask Jesus to be his Savior. He was so serious and hadn't even had his snack yet, (he often seemed to endure the ministry session so that he could have snack.)

So we stopped everything and all prayed with him. We have prayed with many children over the years but the change of countenance in this little boy was one of the most drastic I've seen. A smile that lit up his face began after we all said "Ahmen." (The English version of the word rather than our Southern "Amen.") It's a smile that we will remember often.

Creation Fest Roadshow (Bideford)

This day-long event brings in Christian bands, testimonies, prayer tent, free tea and family friendly games. It involves a major portion of the area Christians and reaches out to the community. We did children's ministry for school age kids and our friend Bekkah Tanton did Music Makers songs for preschoolers. The day was a great success and will expand to more days in the future.



Encounter We were the speakers for July at this women's group. We used skits, dance and Fay spoke on receiving wholeness from Jesus and taking that to those who live around us.

Holiday Club (known in the States as VBS) What a fun week of working with the others in Westward Ho! Baptist to create a unique ministry time. Each day was planned by a different group of people and we all got to experience the fun of doing ministry another way. My favorite

was planned by Steve and Christine Robinson using the parable of the Banquet. The kids got ready for the party and none of the important guests showed up, giving the opportunity for teaching.



One of our UK junior staff members, Beth, dresses a puppet before a show.

Ministry in North Devon We did several one time ministry sessions for children and adults in the area in churches, schools and colleges (high schools).

East-the-Water Fun Day Planned by local authorities, this Fun Day included food, games, displays and give-aways. We got to help with the Christian presence by being part of the prayer, planning and outreach for the day.



Another popular feature at Fun Day was the hand massage kiosk—everyone who got a free hand massage was asked if they wanted prayer for anything—and every person asked for prayer and left thanking the prayer team.

Creation Fest (Woolacombe) A large 3 day event about an hour from Bideford. We were invited to help by doing puppets in the children's ministry tent. We could only do 1 day but were so blessed to be a part of this amazing ministry.



The festival is reaching out effectively throughout the southwest and each year gets larger and reaches a wider area in its influence.



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Back home Camp Immanuel Teen Camp The week after we got home was packed with developing new material for this camp and the second week was spent doing it. This year camp was 3:00 pm to 8:00 pm. God did some great things in the lives of those attending and we hope to see the camp expand next year.



Kitty Hawk UMC 150th Anniversary What fun to participate in the birthday celebration of the church I grew up in! It was full of music, food, puppets, and joy as the people from all over the Outer Banks dropped in for fellowship.



Photo by Robert Gonzalez

Please Pray with Us

Many of our missionary friends around the world are facing unusual challenges, and we would really appreciate your joining us in prayer for them:

- ✚ Zambia's president died recently and their law requires elections within 90 days (perhaps not a bad idea!) Many of the freedoms that have been there are at risk.
- ✚ Mike and Linda Jones' granddaughter Samantha is being treated for leukemia. Linda is going to spend the fall back in the States helping care for her.
- ✚ The core team in East-the-Water continues to need encouragement and much is happening, both good and difficult.
- ✚ Our friends Bob and Melissa Hill in Scotland need encouragement as they reach out to people who are very needy.
- ✚ Pastor Eli Meija in the Dominican Republic is dealing with a congregation that has been slammed by major hurricanes.
- ✚ We need prayer as we continue re-entry and as we're seeking to find God's priorities for Creative Ministries.

We are available for ministry to children, youth and adults and for training in ministry and missions.