



# Ministry Update

Williamson  
PRODUCTIONS

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## Glory to God for an Awesome Year

**L**ike most of you, as the end of 2008 quickly approaches we want to take the time to look back and reflect on the activities of this year.

We are sincerely humbled and blessed. Through God's leading and by His power, this is what has the year has brought us:

- A total of **99 presentations** have been made. (*Our goal for this year had been 100, so we are thrilled!*)
- **6 states** have been visited: Iowa, Illinois, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska and South Dakota.

- **17 missions trips** have been completed (*travel that included multiple events and/or required an extended stay outside of our local area*).
- As many as **22 local ministry events** have been performed, plus eight "non-ministry" events.
- A wide **variety of events** have been participated in, including:
  - ◆ Church events (outreach, family fun nights, children's church, pulpit supply)
  - ◆ Awana/Upwards related events
  - ◆ Christian school assemblies/chapels
  - ◆ Creative ministry workshops
  - ◆ Carnivals / festivals
  - ◆ Kids camp
  - ◆ VBS programs
  - ◆ Corporate events
  - ◆ Birthday parties

But beyond all that, what excites us the most are the lives that have been

touched by the Holy Spirit working in and through us to His glory. We have seen over 500 hands raised in response to the invitation to accept Christ as Savior. Most of those hands belonged to children, but there were teenagers and adults included in that count.

Allow us to share a part of a letter that we recently received from the Awana commander at Cape Bible Chapel in Cape Girardeau, MO, where we had a ministry event in November:

*"I wanted to thank you for your clear presentation of the gospel. After collecting data from our leaders, it looks like we had 25 clubbers who were serious about accepting Christ as Savior. We are totally excited about the opportunity to follow up with the children and their families."*

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*Suddenly, an angel of the Lord appeared among them, and the radiance of the Lord's glory surrounded them. They were terrified, but the angel reassured them. "Don't be afraid!" he said. "I bring you good news that will bring great joy to all people. The Savior—yes, the Messiah, the Lord—has been born today in Bethlehem, the city of David! And you will recognize him by this sign: You will find a baby wrapped snugly in strips of cloth, lying in a manger." Suddenly, the angel was joined by a vast host of others—the armies of heaven—praising God and saying, "Glory to God in highest heaven, and peace on earth to those with whom God is pleased."* (Luke 2:8-14, NLT)



Check out our  
calendar at

[www.williamson  
productions.com](http://www.williamsonproductions.com)

for upcoming events.



David and Gayle performing at Edgemont Bible Church in Fairfield Heights, IL.

## The Wonder of the Word "Come" by Gayle Williamson

**R**ecently I read an article in the November/December 2008 *Today's Christian Magazine* by Patty Kirk entitled "Slower than Christmas." In it, the author touched on the relevance of the word "come" as it relates to Jesus Christ—especially at this time of year. She writes about how the word "come" is the central prayer of most carols, such as "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" and "Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus" which echo the cries of the Old Testament prophets and saints who longed for the coming promised Messiah. Before Jesus was born as a baby in a manger, the cry of the Israelites was "Come!"

Following Jesus' ascension into heaven and the promise of His return to gather up His own, the cry is once again "Come!" Every generation of believers since Pentecost has looked forward to Christ's return. Jesus said that no one would know the day or time of his coming, but as we see the events of the world unfolding around us, doesn't it seem as though it is more eminent than ever? I don't know about you, but for me my heart seems to want to cry even louder and more earnestly, "Come, Lord Jesus, come!"

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# Awesome Year

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We give praise to God because it is ultimately for our "Audience of One" that we perform. If we were not confident that we were serving God with the talents He has given us, we would be doing this in vain.

Honoring God and drawing others to Him is why we chose to take our step of faith in February. It has been an exciting journey, and we know that it has still just begun. We face a lot of "unknown" as we look toward 2009. We seek God to open the doors of opportunity for us, and we continue to trust in His provision.



Gayle performs with one of her newest puppets, Vern.

Of course, there are the days when doubt tries to creep in and get a foot-hold, but we claim the promises of God. We know that His character cannot and will not

change, and His promises endure forever. Regardless of what the future holds in 2009, we continue to stand firm in the One who holds the future.

Your continued prayer support is so important. Regardless if it is just a momentary lifting up to God as He brings us to your mind, or you are led to intercessory prayer over specific ministry needs, God is working. When we seem not to see His hand actively moving, we believe that He is still bringing together His purpose for His ultimate glory. We are just so thankful to be where He has placed us. And your prayers and encouraging support sustain us when discouragement tries to surface.

We want to express our heartfelt appreciation to each and every one of you who have supported us this year in ministry through prayer and through financial support. Words fail to adequately say how thankful we are to you. May God bless you in ways beyond your expectation.

## ***Please remember to pray...***

- For wisdom in discerning God's direction and leading.
- For those individuals who have made decisions for Jesus that their walk with the Lord would continue to grow.
- For opportunities to lead kids and adults to Jesus Christ.
- For God's provision of some specific needs we currently have.

***Regularly check our online calendar so you'll know where we'll be as you pray.***

Because this is a full-time ministry, we are trusting God to provide for our ministry needs as well as our every day needs. Should you wish to financially support the ministry of Williamson Productions, your contribution can be tax-deductible if made through Olivet Church. Checks should be made out to "Olivet Church." Be sure to write "Williamson Productions" on the memo line of your check. Contributions can be placed into the offering plate on Sunday mornings or mailed to the church directly (2743 82nd Pl., Urbandale, IA 50322).

***Thank you for your support!!***

## **"Come"**

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But as I pondered these thoughts, it came to me that the cry of "come" isn't just a one way street. During Jesus' ministry, He called His disciples to "Come, follow Me" (John 4:19), and they came. He encouraged the rich young ruler to sell all he had and "Come, follow Me" (Luke 18:22), but he walked away. And Jesus calls to each and every one of us to "come" to Him. In Matthew 11:28, Jesus tells us, "Come to me, all of you who are weary and carry heavy burdens, and I will give you rest."

Before we can ask Jesus to come to us, we have to be willing to come to Him. If Jesus returns, and our hearts are not right with Him—we have not accepted His sacri-



ifice on behalf of our sins—then we are lost and have no hope.

But we can have hope! It is in the word "Come." This Jesus, who came to earth as a baby (fully God and yet fully human), this Jesus who died and rose again—He is the same Jesus who said He would "Come again!" (John 14:3) This is the same Jesus who still today invites us to come to Him. We can come to Him for our salvation, we can come to Him to bear our burdens, and we can come to Him for our hope and peace in this troubled world.

During this special Christmas season, as you call to Jesus to "come," please open your heart to hear Jesus' invitation to you to "come" to Him.

# Recap of Recent Missouri/Illinois Missions Trip

**T**his was probably one of the more exciting missions trips we have taken this year. We know many people had been praying for us, and it is without a doubt we experienced the effects of those prayers.

Our first stop was in Fairview Heights, IL, where we performed for an Awana outreach event at the Edgemont Bible Church on Thursday, November 19th, and then the next morning for the Berean Christian School which is located at the church. Talking with and getting to know the Awana commander and school administrator at this location was such an encouragement.

We then headed over to St. Peters, MO, to Grace Community Chapel where we performed for another Awana event. We had met these leaders earlier



this year, so it was nice to be welcomed by familiar faces. The response to the gospel presentation was overwhelming (over 50 hands went up). How many were confirmed decisions for Christ, only God knows, but to know that God was working in so many hearts was exciting.

We had Friday "off," and then Saturday we headed back into Illinois to the Missionary Baptist Church in Belle Rive. This church has a very active Upward Basketball/Cheerleading program, reaching many unchurched kids in the surrounding area. Again, we got to know the pastor and Upward leaders and found them to be folks with passionate hearts for reaching these kids for Christ. They had a prayer room set up nearby, and, after the invitation was given, those who raised their hands were invited to go to there to speak with counselors. There were at least four confirmed decisions for Christ. Praise God!

Sunday morning, David gave the sermon during the morning service at Belle Rive, and Gayle was able to speak for a few minutes as well. David did a great job, and Gayle had a lot of fun being able to share from her heart. We then had to rush head

back into Missouri for our Sunday afternoon Awana awards program at the Cape Bible Church in Cape Girardeau.

David and the Awana commander from Cape Bible Church had "met" about a year ago by phone, and they had since then been trying to work out the details for us to come there, so we were thrilled to finally be able to make it to Cape. This church truly reaches beyond their "borders" to bring in some of the inner city kids for their Awana program. Some of the stories that Jason told us about these kids brought tears to our eyes. But what an opportunity they have to share Jesus with these kids who might not otherwise be able to know Him.

God was truly working in this particular event. As is often the case when we reach our final event of a missions trip, we were rather tired and beginning to look forward to getting back home. But God always seems to give us that final push of energy we need to get through that last program. This event was no exception. We got energized and ready to go. The performance was fun, and the kids were responding wonderfully! David gave the gospel presentation, and then, just after giving the kids a chance to raise their hands in response to the invitation (around 40 -50 did!), David felt led to have Jason, the Awana commander, come up and say a few things to the kids. Jason then instructed several of the Awana leaders to spread out throughout the sanctuary and told the kids who had raised their hands to find their Awana leader to pray with right then and there. They spent about 10-15 minutes just praying with these kids. HOW AWESOME IS GOD!! And what a blessing to our hearts to see so many kids respond and being WILLING to go and pray with their Awana leader. WOW!!



*It is made clear at the beginning of our performance that Jesus is the focus of our ministry events.*

We can't even begin to imagine the lives that some of these kids have—our lives seem so "protected." But we are moved deeply by the love and care that the children's leaders we are privileged to meet have for the kids God brings into their lives. We are there for a moment - we come and then we go - but these leaders are on the front lines, and they are the true "heroes." We love meeting folks like this, and we are so very thankful to God that He allows us to be a part of the process of planting, watering and sowing seeds. This is what makes it all worthwhile for us.

**Save-On-Mag/c!**  
Williamson PRODUCTIONS **MAGIC SHOP**

*Interested in performing gospel magic?*

Go to [www.SaveOnMagic.com](http://www.SaveOnMagic.com) for affordable props, gimmicks and tricks.

(Revenue from product sales goes to the ministry support of Williamson Productions.)

“For God loved the world so much that He gave His one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in Him will not perish but have eternal life.” -John 3:16

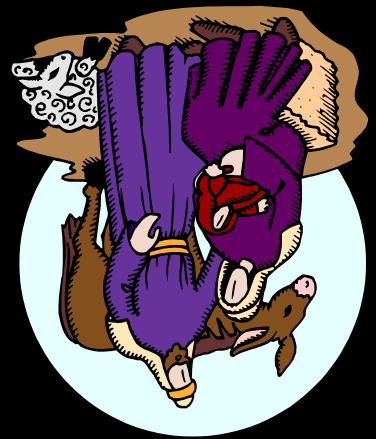
## The TRUE Meaning of Christmas

We at Williamson Productions want to wish our beloved family and friends a very special Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

May the precious Gift God sent us so long ago remain new and fresh in your lives throughout the coming year.

In His love,

*David and Gayle Williamson*



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