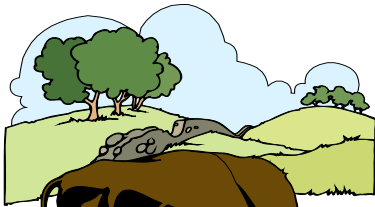




December
2011

NEWS



BUFFALO RIDGE

Hospitality & Retreat Center

Ministering to Pastors,
Missionaries and their Families



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His Way is a Non-Profit
Christian Outreach and
Service Organization
Chaplain James W. Robinson,
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"He opened for us a new
way, a living way . . ."

Hebrews 10:20

Dear Friends of His Way;

When given a big task to do, I have repeatedly turned to the book of Nehemiah to read the story of a man who was given a very difficult job to do and accomplished it with flying colors. I liken it to our task of building too.

The story starts in chapter one with Nehemiah telling us that he was cupbearer to the king. This was a position of some familiarity to nobility, yet Nehemiah had no interests of disowning his own people. He prayed that he would find favor in the eyes of the king as he expressed his sorrow over his nation in captivity and requested of the king to be allowed to return and rebuild the city where his ancestors were buried. The Lord heard his prayer and moved the heart of the king toward a favorable response.

Chapters two and three relate his arrival in Jerusalem where he made it clear that there would be no cooperation with those that derided his efforts. Once there he saw the need for a division of the labor and divided the tasks to various families. By chapter four the people adopted his enthusiasm for the task and had a "mind to work." The wall was half finished by this time. He again made a specific prayer and set a watch in order to continue the work. There was no foolish independence of God nor foolish neglect of human responsibility. When God's workers fail it is usually from one of these. We must depend on God but do the things He enables us to do.

After a personal consultation with himself in chapter five, Nehemiah set the example of personal righteousness by not accepting usury or personal privileges while doing the job. The nobles then followed his example and the people went forward with enthusiasm again. Through contempt and conspiracy, slander and outright threats, his enemies attempted to stop him. In all these trials Nehemiah continued with his task and while these things slowed him down, none of them stopped the work of building the wall.

There are five principles that we see applied during Nehemiah's completion of this difficult task that we can apply as well:

1. Don't let anything detract from the given task.
2. Look to God to do what we cannot do ourselves, but do what we can do.
3. Divide labor in order to accomplish the task.
4. Maintain personal righteousness.
5. Ignore scandal and threats and keep at the job of building.

In keeping with these five principles, we are continuing to build here at Buffalo Ridge as God gives us the resources. Requests for guest accommodations have continued to increase as you can see from the graphs on the next page. We had to turn several guests away this fall for lack of space. This demands that we expand our present facilities. Our long-term plans include cabins, dining room expansion, storage, recreation and ultimately a lodge. Presently we are moving toward building a cabin that would include space for overnight guests as well as two restrooms with outdoor access. Additional restroom facilities are needed when we have day groups here using the picnic area as well as those who are camping. The estimated cost of this building is \$50,000.00. Any donations toward this goal would be gratefully received. We will keep you informed of our progress.

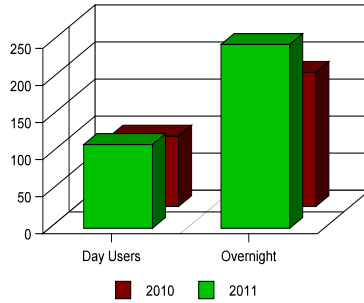
As I close I keep hearing the words of a dear brother, Norm Gates, who went home to be with the Lord some time ago, "You gotta keep the main thing, the main thing." Nehemiah did that and so will we!



With **Joy** in His Service,

Jim Robinson

Buffalo Ridge Guests



Please remember His Way in your estate planning. Thank you!



From all of us at Buffalo Ridge



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Chaplain Jim & Peggy Robinson • Sam & Karen Renfro

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