## HIGHWAY NEWS

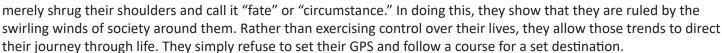


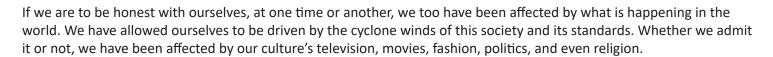
#### A WORD FROM OUR PRESIDENT

#### THE ROAD OF LEAST RESISTANCE

It is common for people to take the easy way, the path of least resistance. They allow themselves to be blown along with the prevailing cultural wind, whether in fashion, sports, art, music, politics, or sadly, ethics and morals. Taking no thought to their course or direction, they follow along with the current trends because it is easier to "go with the flow."

When bad things happen or when they realize that they have ended up somewhere that they never imagined they would be, instead of deeply considering the course of their lives, many





We have been called to come out of this world. God wants us to find a course contrary to the normal way of life that seems right to those in the world. The gale-force winds of this Satan-inspired world sweep millions along in their intense velocity. It is beating against us all the time, and the struggle to resist is wearying. Out of sheer exhaustion, some give in to these winds and conform to their whispered suggestions. It is especially easy to succumb to them when surrounded by peers, employers, friends, and neighbors who want us to follow them and their way of thinking. It is just far less stressful to go along.

A trucking company owner and friend recently shared this with me.

"I can't have a conversation anywhere that people don't feel like giving up -- where they don't feel like every demon has been unleashed. Even people who don't know God are thinking this way. We can't give up. I've had a good life, and I'm not going to compromise. If it takes me out, then so be it, but I think they want us all to give up. Therefore, we can't; but it gets harder every day."

#### Do you feel this way?

The force that is in the world—dominant, popular, and widespread—is contrary to God. If we desire to obey God, we must face it and overcome it, having enough strength to endure its ceaseless, insistent pressure to return to its easy lifestyle.

However, we are not to conform to the course that the world takes. Instead, we are to set our GPS to follow a different route, obeying God and rejecting the popular trends of this world when they disregard His way of life. This means that we must take the time to consider and decide where we want to end up. What is our final destination? Where do we call home? Then, we have to learn to make right choices so that we will one day arrive there. The first being to accept Jesus Christ as your Savior.





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#### HIGHWAY NEWS

November 2023 | Volume 69 | Number 11

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Serving the Trucking Community for over 70 years and recently awarded the Platinum Seal from

### MINISTRY UPDATE



#### MISSION CRY

As God continues to open doors for TFC Global's international ministries to do ministry overseas, it became apparent that we needed to find a way to send more Bibles and resources to our teams in greater volumes. Shipping had become so expensive, even in small amounts, that we were not sure how we could accomplish this major task. We had all we could do to send a fraction of the Bibles that are needed. But as we all know "nothing is impossible with God!"

As we shared in a previous issue, TFC Global became uniquely aware of a ministry organization called Mission Cry through a magazine sent to our organization, a magazine we had never received before. Mission Cry, for nearly 70 years, has been sending the word of God and Christian resources around the globe. They specialize in getting containers to places overseas to further the gospel message. It was determined that God was leading us to this organization. We needed to go through the door He had provided for us, to see if this would meet the need we had for shipping resources. After a number of email correspondences it was decided that we should have a face-to-face meeting with Jason and Maria Woolford, founders of Mission Cry, to discuss how we might work together. After meeting, and through much prayer, both organizations agreed that a partnership would be mutually beneficial in the spread of the gospel overseas.

Therefore, TFC Global is happy to announce our direct partnership with Mission Cry Ministries. This partnership will allow us to send a container of Bibles and resources to our teams a couple of times each year. The cost of the container shipment is approximately \$11,000 of which Mission Cry has agreed to raise half of the fee, leaving us to raise the balance. Although the cost of the shipment seems high, when you realize that each container will contain nearly \$500,000 worth of donor-funded Bibles and free resources desperately needed by our teams, the cost is minimal. Our recipients and Mission Cry missionaries on the ground can release the container from customs and distribute these materials. Pray for TFC Global and the logistics of not only getting a container funded to send to Africa to be used by our regional directors, but also the purchase of 3,564 Bibles per container. Each Bible will cost us \$2.00 to print with our custom cover.

Thank you for partnering in flooding the world with Bibles and Christian books to these precious people that desperately need to hear God's word and receive it.







Each shipping container is packed from end to end with almost no empty space. Mission Cry volunteers wrap the pallets and load them onto the container. The Bibles are packed 44 to a box and 81 boxes to a pallet. Once the container is packed, it begins its journey to the sea port. At the port, the container is cleared by customs with the recipient taking care of that cost (around \$2500). Once the container clears customs, the materials are removed from the trailer and distributed to the people or ministries that are waiting for them. Multiple recipients with unique needs can share a container. Photos and videos capture the materials being received as part of the agreement Mission Cry requires.



#### MAGAZINE BULK DISTRIBUTOR

Increase our reach by taking our magazine to your circles. From your office reception area to your favorite restaurant to your gas station to your hair salon to a local truck stop, put some magazines at these places to encourage and entertain readers as well as share the gospel.

You pay for as many issues as you can distribute; we send you that amount each month. To become a distributor, complete the form at www.TFCGlobal.org/highway-news.

## MINISTRY HIGHLIGHTS & GIVING OPPORTUNITIES



Regional director, Francis, shared these two driver testimonies.

"I have been in darkness for many years. I have seen the light because of being ministered to by the TFC Global Malawi team. I do thank and praise God because of this wonderful ministry targeting us truckers here in Malawi. We do take many days and hours away from home and hearing the word of

God is another good work. What you have done to please me please do to others." Trucker Godfrey Moyo (right)



"I have been a truck driver for many years but I have received Jesus Christ this week through the TFC Global Malawi team in Mchinji, Malawi. I am really favored and blessed for receiving Jesus Christ through this team who ministers to truckers here in Malawi. There is a need for everyone to have this." Trucker Matthews Grant Phiri, Namtipwiri Transporters, Lilongwe, Malawi (left)



Dr. Norbert Mbwiliza, regional director for TFC Global Tanzania shared the following information in his monthly report.

ANZANIA Areas Reached: Mwanza, Tabora, Manyara, Brundi, Coastal, Nzega
-- these are mostly border crossings. For the month of August, 51 new
believers and 188 conversations with drivers happened. Praise the

Lord for new lives written in the book of life.

One new believer had this to say, "I am Erick, a truck driver. I thank God for His grace and that I have been a driver for some years. I didn't know Jesus so I lived a sinful life, stealing fuel and selling it. I didn't fear stealing since it was my habit. Since I heard about Jesus, now my heart feels bad that I have been living a life no one desires. Now I am thankful to Jesus my Savior."



## MINISTRY HIGHLIGHTS & GIVING OPPORTUNITIES





In a recent newsletter Adriaan and Marina Fourie shared that they are excited about ministering to the trucking community in south Africa in a recent newsletter. Adriaan has been working to add to their existing partnerships to further the work of spreading the gospel throughout the continent of Africa. One new partner is the Gideons International organization who have committed to getting Bibles to Adriaan for distribution. He also met a young Christian who will be serving the drivers in Musina and at the Beitbridge border post. Adriaan will oversee and mentor Francis in his calling and ministry plan. Another aspect of the Fourie's ministry is the oversight of our two African entities in Tanzania and Malawi. Through

a rigorous and detailed reporting process, Adriaan is helping our headquarters understand what is happening in Africa.

Pray for the following requests: (1) For Francis as he faces persecution for his faith and wisdom to handle any situation with grace and strength, and (2) For funds for ministry travel and additional resources to distribute to drivers.



Continue to pray for our new venture in the Netherlands through Igor Smits. He is working hard to get the right paperwork in place to begin ministry to the trucking community in this



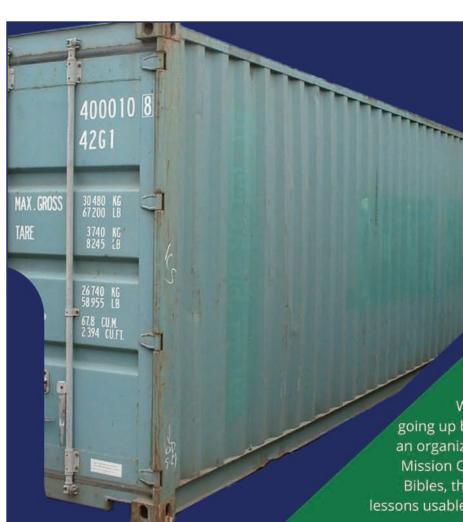


Pray for favor when he speaks with his church about supporting this endeaver for the kingdom of God.

Pray for Igor's solicitor as he makes arrangements with the chamber of commerce to get a registered number to open a business account for ministry use.

Pray for Igor's search for board members -- the right people called by God to guide him.







SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

**NEEDED:** 

## FILL A CONTAINER FOR AFRICA

With the cost of shipping internationally going up by the minute, we have partnered with an organization already in the shipping business. Mission Cry gathers new and used materials like Bibles, theological seminary curricula, children's lessons usable for church or school, and other books suitable for libraries.

This partnership stipulates that we raise half of the cost for the container. Each container costs \$11,000 to ship and about \$2500 to clear customs. In addition, Bibles to fill a pallet cost \$3564.

The biggest need for our African entities in Tanzania and Malawi is for Bibles that can be distributed at border crossings throughout these countries.

Mission Cry will also be involved in capturing the moments of the packing and delivery of these materials through photos and videos. Special unique videos for sponsors will be compiled so that the financial partner can see exactly how their money has been used.

## HOW CAN YOU HELP?

info@TFCGlobal.org



717-426-9977



#### **WOMEN'S RULES OF THE ROAD**

Women on the road. It's a common sight nowadays. For so long, women were discouraged from applying for driving jobs and were all but ignored by companies unless they were the second half of a husband-wife team. That was then; this is now. Women are now actually a sought after demographic. But just because they're hired doesn't mean they will fit in easily with - for lack of a better term - the "good old boys." Believe me, I was one of these gals who had an initiation into trucking the hard way with 99% men around me in 1985, long before women were accepted like they are now. So much has changed since then, but there is still work to be done.

I remember attending an event a while back, expecting it to be a rather stuffy evening. It was until someone asked me what I did. When I told them I worked in trucking, I had an instant audience.

"A woman?" said one man.

"But they're so big and dangerous," said his wife. "What about your safety, working with those big, scary, trucker guys...why you don't look like a trucker!"

"What does a trucker look like?" I asked.

"Hmmm...well...they're dirty, overweight, smoke, swear and...you should know!"

Here we go, I thought, how stereotypical and silly these comments were. I politely corrected them and gave them a real life run down about our industry, how vital it is and that anyone and everyone, if qualified, is encouraged to apply.

I shared with them that working a flatbed is what I like best. I may not be a big honking guy but I can throw straps, chains, and tarps with the best of them. I can stand up to the stevedores who bark at me at the piers, I can return a snappy retort when needed. I get dirty and full of grease and don't care. After all, as I've said before, everything in trucking is big, loud, and dirty, including some of the people!

If I had a dollar for each disgusting, discriminatory and derogatory comment made to me by male drivers over the years, I could retire. Some still resort to the comfortable (for them) sexist comment/innuendo territory that they are used to. As time progressed, I decided that the only way to deal with ignorance was to turn a deaf ear to it or have a quick retort to throw off the offending party. Once they know you don't take them seriously and won't acknowledge their comments, most back off. They are just pushing your buttons, don't give them the satisfaction.

Being a female driver carries with it responsibility. A woman can still be feminine, she doesn't have to try to be a guy. Many feel they need to be masculine to fit in. Not so.

The rules that have worked for me are:

- 1. Be friendly, yet firm.
- 2. Stand up, speak up, show up, and represent.
- 3. Don't back down from ridicule.
- 4. Avoid sarcasm, don't lower yourself or acknowledge ignorance.
- 5. Often silence or a stern look is more effective than speaking.
- 6. Keep your sense of humor, lighten up.
- 7. Take care of yourself and take pride in your appearance, you're a professional representing an essential part of our workforce.

Even though times and attitudes have changed, to some men, women will always be the butt of the joke. That is really a shame. Time and again, men will open the door for me or apologize if they curse. I thank them and tell them I appreciate their sensitivity. That is just being polite. We all like that.

My theory on all of this is very simple. It isn't always an issue of harassment or discrimination. It's merely a case of rudeness and bad manners. Remember manners? Our world is full of discourteous and brusque people who give little or no thought to what they say or to whom they say it. So many have forgotten the simple courtesies and considerations that once existed. We all need civilities as well as civil rights.

So guys, keep this in mind. Before you make that harsh comment to that woman driver, think. Would you want someone saying the same thing to your mother, wife, girlfriend, sister, or daughter? I doubt it. Well, she's one of these to someone!

Lynn Bolster loves anything to do with trucks and has been active in the trucking industry since the 1980s. She drove over the road for 12 years with her now deceased partner of 22 years, Bill. She has her Bachelor's degree in Journalism and a Master's degree in Recreational and Leisure Studies Management with a focus on health and fitness. Her Master's thesis was: "The Recreational Pursuits and Health Habits of Long Distance Truckers." She has appeared in The Washington Post, USA Today and has written for various trucking industry publications. She was the sales manager covering three truck stops for several years. Lynn is on the Board of Directors for TFC Global.





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Create a custom blend of our resources and workshop topics that fit your organization's needs and vision

TFC GLOBAL... A MINISTRY OF PRESENCE



I'd like to offer you an invitation. I am beginning a new blog series titled, "Life is Like a Truck." Most likely you just said to yourself, "no it isn't." Well, if you've never considered how it might be or could be, I'm inviting you to follow this blog.

In my former life, I spent 21 years as an over-the-road driver delivering remanufactured automobile parts and recently finished another four years of hauling grain. What follows will be my real-life gleanings and observations of God's goodness and willingness to reveal Himself through the simple things.

I was privileged to witness the evidence of God's amazing creation through my truck windshield thousands of times. Every sunrise and sunset delivered a new revelation of God's creativity and glory. No two were alike. I was dazzled by starry nights and meteors that sometimes spanned the entirety of my vision. I was especially fond of winter nights when the earth was snow-covered. Occasionally, the brilliance of a full moon would illuminate the night sky, and with the reflection off the snow, headlights weren't even needed – um, but still highly advised. Please don't ask me anything about how I know this, OK?

Then there were the occasional snow storms shutting down the highways. I spent two nights sleeping in my truck in the middle of the highway because no one could continue on because of the intensity of the storm. I was awakened by state troopers banging on the door early in the morning saying, "let's go driver, time to roll!"

There were storms so intensely ferocious that it was frightening, especially to find out later that the tornado that was spawned by the sea green clouds touched down a mere mile away.

One of God's characteristics of which I am especially fond is how He reveals Himself in the ordinary. He is always teaching, if we are available, watching, and listening. As the ancient saying goes, "when the student is ready, the teacher will appear." I learned that Jesus was always ready to teach, and He did it in the simplest of ways, ways that were clear and understandable to me, His willing student.

I would like to get these thoughts and teachings on paper and share them with you. Most people have a love/hate relationship with large trucks. We appreciate that they deliver the things we need for life, but we hate driving behind them and will do practically anything to get around them.

Guys are especially fascinated by large pieces of equipment. They may never want the job of driving a truck but they are curious to see the inside of one and perhaps take a ride. I can't take you on an actual truck ride but I can share some insights I learned in my time on the road.

My goal in the upcoming blogs is to take us deeper in our knowledge and understanding of what a daily relationship with the King of the universe can look like. How winsome the Holy Spirit of God really is – delighting in revealing Himself in simple truths and illustrations through our daily work. I use truck driving as my personal context, but I assure you that God desires to reveal His goodness to you as well in the daily context of your personal life and work.

Finally, I have nothing but admiration for the hard-working men and women in this industry. While their trucks are highly visible and always in our way, few really know what the life of the driver is like. In my day truckers were "highway heroes" who offered assistance to motorists no matter if day or night. The industry has changed in the years since I started driving. Technology has brought about significant shifts in the industry from equipment to driver accountability and oversight.

As many of us sleep soundly each night, drivers are hard at work in the darkness keeping the wheels turning. They are solo and in teams. They are men; they are women. They are every color and from every culture. They are professionals who tirelessly deal with endless obstacles: be it weather, mechanical issues, delivery schedules, traffic jams, and careless drivers.

It's not a job for everyone, but for most of these dedicated folks, nothing else will do. This series is to honor the spirit of the Lord and the life of the "concrete cowboy." I hope you'll follow along and join the journey.

Tom and his wife, Cindy, have lived in Thornton, Pennsylvania for over thirty years. After driving tractor trailers for twenty-one years over-the-road, he went into full time youth ministry. After receiving a master's degree in counseling in 2008, he opened his own practice shortly thereafter, while continuing to serve in full time ministry. After 16 years, he joined Priority One, focusing on men and the many issues they face.

# TFC GLOBAL: PROVIDING TO THE TRUCKING CHAPLAI

#### READ THIS ACTUAL CUSTOMER REVIEW OF OUR CHAPLAINCY SERVICES BY SCOTT WALTERS, CEO OF WALTERS SERVICES INC.

- Chaplains belong in the workplace 224% because that's where people are hurting.
- Chaplains handle the "real life" questions that employees are asking.
- · Happy people do far better at work.
- Chaplaincy services add another level to an Employee
   Assistance Program that provides free counseling for a full package of support.
- Chaplains do not take employees away from being productive at their job.
- Everyone is having, has had, or will have some kind of life issue that is made better by a chaplain who listens.
- During the loss of a coworker, the chaplain helped us all through the grief process. He even had a small service for us to remember that person.
- Even at 6:00 a.m. drivers' meetings, our chaplain is positive and encouraging, available for questions and prayer, if someone wants that.

If you would like to speak with this customer to ask your own questions, please contact our office using the information below and we will put you in touch with this CEO.





To find out more about TFC Global's Corporate Chaplains Netw

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- · Higher morale

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If you're considering what it would take to become a chaplain or know someone who is considering this calling? TFC Global's Chaplaincy Training Institute (CTI) offers a personal, comprehensive, and robust program that acquaints you with the world of Christian chaplaincy. Whether or not you are looking to apply for a position as a TFC Global chaplain, CTI is available to you at a cost much less than other comparable training programs.

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#### TFC GLOBAL CHAPLAINCY IS SPREADING

Meet the TFC Global Chaplaincy graduate class of August 2023: Jon Coupal, George Lent, Tim Merrell and Don Muehr. This past August 27-31 we held another CTI (Chaplains Training Institute) at the international office in Marietta, PA. Four men went through the application process and completed the chaplains' training program. I am proud to let you know we have three new locations opening up for TFC Global chaplaincy as well.

- Jon Coupal is now starting in Denver, Colorado. Jon and his wife served as missionaries in Uganda before returning to the US. The Coupals adopted a boy from Uganda and are enjoying being parents to their son. Jon finished up his MDIV (Masters of Divinity) this summer and is ready to roll in Denver.
- George Lent, who you met in the April issue, has started a TFC Global Chapter in Little Rock, Arkansas. George, age 80, wanted to go through our training so he would be better equipped to serve

the people around him as he develops the presence of TFC Global chaplaincy in Little Rock.

Tim Merrell lives in Middletown, PA and will be helping us reach the trucking community in central Pennsylvania. Tim has years of church ministry and banking industry experience. Although he has an unhealthy appreciation for the Philadelphia Eagles, he is a great guy, and has the support of his wife and three kids.

**Don Muehr** brings TFC Global Chaplaincy to Dallas/Ft. Worth, Texas. He likes Texas, but says the summer heat is not awesome. He lives through it since God has had him in Texas for many years. He has served in the US military and is a proud American. He is married and has many years of Christian ministry experience. We look forward to seeing and hearing about TFC Global chaplaincy growing in Dallas/ Ft. Worth.



Please pray for these men as they get started and expand the reach of what God has called TFC Global to be about: evangelize, educate, and equip those in the trucking community and their families to help them grow in their faith.

I also want to mention that we are able to host these trainings because of faithful financial donors. There is one man in particular who gives every month to the CCN (Corporate Chaplains Network). Without people like him, the cost to get started in chaplaincy with TFC Global would be higher. Our TFC Global supporters help us spread the impact of the gospel. Thank you for continuing to support the training of new chaplains.

If you or anyone you know wants to serve as a chaplain or simply learn about what chaplaincy is, sign up for our next training. By attending, you are not committing to anything. It is common for people to take the training to see if chaplaincy is what God is moving them toward. Our chaplain training is open to anyone: men, women, those already in ministry, those looking for continuing education requirements, and anyone looking to sharpen their ministry and counseling skills. To find out when the next CTI is being held, email info@tfcglobal.org for more information. We appreciate your interest in this program!

## END OF YEAR Giving

## **SUPPORT** TFC GLOBAL



#### Encouragement for Privers

Available when someone needs to talk; answer questions; attend hospital visits



#### Compassionate Presence

Assist HR with traumatic events; counsel employees; grief management



#### Inspirational Programming

Weekly podcast with trucking theme; Bible studies available; positive social media

When you support TFC Global, this is where your money goes -- being a ministry of presence to the trucking community through chaplaincy services.



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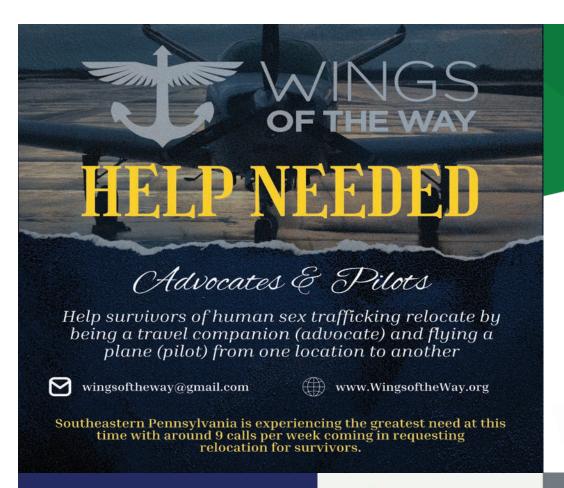


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SCAN ME







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Maintenance Director
to help take care of
the building and
grounds of our
headquarters in
Marietta, PA.

02

Volunteer
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as the need arises, to
file, entry of data, and
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YOUR
PARTNERSHIP
HELPS US
INCREASE
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To help TFC Global meet these needs, contact our office at info@tfcglobal.org or call 717-426-9977.

03

Volunteer
Communications
Assistant, each
month, to write
articles, design pages,
and put together our
magazine





**SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES** 

**NEEDED:** 

**Show Hauler** 

You do not have to be a truck driver to know about the increased number of trucks in the rest areas across America. More and more drivers are avoiding the truckstops because of time constraints, the cost of parking, and the transition away from caring for the truck driver versus the traveler.

TFC Global is looking for new ways of ministering to those drivers who frequent the rest areas along major highways. A vehicle like the one pictured would serve a dual purpose -care for drivers at rest areas and assistance

during a natural disaster. A show hauler would give a living space for chaplains as well as a place for gathering for prayer or conversation.

This type of vehicle is built with longevity in mind with a strong frame and aerodynamic design. Our prayer is that someone might have this type of vehicle to donate to TFC Global

for a mobile ministry.

MATCHING GRANT PROVIDED BY A GENEROUS PARTNER

\$5,000 TOWARD THE VEHICLE AND MINISTRY RESOURCES

**DUE: DECEMBER 4** 

**UPDATE: \$3541 RAISED** 



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Eyes were wide. "Wow!" exclaims the teacher out loud from the back of the classroom.

Career day at a local middle school was a new adventure for me. As the pastor of a church, being in front of people is not a new thing for me. However, being in front of middle schoolers and talking about trucking? That was new.

I shared things about a day in the life of a trucker, what truckers do, and what is involved in getting a CDL. I showed pictures of trucks, and even had kids guess how many trucks their shoes were on before they bought them at the store.

However, when I talked about the average salary of a truck driver, the class really perked up. Every one of the class (including the teacher) thought that drivers make pennies and can't afford to feed their families. Why would anyone believe that?

The system is teaching that you need to be smart or have a college education to be able to succeed. The problem is that in the class that had chosen to hear about trucking, there were many kids who struggle with life. There were some developmentally challenged as well as some who socially may not "fit". Others were boys who simply hated sitting in school. Nearly all felt like they were doomed to failure.

It is a powerful thing when we begin to look at our lives from a higher perspective than the world wants us to see.

First Corinthians 4 verse 7 says, "For who makes you differ [from another?] And what do you have that you did not receive? Now if you did indeed receive [it,] why do you boast as if you had not received [it?]"

It is so easy to look at our lives through the lens of what we don't have. To make matters worse, the world tells us that we are broken goods because of what we don't have. Yet according to the Bible, all good things come from God. He sends rain on those living for Him and those living against Him.

It is a powerful day when we can see the value He has given us and give Him the credit for what we have.



What has God given us? It might be a work ethic, maybe creativity, a heart for others, or maybe we were spared from death at some point in our lives.

No matter what, these are all things directly from God and not anything we earned. When we truly see this, our only response will be to say "thank you" and seek to follow Him with all our hearts.

Shawn Weaver serves as the senior pastor at ACTS Covenant Fellowship and as a driver for NHT Logistics.

## Leave a Legacy of Faith for IFC Global's future ministry to the trucking community.



You know the important work that TFC Global does. You understand that while some organizations are treating the symptoms of a broken world—sexual violence, divorce, fatherlessness, addiction, greed, and suicide—we are called to bring healing at the root-cause level.

As an investor in this important work, we invite you to take the long view along with us. Through your prayerful, planned giving to the work God is doing through TFC Global, you're building the kingdom of God and a legacy of changed lives.

In our **Planned Giving Options** below, to see a variety of wise, innovative ways for you to give. Thank you for making a difference in the lives of the men and women of the trucking community, their families, and the trucking community that will last not only long into the future, but for eternity.

- \* Stocks and bonds
- \* Real estate
- \* Retirement Assets
- \* Insurance benefits

Our faith partners support us financially because they support our vision — support it because they know a driver, are a driver themselves or own a trucking company — support it because God has called them to give.

For more information email info@tfcglobal.org or call our office at 717-426-9977.

What about you?

#### Receive an Income Stream by Making an IRA Gift to

### **TFC GLOBAL**

For individuals age 70 1/2 or older, the Secure 2.0 Ave allows you to direct up to \$50,000 of your IRA to fund a charitable gift annuity or charitable remainder trust.

#### Benefits of this gift include:

- Conversion of lump-sum distribution to a one- or two-life ordinary income stream
- Lifetime income payments of 5% or greater
- Tax-free distribution from your IRA
- Potentially reduce or eliminate your required minimum distribution this year
- Ability to direct your gift to any program of TFC Global

For more information, contact us at info@tfcglobal.org or call 717-426-9977.





# THE HISTORY OF AMERICAN THANKFULNESS

#### **BRAD HUDDLESTON**

In 1605, English explorer Captain George Weymouth sailed to North America, captured many Indians, and took them back to England. The Earl of Southampton, the expedition's sponsor, adopted the Indians. They lived with the Earl for nine years, where they learned the English language and customs. One of those Indians was a native called "Squanto." After nine years, he wanted to return home. In 1614, Captain John Smith obliged and brought Squanto back to North America.

As fate would have it, another Captain, the nefarious Thomas Hunt, captured twenty-seven Indians, including Squanto, and sold them into slavery in Spain. This terrible act caught the attention of some Spanish friars, who decided to raise the money to purchase the Indians who had not yet been sold. So, the friars freed the Indians, taught them about Christianity, and treated them very well.

Squanto wanted to return to England. After slowly working his way back to England, he spent an additional five years there before deciding to return home to North America in 1619. Upon returning home, Squanto learned that his entire tribe had been wiped out by disease. He then decided to befriend and live with the Wampanoag tribe.

In December, a ship arrived, which was uncommon as it was winter. The Wampanoag Indians watched the Pilgrims get off the ship and observed them throughout the winter. Winter was hard on these new arrivals, and when spring came, one of the Indians, named Samoset, approached the Pilgrims to speak with them. After establishing mutual trust, Samoset introduced the Pilgrims to Squanto, who spoke better English. The chief and Squanto formed a peace treaty with the Pilgrims. Squanto, who knew the ways of the Indians and the English, was pivotal in establishing the treaty.

It's easy to see the providence of God in this story. God had gone ahead of the Pilgrims to make sure they had a way, through the English-speaking Squanto, to form a peace treaty with hostile neighbors.

After the peace treaty was signed, Squanto decided to live with the Pilgrims and help them learn how to survive the harsh conditions in the New World. He taught them how to fish, trap, hunt, and raise crops (particularly corn). God used Squanto to help the Pilgrims survive. Not only did they survive, but they began to experience abundance, which was quite a contrast from the year before when half of the Pilgrims died, mainly from starvation.

With this new abundance and fall approaching, the Pilgrims decided to have a three-day festival of Thanksgiving to God. So, fifty-one Pilgrims and ninety Indian braves feasted together, thanked God, and had athletic events.

Although the preceding event is remembered as America's first Thanksgiving, it wasn't until 1863 that President Abraham Lincoln established a national Thanksgiving day that we still celebrate.

Most Americans have no idea that Governor William Bradford called for the three-day festival to thank God for His provision. Many Americans, including pastors, believe Christians should "stay out of politics." As a result, most Christians have steered clear of civic service in modern times, and we're paying a heavy price.

This month, I encourage all people privileged to be called "American" to commit to being intentional about expressing thankfulness, not for football, a day off of work, and way too much food, but for God's blessings and provision.

Our American history teaches us to be thankful. But unfortunately, we have failed to pass our God-given heritage on to the next generation. Change needs to happen, and it begins with thankfulness. An excellent place to start restoring thankfulness to our hearts is by heeding the exhortation of the old hymn "Count Your Blessings" by naming them one by one.

For more information, visit bradhuddleston.com. While there, be sure to check out my new book, Digital Rehab: Learning to Live Again in the Real World.

#### truckersfinalmile.org

#### In The News

In this section we will be sharing stories about drivers or their families that have been helped through this organization.



Over the road truck driver Mr. Shaun P. has been reunited with his family near Ft. Worth, Texas. Shaun's family wishes to thank everyone that donated to make this reunion possible.

#### Ways to Support Truckersfinalmile

- 1. Purchase a brick on the American Heritage Memorial truck. Each brick costs \$250 and are designated by family or friends to honor a driver who passed away. CB handles, military branch and rank are two ways that the brick can be customized to best memorialize the loved one.
- 2. Use the IGive website when shopping at your favorite stores. Many name brand stores are available for your needs. Each store gives a percentage of your final sale to truckersfinalmile.org. Download the widget at www.igive.com today to take advantage of sending funds directly to this worthy charity at stores you are already using for your shopping.
- Donate on the truckersfinalmile.org website or through TFC Global by scanning this code.



#### **KEEP THIS TRUCK ON THE ROAD**

Expensive repairs are part of the life of an independent owner-operator. Our truckersfinalmile.org truck is no different in needing repairs. Help us raise the funds to keep this truck and trailer on the road as a beautiful memorial and art piece representing our country. Contact the TFC Global office at info@tfcglobal.org or call 717-426-9977 to help with this goal.





Check out the Movin' Out magazine on their website at www.MovinOut.com. Like them on Facebook at Facebook.com/MovinOut.

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#### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

#### 18, NOVEMBER

Susquehanna Chapter Prayer Breakfast First Baptist Church, Sunbury PA, 8:00 am Contact Don at 570-374-9479

#### 25. NOVEMBER

Benton Arkansas Prayer Breakfast JJ's Truckstop, I-30, Exit 106 Benton, Arkansas Contact George at georgel@tfcglobal.org

#### 9, DECEMBER

Bucks-Mont Chapter Christmas Breakfast Franconia Heritage Restaurant, 8:00 am Contact Sam at 215-872-8426 or email samalicerittentfc@verizon.net.

If you were to die today, where would you spend eternity? You can know for sure.

- A. Admit you are a sinner. "For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God." (Romans 3:23)
- B. Believe in Jesus for the forgiveness of your sins and for eternal life. "For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him will not perish, but have eternal life." (John 3:16)
- C. Confess Jesus as your Savior and Lord, and turn from your sins. "If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved." (Romans 10:9)

To accept this free gift and ask Jesus to be the Lord of your life, pray the prayer below.

"Lord Jesus, I know that I'm a sinner. I believe that You died on the cross and shed Your blood to pay the penalty for my sins. Please forgive me and come into my life. You are my Savior and Lord."

We would love to hear about your salvation. Email TFC Global at info@tfcglobal.org or call 717-426-9977. Resources will be sent to help you grow in your faith.



In Memory of or In Honor of:

To find out how you can honor or remember a loved one, email info@tfcglobal.org.