



New Life Riders

Motorcyclists Serving God and Community

www.newliferiders.com

Gideon1520@Gmail.com

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Dear Friends,

Where has this year gone? Can you believe it is November! I have to laugh for I know that it is a dumb question. But it brought back a childhood memory. When I was a boy my grandfather told me more than once that there would come a day when time would fly by and I would wonder where the time had gone. As a child, I would often complain about the length of time between days off from school, holidays and other fun events. I am sure many of you did the same.

Kathy and I unfortunately were unable to attend the Third Annual Mid-West Roundup in Kentucky. We were ready to leave home when an eighteen wheeler struck a utility pole across the road from us, knocking it down and leaving our whole neighborhood without electricity. There we were in the dark and unable to open our garage door. We had really been looking forward to getting together with friends we hadn't seen for a long time. What a joy it would have been see their bright and smiling faces. After several phone calls and texts, it sounds like all who were in attendance had a great time.

However, this afternoon as Kathy and I went for a ride on Gideon, the autumn sun was throwing shadows from the trees on the road in front of us. The steel blue sky and the frosty cold air seemed to be saying, "Thanksgiving is just around the corner!"

Viewing the magnificent scenery makes us feel like we are riding into a picture postcard. The highways and back roads beckon us bikers to get in as many riding hours as possible before the first snowflake hits the ground. Fortunately, at this time of year, there are numerous charity events and activities where we can ride and enjoy the fellowship of friends in the biking community. Kathy and I always look forward to the November rides. They are usually hosted by local motorcycle clubs desiring to help others with items for Christmas. The toy runs and the rides to benefit the needy give all of us a two-fold reason to ride, helping others and enjoying the freedom of the road. I know that you all have favorite charity runs in the areas where you live. We can be thankful for the blessing of being able to help these good causes and have the opportunity to share the love of Jesus at the same time.

Yes, Thanksgiving is almost here! Of course, we should express our gratitude to the Lord every day. The Apostle Paul said, "Rejoice evermore. Pray without ceasing. In everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you." (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18)

News on the international and national scene has been turbulent and I know many of you are going through troubled times personally and it may seem hard to be thankful. But God is waiting to hear our praise and thanksgiving even in the most difficult times. He knows if you are grieving the loss of a loved one, dealing with serious health issues, if your place of employment has downsized or you are facing any number of negative situations that have come your way.

It is easy to be thankful when all is going well. The Prophet, Habakkuk, speaking in the seventh century BC, gives us some insights about expressing joy and gratitude when things are really tough. "Although the fig tree shall not blossom, neither shall fruit be on the vines; the labor of the olive shall fail, and the fields shall yield no meat; the flock shall be cut off from the fold, and there shall be no herd in the stalls; yet will I rejoice in the Lord, I will joy in the God of my salvation." (Habakkuk 3:17-18)

To bring Habakkuk's thoughts into the twenty-first century, "Though my bike breaks down and I can't afford the replacement parts, fuel prices are rising, though storms and droughts cause food shortages in the

supermarkets, the corporation I work for lays me off and my computer is plagued by a virus, yet I will rejoice in the Lord, I will joy in the God of my salvation.”

Habakkuk had struggled through his doubts and came to the place where he could say, “Even if all these terrible things may come my way, I will rejoice and be thankful.” The people of his day may have questioned his sanity, but we need to remember that people are watching us the way they watched the prophet. Some may even come to the Lord because they watch how we behave under adverse circumstances.

If you are searching for something to believe in or belong to, you are not alone. As Christian bikers, we strive to open our hearts to the world and accept each person as a child of God. We are by no means perfect, but we take seriously Christ’s call to invite all to participate in an experience of faith while working together to grow as disciples of Jesus Christ. As Christians we place Jesus Christ at the center of all we do. Our mission is at the heart of all we do: To make disciples of Jesus Christ!!

In Second Corinthians 5:17 we read, “Therefore if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation, old things are passed away, behold all things become new.” Christianity is a new life, a new beginning as Jesus lives in and through us. As we prayerfully read the Bible, with a desire to do God’s will, His Word strengthens us. We have a brand new way of thinking...So on these colder November days when you put on your leathers, remember you can have a new life when you “put on Christ.” Remember we are New Life Riders!

Communication is important. I would like to hear how the Lord is blessing you. Last month, I appreciated hearing from a few of you saying that you pass the newsletter around to your friends. As you know, I believe we can be followers of Christ and enjoy all that this life has to offer, the two are not mutually exclusive. Yes, you can be a believer and have fun! Jesus said “I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.” (John 10:10)

We update the website www.newliferiders.com often. Please keep checking it for biking events and activities that you can attend and let your light shine for Jesus. Remember, if because of time or distance, you are unable to attend the listed activities, and you know of one closer to your home, go and share the love of Jesus. Be a blessing! Don’t miss any opportunity to make an impact on the world. May you be blessed as you ride, work and witness for Him.

The New Life Riders ride with the purpose of serving God and the Community. You don’t have to join or belong to any particular organization to be part of our group. Please feel especially invited to come out and fellowship with us. We want you and your family to know that everyone is welcome.

Take a night off from dinner responsibilities and join us for good food and great fellowship at our next meeting on Friday, November 6 at 6:30 PM at Bob Evans Restaurant, 25 South High School Road, located just off Route 465 at the corner of High School Road and U.S. 36, Indianapolis.

Kathy and I wish you a blessed Thanksgiving Season as we all rejoice in the Lord and joy in the God of our salvation!

*Until next time, love Jesus and keep on doing the “good stuff.”
As always, I look forward to seeing you down the road!*

*God bless
Riding with Jesus,
Bob Dillon*



Jesus said, “Go into the world. Go everywhere and announce the Message of God’s good news to one and all.” Mark 16:15 (The Message)