



*Partnering with Churches & Ministries  
To reach the Unreached by taking the  
GOSPEL beyond the church walls*



## MONROEVILLE: [PART II]

There was a literal fire in the field where believers gathered around it to pray. They prayed for revival of hearts. They prayed for lost people to come to a saving faith in Christ. And, so the fire grew. Not in the field, but in hearts. It was a fire that could not be put out, though the devil tried.

In April 2016, Fire in the Field was held under a tent in a field. Some 350+ people gave their hearts to Jesus. This April, 2017, Fire in the Field continued. This time it moved to several locations in and around Monroeville. Sometimes it was inside the walls of a

church building. Other times it was in an outdoor tabernacle. The Word of God was preached through powerful words by evangelist, Ken Freeman. On the final night, Christian rap artists,

Flatline Movement, sang and Ken shared his life story. 65 youth and adults gave their lives to Jesus! Praise the Lord! The Fire lives on! "for our God is a consuming fire" Hebrews 12:29



**Evangelist, Ken Freeman, tells his life story**

### WHAT IS ACROSS FESTIVALS?

John and Jeanette Bush founded Across Festivals in January 2003. The vision of Across Festivals is to come 'alongside' churches, other ministries, and schools in small town America to reach the lost.

Across Festivals does this through area wide events such as crusades; festivals; or creative events, such as a fishing rodeo; or any special event that leads to interaction with individuals. The purpose of each event is to share the Good News of Jesus Christ. Across Festivals comes alongside middle, junior, & high schools bringing great speakers for motivational school assemblies. Each event is uniquely tailored to its specific area for the greatest local impact. All of these work together with the purpose of touching lives for Christ.

Across Festivals is thankful to its supporters who send the Bushes out by their prayers and donations. Prayer is the strategy! Without Faith Partners giving monthly or annual donations, Across Festivals would not be able to carry out the vision! Every prayer and donation makes an eternal difference.

### ACROSS FESTIVALS

*is an outreach ministry of  
Alternatives Inc. Ministries  
a 501(c)(3)  
Non-profit ministry*

This ministry is supported by  
tax-deductible  
gifts and donations.

Contributions should be made  
payable to:

**Across Festivals.**

Please pray if God would have  
you support this ministry.

A Comment about Fire in the Field from facebook: "If just one life had been changed, all the prayers and work put into Fire in the Field would have been worth it. Knowing that a total of 65 people gave their lives to Christ leaves us awestruck at the might and grace of our Savior. God bless Ken Freeman. God bless those who attended services this week. And, above all, praise God for the 65 lives that were changed!"

#### PRAYER: The Strategy

*"Prayer is not a substitute for action.  
It is an action for which there is no substitute."*

- Lost people to be drawn to Christ
- Upcoming crusades (see calendar)
- Evangelists and Musicians
- Travel mercy for the Bushes
- Good health
- New vehicle for ministry (current van at 231,000 miles!)

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## ***From the heart ....***

### **FAITH OVER FEAR**

I am so thankful that the Lord led me step to out in faith and follow His leading to establish Across Festivals. I have loved every place that the Lord has allowed me to serve as pastor or associate pastor. But I had known since 1992 that the Lord had spoken to me about doing a ministry calling the church outside the walls and He clearly showed me how to do just that. Was I fearful? Absolutely! Yet, we chose to live by faith and not by fear! There is always a tension between faith and fear.

Recently, I had a somewhat routine medical procedure. I went in to the outpatient clinic healthy, did the procedure and got a clean bill of health. Then at home I got very sick with aspiration pneumonia because of an interaction with anesthesia. I have never been so cold as I was that afternoon and the chattering of my teeth brought great concern to Jeanette. My greatest discomfort though was that I was supposed to travel to Haiti in seven days. Three days later, a Sunday, brought me despair and dejection over the seeming truth that I probably would be staying home. My phone began lighting up right after Sunday School time with class members telling me they were bearing down in prayer for me. At the Sunday evening service when my mission team was being commissioned, they stopped and specifically prayed for me to be healed. At 6 a.m. on Monday morning, I got a text from my friend, a neurosurgeon and team member asking if he could come by later that day to bring oil, lay hands on me, and pray. I said, "Absolutely!" Three medical doctors came to my house not to practice medicine, but to practice scripture! What a great moment! The next day I went to my doctor (who is also a prayer partner), took x-rays of my lungs and there was not any spot of pneumonia! He said, "I guess I can't tell you not to go to Haiti, but I sure wish you didn't have to ride the germinator (plane)." Let me just tell you that Haiti was God's plan for me!

While there we saw a "Matthew 17" fourteen-year-old boy who had been falling in fires. He was able to have an EEG, was diagnosed as epileptic and given medicine to care for him. And then, Dr. Greg, our neurologist, was asked to make a house call to see a stroke victim. Once there he began asking the pastor-translator about the salvation of each person in the room. He learned that most knew Christ but then he saw an older man sitting in a very dark corner almost out sight. Dr. Greg said, "What about him?" The translator said the man wouldn't talk with them because he practiced voodoo. Dr. Greg said, "I'll talk with him though", and he took his stool over and sat down right in front of the man. He began telling him about Jesus. The man wouldn't look at Dr. Greg but kept saying "Everybody needs Jesus." Dr. Greg boldly reached out and grabbed the man's chin and turned his face toward him. With the other hand he told him firmly that he needed Jesus and kept sharing scripture. The man began to tremble and said 'Yes, he did'. He then began confessing his sins and cried out to Jesus. All of sudden the man called his sons to help him. They gathered all his voodoo idols, bags of money, all the evil things, took it out in the yard and burnt it. It was scripture coming alive! Faith over fear always wins!

And lastly, just a few weeks ago as I headed to a town where we were scheduled to do a crusade, I asked Jeanette and a few others to really pray as fear seemed to be winning the day. I was really afraid the strategy team I was about to meet with might cancel the crusade which was to start in five days. But, after much praying, the team said "We are going to do this no matter what because the Lord told us to do it." Ten days later 65 souls had become members of God's family and a couple thousand people had been touched with the Word of God in some form or fashion. Faith is worth it all no matter what. Is it always easy? Can we always see the outcome? Absolutely not! "Faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen." (Hebrews 11: 1) I encourage each of you to live by faith and not by sight. Have Faith over fear! Faith It!

... **John**



(above) Ken Freeman speaks to 800 students at School Assembly

Coming alongside public and private high schools, jr. high, or middle schools is one of the greatest things Across Festivals offers. Evangelists chosen by Across Festivals normally do 2 or assemblies a day, as well as preach at night. Ken Freeman's talk, "Choices 101"; Frank Shelton's message on "Character"; and Bo Shedd's challenge "America's Too Young to Die"; are examples of powerful assemblies that captivate students and teachers alike. Most schools today are financially strapped and could not afford speakers like these. Across Festivals offers them free to the schools and raises extra monies to help compensate the speakers. The benefit in offering assemblies beyond the motivation given young people, is that many students then come to the crusades and hear the Gospel. Please consider helping in this great effort. Your Sunday School Class or Church, a business, any organization to which you belong, or individuals, can sponsor an assembly by a donation of \$300 to \$500. Make checks to: 'Across Festivals' with 'School Assembly' in the memo. Our desire is to do 27 more assemblies this year. Will you come alongside us in this endeavor? It makes a difference!

### 2017 CALENDAR

APRIL 30—MAY 4

Jackson, MS crusade

JUNE 19—23

Montgomery, AL VBS

AUGUST 12—18

Haiti Mission Trip

OCTOBER 1—5

Atmore, AL crusade

OCTOBER 15—19

Butler, AL crusade

OCTOBER 15—31

Mtgy, AL, Judgment House

NOVEMBER 5—9

Russell County, crusade

DECEMBER 30—JANUARY 1

Myrtle Beach, SC

Big God Conference