



ADVENTURE JOURNAL

JUNE 2026

Living the Adventure Ministries guides the way to a growing relationship with Jesus through mission experiences.

Connect to Living the Adventure Ministries

Matt Henson, Lead Evangelist & Executive Director

Facebook: facebook.com/livingtheadventure

Website: livingtheadventure.net

Email: matt@livingtheadventure.net Phone: 618-830-6670

India Travels

My time in India was truly a blessing. I had the opportunity to learn more about the education system within the Methodist Church of India during my visit to the Methodist High School in Kanpur. I was able to share with the staff and students about the Christian Ashram ministry. I also attended the VBS closing. I encouraged the children and gave them their Certificates for attendance.

In Lucknow, I spent about five hours with the director of Nur Manzil Psychiatric Center, an institution E. Stanley Jones founded 75-years ago. I met with the doctors and leaders who watch over the day-to-day operations of the center. The need for psychiatric services was evident as I walked through the waiting area full of people needing treatment and counseling. The emphasis on ministry to the whole person was a hallmark of E. Stanley Jones' ministry and today through Nur Manzil and the E. Stanley Jones Foundation there is an emphasis on mental health and suicide prevention.

Finally, I spent one-week at the Sat Tal Estate where I attended the English-speaking Christian Ashram, the Sat Tal Christian Ashram Board Meeting, and the beginning of the Hindi-speaking Christian Ashram. It was wonderful to spend time with brothers and sisters in Christ and to share about the Kingdom of God with those in attendance. We plan to return in October 2027. If you have an interest in traveling to India, please contact me (matt@livingtheadventure.net or 618-830-6670).

Jamaica

My son, Isaiah, and I will travel to Jamaica on July 20-28. We will be working with the Methodist Church in Jamaica. Please keep us in your prayers as we continue to build our relationship with the Jamaican Church and look toward future trips. I am planning another trip to Jamaica in January 2027. If you are interested in learning more about future trips, please contact Matt (matt@livingtheadventure.net or 618-830-6670).

Basecamp

I made a short video about Basecamp on the LTA Facebook page. Check it out and "Like" our page.

A Friend Remembered

In January, I traveled to Phoenix, Arizona, to participate in the ordination of a brother in Christ and a man who had invited me on his ordination adventure in the Episcopal Church. Jim and Joyce Graves hosted me on my first trip to the Arizona Christian Ashram in 2021. As we talked in the living room that first night before the Christian Ashram, I found in Jim a spiritual brother who wrestled with some of the same theological questions, daily struggles with inattentiveness, and a desire to be at the center of God's will. He shared how he felt a call to the ministry at an earlier stage in life, but through decisions at the denominational level, he was denied the pursuit of that calling.

In 2023, Jim wrote me a message inviting me to walk with him as spiritual mentor during his ordination process. His bishop was skeptical but willing. Over the past three years, we were companions on this adventure together. We set out at the beginning to not have an agenda and to have a relationship where we would live out Proverbs 27:17, "As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another." As we spoke, the Holy Spirit would give us a topic to discuss. Jim would say something that I would write down because it spoke to a present condition or situation in my life. There were times, I would say something, and I would watch Jim writing down what I had said. It was truly a blessing for both of us.

On the morning of May 2, I received a call from one of our mutual friends. Jim had gone to sleep on a Friday night and slipped into the arms of Jesus. My heart sank. He and I decided at the end of his ordination process that we were not going to stop meeting. We needed one another and we looked forward to our meeting each month.

Jim taught me the importance of a spiritual brother in Christ. Though I was supposed to be the mentor, we were simply two brothers seeking to live the adventure together. His passion, love for Jesus, and love for his family will always be a great memory. Please keep his family in your prayers.

Favorite Psalm: Psalm 27

Several years ago, our friend and former church member, Rhonda called me. Her and her family moved to Georgia about the time my family had made the obedient step into full-time mission and evangelism. Rhonda’s husband, Rob, was being placed on hospice. He was dying from cancer at the age of 47 years old. I traveled to Georgia soon after her call to spend time with Rob and his family. There were so many holy moments that day as family and friends visited, we talked about Jesus, and we watched football together.

There was a point in our day when I had to say goodbye and head back home. I knew it was likely this would be my last time seeing Rob on this side of heaven. He shared his confidence in salvation and his knowledge of Christ’s love for him. Just as when Rob and I spent time in recommitment prayer many years prior, we once again affirmed our shared faith and confidence in salvation and resurrection.

About one week later, Rhonda called to tell me Rob had passed from this life into the arms of Jesus. As we prayed together and talked together, she told me a story that touched my heart and made Psalm 27 one of my favorite Psalms.

As Rob was declining and moving toward the end of his life, he asked Rhonda, “Is this the end? Am I dying?” Rhonda responded, “Rob, it seems like you are at the end.” Rob said, “What do I do now?” Rhonda responded, “I don’t know, but Pastor Matt always told us when there are questions, we can find God’s answer in here [holding up the Bible I had gifted to Rob].”

As Rhonda told me about the experience, she shared how the Holy Spirit led her to the Psalms. She started reading at Psalm 1 and continued. As she moved from Psalm to Psalm, it seemed the answer they were seeking was not coming forth. As she approached Psalm 23, she was certain this great Psalm would provide the comfort and the answer. Yet, even Psalm 23 was not speaking to their hearts and Rob’s question, “What do I do now?”

As she started to read Psalm 27, her heart began to find peace. She read, “*The Lord is my light and my salvation—whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life—of whom shall I be afraid*” (verse 1). She continued, “*One thing I ask from the Lord, this only do I seek: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to gaze on the beauty of the Lord and to seek his temple*” (verse 4). Then she came to the final two verses, “*I remain confident of this: I will see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living. Wait for the Lord; be strong and take heart and wait for the Lord*” (Verses 13-14).

Rhonda closed the Bible and said, “Rob, I think we have our answer. We need to wait for the Lord.” She shared

how the peace of God filled the room, as she and Rob waited for the Lord in the confidence that he would see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living.

My eyes filled with tears as Rhonda shared this holy moment with me. During this new season in Rob’s life, his confidence in the Lord was that he would be entering the land of the living. He was simply waiting in peace on this new season.

Psalm 27 has become a favorite Psalm in my life because I pray each follower of Jesus would have this confidence when they come to the time of life on this earth coming to an end. In Romans 8:16-17, Paul speaks of this confidence when he writes, “*The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God’s children. Now if we are children, then we are heirs—heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory.*”

In Christ we have a confidence of God’s presence with us in life and in death. The promises of God are true that the Lord is our light, our salvation, and our life. We have nothing to fear because the Lord is with us. We can confidently wait on the Lord in our struggles and suffering because we know the Lord is faithful.

Do you have the confidence that you will enter the land of the living when your eyes on this earth close in death? If not, I would love to talk with you more (matt@livingtheadventure.net or 618-830-6670).

Prayer: Lord, death is not easy to comprehend or to walk through. Yet, we know you are with us and we can have the confidence that we will enter the land of the living. If we do not have that confidence, show us where fear and uncertainty inhabit our lives and help us confess sin and fear to you. Please give us confidence. In Jesus’ name. Amen.

Malawi

Our next Malawi Trip is August 7-23. Please pray for our team: Mandy Atwood and Matt Henson as they make preparations. They will lead leadership seminars, Christian Ashrams, and encourage creative artisans who are marketing their skills. They will also have an opportunity to visit a rural village where Living the Adventure Ministries is partnering with Jesus Power Ministries.

Mission Funding

Please prayerfully consider supporting Living the Adventure Ministries during this time of increased expenses for flights and fuel. We budget each year for expected costs. Because of fuel issues in places like Malawi, our cost to be in ministry have increased. Your support of Living the Adventure Ministries helps us offset those expenses so we can be in ministry around the world. Contributions can be made on our website or via check in the enclosed envelope or via mail: 203 N 2nd Street, Albion, IL 62806.

Upcoming Events

July 13-16 Bridgewater Christian Ashram
July 20-28 Jamaica Mission Trip
August 7-22 Malawi Mission Trip
August 27-29 UCAI Board Meeting in OKC
Sept. 20 1st Baptist Church Greenfield Pulpit Supply

Haiti Store has Moved

We have moved our Haiti store to Basecamp at 20 W Main Street, Albion, IL. During the summer months, you will need to contact Matt to coordinate a time to visit Basecamp as he is traveling a lot this summer. You can see items on July 25 following the Edwards County Fair Parade.

We have several new items. Come check out our gift and home decor selections.