

Another Word August 10, 2026

To our family and friends of King Road Christian Church

As I set here, the pounding on the roof is in full swing. It appears that it all should be completed sometime on Tuesday. One less thing we will have to worry about in the coming years. And doesn't it make the building look great! Thanks to all who have helped make this project happen.

We have debated what Bible study we should start next. More and more of you have asked for a study in the book of Romans. It is a 19-week study that we can start in mid-September for 9 weeks then after Advent and Christmas, finish up the other 10 before Easter. I will put out a sign-up sheet soon so we will know how many books to order.

It was a very informative Sunday with the missionary team of Matthew and Megan. Hearing about the everyday trials of Christians in other countries was eye-opening. Through your generous donations we were able to send them a check for \$4,000. God bless you and may God continue to keep them safe and bless their important work to expand His Kingdom.

As we go to prayer please remember Tom Putt, Sandy Hockenberry, Chase Rospert, Fred Brady, and Sandy Riffle (friend of Greg and Rich).

Dear Heavenly Father, we thank You for this day, and the great opportunities You shower upon us. We ask for Your blessings on our families and friends. Continue to show us the needs that are around us and how we can be Your hands to a world that is in such need of You and Your Holy presence. We lift up to You those who need Your healing

and loving touch: _____. To You we offer our lives and commitment, in the name of Jesus our Savior, Amen

While in college I worked for Ashland Florist. It was a great learning experience. I not only learned to grow and tend flowers but also learned the art of arranging and the daily workings of a business. Often, I was sent on trips to other greenhouses around the state to pick up or deliver cut flower orders that were needed.

One time in late June I was asked to attend a flower convention in Montgomery, Alabama. I was to take notes and report back as to how the florists in the south handled the heat, especially with freshly cut flowers. Wow! What an honor! To think they trusted me with such an assignment. I left June 28th and was expected to be home July 7th.

I learned quite a few things on that trip. It was a great time and couldn't wait to get back home to show and tell what I learned, and of course to get back home and see Donita. So, instead of spending an extra night out in a motel, I decided to drive all the way through and get home late on the 6th. Oh, did I mention this was July 1969?

It was well after midnight as I turned off the interstate. Something in the air seemed a little off; not quite right. As I came in on East Main, there were stacks and stacks of furniture, carpets, and chairs all along the road. I thought that there must be another spring cleanup going on. When I got to Ashland Avenue there was a barricade that said, ROAD CLOSED. I thought, what do you mean, I just drove a thousand miles, and I can't go another ¼ mile to my house?! I was tempted to go around the barricade to get home. If I had, I would have blindly driven into the swollen and fast flowing town creek. The bridge was out.

The little incident we call “The 1969 Fourth of July Flood” reminds me of a similar situation in one of my favorite Bible stories.

In Acts 16, Paul and Silas want to go to Asia (present day Turkey) to spread the Good News. But when they get to the edge of the province, the Holy Spirit stops them from entering. A “ROAD CLOSED” barricade if you will. They try numerous times to enter, but every time, they are blocked.

Barricades and detours aren’t always rejections. Quite often they can be the work of the Holy Spirit just redirecting us to a safer way or to something better. I had to drive a few more blocks west to find a safe way home. In Paul’s case, after being disappointed, he had a dream of a man asking for his help in Macedonia. In this case, God said no to Paul’s plan because He was preparing him for something better; taking the Gospel to Europe for the very first time.

So, the next time a “ROAD CLOSED” sign gets in your way, don’t fret or attempt to go around. It just may be God either redirecting you to a safer way or preparing you for something much greater.

In His Peace,

Rich