

DECEMBER 2023

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## MISSIONARY TO THE AMISH

HOPE INTERNATIONAL MISSIONS | NORTH AMERICA



Hello friends and family,

The Lord has been so good over this past year! He has led me to new adventures, and I am excited about what God is doing.

As some of you know, I have worked at a local grocery store since I arrived in Pennsylvania. I worked there full time for a while but began to realize I needed to back off gradually to part time. I eventually was able to work only one day a week at the store and began driving for the Amish full time. I worked that schedule for a year. Finally in August I felt God leading me to completely quit working at the store.

I am really enjoying driving for the Amish. I have traveled thousands of miles, but it has been fun and exciting. One afternoon around 4 p.m. I got a call to pick up a group that needed to go to Indiana for a funeral. My schedule allowed it, and I traveled all night. One perk about that trip was the funeral was near my grandmother, and I was able to see her for a few hours.

The Lord has been with me over the many miles, and I need to praise Him for it. He has helped me stay awake during the overnight trips and has kept us from accidents. I did have an



Amish Wedding

incident recently where we broke down at 1 a.m., but we were close enough to home to get help quickly. I have been truly blessed!

I traveled to Indiana again to take an Amish man to a wedding at the beginning of November. If I have the opportunity, I like to share about the Bible and what it means to be a Christian. On this particular trip I had the opportunity to discuss how to get to heaven. We talked about missionary work and what that really means. He told how the Amish feel about it, and I tried to give my views on it without letting the man know I was a missionary to his own people. I do not believe that would have been received with approval. My prayer is that something I said will be used by God and strike a chord in his heart for the truth.

Not only am I driving full time, I am also going back to school for a master's degree in ministry. I have learned so much already that I have been able to put it into practice before the semester is even over. My desire is to get as many tools as possible so I can be more useful to the people I work with.

A couple years ago I heard about a tent meeting for the Amish a few hours from where I live. It was a great success, and it planted a seed in my mind to do that in my area. Plans are being formed to begin a similar event. I contacted the man in charge of the other tent meeting. It was refreshing to hear how God was working in his area. I am now gathering a team to lead this event. Many decisions have to be made and a lot of work done, but I believe God is leading us to hold this meeting. I am excited to see what amazing things God wants to do with it. Please pray that God will open the right doors, lead us to the right leaders, and most of all that souls will be saved.

Another dream of mine is to start a Bible study for the Amish/former Amish. I've been in contact with a former Amish couple that attends another holiness church in our area, and they are interested in meeting with me. I would love to see that Bible study grow and produce other small group Bible studies. Right now we are still in the planning stage, but I am hoping to start this at the beginning of next year. Please pray the Lord will continue to open the right doors.

Sincerely,

*Stephanie Walter*

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