

# The Gospel Road



Travel the Gospel Road...



October 17 - 29, 2017 (13 days)

## HIGHLIGHTS



- \* Lunch Concert with Woody & Vonnie Wright
- \* Gaither Resources in Alexandria, IN
- \* Gaither Homecoming Studio Tour
- \* Tour of Bill Gaither's Hometown
- \* The Kramer Family Dinner Concert
- \* Warner Sallman Collection Original Images of Christ
- \* The Creation Museum
- \* The Ark Encounter - Life Sized Noah's Ark
- \* Museum of Appalachia
- \* Music Road Inn - Pigeon Forge
- \* Biblical Times Dinner Theatre
- \* Dollywood Southern Gospel Harvest Celebration
- \* Southern Gospel Hall of Fame Museum
- \* Applewood Farmhouse
- \* Samaritan's Purse World Headquarters (2 locations)
- \* Billy Graham Library & Homestead in Charlotte, NC
- \* The Carlisle Inn - Sugarcreek
- \* "Mennonite Girls Can Cook!" Musical
- \* The Booth Brothers Concert - Blue Gate Theatre
- \* Amish Faith Tour & Amish Home Meal
- \* The Shrine of Christ's Passion
- \* The Billy Graham Center Museum - Wheaton College
- \* The Royal Oak Farm
- \* "Elvis Lives" - Fireside Dinner Theatre



The Kramer's



Samaritan's Purse

# An Incredible Inspirational Journey!



**Creation Museum**

## Day 1 - Home to Le Roy, IL

This is primarily a travel day today, striving to get as many miles under our belt as we can so we can begin our Gospel Adventure tomorrow. The journey will be very pleasing as we travel through the fall colors of beautiful Wisconsin and into northern Illinois to the small village of Le Roy. We enjoy a welcome dinner tonight at Jack's, well known for their "all made-from-scratch" offerings.

**Included Meals: Dinner**

**Hotel: Holiday Inn Express**

## Day 2 - Le Roy to Anderson, IN

Our journey continues "Down the Gospel Road" winding our way to Alexandria, Indiana, home of Gaither Family Resources and gospel music greats Bill & Gloria Gaither. We are warmly greeted by the Gaither folks as we are served a delicious lunch right at their Resource Center. (Topped off with Vestal's famous Coconut Cake or Gloria's Raspberry Cake) The "Gospel" part of this tour gets off to a great start with the musical entertainment of Homecoming favorite, gospel artist and song writer Woody Wright and his lovely wife Vonnice. Woody's songs have been recorded by almost every artist in gospel music. This will be a special treat you'll long remember. Next we are privileged to an inside tour of their historic studios (site of the very first Homecoming video), as well as the headquarters of Gaither Music. A guided tour of Alexandria, Bill & Gloria's hometown, complete with stories of Bill's boyhood days, is led by our all time favorite, Marge, who really makes this all "come alive!" You will be able to visit the fantastic gift shop and Gaither Family Resources, where every Homecoming Video ever recorded and the largest collection of gospel music CDs you've ever seen are available for purchase. Don't forget your credit card! We check into our lovely hotel and rest a bit before dinner, served at Anderson University and proudly claimed by Ralph Engel as his alma mater. Ralph is just one of the many famous personalities that hail from it's halls. Other distinguished alumni include Sandi Patty, Steven Curtis Chapman, Bill & Gloria Gaither, Doug Oldham, Steve Green and former Dodger's pitcher Carl Erskine. Following dinner we are privileged to an incredible private gospel concert by The Kramer Family. Their specialty is many of the old hymns we all adore. The family performs at over 200 events a year. Rachel Kramer has one of the most dynamic voices you've ever heard and was honored to

sing at the National Prayer Breakfast personally invited by President George W. Bush and First Lady, Laura Bush. What a special treat!

**Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner**

**Hotel: Hampton Inn**

## Day 3 - Anderson to Hebron, KY

Following breakfast we go immediately back to Anderson University and the Warner Sallman Collection of original images of Christ including: "Head of Christ;" "Praying in Gethsemane;" "The Lord is my Shepherd;" "Christ at Hearts Door" among many others. A special blessing to be in the presence of these familiar, beloved paintings. We are back on the road again for a of couple hours, making our way to the famous Creation Museum in Petersburg, Kentucky. Prepare to believe! This incredible 70,000 sq ft facility brings the pages of the Bible to life. You will be on your own for lunch at the museum's very own Noah's Café. The Planetarium Show will "knock your socks off!" We will have ample time to explore this one-of-a-kind faith experience. One never fails by going to a Bob Evans, so we enjoy an included dinner together there this evening.

**Included Meals: Breakfast, Dinner**

**Hotel: Country Inn**

## Day 4 - Hebron to London, KY

We are off first thing this morning for a very adventuresome day. The Ark Encounter is a new project of The Creation Museum. Located near Williamstown, Kentucky, "Encounter" is the fitting name for this incredible experience. A recreation of Noah's Ark, it is almost one and a half football fields long and taller than a 4 story building. Be prepared to be blown away by this reconstruction of the Ark to its exact size and detail according to the Bible. We have dedicated almost a full day for you to carefully explore what is now a world destination. (Reservations are required almost a year in advance!) Your faith will be reinforced! Lunch will be on your own at restaurants right at the location. Leaving The Ark we travel across the pastoral rolling hills of Kentucky famously known as "horse country," to London, KY, our resting place for the night. Dinner is again included this evening at Golden Corral, with great choices to please all tastes.

**Included Meals: Breakfast, Dinner**

**Hotel: Holiday Inn Express**

### Day 5 - London to Pigeon Forge, TN

Enjoy a great hot breakfast at our hotel before heading off to our wonderful "packed full of events" day. What an amazingly gorgeous drive through the Appalachian Mountains! We arrive at the Museum of Appalachia in Clinton, Tennessee. This is a delightfully relaxing parklike expanse of grounds featuring many old buildings and displays of the long ago days of country music. Enjoy lunch on your own at their quaint café with ample time to explore this one-of-a-kind village. It's a great spot! Then it's on to Pigeon Forge. This area is "the new Branson." You'll thoroughly enjoy our beautiful hotel, The Music Road Resort Inn, our home for the next two nights. We arrive early enough in the afternoon to rest up a little before our evening's adventure, The Biblical Times Dinner Theatre, one of the top shows of its kind in the country. Their featured presentation is "Joseph, The Story of Jesus."

**Included Meals: Breakfast, Dinner**

**Hotel: Music Road Inn (2 Nights)**

### Day 6 - Pigeon Forge

It's Sunday! What a beautiful day and time of year to be in the Smoky Mountains! We get to celebrate this day as guests at the world renowned Dollywood theme park. What is so special, to our delight, is the Southern Gospel Harvest Celebration with concerts all day in many venues throughout the Park. Also located in the Park is the Southern Gospel Music Museum & Hall of Fame. Lunch will be on your own at the Park. Dinner this evening is served family style at one of our favorite dining spots, The Applewood Farmhouse.

**Included Meals: Breakfast, Dinner**

### Day 7 - Pigeon Forge to Wilkesboro, NC

After breakfast we will journey across Eastern Tennessee, through the Great Smoky Mountains to Wilkesboro, North Carolina and the World Headquarters of Samaritan's Purse. We enjoy lunch right here before a very informative inside look at Franklin Graham's compassionate organization that strives to provide for the physical and spiritual needs of millions all over the world. Ever wondered where all those Christmas Shoe Boxes go? This will be an eye opening experience we will never forget!

**Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch**

**Hotel: Holiday Inn Express**

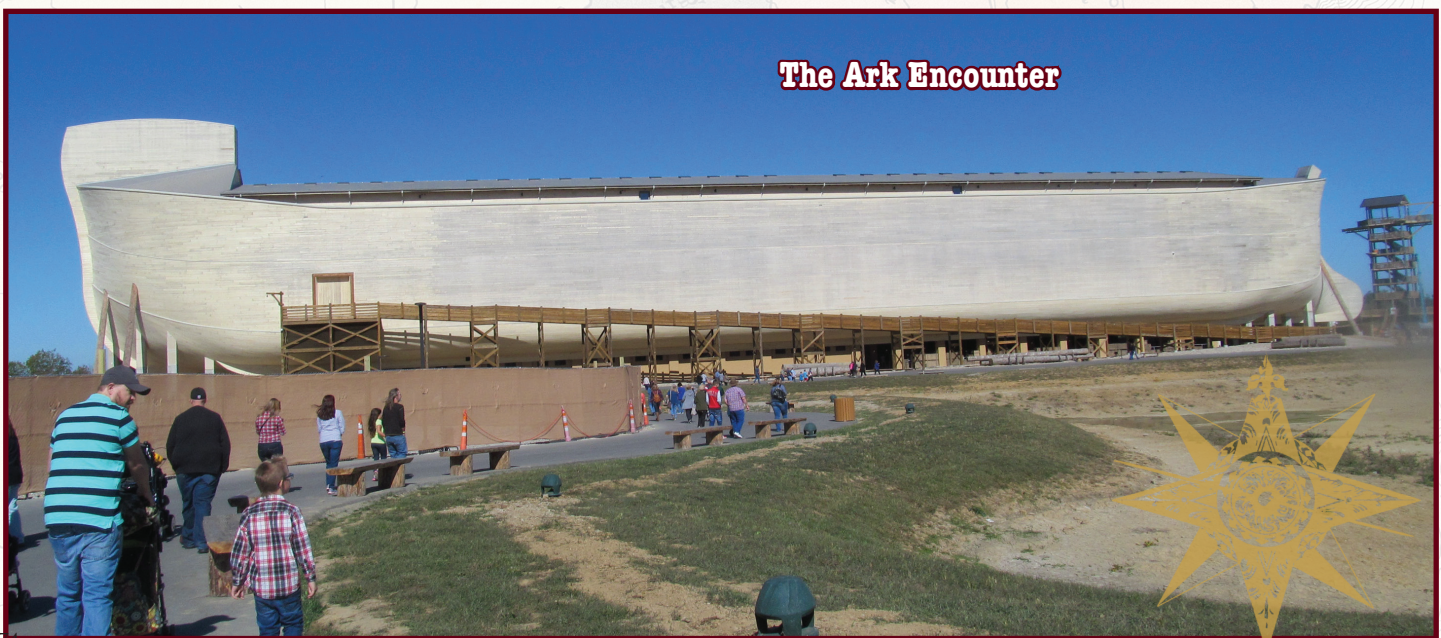
### Day 8 - Wilkesboro to Charlotte, NC

Following our nice hot breakfast we journey just a few short miles away to another critical branch of The Samaritan's Purse. This is the distribution center where we witness the fascinating logistics

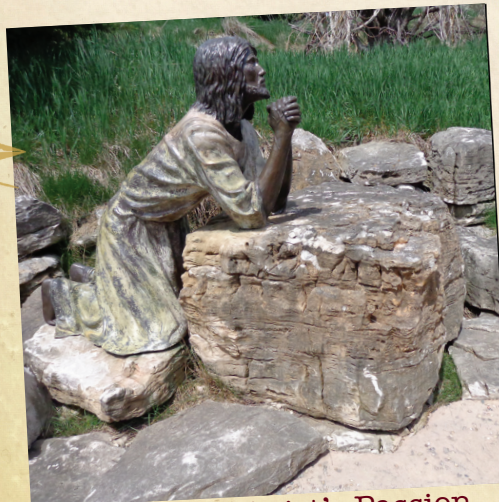


**Gaither Recording Studio**

of shipping these needed goods world wide! Also, their Disaster Response Teams are headquartered here. Marvel at the amazing planning and preparation involved in providing such a critical humanitarian service. Then we are off winding our way through the NC mountains to the famous Billy Graham Library in Charlotte... what is in store for us today can only be imagined! Before our tour, included lunch is provided right in the Library at the Graham Bros. Dairy Bar. Now for what will likely be the highlight of the trip, The Billy Graham Library and Museum. The Billy Graham Library tops the all time high for spiritual blessings! Retrace Billy Graham's dynamic journey through stunning multi media presentations, interactive kiosks, photos and memorabilia all done with state-of-the-art technology. When you are finished, you will absolutely realize it's not about the man "Billy Graham" but about his "God fearing dedication to his Lord & Savior." Included on the site is Billy's boyhood home and Ruth's (his dear wife) gravesite. People, by the tens of thousands, have been making pilgrimages from all over the world to witness this presentation of the Ministry of Billy Graham, his wife Ruth, and his team and associates. For many, this is a life altering experience. You will truly love the rich heritage and deep spiritual impact of this "God Spot." Our hotel this evening is



**The Ark Encounter**



**Shrine of Christ's Passion**



**Booth Brothers**

located just north of Charlotte. Dinner is on your own tonight with many great restaurant choices within easy walking distance.

**Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch**  
**Hotel: Hampton Inn (Mooresville)**

### Day 9 - Mooresville to Sugarcreek, OH

Today is a delightful travel day through the western mountain regions of North Carolina, Virginia & West Virginia to the Amish country of Ohio. We pause for lunch on your own at Tamarack, featuring all West Virginia made products. Then we will enjoy the warm Dutchman hospitality of the incomparable Carlisle Inn in Sugarcreek, Ohio. Amish dinner is served this evening before the hilarious and enlightening Musical, "Mennonite Girls Can Cook" at the Ohio Star Theatre.

**Included Meals: Breakfast, Dinner**  
**Hotel: The Carlisle Inn**

### Day 10 - Sugarcreek to Shipshewana, IN

Breakfast is served at the hotel before a short drive to the Smucker's Home Store. "With a name like Smucker's, it has to be good!" You'll be amazed at how many famous brands are included under the Smucker's umbrella. Lunch will be on your own as we travel the Ohio and Indiana countryside to our stop for the night, the Farmstead Inn in Shipshewana. This evening's dinner show is one of the top features of The Gospel Road. The Booth Brothers have been performing since 1998 and have received countless music and gospel awards. They have been named Gospel Music's Artist of the Year or Group of the Year award each of the last 10 years! This male trio has a sound of close harmony and very pleasing tone and sing the style of gospel music we all enjoy, including well known familiar hymns of the church. This is awesome!

**Included Meals: Breakfast, Dinner**  
**Hotel: Farmstead Inn**

### Day 11 - Shipshewana to Schererville, IN

A great Amish breakfast prepares us for a unique and enlightening day. A guide well versed in Amish ways boards our coach for a tour of Amish Country. The tour will especially focus on the faith and traditions of the Amish people and how they live that out in their daily lives. The tour will conclude with an included lunch at an Amish home. This will be a captivating experience. We depart Amish country and arrive in St. John, Indiana, the home of The Shrine of Christ's Passion. The Shrine is a multi-media interactive, half-mile winding trail that depicts the last days of Jesus' life. Forty life-sized bronze sculptures in a tranquil setting, complete with beautiful music and amazingly sculptured gardens, allow visitors to

experience the story of the crucifixion and resurrection as never before. Dinner is served this evening at another of our favorite spots, Teibels Restaurant.

**Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner**  
**Hotel: Hampton Inn**

### Day 12 - Schererville to Ft. Atkinson, WI

Today the Gospel Road takes us through - of all places - Chicago-land! We make our way through city traffic to the suburban city of Wheaton, home to The Billy Graham Center Museum, located on the campus of Wheaton College. The BGC Museum hosts 40,000 guests per year and has been in operation since 1980. We will enjoy a unique visual overview of the history of Christian Evangelism and its influence on American society. Next we journey to Royal Oak Farm for lunch on your own in a casual farm setting, complete with a wagon tour, apple cider and even the country's first and only apple tree maze! This is our last evening together and we spend it in fine fashion at The Fireside Dinner Theater. The dining is sublime and the feature show tonight is "Elvis Lives." Many folks don't realize that Elvis got his musical start in church and much of his career focused on gospel music, recording many gospel songs and albums.

**Included Meals: Breakfast, Dinner**  
**Hotel: Holiday Inn Express**

### Day 13 - Ft. Atkinson to Home

This is Sunday, so our coach will serve as our "traveling chapel" as we make our way home. Thank you for traveling The Gospel Road with us!

**Included Meals: Breakfast**

## 2017 DATES & PRICES

DATES:	October 17 - 29, 2017 (13 Days)	
PRICE PER PERSON:	\$2,799 Double	\$3,599 Single
	\$2,599 Triple	\$2,449 Quad
PRICE INCLUDES:	26 Meals, Hotels & Activities as stated in brochure, Luxury Motorcoach	
DEPOSIT DUE PER PERSON:	\$100 pp deposit at time of reservation, Full payment due 30 days prior to departure.	
OPTIONAL TRAVEL PROTECTION P/P:	\$170 Double (per person) / \$226 Single	
R&J TRAVEL BUCKS	\$40 Travel Bucks Earned with this Tour	
TOUR PACE:	Light to Moderate Walking	

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