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Searching for a firm foundation



Pastors Ken Marshall (center) and William Malone (right) of Greece Assembly of God Church lead a prayer for healing.



Jim Martin prays during the praise and worship segment of the Aug. 9 service. Martin, a former Catholic, has been a member of the Greece congregation for eight years.

Fundamentalism offers true believers sense of stability in an unstable world

By Lee Strong

Carol Geer and her family were faithful Catholics — until five years ago.

They attended weekly Mass, helped with the annual Thanks Giving Appeal and worked at their parish's fall festival.

But something was lacking, Geer said.

"We'd walk in (to church), sit down, go through the service, and just leave," she recalled. "There was no bonding."

Today, Geer and her husband are active at Greece Assembly of God Church. In addition to singing in the choir, they serve as pastoral-care leaders — a core group of people who meet with or individually telephone about 10 fellow church members each month to offer help, support and prayer.

And their daughter Carol is at a Bible college, studying to be a missionary.

"We just felt something very different at Greece (Assembly of God)," Geer said. "What we felt was the presence of the Lord."

The Geers are not alone in leaving the Catholic Church for the Greece Assembly of God congregation.

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During the sermon, worshippers take notes and highlight biblical references being discussed by the pastor.

Photos by Babette G. Augustin