



VOICE OF THE APPALACHIAN CONFERENCE OF THE IPHC

MESSENGER

Vol. 81, No. 7 July/August 2020

**“If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves,
and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways**



**then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their
sin, and will heal their land.” 2 Chronicles 7:14**

Appalachian Conference

INTERNATIONAL PENTECOSTAL HOLINESS CHURCH



AUGUST/SEPTEMBER RETIRED MINISTERS

AUGUST 3

Rev. Mrs. Connie Black
134 Hurricane Ridge Road
Bluefield, WV 24701

AUGUST 12

Rev. Billy Boggs
841 Duckview Court
Winston-Salem, NC 27106

AUGUST 20

Rev. James Hopkins
110 Linkous Ave, Apt B-103
Dublin, VA 24084

AUGUST 29

Rev. Mrs. Betty Atkinson
779 Topaz Drive
Max Meadows, VA 24360

SEPTEMBER 1

Rev. Donald Scott
654 Ivanhoe Road
Max Meadows, VA 24360

SEPTEMBER 22

Rev. Mrs. Linda Alley
602 Ft. Chiswell Road
Max Meadows, VA 24360

SEPTEMBER 30

Rev. Mrs. Margaret Rogers
5847 Jewell Avenue
Dublin, VA 24084

AUGUST 5

Rev. Billy Griffin
200 Fauber Road
Xenia, Ohio 45385

AUGUST 17

Rev. Larry Myers
773 Governors Way
Waynesboro, VA 22980

AUGUST 21

Rev. Walter Wood
8625 South Bend Drive
Roanoke, VA 24019

AUGUST 30

Rev. John Talmage
P.O. Box 1467
Dublin, VA 24084

SEPTEMBER 12

Rev. Mrs. Geraleen Talmage
P.O. Box 1467
Dublin, VA 24084

SEPTEMBER 30

Rev. Okey King
P.O. Box 53
Caldwell, WV 24925

SEPTEMBER 30

Rev. Jerry Shepherd
3063 Glasgow Road
Christiansburg, VA 24073

Appalachian Conference *Messenger*

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Deadline for all script to reach the office:
15th of each month for the next month's issue
Email to Sandy Wood at
woodsh12@gmail.com

WEBSITE: www.appconf.org





The Bishop's Page

Preston Mathena



OUR HOME

On the first Sunday in August 2020, my wife and I will be celebrating thirty years as pastors to the Mullens Pentecostal Holiness Church. It has been an amazing time in this southern West Virginia town. Through the years we have had the honor to pastor many wonderful and godly people. During the years, we have seen God move and transition us as we ministered to the ever-changing needs of the community. Pastoring is a lifelong learning process. We've had successes and failures, miracles and heartaches; and borrowing from Dickens, we've seen "the best of times and the worst of times." But there is one constant – God has been with us through it all.

On Father's Day of this year, our Bishop Preston Mathena came to our Sunday morning service. I did not know that he was coming. The only thing I knew was my assistant pastor Steve Campbell had asked me if he could do the Sunday morning service. Bishop Mathena ministered that morning and shared many fond memories of our past. At the conclusion of his message he asked Alice and I to come up front with him. He presented to us the deed to the parsonage we have been living in for the last sixteen years. What an unexpected and blessed experience it was. We will never forget that moment.

We have since found out that for several months our church board had been making this possible. Without my knowledge, they had discussed the possibility of giving us the parsonage. Steve had gone to Dublin to share the idea with Bishop Mathena. The board met when we were away in February at the Ministers' Summit and brought the idea up to the members of the church. I have since been told that they were 100 percent in favor. The board talked to lawyers and were able to get everything done to have the deed transferred into our names.

Our home has a special place in my heart. As a new pastor, I spent many hours in this house, which was then owned by Wallace and Betty Thomas. Betty's mom was Sarah "Sadie" Walker, who was an elderly member of the church. She was a godly lady who had been a widow since November 1953. (I was only one at the time.) They had converted the upstairs into an apartment for her. She had her own library, which was full of books she would share with me. You could sense the presence of the Lord in the house. A lot of my grounding came while visiting her and several others of our elderly saints. Sadie spent many summers at Maranatha Camp, where she served as a cook before I came to the church. There were times she would be discouraged because she couldn't serve God as she had done in the past. But even when she was confined to the home, she found a way to serve God. She would give Bible verses and pray for any visitors who would come into the house. Sadie went home to her God in 1996. A few years later Wallace passed away and her daughter Betty moved to a retirement community. The house sat vacant for a couple years. We were able to buy the house in 2004 and it became our parsonage. Although the house was built in the 1920's, it was structurally sound. In a way, the house has always been connected to my ministry in Mullens. It feels that it has been God's providence in the way things have worked out.

I thank God for the leadership of the Appalachian Conference which made this possible. I thank God for the body of believers I have been privileged to pastor. I thank God for the community of Mullens because it is a wonderful place to live. I thank God that He gave me this opportunity to serve this part of His Kingdom. ~Submitted by Pastor Lewis Arnold



Pastor Lewis & Alice Arnold



A CENTURY OF “SENDING” Journey in Missions



Whitney Browning

It was in a lighthearted room full of teenagers screaming out along with the worship team where I stood with a burdened heart, my hands in my pockets, and tears streaming down my face as the Lord reminded me, “I’m not asking you to do what’s easy.”

I had heard His call to missions over and over in stereo over the few short years leading up to that moment, but it wasn’t until then that I knew I had to not just acknowledge His beckon, but make it my choice to go all in, truly making my life a living sacrifice before Him, or choose to stay in the comfortable confines of life as I had known it.

As a young girl living in West Virginia, I would sit in the Sunday pew as missionaries would come to tell their stories, share about their lives, and tell of the work they did on a daily basis. Soon, I found myself daydreaming of a day in their life as they boldly served the kingdom, reaching out to the least of these.

When the opportunity finally presented itself to me as a college student to go on a short-term trip, I jumped at the chance, hopping on a plane and serving alongside strangers, who would turn into long-lasting friends. It wasn’t a flawless trip, it wasn’t glamorous, and it wasn’t void of trials and fears, but regardless of what happened, I remember the burden I felt for the lost and telling the Lord it was all worth it in the end.

Quickly my prayers were thematically coated with Isaiah 6:8, “Here I am Lord, send me.” But the Lord’s plans were higher than mine. My insistence on leaving for the field immediately as a young 19-year-old was met by the question, “What if I asked you to stay?” It was my obedience He wanted most of all, and my willingness to serve right where I was.

So, there I was in a season of staying where, whether I recognized it or not, the Lord was teaching me, stretching me, and preparing me for the words of Mark 10 that would one day pop out of the page as I sat in the stillness and quiet weighing the cost of leaving everything I knew to serve The Awakening in Oklahoma – “Jesus said, ‘Truly, I say to you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or farms, for My sake and for the gospel’s sake, but that he will receive a hundred times as much now in the present age, houses and brothers and sisters and mothers and children and lands, with persecutions, and in the age to come eternal life.’” And, more reluctantly than I ever imagined, I responded with a shaky but sincere, “Here I am Lord, Send Me.”

Serving as a short-term missionary may not look exactly like I thought missions would as I was growing up, or even what I thought it would look like as a 19-year-old. Instead, serving in missions for me looks like choosing to not do what’s easy or what the world expects of me, but clinging to the Lord and His plans, serving the global Church, equipping this generation through resource development and providing opportunities for them to grow, oftentimes tackling the biggest projects from behind a desk, and walking wholeheartedly in obedience, trusting that He knows far better than I.

In my life, I’ve been blessed to have the opportunity to see and feel the burden of the lost, and answer God’s call. It’s my hope, my prayer, that whatever He asks of me next, I’ll look at the challenge ahead, the sacrifice, the cost, and know that He’s not asking me to do what’s easy. He’s asking me to be obedient. I pray that His beckoning call will only be met with a resounding yes. – Submitted by Whitney Browning

World Mission & Evangelism Updates

Praising produces power for evangelism! Paul and Silas chose to pray and sing while in captivity. The result was that God shook off the chains of all the prisoners! The jailer, realizing he was witnessing the power of God, called out a question from a hungry heart, "What must I do to be saved?"

Are you ready with the answer? "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household" (Acts 16:31). There was joy in the jailer's house because he and all his family came to believe on Jesus Christ.

May God give you miraculous interventions that will result in the salvation of households for Jesus Christ!

Global Outreach: Giving to further the Great Commission remains a priority for our conference churches. What a blessing it is to hear from pastors and missions' directors that their efforts to raise the GO offering persists even in the midst of the adverse season that we are in right now.

To date, \$43,158 has been received for the 2020 GO offering. Please keep our faith goal of \$175,000 in prayer. Fall is a great time to share with your congregation the great opportunity of giving to GO. Your financial seed will produce a harvest here in the U.S. and around the world. Please send your offering to the conference office before November 23.

GCM: The spring Great Commission meals for Southwest Virginia and the New River Valley Districts have now been rescheduled for August 31 and September 1, respectively. Both meals will be held in the Conference Training Center. For more information contact Sherry Richards.

Relief Fund: World Missions is reporting that the International Covid-19 relief fund has now dispersed \$507,377 to 60 countries. Thank you so much for your giving!

HGM: Healthy Growing Churches training is back on track. Training will transition back to the classroom for August. Seth Robinson of Compassion Axton continues to be our coach and trainer. The Champions training for kids' ministry, worship and connections will resume with a rescheduled Zoom event followed by the second class on October 24. Contact the office for more information.



Pérez Family: Please remember our conference missionary Judy Pérez in your prayers. Her husband Ruben passed away on July 18 in Mexico. They ministered together for 43 years as part of Emmanuel Bible School in Monterrey, Mexico. Ruben was also a very talented artist and graphic designer.



Discipleship Ministries



Ron Fredericks

www.appconf.org

CAMP MARANATHA 2020

**CATCH
THE 
VISION**
JEREMIAH 29:11

LOOKING AHEAD TO

2021

To All Our Camp Maranatha Family, Staff and Students,

I just wanted to take a moment and reach out to each of you to let you know that though we have not been able to meet in person this summer, you have continued to be in my thoughts and prayers.

I trust that you, your families and church are all doing well, as we learn together how to navigate this new season.

To say the least, this has been a different year! Not the VISION we expected or planned for, but I am thankful and know that God has remained in our midst and He is still in control!

I hope that you were able to catch our 2020 Camp Maranatha - Camp Fires on Facebook @ **Camp Maranatha Appalachian Conference IPHC**. It was my privilege to have this time to join you over the summer. If you are not a member of this group on Facebook, please reach out to me and I will include you! I will continue to post past camp pictures and information over the summer, along with updates as they develop for 2021.

In 2021, we will be celebrating **75 years of Camp Maranatha!!** Please be praying with us as we make plans for a tremendous CAMP MARANATHA 2021! **If you have pictures from previous years that you could share, we would love to have them. You can email them to me at rfredericks58@aol.com.**

Many have asked about a Camp Maranatha t-shirt for 2020. (They have become a staple of our summer wardrobe.) If you saw the Camp Fires, you would have seen me wearing a long-sleeve T we developed for Camp this year. We have decided to make a Camp T-Shirt available. A few revisions have been made to the original design and we are glad to be offering two different shirts in two different colors.

Short Sleeve for \$12 (includes shipping) Black or Gray

Long Sleeve for \$16 (includes shipping) Black or Gray

These shirts will be available by pre-order only, and orders will be taken until August 21, 2020. You can get an order form by going to appconf.org and clicking on the Camp Maranatha logo or by calling the conference office at 540-674-4131 ext. 201. You will need to send payment when ordering your t-shirt.

I look forward to hearing from you about our camp shirts! Please call me if you have any questions.

Again, Camp Maranatha FAMILY, I have missed you this year. You are continually in my thoughts and prayers and I look forward to seeing you next year for **CAMP MARANATHA 2021 Celebrating 75 YEARS!**

Ron Fredericks
Discipleship Ministries Director Appalachian Conference

CAMP MARANATHA STUDENTS and STAFF.....

YOU ASKED.....HERE IT IS.....

GET YOUR CAMP MARANATHA 2020 T-SHIRT!



Short Sleeve T: \$12, includes shipping

Long Sleeve T: \$16, includes shipping

Contact the Conference Office at 540-674-4131 ext. 206 or email dmsecretary1@aol.com to place an order.

Appalachian Conference Golden Eagle Encore Ministries

To All Our Golden Eagle Encore Ministries Family,

We just want you to know that we are missing you this year. With current guidelines, questions and travel restrictions, we were not able to do our Senior Picnic, nor our Fall Trip.

Know that, even though we have not been able to be together, you have remained in our thoughts and prayers. We do hope and pray, and plans will be put in place, that we can be together next summer for our annual picnic and then a trip in the fall. If there is anything that we can do or you have questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to us at the conference office at 540-674-4131 ext. 201 or email me at rfredericks58@aol.com. We cannot wait to see you again. Blessings to all!

***Ron Fredericks
Discipleship Ministries Director***



Women's Ministries

Tammy Porter



After much prayer and discussion, the W.M. Board and I have decided to cancel the fall conference that was scheduled for November 6, 2020, in Pigeon Forge, Tennessee. As you may be aware, there is much planning for a conference this size and the preparation begins months in advance. Due to COVID-19 being a concern and with mandates being different for each state, we feel this decision is best at this time.

We will miss seeing your beautiful faces this year but look forward to seeing what blessings 2021 will hold.

If you have already registered and paid for the conference, we will be sending you a refund in the coming weeks. If you have any questions regarding your refund, please contact me at 276-620-7549 or Alice Crigger at 540-674-6470.

IPHC WOMEN'S MINISTRIES
APPALACHIAN CONFERENCE

RISE CONFERENCE

November 6th, 2020

Doors Open 6pm
Music Road Inn
Pigeon Forge, TN

CANCELED



Karelys Pereira
Director of Royal Home

Karelys has a passion to serve young people and to help meet the physical, emotional and spiritual needs of the young ladies and their children that are a part of the Royal Home Family. Royal Home Ministries is a voice for the unborn child, hope for young women in need of a helping and loving hand and light in the midst of darkness. Karelys is a powerful, anointed speaker and you will surely be blessed by her!

EVENT CANCELED

DUE TO COVID-19



THE PRAYER THAT STAKED A CLAIM

II Kings 4:29

Elisha's servant, Gehazi, rushed to meet the woman. Both Elisha and Gehazi had spotted the woman riding her horse with great urgency. For this reason, Elisha sent Gehazi ahead of him. Quickly the prophet sent help while he prepared to come.

"LAY YOUR STICK," upon the face of the child. These were the instructions for Gehazi, the servant. Elisha must have perceived that something had happened to the woman's son.

WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

Gehazi saw the woman's son. The son was limp; there was no sign of life! This son of promise was lifeless. This was the woman who had prepared a lodging place for Elisha when he came to minister in the area. She showed great hospitality to the prophet. Therefore, he prayed for the desire of her heart -- she wanted a child.

THE FIRST ACT OF PRAYER for this son occurred as Gehazi laid the staff of Elisha upon the face of the child. LAYING THE STAFF on the dead child's face symbolized the prophet's claim upon the child until he could come. Even though the child remained lifeless, A CLAIM had been staked upon his life.

THE CLAIM meant that DEATH could not have him! DEATH COULD NOT HAVE THE CHILD! A CLAIM FOR HIS LIFE HAD BEEN LAID UPON HIS FACE WITH ELISHA'S STAFF.

HERE COMES THE PROPHET ELISHA

Elisha entered the house. The scripture clearly states, "that the child was dead" (II Kings 4:32). But the staff of Elisha had made a claim.

HEAVENLY BUSINESS

Elisha shut the door. Only the prophet and the dead son were in the room. DEATH and LIFE forces were now warring for the child. But the CLAIM FOR THE CHILD'S LIFE had already been made. Elisha's prayer would involve actions to bring back life.

POSTURE OF VICTORY!

LIFE UPON TOP OF DEATH! His POSTURE sent a message that LIFE would WIN. The prophet laid upon the child. Yes, literally, LIFE OF THE PROPHET was on TOP of the dead son.

LESSONS THE PROPHET HAD LEARNED

“Put Me in Remembrance of My Word” (Isaiah 43:26). “Let us PLEAD together; declare thou, that thou may be justified.”

He knew that Elijah had STRETCHED himself upon the dead son of a widow. Three times, he STRETCHED himself, and prayed for the child’s soul to come into him again. And, YES, the child lived (I Kings 17:17-24).

NOW ELISHA would put God in remembrance. He would plead for the soul to be returned to the child. SUDDENLY, the flesh of the child became warm (II Kings 4:34). The prophet walked about the house. Surely, he was praying! Then he stretched himself again upon the child. The child sneezed 7 times and came to life! THE SOUND OF LIFE came from the child as he sneezed!

STAKE YOUR CLAIM with the WORD OF GOD!

STRETCH YOURSELF until the VICTORY COMES!

AUGUST/SEPTEMBER CALENDAR

- | | |
|--------|--|
| Aug 11 | HGM Class – Dublin Training Center |
| 31 | Southwest Virginia District Great Commission Meal – Dublin Training Center |
| Sept 1 | New River Valley District Great Commission Meal – Dublin Training Center |
| 7 | Labor Day (Office Closed) |
| 13 | Girls’ Ministries Day |
| 15 | HGM Class - Zoom |