



VOICE OF THE APPALACHIAN CONFERENCE OF THE IPHC

# MESSENGER

Vol. 82, No. 11 December 2021

*Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign.  
Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,  
and shall call his name Immanuel. Isaiah 7:14*



**Appalachian Conference**

INTERNATIONAL PENTECOSTAL HOLINESS CHURCH

# January Retired Ministers' Birthdays

## JANUARY 6

Rev. Sherwood Spence  
3406 Kim Court B-17  
Roanoke, VA 24018

## JANUARY 9

Rev. Cleveland Harrison  
6517 Northumberland Way  
Myrtle Beach, SC 29588

## JANUARY 30

Rev. Richard Black  
4004 West Main Street  
Princeton, WV 24740



Rev. Mrs. Nancy Bennett transferred to heaven on October 24, 2021. An ordained minister of the IPHC, she most recently pastored The Tabernacle of Praise Church in War, WVA. She was a former medical missionary to Haiti and Guatemala where she and her family spent several years ministering and living in Guatemala. Her graveside service was held on November 8 in War, WV, at her request.

She touched many lives and her legacy of service will continue to bear fruit for the kingdom of God.

## Appalachian Conference Messenger

Vol. 82— December 2021— No. 11

Executive Editor – Preston Mathena

### Staff

Phone (540) 674-4131  
5847 Oak Grove Avenue  
Dublin, VA 24084

### Evangelism & World Missions Ministries

Larry Meadors  
5847 Oak Grove Avenue  
Dublin, VA 24084

### Discipleship Ministries

Ron Fredericks  
5847 Oak Grove Avenue  
Dublin, VA 24084

### Women's Ministries

Tammy Porter  
2473 Ivanhoe Road  
Max Meadows, VA 24360  
Phone (276) 620-7549

### WIN

Donna Hankla  
139 Ridgeway Drive  
Bland, VA 24315  
Phone (276) 688-3709

### MEN'S MINISTRIES

Steve Winesett  
3414 Water Plant Road  
Hillsville, VA 24343  
Phone (336) 408-2008

### Conference Board

Superintendent – Preston Mathena  
Asst. Superintendent – Mike Dodson  
Secretary/Treasurer – Frank Neff  
Board Member – Stacy Cope  
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### Deadline for all script to reach the office:

First of each month for the next month's issue  
Email to Sandy Wood at [woodsh12@gmail.com](mailto:woodsh12@gmail.com)

WEBSITE: [www.appconf.org](http://www.appconf.org)



# The Bishop's Page

Preston Mathena



You may remember the renowned radio commentator, Paul Harvey, who at this time of year told the classic Christmas parable of The Man and the Birds. I want to share that story with you.

## **The Man and the Birds**

*Author Unknown*

*As told by Paul Harvey*

The man I'm going to tell you about was not a scrooge. He was a kind, decent, mostly good man. Generous to his family and upright in his dealings with other men. But he just didn't believe in all of that incarnation stuff that the churches proclaim at Christmas time. It just didn't make sense and he was too honest to pretend otherwise. He just couldn't swallow the Jesus story, about God coming to Earth as a man.

He told his wife, "I'm truly sorry to distress you, but I'm not going with you to church this Christmas Eve." He said he would feel like a hypocrite and that he would much rather just stay at home, but that he would wait up for them. So he stayed and they went to the midnight service.

Shortly after the family drove away in the car, snow began to fall. He went to the window to watch the flurries getting heavier and heavier and then he went back to his fireside chair and began to read his newspaper. Minutes later, he was startled by a thudding sound. Then another ... and then another. At first he thought someone must be throwing snowballs against the living room window. But when he went to the front door to investigate, he found a flock of birds huddled outside miserably in the snow. They'd been caught in the storm, and in a desperate search for shelter they had tried to fly through his large landscape window. That is what had been making the sound.

Well, he couldn't let the poor creatures just lie there and freeze, so he remembered the barn where his children stabled their pony. That would provide a warm shelter. All he would have to do is to direct the birds into the shelter. Quickly, he put on a coat and galoshes and he tramped through the deepening snow to the barn. He opened the doors wide and turned on a light so the birds would know the way in. But the birds did not come in.

So, he figured that food would entice them. He hurried back to the house and fetched some bread crumbs. He sprinkled them on the snow, making a trail of bread crumbs to the yellow-lighted, wide open doorway of the stable. But to his dismay, the birds ignored the bread crumbs. The birds continued to flap around helplessly in the snow. He tried catching them but could not. He tried shooing them into the barn by walking around and waving his arms. Instead, they scattered in every direction ... every direction except into the warm lighted barn.

And that's when he realized they were afraid of him. To them, he reasoned, I am a strange and terrifying creature. If only I could think of some way to let them know that they can trust me. That I am not trying to hurt them, but to help them. But how? Any move he made tended to frighten them and confuse them. They just would not follow. They would not be led or shooed because they feared him.

He thought to himself, if only I could be a bird and mingle with them and speak their language. Then I could tell them not to be afraid. Then I could show them the way to the safe warm ... to the safe, warm barn. But I would have to be one of them so they could see ... and hear ... and understand.

At that moment the church bells began to ring. The sound reached his ears above the sounds of the wind. He stood there listening to the bells, *Adeste Fidelis*, listening to the bells pealing the glad tidings of Christmas.

And he sank to his knees in the snow ...

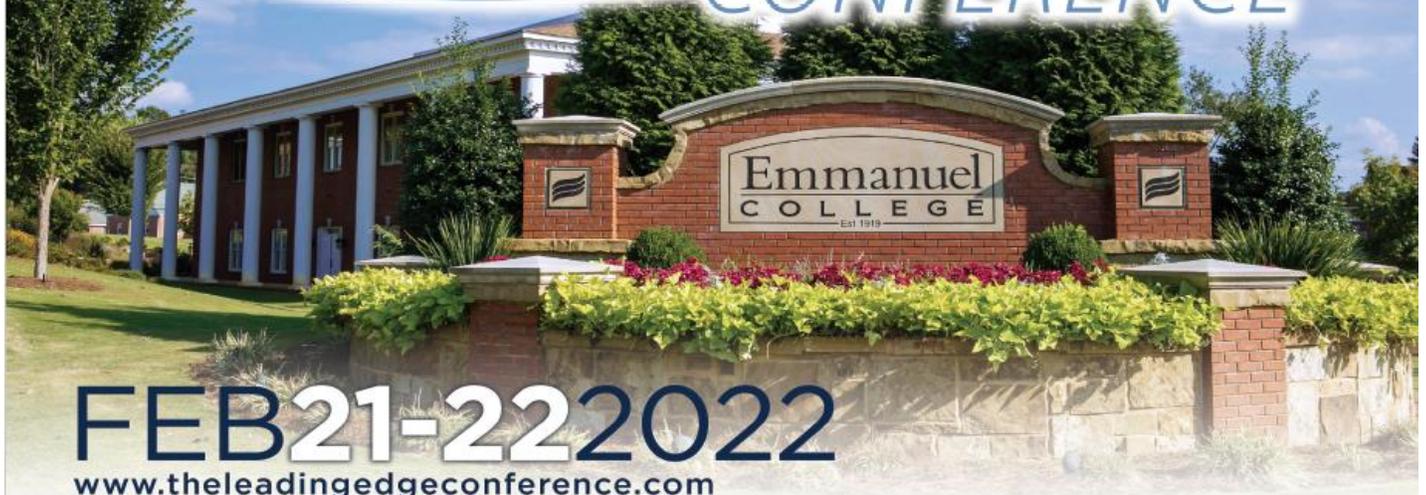
*Whenever I hear this story, I always have two thoughts. First, how incredibly grateful to God I am that He would reveal Himself to me, to all mankind. He really is Emmanuel, "God with us." Leaving the throne room of Heaven, taking on the form of man that we might come to know Him personally! I become overwhelmed with a sense of gratitude and thankfulness. Secondly, we must become more aware of people around us who may have not had this revelation yet.*

*During the Advent season, many hearts become open to the working of the Holy Spirit. I become aware of how significant our role as ministers and believers is in guiding them into His presence. As pastors, we must realize that every time we stand and proclaim this glorious truth of the gospel, there are two kinds of people in the congregation, as far as the lost is concerned. Those who are hungry, their hearts broken and heavy, who hang on every word, desperately wanting an answer. Then there are the resistant, often under duress. Yet, we know in each case the marvelous grace of God can overrule and bring revelation of His Son. The grace of God is sufficient to meet the needs of both! In keeping with the Paul Harvey theme — let us believe they will come to know "the rest of the story" of Jesus and His amazing love for them.*



*Advancing Innovative Concepts for Church Leaders*

# THE LEADING EDGE CONFERENCE



**President Ron White invites you to the campus of Emmanuel College in Franklin Springs, Georgia, for The Leading Edge Conference on February 21-22, 2022.**

**“Leading during changing times is challenging and, at times, bewildering.**

**The Leading Edge Conference will confront this reality and promises to provide leaders with a leading edge. Well-qualified speakers who are actively engaged in the crucible of leadership will share from the depth of their experiences to address the conference theme for 2022, Envisioning Leadership in a Changing World. I hope you will join us for this transformative time.” - President Ron White, Ed.D.**



## GO Has Gone Over the Top!

It's time to rejoice and give thanks to the Lord of the Harvest!

He has enabled us as a conference family to surpass our World Missions Global Outreach Offering goal of \$175,000.

Thank you so much for your giving of \$196,567.20 to the harvest this year! This is the largest offering in the history of our conference!

Rejoice in knowing that in 2022, these funds will help establish a National Headquarters and Training Center in Nepal and secure a location for IPHC Living Israel to continue conducting its various ministries in the nation of Israel. Furthermore, it will help to start churches across the USA.

In further thanksgiving to God, the conference missions project for new churches in Panama and Belize raised \$25,087, which is over our \$25,000 goal!

At the start of this year, God gave us the directive that in our 101st year of sending out missionaries, we were to send out 3 young missionaries and 2 veteran missionaries. You have responded in a great way in faith commitment pledges and giving, and now the Presley's, Lulu Salazar and Whitney Browning are on the field. The Dunlap's and Elizabeth Hagee will be leaving soon.

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## Why Plant Churches

By Dr. Timothy Keller

*"The vigorous, continual planting of new congregations is the single most crucial strategy for 1) the numerical growth of the body of Christ in any city, and 2) the continual corporate renewal and revival of the existing churches in a city. Nothing else—not crusades, outreach programs, para-church ministries, growing mega-churches, congregational consulting, nor church renewal processes—will have the consistent impact of dynamic, extensive church planting. This is an eyebrow raising statement. But to those who have done any study at all, it is not even controversial."*

## **We plant churches to be true to the Biblical mandate.**

Jesus' essential call was to plant churches, as seen in the call to make disciples and baptize, which are functions of incorporation into a worshipping community. Paul's whole strategy was to plant urban churches. To permanently influence a country, churches needed to be planted in its chief cities.

## **We plant churches because we want to be true to the Great Commission.**

New churches best reach new generations, new residents and new people groups.

New churches best reach the unchurched. Studies have confirmed that the average new church gains most of its new members (60-80%) from the ranks of people who are not attending any worshipping body, while churches over 10-15 years of age gain 80 to 90% of new members from transfer from other churches.

## **We plant churches because we want to continually renew the whole body of Christ.**

It is a great mistake to think that we have to choose between church planting and church renewal. The planting of churches in a city is one of the very best ways to revitalize older churches in the vicinity and renew the whole body of Christ.

New churches bring new ideas to the whole body.

New churches are one of the best places to identify creative, strong leaders for the whole body.

New churches challenge the other churches to self-examination.

New churches may be an "evangelistic feeder" for the whole community.

## **We plant churches as an exercise in Kingdom Mindedness.**

All in all, church planting helps an existing church best when the new congregation is voluntarily birthed by an older mother congregation. Often the excitement and the new leaders and new ministries and additional members and income wash back into the mother church in various ways to strengthen and renew it.

New church planting is the only way that we can be sure we are going to increase the number of believers in a city. The evidence for this statement is strong-- biblically, sociologically and historically. In the end, a lack of kingdom-mindedness may simply blind us to all this evidence. We must beware of that.

Want to read the entire article?

<https://redeemercitytocity.com/articles-stories/why-plant-churches>

Dr Timothy Keller is the founding pastor of Redeemer Presbyterian Church in Manhattan, which he started in 1989 with his wife, Kathy, and three young sons. For 28 years he led a diverse congregation of young professionals that grew to a weekly attendance of over 5,000.

He is also the Chairman & Co-Founder of [Redeemer City to City](#) (CTC), which starts new churches in New York and other global cities. In 2017, Dr. Keller transitioned to CTC full time to teach and mentor church planters. He also works with CTC's global affiliates to launch church planting movements.

*Are you interested in church planting? Contact Larry Meadors at the Conference office. There is a church planters' intensive scheduled for March.*

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## HGM TRAINING/FELLOWSHIP

**WHAT:** Healthy, Growing, Multiplying Churches (HGM) Training and Fellowship Event

**WHO:** For all pastors, ministers, and church leaders.

**WHEN:** January 13 — 9:30 AM

**WHERE:** Training Center — Dublin

**COST:** No cost (Lunch \$5)

Join us to kick off the new year for leadership principles, church revitalization and fellowship. This year the HGM will be conference based and led. No prior attendance of HGM sessions is required.



*“Merry Christmas and a blessed new year from our  
family to yours”*

*Larry & Gloria Meadors*



# Discipleship Ministries



Ron Fredericks

www.appconf.org

**EARLY REGISTRATION DEADLINE HAS BEEN EXTENDED  
TO DECEMBER 15, 2021**

**SPEAKERS**  
MEGAN FATE MARSHMAN  
SAMUEL RODRIGUEZ

**ACCELERANT  
TWENTY-TWO**  
JAN 27-30  
GATLINBURG

**MUSIC BY  
RUSH OF FOOLS  
UNSPOKEN**

\*ARTISTS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

**RUSH OF FOOLS**  
WORSHIP BAND

**UNSPOKEN**  
IN CONCERT

GET MORE INFO  
AND REGISTER AT  
[ACCELERANTFIRE.COM](http://ACCELERANTFIRE.COM)

**START MAKING YOUR PLANS !!  
GUIDELINES ARE NOW AVAILABLE!!**



The Conference FINE ARTS FESTIVAL will be returning this year with updated guidelines.

Changes have been made with a renewed focus on discipleship and leadership development.

**CONFERENCE FINE ARTS FESTIVAL  
APRIL 22 & 23, 2022**

Check the Conference website or contact the D. M. office for updated guidelines!



**January 27-30**

Accelerant

**February 21-22**

Leading Edge Conference  
Emmanuel College

**February 24-26**

The Huddle

**March 5**

Women's Ministry Brunch  
Natural Bridge C. F.  
10 am –12:30 pm

**March 13**

Women's Ministries Day

**March 18-20**

Emmanuel College Preview

**March 18**

Fine Arts Registration Due

**March 25**

Women's Ministries Rally  
Natural Bridge CF

**March 26**

National Men's Ministries  
Virtual Event

**March 30**

National Women's Ministries  
Virtual Event

**April 4-7**

Encore Ministries Spring Trip

**April 9**

Pinewood Derby - Dublin

**April 22-23**

Fine Arts Festival - Dublin

**April 28-30** (Tentative)

Girls' & Boys' Ministries Training

**May 6**

Early Bird Registration Camp

**May 13**

Men's Ministries Seed Time  
Golf Tournament

**May 14**

Girls' & Boys' Ministries Event

Women's Ministries Brunch  
Life Changers CC  
10 am-12:30 pm

**May 21**

Discipleship Development  
Dublin

**May 23**

Conference Work Day

**June 3-4**

Tower Training - Dublin

**June 19**

Men's Ministries Day

**June 20-24**

Extreme Teen Camp  
Ages 14-17

**June 27 – July 1**

Destiny Junior Teen Camp  
Ages 11-13

**July 5-8**

Adventure Quest Camp  
Ages 7-10

**July 22-25**

Youth Quest & Fine Arts  
Jacksonville, Florida

**July 26**

Day of Discipleship  
Women's & Men's Convention  
Jacksonville, Florida

**July 27-30**

General Conference  
Jacksonville, Florida

**August 2-8**

Youth on Mission

**August 5-7**

Girl's Ministries Retreat - Dublin

**August 6**

Women's Ministries Brunch  
Point of Contact  
10 am-12:30 pm

**August 20**

Men's Ministries Rally - Dublin

**September 16**

Men's Ministries ATAM  
Golf Tournament

**September 17**

Senior Picnic - Claytor Lake

**October 2**

Conference Youth Rally - Dublin

**October 8**

Men & Boys' Event  
Campgrounds

**November 4**

Women's Ministries Fall Rally  
Dublin

**November 6**

Girls' & Boys' Ministries Day



# 2022 DISCIPLESHIP MINISTRIES RESOURCES

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**Bible Reading Guide – ENGLISH:**

<https://iphc.org/discipleship/wp-content/uploads/sites/4/2021/01/BibleReadingGuide-English.pdf>

**Bible Reading Guide – SPANISH:**

<https://iphc.org/discipleship/wp-content/uploads/sites/4/2020/12/BibleReadingGuide-Spanish.pdf>

**THE JOURNEY: Becoming More Like Jesus:** <https://iphc.org/discipleship/thejourney/>

**ROOTED: IPHC Kids Curriculum:** <https://iphc.org/discipleship/kids/kids-curriculum/>

**VIGILANT : Child and Youth Safety :** <https://iphc.org/discipleship/vigilant/>

**2022 FINE ARTS Guidelines:**

<https://iphc.org/youthquest/wp-content/uploads/sites/6/2021/11/2022-National-Fine-Arts-Guidelines-FINAL-1.pdf>

**2022 BIBLE QUIZ Guidelines:**

<https://iphc.org/youthquest/wp-content/uploads/sites/6/2021/11/2022-National-Bible-Quest-Guidelines-FINAL.pdf>

## ***DISCIPLESHIP MINISTRIES READY TO SERVE...***

***“Unless we can make a difference for those who are trying to make a difference... what difference does it make?”*** Bishop Tommy McGhee (April 2017)



***Elaine Wood***

***Girls' Ministries  
Director***

[girlz4jc@gmail.com](mailto:girlz4jc@gmail.com)

**540-357-5614**

Pastor Elaine has been in Children's ministry for 26 years, with extensive experience in teaching the uncompromised Word of God to a generation that is being raised in a world of compromise and confusion. Elaine has served in many areas of Children's Ministry and church leadership. During these years she has had the opportunity to invest in countless lives, believing that we are transforming and training children today for the church of today and tomorrow.

Pastor Elaine attended Emmanuel College and has a Bachelor of Arts in Biblical Studies from Carolina University School of Theology. She received her LPN degree from Radford City School of Nursing. She also holds the distinction of serving as the first National Children's Ministries Director for the International Pentecostal Holiness Church. She currently is serving on the Conference Discipleship Ministries Board and has served as the Girls' Ministries Director for the Appalachian Conference for 12 years. She is an ordained minister in the Appalachian Conference of the IPHC.

Elaine regularly speaks at churches, seminars and conferences on children's ministry. Elaine is gifted in ministry to children and would love to have the opportunity to come and speak with your ladies and girls.

Freddie's first introduction to Boys' Ministries (Royal Rangers) was as a child while attending Monroe Bay Assembly of God where he joined the Buckaroos. In 1997, he began helping with the Royal Rangers at the Galax Pentecostal Holiness Church and later that year completed his LTC and continues to teach every Wednesday night. In 2007, he was chosen to lead Outpost 97 as the Outpost Coordinator. Freddie has worked hard continuing his education and training in Royal Rangers (Boys' Ministries) and in 2012 joined the Conference Royal Rangers Board as Training Co-Ordinator. In 2016, Freddie was appointed Conference Commander for the Appalachian Conference Royal Rangers and later that year he attended the Royal Rangers Training Academy where he received his certification as an Instructor. Freddie has been instrumental in helping Royal Rangers expand into Boys' Ministries.

He has an Associates of Police Science from Wytheville Community College and a Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice from Radford University. This year he will complete 20 years with the Carroll County Court System.

Freddie is currently working toward completing his local minister's license. He and his wife Sherry continue to work in the children's ministry programs at their local church and they have three children of their own - Adriane, Phillip, and Eli.



***Freddie Sweet***

***Boys' Ministries Director***

[aplaconfmrr@gmail.com](mailto:aplaconfmrr@gmail.com)

**276-233-8983**

# Appalachian Conference Senior Ministries

**APRIL 4 - 7, 2022**

Lancaster PA – April 4-5      Washington DC – April 6-7  
(Leave Dublin on Monday, April 4 & return Thursday, April 7)

**DAVID at Sight & Sound Theater**



**Washington DC – Cherry Blossoms**



**Hershey's Chocolate World**



**Festival Hershey Trolley Ride!**



**Turkey Hill Ice Cream Experience!**



**Museum of the Bible and Smithsonian**



For more information contact Discipleship Ministries at 540-674-4131.  
(Restaurant and Venues are subject to change) (Face Masks may be required)  
Call 540-674-4131, ext. 201 or email: [dmsecretary1@aol.com](mailto:dmsecretary1@aol.com) to save your seat!  
Cost per individual: Single per room \$789 Double: \$599 Triple: \$539 Quad: \$509



Isaiah 9:6 "For unto us a child is born, Unto us a Son is given; And the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace."

Wishing you and yours a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

from Discipleship Ministries:  
Ron & Pam Fredericks  
N. R. & Sarah Taylor  
Wes & Kim Galford  
Elaine Wood  
Zac & Sara Royer  
Wes & Misty Comer



# Women's Ministries

Tammy Porter



*Luke 2:7 says, "And she gave birth to her firstborn son; and she wrapped Him in cloths, and laid Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn."*

This is a beautiful picture of a mother taking care of her newborn baby, wrapping Him up and placing Him in the best bed she could find. The bed wasn't pretty, clean or fancy. You see, there wasn't room in a nice hotel for this child. His parents were traveling so He couldn't be born in the comfort of their home. This was the Savior of the world! He was coming to earth as a beautiful, innocent, olive skinned baby not having a place to lay His head. There was no room for Him. Not anywhere. The "No Vacancy" signs were lit as Mary and Joseph went Inn to Inn trying to find a comfortable bed to bring the King of Glory into the world. I can't imagine the heartbreak of knowing a dirty manger was the best they could offer Him.

Fast forward to 2021. So many times we are so busy living life that we forget to make room for Jesus. Our days are so full of family, work, errands, sports, you name it, that there is no room left for Him. In my mind I can see Him "stopping by for a visit" only to find the "No Vacancy" sign is flashing red. I must confess that I have been guilty of this from time to time. I'm sure we all have.

This Christmas, let's not get so busy in the hustle and bustle of our surroundings that we forget to leave room for our Savior. After all, He is the reason for the season we celebrate.

Jesus  
IS THE REASON  
FOR THE  
Season

# HARVEST TRAIN UPDATE

This year, Falcon Children's Home celebrated Christmas with a parade of lights throughout the town. Thousands of lights were displayed as the parade route toured the campus and neighborhood park. The children worked hard decorating their homes for everyone to enjoy.

The Appalachian Conference stepped up this year to present Falcon with a total of \$15,788.36 in cash and \$5,200 in commodities. A special thank you goes out to the following churches for your participation in this year's All is Bright Christmas Lights celebration:

Cornersview  
Dugspur-Mitchell Chapel  
Liberty Hill  
Life Changers Christian Center  
Merrimac  
Rosenbaum Chapel  
Salem-Faith Central Fellowship

Your hard work is much appreciated and will be a blessing to the children over the next year.

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## AMANDA CRABB MINISTERS AT BOLD CONFERENCE



Pastor Amanda Crabb brought a powerful word to the Bold Conference in Pigeon Forge, Tennessee! Dry bones were brought to life and bodies were healed, all for God's glory! With almost 400 ladies in attendance, it was a very special night that many will remember for years to come.

I would like to thank the Appalachian Conference ladies who are so faithful to support this ministry. Your participation in these events we share is much appreciated.



## WHO WILL GO?

This was the question that God asked Isaiah, the prophet.

*“And I heard the voice of The Lord, saying, Whom shall I send, and who will go for us? Then said I, Here am I; send me (Isaiah 6:8). Isaiah answered the call to preach to his nation.*

### THE CALL FOR US

There is a call to reach heaven on the behalf of those in need. It is a call for intercessors who will come to the Throne of Grace and pray. (Hebrews 4:16) Because of prayer, people receive salvation, people are healed, doors of opportunities are opened, and hope is restored!

To this day, I still remember the woman who prayed for me to receive Jesus as my Lord and Savior!

### SATAN, HAS DESIRED TO SIFT YOU

Satan had plans to attack the faith of Peter. Jesus told his disciple that the devil wanted to have him. But powerful words were spoken by Jesus:

*“And the Lord, said, Simon, Simon, behold, Satan has desired to have you, that he may sift you as wheat. But I have PRAYED for you, that your faith fail not; and when you are converted, strengthen your brethren” (Luke 22: 31,32).*

The plans of evil did not happen to Peter because of prayer. Your prayers can stop the plans of the devil!

### COME BOLDLY

We are encouraged to come to The Throne of Grace with confidence and boldness. Pray for those who are afflicted! *“Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need” (Hebrews 4: 16).*

### STUDY QUESTION

Who prayed and asked to see God’s glory? “And he said, I beseech You, show me your glory.”

Exodus 33 \_\_\_\_\_

# January Calendar

- 1**      **New Year's Day**
- 3**      **Office Closed**
- 12**     **IPHC Day of Prayer**
- 13**     **HGM Training/Fellowship - Dublin**
- 23**     **Sanctity of Human Life Sunday**
- 27 - 29**   **March for Life - Washington, DC**
- 27 - 30**   **Accelerant**
- 31**      **Call to Prayer**