



VOICE OF THE APPALACHIAN CONFERENCE OF THE IPHC

# MESSENGER

Vol. 82, No. 10 November



*Veterans  
Day*

**NOVEMBER 11**



**Appalachian Conference**

INTERNATIONAL PENTECOSTAL HOLINESS CHURCH

# December Retired Ministers' Birthdays

## DECEMBER 10

Rev. Billy Akers  
2279 Cox Hollow Road  
Pulaski, VA 24301

## DECEMBER 11

Rev. Gene Sizemore  
P.O. Box 673  
White Sulphur Springs, WV 24986

## DECEMBER 20

Rev. Bob Corum  
P.O. Box 494  
Powell, TN 37849

## DECEMBER 10

Rev. Earl Ragland  
1255 Thomas Chapel Lane  
Bedford, VA 24523

## DECEMBER 16

Rev. Don Sizemore  
5893 Jewell Avenue  
Dublin, VA 24084

# HAPPY THANKSGIVING



## Appalachian Conference *Messenger*

Vol. 82 — November 2021 — No. 10

Executive Editor — Preston Mathena

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Board Member — Larry Meadors  
Board Member — Wanda Myers  
Board Member — Jim Tunnell

### 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



**Ann McKeel Wood**  
**May 10, 1933-October 6, 2021**

## A TRIBUTE TO ANN McKEEL WOOD

Ann McKeel Wood, 88, was born in Williamstown, North Carolina. Her family later moved to Whiteville, North Carolina, where she attended school. Throughout her high school years, she received many awards and honors for her involvement in organizations and clubs. She was also known as the “star” of the basketball team, scoring the most points her senior year, as they won the state championship. Ann was raised in a “fine Christian home,” as she wrote in 1970 while preparing to share her personal testimony at a women’s conference. However, Ann viewed church attendance only as a formality. Popularity, good job, nice car, success and social standing were most important to her. Until one day, tragedy struck her life.

At the age of 19, her father was tragically killed in a car accident. Although her father served God faithfully for many years, he became entangled with the world and drifted away from his relationship with God. It was at this point his life was cut off. Ann began to realize there was a higher purpose for her life. She started to question all that had previously meant so much to her. About four weeks after the death of her father, Ann sat in church and listened as the call was given to those who would like to dedicate their lives to the Lord. She was the first to move down the aisle and, as she penned, “At that front pew, on September 28, 1952, I Ann McKeel, surrendered my stubborn will and my life to the Lord Jesus Christ.”

After praying about her future plans, in October 1953, Ann enrolled in Holmes Bible College, Greenville, South Carolina. Upon completing the three years of study, she graduated as valedictorian of her class. An added bonus to her years at Holmes was meeting the love of her life, Walter Lee. Although she always said, “I’ll never marry a preacher,” on August 12, 1956, she did just that, as they exchanged their vows and became husband and wife. On August 12, 2021, Ann and Walter Lee celebrated 65 years of marriage. Ann served faithfully alongside her husband as pastor’s wife from 1956 until he retired in 2013. She had a true servant’s heart and dedicated her life to the service of the Lord. Ann worked as church office secretary for ten years, taught teenage girls’ Sunday School class, coached Bible Quiz, sang in the choir, and held the position of Appalachian Conference Women’s Ministry president for several years. Serving in many capacities, Ann was known for always making others feel loved and cared for. She had the gift of encouragement, and in her humble and selfless way, she made a difference in the lives of those she knew. Whether it was taking time to visit or pray for someone, sending a card, making a meal, or giving a hug, when Ann reached out to those in need, it was never forgotten.

Next to her service for the Lord was her unconditional love for her family. Her most cherished role was that of mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother, which includes her four children, eight grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren, including baby Justin who she has now joined in heaven. Ann’s greatest desire was to see her family know Christ and to follow God’s plan for their lives.

Proverbs 31:31 summarizes this tribute to our beloved Ann. “*Honor her for all that her hands have done, and let her works bring her praise at the city gate.*”

The Walter Wood Family

## ***“I’M GLAD I ANSWERED THE PHONE”***

Ring, ring. *“HELLO, yes, this is Wanda Myers. Sister Wanda, this is Ann Wood from the Virginia Conference Women’s Ministries. Sister Wanda, I am having a board meeting and we would like to ask you if you would be one of our district directors for the Shenandoah Valley District.”* I was thrilled, and said yes. As they say, the rest is history.

Ann and I became very good friends from that day on and I consider her one of my greatest mentors. I learned so much from her, and the phone call was just the beginning of my journey in Women’s Ministries. I later served as a member of the board and ultimately became Women’s Ministries Director, serving a total of 14 years. She introduced me to Gerry Aldridge, who became a member of the Women’s Ministries board and one of my dearest friends in the ministry. Gerry was a part of New Life congregation and was W.M. Director at her church. Ann and Gerry were great resources to the conference W.M. board.

Even after I served my term in W.M., Ann kept up with me the last twelve years. I can hear her asking me now, “Tell me what’s going on in your life now, Sister Wanda.” In my secular job, I called Ann several times throughout the years and would ask her to pray for me about different situations. I knew I could always depend on her encouraging words and praying God’s will in my life. She was so excited when I accepted the pastorate at Good News Ministries in Staunton, Virginia. Again, so encouraging that I continue in some area of ministry.

No doubt I will miss her, but I want to have her commitment, love and passion for ministry. She totally left her mark on me to run the race and bring as many with me as possible, with Jesus saying, *“Well done thou good and faithful servant.”*

*Submitted by Wanda Myers, pastor Good News Ministries*



# World Missions & Evangelism

## Larry Meadors



## DO YOU HAVE A HEART FOR MISSIONS?



Pastor Tommy Vass and Larry Meadors, World Missions Dir.

Have you ever thought about what it would be like to be on the mission field? Did you ever think that you would be someone God could call to minister to others? Well, you can, and He did. It may not be in the sense that you will be traveling overseas or to some remote island where you will never see your family or friends again. It may not be in a far-away land. It can be right in your own town; right in your own community; right in your own back yard – your home or church.

That's the way it was for Trinity Fellowship Church in St. Albans, WV, on Saturday, October 23, 2021. Pastor Tommy L. Vass, along with the Missions Board and church members, reached out to various ministry groups with an invitation to join them for a "Meet 'n Greet" Missions Conference. This outreach included individuals from three different areas of ministry - County Missions, State Missions, and World Missions. Each group is supported solely by donations from individuals and churches. Representing County Missions was Christ's Kitchen, a local kitchen and food pantry that provides food and clothing to the needy. State Missions was represented by LEAD Academy, a drug rehab facility in Beckley, WV, that reaches out to those struggling with drug addictions. Attending for World Missions were Van and Jane Bloss, IPHC missionaries who support India. Also attending, along with his wife, was Larry Meadors, IPHC Missions Director for the Appalachian Conference.

A wonderful time of fun and fellowship was had by all, as we socialized while enjoying the many delicious finger foods that were provided by the Ladies Ministries. Each group had tables spread with articles and brochures describing their ministry. We met Wayne, who was representing Christ's Kitchen, and quickly learned how we could support their ministry with canned goods or clothing. Representing LEAD Academy were Tonia and Stacey, who had their tables spread with shirts, cups, and various other articles that were created and designed by them to raise monies to support their cause. Oh, yes! Don't forget Van and Jane Bloss, who filled the evening with joyful attitudes filled with fun and laughter.

Following a wonderful evening on Saturday, each group was invited to return on Sunday morning to present the congregation with a short presentation describing their ministry in a little more detail. Stacey, from LEAD Academy, poured out her heart as she told her story of overcoming drug addiction to becoming the director of LEAD Academy. Alan Rezek, the Overseer of Christ's Kitchen, attended the morning service and told a little more about their program. Van and Jane Bloss followed up with information about their mission and what they do for the people in India. Following their presentations, the congregation was blessed to hear a beautiful, powerful message from IPHC Missions Director Larry Meadors.

Trinity Fellowship Church is a small church with approximately 35 attendees. This church is made up of everyday people who truly have a heart for missions. Earlier this year, the church gave \$18,000 to support Van and Jane Bloss in digging 14 wells in India. Again, on this spectacular Sunday morning, as the congregation listened to the speakers, their hearts were heavy for missions as proven when the church presented each of the ministries with a grand total of more than \$11,000 to help support County Missions, State Missions, and World Missions.

To God be the Glory!

*Submitted by Pat Hart Price*

## **GLOBAL OUTREACH OFFERING**

Please send in your Global Outreach offering to the  
Conference Office by November 19.

Thank you for your faithfulness in giving to this world  
and USA missions offering.

# DO NOT DESPISE THE DAY OF SMALL BEGINNINGS

These words brought encouragement to Zerubbabel. He desired to build the temple. Yet, he faced a mountain of obstacles. Key people opposed his efforts. Resources were needed. Hope was fading. But the Spirit of God provided power to overcome all these obstructions. And he was given the promise that he would finish the temple, and it would benefit the nation!

*"For who has despised the day of small things? For they shall rejoice, and shall see the plummet in the hand of Zerubbabel with those seven; they are the eyes of the Lord, which run to and fro through the whole earth."*

## BIG 4 P.H. CHURCH, KIMBALL, WV

I felt like Zerubbabel when my family first accepted this assignment. We wanted to work with those who suffered from poverty. And we found that the people truly appreciated all we did to help. In addition, the elders of the church were people of prayer. There was no mission program when we started. There was no real outreach. The Holy Spirit stirred my heart to begin to invest in missions. A Miracle of Missions could surely come to us!

**START OF MISSION GIVING** - We voted as a church to support one key missionary who was laboring with great success. So, each month, an offering for missions was received. It seemed like a "day of small beginnings." But in a few years, we would experience the Miracle of Missions.

**CALL FROM THE CONFERENCE** - Larry Meadors called me and said that our church, as well as a few other churches in poverty regions, were being considered by Hickory Grove IPHC in Bonneau, South Carolina. Dawn and Brad Morris are leaders of the church's missions work team. This year they could not go to foreign countries because of Covid-19.

I prayed that we would have favor. And the day came when Big 4 Church was indeed chosen. The insurance company for the church had decided to cancel the policy for Big Four P.H. because of needed repairs. However, when the company was informed about the missions work team, they reinstated the policy!

Kenny and I met this couple a few months before they came to the church. They wanted to look at the church and the region. They liked the church, and they liked West Virginia! They would come and provide finances for the repairs. Ten thousand dollars was what they offered, along with a team of hard-working, talented people.

**THEY CAME** - A picture is worth a thousand words. The pictures below show the team and many of the improvements. They worked long hours to repair the church. It was like a TV show that features restoration of old houses! They were always smiling. And they performed the Sunday service. It was a powerful service, and all were refreshed!



## LOOK AT WHAT THEY DID

The basement floors were badly damaged from two major floods. They repaired and replaced the floors and painted the walls. A new sink, stove, and storm door were installed, along with new tables and chairs.

The women's bathroom was severely damaged due to termites and water damage. I did not think it could be saved. Yet, they replaced the flooring, wall studs, vanity and toilet, and dry-walled the entire bathroom and made it look brand new! The men's bathroom was also restored.



Vinyl siding was installed on the south end of the church, replacing damaged, outdated siding. Beautiful stained glass window film was installed on the sanctuary windows, and the church was thoroughly cleaned, upstairs and down.

The church members were so excited and thankful! We had a "Renovation Celebration" on October 24 to thank and recognize Hickory Grove IPHC for their sacrifices of time and finances.

## WHAT ABOUT YOU?

Indeed, this was a Miracle of Missions. Big things can happen for your church also. Just start by planting seeds of financial offerings each month to missions!

*Submitted by Pastor Donna Hankla*



**Hickory Grove Missions Team**





# Discipleship Ministries

Ron Fredericks

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



**SPEAKERS**

MEGAN FATE MARSHMAN

SAMUEL RODRIGUEZ

**ACCELERANT 2022**  
JAN 27-30  
GATLINBURG

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\*ARTISTS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

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**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.  
10am –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  
10am-12:30pm

**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  
10am-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

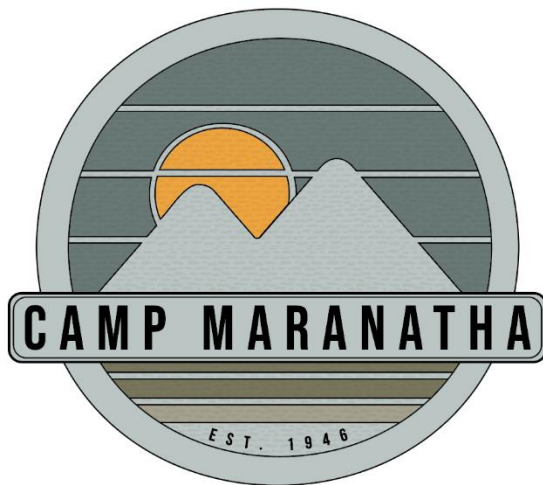
**SAVE THE DATE!!**

FINE ARTS will return this year with updated guidelines. Significant changes have been made with focusing 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!



**CAMP MARANATHA 2022**

**Extreme Teen Camp** (ages 14-17)

June 20 – 24, 2022

**Destiny Junior Teen Camp** (ages 11-13)

June 27 – July 1

**Adventure Quest Kids Camp** (ages 7-10)

July 5 – 8

**VOLUNTEERS are a vital part of our Camp team and ministry...please make your plans now to join us for**

**CAMP MARANATHA 2022!**

**ONE WEEK WILL CHANGE YOUR LIFE!**

**For more information on volunteering at camp, contact Ron Fredericks**

**At 540-674-4131 ext. 206**





# Women's Ministries

Tammy Porter



Throughout my house I have plaques with catchy phrases such as, "Kind People are my Kind of People," "Live, Laugh and Love," "Speak Softly, Love Tenderly and Pray Fervently," to name just a few. The one that stands out to me the most here lately has been, "Thankful, Grateful and Blessed."

Thanksgiving is one of my favorite holidays of the year. I enjoy the beautiful landscape God has created, mums and the smell of pumpkin spice! Who doesn't love pumpkin spice, right? I love dinners with my family, reminiscing on past Thanksgivings and spending time with the people I love most.

The past couple years have brought heartache, sorrow, sickness and death to many people. Life hasn't been easy. Family gatherings were canceled. People found themselves isolated and feeling alone. For some, depression became the norm and they lost their joy and purpose.

I have found in my own life that if I always concentrate on the problem, I lose my focus and forget where my help comes from. When I take my eyes off of my Heavenly Father, I begin to worry and become anxious. Although, when I put my hope and trust in God, I realize the blessings of the Lord far outweigh all my struggles and heartaches.

My simple little plaque is a great reminder to me that God is good no matter what life brings. God loves me no matter how many times I fail Him, and God is always in control regardless of what the circumstances appear to be. In other words, because He is God, I will always be thankful, grateful and blessed.

*"Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his love endures forever" (1 Chronicles 16:34).*



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BRING YOUR COMMODITIES / DONATIONS AND ENJOY  
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Falcon Children's Home and Family Services

for more information visit [harvesttrain.com](http://harvesttrain.com)

INTERESTED IN DONATING BUT NOT  
SURE OF OUR CURRENT NEEDS?

*Top 10 Commodity Needs*

PAPER TOWELS  
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13-GALLON TRASH BAGS  
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ETHNIC HAIR PRODUCTS  
CLEANING SUPPLIES  
LAUNDRY DETERGENT  
DISPOSABLE TAKEOUT  
TRAYS  
CANNED FOODS  
BREAKFAST CEREALS

for more information visit [harvesttrain.com](http://harvesttrain.com) or email us at  
[info@ichfs.org](mailto:info@ichfs.org)





## COME WITH **CONFIDENCE**

I John 5:14,15

*“And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us. And if we know that he hears us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of him.”*

### **CONFIDENCE**

When we stand before God with confidence in him as our Father, we please him. Consider a young child coming to his parents with confidence that they will help him in his struggle. That bond between parent and child is precious. We should continue to try to strengthen this bond.

The Lord's Prayer begins with, “Our Father.” This phrase reminds us that we have a legal right to come to our Father.

### **LAZARUS, COME FORTH**

Mary and Martha sent word to Jesus to come quickly and heal their brother Lazarus. He was so sick, and death was close. However, Jesus waited four days to come. Many people do not understand this delay. Even Martha voiced her concern.

*“Then said Martha unto Jesus, Lord, if you had been here, my brother had not died” (John 11:21).*

Jesus told his disciples that this sickness is not unto death, but for the glory of God. They did not understand!

Jesus was brought to the grave of Lazarus. As he stood before the grave, he wept. Also, many Jews that came with him wept.

## CONFIDENCE

As Jesus stood before the grave, the atmosphere was filled with sorrow and doubt. Yet he was able to pray with confidence. He was confident in His Father.

*“Father, I thank you that you have heard me. And I know that you hear me always: but because of the people which stand by I said it, that they may believe that you have sent me” (John 11: 41, 42).*

Then with a loud voice, he cried, *“Lazarus, come forth.”* (v. 42)

## OUT OF THE TOMB

Suddenly, the atmosphere changed from sorrow to great joy. Lazarus came out of the tomb, bound in graveclothes. Jesus told the people to loose him and let him go.

## INSPECT YOUR PRAYERS

Review your most recent prayers. Is confidence expressed regarding God and His Word?

## STUDY QUESTION

Name the king to whom Paul taught the gospel, and who almost was saved.

The king told Paul, “Almost you persuaded me to be a Christian.”

Acts 26 \_\_\_\_\_

thanksgiving blessings



# December Calendar

- |              |                                       |
|--------------|---------------------------------------|
| <b>20-24</b> | <b>Office Closed for Christmas</b>    |
| <b>27</b>    | <b>Prayer Call</b>                    |
| <b>29</b>    | <b>Deadline for Reports</b>           |
| <b>31</b>    | <b>New Year's Eve - Office Closed</b> |