



VOICE OF THE APPALACHIAN CONFERENCE OF THE IPHC

MESSENGER

Vol. 84, No. 4 April 2023

HE IS RISEN

*When the Savior reached down for me
When he reached down his hand for me
I was lost and undone without God or his Son
When he reached down his hand for me.*



HE IS RISEN

CELEBRATE THE RESURRECTION

Vol. 84— April 2023— No. 4

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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

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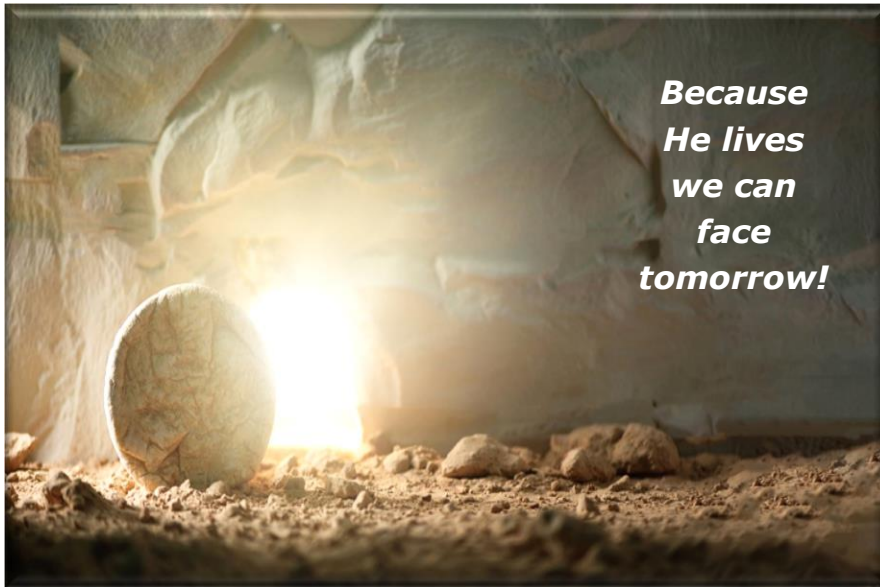
MAY RETIRED MINISTERS' BIRTHDAYS

May 16

Rev. Gary Cope
830 N. 16th Street
Wytheville, VA 24382

May 31

Dr. C.R. Conner
1144 Windsor Avenue
Pulaski, VA 24301



*Because
He lives
we can
face
tomorrow!*



REV. OKEY L. KING, JR.
9/30/40 – 3/30/23

Rev. Okey L. King, Jr., 82, went to be with the Lord on March 30. He was licensed with the Appalachian Conference in 1977, and ordained in 1979. He then pastored the Second Creek church, and was pastoring at Peniel PHC at the time of his death, having served there for 41 years. He is survived by his wife Carolyn, whom he married in 1964. Known as a “storyteller,” he is now enjoying firsthand the greatest story of all time. He will be missed but never forgotten.



The Bishop's Page

Preston Mathena



EASTER, the message of HOPE

"On the first day of the week, very early in the morning, the women took the spices they had prepared and went to the tomb. They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but, when they entered, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. While they were wondering about this, suddenly two men in clothes that gleamed like lightning stood beside them. In their fright the women bowed down with their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here, he has risen! Remember how he told you, while he was still with you in Galilee; The Son of Man must be delivered over to the hands of sinners, be crucified and on the third day be raised again." Then they remembered his words" Luke 24:1-8 NIV.

Let's go back in time about 2,000 years. It's the week following the resurrection. There is a buzz about Jerusalem. Jesus of Nazareth has risen from the dead. The women who went to the tomb were talking about it. The soldiers and the Sanhedrin were talking about it. The disciples were talking about it. And we are still talking about it. "The Resurrection".

Easter may be coming, for many, just another holiday, but not for us. For the church, it's a day we celebrate life and hope. Easter is the HIGH DAY of the Christian faith. It's why we know we have the promise of eternal life, the promise of heaven. Easter, a day that represents things coming back to life. It is not just about his resurrection - it's about our resurrection. Not just in the sense that someday we will be resurrected but it is about God bringing us out of our graves of disappointment, despair, our failures and our past. *"We have passed from death unto life" John 5:24.*

I don't know if the world really understands everything Jesus did for us. Dying on the cross for our sins. Taking our shame and destroying the power of sin over us. But, it was absolutely necessary for him to rise from the dead. The disciples thought they had lost him. They did not remember his words. They didn't fully understand that he had to rise for all our sakes. He had to come back to life so that we could come to life.

Ephesians 2:1 *"As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sin."* We needed to be resurrected from our sins. Paul said in 1 Corinthians 15:17, *"If Christ has not been raised, your faith is in vain and you are still in your sins."*

The stone to the tomb wasn't rolled away so that Jesus could get out. It was rolled away so that man could see in and believe the resurrection. Imagine these ladies in Luke 8 coming to the tomb after the crucifixion to anoint the body. Not to celebrate, but to mourn. The tomb was empty. He had risen. Two messengers from heaven spoke to the women. *"Remember how he told you, the son of man must be crucified and be raised again."* Then they remembered his words. Luke 24:7-8

We may remember a lot of things about the days surrounding Easter. But it is imperative that we remember his words. I think when the disciples saw the resurrected Christ they, too, remembered the words he spoke at the tomb of Lazarus - *"I am the resurrection and the life. Anyone who believes in me will live, even though they die, and whoever lives by believing in me will never die."*

John 11: 25-26. They remembered his words about how he was the good shepherd who would lay down his life for his sheep. His words about how God had sent him into the world, not to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved. They remembered it was the Father's good pleasure to give them the kingdom.

A few years ago, I stood at the empty tomb in Israel, a city somewhat commercialized, and amid all the traffic noise I was thinking in my spirit what a scene this must have been. To arrive at the tomb and hear the angels say, he is not here, he is risen. When I entered the empty tomb that day, it made the scriptures come alive and I remembered his words, *"Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet believed"* John 20:29.

1 Peter 1:8, *"Though you have not seen Him, you love Him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in Him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy."*

Not everyone got to see Messiah in the flesh. Not everyone got to witness the resurrection. Not everyone will visit the Holy Land in their lifetime. But, it is vital that everyone remember his words. The message of hope.





World Missions & Evangelism

Larry Meadors



Sharing Faith Forms Faith

There are natural links between evangelism and spiritual formation. Most Christians, however, view formation as following a faith decision versus interacting with it. But the relationship between growth and the gospel is more complex and beautiful. Developing and deepening over time. The unfortunate consequences of the common view is that it deprioritizes evangelism for people already caught. That leaves them ill prepared to share the good news with others.

In the past I have focused my attention more on personal growth than on evangelism. I see now that what I and others have unwittingly done is equip an army to feed and care for itself while leaving it unprepared for a wider war. Sharing faith has to be taught as an integral part of formation.

As believers, we are stewards of our gifts and calling but we also steward the attention of others. We give those who encounter us a glimpse for better or worse of the Christ on earth. When we give ourselves to evangelism, we are lifting him up and presenting him to a world crying out for a Savior, instead of just secreting him away as a tool for our own personal sanctification.

It is important to remember that evangelism is how we love the world as God does, but conversion is the work of the Holy Spirit. Live the truth you tell. Tell the truth you live. The rest is God's business. When we wed ourselves to the idea that we are responsible for making people believe, we put ourselves in the place of the Savior or the Spirit. We take the glory that doesn't belong to us.

Christians need to rediscover that listening is an act of love. Listening makes room for people. In a culture that places high value on acceptance, this is no small thing. When we make space first for who people are, and for what matters to them, only then can we know how to offer ourselves and our faith to them. Listening is the first duty of a servant. Without it he or she has no way of knowing what the master requires. When we share our faith, we are servants, not sages.

We are spiritually formed by and in the love of God in Christ. Evangelism is the fruit and the root of our formation. To give the grace we have been given is not only the evidence of our transformation; it is itself transforming. Every opportunity to share our faith with others challenges us to live out what we say we believe. And every time that we refuse to shrink away from that responsibility, we are strengthened in our faith and as a witness.

Michelle D. Jones is a pastor and writer in Portland, Oregon. Reviving Evangelism Barna Group 2019



Missionaries from 4 continents shared the vision for world missions at the recent Great Commission meals. From left to right: Gloria & Larry Meadors, David Hodges (Peru), Sean Etheridge (Romania), Devin and Breanne Hardin (Japan), Greg McClerkin (South Sudan). All of these would welcome the opportunity to connect with you on how to partner with them in the spread of the gospel.

World Missions Update

The Great Commission Meals was a time of celebrating the goodness of God in the gathering of record resources for the harvest in 2022. Pastors and mission directors from 67 churches came together and enjoyed the meal provided by IPHC World Missions Ministries. Each of the four missionaries shown above shared the vision to reach their area of the world with the gospel. Awards were also given to churches in recognition of their giving as 5 & 7 Star churches and to the Global Outreach Offering.



2023 Global Outreach Goal: \$250,000

Global Outreach Service: June 16 at 7:00



(Left to Right) Trey Jones (EVUSA), Pastor Brandon Hay, and Pastor Woody Burpo

Church Planters Intensive

Pastor Brandon Hay of Life Church in Claypool Hill, VA, shared in the recent Church Planters Intensive, which was held at Christian Life International. Pastor Hay related the story of how Life Church was birthed, with the help of Crossroads Church and the Appalachian Conference, eight years ago. It is a thriving, growing church today, with an average attendance of over 200 each Sunday.

The event brought together potential church planters for three days of training and inspiration. Pastor Tony Atkinson was influential in bringing the event to the conference, which has brought a renewed focus on church planting.



Discipleship Ministries

Ron Fredericks

www.appconf.org



CAMP MARANATHA



DUBLIN VA 2023

AND YOU ALSO WERE INCLUDED IN CHRIST
WHEN YOU HEARD THE
MESSAGE OF THE GOSPEL
OF YOUR SALVATION. WHEN YOU BELIEVED,
YOU WERE SEALED BY HIM WITH A
SEAL OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, A DEPOSIT
GUARANTEEING OUR INHERITANCE UNTIL THE
REDEMPTION OF THOSE
WHO ARE GOD'S POSSESSION—TO
THE PRAISE OF HIS GLORY. EPH 1:13-14

MARKED

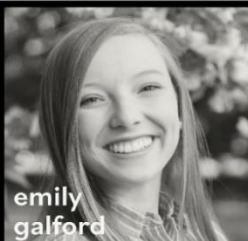
FOR CHANGE | FOR SERVICE | FOR LIFE



cj cole



aaron
tunnel



emily
galford



missy
ailstock

JUNE
19-23

Extreme Teen Camp
Ages 13 - 17
\$199

JUNE
26-30

Destiny Camp
Ages 10 - 12
\$199

JULY
3-6

Adventure Quest
Ages 7 - 9
\$189

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CONTACT NUMBER 540-674-4131 EXT. 201
EMAIL DMSECRETARY1@AOL.COM

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For more info
540 674 4131
or Visit www.appconf.org

APPALACHIAN CONFERENCE INTERNATIONAL
PENTECOSTAL HOLINESS CHURCH
SUMMER CAMPS

 DUBLIN VA



CAMP
MARANATHA



ANNUAL COLT BARKER PINEWOOD DERBY

The 20th Annual Colt Barker Pinewood Derby took place on the Appalachian Conference Campgrounds on Saturday, April 1, 2023. With roughly 100+ in attendance, 47 cars ran in multiple races, providing a day of excitement and fun.

*Dedicated to the Memory of
Ranger Colt W. Barker
February 10, 1990 – August 30, 2002
Son of Gary & Ruth Barker*

We were glad to have Colt's brother Ethan Barker present to help present medals.

Final Rankings in all Divisions

Rainbows

- 1st: Colton Lilly: Freedom Church IPHC
- 2nd: Colton McClerkin: Africa
- 3rd: Jaxton Willis: Galax PHC

Ranger Kids

- 1st: Abel Hancock: Galax PHC
- 2nd: Autumn Reed: Christiansburg AoG
- 3rd: Rowan Rife: Hillsville PHC

Adventure Rangers

- 1st: Grayson Sheets: Galax PHC
- 2nd: John Osterbauer: Compassion Radford IPHC

Discovery Rangers

- 1st: Austin Anton: Compassion Radford
- 2nd: Eli Sadler: Compassion Radford IPHC
- 3rd: John Austin: Galax PHC

Expedition Rangers

- 1st: Phillip Sweet: Galax PHC
- 2nd: Eli Sweet: Galax PHC

Girls' Open Division

- 1st: Pippah Hancock: Galax PHC
- 2nd: Briley McGhee: Galax PHC
- 3rd: Mykah Kenny: Galax PHC

Modified Division

- 1st: Eli Sweet: Galax PHC
- 2nd: Freddie Sweet: Galax PHC
- 3rd: Phillip Sweet: Galax PHC

Adults

- 1st: Josh Lilly: Freedom Church IPHC
- 2nd: Scott Sadler: Compassion Radford IPHC

Best in Design

- 1st: Wesson Arnold: Liberty Hill PHC
- 2nd: Colton McClerkin: Africa
- 3rd: Leeland Miller: Liberty Hill PHC

Best Overall Speed

- Overall: Grayson Sheets: Galax PHC
- Autumn Reed: Christiansburg AoG
- Grayson Sheets: Galax PHC



Thank you to Conference Boys' Ministries Director Freddie Sweet and Steve Allen, Lou Ferguson, Alan Tuggle, Sherry Sweet, Cindy Allen, Scott Sadler, Phillip Sweet and Eli Sweet for a great day and a job well done!





DISCIPLESHIP DEVELOPMENT

May 20, 2023

9:30 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.

APPALACHIAN CONFERENCE GROUNDS



Tommy McGhee
Executive Director
Discipleship Ministers, IPHC

9:30 A.M. - 12:00 P.M.

Tommy McGhee - Two morning sessions

Lunch: 12:00 P.M. - 1:00 P.M.

Sessions: 1:00 - 3:00 P.M.

- Breakout session for Children, Youth, Men, Women and Worship Leaders
- Q & A Session for Pastors with Bishop Tommy McGhee

\$15 Registration Fee (Lunch included)

May 19, 2023

6:30 pm at the Training Center

YOUTH AND CHILDREN'S LEADERS ROUNDTABLE





Men's Ministries

Steve Winesett



APPALACHIAN CONFERENCE DISCIPLESHIP MINISTRIES/MEN'S MINISTRIES PRESENTS

MEN'S RALLY



Hans Hess, Guest Speaker

Saturday, April 15, 2023

11:30 am - 2:30 pm

Lunch 12 - 1:00 pm

Guest Speaker 1:00 - 2:30 pm

\$15 (lunch included)

To pre-register: Call 540-674-4131, ext. 201

or email dmsecretary1@aol.com

REGISTER ONLINE @ <https://appconf.org/mens-rally>

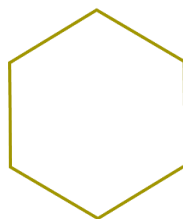
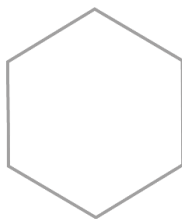
Hans is the Senior Pastor of Fountain of Life, a multi-campus church. Hans regularly conducts evangelistic services overseas and speaks at churches, conferences and various events every year across the United States. Hans currently serves as Bishop of Redemption Ministries. Hans has two children, three grandchildren, and was recently married to Dana. They make their home in Elizabeth City, North Carolina.



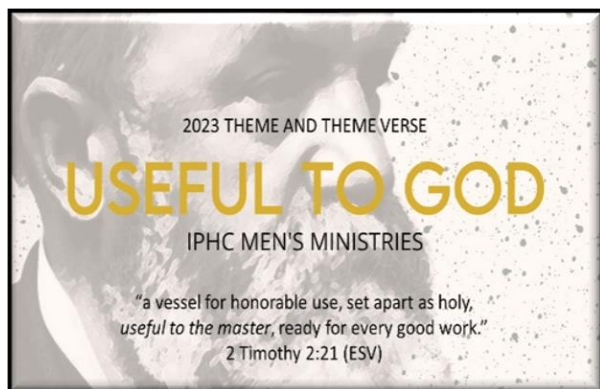
For questions and inquiries, you may contact:

Ron Fredericks
Discipleship Ministries Director
540-674-4131, ext. 206





IPHC MEN'S MINISTRIES MEMO



IPHC MEN'S MINISTRIES 2023 THEME is "Useful To God," from **2 Timothy 2:21**, where the Apostle Paul encourages us to be "a vessel for honorable use, set apart as holy, *useful to the master*, ready for every good work." D. L. Moody was described by his contemporary, R. A. Torrey, as a man "useful to God." Torrey outlines characteristics in Moody's life that made him useful to God. We will utilize a Bible Plan in the You Version Bible App with the same name, "Useful To God," providing biblical reflections inspired by Moody's life and ministry. Please start promoting now.



APPALACHIAN CONFERENCE
PRESENTS

The 22nd
Master's Seedtime
Golf Classic

May 19, 2023

Blue Ridge Country Club
Galax, Virginia

*Please register by Friday, May 12th by
calling 540-674-4131, ext. 201
or email: dmsecretary1@aol.com*

For questions and inquiries, you may contact:



Steve Winesett
Men's Ministries Director
336-408-2008



Sponsored by: Appalachian Conference Men's Ministries



Women's Ministries

Tammy Porter



"We Were Worth His Journey"

I often wonder what Jesus was going through in the days leading up to the cross. He had gone from hero to zero in a matter of hours. One day He was being celebrated through the streets of Jerusalem. A few days later that same crowd was shouting, "Crucify"!

Being "Jesus," He had strength to fulfill what He had come to earth to fulfill. Being "man," He was probably afraid and full of dread. We know this because of what He prayed in the garden, "Let this cup pass from me. But not my will but your will." How His heart must have grieved. Not grieved for Himself but for the sins of the world He was going to have to carry up that long, dark hill.

We live in a world that rejects our Lord and His Word every day. A world full of hate and prejudice. A world that is ready to turn on Him as soon as "life happens" and they don't understand. But for some reason, Jesus looked ahead in time and saw a world that needed to be saved, healed and delivered. He saw people who needed Him. People who really didn't deserve His mercy and His grace. He saw children who needed someone to pick up their broken pieces when everyone else had given up on them. He saw you and He saw me. His love far overshadowed His fear and His dread.

I believe His heart hurt when He was betrayed. I believe He felt pain when the cat-o'-nine-tails was thrown across His back, but Jesus was on a mission. A mission for which He was born. A mission He volunteered for.

It was His love for us that Jesus carried our cross. It was His compassion for mankind that He bled and died. I am so thankful it didn't end in the tomb. He rose up out of that grave for our salvation! For you and for me! Sometimes I feel so unworthy of His sacrifice. How about you? I'm thankful God sees us differently than we see ourselves. I'm thankful Jesus was willing to die for the sins of the world.

So, as I think about what Jesus went through leading up to the cross, I realize that He was focused, determined and totally prepared to drink that cup. He saw all of our flaws and failures and knew He was our only Hope. He believed we were worth His journey.





World Intercession Network

Donna Hankla



COME BOLDLY TO THE THRONE OF GRACE

WIN SPRING PRAYER ENCOUNTER

"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).



April 22, 2023

Appalachian Conference Training Center

9:00 a.m. -- 12:00 p.m.

Dr. Doug Small, Guest Speaker

Dr. Small is a faithful intercessor with a passion for prayer. He is an Ordained Bishop and International Director of Prayer Ministries with the Church of God. He is the founding president of Alive Ministries: PROJECT PRAY, providing teaching and training through schools of prayer. In addition, he has written several books. One page is not long enough to describe his other prayer projects.

Both Doug and his wife, Barbara, STIR up the FLAMES of PRAYER in the regions where they minister!

Welcome to this event! You're welcome to donate to this faithful ministry, by clicking on Project Pray. (www.projectpray.org) The address is provided on the website for donations or contacts. For more information contact the Conference Office at 540-674-4131.



The graphic features a light blue background with a border of pink cherry blossoms. The title 'May CALENDAR' is prominently displayed at the top. Below it, a dark purple rectangular box contains a list of events for the month of May, each preceded by its date.

May CALENDAR

- 4 National Day of Prayer**
- 5 Deadline for Early Camp Registration**
- 5-6 Tower Training**
- 8-12 Encore Ministries Spring Trip**
- 14 Mother's Day**
- 19 Men's Ministries Golf Tournament**
- 19 Youth & Children's Leader's Roundtable**
- 20 DM Training**
- 22 Conference Work Day**
- 25-28 Connect Young Adult Weekend**
- 28 Pentecost Sunday**
- 29 Memorial Day (Office Closed)**