



VOICE OF THE APPALACHIAN CONFERENCE OF THE IPHC

# MESSENGER

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## SANCTITY OF LIFE SUNDAY January 23, 2011





## *Focusing on the Future... Going Missional*

*By Bishop Preston Mathena*

The holiday season is always a great time to reflect on the past year and the goodness of the Lord. But it's not only a time of reflection; it's also a time to look forward to the coming of a new year, along with new opportunities for expanding the kingdom of God. I am writing this article with a dual focus – first, to help set a course for the future in a direction toward which I believe we must gravitate as a conference, and second, to make you aware of a great training opportunity provided by Evangelism USA.

We're living in a day that finds the church constantly changing, developing and evolving. We see new trends in methodology and strategies; the word that seems to surface over and over today is the term *missional* – the Missional Church movement. There is no movement in recent history more relevant than the Missional Church movement in its purpose to realign and redirect the body of Christ back to our mandate of the Great Commission. Many church leaders believe this is the direction the Western Church must go to be effective in the 21st century. We have come to a time for a change of mindset and philosophy, literally a paradigm shift in the thinking of the American church, from being an attractional (come and see) church to becoming a sending (go and tell) church. Think about these statistics: North America is the only continent on earth where Christianity is not growing. In America the church is losing 2,765,000 people each year. Only 17.5 percent of the population attends church on a given Sunday, and 195,000,000 people in the United States are unchurched. This is only a few of the concerning stats and trends of the American church.

What is involved in being a missional church, having a missional mindset? It is knowing the mission field is here and now, adopting the posture of a missionary without ever leaving your own zip code. It is making the gospel relevant to your community, your region. In short, it is taking Acts 1:8 literally and acting like a missionary – sharing the gospel in word and deed – wherever you are.

Most leaders in the missional movement do not believe it is entirely possible to transition an established attractional church to a missional viewpoint. However, I do believe it is possible to incorporate missional thinking, tendencies, and practices in attractional churches. Consider the following:

**1) Our churches must become more intentional in outreach.**

In a recent online article by the Barna Group, in which they review six megathemes of the American Church in 2010, Barna states that Christians continue to become more ingrown and less outreach oriented. A quick evaluation of your individual church would be to list all of the people you have involved in ministry – everyone from nursery, choir, ushers, etc. The number should total 75 percent of your average attendance on any given Sunday. Next, do a quick

evaluation of how many are involved in in-reach (ministry to the congregation) and how many are involved in outreach (ministry outside the congregation.) The ideal concept is 50/50. Most congregations will fall far short on the outreach side. That is why we must intentionally evaluate and then intentionally incorporate outreach ministry opportunities. *The mandate is not "either/or" – either home missions or foreign missions. But every congregation can become involved where it is – at home – and simultaneously become involved in missions abroad.*

**2) We must remain culturally relevant to our communities.**

We must ask what forms and strategies we should use to expand most effectively the kingdom where we are right now. It has been said that you could parachute-drop a missional leader into a village in India or the hustle of a North American city, and he or she would study and learn the culture, live and proclaim the good news and contextualize it for the needs of that region. To make our churches culturally relevant, we must constantly evaluate the needs of our communities. Why not make a "top ten" or "top five" list of your community's needs and strategize with your leadership on how to address these needs. Incorporate missional thinking until it becomes missional acting.

**3) Missional thinking will help us engage our people in ministry,**

first by challenging the church to see the need. Do you remember when Jesus pressed the disciples past their comfort zone in John 4 by saying, "I must needs go through Samaria"? They hated that. He ultimately was going to press them past racial bias, gender bias, social bias, even religious bias to see the need of not just one lady, but actually the needs of a whole community and even the world. Had Jesus not challenged them, they would have ignored the need forever.

The Missional Church Movement, like Jesus, is saying the field is white, ripe, and ready to be harvested. It is a call back to the heart of the Great Commission.

**"Going Missional: Renewing Fresh Passion for the Great Commission"** – Evangelism USA is conducting this training event, "Going Missional," March 17-19, 2011, in Nashville, Tennessee, for anyone interested in being part of this movement. Ed Stetzer, a key voice in the Missional Church movement, will challenge you with a renewed passion for the Great Commission. This event is specifically designed to inform and instruct church leaders in how to participate more effectively in the present day Mission of God. I encourage you to make plans to attend this very important training event. For more information on this event and the registration process, call Evangelism USA (405)787-7110 x 3318, or go to <http://www.iphc.org/evangelism>.

## RETIRED MINISTERS – FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

### February 7

Rev. John Hash  
4130 Little Creek Road  
Dublin, VA 24084

### February 11

Rev. Tony Brescia  
175 Windsong Lane  
Christiansburg, VA 24073



### February 28

Rev. R. G. Quesenberry  
1725 Merrimac Road  
Blacksburg, VA 24060

*Thirty-eight new members* were received at City of Refuge (COR) Ministries in Bristol, Virginia, during the month of October. City of Refuge is a new church plant, celebrating its one-year anniversary in October. Some of the new members are included in the photo below.

Pastor Dwayne and Jennifer Addison



## DATES TO REMEMBER

### JANUARY

- 1 -21 21-Day Daniel Fast
- 8 Bible Quiz Scrimmage
- 12 IPHC Global Day of Prayer & Fasting
- 20 – 22 Royal Rangers & Men's Ministries  
Bridging Our Ministries, Ridgecrest, NC
- 23 Sanctity of Life Sunday
- 28 – 30 Accelerant, Gatlinburg, TN

### FEBRUARY

- 5 Bible Quiz Scrimmage
- 11 – 13 Royal Rangers Annual Winter Campout  
Pipestem, WV
- 14 Valentine's Day
- 17 – 19 Ministers' Summit, Pigeon Forge, TN

*Charter Renewal Month for Girls' Ministries & Royal Rangers*



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#### Deadline for all script to reach the office:

1st of each month for the next month's issue  
Email to [latrissia@aol.com](mailto:latrissia@aol.com)

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# World Missions & Evangelism



APPALACHIAN CONFERENCE MISSIONS AND EVANGELISM MINISTRIES

LARRY MEADORS

## 12 RESOLUTIONS IN 2011

Use the *Link* daily to **pray** for your world in this New Year. This practical prayer guide is filled with bios and photos of missionaries, church leaders, ministry efforts, etc. It is an easy-to-follow format. Order your copy at: <http://www.wmm.iphc.org/linkorder.html>.

Be a personal **witness** as you journey through 2011. Tremendous opportunities await you as you go into your workplace and community. Go with the predetermined goal that you will share the love of Jesus Christ. Growth for God's kingdom begins with you!

**Tithe** to support the local church. God's economy knows neither recession nor shortage. Giving the 10 percent of your income back to God is the way that you will be blessed in 2011! God says to prove Him in this. (Malachi 3:10)

Begin a **Faith Commitment** to a missionary. The only way our missionaries can go into the entire world is if we send them. Existing and new missionaries really need and deserve your support. It is a wonderful way to begin a relationship with these dedicated servants. For support information, contact the conference office.

**Encourage** a church planter. New churches are one of the best means to grow the kingdom. Church planting can be difficult; use your skills to help a church to get started. For information on how you can play a role in reaching the U.S.A., contact the conference office and visit <http://www.iphc.org/acts2day>.

**GIVE** a day's wage for Global Outreach (GO.) This annual offering goes to missions and evangelism. It is a vital resource because it goes where it is most needed in a timely manner. Give through your local church. This can be our best year ever as every church decides to become involved.

**GO** on a missional trip. This journey can be a trip to a distant country, or it can be across town. A characteristic of being missional is that of reaching people who are different from your culture and background, wherever they may be found. New adventure awaits you in this year!

Have your small group or family sponsor a **People to People** child. One of the best values in ministry that you will find is a \$25 monthly sponsorship of a child. You or your group will be able to give a child the gift of hope through food, Christian education and medical attention where possible. Together, we can go well beyond the 5,100 children who are currently being helped in 33 countries.

**Tell** a church leader that you love and support him or her. Take a moment today to tell your pastor, teacher, evangelist, missionary or whoever God lays on your heart that you are behind them! Social networking makes it easy to encourage those who are dedicating their lives to build up the kingdom of God.

Support a **Coffee House** ministry (CHM). This is a unique ministry that takes the Word of God into the marketplace of the world. Currently, there are 13 IPHC coffee houses with



Sponsored People to People Children in Cambodia expressing their thanks.

plans for many more. Only \$10 a month helps to further this ministry. (<http://www.iphc.org/coffee>)

**Intercede** for our IPHC military and institutional chaplains. Our military service members and their families need our support in this year. The continued deployments are very hard on them. Ask them how you can serve them who serve us.

**GROW!** Purpose to be the best you can be in 2011. Make use of training and fellowship opportunities provided by your church, our conference and our denomination.

### GO

Registration forms are available for the Mozambique Missions trip scheduled for September 26 – October 7. Cost is \$2,300 per person. Make a difference by helping to construct an AIDS clinic, children's ministry and more. Applications due by March 31.

Global Outreach banquets are back! March 19-26. Visit [www.appconf.org](http://www.appconf.org) to find your location and time.

### GROW

"If you and your church were to disappear off the face of the earth tomorrow – would anyone in the unbelieving community around you notice you were gone? And if they did even notice – would they say we are really glad they are gone or – Gee, we're going to miss them."

Timothy J. Keller



# Discipleship Ministries

RON FREDERICKS

www.ac-dm.org



## From the Director's desk:

As I stood there that final day of youth camp, all alone in the quiet of Camp Maranatha, kids and staff gone, it was as if I could hear the voice of the Lord say, "Now is the time. This is what I am asking you to do." It is with great humility and honor that I serve you as your Discipleship Ministries director. While the last six months have been filled with nonstop activity, I still feel a great excitement for what God has in store. As we begin this New Year and new season, I share with you what I sensed the Lord speak to me in those beginning days:

1. **Deliver the good news**, the gospel of Jesus Christ. Nothing has the power or the ability to change lives like the simple proclamation of God's Word, "*for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes*" (Romans 1:16). Not only has God called us to deliver the good news, but we are also to "deliver the goods." As Christians, we must become what God has called us to be. In light of this great truth, we encourage everyone to become students of God's Word, daily reading and meditating in His Word. [Check our website for age-appropriate reading guides]

2. **Develop** men and women, boys and girls, nurture and train them, leading them into the fullness of all that God has for them! Matthew

28:19, 20: "Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching..." Ephesians 4:12 says, "Equip the saints." As we make disciples, we get a true glimpse of what we look like as Christians. Let us make sure that as we develop disciples, we are reproducing the Christ in us! Great tools for developing people will be found in the Bible Quiz and Talent programs, Royal Rangers and Girls' Ministries, Sunday School, Men's and Women's Ministries. [Contact my office for available training sessions and material, as well as information on conference-wide events.]

3. **Deploy**. As disciples, we equip disciples, then release them to make disciples as well. Only then can the people and the church grow and flourish. Jesus deployed His disciples and said they would be witnesses in "*Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.*" Discipleship Ministries should be providing workers for youth camp and mission trips, church planters, pastors and missionaries.

Discipleship Ministries has the wonderful and awesome task of not only reaching but changing the lives of those with whom we come in contact as we remember what God has called us to do! **Deliver, Develop and Deploy! Appalachian Conference Discipleship Ministries... changing lives!**

## DISCIPLESHIP MINISTRIES DATES TO REMEMBER 2011

### Bible Quiz:

#### Scrimmages:

January 8: Hill Top, Pulaski

February 5: St Paul, Max Meadows

March 5: Christian Life Intl, Salem

April 9: *Conference BQ Finals: Word of Life, Wytheville*

### Junior and Teen Talent:

*March 3, 2011: Conference Registration deadline*

**April 16:** Conference Junior and Teen Talent Finals

Tree of Life Ministries, Lynchburg, VA

July 18-21: Youth Quest & National Fine Arts Convention, Atlanta, GA

*June 16: Early Bird Registration Deadline*

### Royal Rangers:

February 11-13: Royal Rangers Winter Camp-Out

Pipstem, WV, Registration *Deadline January 28*

March 12: Pinewood Derby: Camp Maranatha

March 26: Ranger Basics: Dublin

April 9: Ranger of the Year: Word of Life, Wytheville

July 9: Ranger Kids Day

July 12-16: National Camporama

Cornerstone Conference Camp: *Mission Possible*

*March 31: Early Bird Registration Deadline*

August 6: Canoe Trip

October 2-8: National Royal Rangers Week

October 9: National Royal Rangers Day

November 5: Commanders' Banquet

### Senior Ministry:

May 7: Golden Eagle Senior Ministry Spring Rally

October 18-20: Golden Eagle Senior Ministry

Fall Fellowship Trip: Tentative: St. Augustine, FL

### Youth Camp: AN ARMY OF ONE!

*May 13: Early Bird Registration Deadline*

June 20-24: Extreme Teen Week Grades 9-12

Camp Pastor: Amy Lambert

June 27-July 1: Destiny Jr. Teen Grades 7 & 8

Camp Pastor: Tim Bennett

July 4-8: Adventurer Pre-Teen Grades 5 & 6

Camp Pastor: Woody Burpo

July 10-13: Kidz Quest Grades 2-4

Camp Pastor: Angie Burroughs

### Music and Creative Arts Ministry:

May 13-14: Music & Creative Arts Ministry Training

September 17: Music & Creative Arts Ministry Training

### Events:

April 1-3: ELEVATE WEEKEND

*April 29-30: Tower Training*

May 10: Deadline for Discipleship Ministries Awards of Excellence: SEE WEBSITE FOR FORM

*May 31: Conference & DM Work Day*

July 29-31: Power Chicks II: Girls' Ministries

Ridgecrest Conference Center

*September: National DM Workers Month*

September 28: See You at the Pole

*October 1: Fall Day of Training*

*Speaker: Bishop Dr. Ron Carpenter, Sr.*

*Valley Harvest Ministries, Dublin*

For forms and more info on all  
Discipleship Ministries Department events  
Go to: [ac-dm.org](http://ac-dm.org)



# Women's Ministries

KATHY MATHENA



## Reflections on 2010 and Resolutions for 2011

By Kathy Mathena

As I reflect back on the past year, the Fall Retreat in Pigeon Forge, Tennessee, stands out in my memory. I am still overwhelmed with the response from you, the ladies of the Appalachian Conference. I think of the women who traveled seven hours from the Stanley New Hope Church. What dedication it took for them and many of you to travel such a great distance!

Approximately 300 ladies were in attendance. To all of you, I extend my heartfelt thanks and appreciation for your support. Our main goal was that you be ministered to, and through the preached Word by Amy Lambert and the altar ministry, our goals were achieved.

January always begins a new year filled with fresh goals, ideas and resolutions. Maybe your goal is to lose weight, start that exercise program, read through the Bible or to get up early and start your day with prayer.

Many are the plans of man, and some are good, but the plan we definitely should follow is God's plan. Jeremiah 29:11 says, "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." In the New Testament, Jesus tells us in John 10:10, "The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full."

In the world today, we are much aware of guarding our identity. We work diligently to keep our social security number, our credit

cards and bank accounts private to safeguard our identity. But do we ever stop and think that our true identity as Christians is slowly being stolen from us?

The Bible tells us that we are the righteousness of God in Christ Jesus. We are more than conquerors. We are the healed. We are the head and not the tail. We are joint heirs with Jesus, and we are the body of Christ.

This year, don't allow your true identity to be stolen. Guard it as you would your social security number. When the enemy comes to steal your health – stand on the Word. When he tries to steal your children, your family, your friends – stand on the Word. When he tells you you're not going to make it financially – stand on the Word.

A friend once told me that during her prayer time, God said to her, "When you're in a battle, don't put your sword down." Our sword is the Word of God.

This year will bring many battles, but it will bring you victory every time as long as you stand on the Word and keep your sword ready.

## Thank You To:

- ❖ The Cool Spring PH Church – for having the most in attendance at the Fall Retreat – 24.
- ❖ The Galax PH Church – for having the second highest in attendance - 20.
- ❖ The Bluefield First PH Church for organizing their Women's Ministries in October 2010.

## Mark Your Calendar

April 1 and 2, Bus Trip to Amish Country

Cost per person:	Single Room Occupancy	\$349
	Double Room	\$269
	Triple Room	\$249
	Quad Room	\$239

Cost includes bus fare, dinner at an Amish house, tickets to Sight and Sound to see *Joseph* and a full buffet breakfast at the Courtyard by Marriott.

**Deadline to register is February 5 – please send your \$50 deposit to:** Martha Hall, 1240 Meadowlark Drive, Wytheville, VA 24382

## HARVEST TRAIN OFFERING \$6,185.70

The three highest contributors were:

Rosenbaum Chapel – \$2,500

Mitchell Chapel – \$1,000

Shenandoah – \$650



# World Intercession Network

DONNA HANKLA



## A SURE START for the YEAR 2011!

Bishop Ronald Carpenter Sr. urges International Pentecostal Holiness churches to begin the year with 21 Days of Prayer and Fasting. The intent is to “give God the first-fruits of your New Year.” The Daniel Fast is the suggested fast. However, each individual is to seek the Lord and ask Him how He would have you observe the fast. Also, if you have a medical condition that could limit your type of fasting, follow the directions of your physician.

Prayer and fasting will be key disciplines in the year of 2011. Fasting helps us receive instructions from the Lord. This year will be a time when we will need direction from the Lord. The scripture assures us, “The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord; and He delights himself in his way” (Psalm 37: 23).

Take time this year to set aside times of prayer and fasting; prepare for the events of the future! “Be strong in the Lord and the Power of his might” (Ephesians 6: 1).



First Lady Nancy Reagan created the slogan “Just say no” in the campaign against drugs. It was made popular when she visited Longfellow Elementary School in Oakland, California, in 1982. A young girl asked the question, “What should I say if someone offers me drugs?” Mrs. Reagan responded with, “Just say no!”

In America today, there is not enough resisting the devil! Let’s look at some situations in which to “just say no.”

- Say no to fear! Irrational fear is the opposite of faith. Jesus often said, “Fear not.” “We do not have the spirit of fear, but of power and love and a sound mind” (2 Timothy 1:7).
- Say no to stress! Research shows that about 80% of disease is induced by stress. Jesus tells us to come unto Him and find Rest (Matthew 11:28-30).
- Say no to lack! Jesus fed 5,000 people with just five loaves and two fishes (Luke 9:10-17). David writes, “The young lions do lack, and suffer hunger, but they that

seek the Lord shall not want any good thing” (Psalm 34:10).

- Say no to our children when they take a wrong path. “Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it” (Proverbs 22:6).

Why? Why is it so difficult for us to say no? The answer is simple. We are not strong enough to resist. Our strength increases when we pray. The parable in Luke 18:1-8 encourages us to pray. “Men ought always to pray, and not to faint!” It’s time to pray! It’s time to stand firm! It’s time to resist the devil and say no.

## “JUST SAY NO!”

An important lesson for Christians to learn is to say no. We should be saying no to evil suggestions, no to things that would draw us away from God, no to the tactics of the enemy. “Resist the devil, and he will flee from you” (James 4:7).



# Men’s Ministries

QUENT BARIA



And... we’re off. Well, after a sloooooow start, I’m happy to report that we’ve made no major mistakes in the first month of new leadership in the Men’s Ministries’ realm. I’ve learned through leadership roles in the past that if we start out crawling, appreciate, honor, and learn from those who’ve gone before us, and ultimately walk before we run, we’ll stumble far fewer times and hurt less when we do.

So that pretty much sums up the current state of affairs. We are in an organizing and planning phase to continue with events

and programs as prescribed before, and to add in those things which make sense and test them on a small scale. I would like to add one word to all that we set ourselves to do and that is HARVEST. In these last days, the Lord has made it known that He needs workers to work in His harvest field. Men’s Ministries will position ourselves to be about the business of the harvest. More details to follow in a later issue of the Messenger. Until then, I remain humble as a servant, but able to do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

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Bishop Ken Kingrea cuts ribbon to the new Ministry Center, assisted by Bishop Preston Mathena and wife, Kathy; contractor Mike Terry and wife, Rebecca; Executive Council member Larry Meadors and wife, Gloria; and Executive Secretary Frank Neff and wife, Beth.

In spite of the inclement weather forecast, approximately 80 people braved the cold to attend the open house and ribbon-cutting ceremony of the new Ministry Center on Sunday afternoon, December 12, 2010. Though the weather was cold and threatening, it could not dampen the excitement of the open house. A warm glow of fellowship was enjoyed by attendees as they were treated to an assortment of delicious hors d'oeuvres, punch and hot apple cider prepared by the office staff.

Scripture and a prayer of dedication were offered by Bishop Kingrea. He spoke about the great need for this new facility, as we had outgrown the old one. The vision was put into motion by the former Conference Board and carried through by the current Executive Council.

Guests were allowed to wander the hallways to familiarize themselves with the layout of the building. Special guests included former conference bishops, Ken Kingrea and Edward Wood Sr., Sister Esther Underwood, contractor Mike Terry and his wife, Rebecca, along with many Appalachian Conference ministers.

We would like to express our appreciation to the office staff: Rhonda Smith, LaTrissia Black, Dinah Gregory, Candice Taylor and Sandy Wood for all their hard work and dedication that made this event a success. Special thanks go to Rick Black for always being willing to go that extra mile. As a note: Rick designed the layout of the new facilities.