



VOICE OF THE APPALACHIAN CONFERENCE OF THE IPHC

# MESSENGER

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November 2011



“I will bless the LORD at all times; His praise shall continually be in my mouth.”

Psalm 34:1 (NKJV)



## Baker's Chapel Breaks Ground on New Family Life Center

On September 11, 2011, Baker's Chapel Pentecostal Holiness Church held the groundbreaking ceremony for a new Family Life Center. Pastor Jim Tunnell, Mike Terry (contractor) and the Administrative Church Council participated in the event that was held at the construction site at 11:00 Sunday morning.

The Family Life Center will add an additional 11,100 square feet of ministry space. It will include a new children's church sanctuary, youth sanctuary, community room and fitness center, commercial feeding kitchen, and a 5,000-square-foot feeding/multipurpose area with a stage.

During the ceremony, Pastor Tunnell expressed appreciation to the church and everyone who was involved in making this day happen, including Mike Terry of Terry and Sons General Contractors. Said Pastor Tunnell, "Baker's Chapel is interested in reaching the people of this community for Jesus Christ. This place will serve as a base for this goal, and we give God all the glory!"

The projected completion date for this project is summer 2012.



**Pictured (left to right): Mike Terry, contractor; Pastor Jim Tunnell; Jetta Arnold, council member; Tommy Dalton, council member; Phyllis King, council member; and Millie Mabe, council member.**

## Thanksgiving Is More Than a Holiday

Each year, as we celebrate the holiday referred to as "Thanksgiving," images of Pilgrims, the Mayflower, and the landing at Cape Cod come to mind. History records that the sea voyage and first winter here were extremely harsh, with many lives lost. But the following year, thanks to Native Americans like Squanto, a successful corn crop was harvested and the Pilgrims enjoyed their first Thanksgiving dinner.

The national celebration of Thanksgiving dates back to President George Washington, though observance on the fourth Thursday of November was officially signed into federal law by President Franklin D. Roosevelt in 1941.

Many Americans view Thanksgiving as simply a day for turkey and football, but for Christians,

thanksgiving should be a lifestyle. Our lives should reflect the Psalmist's words: "Let them give thanks to the LORD for his unfailing love and his wonderful deeds for mankind, for he satisfies the thirsty and fills the hungry with good things" (107:8, 9, NIV).

As you enjoy your family and Thanksgiving meal this year, be reminded of God's infinite love, provision, faithfulness and mercy. As Christians, let us lead by example and truly give thanks.

*"Before you go out into the world, wash your face in the clear crystal of praise. Bury each yesterday in the fine linen and spices of thankfulness."*

—Charles Spurgeon

# MILLENNIUM WORLD OUTREACH HOLDS RIVER BAPTISM



On Sunday, September 11, the Millennium World Outreach Church, Wytheville, Va., held an old-fashioned baptism on the banks of the New River at Austinville. A large crowd gathered for a time of fellowship and to witness 20 candidates who were baptized. Pastor Kent Lewis officiated.

## December Retired Ministers' Birthdays

### December 1

Rev. Kenneth Kingrea  
3249 Mudpike Road  
Christiansburg, VA 24073

### December 10

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



### December 25

Rev. S.A. Franklin  
2514 West Main Street  
Radford, VA 24141

### December 26

Rev. Lacy Griffith  
HC 32, Box 309-A  
War, WV 24892

## DECEMBER DATES TO REMEMBER

- 2 First Friday Fast
- 4 Second Sunday of Advent
- 7 Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day
- 11 Third Sunday of Advent
- 18 Fourth Sunday of Advent
- 20 Conference office closes at noon
- 21-23 Conference office closed
- 28 Last day to receive church & ministers' reports
- 30 Conference office closes at noon



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# World Missions & Evangelism



APPALACHIAN CONFERENCE MISSIONS AND EVANGELISM MINISTRIES

LARRY MEADORS

## WALTON PH: MAKING A DIFFERENCE THROUGH MISSIONS



In August 2011, our wonderful God blessed us with the opportunity to go on a missions trip to the Dominican Republic. He gave us a chance to make a difference in the lives of the Dominicans, and we would really like to thank God for that. We also thank everyone who made it possible for us to go. Their support, prayers and funds made it possible for us to make a difference in the Dominican Republic. Last but not least, we thank Larry Meadors for arranging the trip.

Our group of 17 spent 10 days ministering by spending time with the people in their villages; working to improve their living conditions; performing skits in public places; and visiting churches—where Pastor Lee was given the chance to preach. This trip really opened our eyes to the poverty and the need for a touch from God in other countries. The children and people of the communities blessed us and taught us more than we could have ever imagined.

The United States, as a whole, is truly blessed, and we should be grateful for the things we have. This trip was a life-changing event for our group, and we are definitely looking forward to future possibilities.

—Submitted by Brittany Jones



### GIVE:

**Now is the time to give to GO 2011!** The month of November concludes the conference Global Outreach offering for 2011. Your donation is still needed to help

the IPHC missions force around the world fulfill the mandate of the Great Commission. We are blessed as a movement to have dedicated and sacrificial missionaries serving as our hands and feet to communicate the love of Christ. They need a great response in this offering to be able to plant new churches and complete projects. This offering is also the essential source of funds for EVUSA to impact the U.S. by planting new churches. Put your day's wage in the mail today so that it reaches the conference office by November 28.

### GO:

#### HAITI MISSIONS TRIP

Exotic travel, new foods, new friends . . . does this sound like a travel brochure? Not really! It is only half of the story when you choose to go on a cross-cultural trip with conference missions. You can expect to make an eternal difference in lives, and also see a positive impact on your life. Make plans now to join us February 23–March 1, 2012, in Haiti.

The focus of this trip will be the expansion of a church/school facility that will allow the 200 children in the People to People ministry to receive an education in the village of Tapio. There will also be a medical outreach as part of this team, so we need team members from the medical field to join this effort.

The cost for the entire trip is \$1,275. Send in your application today to secure your spot. A deposit of \$150 is due by November 12 to hold your seat on the plane.

**GROW:** "What is the purpose of the church? To enfold and warehouse Christians for heaven, protecting them from damage and spoilage until they reach their destination? Or to recruit and train people to be transforming agents of the kingdom of God in our culture? The missional church understands itself to be blessed, not to the exclusion of the world, but for the benefit of the world. It is a church that seeks to bring benefits to its non-adherents through its adherents."  
—Brian McLaren



# Discipleship Ministries

RON FREDERICKS

[www.ac-dm.org](http://www.ac-dm.org)



## No-Nos of Children's Ministry

By Don Webb

***Avoid these pitfalls as you develop a dynamic outreach to children.***

**1.** Don't make it a one-man show. You can't do this ministry alone. Don't be afraid to teach others how to do what you do. Give them a chance to make mistakes. Give them opportunities to grow in their ability to reach kids for Jesus. You'll burn out if you try to do it all yourself.

**2.** Don't sound desperate for helpers. You need volunteers, but avoid placing "statements of desperation" in your church bulletin. Be positive. Recruit workers by saying, "Here's an exciting opportunity to serve!" You'll be surprised at how many people respond. Refuse to accept just anyone who "bites" at the opportunity to work in your ministry; choose only those best suited. There are incredibly talented people in your congregation who need to know they are needed.

**3.** Don't screen workers improperly. You can't afford to forgo careful screening of anyone who works with children. Be diligent in requiring criminal background checks and updating these at least every two years. Don't hesitate to advertise this policy. Parents will feel more secure placing their children in your care when you take the security of their precious cargo seriously.

**4.** Don't neglect your own spiritual nourishment. Serving is wonderful, but it does not replace your own time with God. Don't allow the busyness of ministry to cause your personal relationship with God to suffer. You must ensure that you and your volunteers attend a church service every week to receive spiritual encouragement from your senior pastor. An empty spiritual life will lessen your ability to guide your kids and your team members into a vibrant relationship with Jesus. And whatever you do, put your own family first!

**5.** Don't ignore what children are saying. You can learn a great deal by paying attention to what your children have to say. Get to know the kids in your ministry personally. Are they developing a closer relationship to God through your guidance? Do they understand what you're teaching? Constantly change your methods to keep their attention.

**6.** Don't shut out your pastor. Your senior pastor is your friend. Be sure your vision is the same as his. If it isn't, you don't have any business leading your department. Ask to meet with him once a month to share the great things God is doing in your ministry. Express your love, appreciation and support to your pastor through emails or other personal correspondence.

**7.** Don't call your ministry Children's Church. Nine- and 10-year-old boys and girls don't think of themselves as children. They are way too cool for children's church—that's for little kids! But the same 10-year-olds would love to come to Paradise Island, Dry Gulch Junction, Inspiration Point or some other cool place. (Even the name Kids' Church is better than Children's Church.) Our children's ministry is known as The Filling Station; having a unique identity like this places vision and values on your ministry. It is helpful to theme your meeting area around your logo—a few palm trees, for example, or a small tent, a grouping of patio lights, or whatever your budget will allow. It also provides an escape from ordinary classrooms.

**8.** Don't ever say your church is too small to do cool things! Creativity has little to do with budget. You probably have enough stuff lying around your house to create an interesting new look in your church classroom. Kids are not asking you to give them Disney World; they just want you to show them love and to teach them the truth. I have found some really cool stuff at the dollar store, the thrift store and even at a landfill! Give everything a good cleaning, and the kids will love it! No matter how small your church is, don't hesitate to aim for the moon. God's Word tells us that we have not because we ask not. It may take a while to get there, but God specializes in the impossible and delights in giving us the desires of our hearts. Keep your motives clean, maintain the integrity of your ministry, and fast and pray for your children. God will work through you!

[Excerpt from "Reinventing Kids' Ministry for a New Generation," *IPHC Experience*, April 2011. For a copy of the complete article, go to [iphc.org/experience](http://iphc.org/experience).]

DON WEBB is the Discipleship Ministries director at Tree of Life Ministries, Lynchburg, Va.



*Have a blessed Thanksgiving  
from the  
Discipleship Ministries Department*



# Women's Ministries

KATHY MATHENA



## Thanksgiving and Praise

*“Bless the LORD, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name! Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits, who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases, who redeems your life from the pit, who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy, who satisfies you with good so that your youth is renewed like the eagle’s.”*

*Psalm 103:1-5 (ESV)*

As we enter this Thanksgiving season, I want us to talk to ourselves and remember the benefits of being in the family of God. Even David had to remind himself of his benefits. Someone once said it this way, “We must think before we can thank. We must ponder before we can praise. We must remember before we can rejoice.” The Psalmist gives us five benefits of the Lord that we must not forget.

The first benefit is **PARDON**. David reminds us that God forgives all our iniquities. This is the foundation for everything else. This is good news because we all have blown it from time to time. His forgiveness is not just for our past sins, but for all the future ones as well. He is ready, willing, and eager to forgive.

The second benefit is **HEALING**. I am a nurse, and I see sick people every day. God wants you healed, whether it comes through the hands of a local physician or through the Great Physician. If you have ever been healed, then give thanks to God. If you are sick and need healing, begin to praise the God who heals. God wants you well.

The third benefit is **DELIVERANCE**. The Psalmist tells us that He redeems your life from the pit. To redeem means to rescue from danger in the time of trouble. In the hour we are living in, there are many dangers that surround us, but we have peace in knowing the God who delivers us from these dangers. There are many times you have been spared from danger that you will never know about because of the angels that God dispatched to rescue you. Don't forget to give thanks to God for your deliverance every day.

The fourth benefit is **CORONATION**. “Who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy.” The crown reminds us of our position as the children of God. You are a queen in the eyes of your Father, and it is your privilege to be crowned with His loving kindness and His tender mercy.

The fifth benefit is **SATISFACTION**. We are satisfied by filling our mouths with the Word of God. When we say what He says about us, we become all that He has for us. The older I get, the more precious this verse is to me. Which one of us doesn't want our youth to be renewed like the eagle's? The Message translates it this way: “He wraps you in goodness—beauty eternal.” Ladies, in God's eyes, we are all beautiful and young.

So as we reflect on the benefits of God, we cannot help but say, “Thank You, Father.” It is a time to wake up our soul (your mind, your will, and your emotions) and praise the Lord. And what are the “Blessed benefits”? Remember, there are five of them: **Pardon, Healing, Deliverance, Coronation and Satisfaction.**

If you don't know where to begin in praising God, start right here and have a happy Thanksgiving!

**“Bless the LORD, O my soul!”**



## IT WAS LIKE A DREAM!

***“When the Lord brought back the captives [who returned] to Zion, we were like those who dream; [it seemed so unreal].” Psalm 126:1 (AMP)***

We live in a DREAM generation; prophetic events have happened and are happening! Yes, on May 14, 1948, a nation was born. After 1900 years of being dispersed, Israel became a nation. For many, this was a time of great rejoicing.

*“Before she travailed, she brought forth; before her pain came, she was delivered of a man child. Who hath heard such a thing? Who hath seen such things? Shall the earth be made to bring forth in one day? Or shall a nation be born at once? For as soon as Zion travailed, she brought forth her children.” (Isaiah 66:7, 8)*

SIGNS of the times are rapidly being fulfilled. In Matthew 24:33, Jesus tells us that when these events happen to the nation of Israel, His coming is near, even at the doors!

RESTORATION and the PROMISED OUTPOURING OF THE SPIRIT are exciting events mentioned in Joel 2: 25-32. Our sons and daughters shall *prophecy*; old men shall *dream* dreams; young men shall see *visions*!

## PERSONAL DREAMS & DESIRES

The dreams and desires of your heart can be fulfilled, if you commit them to God. Yes, God wants to give you the desires of your heart! *“Delight yourself also in the LORD, and He will give you the desires and secret petitions of your heart” (Psalm 37:4, AMP).*

Some of us have given up on our dreams, and some of us have lost hope—but God has not given up! He still wants to fulfill those dreams of your heart; He still wants to satisfy healthy desires!

It was a heavenly dream that saved the life of baby Jesus. An angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and instructed him to flee to Egypt with his family until God sent word that it was safe to return (Matthew 2:13). It was a heavenly desire of Hannah to have a child. Her prayers and tears were rewarded with the birth of Samuel (1 Samuel 1:10-20).

### PRAYER:

In Jesus' name, fulfill those heavenly DREAMS and DESIRES of my heart!

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**Pastor Donald Mutter and member David Tilson**

**“Pressed down,  
shaken together,  
and running over!”**

God is blessing the Marion Church in more ways than one. Our church had been seeing between 30 and 40 people each Sunday for quite some time. Brother Tilson set a goal about two years ago of getting 50 people to attend our Sunday morning service twice in a row. After reaching our goal, we could cut the pastor’s tie off. Well, the goal was met on May 1, 2011. We had 57 people in attendance on April 24, 2011, and 70 people in attendance on May 1, 2011. What a wonderful, exciting day it was to celebrate our goal as Brother Tilson cut off the pastor’s tie and everyone applauded and praised God for his greatness!

Our church is also growing spiritually, with five people saved and two people reclaimed in the last two years. We also baptized seven people at our last water baptism. Time and

space will not let us tell all of God’s blessings. We had almost no children attending several years ago, but now we have three Sunday school classes just for the children! We have seen many people saved and healed, as well as families and jobs restored.

God has also blessed us financially. We have completely remodeled the downstairs bathroom. Two beautiful new front doors have been put on the church and many other things have been added. The church has been able to help many needy families with money and a food pantry. We have more than doubled the payment on our church building and parking lot each month in order to pay the loan off earlier. Our church people and members all go above and beyond to help out this small church on Chatham Hill Road in Marion, Virginia, where we hope to be a beacon for the community and the town! You can feel the love people have for each other and for our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Honestly, just walking into the church you feel His love there—God’s love!

Dennis Blizzard felt led to build a steeple and place it on the roof of the church. He did this from the heart for free. We have a beautiful church because everyone is willing to help. We are truly blessed with lovely flowers in the church and people that clean, repair, and do anything that needs to be done. All of the church family is willing to go out of their way to help the pastor, his family, and those in need through giving, praying, and just being there when needed.

The next exciting thing that has happened in our church is increased membership. A few months ago, a couple of people announced that they wanted to join the church. Pastor Donald Mutter set aside July 31 for membership day and had a little ceremony for adding members. When the pastor asked who wanted to join, there were 19 people who came forward. What a blessing! God truly blesses—pressed down, shaken together and running over (Luke 6:38)! We give God all the glory!

—Submitted by Connie Mutter