Getting Connected

A monthly newsletter highlighting the ministry of the Churches of God in Maryland, Delaware, Washington, D.C. and the Virginia Peninsula

Church of God Delmarva-DC Region Resource and Training

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USA Missions Administrative Assistant

Angie Sharpe

Youth & Discipleship Administrative Assistant **To Pray For a Nation**...Most of us are captivated by the political posturing and rhetoric as we process through current news cycles. I recently came across Ronald Reagan's first inaugural address. In it he quoted from the diary of an American soldier who gave his life in battle in World War I. Unforgettable were the words, "I will do my utmost as if the issue of the whole struggle depended on me alone."

Those words hit me as memorably parallel to the message the Holy Spirit communicated to respected Church of God leaders again and again over the years: You are to pray as though no other church is praying.

By and large Church of God constituents have stood faithfully at our posts - or knelt there. At times results have been visible, and we are encouraged to move back into the trenches of spiritual warfare as day after day brings reports of victories and advances - as well as new lines of battle.

The facts of God's eternal Word indicate that such praying is not only valid, but it is also (1) **commanded** by God, (2) **invited** by His promises, (3) **enabled** by His Spirit, and (4) **fruitful** beyond all dreams.

God commands us to pray for nations.

The specific directives of 1 Timothy 2:1 - 3 and Psalm 2:8 are sufficient to demonstrate a believer's commitment to prayer at a national and international level springs more from the heart and mind of God than from some fevered fanaticism on the part of the spiritually exuberant. If God *commands* such prayer, believe this: He will answer it! He will move with power because of it, and He won't do anything without it! He *requires* the prayer's partnership, not because His ability is crippled without it, but because His purpose in bringing us to maturity *includes* it.

The promises of the Word invite us.

No passage of God's Word is more filled with promise than 2 Chronicles 7:14 - 17. In short, the Lord says that no nation is beyond salvaging, healing, restoring, and delivering - IF *His people will pray*. The follow-up promises in the passage indicate He not only *moves in* to work in that land, but also He will uniquely *dwell* among people who learn to pray that way. And thereby, His dwelling with them will manifest in power and blessing among them!

The Holy Spirit enables intercessors.

We all need to learn to pray in the times we feel we don't know what to say. There are few times like national prayer times that reduce people to speechlessness, to doubt, to the wondering inquiry, "What should I pray for?"

But the Spirit-filled believer is promised help in Romans 8:26 - 27. The one thing that must be noted, however, is that such assistance only meets those who are ready to **pray with passion**!

Begin by allowing yourself to be stirred with a need: There's a crisis in morality, a crisis in human justice, a crisis in national and/or international politics, a crisis in economic mismanagement, a crisis in social decay, a crisis in domestic values. Think! Look at the newspaper, listen to the radio, watch the reports. When you do, let your awareness be turned to prayer passion. Let the Holy Spirit help you take it from there.

The fruit will manifest . . .

. . . As in the classic case of 2 Chronicles 20, when Jehoshaphat called the people to prayer for the nation's deliverance. Fasting with prayer brought victory *then*, and our God, who stands by His promise with an equal availability *today*, awaits your acceptance of the high privilege of prayer and sharing in its power to determine national issues.

- Pastor Darrell Rice

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UPDATES

Our deepest sympathies to . . .

.. Pat Abbott (Viers Mill, MD), her husband, Pastor Darcy Abbott, and family upon the passing of her mother, Pansy Avery Junkins (1931 - 2017) of Lexington, NC, on May 24, 2017.

Please pray for . . .

... William Wheatley (St. Michaels, MD) underwent eye surgery at Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston, MA on May 22, 2017. He returns to Boston on June 4 for radiation treatments.

Transitions . . .

- ... **Gregory Fentress** (Pocomoke City, MD), after serving as interim pastor and upon completion of the credentialing process, accepted the appointment as pastor of the Living Waters Inspirational Church of God in Pocomoke City, MD.
- ... **Donald Rogers** (Bel Air, MD) accepted the appointment as Associate Pastor of the New Covenant Church of God in Bel Air, MD after serving as Youth Pastor for several years.

Congratulations to . . .

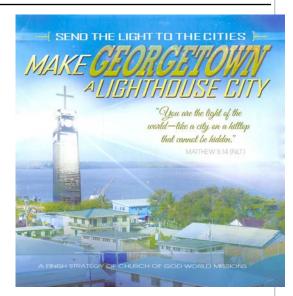
- ... Eddie Lee Roy Sweeney (Odenton, MD) upon his graduation from the Pentecostal Theological Seminary (Cleveland, TN) on May 26, 2017 with the Master in Theological Studies degree.
- ... **Prabhula John** (Rockville, MD), winner of the Smoky Mountain Jubilee senior talent competition "Short Story" category in Gatlinburg, TN on April 27, 2017.
- ... Milford, DE Church of God (Pastor Andrew Stevens) was recently recognized as "Non-Profit of the Year" by the Chamber of Commerce for Greater Milford.

CAMP MEETING WORLD MISSIONS OFFERING - SUNDAY, JUNE 25, 6:00 P.M.

The first camp meeting offering will be for World Missions - specifically for Georgetown, Guyana. Bishop Martin Taylor, World Missions Representative, will share this incredible opportunity for involvement in the world harvest on Sunday evening, June 25. Before we give anything to provide for our needs and/or the needs of the camp meeting, the focus will be on reaching our world in a sacrificial world mission offering.

Each church is asked to bring a "Send the Light" offering. Please plan to join us in Sending the Light to Georgetown.

PROJECT # 102-9435-003 Georgetown, Guyana



WORLD MISSIONS CONFERENCE - SEPTEMBER 15 - 16, 2017

Pastor Greg Copley and the Chesapeake Christian Center Church of God (Pasadena, MD) will host the 2017 DelmarvaDC World Missions Conference. Speakers include Pastor Tony Stewart (CityLife Church of God/Tampa, FL), Jonathan Augustine (Eastern Europe Missionary) and Bishop Joseph Persaud (Guyana Administrative Bishop).

LEE ALUMNI GOLF TOURNAMENT - JUNE 19

The annual Lee Alumni Golf Tournament is scheduled for Monday, June 19, 2017 at Hog Neck Golf Course in Easton, MD, with shotgun start at 12:30 p.m. Check website for info - cogdelmarvadc.com.

2017 DELMARVA-DC REGIONAL CAMP **JUNE 25-28**

Eastern Shore Campground, 14192 Cokesbury Road Georgetown, DE 19947

Take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the

SUNDAY PM



Dr. David Ramirez 3rd Assistant General Overseer Church of God Int'l Offices

MONDAY-WEDNESDAY AM



Dr. Terry Tramel Educator/Evangelist Int'l Pentecostal Holiness Church Oklahoma City, OK

WEDNESDAY PM



Bishop Steve Smith Administrative Bishop New York, NY

MONDAY-TUESDAY PM



Dr. Loran Livingston Senior Pastor, Central Church of God Charlotte, NC

MONDAY-WEDNESDAY AM



Dr. Michael D. Reynolds Senior Pastor New Life Celebration Church of God Dolton, IL

of God which he obtained with the blood of his own Son. **ACTS 20:28**

Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church

SUNDAY EVENING

6:00 PM - Dr. David Ramirez

MONDAY-WEDNESDAY EVENINGS

7:00 PM

Monday-Tuesday: Dr. Loran Livingston Wednesday: Bishop Steve Smith

MORNING SERVICES

9:30 AM / 10:45 AM - Monday-Wednesday:

9:30 AM - Dr. Terry Tramel The Vibrant Church Bible Study

10:45 AM - Dr. Michael D. Reynolds The Healthy Church Application

WEDNESDAY YOUTH

5:15 PM - Youth Pre-service

6:15 PM - Feed Delmarva-DC Food Drive

6:30 PM - Pizza

ORDINATION SERVICE - Sunday PM MEMORIAL SERVICE - Monday PM **DOUBLE HONOR RETIREE RECOGNITION - Tuesday PM** MIP GRADUATION - Tuesday PM SERVICE AWARDS - Wednesday AM





BALTIMORE / WASHINGTON, D.C. "SAVE A CITY"

July 27-29, 2017



Location / Who

Baltimore MD / Washington DC July 27-29, 2017

- Youth & Young Adults
- College Students
- Youth Pastors, Pastors and other leaders

The purpose of the Baltimore/ Washington DC experience is to offer students and young adults a short-term life altering ministry experience that affects the participant's worldview

Activity

- Minister through feeding the homeless, evangelism/ witness children's and youth ministry, outreach events, and worship services.
- Partner with local churches and ministries in these cities for lasting impact.
- See and experience
 Baltimore Inner Harbor as
 well as Historic monuments
 and sites in Washington
 DC.

Cost / Register

- \$35 per person (includes t-shirt & food)
- For housing information: Baltimore Dream Center Pastor Billy Humphrey billyhumphrey@me.com 443-306-4814
- If you prefer a hotel contact: Comfort Inn & Suites
 6921 Baltimore Annapolis Blvd Baltimore, MD, 21225
 866-925-8676

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