

AUGUST

2021



## BISHOP'S CORNER

### TRANSITIONS

Someone said that change is hard and if you don't believe me then try to bend a quarter. I think all of us know that throughout our ministry we face many challenges and transitions which require us to reexamine the way we view and fulfill our calling to ministry.

One of the most important aspects we deal with during these times is looking at our own identity, who we truly are. I've joked many times how after retirement from the military, my greatest challenge was how to answer the telephone. I was no longer a chaplain, so I couldn't answer chaplain. I wasn't pastoring so I couldn't answer pastor. I was not comfortable answering Doctor, fearing that someone would think I was a medical doctor. So eventually I just picked up the phone and said, "hello." Many individuals tend to place their identity in their positional title but at the end of the day we are simple who we are. Our titles do not define us but rather we are defined by our character, integrity, and the way we treat each other.

Transitions are not only hard for us but also for those close to us. I have watched over the years that during pastoral transitions there are many emotional and spiritual issues that both individuals and congregations face. There is the uncertainty of what they will do for leadership and many times they become anxious about the future. Sometimes they even look for another church or leader who has stability rather than walk through the transition with their own congregation. There can also be grief due to the changing in roles of current relationships and at times even anger because of having to face these changes. There can be a variety of emotions and responses during these times which can have either a positive or negative outcome.

The main factor to keep in mind during these times is the "Mission" God has placed upon not only you, but upon the church. We live in a very individualistic society, yet we are so deeply dependent upon each other. We must keep in mind the prayer of Jesus, that we might be one so that in unity we can truly fulfill our mission of evangelism and discipleship. It is very true that we can do so much more together than we can do individually. It really is about fulfilling Christ's commission.

I remember a period time when I was faced with a possible life altering transition. I became so anxious that it was beginning to impact my ability to connect with people and to even provide ministry. As I was driving home one evening, I just began

to pray about the situation and as I was praying it was like God said, "I just want to ask one question?" "Who are you working for?" My answer was simple, "You Lord." Then God assured me that He was in charge and that everything was going to be OK.

Remember transitions happen to all of us but during these times we must keep in mind that God is ultimately in control of our lives, our churches, and even our district. It really is all about HIM!!!

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Looking forward to seeing you in a few weeks at our Fall Retreat....

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I want to express my sincere thanks to Jason and Becky Norvell for their excellent work with this year's youth camp. They went above and beyond anything we could have asked of them!!!

Thank you so much Jason and Becky...

# KENTUCKY SUMMER CAMP REPORT



Summer Camp was a huge success, thanks to all those who helped. We want to thank all those who came and worked on the campgrounds (ground zero), those who sponsored so we could keep camp under budget from previous years, and the youth ministries district team that helped to orchestrate a great time of ministry. We had right under 140 campers (including kids and teens), two district bishops, four Messenger College students, the current and upcoming President of Messenger College, and so many more. Randy Lawrence spoke for teen camp and with a powerful worship team led youth into a impacting time of worship and prayer. Lives were definitely touched and changed. Aaron and Carrie Poole spoke for kid's camp and through powerful illustrations led kids to make decisions that will forever affect their lives. God allowed camp to be impactful, powerful, and refreshing. We were so blessed to have students from the Virginia District PCG join us this year. Together we are PCG!

WE WOULD LIKE TO THANK OUR SPONSORS: Ale-8-One

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Bottling, Callie's Restaurant, Flower's Baked Goods, Electronic Business Machines, Life Christian Center, CrossPointe Church, New Life Church, Victory Tabernacle, Family Worship Center, Lighthouse Fellowship Church, Feona Barnett, Letitia Roark, Louie & Rana Driskell, and so many others.

## GENERAL ASSEMBLY



On June of 2021, the Pentecostal Church of God gathered together for its biennial convention. People streamed from every corner of the globe toward Frisco, Texas, and were empowered with a new STORY that involves Pursuing God's Presence, Contending for Mission, and Growing the Church. The path to one story over the assembly was powerful. You could truly feel the power of God as He brought so many together, for such a time as this.

General Secretary Dan Coleman was re-elected to his position. The decision was made that World Missions, Native American Ministries, and Home Missions joined under one Global Mission (Until the whole world hears!) As David Alvarez Sr., new Native American Ministries Director, was giving his report and mentioned a need in Native American Ministries a spontaneous call to giving caused the need to be met above and beyond. Remember we are all part of One Story.

## SUMMERFEST

Kentucky District was well represented at National Talent Expo 2021. Boy did we bring home some awards: DJ Peyton 1st Christian Rap - Braxton Peyton 1st Dimensional Art - Erin Baker 1st Instrumental Solo, 2nd Creative Writing, and 2nd Interpretive Dance Solo.



# MESSENGER COLLEGE

Messenger College, in Bedford, TX, is a community dedicated to the pursuit of God's purpose. Students share a passion to be men and women of God being released into their world and become a **World Changer**. At the assembly Bishop James Rayburn officially announced his acceptance as President of Messenger College. We will miss Bishop and Mimi, but Messenger College is getting who they need to take them to the next level.

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## CONGRATULATIONS

Bishop Rayburn presenting Rev. Janie Beasley with her 25year pin and certificate, in honor of her 25 years of ordination with the Pentecostal Church of God.



Bishop Rayburn presenting Rev. Kelly Baker with her certificate of ordination with the Pentecostal Church of God (includes Pastor Bryan Roberts).



Bishop Rayburn presenting Rev. Angela Bryant with her certificate of ordination with the Pentecostal Church of God (includes Pastor Connie Jackson).



Bishop Rayburn presenting Rev. Jacob & Elizabeth Sartin with their certificates of ordination with the Pentecostal Church of God (includes Pastor Terry & Tresa Lewis).

# CALENDAR

- September 9-11 Ministers/Spouses Retreat
- October 1 Bishop & Mimi's Farewell (Location TBA)
- Special Bishop Election: 30 October (Location TBA)

## NEW POSITION ACCEPTED



Gary and Robin Seaton from the Kentucky district have accepted a position as pastor of Abundant Life Outreach church in San Fidel New Mexico. This is a PCG Native American Ministries church (formerly American Indian Missions) that ministers to the local Acoma and Laguna pueblo tribes.

They're hoping to move sometime this fall and are beginning to raise support. Brother Seaton will be contacting pastors to check on availability to speak to churches and groups in order to partner with them through prayer and raising funds for moving and living expenses as well as to repair the parsonage.

## KYPCG LEADERSHIP RETREAT



Facilitators: Rick & Donna Shelton September 9-11

\$50 Per Couple / \$25 Per Individual

Arrive Thursday 7PM / Leave Saturday 12PM

(2 Nights Room, Meals on Friday, & Breakfast Saturday)

Register @ <https://tithe.ly/event-registration/#/2940770>

**\*\*Scholarships Available\*\***

\*\*\*Need help with registration—text or call Jason Norvell (512) 757-7015