

December 2014



*From the West Virginia State Office Staff
We Wish You A Very
Merry Christmas &
A Productive New Year!*



I saw something recently that said, "As I get older, I realize that my Christmas list is filled more with the things that money can't buy." It rang with great truth to me because at the top of my list is always my family. I have heard that the holidays can be the hardest on those who have lost someone close to them throughout the year. However, what about those that never had anyone to lose? What about those people that have no family...no one to care about them?

When some of the children from the ranch were speaking recently, one girl said, "I used to look at other family's when I was out in store's and I would wonder, 'Is this what a real family is supposed to be like?'" She went on to discuss how she had a mom and a dad, but they were just people. They were not a real family. She was so grateful to be at the ranch. She remarked, "Now that is what a family is supposed to be!"

Another resident that has already left our program continues to send us letters to stay in touch. One of her letters read, "Thank you so much for everything you have done for me! I have learned that family is not necessarily who you are born too or a blood relative, but it is the people that are there for you in good and in bad times. It's the people that you can count on to do what they say they will do. Thank you for being my family!"

New River Ranch is so appreciative for all you do throughout the year to support our program. Our beds have been filled to capacity and we have been working from a wait-list this entire year. There are many children throughout our state that need a place to call home and people that they can consider family. Anywhere can be a placement, but it takes something very special to be a home and a family! These are things money cannot buy!

We are forever grateful for our church family. We are a large group of people that are united together to sow into the lives of these children. As you have sown into the lives of these children and this family, may you reap a bountiful harvest through the lives of your own children and families. We wish you a very MERRY CHRISTMAS and hope that you will enjoy this special time with one of your most precious gifts...your family. Please know how thankful we are for your prayers and for making it possible for twenty-six children to have this same gift this Christmas...a family!

Warmest Wishes,

Carla Torres, MSW, LICSW
Executive Director



*New River Ranch has an immediate opening for a husband and wife team to live in the homes with these children. Should you feel called to be parents and minister to these children in need, call our offices at 304-574-1058.

WEST VIRGINIA YOUTH CAMP 2015
ONLINE REGISTRATION AVAILABLE @ WWW.WVCOG.COM AFTER 1/1/15

CAMP DATES:
Senior Camp June 22-26, 2015 Junior Camp June 29-July 3, 2015
Kids Camp July 6-9, 2015

A HEART for the HOMELAND
MYWEA.COM/2015ISRAEL
"I will bless those who bless you..." —Genesis 12:3

YWEA/Youth Missions:
YWEA began 53 years ago as a cooperative effort between Youth & Discipleship and World Missions. Over 56 projects have been completed and over \$34,000,000.00 raised by Church of God young people. It is the youth missions arm of the Youth & Discipleship department which includes:

- ♥ Funding & Supporting Global Youth Ministries
- ♥ Building Ministry Training Centers
- ♥ Rescuing & Caring for Children
- ♥ Conducting Leadership & Discipleship Training
- ♥ Planting New Churches
- ♥ Inner City Outreach
- ♥ Building & Supporting Orphanages
- ♥ Disaster Relief

For more info **Scan Here**

Twitter: @cogywea
Facebook: cogywea

2015 STATE PRAYER CONFERENCE

TOUCHING THE KING



GUEST SPEAKER:
RICH BOWEN
Senior Pastor,
New Hope Church of God

JANUARY 14-15, 2015
FAMILY WORSHIP CENTER
BECKLEY, WV

WVCOG Junior/Teen

Talent Festival

April 25, 2015
Princeton COG



REGISTRATION DEADLINE
MARCH 25, 2015

REGISTER ONLINE @ WWW.WVCOG.COM
AFTER 1/1/2015



you've got

TALENT!

PASTORAL APPOINTMENTS

Jody Bias was appointed as Pastor of the Stone Branch Church of God on Sunday, November 23, 2014.

OUR CONDOLENCES

We extend our condolences to the following families in their time of loss. You are in our prayers.

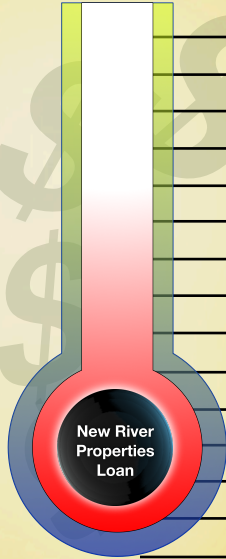
- Maxine Imperio, wife of deceased minister Leroy Imperio, passed away on October 27, 2014.
- Evelyn Roach, retired minister, passed away on November 8, 2014.

THE REDUCTION OF 2 % BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 1, 2013 SHOULD BE SENT WITH THE SEPTEMBER TREASURER'S REPORT LISTED "OTHER" DESIGNATED AS NRDR WITH THE AMOUNT OF MONIES TO EQUAL 2 % OF THE TOTAL MONTHLY TITHE.

"We Can Do It!" Project

**Monthly payments on mortgage:
Balances shown are for
October 2013 - November 2014.**

TOGETHER,
WE CAN SEE THIS
CHALLENGE
BECOME A REALITY.



| | |
|------------|--------------|
| Nov. 2014 | \$41,329.10 |
| Oct. 2014 | \$75,283.78 |
| Sept. 2014 | \$88,515.51 |
| Aug. 2014 | \$116,058.53 |
| July 2014 | \$138,885.60 |
| June 2014 | \$163,187.28 |
| May 2014 | \$184,296.88 |
| Apr. 2014 | \$207,862.26 |
| Mar. 2014 | \$234,631.46 |
| Feb. 2014 | \$254,367.17 |
| Jan. 2014 | \$276,306.83 |
| Dec. 2013 | \$299,056.87 |
| Nov. 2013 | \$320,158.48 |
| Oct. 2013 | \$346,409.83 |

Why pay this mortgage off early instead of the scheduled pay-off date of November 2020?

The New River Debt Reduction Plan does not add any extra cost to the local congregation and is a fair way for each congregation to participate in the elimination of the New River Properties Mortgage and save thousands of dollars in interest.

The 2 1/2 % Home Missions is the fund from which the mortgage is paid. With the reduction of funds, the 2 1/2% fund is being eliminated, leaving no fund to pay the mortgage.

In an effort to eliminate the mortgage on the property housing the New River Ranch Children's Home Ministries and the New River Ministry Center (Campground), the ministers passed in a special called ministers meeting that 1 1/2 % reduction of funds to the State Office beginning September 1, 2012 and the 2% beginning September 1, 2013 continue to be forwarded by the local church to the State Office designated as New River Property Debt Reduction, NRDR.

It is understood that this is a volunteer measure to be considered by the local church and that our church government operates as a democracy where we all support the decision of the body.

Enclosed you will find a Pledge Card for New River Ministry Center.

The DEBT on the Ministry Center as of November 19, 2014 is \$41,329.10.

The GOAL is to Pay this OFF and Retire the Debt!

What a Blessing it would be to start the new year DEBT FREE!

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

December: Scripture – Luke 2:11

5State Christmas Banquet - Minister/Spouse & NRR Children's Home
19-Jan 2.....Christmas and New Year's Holidays - STATE OFFICE CLOSED

January: Scripture – 2 Corinthians 5:15

5-6Encounter 2015 - Fayetteville, NC
14-15State Prayer Conference - Family Worship Center, Beckley
19.....Martin Luther King Day - STATE OFFICE CLOSED