

December 2023

# "The Weary World Rejoices"

ne of my favorite Christmas Carols since I was a child has been *O Holy Night*. I find the lyrics especially relevant for Christmas 2023. One of the lines in the first verse says, "Long lay the world in sin and error pining". That accurately describes our modern day situation. The next line is "Till He appeared and the soul felt its worth. A thrill of hope the weary world rejoices".

We are definitely living in a world that is weary. Many in the church are weary. We are weary of conflicts, corruption and contention. That night in Bethlehem the world was in turmoil politically and socially.

Then they received the good news. The Savior of the world had come and His name was Jesus! In their weariness they began to worship. May I encourage you in this weary world just to rejoice for the Christ of Christmas has come.

The song goes on to say, "For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn." The shepherds worshipped in their weariness. They recognized it was a new day because of the gift of the Christ child that was lying in a manger.

The lyrics of the chorus are, "Fall on your knees, Oh hear the angel voices! O night divine! O night when Christ was born". What great advice for 2023. We can worship in our weariness. We can fall on our knees and call out to God in worship. In this Christmas season, in the middle of all the weariness, let's join the shepherds, the angels and all of Heaven in Worship. Rejoice that Jesus has come! He gives hope to us in a weary world.

Remember, the words of Galatians 6:9, "And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not."

I wish you a Merry Christmas and a blessed New Year!

David W. Jarvis



ADMINISTRATIVE BISHOP

J. D. WALL YOUTH & DISCIPLESHIP

JAN JARVIS WOMEN'S MINISTRIES

CHRYSTAL WALL GIRLS' CLUBS

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#### **USA MISSIONS**

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Your Mountaineer Ministries contributions assist the Church of God in West Virginia with the following ministries:

**New Church Plants** 

Evangelism

**Church Assistance** 

Ministerial Development / Training

Strengthening Small Churches

State Meetings & Conferences

Thank you for your monthly donations. You are making a difference in the Kingdom! <u>MISSION STATEMENT:</u> "To develop and implement

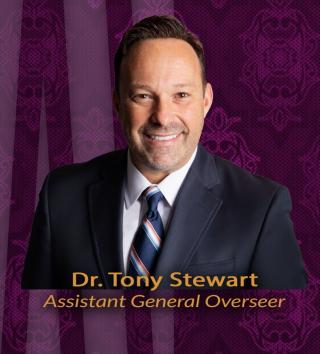
programs and ministries in soulwinning, church planting and church growth that will assist the local church to reach and reap the harvest of the 21st century."

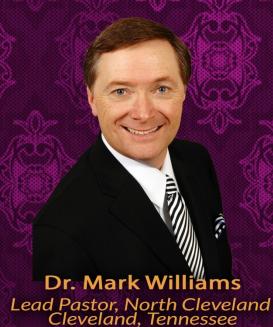


February 26 - 28 Bethesda Church of God White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia

Monday Evening 7:00 PM Tuesday Morning 10:00 AM

Tuesday Evening 7:00 PM Wednesday Morning 10:00 AM





# West Virginia Happenings

### The Refuge Church of God Opens Food Pantry

The Refuge Church of God food pantry, **5 Loaves Pantry**, has now helped more than 4,600 so far just this year! In 2022, it helped 4,119 total. We have already exceeded last year's total. They also have a clothing closet.

This ministry in New Martinsville, West Virginia, is exploding! It is completely grant funded and led by a team with the team leader being Tina Rucker.

Pastors Tony and Monica Cox just hosted an official grand opening even though it has been open for about two years. (pictured below)





# West Virginia Spotlight

## Congratulations for New Members Added

We celebrate with these churches for new members added to their congregation:

Princeton, Lifeline	J. B. Hurt	29
Glen Jean, New Beginning	Thomas Fife	7
Chattaroy	Michael Bostic	4
Moorefield	C. Douglas Bowers	3
Beckley, Family Worship	Luke Hodges	2
Overflow	Jeremiah B Bostic	1

## Congratulations Beckley Church for a New Tithe Record

Congratulations to the Beckley Church and Pastor Harold and Lisa Newsome for a new tithe record of \$31,539.65.

## Congratulations Evans Church for a New Tithe Record

Congratulations to the Evans Church and Pastor Ben and Barbara Riggleman for a new tithe record of \$28,558.37.

## Congratulations Pennsboro Church for a New Tithe Record

Congratulations to the Pennsboro Church and Pastor Paul and Melissa Cantrell for a new tithe record of \$5,340.14.

## Our Deepest Sympathy

Our deepest sympathy to the family of James Ferguson, Pastor of Prichard Church of God. Please remember his wife, Marion and their family. Pray for the congregation as well.

Our deepest sympathy to the family of Donald Elam, Pastor of Greenwood Church of God. Please remember his wife, Linda, and his family in prayer. Pray for the congregation as well.

## Congratulations New Pastoral Appointment

Jesse & Sarita Smith
Donnie & Leah Shinholser

Beaver Moorefield





# HELP US REACH OUR GOAL OF \$20,0000

UKRAINE...
THE JOURNEY
GVLE

Project Number #020-8203

Phone Number **423.478.7107** 

cogwomensministries.com #WWAMUkraine

NEW RIVER MINISTRY CENTER BATHROOMS PROJECT

Help us Renovate NRR Bathrooms





JAN JARVIS WOMEN'S MINISTRIES DIRECTOR

**WOMEN'S BOARD** 

AMANDA MITCHEM KAREN DINGESS JAIMEE HODGES DANA HURT DREAMA WILSON JONI WEBB CHRYSTAL WALL

Mountaineer MINISTRIES





#### **WOMEN'S BOARD**

AMANDA MITCHEM KAREN DINGESS JAIMEE HODGES DANA HURT DREAMA WILSON JONI WEBB CHRYSTAL WALL

# 2024 Women's Retreat

April 12 - 13 Embassy Suites - Charleston,WV

EARLYBIRD FEES - REGISTERED BY JANUARY 17, 2024 (\$25 Late Fee After January 17th)

Four per room	\$125
Three per room	\$135
Two per room	\$145
Private room	\$280
Commuter	\$ 75

\*Registration fees are per person and includes: hotel, breakfast, Friday Manager's Reception and fellowship and all conference sessions.

Online Registration available at www.wvcog.com



# West Virginia GIRLS MINISTRIES







#### **GIRLS MINISTRIES BOARD**

HALEY BOSTIC BECKY JUSTICE CHARITY SMITH BARBARA RIGGLEMAN JESS BRADLEY JENNIFER COLEMAN HEATHER CARISTO

Mountaineer MINISTRIES

## West Virginia Youth & USA Missions

In West Virginia we are blessed to have two terrific choices for Winterfest! Both have incredible line-ups, and both will be a blessing to your youth groups.

Premier Winterfest will be held January 26-28 in Ocean City, MD. and Smoky Mountain will be held March 1-3 in Pigeon Forge, TN. Register today at mywinterfest.com. J. D. Wall





DIRECTOR



YOUTH & DISCIPLESHIP **BOARD** 

JEREMIAH BOSTIC **AARON STEPP ROD JUSTICE** J. B HURT **ISRAEL SMITH LUKE LUZIER BENJAMIN RIGGLEMAN** 



**USA MISSIONS BOARD** 

D. MITCHELL BIAS DARRELL BUTTRAM **ERIC BIAS BOBBY BROOKS BRYAN MATHEWS** J. DEREK WILSON GLENN MICHAEL YORK



## West Virginia Youth & USA Missions



February 18 Madison - Fountain of Life

February 25 Princeton - Lifeline Church

March 10 Parkersburg - 19th Street

March 17 Elkins - Family Worship Center

STUDENT-LED WORSHIP Games GIVE-a-Ways FOOD





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## West Virginia Youth & USA Missions

Elijah Movement is an intense and mentoring program. The first event for this is the "Preparing the Next Generation Retreat held March 15 & 16 at the New River Ranch Ministry Center. It will begin Friday at 7:00 PM with an Inspirational Service. Saturday will be workshops.

This retreat is designed to confirm your calling and strengthen your walk with the Lord. If you feel called to deepen your ministerial journey, please fill out an application.





JEREMIAH BOSTIC

AARON STEPP

ROD JUSTICE

J. B HURT

ISRAEL SMITH

LUKE LUZIER

BENJAMIN RIGGLEMAN





# Mountaineer Ministries Giving October 2023

Alderson - River of Life All Church - Martinsburg

Bayard
Beaver
Bluewell
Bolt
Bradshaw
Brenton
Buckhannon
Burnsville

Chesapeake - Abounding Grace

Clarksburg

Campus

Cornerstone Moundsville

**Cumberland Road** 

Davis East Lynn

Eleanor - New Vision Family Worship Center

Fort Gay Gatewood

Glen Jean/New Beginning

Glen White Kellysville Kenova **Kenwood Road Community-Pine Top** 

Laing

**Laurel Branch** 

Lincoln Lost Creek Marlinton

Morgantown - Harvest

Mullens
Paden City
Page
Parsons
Petersburg
Prichard
Princeton
Ravencliff
Robinette
Saint George
Seth - New Life

Sophia

Summersville, New Beginnings

The Refuge Welch Weston Williamson

## Prayer Ministry Opportunities

National and State Leaders, our Churches, Health & Wellness, Finances, Jobs, Marriages, Family, Salvation of Prodicals.

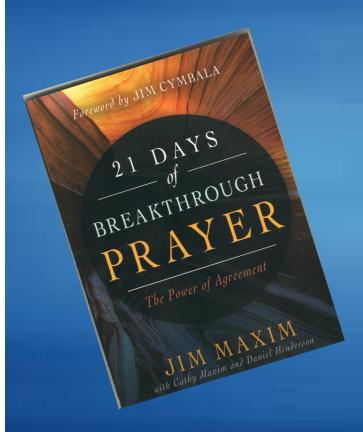
Continue to pray for Barbara Goldizen, Rabun & Joyce Haddock, Leslie Lucas, Yvonne Pack, Joyce Pennington, James Purnell, Lois Shrewsbury, Stephan Webb.

## **Upcoming Dates**

December 1, 2023 January 26-28, 2024 February 18, 2024 February 25, 2024 February 26-28, 2024 Minister's Christmas Banquet Premier Winterfest Align Youth Rally Align Youth Rally Prayer Conference New River Ranch Ocean City, MD Fountain of Life FWC Lifeline Church Bethesda Temple Of Praise



## 2024 West Virginia Prayer Focus



We are asking each church to participate during the month of January in the 21 days of prayer focus.

We are using the book authored by Jim Maxim, 21 Days of Breakthrough PRAYER - The Power of Agreement.

Copies can be purchased through Amazon at \$6.99 each or at Christianbook.com for \$4.99 each.



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