

Administrative Bishop Daniel Hampton

The events which occurred in 2020 are no doubt things which all of us can say, we hope we never have to go through again. It was the most unprecedented time any of us have ever lived through. Many questions have been asked of which there seems to be no answers. How did we get to this place and who is to blame? When will this pandemic be over? Who really won the election and do we have a legitimate person in the White House? What direction are we going as a nation and what is the solution? We could go on and on with question after question and be at the same place we are now, with no sure answers.

One thing I can say with certainty is the God we serve has not abandoned us nor will He. Yes we are still seeking for answers and the more questions we ask the more confused people seem to be. With that being said, I think it would do all of us good to stop, reflect on how God has brought us through time and time again and understand He is still in charge. As I have said so many times before; "God's performance in my past gives me great assurance of His ability to take care of my future." May I remind us the same God who has brought us to where we are today will most definitely take us to His desired destiny?

While in prayer about all that has been going on and looking to this New Year of 2021 I believe the Lord gave me a word for the Church of God in West Virginia. That word is the title of this article; WE VICTORIOUSLY OVERCOME IN 2021. While reading and meditating on the scriptures in John 16, verse 33 seemed to leap off the page; "These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world." After that my thoughts were immediately directed to the book of I John 5: 4 & 5. "For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world even our faith.

(5) Who is he that overcometh the world, but he that believeth that Jesus is the son of God?"

No matter what the situation may be we must understand that the battle is not yours but the Lord's. What God has done for others He will do for us also! If He can take heat out of a fiery furnace, if He can shut the mouths of hungry lions, if He can take a sling shot and stone to defeat a giant, if He can part the water of a sea, if He can feed thousands with a boy's lunch and have plenty left over, if He can raise the dead, if He can heal the lame, the deaf, the blind and the leper; surely He can help us to be overcomers - regardless our situation.

I think we all get the picture but far greater than just getting the picture; we need to stand firm in the faith and let this world know we are not shaken nor moved by the obstacles which we are now facing. Let's stand in the face of our giants and declare loudly you come to us with the world's tactics, but we come in the name of the Lord and today, **We Victoriously Overcome.** Don't be afraid to share your faith and take a stand for what is right.

It is way past time for the church to get on the front line of the battle in our nation and declare we are not going to succumb to the enemy who is defiantly violating the principles of the word of God. We need now, like never before, to preach and live in truth, and to confront, in love, those who want to take us down a path away from God.

I believe the stage is set for another great awakening in our nation. We VICTORIOUSLY OVERCOME when we humble ourselves, pray, seek His face and turn from our wicked ways; then we will hear from heaven, see sins forgiven and our nation healed. The tried and true solution to this world's need is an outpouring of the Holy Spirit like on the day of Pentecost. I cannot answer for anyone else other than me, but I am committed to do all I can to get myself in position to be used by The Holy Spirit as an instrument to help usher in this Great Awakening. Will you join with me and do whatever you must do to be one of the instruments He can use in this critical time. Our future, our nation and our eternity depends on the decisions we make today.

Our Sincere Sympathy to the families of
Helen Wingo - 11/19/2020-Retired Minister's Widow
Olyde Cooper-11/29/2020-Minister
Early Wayne Dehart - 12/22/2020-Retired Minister
Michael Cox-12/25/2020-Minister
Ronnie Lee Marcum-1/12/2021-Pastor Milton Church of God
Thelma Sizemore-1/13/2021-Retired Minister's Widow
Marguerite Franklin-1/26/2021-Retired Minister's Widow

The time that we are living in is so full of sickness and disease. It would be safe to say that everyone knows someone that has been affected by Covid-19. We are asking that you join with us for the next 30 days and pray a Prayer for healing, for your family, your neighbor, your brother and sister in Christ.

# PRAYER FOR HEALING

Heavenly Father,
I come before you and I ask that
you would forgive me of all my
sins. I know that I have sinned.
I humbly repent. Thank you for
Your forgiveness.

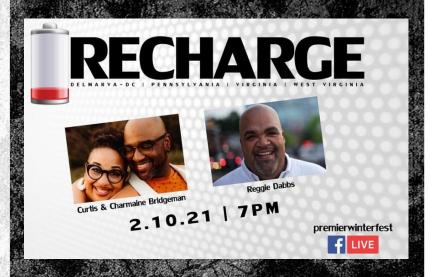
Right now I lift up my (friend, family, co-worker, Pastor, brother, sister, neighbor) to You. Lord they need a healing touch over their body. I pray that You will heal their every need in the name of Jesus. It is by your stripes we are healed. (Isaiah 53:5)

I thank you in advance for the healing and recovery that is going to take place. Thank you for being the ultimate healer and restorer of our bodies. It is only through Jesus Christ name we are healed.

In Jesus name, Amen

Premier Winterfest has been canceled, there will be a live broadcast on 2/10/2021 @7:00 pm.

Youth Pastors make plans to login with your group. Facebook Premier Winterfest.





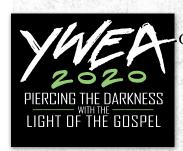
Smoky Mountain Winterfest has a new venue and a new date. April 30 - May 2 at the Smokies Stadium in Sevierville, TN. Make plans now to attend, attendance is limited. Log on to mywinterfest.org for more details.

#### **SMOKY MOUNTAIN WINTERFEST**



The Smokies Stadium Sevierville, TN

#### Please continue to check out our Facebook pages and Website for updated information.



Thank you to all the churches in WV who contributed to YWEA 2020. Congratulations to four of our churches who made the top 100 list in giving.

#36 Elk Lick Pastor Walter Rohrbacher

#47 Salem Pastor Richard Gibson

#71 Keyser Pastor Larry Idleman

#92 Tenth Avenue Pastor Darrel Buttram

The Church of God State Office Staff are praying for each Pastor, Pastor's Wife, Minister and Lay member, and attender of our churches, that God will provide and keep you and your families safe during this time.

## **Mountaineer Ministries Prayer Requests:**

(these requests come from the white envelope enclosed)

Our country; Our President and State Leaders; Military; Health Care Professionals; Health and Wellness; Finances; Job; Marriages; Family; The Church; God's hand of protection; Students, Teachers and Staff at Schools; A miracle healing for Joshua; Doctor's appointment; Surgery; My lost children; My home; My health to return; My marriage; God's guidance in decisions that will be made; For a new job; My finances; My daughters boyfriend; For an upcoming court appearance.

## **Mountaineer Ministries Praise Reports:**

(these reports come from the white envelope enclosed)

My job; God providing for my family; Our new home; For our new Pastor; God healing my body; Being Cancer free; My Church; Caring brothers and sisters; My "new"car; God providing the finances for my utilities; A vaccine for Covid-19; My Pastor and First Lady; Help from the neighbors; The birth of my grandchild; A warm place to live when it is cold.

## Mark your Calendar

Please note that with the current Covid-19 situation these dates are tentative and subject to change.

April 5 State Office Closed

April 24 Jr. & Teen Talent (location to be announced)

May 31 State Office Closed

June 6-10 Camp Meeting

June 14-18 Teen Camp June 21-25 Jr. Camp

June 28-July 1 Kids Camp