

COVID 19: HAS CHANGED EVERYTHING



Administrative Bishop Daniel Hampton

As I write this article today it would appear to be an understatement to say Covid 19 has changed everything from the norms of just a few weeks ago. The questions keep coming from every segment of our society. When will we get back to the way things were before this virus came on the scene or will we ever return to the way things were?

We are definitely walking in uncharted territory with more questions than there appears to be answers. The so called experts and their prediction have been wrong more than they have been right. Confusion and plans of how to navigate this are as varied as there are opinions from everybody you talk to. Caution is the word we hear over and over again on how to survive this contagious virus. Social distancing, quarantining, wearing a mask, washing your hands, don't shake hands, don't give a hug, cough into your elbow and the list goes on.

For the first time in history healthy people were quarantined as well as those infected. Yes this is a very contagious virus and we need to be cautious in all we do. For the reasons listed above decisions were made to postpone many of the annual events which we are accustomed to having. As I am sure you are already aware those events include: Women's Conference, Camp Meeting, New River Ranch Golf Tournament, Youth Camps, Senior Adult Day and the General Assembly.

With the postponement of the General Assembly and the decision that every leadership position remain in place until 2022; it has afforded Ruth and I the great honor to serve here in West Virginia for these next two years. We could not be more pleased and thankful for this opportunity to minister to such wonderful people. We are believing for great things to be accomplished and the revival which has been prophesied over this state to come to fruition. I believe our finest hour is just ahead. Remember the early church grew mightily during the time of uncertainty and great persecution. On the day of Pentecost and after the message preached by Peter, one of the questions asked of the apostles was, "Men and brethren, what shall we do?" That question is being asked today and the answer is still the same as then; "Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost." As you read Acts 2 and come to the last verse you find these words; "Praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved." Let's not let this opportunity pass us by but may we understand we are the **Church on a Mission.**

Congratulations CAMS Graduates

Emmanuel Ball
Bradley & Carla Beverlin
Charles Boyd Jr
TJ & Melissa Bundy
Vincent Cantrell
Levi & Allison Lambert
Jason & Maggie Meddings
Cody & Whitney Prince
Ricky & Heather Shrewsbury
Thomas and Crystal Snuffer
Shane & Julie Weister



Congratulations 2020 MIP Graduates

Alex Brigham
Kenny & Lois Shrewsbury
Danielle Summers
Patrick & Wendy Terry
Braden & Samantha Toler
Tiffany & Steven Thompson



Our sincere sympathy to the families of

Ada Kittle March 27, 2020

Ruth Rhodes April 24, 2020

Congratulations on recent Licensure

Exhorters

Billy Bailey
Emmanuel Ball
Bradley Beverlin
Charles Boyd Jr.
Ryan Bradley
Melissa Bundy
TJ Bundy
Christina Byrum
Makayla Kelly
Levi Lambert
Bryan "Jordan" Matthews
Ryan Meadows
Tina Mooney
Ricky Shrewsbury
Crystal Snuffer
Thomas Snuffer
Isaac VanBlaricom
Amanda Woodruff

Ordained Minister

Melissa Bishop
Robert Brown
Randall Clark

Ordained Bishop

Seth Curnutte
David Hargis
Dennie Lambert Jr.
Brian Patterson



The Essential Church

The last few months have been a wild ride. We've delayed, canceled, re-delayed, replaced, and further delayed more events than I care to list. One good thing has come of it, though, in my book: Amanda and I are so excited to be coming back to West Virginia for another two years. We are happy to be with some of the greatest churches and people in the family of God. And with all the craziness, we feel like there are a few things we haven't been able to finish the way we wanted to. We are excited to see what God has in store for the coming years. The best is yet to come!

Let me encourage you that the best is yet to come for you as well. More than ever the world needs the church to be a messenger of the Hope found in Jesus Christ. If the last few months have taught us anything, it's that the church is not a building. Never has been. We are the hands and feet of Jesus. Robert Hayes works in youth drug prevention in the Beckley area, and believes that suicides and drug overdoses (which were on a downward trend) are up during the pandemic, "It seems to be clear from preliminary reports that the conditions that relate to domestic violence and mental health issues aren't increasing hotline calls for help". National media outlets like Forbes and USA Today report the same. Hope is silenced and despair is rising. This is an opportunity for the people of Christ who wield the brightest light and the eternal Truth which pierces through the darkness and lies of the enemy who hopes to steal, kill, and destroy.

You are essential. Not your building. You! You are the temple of the Holy Spirit. The Power of God walking on two feet. As we return to our buildings let us not forget that we are the body of Christ. There are people all around dying physically and spiritually and we carry the message of life. As you crawl out of your homes, blinking into the bright sunlight, find someone to share the gospel with. Minister to those in need. Connect with brothers and sisters. Share your stories and share His love. Make a difference, because the difference the church makes is eternally essential.

--
Bill Woodruff
Youth and USA Missions Director



Welcome Back

To Bishop Daniel & Ruth Hampton
As Administrative Bishop and Women's
Ministries President



To Bill & Amanda Woodruff
As Youth, Discipleship, USA Missions
Director and Girls Club Director

**Please continue to check out our Facebook pages
and Website for updated information on upcoming events.**

Mountaineer Ministries Prayer Requests:

We as the Church of God State office are praying for each Pastor, Minister and Lay member, or attender of our churches, that God will provide and keep you and your families safe during this time. Our country; Our President and State Leaders; Military; Health Care Professionals; Health and Wellness; Finances; Job; Marriage; Family; The Church; God's hand of protection; Our children; Lost souls to be saved; A miracle healing for Joshua; Church to resume; Death of family members; God to lead and guide me.

Mountaineer Ministries Praise Reports:

My Pastor; Life starting to return to normal; My Job; Souls saved; God protecting my children; God always providing; Our Church ; God healing my body; God's comforting presence that I feel; My Pastor; A Church on fire for Jesus; God's presence in my life everyday; My family; My Health; My Husband; My Church Youth Group; God saving my husband; God saving my children.

Mark your Calendar

**Please make a note the following events
have been postponed/cancelled.**

June 7-11	Camp Meeting @Family Worship Center/Postponed
June 10	Camp Meeting Women's Luncheon/Cancelled
June 12	New River Ministry Center Golf Tournament/Cancelled
June 15-19	Teen Camp @ New River Ranch/ Cancelled
June 22-26	Jr. Camp @ New River Ranch/Cancelled
June 29- July 2	Kids Camp @ New River Ranch/Cancelled
October 3	Mountaineer Gospel Gathering/Senior Adult Day/Postponed