

As we continue to emphasize our theme of **Empowered To Win Many in 2020** I want to assure us that the wind that blew on the day of Pentecost is still blowing today. This wind is just as strong in 2020 as it was when the Holy Ghost blew into the upper room in Jerusalem and filled those believers with power to be witnesses of Jesus Christ.

We have read, preached from and testified about what happened when the day of Pentecost was fully come as recorded in Acts 2. The wind, started blowing on that day as the third person of the Godhead, the Holy Ghost, verified the fact that Jesus has made it back to the Father. Jesus said in John 16: 14; "He shall glorify (honor, acknowledge) me: for he shall receive of mine, and shall show it unto you." The Holy Ghost came to acknowledge the King and empower the believers to testify of the same. The wind blew mightily.

Those believers staggered out of the upper room under the influence of the Spirit until those who looked on said they were drunk with wine; but Peter disputed those who said so when he declared; "these are not drunk with wine as ye suppose, seeing it is but the third hour of the day; but this is that which was spoken by the prophet Joel. The wind blew mightily.

But it did not stop there; it kept blowing and blew over to Caesarea in the house of Cornelius, while Peter preached the word, the Holy Ghost fell on all of them, they spoke in tongues, and magnified God (Acts 10: 44-46). The wind blew mightily.

But it did not stop there; it kept blowing and blew north to Ephesus where Paul found certain disciples and asked the question: Have you received the Holy Ghost since you believed? They had not even heard about the Holy Ghost, but when he laid his hands on them they were filled with the Holy Ghost; spoke with tongues and prophesied (Acts 19: 1-6).

But it did not stop there; it kept blowing and every generation after that has recorded the fact of it blowing to nations, cities, communities and regions all around the world. Our world is still feeling the effects of this Pentecostal wind. The wind blew mightily.

But it did not stop there; our nation has felt this wind from generation to generation. In 1801 at an obscure community called Cain Ridge, Kentucky the first Sunday of August, a meeting conducted by Barton Warren Stone, a Presbyterian pastor felt this mighty wind blowing. Some12,000 people gathered during this meeting and an eyewitness by the name of Colonel Robert Patterson gave this report. "Of all ages, from 8 years upward; male and female, rich and poor, the blacks, every denomination, those in favor of it, as well as those at the instant in opposition to it and railing against it have instantaneously laid motionless on the ground." He went on to describe other manifestations which continued from one hour to twenty four. The wind blew mightily.

But it did not stop there; On August 19, 1886 the Church of God began in Monroe County, Tennessee near the North Carolina border. A former Baptist, Richard G. Spurling, preached in a millhouse along Barney Creek where eight people formed a Christian Union for the purpose of following the New Testament as their rule of faith and practice, giving each other equal rights and privilege to interpret scripture and setting together as the Church of God. Twenty-one years later the growing movement formally adopted the name Church of God.

In late spring of 1896 during a revival at the Shearer Schoolhouse in Camp Creek, North Carolina the wind blew again when the doctrine of sanctification was introduced to the community. Under much opposition and persecution the spirit of revival prevailed and the Holiness believers experienced an outpouring of the Holy Ghost that included speaking in tongues and divine healing. From that revival the Church of God became a Pentecostal church and now holds the distinction of being the oldest Pentecostal denomination in existence. The wind blew mightily.

I could write about Azusa Street and the awesome move of the Holy Ghost on April 14, 1906 and the birth of the Assembly of God denomination but time will not permit. Now I must ask what are we doing today with such a great history of the mighty wind blowing. We are not empowered with the Holy Ghost just to gather in our churches for worship only but rather to win the lost. This empowerment is for us to spread the message of Jesus love for all mankind and bring them to a saving knowledge of Christ. We must, especially in light of our present day circumstances, allow this mighty wind of the Holy Ghost to empower us to win many to Him. May the mighty wind of the Holy Ghost blow so forcefully through our churches that lost people of our communities will once again ask "What Meaneth This?"

Pastoral Appointments

Stephan Webb Mill Creek Church of God Toney Cox

 $The\ Refuge\ (New\ Martinsville)$

Our Sincere Condolences

to the Family of Paul Ray Farley retired pastor at Jefferson Ave

West Virginia Church of God CampMeeting
Empowered to Win Many in 2020
June 7-11
Family Worship Center
Beckley, WV

Mountaineer Ministries Prayer Requests:

Our President and our nations leaders; Our military; Unsaved family; Healing from a spinal injury; For my Pastor and his family; Unspoken request; Help to pass upcoming tests; Our Health; Many in need of healing; Salvation for family and the community; Family Issues; My Grandmother; Unsaved Children; My daughter to make the right choices; God to bless finances; physical well being; My Health; My Marriage

Mountaineer Ministries Praise Reports:

Thankful for healing, and my family; Souls rededicated; Revival; Church growth; Thankful for new pastor; Blessing my finances; Healing from surgery; Our Church;



2020 Ladies Luncheon

Celebrating 25 Years
of the
Administrative Service
of Bishop & Mrs. Daniel Hampton

Wednesday, June 10, 2020 @ 12:30 p.m. Beckley Dream Center, 224 Pinewood Drive, Beckley, WV 25801

2020 Women's Conference

April 24-25, 2020
will be held at
Family Worship Center
224 Pinewood Drive Beckley WV
Register online at www.wvcog.com



Upcoming Youth and Discipleship Events

Kids Adventure Day

March 28, 2020 9:00-3:00 New River Ranch Ministry Center

West Virginia Church of God Youth Camp 2020

- *June 15-19 Teen Camp at New River Ranch
- *June 22-26 Jr Camp at New River Ranch
- *June 29-July 2 Kids Camp at New River Ranch

Are you looking for a Summer Job, looking for adventure, looking for an opportunity to pursue ministry? We are looking for you, to be a part of our Summer Internship Program at our New River Ranch Ministry Center May 30-July 31. Call the West Virginia Church of God State Office at 304-252-0622 ext. 3

Mark your calendar March 28, 2020 Jr. Talent/Kids Adventure Day

April 9-13 Office Closed for Easter

April 24-25, 2020 Women's Conference

May 25, 2020 Office Closed for Memorial Day

June 7-11, 2020 WV Church of God Camp Meeting

June 10, 2020 Women's Camp Meeting Luncheon

June 12, 2020 New River Ranch Golf Tournament