

FALL // 2019

THE VIRGINIAN

CONNECTING TO GOD AND ONE ANOTHER

USER-FRIENDLY

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USER-FRIENDLY

The best brunch is not planned!
the best brunch is exceptionally unintended.
How happy are the days with surprise!
most often such is the case,
or must by intention tidings or rumor rise,
on screens with scrolling eyes.

My phone lays flat as to mock my pancakes.
The screen laughs with news flashing
and dances on the table gyrating.
I relish days when our devices purposed a call,
or at least hung until on the wall - waiting.

But suddenly like a distant gong but nestled with my plate,
came the prodigious cheerfulness of my generation destroyed.
Like melting butter and slow running syrup my fork must wait,
for now bellows the news digitally deployed.

How I mourn the passing of the past.
I'll not soon forget the wondrous now displaced harmony.
The days in peace surely fleeting,
Above all virtues we miss peace.
Joys now only momentaneous,
smiles transitory compositions,
all for likes and notifications.

Wait! I must break
and post my pancake—

The pliability becomes their eccentricity,
Above all else the instantaneous.
Down, into the darkness of their screens,
Gently they go - the clowlake gate into the digital abyss,
At least this new world is user-friendly.
Each message catered to our liking,
Heads down thumbs blaze
new immersive digital hiking.

When I think of yesteryear I see a friend waving in the distance.
With fondness of an eon ago and hopes of stability brimful,
Now progression permeates our existence,
Driving my wonder of churches all but full.

News these days seems a ploy
and it warrants a needed change.
Today I saw my generation destroyed,
the world moved but our approach stayed the same.

Lyndsey Dunn
River City Worship Center

WHAT'S NEXT? A JOURNEY INTO THE FUTURE

Keeping the Church in the hands of God and out of the hands of man will make our journey into the future prosperous! The Church was designed by God to be "User-Friendly." When we keep it simple and use His structure, the Spirit of the Lord will lead us in "His path of righteousness." Enjoy the journey!

Joseph Mirkovich
State Administrative Bishop



"What's next? Where do we go from here? What will God do next at Celebration Church?" These are the questions that I regularly ask myself, and the questions that many church leaders are asking about their own ministries. However, before we can consider what is next, we have to look at where we have been, what God has already done, and where He is leading us to...next.

The past few years at Celebration have been full of challenges, blessings, and adventures. God has taken us on a faith journey as He has been reconstructing His house and ministry. There are three areas about which God has clearly spoken to me, and we are currently endeavoring to obey God's instructions and carry out His plans.

SIMPLIFY

It seems to me that in our efforts to grow God's church, we have complicated His plans. Although I appreciate vision casting and goal planning, I believe we can become bogged down in all the details. At Celebration, we are working to simplify and streamline our ministries, processes, and structure. God's ways are not nearly as complicated as we make them sometimes, and we are getting back to the basics.

When we consider simplification, we have to ask ourselves the questions, "What is essential? What is necessary? What are the few things that I can do that will bring the greatest value?" We focus on quality over quantity and strive to have a greater impact. There's a saying that goes like this... "I am a Jack of all trades and the Master of none." At Celebration, we want to focus on our main God-given priorities and do them with greater effectiveness and excellence.

STRUCTURE

During the past several months, we have been shifting from a traditional structure that separates children and youth ministries to one that has a common vision and leadership. Our NowGeneration Ministry encompasses those in the cradle through college.

NowGen speaks to the belief that this is, indeed, a Kairos moment. The church can no longer equip our sons

and daughters for tomorrow. We must choose, instead, to equip them for today; for tomorrow may be too late. How has Celebration chosen to respond to this urgent mandate? By simply coming under a common headship where our leaders share a common goal to restore unto This Gen a Christian worldview, a Christian mission, and a godly love that undergirds, even compels our students to live as qualified citizens of Heaven in a post-Christian, pagan America.

Daily, our schools – from the early childhood through graduate studies – indoctrinate students with cultural values, attitudes, and norms that oppose the holiness of God. NowGen recognizes the need to empower students to be the church, to engage their gifts and their callings NOW! God calls the young and old alike to do His work. It's time the church affirms, confirms, and equips our students to live empowered, anointed, and purposeful lives...today!

SUPPORT

The future need that I envision is for Celebration is to implement a formalized ministry of caring for our church family. The larger a church becomes, the more difficult it is for the body to stay connected. A Pastor or even a group of staff Pastors cannot effectively care for the needs of the entire body.

Our Cgroups will mirror other programs where the body of believers is connected through small groups led by individuals. We are not "re-inventing the wheel," but rather adapting it to our Celebration family. These principles are the same as those instituted by Moses after his father-in-law Jethro conveyed the model in Exodus 18. There are three keys to success that include sharing the load, working with others, and meeting the needs of the people. The scripture said that Moses "listened" to his father-in-law, and then he "did."

Our Cgroups will enhance our connectivity to one another, ensure proper care of our church family, and enable the body of Christ to minister effectively to one another.

WHAT'S NEXT?

We have our plans, but it is God who leads and guides us. I look forward to taking the journey with Him to exciting places.

Pastor Sam Belisle
Celebration Church

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WHEN GUESTS COME



More than likely you have been enticed to click on a link that was captioned with something like this: *Top 10 Reasons Church Visitors Don't Return or Ten Reasons Church Members Don't Invite Others to Church*. The lists will often cause a raised eyebrow as we wonder whether or not the list applies to “our” church. In all likelihood there are aspects of the church that you attend which would attract a certain guest, but those same aspects may cause another guest to visit once and not return. There is no single ministry strategy or worship style that will compel every person to clamor to church early so that they can have a seat. The burden is on each local congregation to offer worship experiences that primarily magnify God through worship and the preaching of the gospel so that every worshipper encounters God on a personal level. Far too often, church services are designed and formatted for the comfort of those who regularly attend. When guests come for a worship service, they often feel uncomfortable, alienated and alone. Alleviating these feelings for a guest can be accomplished when a congregation accepts the responsibility to become more hospitable. While some spiritual gift surveys will identify individuals with the gift of hospitality, every person in the congregation bears the burden of being hospitable to guests and regular attenders alike.

There are a wide variety of ways that congregations can be hospitable to those who attend church services. Some people function in a specific role that calls upon them to be warm and kind to everyone who attends a service. Greeters, ushers and parking lot attendants fall into this category. The expectation is that these “front line” individuals are going to exhibit an inviting attitude and persona. No matter how hospitable the “front line” people are, the attitude of other people in the congregation who are not part of the “front line” team will be a huge determinant for whether a guest decides to return for a subsequent worship experience. All of us need to be reminded that we play a role in creating a culture where guests are warmly welcomed.

Let me remind you that no one approach will designate your church as a welcoming church. I've been to churches where the “first impressions team” was very polite and welcoming, but then during the worship service when congregants were asked to move around, shake hands and greet one another; I was left standing alone and was not approached by a single individual. On the other side of that

coin, I've been to churches where every person in the room wanted to shake my hand and engage me in conversation. Both ends of this continuum should be avoided.

Easing the angst of a guest can be accomplished in a variety of different ways. Many guests probably feel somewhat awkward when they go to a church for the first time – especially if they are attending a smaller church where everyone seems to know everyone else. Try to find ways to include guests in the regular practice of worship without making them stick out like a sore thumb. Asking everyone – regular attenders and guests alike – to complete a connection card or response card is one way to keep everyone on a level field. This also allows church leaders to know if regular attenders are absent or are facing situations that need prayer or pastoral care.

Following up with guests after they visit is an important aspect of guest retention. Years ago, I remember hearing a story about a pastor who had some ladies bake fresh pies or bread on Saturday and bring those items to church on Sunday. The pastor would then make a personal appearance at the home of each guest on Sunday afternoon to present them the freshly baked treat. That approach may work well in some areas, but it would most likely not be well received in a majority of places. The point that I want to make here is that your follow up methodology must be both intentional and appropriate for the community in which the church is located. The best practice that you can adopt is something unique to you and the church. Follow up is also an opportunity for church leaders to get feedback on how the congregation responded to the guest. This will then enable church leaders to better train and equip the congregation to receive the next guests which choose to attend.

When guests come, they should be warmly welcomed and given the opportunity to encounter God on a personal basis. Taking the time to assess how guests are received will produce rewards that will ultimately open the door to growth and expansion.

Mark Cary
State Ministries Director



LET'S GET TECHNICAL

Fourteen years ago, I started my bi-vocational career as a Youth Minister and an Electronics Technician. I remember learning and observing in both fields. During on-the-job training, I noticed that I was entering job sites with every tool I could carry. The experienced technicians would select only a few tools for the job. I asked how they expected to do the job with so little tools. As ministers, we fight this same balance as we benchmark against other ministries and tools.

Is Technology Enough?

We often hear questions like this. *Are you guys streaming? What system do you use for kids' check-in? How is text-to-give working for your church?* Technology has maneuvered into every crevice of ministry. The real question posited in this article being, *Is all the technology enough?*

The gospel is now preached and defended online, not just in pulpits. Our digital altruism spreads with each charity donation for someone who will not be accepting presents for their birthday this year. Technology has improved our buildings, our communications, our systems and much more. No one could deny that; but is there danger in our utilitarian implementation of every late invention. Could these mechanisms become digitized spiritual anesthetics?

Asceticism or Exorbitance?

Following my question, the lead technician explained, “One day you will learn what tools you need before ever entering the job.” The other technician smirked, “Yeah, or you will get tired of carrying all those tools and learn to use one tool for everything.” This is often the approach found in ministry as well.

Some suggest technical asceticism is the correct approach. Delete the apps, use hymnals, retract video screens, delete click tracks, and we can hand-chop the air keeping time like we always have. Cold air mind you, because air-conditioning is an acceptable trend. Maybe by our austerity, we can avoid any negative implications of a transhumanist techno ministry movement.

Others say to join the party! Let's hire a technophile Youth Pastor. Then, let's use every new tool to create online Bible studies, train volunteers, play video announcements, modify atmospheres with environmental projection, and create

multiple campuses with hologram versions of our pastor. If we don't keep up with the newest technology, then we will be left behind. Maybe there are some truths behind each approach.

Finding Balance

Now, looking back, I see the many parallels from my story found in ministry. I have gained some experience and don't need every shiny new tool to get the job done. Also, I've fallen trap to the dangers of not using the right tools and forcing things by sticking to the old tools I'm used to. It takes too much effort and learning to pick up new and more effective tools. The ultimate lesson that I learned is that some can get the job done with whatever tools are available. Some leaders may see a job that seems impossible but believe anything can be done. When our attitudes and motives are shaped by the unktion of the Holy Spirit, our belief overcomes what seem like obvious barriers.

The trap is to place our focus on trendy tech to the point that it undermines the mission of the church. In digital marketing, secular agencies now teach that the focus is not the mechanism of the message. The foundational message and research must come first. New trendy mediums and gurus always change. Foundations make the mechanisms work. The world is getting its message straight, are we?

So, is all the technology enough? Where is the focus? What if instead of asking what tech we should focus on, we ask, *How can we illuminate our message effectively?* Maybe that involves technology or maybe tech gets in the way. We must be careful that we are not trying to replace God with a function of man-made design. We do not have to glamorize the gospel. The message never changes. We need to keep God in his rightful position. Jesus is the head of the church.

If we want to get technical about it, in Acts, Jesus built His church by thousands, within weeks, by the power of the Holy Spirit, and He can do the same today.

Lyndsey Dunn
River City Worship Center

WIDE OPEN AND WELCOMING

Wow! is all I can say. God is using HIS PEOPLE at Glade Spring Church of God to be the outreach for our church. People being themselves, being nice to each other, finding common ground and not thinking they are better or above anyone else—this is the key to having a welcoming and inviting church. We are all just doing our best to serve the Lord and grow the Kingdom together.

The praise team, F.U.E.L youth ministries (faith used in everyday life), parking ministry, calls, emails, messages, Instagram, Snapchat, greeters at the door, people in the congregation, ushers, follow up personnel, visiting—these keep people connected, involved and talking. We are blessed to have a great group, with room to grow. People are INVITED to be part of it.

Extending an invitation to be part of a group or event is one important element of being a welcoming church. It takes people who are genuinely excited about God and their church vision to be involved in the process of inviting others and making ALL welcome. Events and programs for everyone are very important. Keeping the youth involved, having open-door options to invite people to participate either in the church or elsewhere; including meals, sit-downs and talking, bike rides, lake days, picnics, camping trips, motorcycle ministries (GSCOG Holy Rollers), keeping people in contact with the Word and each other—this is where it's at. Blending in or standing out, it's great to have everyone involved.

When people are inviting friends, family, classmates, people they see at Wal-Mart, co-workers, complete strangers, that makes the difference. When your congregation stops inviting and welcoming people in, your church will start to decline. Glade Spring Church of God has multiplied in the last three years—from 40 in attendance on Sunday morning to 120+ and still growing.

We have a team mentality, planning together, working together in outreaches from Sunday School, worship, praise, monthly meals, set-up, and clean-up. We do anything we can as an open-door invitation to get to know each other beyond a handshake. Friendships in the church are key. Being connected and getting connected with others—this makes the difference.

We have a St. Jude event coming up that will be part of the grand opening of our new youth campus, which includes a fully functional gym, worship area, fellowship hall, and meeting area, recently built to give us more room. A 2006 Harley Sportster1200 was donated for us to auction off! Everything that's happening is God at work through His people. Individuals have stopped by and donated \$500.00 or \$50.00 just because they see something going on.

The stigma that was once attached to the Church of God as being “one of those churches”—judgmental, holier than thou, looking down our nose at visitors—is no longer there. It takes an ongoing effort from all to make this change and to keep the church this way. We all must make the effort! It's not just about Glade; it's about growing the Body of Christ. I as pastor have no interest in just growing our church; it's all about growing “the Church.” God will lead people where he needs people.

Many commute thirty minutes to church. It's not because they have to or were made to; they want to. They know they can come as they are and won't be judged by those who are here. Shorts, sandals, jeans, motorcycle, Cadillac, Ford, Dodge, old or new, walking or hitchhiking—everyone is treated the same. It's all about reaching others with the Gospel of Jesus Christ, not with just the way we “do church,” but the way we live our lives and treat others after we walk out the doors of the building.

I have so much fun preaching and pastoring. I love it. People can tell if you truly enjoy what you are doing, and I can say that I do. Is it hard? Yes. Trying? Yes. Stressful at times? Yes. I must deal with people and the issues they have. It's not always easy. As a great man of God, Bro. Mitchell Corder told me, while quoting a phrase from A Tale of Two Cities, “Pastoring is the best of times and the worst of times at the same time.” That is so true. We see it all. If pastoring is your calling, or evangelizing, playing music, singing, or being a prayer warrior, a teacher, or Christian on the pew, just hang in there. Pray about where you can be involved in Kingdom ministry. Then speak up; don't wait on someone to ask. Every job counts for the Lord. Let's get to it! Be part of it!

Pastor James Walls
Glade Spring Church of God

ADDRESSING SECURITY IN THE CHURCH

Everyone wants to go to church in a safe and inviting environment. Regrettably, changing social trends combined with reports of increasing acts of violence in houses of worship, have created an atmosphere of suspicion and fear.

It wasn't that long ago that churches around the world had no problem leaving their doors open. Worshipers could drop in to pray almost any time. There was an atmosphere of respect for the church property, its members and leadership. The most valuable equipment in those days were an upright piano, some offering plates, a cheap microphone and sound system. Congregations were mostly homogeneous; families were traditional, and everyone knew their neighbors. Not anymore. Churches are multicultural, fifty percent of families are blended, and people rarely know their neighbors. Many churches today have thousands of dollars of TV cameras, production and sound equipment, instruments and lighting second only to a Hollywood production studio.

FBI Uniform Crime Reports show an exponential increase in the amount of violent crimes involving places of worship. The report shows that the types of incidents range from simple vandalism to murder and occur in churches of all sizes and locations across the country. Even with the rise in violent crime, there is only approximately a .03% chance of a Deadly Force Incident (DFI) at Faith-Based Organizations. Statistically, the American Church is the safest place in the world to worship. Despite this fact, we can't be naïve about risks.

As a chaplain, I have had the opportunity of observing top security officials discuss security issues at some of the most secure and high-threat facilities in the world. They begin their security planning with a realistic Threat Assessment. Churches need to be realistic about potential threats too. Statistically, the likelihood of a mass shooting in a local church is low (only about .03% chance), while vandalism and robbery are much more likely. Churches in high crime areas are at a higher risk than a church in a quiet rural community. Churches need to develop a security plan based on an honest threat assessment.

National Statistics show the top three deadly force incidents over the past ten years in the church have been: Robbery, domestic disputes, and personal conflict between two or

more people, with the number one crime against churches being vandalism. We can't afford to simply rely on national statistics to form a security plan. We need to actually know our context and congregation.

Churches must know who is on their campus and in their sanctuaries. The more we know about individuals and families attending our churches, the better we can address those issues that drive people to destructive behavior. A combination of strong relationships, being observant and using spiritual discernment will provide the insight we need to address actual threats. The church as a body is designed to have strong personal connections (1 Corinthians 12:12-27). We not only need to know our congregations; we also need to know our community. Interfacing with local police and community leaders can make us aware of external threats. Understanding national crime trends provides a basis for preparing for potential threats. Understanding our communities provides information to address actual threats.

Finally, what do we do to mobilize? We need to communicate, build the team and implement the plan. Pastors should communicate the new reality regarding threats to the church. We can empower our congregation by involving church leadership in the process of threat assessment. Churches can consider posting trained greeters/ushers at all entrances until services begin, then lock all doors except the supervised main entrance. We can train parking lot greeters/attendants to report suspicious activities. We can make sure leaders/teachers/group leaders are trained to recognize signs of domestic and personal conflict. Leaders can develop policies and protocols to refer troubled individuals to a trained pastoral care team. Those working with children should undergo background checks and be supervised by seasoned leaders. We can develop a trained and equipped team to respond to any active threat. We want to do this in the most friendly and non-threatening way possible.

With honest realistic security planning, every church can provide a friendly, safe environment for worshipers.

Pastor Joe Hopkins
Pathway Church

TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE

20-21 FEBRUARY 2020
WINCHESTER
CHURCH OF GOD



GUEST SPEAKER: DAVID C. BLAIR
INTERNATIONAL DIRECTOR (Y&D)

WORSHIP 7:00 PM NIGHTLY
BIBLE TRAINING 9:30 AM FRIDAY



THE NEXT SEASON: TALBERT LOOKING FORWARD TO NEW ADVENTURES

REPRINTED BY PERMISSION:

To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven. – Ecclesiastes 3:1

No one knew it at the time, but when “Big Mike” and Regina Talbert accepted Jesus Christ in February 1971 and began attending the Dublin Church of God, there was a bigger plan in the works.

Fast forward 45 years. Mikie Talbert, the youth pastor at the Dublin Church of God, announced at the end of the regular Sunday service June 30 that after 21 years of service he was stepping down from his role as youth pastor.

“It was a tough decision and one we prayed about for a long time,” Talbert said. “We’ve felt led in a different direction for a while now, but we wanted to make sure it was God’s plan and not just something we wanted to try. We also wanted to make sure that our new pastor, Craig Caylor, had plenty of time to get settled into his new role. I grew up in this church and it will always be home for me, but the time has come to move to what God has planned for us next.”

Talbert took over as the youth pastor at the Dublin Church of God July 1998. Not long after that, he went to a game for a Pulaski County High School volleyball player who was in his youth group. That was where he met the first part of the “us” and “we” in his previous comment, Angela, who was coaching the team. After a short time, the couple realized they were in love and married March 13, 1999. Angela works at the high school as the Choral Director and teacher.

When he says he grew up in the Dublin Church of God, he means that in the literal sense as well. After marrying Angela, the couple moved into a portion of the church above the gym. Their son, Cody, was born June 18, 2001. With their family now up to three, they moved to their family farm in New River, September 2004.

One of the big parts of his job as youth pastor was promoting and helping get young people into church youth camp each summer.

“Youth camp has always been such a great experience for us,” he said. “Some years we had more than others go, but we consistently sent an average of 14 each year between all four weeks of the camp. Each week is for different age groups. We’ve also enjoyed working at youth camp. Through the years, many of those young people came back to work the camps with us.”

With that many young people together, despite many away from home for the first time, there were always good memories.

“My best memories include seeing our youth enjoy an atmosphere of worship and preaching where they felt completely free to let go and let God bless them without hesitation,” he said. “They come back from camp so fueled up and ready to make a difference for Christ. It is a challenge to keep the flame fanned, but I always loved trying to help them keep that fire stoked. I always enjoyed hearing our teens and others open up away from home and share their struggles. It allowed me to minister however I could help.”

Spending so much time and effort at some jobs could cause issues at home, but that wasn’t the case for the Talberts. Angela was also

involved in the youth ministry and the praise and worship team at the Dublin Church of God.

“She is huge part of our ministry,” he said. “I often said they could do without me and keep her, because she was the one who really made me shine. Angela has been a tremendous helpmate in our ministry. She is an outstanding musician and leader. Angela always has an encouraging word for everyone and does her best to make sure all people are included no matter what walk of life they come from. She has helped with in every facet of our ministry including youth choirs, drama, worship team, Sunday school lock-ins and youth trips to places like Winterfest, Jesus Jam, Acquire the Fire, Unplugged Retreat and others. She has a servant’s heart but a great ability to lead.”

Through the years, Talbert has held several positions and earned several titles in the church and state church offices. He received his Exhorters License in 2000, received Ordination January 2004 and became an Ordained Bishop in 2009. He currently serves on the Church of God State Youth and Christian Education Board.

Their son Cody graduated from high school and will be moving on to Virginia Military Institute this fall.

So with the announcement now public, what does the future hold for the Talbert family and their ministry?

“We will continue to serve on the State boards until those terms expire and will also be evangelizing locally, mainly helping fill the pulpit for any area pastors as the need arises,” he said. “We still plan to be very active in our community. I have a heart and desire as a long term goal to introduce teens and younger children to Christ through the outdoors, which I am really passionate about through hunting, fishing, horseback riding and other activities. I would love to tie the ministry and the outdoors together. I am by far an outdoors guy and feel that I work well in that capacity. I also plan to continue managing our beef cattle farm and help my mother take care of my father.”

Sunday, July 14, the Dublin Church of God held a fellowship lunch to send the Talberts on their way into this next phase of their ministry. As expected, there were some tears and a few laughs.

Angela was recognized for her work with the praise and worship team and as one of the organizers of the church’s “Women with a Purpose” women’s group. Cody was recognized for his work at youth camp and as a member of the church. All three were thanked for their friendship and dedication to the church through the years.

“We are so appreciative of the ministry of Pastor Mikie Talbert over the past 21 years,” Dublin Church of God Pastor Craig Caylor said. “He has made a tremendous difference for Christ in many lives, both young and old. The Dublin Church of God is a better church because of his faithful service. We will miss him, his wife Angela and their son Cody dearly, but we are also excited for them and the great things they will do for the Lord in their new calling.”

By: DAVID GRAVELY
editor@southwesttimes.com

VA NEWS

EVANGELIST GEORGE MOXLEY IS AVAILABLE TO SPEAK AT YOUR CHURCH



Bishop George E. Moxley is open to adding a few more speaking engagements to his fall 2019 through 2020 calendar.

His Bio: Bishop George E. Moxley is passionate about teaching and training. He has been the keynote speaker for numerous ministry training conferences, church and state hosted seminars, conferences, revivals and camp meetings both in the United States

and abroad. He has also been involved in numerous ministerial, pastoral and layman training conferences in the United States, Spain, South Africa, Ireland, Jamaica and the Bahamas.

He and his wife, Debbie have been in full time ministry for 28 years. He served as Senior Pastor from 1990 through 2015 and has served on the State Council, State Youth Board, State Evangelism Board and International Youth Board for the Church of God as well as local and community boards. They live in Jesup, Georgia where he served as Senior Pastor of the Unity Church of God for 17 years. While serving as pastor he was actively involved in church revitalization, restarting two churches and assisting in the revitalization of another.

He has taken a new prospective in ministry and is now serving as an evangelist/revivalist travelling around the nation spreading the Good News of Christ. Along with this new avenue of ministry he has been partnered with USA Missions Church Revitalization initiative and is personally mentoring several young pastors as well as hosting Impact Leadership Conferences to help train pastors and church leaders. His passion is to see people come to Christ and to help strengthen Pastors and the churches they pastor.

Feel free to contact him to schedule a speaking engagement for your congregation or an upcoming event.
email: debbannmoxley@comcast.net

WELCOME PAULA CAYLOR TO THE STATE OFFICE



On June 24 the Virginia State Office welcomed Paula Caylor as the administrative assistant for the Ministries Department and the Women’s Discipleship Department.

Paula comes to the state office with a wide range of experience in customer service, marketing, human resources and office administration. Her role will be to provide administrative assistance to the Director of Ministries and the Director of

Women’s Discipleship while also providing support to ministerial development programs such as CAMS and MIP. She will also be responsible for coordinating rental of campground facilities and the state’s two block-party outreach trailers.

In addition to working at the state office, Paula serves alongside her husband, Craig, who is the senior pastor of the Dublin Church of God. Paula was also part of the state office family from 1981 until 1986 while her father, Harry Miller, Jr., was the Youth Director. We are glad to have Paula as part of the state office team and invite you to join us in making her feel welcome.

YOUTH MINISTRY OPPORTUNITY AT DUBLIN CHURCH OF GOD

The Dublin Church of God is currently accepting resumes and interviewing applicants to fill the position of Youth Pastor.

The candidate must possess a true calling and desire to minister to Middle School and High School students. In addition, he/she must have a passion to lead souls to Christ and disciple new-found believers.

While previous youth ministry experience would be considered a plus, on the job training will be provided to the otherwise qualified candidate. The Dublin Church of God is looking for a candidate that is open and willing to contribute in any area of ministry as called upon for the overall fulfillment of the Church’s vision.

Proficiency with social media/technology is also a must.

Please direct all resumes and job inquiries to:
DublinCOGPastor@gmail.com

SAVE-THE-DATE – VA Church of God Camp Meeting (June 9-12, 2020) - Wytheville-All Nations

MINISTRIES UPDATE

NEW MEMBERS [APRIL 2019 - JUNE 2019]

CHURCH & PASTOR	NEW MEMBERS	CHURCH & PASTOR	NEW MEMBERS
APRIL 2019			
WINCHESTER, DARRELL W WALLER	16	DALE CITY DBA REAL LIFE CHURCH, RICHARD DALE STIGILE	22
ST CHARLES, ROY WEBB	15	VIRGINIA BEACH-FREEDOM FELLOWSHIP, RICK GENE HOCKER	12
BLACKSTONE, EDWARD MADISON	4	WINCHESTER, DARRELL W WALLER	11
SALEM-IGLESIA DE DIOS RENACER, ELVIN HERNANDEZ-TORRES	4	CHESTERFIELD-CITY OF REFUGE, DAVIN HINDMAN	10
MARBLE HILL, STEPHEN SHUPE	2	NORFOLK-LIGHTHOUSE, LARRY MCMASTERS	10
PULASKI, DONALD REX JONES JR	2	MARTINSVILLE-THE CHURCH AT MERCY CROSSING, TIMOTHY NUCKLES	10
ROCKY MOUNT, ROBERT SHAWN MEREDITH	2	WYTHEVILLE-ALL NATIONS, CHAD DUNFORD	8
MAY 2019			
RADFORD-FAIRLAWN, MARCUS KEITH HARRISON	9	CULPEPER COMMUNITY, DANNY EDWARDS	6
GLOUCESTER-NEW LIFE MINISTRY CENTER, EDGAR THOMPSON LINDSEY	8	GORDONSVILLE-DAYSTAR WORSHIP CENTER, DAVID AKERS	5
WINCHESTER, DARRELL W WALLER	4	PEARISBURG-NEW LIFE WORSHIP CENTER, DOUGLAS ELWOOD DUNCAN	4
BASTIAN, CLIFFORD BOWMAN	3	BRISTOL-COVENANT FELLOWSHIP, MICHAEL ALLEN BOOKER	4
NEWPORT NEWS-PARKVIEW, TERRY SWINEY	2	STAFFORD, WILLIAM A WUDSKI	3
DANVILLE-CENTRAL BOULEVARD, JOHN MEADOWS	1	RICHMOND-MEADOWOOD, RICHARD GENE DUNN	2
NEWPORT NEWS-WORLD OUTREACH WORSHIP, RUSSELL EDWARD EVENSON	1	ROSE HILL, TILLMAN BRANSON	1
		NEWPORT NEWS-PARKVIEW, TERRY SWINEY	1

REVIVAL FIRES

1. SAVED 2. RECLAIMED 3. SANCTIFIED 4. HOLY GHOST 5. WATER BAPTISM 6. ADDED TO CHURCH 7. HEALED * GOOD CHURCH REVIVAL

EVANGELIST	CHURCH	PASTOR	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Cliff West	Nortonville	Greg Payne	*						
Cliff West	Childress	Ronnie Smith	*						
Cliff West	Elliston	Ronnie Duncan	*						
Cliff West	Pearisburg-New Life	Doug Duncan	*						
Cliff West	South Boston	Wayne Daniels		1					
Cliff West	Gordonsville	David Akers		1	1				3
Cliff West	Chester	Earl DeHart Jr.	*						
Cliff West	Lexington-Maranatha	Mike Moyers	*						
Cliff West	Danville-Central Blvd.	John Meadows	*						
Cliff West	Lebanon-Grace Fellowship	Yul Miller	*						
Drew Gibbons	Callaway-Mount Zion	William Pagen	3			2			1
Jacqui Smith	Blackstone	Edward Madison	1			1			

STATS

AVERAGE FOR APRIL - JUNE 2019

	TITHES	ON CAMPUS	OFF CAMPUS	WORSHIP		TITHES	ON CAMPUS	OFF CAMPUS	WORSHIP
Abingdon/Bristol - Michael Booker	6,066.99	89	0	91	Flatwoods, John Lawson	568.33	0	0	16
Abingdon, Steven Vaughan	6,661.69	42	0	96	Galax-Cliffview, Ray Dawson	25,370.00	125	60	162
Bristol-Adoration, Todd Asbury	32,280.94	75	147	219	Galax-Pentecostal Alfa Y Omega, Henry Campo	1,691.13	17	7	45
Bristol-Covenant Fellowship, Michael Booker	4,000.00	71	0	62	Hillsville, Gerald Humphrey	3,218.00	42	0	32
Chilhowie, Adam Blackwell	3,189.85	115	8	122	Independence DBA iChurch, Lonnie Gray	300.00	0	0	5
Glade Spring, James Walls	4,760.40	24	0	77	Sheeptown, Warren Barnes	3,163.67	37	0	45
Lebanon-Grace Fellowship, Anthony (Yul) Miller	216.50	25	106	24	Shorts Creek, Timothy McBride	4,793.84	76	36	52
Lebanon-New Beginnings, Charles Peake	9,831.87	34	15	65	Woodlawn, Rudy Robinson	3,622.50	54	12	33
Marion-Abundant Life Christian Center, Joshua Pickett	6,885.67	54	57	60	Honaker - Monte Elswick				
Marion-Matson Drive, Arthur Chapman	1,285.23	34	0	34	Duty, Betty Home	100.00	0	0	0
Plasterco, Charles Williams					Grundy, Douglas Elkins	N/R	0	0	0
					Honaker, Paul Day	5,946.54	28	0	49
Bedford/Lynchburg - Mike Kirby					Jewell Ridge, D. Mitchell	1,053.10	32	0	19
Altavista-Valley View, David Willard	2,106.67	16	0	16	Pounding Mill-Grace, Monte Elswick	3,186.67	24	0	39
Amherst, Phillip Campbell	3,320.00	22	29	45	Richlands, Monte Elswick	1,996.27	43	0	45
Bedford, David Scott	9,891.96	68	0	94					
Big Island, Samuel Jones	1,512.00	0	0	6	King George - Milton Carter				
Lynchburg, Michael Kirby	10,527.50	49	51	345	Culpeper Community, Danny Edwards	3,584.67	3	0	24
Monroe, James Witten	5,310.00	18	0	52	Fredericksburg-City Church	N/R	0	0	0
Vera, Landon Watson	4,070.33	4	7	14	Fredericksburg-Encounter, Jeremy Hyde	43,884.12	132	0	348
					King George, Milton Carter	20,463.55	60	0	108
Big Stone Gap - Donnie Pickett					Madison-Harvest, Joseph Austin	6,042.56	12	0	44
Big Stone Gap-Bethesda, Donnie Pickett	3,899.67	18	0	37	Spotsylvania-Casa De Dios, Luis Gonzalez	N/R	0	0	0
Coeburn-Harvest, Tim Branson	N/R	0	0	0	Stafford, William Wudski	10,520.33	64	0	81
Dante, Dallas Jones	1,765.33	28	0	24					
Gate City, Samuel Bass	N/R	0	0	0	Martinsville - Tim Nuckles				
Keokee, Billy McDonald	506.80	18	0	18	Bassett-Worship Center, John Canning	4,666.43	83	8	34
Norton, Freddie Powers	8,967.64	32	0	39	Collinsville-The Upper Room, Jason Shupe	N/R	0	0	0
Stevens, Larry Moll	5,387.10	63	8	76	Critz, Roger Moore	5,479.45	14	0	53
Weber City, Raymond Hammonds	3,166.67	78	52	43	Martinsville-The Church at Mercy Crossing, Timothy Nuckles	55,870.00	138	49	454
					Ridgeway-Kingdom Point, Marcus Heffinger	9,099.93	44	25	62
Bluefield - Tony Ellis					Stuart-Harvest, David Coleman	5,817.11	44	2	104
Abbs Valley, Teddy Bishop	206.00	10	0	4					
Bluefield, Tony Ellis	11,270.01	318	349	118	Newport News - Terry Swiney				
Tazewell-New Covenant Fellowship, Dave Webb	12,575.26	38	0	60	Carrollton-Healing Waters Worship Center, William McCarty	15,448.79	131	3	215
Thompson Valley, J. Seabolt	4,517.47	41	3	65	Hampton-Cornerstone Fellowship, Lance Bacon	12,423.19	118	138	134
Tip Top, Brandon Cassell	767.67	19	7	21	Hampton-Faith, Steven Rich	7,457.65	64	0	60
					Hampton-Fladelfia, Alexander Feliciano	N/R	0	0	0
Charlottesville - Harold Bare					Newport News-Parkview, Terry Swiney	25,186.82	91	12	175
Charlottesville-Covenant, Harold Bare	65,357.91	220	161	491	Tabb-Breakthrough Worship Center, M.Truckenmiller	4,474.08	22	0	50
Charlottesville-Luz y Vida, Yolanda Perez G	1,152.67	8	6	10					
Charlottesville-Southside, Larry Hudson	5,964.50	36	0	45	Northern Virginia - Eric Medford				
Crozet-Commonwealth Christian Community, Paul Hollifield	4,055.33	15	6	38	Alexandria-Cristo es la Verdad, Will Vanegas	N/R	0	0	0
Gordonsville-Daystar Worship Center, David Akers	7,009.76	66	22	74	Alexandria-Engleside, Vicky Yelton	600.00	5	0	12
Nortonville, Gregory Payne	22,401.95	175	0	194	Alexandria-Iglesia de Dios El Sinai, Mercedes Ramos	10,123.33	72	72	147
					Alexandria-Iglesia de Dios Pentecostes, Jose Ayala	N/R	0	0	0
Danville - Jackie Poe					Alexandria-Iglesia de Dios Plenitud de Gozo, Carlos Thomas-Salazar	N/R	0	0	0
Cypress Springs Church of God, Rodney Dalton	1,344.50	0	0	22	Alexandria-King Street, John DeMoss	N/R	0	0	0
Danville-Central Boulevard, John Meadows	33,704.81	240	100	244	Fairfax-Faith For Living, Noel de la Rosa	N/R	0	0	0
Danville-Christian Fellowship, David Bryant	4,800.38	27	13	40	Fairfax-Lee Highway, Dean Dotson	4,058.00	5	18	35
Danville-Faith Tabernacle, Wayne Aaron	N/R	0	0	0	Manassas-Parkland Immanuel, Gerald Coleman	1,535.00	0	0	33
Danville-Pathway, Joseph Hopkins	3,380.12	75	50	88	Manassas-Soul's Harbor, Eric Medford	12,889.00	67	30	92
Danville-RiverOak, Jackie Poe	28,315.43	74	0	182	Springfield-House of Fellowship, Joyce Thuku	N/R	0	0	0
					Sterling-Faith For Living, Noel de la Rosa	N/R	0	0	0
Denbigh - Russell Evenson									
Dutton-Living Waters Family, David Hinsin	10,319.13	87	15	83	Powhatan - Johnathan Whichard				
Gloucester-New Life Ministry Center, Tommy Lindsey	6,654.50	13	36	70	Amelia, Rick Patton III	9,534.33	26	0	57
Newport News-Herederos con Cristo, Elba Luz Vazquez	7,982.33	49	6	59	Blackstone, Edward Madison	3,666.50	43	49	49
Newport News-World Outreach Worship, Russell Evenson	164,995.18	2,331	150	1,098	Cumberland-New Hope, Andrew Mutter	5,329.67	6	4	33
West Point, Wayne Groome	5,442.67	187	198	76	Powhatan-The Bridge, Johnathan Whichard	24,843.63	104	48	195
Galax - Billy Ray Dawson									

STATS

AVERAGE FOR APRIL - JUNE 2019

	TITHES	ON CAMPUS	OFF CAMPUS	WORSHIP		TITHES	ON CAMPUS	OFF CAMPUS	WORSHIP
Allison Chapel, R. Buttery	3,745.50	21	0	32	Staunton-Southside, Phillip Morgan	5,249.06	35	14	79
Draper-Riverview, Eddie Dalton	10,304.64	103	0	92	Verona-New Horizons, Lewis Knight	270.00	9	5	13
Dublin, Craig Taylor	21,813.84	136	881	127	Waynesboro-Celebration, Wayne Chant	5,058.67	8	0	14
Fort Chiswell, Kenneth Quesenberry	22,527.54	81	0	217	Waynesboro-River City Worship Center, Lyndsey Dunn	3,055.67	10	0	34
Newbern, Clayton Quesenberry	8,734.14	71	0	70	Waynesboro-Valley Covenant, Jerry Steele	20,586.67	107	0	187
Pickett Chapel, Joseph Blackwell	2,846.33	44	0	31					
Pulaski, Donald Jones	55,244.40	212	0	341					
Radford - Terry Bond					South Boston - T. Wayne Daniels				
Childress, Ronald Smith	5,550.15	62	12	27	Chase City, Tony Bateman	298.33	0	0	17
Christiansburg-New Hope, Terry Bond	20,761.30	175	35	144	Clover-Living Waters, Chuck Widgeon	865.33	5	0	18
Christiansburg-Redemption Celebration Life Center, Ronald King	1,875.00	0	0	0	Marble Hill, Stephen Shupe	3,313.67	15	6	12
Elliston, Ronald Duncan	4,310.67	40	3	34	South Boston, Wayne Daniels	23,342.48	106	59	361
Floyd, Clyde Bishop	2,727.27	15	0	17	South Hill, Timothy Bateman	4,628.57	20	0	21
Indian Valley, Kenneth Poston	19,940.11	213	25	158	South Hill-Centro de Adoracion, Lazaro Rayo-Calderon	4,237.97	49	0	82
Parrott, Kenneth Alley	7,071.84	83	0	53	Victoria-New Life, Bryan Strickland	N/R	0	0	0
Pearisburg-New Life Worship Center, Douglas Duncan	2,091.00	52	15	75					
Radford-East, J. Poston	8,696.40	67	0	63	South Tidewater - Rodney Vickers				
Radford-Fairlawn, Marcus Harrison	33,147.31	120	0	224	Chesapeake-Crossroads Community Church, Richard Wallace	N/R	0	0	0
Radford-West, Danny Newman	6,746.43	30	0	50	Chesapeake-Kingdom Life Ministries, Randy Wooden	22,150.70	0	0	447
					Chesapeake-Redeemed, Charles Hughes	4,238.33	18	0	32
Richmond, East - Richard Dunn					Franklin DBA Ignite Church, William Holcomb	2,444.20	0	0	49
Ashland, Rick Dill	23,674.84	182	27	166	Norfolk-Adonai, Carlos Ramos	24,717.13	75	114	200
Center Cross	9,909.69	53	155	73	Norfolk-Cornerstone, Joe Baggatta	1,824.00	103	0	85
Richmond-Meadowood, Richard Dunn	17,714.84	118	0	160	Norfolk-Lighthouse, Larry McMasters	5,443.67	137	28	31
Richmond-New Life Worship Center, Jeremy Day	5,096.33	11	10	49	Norfolk-Surge, Raul Garcia	N/R	0	0	0
Richmond-Wings of Love, Wilbur Adkins	4,116.91	11	0	14	Port Norfolk Church, Connie Shoemaker	N/R	0	0	0
Warsaw, David Metz	7,073.85	14	0	68	Suffolk, William Holcomb	1,780.00	0	0	14
					Virginia Beach-Azalea Garden, Rodney Vickers	42,705.26	185	49	227
Richmond, South - Samuel Luke									
Chester, JR DeHart	11,905.78	78	0	67	Virginia Beach - Rick Hocker				
Chester-Eron, Bryan Ogle	23,122.31	120	17	78	Virginia Beach-Freedom Fellowship, Rick Hocker	15,000.00	135	0	610
Chesterfield-City of Refuge, David Hindman	10,702.63	44	0	59	Virginia Beach-Kempville, Adam Frye	21,246.84	101	11	128
Colonial Heights-Celebration of Life, Carl Barbee	1,336.67	11	0	20	Virginia Beach-Ocean Lakes, Stephen Bergfield	6,222.67	23	6	45
Hopewell-City Point Restoration, Thurman Collier	34,342.20	191	313	278	Virginia Beach-Pungo, William Stanley	1,466.67	15	0	18
Hopewell-Iglesia Hispana Renacer, Maria Pinto	N/R	0	0	0					
Richmond-Alfa Y Omega	14,711.02	94	75	250	Winchester - Darrell Waller				
Richmond-Family Worship Center, Nathan Boehm	12,929.86	0	0	71	Edinburg-Massanutten View, William Shifflett	2,000.00	24	0	60
Richmond-Goshen International Prayer Ministries, Samson Njoroge	N/R	0	0	0	Hamilton-Abundant Life Church of God, Paul Campbell	2,786.22	0	13	26
Richmond-Victory Tabernacle, Samuel Luke	101,503.20	299	256	545	Winchester, Darrell Waller	124,885.88	1,153	531	1,444
Roanoke - Sam Belisle					Woodbridge - Gary Caruthers				
Callaway-Mount Zion Assembly, William Pagen	4,314.00	54	78	81	Dale City DBA Real Life Church, Richard Stigile	34,515.99	77	23	140
Roanoke-Oakview, Steve Garay	2,387.00	34	0	28	Dumfries-Montclair Tabernacle, Gary Caruthers	48,319.96	233	0	229
Roanoke-Celebration, Samuel Belisle	23,545.61	154	184	173	Woodbridge-All Nations, Anthony Addinall	14,287.54	30	26	51
Roanoke-Healing Word Ministries, Terry Shaw	8,893.33	13	0	49	Woodbridge-Camino de Santidad, Israel Murcia-Hernandez	7,197.83	170	43	107
Roanoke-Valley Church, Jason Cook	34,557.07	340	288	457					
Roanoke-Word of Life, Beverley Jackson	318.40	0	0	3	Woodway - Roy Webb				
Rocky Mount, Robert Meredith	14,963.86	86	0	141	Pennington Gap, Bobby Wells	4,340.17	0	0	23
Salem, Todd Stiffler	10,647.29	77	0	72	Rose Hill, Tillman Branson	2,144.00	38	0	21
Salem-Iglesia de Dios Renacer, Elvin Hernandez-Torres	6,350.00	34	98	162	St Charles, Roy Webb	11,961.09	189	35	153
					Woodway, Clifford Ely	5,141.12	55	3	57
Shenandoah - Merle Dodson									
Broadway-Shekinah Tabernacle, Bob Sutherland	3,298.00	0	0	25	Wytheville - Chad Dunford				
Deerfield, Merle Dodson	3,087.80	30	8	27	Bastian, Clifford Bowman	11,311.51	110	36	96
Elkton, Samuel Sponaugle	2,096.67	5	0	16	Grapefield, David E Wall	1,009.00	32	0	12
Grottoes, Glenn Hughes	4,136.67	9	22	30	Rural Retreat	N/R	0	0	0
Harrisonburg-Maranatha, Roger Chandler	6,338.57	32	0	41	Wilderness Creek, Philip Buttery	1,526.27	16	53	22
Lexington-Maranatha, Michael Moyers	N/R	0	0	0	Wytheville-All Nations, Chad Dunford	46,404.33	165	0	548
Middlebrook, Larry Strickler	13,844.73	80	90	98	Wytheville-Truth & Praise Tabernacle, Andrew Dillow	1,241.00	0	1	24
Mount Clinton, Michael Fallin	2,107.33	32	30	48					
Staunton-Grubert Avenue, Jerry Thomas	2,314.67	8	0	20					



[EP-1K]: HEROIC; MAJESTIC; IMPRESSIVELY GREAT

YOUTH CAMP 2019

CAMPERS 924
STAFF 401

SAVED 227
SANCTIFIED 282
RESTORED 465
FILLED WITH HOLY GHOST 271
HEALED 274
DELIVERED 249
CALLED TO MINISTRY 119

WWW.VACOG.ORG

VIRGINIA WOMEN'S RETREAT

Save the date
MARCH 27-28 2020
RICHMOND - VICTORY TABERNACLE

FRIDAY EVENING
SPECIAL SERVICE WITH JASON CRABB

SATURDAY
VARIOUS GUEST SPEAKERS &
EVANGELIST HEATHER WALLACE