



## PRAYER NEWSLETTER FOR REGIONAL HOME MISSIONARY PRESBYTERY OF MID ATLANTIC – SPRING 2023

*“The God of Peace will soon crush Satan under your feet. The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.” - Romans 16:20*

### RHM SNAPSHOT REPORT FOR MAY PRESBYTERY OF MID-ATLANTIC

Jesus is powerfully on the march through His PMA church empowered by the Holy Spirit to further storm the gates of hell, to stomp the head of the serpent, and to further bind the strong man in establishing Gospel beachheads and outposts of heaven for worship, discipling, evangelism, and multiplication in church planting! Since the beginning of 2023, we have received **Good Shepherd OPC** (Eastern Shore, VA) as a mission work and are preparing to call a church planter-stated supply, **Mr. Will Sloan**, and two men are in training presently as potential officers. We are welcoming **New Covenant** (Abington, MD) into our presbytery from the PCA in May, Lord willing. We are seeking a church planter at our mission work at **Word of Life** in Howard Co., MD. We are thankful that our daughter church of Sterling OPC, **Acacia Reformed**, continues to thrive and is currently training officers to serve. We continue to serve the mission work at **West Creek OPC** (PSE) with RHM Lacy Andrews. We are thankful to be enjoying regular visitors at Acacia Reformed, and at Word of Life. We received 5 families into membership at Good Shepherd (Eastern Shore, VA), participated in 3 baptisms, and one adult male convert who recently came to Christ! (This is the second new convert to Christ that we know of in the PMA in the last year! Hallelujah!). Our presbytery hosted an **Evangelism and Church Planting Conference** with the goal of glorifying God, seeing sinners converted and saved, to inspire and encourage zeal in evangelism in our presbytery, and to see new churches planted. There were over 60+ folks in attendance from three presbyteries! (PMA, PSE, and PCPC). We are regularly reaching out with Gospel invitations at all of our mission works. Let us continue to be ***faithful and expectantly hopeful*** in our mission as presbytery to evangelize and plant churches through our prayers, ministries of word and sacrament, invitations, hospitality, reach out, etc.

### RHM BRIEF PRAYERS FOR THE PMA

**Good Shepherd, Eastern Shore, VA:** <https://joiningtheharvest.org/missions/eastern-shore/> Pray for the families who have joined this congregation. Pray for our worship services, bible studies, devotional services, officer training, and spiritual success and growth in our vigorous outreach and evangelism. The Candidates and Credentials Committee (PMA) is planning to recommend Will Sloan to be licensed to the Gospel Ministry upon his satisfactory completion of his oral theological exam on the floor of presbytery in May. Pray for Will as our provisional session is calling him to be Stated Supply of our mission work beginning in May. Give thanks to God for Jim Fleming’s conversion and pray as he and his wife Carol continue to grow together in the grace and love of the Lord Jesus. Pray for Paul Gebel and Chad Harte as they are taking officer exams to discern with their elders their callings to servant-leadership.

**Acacia Reformed, Manassas, VA:** [www.arcopc.org](http://www.arcopc.org) : Please pray that the Lord would be pleased to grow and bless Acacia Reformed with continued unity, joy, and zeal in evangelism, particularly with compassionate hearts seeking the lost in Manassas, Va. Pray for the officer training for two candidates. Pray that our Sovereign Savior would be pleased to call at least two unbelievers to faith in Christ through our church. Pray for God’s blessing on their growth as they go through the Gospel of John sermon series and as they hand out church invite cards. Praise God that congregation is thriving and giving is strong.

**Word of Life, Howard County, MD:** [www.wordoflifemd.com](http://www.wordoflifemd.com) : We are grateful to be pursuing a church planter for this mission work. Pray for continued faithful endurance for Peter Lee, and for wisdom for our overseeing session as we continue to shepherd this growing flock. Please pray specifically for the following: Growth in visitors: Pray that we will see an increased number of friends who are interested in our ministry. Growth in community life: Pray that we will continue to grow as a corporate community and that we will continue to desire to meet together on a regular basis. Future Pastor: Please pray that the Lord will provide a faithful church planting pastor for us this summer.

**West Creek Presbyterian Church, Short Pump, VA:** [www.westcreekopc.org](http://www.westcreekopc.org) : Praise God for a new weekly prayer meeting of the congregation! Praise God for the public reception of our two new members of congregation. Pray for the power and blessing of the Holy Spirit in the preaching and administering of the Lord’s Supper. Pray for continued growth in unity, grace, and numbers.

Pray for Elder John Waddill and the overseeing session of this work, as well as Lacy Andrews (RHM, PSE), Charles Biggs (RHM, PMA), and Andrew Miller as we minister God's Word and Sacrament to this growing group of saints.

**New Covenant OPC, Abington, MD:** <https://www.ncpres.org/> : We welcome our newest congregation of the PMA! Pray as this congregation continues this important transition into the OPC. May the LORD continue to cause them to thrive and flourish in worship, discipleship, and evangelism. Pray for their planned first worship service as an Orthodox Presbyterian congregation on Lord's Day, May 21<sup>st</sup>!

**PMA Home Missions Committee:** Pray for enduring grace and healing for Hikari Van Dam. Pray for comfort for Pastor Gerry and Paula Taylor, and their adult children, Joshua, and Kaitlyn, in the sudden death of their oldest son Matthew. Praise God for a wonderful and very memorable Evangelism and Church Planting Conference! Our God is faithful. Pray that our God would continue to be glorified, souls will be converted, and new members added to PMA, that churches will be planted, and saints will be edified to greater Gospel zeal in evangelism. Evangelism and Church Planting Conference: <https://joiningtheharvest.org/resources/>

**Regional Home Missionary:** [www.joiningtheharvest.org](http://www.joiningtheharvest.org) : Pray for daily faithfulness in fixing my eyes on Jesus, seeking Him and His deep joy and wisdom, loving and serving my wife and family, and being a diligent servant to PMA as RHM, faithfully fulfilling my mission and vision in reliance upon the power of Christ's Spirit. Pray that I would continue to prayerfully and zealously support our mission works and Bible studies, engage in intentional evangelism and discipleship, and to preach the Gospel in our congregations and in my larger community. I am grateful for much Gospel seed that I have been privileged to sow recently; pray for God's watering and giving the increase for harvest. Pray that with each visit to each place that God calls us that "Biggs Team RHM" (my dear family) would come with the "fullness of the blessing of Christ" (Rom. 15:29-32).

**RHM Upcoming Ministry Opportunities:** Regular Visits for Ministry at our Mission Works: Acacia Reformed, Word of Life, and Good Shepherd on the Eastern Shore; Regular Visits for Ministry in Congregations of the PMA; Regular Visits for Ministry at West Creek OPC (PSE); Regular Gospel Proclamation/Outreach at Cottage School- Berryville, VA; Evangelism and Church Planting Conference on April 22, 2023 (PMA); Grace OPC Youth Retreat- Camp Joy El, PA (*The Gospel as True Fairy Tale* - May 2023); General Assembly of the OPC- Palos Heights, IL (June 2023); Church Planters Conference (August 2023); Machen Retreat Family Camp- Machen Retreat and Conference Center, VA ([Learning to be a Church Planting and Evangelistic Family Together in Christ](#) - September 2023); Regional Home Missionary and Church Planters Conference- Orlando, FL (November 2023).

**RHM GOALS FOR 2023:** Please pray that I will continue to fulfill my vision and specific goals for 2023. 1. To continue to support our primary PMA mission works and bible studies: Acacia Reformed, Word of Life, and Good Shepherd OPC. 2. To continue to minister the Gospel to saints at West Creek (Gospel partnership with PSE), Loudoun Classical School, and the Cottage School in my community. 3. To visit at least one congregation of the PMA once monthly to proclaim God's Word and to give an RHM presentation to stir up to prayer, evangelism, and to keep our congregations informed of what Jesus is doing in the larger church. 4. To attend many seminars, conferences, and General Assembly as RHM to serve, to teach, and to learn. 5. To come alongside congregations that would request help in evangelism training and outreach.

**Thank you for your faithful praying for the Presbytery of the Mid Atlantic!** Pray that our PMA church would have peace and be built up, walking in the fear of the Lord and the comfort of the Holy Spirit, we would multiply in our presbytery congregations and in mission works! (Acts 9:31). May we have the joy and the zeal of the LORD as we evangelize and plant churches in this new year of 2023 (Zech. 4:6; 1 Cor. 2:4-5; Eph. 3:20-21, 6:18-20; 1 Thess. 1:5; Acts 1:8, 10:31)!

**Devotion/Meditation on Scripture:** Let us remember that evangelism and church planting are storming the gates of hell and are further crushing the serpent's head in Christ. How? (Luke 10:17-20; Matthew 12:28-32; John 12:31-32; Revelation 12:10-11): *"And they have conquered him [Dragon-Serpent-Lord] by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, for they loved not their lives even unto death"* (Revelation 12:11). Note three important truths: 1) We are more than overcomers in Christ; 2) The word of our testimony is the Gospel that proclaims the blood of Christ that takes away our sins and restores us to God; 3) We overcome through self-denial, and successful, Spirit-filled evangelism and church planting always comes through self-denial.

***Our RHM Vision:*** *Prayerfully and passionately joining the harvest through a Christ-saturated, Spirit filled ministry of serving, declaring, orienting, and encouraging God's people to do, as well as to support church planting and evangelism in the PMA of the OPC for the glory of God and the extension of Christ's kingdom.*