



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

*"...Praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication. To that end, keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints, and also for me, that words may be given to me in opening my mouth boldly to proclaim the mystery of the gospel..." – Ephesians 6:18-19*

### RHM Prayers for the Presbytery of the Mid-Atlantic

**Devotion/Meditation- Ephesians 6:18-19:** When we pray, we join our Lord Jesus in His prayer time. He *lives to pray for us!* (Heb. 7:25, Rom. 8:34). As God's beloved people living in a perilous realm, we desperately need Jesus' prayers. He is *able to keep us from stumbling and to present us blameless before the presence of His glory with great joy!* (Jude 24-25). We also need each other's prayers; this is our Father's good intention to remind us of our unity with Jesus and with one another through one Spirit (Eph. 2:18). I need your prayers. You need my prayers. We need each other! Let us pray with joy in union with Him for alertness with all perseverance and for boldness in speaking for Him, knowing that our kind and powerful Savior is with us always even to the end of the age as He builds His church.

**New Covenant OPC, Abingdon, MD:** <https://www.ncpres.org/> : We welcome our newest congregation of the PMA! New Covenant Presbyterian Church in Abingdon, MD (Harford County) was received into the PMA on the Lord's Day, 21 May 2023, during a reception worship service conducted by the Rev. Charles Biggs and the Rev. Gerald Malkus of the PMA. In April 2023, the New Covenant congregation voted overwhelmingly to withdraw from the PCA and to seek membership in the OPC/PMA. After examining New Covenant ministers and officers, the PMA voted on 6 May 2023 to receive the New Covenant congregation, to approve her ordained elders, deacons, and ministers, and to install New Covenant officers and ministers at the 21 May 2023 reception worship service. The photo was taken after the reception service (right). New Covenant was founded in 1981 as a church plant of the Reformed Presbyterian Church (Evangelical Synod). In 1982, New Covenant joined the PCA along with other RPCES churches in the merger known as "Joining and Receiving." New Covenant has about 150 communing members, a vigorous Christian education curriculum, a strong commitment to world and local missions, and an energetic youth ministry. (New Covenant youth regularly participate in the OPC summer outreach ministry called Boardwalk Chapel in Wildwood, NJ.) In the past 12 years, New Covenant has planted two churches within a 15-mile radius. Both churches are flourishing. May the LORD continue to cause them to thrive and flourish in worship, discipleship, and evangelism.



**Good Shepherd, Eastern Shore, VA:** <https://joiningtheharvest.org/missions/eastern-shore/> Praise God that Will Sloan was licensed to the Gospel Ministry at our May PMA meeting (left)! He is faithfully serving presently as Stated Supply at Good Shepherd. Pray for him as he ministers God's Word, counsels, serves, and seeks to be ordained as early as December 2023. Will is scheduled to be interviewed by our Home Missions denominational committee in July for denominational funding for Good Shepherd. Pray for the families who have joined this congregation. Please continue to pray for our worship services, bible studies, devotional services, officer training, and spiritual success and growth in our

vigorous outreach and evangelism (especially our ['Farmer Theologian'](#) radio spots). Pray for wisdom and resources as we seek a building for worship. Pray for our overseeing session: Pastors Andrew Miller, Gerry Taylor, RHM Charles Biggs, and Elder Dan Cooke.



**Acacia Reformed, Manassas, VA:** [www.arcopc.org](http://www.arcopc.org) : Praise God for excellent attendance at worship services, new visitors, generous giving, and recent church picnics and fellowship events (right/left)! 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. He will be meeting with OPC Home Missions Committee in July to be interviewed for denominational support. Pray for continued faithful endurance for Peter Lee, and for the summer sermon series on 'Praying the Psalms'. Pray 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: Praise God that it seems our God is providing a faithful church planter-pastor-shepherd!

**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! 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.

**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 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/> Pray for Andrew Miller as he transitions to Presbytery of Central Pennsylvania to serve as their RHM.

**Regional Home Missionary:** [www.joiningtheharvest.org](http://www.joiningtheharvest.org) : **Travels:**

Pray as Biggs Team RHM travels regularly this summer to Richmond, VA, the Eastern Shore, VA, and visiting our other mission works. **Grace Youth Retreat:** Pray for the seed sown at the Grace Church Youth Retreat last week where I taught on "The Gospel as the True Fairy Tale". Pray for abundant fruit from this retreat for these future Christian leaders and influencers and church planters (right). **General Assembly:** Pray as I travel with my girls to our General Assembly in June (Elisabeth and Esther are serving as pages for GA). Pray that we would all be a great blessing to our larger church. **Gospel Ministry, Discipleship, Evangelism:** Pray that I would continue to prayerfully and zealously 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). **Vacation:** Pray for our family as we enjoy a nice time off **July 17-25**. **Future Ministry:** Pray for future church planting opportunities: Culpeper, VA, Southwest Baltimore (?)



**RHM Summer 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 the 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).

**Thank you for your faithful praying for the Presbytery of the Mid Atlantic!** Pray that our PMA church would have the joy and the zeal of the LORD as we evangelize and plant churches in this new year (Zech. 4:6; 1 Cor. 2:4-5; Eph. 3:20-21, 6:18-20; 1 Thess. 1:5; Acts 1:8, 10:31)!

**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.*