



## PRAYER NEWSLETTER OF THE REGIONAL HOME MISSIONARY (PMA): MAY-JUNE 2024

### Highlights/Praise and Prayer Requests from Our Mission Works

*We are praying that our Risen-Ascended-Enthroned Lord Jesus would grant five new families to our mission works and bible studies by the end of this summer, especially in response to our season of fasting and prayer, and our vigorous and faith-focused evangelism and outreach efforts.*

**Pray for Acacia Reformed:** Grace and unity in congregation; hospitality being practiced weekly; visitors are welcomed; pray for Pastor John Paul, Elder Stephen Mouring, and Deacon Jared Grigg; new worship space open and very useful; praise God for evangelism outreach; serving with Culpeper Bible Study.



**Pray for Word of Life:** Joyful and growing in the gospel; praise God for two new converts; visitors are welcomed; new building space at AMC Theater at Columbia Mall has opened new opportunities; three new communicant members; two new converts; pray for Pastor John and Elders Peter Lee, Bob Trombadore, and Charles Biggs.



**Pray for Good Shepherd:** Unified and growing in grace; season of fasting and praying with an eager and focused evangelism/outreach for the next few months; praying for 3-5 new families by end of summer; thankful for adding morning worship services; praise God for a visible building for worship in the center of Onley, VA; pray for Pastor Will Sloan and Elders Dan Cooke, Francis Vandelden, Gerry Taylor, and Charles Biggs.

**Pray for West Creek:** In March, we celebrated our two-year anniversary since our first bible study; unified, growing, new visitors are coming (new convert has been attending); weekly hospitality and fellowship meals are practiced; we are ready to call Devin Gaye as our organizing pastor this fall; pray for this exciting transition, pray for 3-5 new families for us to qualify for the OPC Seed & Sower Fund, and pray for Elders John Waddill, Alex, Jeff Downs, Lacy Andrews, and Charles Biggs.



**Please PRAY for PMA:** Pray for growth in grace and numbers at our **Culpeper, Virginia, Bible Study** as we begin meeting every 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> Tuesday evenings in May. Pray for our invitations and outreach. Pray for our planned launch of our **Berryville Bible Study** this summer. Pray that our faithful God would continue to increase our faith, stir up our zeal, and grant us humble and compassionate hearts of love in our church planting and evangelism in the Presbytery of the Mid Atlantic (Pray Rom. 12:9-13). Please pray for continued wisdom for our Home Missions Committee (Malkus, Barnes, Lee, Taylor, Van

Damm, and Franks). Pray for a faithful pastor for **Providence OPC, Charlottesville, VA**; praise God for **Rev. Bryce Souve, the new pastor at Bethel Reformed, Fredericksburg, VA**! Our God is faithful!

## Regional Home Missionary Ministry/Travel Schedule

Recent and Upcoming Ministry of the Word/RHM and Evangelism Presentations (Goals: visit each mission work at least once quarterly; visit each established PMA congregation every 6-8 weeks):

### Recent Visits/Ministry

- Word of Life- 1/7
- Culpeper Bible Study- 1/9
- West Creek- 1/14 & 1/21
- Trinity Reformed, Lanham, MD- 2/4 (AM)
- Grace, Vienna, VA- 2/4 (PM)
- Culpeper Bible Study- 2/6
- West Creek- 2/11 & 2/18
- Loudoun Classical School- 2/1 & 2/22
- Acacia Reformed- 2/25
- Word of Life- 3/3
- West Creek- 3/10 & 3/17
- Greenville Presbyterian Theological Seminary Missions Conference- 3/5-8
- Cottage School- 3/21, 4/25, 5/9
- Good Shepherd OPC- 3/24
- Culpeper Bible Study- 3/5, 4/2, 4/30, 5/7, 6/4
- Bethel, Fredericksburg- 4/6
- Knox OPC, Silver Spring- 4/7

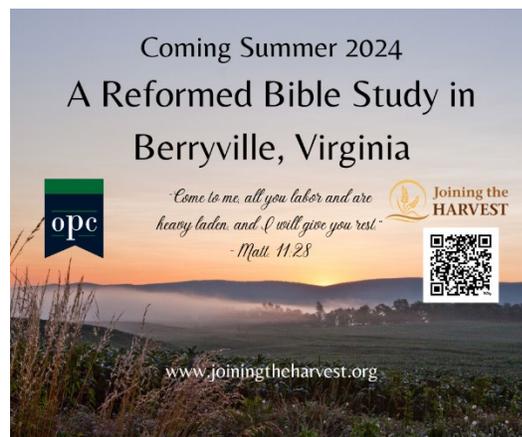
- West Creek OPC- 4/14 & 4/21

### Upcoming Visits/Ministry

- Tidewater Evangelism Conference- 5/4
- All Saints OPC, Suffolk, VA- 5/5
- VACATION- 5/11-5/27
- Ketocin Covenant OPC- 6/1
- Berryville, VA Outreach- June/July 2024
- West Creek- 6/9, 7/14
- Acacia Reformed- 6/16
- Word of Life- 6/30
- Good Shepherd OPC-7/4-7/7
- Bethel OPC, Leesburg, VA- 7/28
- Stanton OPC- 8/4
- Acacia Reformed-8/25
- New Hope OPC, Frederick, MD- 9/22
- Sterling OPC-9/29
- PMA Church Evangelism Conference- 10/5
- CHMCE- RECHEX Orlando, FL- Nov. 2024
- STUDY LEAVE/VACATION- 12/14-1/4/25

### Coming Soon

- **Tidewater Evangelism Conference:** Reformation OPC and All Saints OPC, Suffolk Virginia- 5/4-5/5 (J. Montgomery and me). Pray for much gospel fruit from this conference.
- **Summer 2024- Berryville Bible Study** begins in fellowship with Ketocin Covenant (KCPC). Please pray for [KCPC's capital building program](#) that will provide a permanent home base for future church planting and evangelism work.
- **October 2024- PMA Church Planting and Evangelism Conference** with Chris Byrd and Peter Lee at Bethel, Leesburg.
- **Get on our direct email distribution list for Announcements:** <https://joiningtheharvest.org/contact/>



**Prayer for RHM:** Our Lord graciously promises us *'All things*

*are possible for one who believes'* (Mark 9:23). Pray that our faithful God would continue to increase our faith, stir up our zeal, and grant us humble and compassionate hearts of love in our church planting and evangelism efforts. Pray for wisdom in planning launch of Berryville Bible Study and our upcoming Church Planting and Evangelism Conference on October 5. Pray for seed sown that our God will water and give the increase for His glory! Please pray for my family and me as we travel throughout the PMA and PSE. Pray that I would be a Spirit-filled humble servant, compassionate shepherd, and zealous, winsome evangelist for the glory of God and the extension of Christ's Kingdom.

## A Gospel Devotion: “I Will Be With You” (Exodus 3)

Our gracious God appears to Moses in a burning bush. He reveals Himself as the self-existent, eternal, unchangeable God of the covenant: **“I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham...”** (Exodus 3:6, 15-16). He assures Moses that he is His ambassador-servant called and sent by Him to Pharaoh in Egypt, the manifestation of the dragon-serpent-lord, so that His beloved, firstborn son (Exodus 4:22), would be redeemed from slavery and made a holy, worshiping people.

Moses responds to our faithful God with **“Who am I [to accomplish this redemption that you have called me to]?”** Or as we might say, **“Who, me?!”** And our faithful God responds assuringly and patiently with **“I will be with you”** (Exodus 3:12-13). We are inadequate, yet our God is adequate; we are weak, but He is strong (2 Cor. 12:9-10). Our God delights to make His great power and presence known through us. Though Moses responds (like us!) with the “Who, me?!” Our Lord Jesus said to His Father in the power of the Spirit, before the foundation of the world: **“Here am I, send me.”** And in the fullness of the times, He came as the Son over the house, the one greater than Moses (Gal. 4:4-7; Heb. 3:1-6). And He was faithful in His life, death, resurrection, and ascension to redeem His people from slavery and make them a people who worship in Spirit and truth!



Jesus tells His disciples on the night He is betrayed that He will not be with them in His ongoing bodily presence, but will be with them truly, really, yet spiritually by His Holy Spirit. He will not leave them as orphans, He will come to them by His Holy Spirit (John 14-16; cf. 14:18). He promises them that **“greater things they will accomplish”** (John 14:12-14) in church planting and evangelism than He has enjoyed because He has accomplished redemption and is going to the Father to mediate the Holy Spirit to His people in His fullness. He is to become the beloved life-giving Spirit for His people (1 Cor. 15:44-45)! Yet Jesus’s disciples respond like us: “Who, me?” “Who, us?! We are to go? How?” And He lovingly and patiently responds with **“I will be with you”**. And in our going, Jesus has promised that His people will be fruitful: **“You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit that will last and whatever you ask the Father in my name, He will do for you”** (John 15:16). These are the sweet truths of the Upper Room Discourse of Jesus.

Jesus lovingly and patiently assures His disciples that He has sent them, not to Pharaoh in Egypt, who was a mere manifestation of the dragon-serpent-lord, but to storm the gates of hell itself (Matt. 16:18; cf. Luke 10:18-20). Jesus empowers them by His Spirit, to be confident in His call and love. Christ sends His church to the ends of the earth to redeem His people from slavery to sin so that they become holy worshippers (John 4:23-24). This is what the end goal and joy of church planting and evangelism is: Worship of the Triune God in Christ, seeing God’s people redeemed from slavery to sin, fear of death, hard service to the tyrannical dragon-serpent-lord, and being made into a holy temple where God by His Spirit dwells for His glory and the good of His church and world (Eph. 2:1-22).

They do go in the power and the fullness of the Spirit as we see recorded in the Book of Acts. The Word of Grace increases, especially in times of opposition, trials, and persecution (6:7, 9:31, 12:24)! And although we have the powerful example of Christ’s promise of His Spirit, we too, alas, initially respond much like Moses and the disciples: “Who, us?!” And Christ says to His people, **“I will be with you to the end of the age!”** “Go, making disciples, baptizing, teaching, and being assured of my presence, power and love for you!” (Matt. 28:18-20). Beloved of Jesus, we are the called and sent ones, too (John 17:18; 20:21-22)! Let us go in the assurance that our God is with us, and that He will grant us a blessed harvest of souls that is beyond anything we could ask or imagine! (Eph. 3:20-21).

Do you believe this? How specifically is our faithful, covenant God calling you to support and to participate in church planting and evangelism? We are the called and sent ones. We are those called to spiritual warfare in the power of the Spirit, storming the gates of hell, to the ends of the earth, and being sanctified as we overcome temptations to comfort and fear. We are called to be faithful in making the gospel known in the power of Christ’s Spirit with gentleness and respect (1 Pet. 3:15). Our gracious and faithful God calls and sends us as His “Ambassador-Servants” in Christ to implore sinners to be reconciled to God; God is making His holy appeal through us: **“Be reconciled to God in Christ”** (cf. 2 Cor. 5:18-21). How will you respond to His call this day? -Love in Christ, Pastor Charles Biggs