



2024 REGIONAL HOME MISSIONARY YEAR-END REPORT- REV. CHARLES R. BIGGS

A Devotion on 2 Timothy 2:1-7

"Be strengthened by the grace that is in Christ Jesus..." (2 Tim. 2:1).

Read 2 Timothy 2:1-7. Our glorious God redeems us from slavery to sin, death, hell and the devil through



the precious blood of His Son. In Christ, He makes us sons through adoption (Eph. 1:3-6; Gal. 4:4-7). The Apostle Paul in 2 Timothy 2:1-7 teaches us to think in three specific ways about who we are as sons in Christ. We are sons who are soldiers; we are sons who are athletes; we are sons who are farmers. Our Risen-Ascended-Enthroned Christ at God's right hand strengthens us with all the grace we need to live this out (2:1).

As a Christian and particularly as a regional home missionary, I seek daily to remember these three aspects of who we are as sons, especially in the good work of church planting and evangelism. I often pray for myself, for our Home Missions team, for other RHMs and our church planters that we would realize these aspects of our adoption as sons each day. As soldiers, we would be faithful to Christ, our Risen-Ascended-Enthroned Savior and Covenantal friend, even as we suffer in union with Him (2:3). As athletes we would be committed to obedience and whole-hearted allegiance to our Lord, knowing that the Lord holds out a crown of glory for us (2:5). As farmers we would be diligent, hardworking and patient, for these are the necessary characteristics of faithful farmers (2:6). In all these things, as we do the work of church planting, our God will "give us understanding in everything" (2:7).

As God's sons, may we continue to fight the good fight, to keep the faith as soldiers, and to run the race with endurance looking to Jesus as strong, enduring athletes! (Heb. 12:1-2, 2 Tim. 4:7). But we can get so tired and grow weary sometimes! Yet, in Isaiah 40:28-31, we are reminded that our great and unchangeable God does not faint nor grow weary but promises to empower us and increase our strength when we are fainting and weary. He is able. We pray for "endurance, patience, with joy" (Col. 1:11) as hardworking farmers, looking expectantly to our faithful God for the growth! He strengthens us by the grace that is in Christ Jesus!

Let us pray using these images for church planting in the Presbytery of the Mid Atlantic!

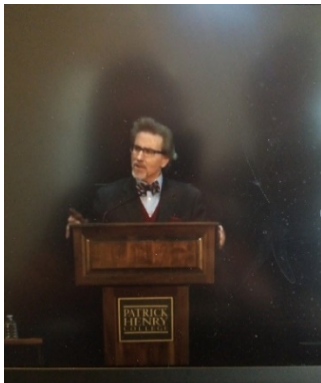
- 1) **Soldier**- We are soldiers in a battle in a war that has been won; and we are called by His grace "not to be entangled in civilian affairs but aim to please the One who has enlisted us" as warriors in His army. We put on the whole armor of God as we march in Christ to storm the gates of hell and to establish outposts of the age to come in this present darkness.
- 2) **Athlete**- We are to be determined and diligent in obedience to our Lord in reliance upon His strength and grace to run and finish the race. We run the race keeping our eyes on Jesus, the Author and Perfector of our faith!
- 3) **Farmer**- We are to be faithful, yet patient and expectant farmers as we sow, and also reap.

In 2024, the LORD has blessed me as RHM with many opportunities to promote church planting and evangelism and engage in other ministries.

- **Launching and teaching** two exploratory bible studies in Culpeper and Berryville, Virginia.
- Involved in the privilege of **shepherding and mentoring** several brothers.
- **Visiting our mission works** in the Presbytery of the Mid Atlantic for RHM presentations and the Ministry of the Word and Sacrament.
- **Visiting our established congregations** in the Presbytery of the Mid Atlantic for RHM presentations and the Ministry of the Word and Sacrament.



- Thankful to be involved in **regular outreach and several special outreach events** in the PMA. Thankful to teach on outreach at the Tidewater Evangelism Conference (PSE).
- Making several **new connections and developed relationships** toward future church planting in the PMA. Working with Pastor Kenneth Kim and his leaders in potentially joining the OPC in 2025.
 - Serving on **three provisional sessions** for our mission works.
- **Planning and hosting our Church Planting and Evangelism Conference** in October. Next conference is being planned for April 2026!



Speaking at Patrick Henry College

- **Teaching and gospel proclamation** at Patrick Henry College chapel, Providence Preparatory Academy, and Cottage Classical Consortium. Serving as theologian at Loudoun Classical School.
- **Co-hosting and teaching** the Shepherd's Voice Podcast with Pastor Ben Franks.
- **Updating, managing and communicating/advertising** through www.joiningtheharvest.org website and on social media outlets.
- **Attending Missions Conference** and Regional Church Extension (RECHEx) Conference for ongoing education and encouragement.
- Ministering at **ordination/installation services**
- **Serving on the Candidates and Credentials Committee** for the Presbytery of the Mid Atlantic.



Highlights/Praise and Prayer Requests from Our Mission Works

PLEASE PRAY FOR 5 NEW FAMILIES TO JOIN OUR MISSION WORKS AND BIBLE STUDIES! Pray for our God to raise up faithful elders and deacons for our mission works. Pray for our church planters/organizing pastors and their families: **John Paul Holloway, John Jee, Will Sloan (and very soon) Devin Gaye**. Pray specifically for Holy Spirit granted *“endurance and patience with joy”* (Col. 1:11), for strong faith in God’s promises (Rom. 4:20-21), and contentment and joy in the Holy Spirit (Phil. 4:13, 19). Pray for spiritual fruit in the outreach and invitation opportunities for our mission works (Jesus promises-John 14:12-14; 15:16). Pray for wisdom for our Home Missions Committee and our **provisional sessions** over our mission works.



Word of Life

Praise the LORD that a few godly men at [Acacia Reformed](#) (Manassas, VA) have been nominated for serving as officers! Pray for their training. Praise God that Malcolm Mouring has been received as a communicant member of Christ’s Church (see above pic)! Pray for this congregation to continue to grow in grace and numbers as she continues to move towards particularization by God’s favor and power.



Praise God for the baptism and reception of **Bruce Moore** into membership recently at [Word of Life](#) (Columbia, MD)! Praise God for **new members**, Forrest and Joey (see left pic). Praise God for new worship location, website, and logo! Enjoying an increase in members and visitors. Recently formed an evangelism committee to reach out to community. We are thankful that recently we celebrated our three-year anniversary! Our God is faithful.

Good Shepherd OPC

(Eastern Shore, VA) will continue as our mission work until the conclusion on December 31, 2024. Please pray with thanksgiving for Pastor Will and family as our faithful God has provided a call to Providence OPC in Charlottesville, Virginia! Pray that our God will continue to lead them in this transition in 2025 to use their gifts and continue to bless Christ’s Church! Please pray for the two families who love their pastor very much, that they will find a place where they may transfer their membership and to grow under another faithful shepherd of Christ’s flock. Pray for the seed that has been planted through Word, Worship and Witness on the Eastern Shore through this faithful ministry at Good Shepherd. **There is no failure in faithfulness. God’s Word will never return empty or void but will always accomplish His purposes and will succeed in the thing for which He sends it** (Isaiah 55:10-11; cf. John 14:12-14). With gratitude in Christ, we are thankful to have been a part of this mission work! We trust our Sovereign and loving God that He will be exalted and glorified in this, and that His Word will continue to work on the Eastern Shore by His power and grace (John 4:34-36). We are grateful for the many unseen tireless



and joyful labors of Pastor Will Sloan, as well as his dear wife Lauren. We are thankful for the provisional session of this congregation and the wisdom and guidance of our PMA Home Missions Committee.



Praise God for His faithfulness to His Beloved church as we launched the [Berryville Bible Study](#) this summer. Our God did above and beyond what we expected (Eph. 3:20-21)! Pray that our faithful God would continue to bring together committed, Christ-focused families. Pray for a deep love for Berryville, VA, with new converts through this study and outreach! We plan to meet every **4th Thursday evening of the month** and to increase our meetings in 2025 to **twice monthly!** We are thankful for Elder Trombadore, Mr. Sinclair, and Deacon Whitmore from KCPC for their generous and selfless service.

Pray for our [Culpeper, VA Bible Study](#) that the Lord would continue to bless it with good attendance and unity, and that our faithful God would use our outreach invitation cards to bring more visitors and new Christians. We meet on every 1st, 3rd, and 5th Tuesday evening. Elder Stephen Mouring and I continue to



gratefully teach the saints from the Book of Ephesians and the Westminster Confession of Faith.

Update on [West Creek OPC](#) (Short Pump, VA): It has been such a blessing shepherding and serving with Lacy Andrews in the Presbytery of the Southeast at West Creek (West Richmond/ Short Pump, VA). Andrew Miller and your RHM first met with the seed/core group in Autumn 2021. We began an

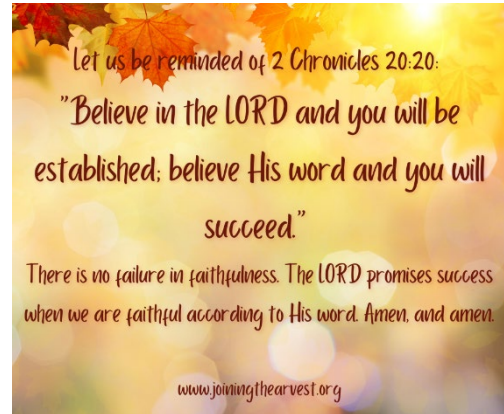
exploratory bible study in early 2022 and began worship services in Autumn of 2022. This has been a gospel partnership between the PMA and the PSE. We are grateful for new members and visitors! We are grateful that **Knox OPC** (PSE), the mother congregation of our **West Creek** mission work, unanimously voted to call Devin Gaye as our church planter/organizing pastor in early 2025. Hallelujah, our God is faithful. Please pray for Devin, Megan, Sophia, James and Baby Emma during this time. / Another wonderful opportunity I enjoyed with the Presbytery of the Southeast was participating as a speaker with Jeremiah Montgomery at their **Tidewater Evangelism Conference** in Spring 2024!

The Presbytery of the Mid Atlantic enjoyed a very practical conference on church planting and evangelism on Saturday, October 5th at Bethel OPC in Leesburg, Virginia. We were blessed to have Dr. Peter Lee, Professor of Old Testament at Reformed Theological Seminary, D.C., who guided us through Scripture to see our covenantal God as the true church planter. The Rev. Chris Byrd, Regional Home Evangelist for the Presbytery of New Jersey, equipped us all to prayerful, bold evangelism in our daily lives. We enjoyed rich fellowship and a delicious lunch catered by Deacon Pat Whitmore! Please pray that our faithful God will bring much fruit from this year's conference and seminar. To watch the conference: www.joiningtheharvest.org/resources



Prayers for Your Regional Home Missionary

Please pray for (1) Joy and spiritual insights in my prayers, preparation, and preaching/teaching of God's Word; (2) Continued favor, safety, and blessing for my family "Biggs Team RHM" as we travel many miles together (especially with Esther's car sickness); (3) Pray for wisdom as our Home Missions Team shepherd the conclusion of our Good Shepherd mission work in December 2024; pray for Pastor Will to have good transition to a pulpit ministry as shepherd-teacher; (4) Pray for Culpeper and Berryville Bible Studies to grow in numbers and grace; (5) More open doors for the gospel (Col. 4:2-6). (6) Wisdom as I serve on three sessions. (7) Fruitfulness according to Jesus's promises in John 14:12-14, 15:16.



2025-26 Prayers for Planning and Goals of Your Regional Home Missionary for the Glory of God!



(1) As a husband, father, minister of the Gospel, to grow more in holiness, humility, and honesty by God's grace.

(2) To continue eagerly and joyfully to support, shepherd, and serve our church planters and mission works in the PMA.

(3) To continue diligently to shepherd-lead our exploratory Bible Studies in Culpeper and Berryville, Virginia. Increase meeting times for study in Berryville in 2025 as God allows. To work on assisting Pastor Kenneth Kim and leadership on potentially transitioning into the OPC in 2025.



Thankful for Faithful Brothers and Mentors

(4) Seek to visit one of our organized PMA congregations every 6-8 weeks for RHM reports/updates and Ministry of God's Word.



PMA Evangelism Conference 2024

(5) Plan and lead outreach opportunities with our PMA congregations, including our 2025-26 Church Planting and Evangelism Conference we are already planning.

(6) Consider possible locations for future church plants along I-81 from Staunton to Winchester, VA. If you know of folks who may be interested in towns like New Market, VA, Strausburg, VA, Woodstock, Va, Stephens City, VA, please send me their contact information.

(7) To seek with excellence and diligence to communicate prayer requests and updates regularly to our regional church and her congregations.

Highlights from the RECHEX Conference

Topic: Encouraging and Supporting Church Planters

Home Missions Chairman, Gerry Malkus and I had the privilege of going to another annual Regional Church Extension Conference in Orlando, Florida, the first week of November. We gathered with other regional home missionaries and representatives of home missions' committees in our larger church for a time of prayer, fellowship, and learning. We were grateful for the learning, vision-casting, and setting of goals with prayer and edification. Here are a few highlights that we learned together:

- Continue to provide prayer and compassionate shepherding care for the wife and family of our church planters. Church planting can be very lonely- Do your evangelists/church planters know you are praying for them? Remind them of how our God is answering prayer.



time).

- Anything we can do in public, seek to do in public. Praying in public at hospitals, malls, courthouse, other public places- Prayer signs with invitations.
- As Home Missions Team and RHMs, seek to be available at all times as a loving, patient mentor-servant-shepherds.
- Encourage our evangelists/church planters to share both encouragements and discouragements.
- Remember the challenge of all our hearts as we do the work of church planting and evangelism, we must keep Christ and His word central. Our hearts are “prone to wander”! Are we Christ-aware? Are we becoming spiritually more self-aware in the presence of Christ?

- Keep an eye on our most important relationships (with Jesus, Spouse, Congregation and Community). Ask particular questions, such as:

- How are you doing in your relationship with Jesus? How is your soul?

- How is your marriage doing? How are you and your wife growing?

- Encourage the evangelist/church planter to always be outward looking and make connections in the community (at least 10-15 % of the



- When seeking a church planter, remember: How is their preaching (the primary means for building up, gathering, converting, etc.)? Is their preaching easy to follow? What is their vision for church planting and shepherding Christ’s flock? Are they a good match for the congregation and culture/community of this particular congregation?
- Remember that trials are opportunities to grow in grace and humility to accompany the gifts that our Savior has granted to us by His Spirit.
- “Know your church tradition, love your church tradition, grow your church tradition.” (M. Silva?). Because of the biblical church tradition, we gratefully possess in the Orthodox Presbyterian Church, a church plant can know what a healthy biblical church is supposed to look like.



Co-Laborers, Servants, and Friends in Church Planting and Evangelism

So, You Want to Daughter a Church?!

Suggested Timeline/Steps for Planting a Daughter Church in the PMA

Regional Home Missionary, Rev. Charles R. Biggs

“I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.”

1. **Prayer:** As pastor and officers with RHM, begin praying with great expectations and hopefulness in how Jesus can use your congregation as an instrument of sowing seed for another field for harvest, another outpost of heaven where sinners can find hope in Christ and become worshipers in Spirit and truth. *Remember: We must remember that nothing can be truly accomplished for Christ apart from prayer (Read Acts 1:14, 24; 2:42-47; 3:1; 4:23-31; 6:4; Eph. 6:18-20; Rom. 12:12)! Let us pray continually in union with Christ for the zeal of the Holy Spirit (John 15:1-7). Let us be reminded that planting fruitful, enduring, flourishing churches is ultimately because of prayer and the work of the Holy Spirit. Meditate upon: “Not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit says the LORD” (Zech. 4:6 and larger, post-exilic context of building the temple).*
2. **Read/Discuss:** Read together as pastor and officers [‘Planting an Orthodox Presbyterian Church’](#). Begin to set apart times in session meetings to pray about and discuss together. Invite RHM to come and answer any questions that you might have. *Remember: “Expect great things from our faithful God; attempt great things for our God” (Meditate upon: Eph. 3:20-21; John 14:12-14). Remember that we are a people on mission, sent by God through Christ’s meditation, empowered and endued by His Holy Spirit (John 17:18; 20:21-23).*
3. **Presbyters-Elders Meeting:** Meet with RHM to discuss formally; meet together with other congregations who have already daughtered a congregation for wisdom and encouragement. *Remember: Pray for wisdom, ask for wisdom, seek guidance from others and God will be pleased to bless your efforts. Learn what to do, and what NOT to do in church planting.*
4. **Set Specific Goals:** Think about a specific time in the future when you would desire to see this daughter church implemented (e.g. “September 2026”). Think about specific locations, particularly where some of in your congregation already live, or where you know there is a need for a Gospel outreach. Be watchful, sober-minded, and careful here. *Remember: Jesus is the exalted, enthroned, King of kings and Lord of lords: “Being therefore exalted at the right hand of God, and having received from His Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, He has poured out this...Spirit” (Acts 2:33). Our exalted Priest-King is intent on further storming the gates of hell through your endeavor; He promises to build His church! You can expect some push back, affliction, difficulties in this godly mission, but it is worth it for God’s glory. We should remember that throughout the Book of Acts, the church grew through persecution (this repeated time and again). This gives us a reminder that God builds His church in ways that are paradoxical and even strange to us (His ways are not our ways!). Through subtraction, God builds and extends His church and His kingdom. So, we learn that when churches were reduced, they actually grew in size, by way of extension for more locations and more communities and more people having an outpost of heaven in their midst where Jesus sits enthroned as the High-Priest-King who calls and receives sinners through the ordinary means of grace.*
5. **Present/Discuss with Congregation:** Present ideas/vision to congregation, seek to have a conversation about this future expectation and hope for the congregation to work together for unity, peace, and the propagation of the Gospel for the extension of Christ’s Kingdom. Encourage members to read [‘Planting](#)

[an Orthodox Presbyterian Church'](#). Remember: Seek peace and pursue it; be eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace (Phil. 4:2-5). Teach the saints this truth: "They overcame [the enemy] through the blood of the Lamb, by the word of their testimony and did not love their lives even unto death" (Revelation 12:11). We seek to trust in the Word of God, to boldly speak our testimony, and to be self-denying in the church planting process because Christ in and through us is further binding the strong man, storming the gates of His foul and dark kingdom, and crushing the head of the Dragon-Serpent-Lord. Amen, and amen.

6. **Budget:** Place a line item in your budget to begin to put aside funding for daughter church (if you haven't already), for deposit in a separate account for daughter church, and for a future church planter (begin praying for God to provide the ideal church planter). *Meditation: My God shall supply all of your needs according to His riches in glory! (Phil. 4:19).*
7. **Regional Home Missionary:** Invite RHM to come and present and give presentations on this exciting new venture and vision. Encourage RHM to publish the desires and goals of mother congregation for daughter church in his prayer newsletter so that others may be praying and informed about this new endeavor for the glory of God.
8. **Interviewing/Discussion:** As elders think of a few families who regionally live in the new area or community (such as "Berryville, VA or Culpeper, VA") and talk to them about their willingness to be part of a seed-group (formerly called "core group"). Measure their maturity and desires, etc. Ask the RHM to help with these interviews at some point if useful. Invite all to be a part, but seek specifically to get at least 8-10 families willing to serve as a seed-group, knowing fully the kind of sacrifice it takes to lay a foundation at a mission work, etc. Seek to interview 1-2 officers, preferably, ideally one deacon and one elder. *Remember: We desire to have families who are interested in a church plant for more than comfort and convenience of location, although that can be good. But more importantly, let them be those who desire to die so that others can live through the establishment of a Gospel outpost of heaven for God's glory and the good of the community. The leaders of the church plant must be those who demonstrate this in their life. [If the seed group doesn't die, then a church will never live](#) (Meditate upon: John 12:23-32).*

***In God's good providence, the following steps may work out in a variety of ways and time frames.
Please read Pastor Al Tricarico's excellent article: ["Mother-Daughter Church Planting"](#)***

9. **Bible Study:** At some point between discussion with congregation and with implementation in "September 2026", an exploratory Bible study begins ideally in a person's home near where you want the church to be located in new area of Berryville (perhaps on an evening of the week or a Lord's Day afternoon if it doesn't interfere or distract from public worship services in the mother congregation). If not a home, then an ideal, affordable, and visible location. RHM, Pastor and Elders may lead Bible study in rotation, studying God's Word and highlights from *['Planting an Orthodox Presbyterian Church'](#)* together. Eager, intentional, vigorous evangelism should begin at this point in the area.
10. **Presbytery of Mid Atlantic:** Reception and Recognition as formal mission work of the PMA, seek denominational funding, and prayerfully seek a church planter. If there are 20 adult members of the seed group, you may apply for the OPC Home Missions' *["Seed and Sower" Funding](#)*. *Remember as an end goal of this process: "So the church [of the PMA region] had peace and was being built up. And walking in the fear of the Lord and in the comfort of the Holy Spirit, it multiplied" (Acts 9:31).*

11. **RHM Teaches with Pastor/Elders:** RHM continues to minister Gospel and Sacraments with pastor and elders as they seek a church planter and to train officer candidates.

This is a recommended timeline to consider prayerfully and to help you get started. If any suggestions, and/or you have any questions, please contact your regional home missionary:
crbiggs@comcast.net

CRB/Regional Home Missionary/December 2024

Thank you for the privilege of serving as your Regional Home Missionary! I am very grateful.

May your Advent and Christmastide be God-glorifying and joyful for you and family!

In Jesus, I am your brother, servant, and friend,

Charles R. Biggs, ThM



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