



Wings **OF TRUTH**

Official Publication of the State of Virginia Church of God of Prophecy

November/December 2009



From The Overseer's Desk:

Robert Davis, State Overseer

"I Can Pray – I Can Love -I Can Forgive" Section II-"I can LOVE...!"

(This is the second of three sections from the State overseer's message from the 81st State Convention)

In John 13:33-35

*"Little children, yet a little while I am with you. Ye shall seek me: and as I said unto the Jews, Whither I go, ye cannot come; so now I say to you. **A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another. By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another.**" - KJV*

The NIV says it like this -

*"My children, I will be with you only a little longer. You will look for me, and just as I told the Jews, so I tell you now: Where I am going, you cannot come. "A new command I give you: **Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.**"*

Notice the emphasis on the words "By this. . ." Nothing else ever quite so clearly demonstrates our discipleship as our love for one another.

Nothing else reveals our allegiance to Christ more clearly than our love for each other.

The sad commentary is there's nothing else that more clearly reveals the **absence of an allegiance to or the absence of true discipleship** than the **absence of a deep, heartfelt love one to another.**

In Ezekiel chapter 37 verses 1-3 the Bible tells us;

*The hand of the Lord was upon me, and **carried me out in the spirit** of the Lord, and **set me down in the midst of the valley** which was **full of bones**, And caused me to pass by them round about: and, behold, there were very many in the open valley; and, lo, **they were very dry.***

There are some key observations:

- There was nothing left but bones.
- The bones were the evidence of what was once, a great army.
- The bones served only as a reminder that there was once something that was alive.
- The bones were dry and had no life. The prophet describes them "very DRY. . .".
- They had feelings for no one including the bones lying next to them.

- They didn't have any passion.
- The valley was full of them.

God spoke to Ezekiel:

*And he said unto me, Son of man, **can these bones live?**
And I answered, O Lord God, thou knowest.*

If these bones were to live, there would have to be drastic changes.

- "VITAL ORGANS" would have to be generated
- Sinews and blood veins would have to be generated
- All senses of "LIFE" would have to be rejuvenated
- The bones would once again need to become reunited forming one functioning body

Ezekiel describes the power and force needed to cause such a phenomenal Change.

Ezekiel 37:4

*Again he said unto me, Prophecy upon these bones, and say unto them, O ye dry bones, **hear the word of the LORD**.*

Was it possible that there was such miraculous power in the spoken WORD OF GOD that a miracle on this measure would occur?

Clearly that was the directive from God. He told Ezekiel to say "hear the WORD OF THE LORD".

The bones didn't have ears. . . Yet the Prophet moved by the Spirit of God begins to command the bones to obedience. He told them to listen as GOD'S WORDS were spoken. . .

In verse 5, he says,

*Thus saith the Lord GOD unto these bones; Behold, **I will cause breath to enter into you, and ye shall live:***

"Ye Shall live... believe this is what God is calling on our ministers today to do. Ministers are called to listen to Him, speak what He tells them and trust Him.

We just not only hear but rise to the challenge from heaven and call on our congregations to

*Hear the spoken word of the Lord and **let life come into our congregations:***

- "FEELINGS" would have to return
- We have far too long existed in the valley where death cast it's long shadow.
- So long O' Lord have we been here. We have experienced only meager growth and our gathering effect is only minimal.
- There appears to be only dry bones - HISTORY. . .
- The valley is filled with bones that are LONG past any hope.
- O' Lord you see our desolation. You alone know if

Letter from the Editor

“Do you wear a cross or bear a cross”



Ron Boyd

I was reading an article the other day about a minister eating lunch in a restaurant. He glanced over observing a young woman wearing a beautiful sparkling cross. He pointed to the cross and mouthed the word “Christian”, she with a puzzling look shrugged her shoulder signifying she didn’t understand what he was saying. He pointed to his chest and saying you’re wearing a cross, Christian? She now realizing what he was saying and holding the tip of her cross with her fingers replied, “No, just a little bit of bling”.

Crosses are very much in vogue today. They no longer only adorn church steeples, buildings and sanctuaries. They are hung on houses, as pieces of artwork in homes. It’s virtually impossible to go through a day without seeing throngs of individuals both men and women wearing crosses.

Today I decided I would take inventory counting the number of crosses surrounding my personal life. I discovered that I had crosses in several rooms of my house, even two in my landscape. Furthermore there are two iron crosses lying on our patio table that need to be hung somewhere. We recently moved and I have yet to decide where to hang them. I walked in my office and quickly spotted two. I suppose you could gather from my inventory count that “I love the cross”. And that would indeed be a correct assumption. However that jump started my thought process.

Being surrounded by crosses does not make me Christian or even spiritual. The importance is not that I wear the cross, but rather that I bear the cross. The cross is the premier symbol of Christianity. Someone once stated that by looking at the cross we can see the face of God. While the cross is beautiful, we must never forget that it was an instrument of death. On the cross our savior suffered, bled and died. It was an instrument of torture and through Christ’s death and resurrection, we live.

For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God
1 Corinthians 1:18

The very first words of Jesus to Peter were “Follow me, and I will make you a fisher of men.” His very last words to Peter by the sea of Galilee, following His resurrection were, “Feed my sheep, Follow me.” Jesus’ mission never changed during his three year ministry. The mission of the church must not change. Our mission must never change.

I remember as a child hearing this section of an old hymn., “Must Jesus bear the cross alone and all the world go free. No there’s a cross for every man and there’s a cross for me”. “And when he had called the people unto him with his disciples also, he said unto them, Whosoever will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me”. Mark 8:34

To bear the cross means we say no to earthly ambitions, we deny ourselves take up our cross and follow Christ. If we lose our life, we find it. Take a look around you right now, take inventory of the number of crosses surrounding you or that you can see at this very moment. Maybe you’re in your home, office or even in church. No doubt what you will see is a beautiful piece of artwork. Possibly you can see someone wearing a cross right now, even you yourself. Now ask yourself this question, Do you wear a cross, or bear a cross? “And he that taketh not his cross, and followeth after me, is not worthy of me” Matthew 10:38

From The Overseer's Desk:

we shall live. You alone know if this death shall be reproved. You alone can command this shadow to leave us. You alone can command the light and thy glory to shine on us. Our only hope lies in thy loving kindness and great mercy.

- O' Lord I plead with thee, to cast death and its long shadow from us.
- O' Lord I pray, command thy light and thy life and thy glory to shine upon us.

Let thy life come. . .

We will stand to our feet and praise thee. . .

Let thy life come. . .

We will lift our hands and bow our heads before thee. . .

Let us proclaim:

O' Lord. . . The GLORY is THINE & THINE ALONE. . .
The MAJESTY is THINE & THINE ALONE. . .

All PRAISE and HONOR and GLORY are THINE and THINE ALONE. . . !!!

Father, we repent of our lack of love.

Father, we're sorry that we've not loved each other like you've loved us. . .

Please forgive us.

We will come together. . . !!

We will unite. . . !!

We will love. . . !!

We will let the world know that you are in us. And that your love still abides on this earth in us.

Because we WILL LOVE ONE Another!!!

We hear your words Lord. . 1 John 4:20

If a man say, I love God, and hateth his brother, he is a liar: for he that loveth not his brother whom he hath seen, how can he love God whom he hath not seen?

Let the resounding anthem be declared from every pulpit to every congregation in Virginia

"We will love one another!"

Overseer says "Thanks!"

We would like to thank the State of Virginia for all of the expressions of love you have extended to us throughout the convention, our birthdays and anniversaries. You have been so very kind and thoughtful. We appreciate the cards, gifts and offerings but most of all your love and prayers.

God Bless you.

Robert & Maryann Davis.



Friday, November 27, 2009 6:00-9:00 p.m.

Singing, Light Refreshments & Nativity

For further information contact Barbara Gravely
540-297-5205 pastorgravely@yahoo.com

2009-2010 Virginia Calendar of Events

Nov. 13-14..... Virginia School of Theology,
Prayer: It's Power & Purpose

Dec. 11-12..... Virginia School of Theology,
The Teacher Priest

2010

Jan. 8-9..... Virginia School of Theology,
Spiritual Fathering

Jan. 15-17..... Youth Harvest Training, Murfreesboro, TN

Feb. 12-13 Virginia School of Theology,
Peter: The Man and Ministry

Mar. 5-7..... Virginia Couples Retreat, Williamsburg, VA

Mar. 12-13..... Youth Workers Training "Remedy"
Church of God Campground

Mar. 13-14..... Virginia School of Theology,
Training for Reigning I

Apr. 5-10 Work Week at Camp Lowman

Apr. 9-10 Virginia School of Theology,
Training for Reigning II

Apr. 10..... Virginia Children's Worker
One-Day Intensive Location TBA

Apr. 23-25 Spring Youth Retreat
Ages 12-22, Camp Lowman

April 30-May 2 Virginia Ladies Retreat Gatlinburg, TN

May 14-15..... Virginia School of Theology, Preaching

May 14-15..... Men's Day at Camp Lowman

June 4-6..... Hot Shot Camp Ages 5-7

June 23-26..... Junior Ages 8-10

June 26-July 1 Senior High Ages 14-19

July 2-July 7 Senior Ages 11-13

July 27-August 1 General Assembly, Greensboro, NC

Sept. 18-23 5 Day Bahamas Cruise-Heritage Ministries

Oct. 1-3 Fall Youth Retreat Ages 12-22 Camp Lowman

October TBA..... Virginia Seniors Trip

Virginia Ladies Events



GLASGOW LADIES DAY



MAX MEADOWS LADIES DAY

The Max Meadows church hosted its first "Ladies Night Out" with Sister Kay Osban on October 23rd. The evening began with a pot luck dinner. Sister Kay Osban shared her wonderful sense of humor and we viewed a Patsy Clairmont DVD. The evening closed with a skit entitled "Listen for the Bell", which was a real blessing. We would like to thank Sister Kay for being our special guest speaker and for such a great evening of comedy, fun, food, fellowship and worship. We look forward to making this an annual event. Approximately 80 ladies from several different churches enjoyed the event. We would like to thank all the ladies for sharing the evening with us.

Dianne Jonas, Reporter



2009 Bi-Annual State Convention

The 2009 Virginia Church of God of Prophecy State Convention is now past and recorded in the pages of history, but what a glorious memory recorded in the minds and hearts of the 2,000 delegates that met in late July. Certainly this 81st convention was one of the best many attendees ever recall. The theme "I can pray, love, and forgive", was manifested throughout the entire weekend. Administrative Bishop, Robert F. Davis, Jr. did an excellent job in promoting the spirit of love and unity through this unique and challenging theme.

There are many images or snapshots we will forever hold close in our hearts and minds of this convention. The altar services where the power of God moved mightily and many souls were rejoicing filled to overflowing with the blessings of salvation, sanctification and the baptism of the Holy Spirit. Many speakers encouraged the congregation, beginning Thursday evening with Bishop H.E. Cardin, our international representative from the Church of God of Prophecy. Dr. Renfro shared a wonderful testimony of healing and faith for the Friday evening service, and Bishop Davis preached the most powerful message of his tenure on Saturday evening. Sunday morning brought another uplifting, anointed message by Brian Forrester. There were so many wonderful messages, we cannot begin to list each one, just simply say the word of God was presented by many anointed men and women of God.

Other highlights included special recognition and honor bestowed upon our overseer and his wife, Mary Ann. This was a special time of remembrance by their entire family present for the convention as well as the state staff and ministry of Virginia. Tears of love flowed, and smiles of fondness as Broth Davis was





surprised on Saturday morning and Sis Davis surprised with her shower of love and gifts on Sunday morning, by Peggy Brown and the pastoral ladies of Virginia. Joanne Dennis also gave a moving tribute to retired and deceased ministers. At the close of the convention, there was also a very moving tribute paid to the late Larry Dotson, a former minister and pastor in Virginia.



The youth and children of Virginia were encouraged by former state youth director Jason Vernon and current state youth director David Brown. Special emphasis was placed on youth in missions and FIRE teams, by Ron and Robbie Boyd. Children's Convention "Wanted by God" was conducted simultaneously throughout the convention with a team of volunteers, and Alma Boyd. Over 100 kids had a chance to pray and learn how to love and forgive, in keeping with the general theme of the convention.



This year each session was blessed by different churches leading worship and special singing. We were treated to a wide variety of music genres and choirs. The convention congregation eagerly anticipated each session and what a musical delight it was!



Brother Davis and the state staff would like to say thank you, to all the special, dedicated staff that helped to coordinate each part of this convention. If you missed this convention, make plans to attend the next one, it will renew your spirit and refresh your soul.



Alma Boyd



Church Reports

CODY

We held a fun day for our children with inflatable games, clowns, face painting, tattoos, and balloon animals. We also had craft tables set up for the children to choose things they would like to do. We had a free hot dog meal for all who came and all of the children received a treat bag to take home. This was a wonderful day of fun and good fellowship.

Mother's and Father's Days were special at Cody. We have several mothers at our church 80 and older who have been with our church for most of their lives. Mothers and Fathers were honored with gifts on these days. On Mother's and Father's Day respectively we honored our pastor and wife, Dollie and Lacy King with a special gift. They are both such blessings to our church.

Other activities include singings and a fund raiser for our building fund in which a beautiful quilt and two Wal-Mart cards were given away. Our State Overseer Robert Davis and his wife, Maryann recently visited us. Two joined the church that same Sunday.

Our homecoming was held in September. The Clover Praise and Worship Team were our special guests. Two deacons were recently set forth in our local church.

We are looking forward to more good things to happen in the future.

Louise Rudder Reporter

REGION 6

For Area #6 we had our first annual pig picking and picnic, it was hosted at the Chris Osborne farm, and the money raised during the year went to pay for all of the food. We had a great time with singing, music, hayrides,



four wheeling, and of course lots of good food. Roy & Louise Rudder were in charge of getting this arranged for our district. We were really pleased with the attendance of 120 people many of whom won door prizes. We are having our fifth Sunday singings and hope that all of our pastors and churches will participate.

*Louise Rudder
District Reporter*



FREDERICKSBURG MCKINNEY STREET

The McKinney Street Youth Department would like to congratulate Loretta Pittman and Skylar Frye for their recent graduation from James Monroe High School. Since February, the Youth department has sponsored a Sunday fellowship at Foster's Grille, in order to raise money for the Scholarship fund. Area churches were invited and family and friends joined us once a month to enjoy burgers, wings, milkshakes, etc. while Foster's Grille donated 20% of the proceeds to the Scholarship Fund. We are grateful for the fellowship with the White Oak Ministries youth at our May Foster's Fellowship!

We are proud to announce that Skylar Frye has been accepted at Old Dominion University! We were able to bless both young ladies with a graduation gift, and Skylar was able to receive a gift from the Scholarship fund to help pay for her books. We anointed and prayed for both graduates in a special service and celebrated with the graduates at Foster's Grille in June. Our prayers are with them

Church Reports

both as they embark on their futures!

In August, we celebrated Bishop Williams' sixth anniversary at McKinney Street. The Pastor's anniversary committee worked hard sponsoring various events including yard sales, bake sales, and revival services to fund this celebration.

During the celebration we enjoyed a talent show featuring local talent, a concert by David Beale and the Spiritual Keys of Harmony, and were blessed with dynamic preaching from Bishop Champion from True Deliverance Church and Rev. Kevin Poole from the First Church of Love. The anniversary events culminated with a fellowship service where Sis. Dale Marshall brought a wonderful message of encouragement, district Pastors Bro. Kevin Chung and Bro. Charlie Jones shared words of encouragement. Bro. Williams' family and relatives from Pennsylvania came to celebrate, and we enjoyed a fantastic meal catered by Famous Dave's.



FAITH FELLOWSHIP (SALEM)

We've had a good summer culminating with our cook outs. Each of these was well attended and a great time of fellowship. During September, one joined the church and ten were baptized.

We recently finished our studies on Revelation. There have been great messages and an average of 45 in attendance.

Joyce Shusher



NARROWS

We recently culminated a successful Vacation Bible School at Narrows directed by Misty Rice and Tammy Stafford. Ronnie Hinson recently blessed us in word and song during his three hour concert

THE HEART OF WORSHIP MINISTRIES

September 13, 2009, Robert Dail was our guest speaker. He has been attending our church until a life threatening illness hindered his attendance. He is a very knowledgeable expository speaker with a vast knowledge of the Bible. His style was enjoyable and a blessing. He and his wife, Virginia were a blessing. Continue to remember them in your prayers. Bishop Larry Smith from Rustburg, Virginia recently passed away.

ROCKY MOUNT

Our seniors were treated to a delicious dinner prepared by Suzanne Trout. There were 25 in attendance. Pam Sink brought our third Sunday message and two accepted Christ as their Savior. We enjoyed our annual Sunday School picnic on the fourth Sunday of September.

Carolyn Sloan

SOUTHWEST DISTRICT REVIVAL

The Southwest District held a traveling district revival with Brother Geary Jonas preaching the opening message and Brother Mark and Sister Brenda Mitchell preaching the remainder of the services. The revival was scheduled for October 14-17 and God blessed in such a mighty way that it was extended to October 19 and 20. The services were held at the Richlands, Saltville, Bluefield, Abingdon, North Tazewell and Glade Spring churches. We were blessed with anointed preaching and singing every night. We praise the Lord for his wonderful blessings for the Southwest District.

Dianne Jonas, Reporter

couples Retreat 2010

March 5-7

WOODLANDS HOTEL & SUITES

WILLIAMSBURG, VIRGINIA



Join us as we travel to Colonial Williamsburg, the birthplace of our nation as we "settle" down for a rebirth of our marriages. As a couple you can rewrite your history and lay your "arms" down as you rediscover one another. There will be plenty of time to take a walk along the nearby beaches, tour Colonial Williamsburg, search out bargains at one of the outlets or just relax. We're coming back to Old Virginia so plan on joining us! Cost of Retreat includes, two nights accommodation, (2) continental breakfasts Saturday & Sunday, welcome gift, snacks and all the sessions as well as the workshops. \$280 regular room & \$310 King Suite. Discount tickets to Colonial Williamsburg will be available.

All rooms will be assigned on a first come basis, so get your application and deposit in early. All deposits are fully refundable until 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, December 31, 2009, except for a \$75.00 processing fee, cost of two (2) nights lodging after December 31. NOTE: Once rooms are booked, we are responsible for the cost. Reservations are subject to room availability at the hotel. Regular Rooms have two full-size beds. Suites have a King bed with a separate sitting room and kitchenette

\$280 Regular Room

\$310 King Suite

"Rewriting History"

2010 COUPLES' RETREAT APPLICATION

COUPLES' NAME: _____ and _____
(Husband) (Wife) (Last Name(s))

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

PHONE: (____) _____ - _____ ANNIVERSARY DATE: ____/____/____
(Area Code) (Number) (Month) (Day) (Year)

HOME CHURCH: _____ PASTOR: _____



\$280-Regular / \$310-King Suite if deposit of \$80 (reg.) \$95(suite) received between 10/16/09 & 12/15/09

\$300-Regular / \$330-King Suite if deposit of \$90 (reg.) \$105(suite) received after 12/16/09

Full balance must be paid by January 15, 2010.

Deposit Enclosed: \$ _____ Room Type _____

Send to: Couples' Retreat, P. O. Box 158, Troutville, VA 24175-0158

Phone: (540) 992-1396 State Office Fax: (540) 992-2861

E-mail: ronboyd@ntelos.net

Children's Worker Training

*April 10, 2010 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.
Lynchburg Church of God of Prophecy*

*Special Guest: Kathy Creasy
International Children's Director*

Cost: \$30 in advance \$40 (Day of Event)

*For further information contact
Children's Ministries*

423-559-5328 or 540-992-3696

ronboyd@ntelos.net

*Take advantage of having the expertise of this gifted
children's minister for this one day **intensive**.*

*Cost includes materials, lunch
and breaks.*

*Invest in your ministry,
invest in your children!*

*Save the
Date*



Wings of Truth is the official Publication of the Church of God of Prophecy in Virginia. Advocating full salvation, the blessings and experiences as recorded in the Bible. Nothing published that tends to hinder the progress of the Church. Articles that refer to the Church of God, have reference to the Church of God of Prophecy. Wings of Truth is published bimonthly by the Church of God of Prophecy Administrative Offices. Please submit all material to Wings of Truth Editor; 3815 Lee Highway, P O Box 158 Troutville, VA 24175-0158; 540-992-3696; e-mail us at ronboyd@ntelos.net.

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VA Youth Webpage - www.vayouth.org

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www.virginiacogop.org

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