

THE NORTHERN LIGHTS

Let your light shine before men Matthew 5:16

A Publication of the Northern Territory of The Church of God Jerusalem Acres

July 2011

FROM THE DESK OF THE TERRITORIAL OVERSEER

Greetings in the name of Jesus!

The month of June was a very exciting month beginning with the Feast of Pentecost which was a powerful Feast. We witnessed the ministry part of the pattern being filled for the first time this side of the Dark Ages, with men from no less than twelve countries! What an amazing God we serve! We also saw such a passionate desire for missions in our people that we were able to raise \$25,000.00 without a very big push. We are sending ministry to the Philippines and also to Argentina to further our work in both of these countries. In addition to this, we were blessed by the ministry in song, dance, word and through the exceptional power of the Holy Spirit, what a glorious feast!!

We also celebrated Father's Day this month with dinners to honor our natural fathers. This included teaching and ministry to honor our Heavenly Father, Yahweh God! This is a great time to honor all our men in the church and to mentor our younger men by example. I hope everyone took time to honor your father or someone's father if yours is not here.

Vacation Bible School was next on the list with a great teaching on "I

Believe" headed up by our new youth director in Youngstown, Sister Virginia Dohey and a group of dedicated workers. Our VBS was a joint effort with students and teachers from several of our churches. My thanks to all of you who helped in any way to make this work a success. The children were blessed and learned what they believe.

Our month closed out with a Sabbath School Picnic at Mammoth Park, with Sabbath school superintendent Harold Piper and all the Sabbath school teachers there to provide fun and games for everyone. The fellowship was good and the food was terrific. Everyone that I talked to said what an enjoyable time they had. Thanks to all who helped to make this picnic the best ever!!

July came in with a "bang" as we celebrated Independence Day on the 4th. We participated in a local parade with a good turnout of marchers, riders and dancers all headed up by Bishop Roy Piper our territory C.M.A. director. Great job on the parade everyone!! Then to another picnic at Mammoth Park to enjoy good food, good fellowship and good rest after the heat of the parade.

Family Camp will be in full swing by the time this article is published, with

our guest speaker for the week Presiding Bishop Samuel Kramer coming from our Headquarters in Cleveland, TN. We are anticipating a great week with teaching, games, preaching and more good fellowship around the campfires.

The month of July will end out with our annual Teen Camp. Both Family Camp and Teen Camp are headed up by our Territory Youth Directors, Bishop Mike Piper and his wife Minister Marlene Piper who do a great job every year of leading a dedicated group of youth leaders into ministering to our young people of all ages. God really blesses the kids at these gatherings and it sets a well worn path for them to follow for their future with the Lord.

My sincere thanks to all of you who help to make this NE/NW Territory a great place to be in The Church of God. We are a busy bunch of folks and I wouldn't have it any other way. If you aren't busy, you can surely find a place to become busy. Be supportive! Thank you again for two months of soul stirring activity!

Prayerfully,

Bishop H. David Lam

FROM THE DESK OF THE ASSISTANT TERRITORIAL OVERSEER

I love being with God's people, His church, as we come together to worship, praise and outreach. We do it all for the Lord. This month, in July, we will be coming together to go out and witness for Him in the July 4th parade, where all ages participate. I am looking forward to seeing what the Lord will do through our efforts. I appreciate all who come and witness for the Lord, and I truly appreciate the children standing for the Lord as they will go and be His witnesses. Also, be encouraged as you see His army coming down the street.

I am also excited about the upcoming Family Camp where it is all about the family. So come out and be encouraged by all that goes on, from the anointed teachings to the anointed preaching to the games and crafts.

This year Bishop and Sister Kramer will be with us. It is a privilege every time our Chief Bishop is with us. Continue to pray for our outreach and Family Camp, that the Lord will have His way and people receive all that He has for them. Remember, it's all about the Lord and the unity of His church. Let's all ask Him how we can be a blessing in our outreach effort and also in Family Camp. I will be teaching the adults on strong family core values. Let's pray for every family and pray for the leaders and the teachers as we labor for His service and worship with all our hearts.

We also have a youth outing this month to a Pittsburgh Pirates' baseball game. I love going with the Youth Department. Our youth are important. Invite a friend and come along.

What a great Feast we had! I am so excited about what the Lord has done. The inspiration He gave Bishop Kramer to finish the pattern. This is historical in The Church of God. The first time this side of the Dark Ages. The 12 and 72 are in place. God is truly moving to restore His church just like prophecy has called it out. Understand the importance about the timing of God and when He allows prophecy to be fulfilled, and we got to be a part of it. Praise the Lord! I also enjoyed every message, every sharing time, every praise, every dance, all anointed by the Lord. Remember, UPON THIS ROCK, He is building His church. Let's all do our part as He calls us to do it.

God bless,

Bishop Roy D. Piper

Wonderful Month in Clarion

Hello from Clarion!

We had a wonderful month here in Clarion. We started off on the first with a praise and worship service. On the fourth, we had our youth service with Sis. Amy speaking to us and a covered dish fellowship meal together after the service. After our meal, we went to Clarview Nursing Home for a worship service with our extended family in the Lord. We always have around forty residents in attendance for the service, and we have a fun time singing, praising the Lord, singing happy birthday for those who celebrated that month, an encouraging message, and an invitation and prayer service.

On the fifth we traveled and safely arrived in Cleveland for our Feast of Pentecost celebration. What a great feast that we were blessed to be a part of this year. Every feast gets better and better. I thank the Lord for the privilege to be asked and the opportunity to minister at the feast. We all greatly enjoyed all the messages at the Lord's appointed feast. We can hardly wait until Tabernacles comes to see and hear what the Lord is going to do for and with His church.

We are still going through our Prophecy Seminar/Bible studies twice a month and enjoying each night of it. The Lord has blessed each of our monthly fund raiser dinners with new customers every time. God is so faithful to us and we give Him all the credit.



We are now preparing for and anticipating a great time of fellowship and moving of God's Spirit at Family Camp 2011. We hope to see you there.

May God Bless His Church

Bishop Ralph Campbell III

Blessings

Greetings from New Florence!

I want to thank those who are willing to let God use them when the need arises. We had another great month. We had a basement sale and God blessed us.

The Feast of Pentecost was a blessing to be at. This was a historical event. God blessed and the Pattern is now in place. We were a part of Bible prophecy being fulfilled!

We are looking forward to the week of Family Camp where the children are taught and can return the blessings by being willing to learn. They begin to share what they learn. There is nothing better than watching youth seek God and help each other in their seeking.

Bishop Lester Lohr

Light Unto the World

Greetings in the name of the Lord!

It is hard to believe that the year is passing so quickly yet we have so much up and coming throughout the remainder of the year. June was a good month mainly because we had the opportunity to meet with the Lord at His appointed feast, at His appointed time. Isn't it exciting serving the Lord by walking in the truth of His Word. This year's Feast of Pentecost was truly special. Everything that was said and done, from each prayer to each song and each message was a blessing from the Lord. The most exciting thing in the feast this year was that the foundational pattern of the apostles and prophets was completed. This foundational pattern was anointed by the Lord. The scripture says except God build the house those that labor, labor in vain. God is building His house according to His pattern, and we are apart of His plan in these end times. We are blessed people to have the revelation that we have, but along with that comes the responsibility to be a go ye people into all the world to share what we have been given. We must be a light to this dark world.



We are now looking forward to next month with family camp coming soon. I hope that you are planning to be there once again to meet with the Lord. We are looking forward to seeing everyone there as we share in a week of praising the Lord.

God Bless and see you soon,

Bishop David Dillie

Feeding Our Souls

Bible Study is like setting down to a well-balanced, well-rounded meal for the soul. We hide the Word of God in our hearts so we do not sin. Every time we sit down to Bible Study we come away nourished, refreshed and increased in knowledge. The increased knowledge brings us approval and courage to speak the Word in power and truth. When we faithfully attend Bible Study we experience spiritual growth that we cannot get outside the Word of God.

We are always looking to increase our efforts to start new Bible Studies. God bless the Pastors who faithfully teach and those who attend in hope of increasing their knowledge in The Revelation of Christ Jesus.

God Bless You,

Bishop Kenny Butts

Missions

Hello Everyone,

A word of praise and thankfulness to our Lord for blessing me to be able to sell all the purses I made. I was able to raise \$615.00 toward the mission effort the NE/NW Territory has taken on to bring Bishop Joe Kerkulah to the United States in the fall. Why is it that we pray then we are amazed when our prayers are answered? I truly was amazed that the purses sold so quickly!! If you bought one, bless you!

Now I am already wondering what the Lord will have me to do next year?

God's Richest Blessings,

Minister Dollie Lam

A View of the Feast

We were so excited that almost all of our entire congregation was able to go to the Feast of Pentecost! It was a blessed time with the Lord, and we should be so honored that He invited us to come fellowship with Him! The sermons were, as usual, anointed and full of the power of the Holy Spirit. God touched many lives during the altar services, the worship was wonderful, and the praise teams all did a great job! From the beginning to the end, you could feel His presence. Of course, the highlight of the week was Chief Bishop Kramer's annual address during which the vacant seats in the Pattern were filled. Our God truly is an Awesome God, and I am so glad that I was there! But now, although we would like to just sit back and bask in the blessings, we all have a responsibility to roll up our sleeves and get to work! The time is growing short and there are so many people out there that still need to be saved.

We had a wonderful trip down and back - even though little Gracie had an upset tummy - about 6 times! By the time we arrived in Tennessee, we had to go to the laundromat to wash her clothes. But that was alright. When you have small children on a trip, you learn to be flexible and roll with the punches. We prayed, and God healed her. It was a joy to stay with her and Sis Corky for the week. The time we spent together was a true blessing.

I would just like to take a moment and say "thank you" to Bishop/Pastor David Kramer and the local congregation in Cleveland for all the work and preparation that goes into getting ready for the Feast. Your efforts do not go unnoticed and they are truly appreciated.

May God richly bless you and give you the strength to keep on keep'n on!

Minister Margie Funk

The Men in Our Lives

Father's Day is a good time to celebrate the wonderful men in our lives. Our church is full of them....Fathers, Uncles, Grandfathers, and Pastors. We celebrated our fathers on Saturday before Father's Day. We had a service for them and a meal to follow.

I spoke on how our youth today need good men to follow. The message was "If Not You, Then Who?" God is looking for a few good men to help turn this society around. I believe we have those men in our churches, and we need to encourage them to let God use them. Sis. Cheryl spoke on the good qualities of the men in our church, and took time to speak to each of them directly about their good qualities and how God is using them and wants to continue using them.



The meal was a spread of chicken, potatoes, a beautiful salad made by Sis Mary Jo, and pies for dessert. Everyone left with full hearts and full bellies.

Minister Cathy Brinko

Residents Love Our Visits

Visiting the nursing homes twice a month is not always an easy thing to do, but the joy we bring to our friends when we arrive far outweighs any sacrifice to be there. There is no amount of money in the world that can replace the feelings we have when a resident breaks into a smile, asks for prayer, or raises their hand in praise during song service.

There is a place for you to participate in these services and to bless our friends. If you've been asking the Lord what job can you do, give this a try. The residents don't judge our presentation or ability, but instead hug on us and love us just for coming to be with them.

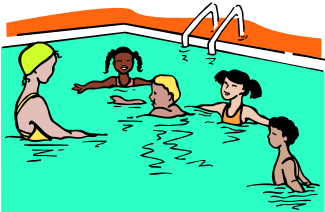
Hope to see you at one of the next nursing home services. You won't regret it!

Love in Christ,

Sister Virginia Dohey

Summer Time is Picnic Time

Last weekend was our Sabbath school picnic for our local church. We all congregated at Bro. Jack and Sis. Cathy's home. Everyone brought such good food and large quantities of it. I think there was probably enough there to feed the whole neighborhood. The thing that impressed me was the number of home-made pies that were brought. I know there were at least five different types because I tried five different ones. The youth didn't waste any time getting in the



pool. They had an hour of swimming in before we ate lunch. The adults on the other hand didn't want any part of the cool water. I jumped in after some coaxing, but the water made me reminisce of swimming in

Clear Creek at camp when I was younger. It made me question why I used to like swimming in the chilly water so much. It was refreshing to say the least. There were games for the youth and the ladies as well. The youth ended up getting into a shaving cream battle and chasing each other all around the playground, and this seemed like more fun than the games themselves. Some of the men took naps; we won't mention who. Overall, we had such a great time. God blessed us with such beautiful weather and held off the rain that was forecasted. It was indeed a great time of fellowship in the LORD!

Youth Rally in New Florence

In the month of May, some of our youth from all six churches in PA gathered in New Florence for a special service. It was inspiring to see so many young people assembled together for church. Many of them that came prepared to offer of their special talents during the service while some shared of a scripture that had special meaning to them. I am proud of our young people for their desire to do the Will of the LORD. Their willingness to do whatever is asked of them really stands out to me. More importantly, I know it is special to God. After all, this is what God desires of each of us. We adults can learn a thing or two from their enthusiastic love for God. Sister Marlene shared a good message that was useful to both young and old alike. After the service was over, we had a meal prepared down in the basement of the church. As always, there was no shortage of food. Following the meal were games to play for all age groups along with some neat prizes. One of our youth from Pittsburgh won a toy alligator that attacked me all the way home. The youth ran around and had a ball. Thanks to Bishop Mike and Sister Marlene for organizing a great event that was not only exciting for the New Florence church but to all who attended. God is so good!

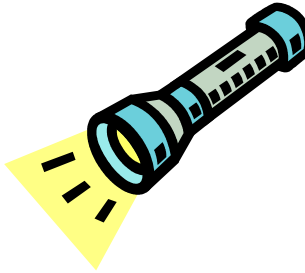
Brother Ralph Campbell IV

Youngstown Youth Activities

June was an activity-filled month for our Youngstown youth. On the fourth we had our monthly Youth Sabbath Service. I love this service because our kids are all eager to participate with readings, music, and Jr Praisers dancing. After this service, most of the congregation headed towards Cleveland for the Feast of Pentecost. The Youngstown Youth presented their talents to the Lord in dance, flag, video recording, and genuine participation throughout the Feast.

Returning from Feast, we celebrated Fathers' Day with a Fathers' Luncheon that was well attended.

The men and boys all received self-powered flashlights as a reminder to be the Lights in their families, at church, and in their workplaces. We also celebrated Father's Day at the Mountain View Nursing Home. We gave the men word search books and Father's Day cards that the Youth made for them.



The next week, Youngstown hosted Vacation Bible School for 15 kids from our churches. We also had 2 visitors attend! Praise the Lord. The kids learned the basics of our beliefs following the theme, "I Believe!" Thanks to all the ministers who came out for the graduation. Your support and encouragement for the week touched me and the kids. Thanks to all the volunteers who helped to make this a success!

The last Sunday of the month we all gathered at Mammoth Park to relax, eat, play games, and even fish a bit. Our Sabbath School picnic was well attended and Bro. Harold and Sis Stacie Piper did a great job coordinating the event. The kids enjoyed the games and we had only one injury on the Giant Slide, thank God!

The month of July will go by fast as all of the Youth will participate in the Fourth of July Parade and Picnic (that report will be in next month's newsletter), Family Camp, a possible Youth Outing and Teen Camp.

There are many activities planned for your children. Please make every effort to support these by bringing your children and by hosting their friends. The Gospel is spread by our young people at these events!

God bless you,
Sister Virginia Dohey





Calendar of Upcoming Events

July 29 - July 31	Teen Camp @ The Church of God Campground in Sigel, PA
July 31	Ham Dinner @ Clarion church from 11 AM - 2 PM
Aug 7 - Aug 14	Caravan - Jonesboro, AR and Gettysburg, PA
Aug 21 - 23	Indoor Flea Market @ Greensburg church
Aug 28th	Noodle Making @ Youngstown church
Sept 2 - Sept 4	International WORI Retreat in Cleveland, TN
Sept 17	Hayride @ 2 PM
Sept 25	Prayer Breakfasts Sons of Abraham @ Clarion Women of Ruth @ Youngstown

Next Deadline for News Article Submission: August 7, 2011

E-mail to eastdeer@verizon.net

Please hold newsletter announcements to church information only