



# Ministry Update

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**Merry Christmas!!** I am writing this from the mountains of western Maryland! We finished our last meeting for 2017 in



Pennsylvania after Thanksgiving, and returned to our home base. We backed onto the concrete slab on one end of our home church and hooked up for the month of December. Some folks ask how we ended up here when both Cheryl and I were raised in Pennsylvania. When we finished Bible college in May of 1981, Cheryl went home to work and earn money for our wedding set for the end of August. I teamed up with Chris Babcock, the son of Dr. Theron Babcock, my father's ministry associate, and immediately went out into full time evangelism. Cheryl and I were married on August 28<sup>th</sup>, and we continued our meetings. Chris' home was several miles south of the city of Cumberland, MD. We used his home as our base, and parked our travel trailer in his driveway. Our

schedule for that year ended in November, and the first meeting for the next year was not until May. Cheryl and I were praying that God would provide a place of



ministry for us in the interim. We were holding meetings for Pastor Walter Lancaster at the Allegany Baptist Temple in the small town of McCoole, MD the last week of October. This was only fifteen minutes from Chris. On Tuesday night of the meetings, as I was leaving the pastor's office after prayer, he asked if we had any time open in our schedule. He explained that they were praying that by the end of October they would be able to find someone who could come and develop a youth department and assist with other church ministries. He said we could park our trailer there without paying for utilities, and that we could come and go

to our meetings as necessary. It has been our sending church ever since. Through the years we have had the opportunity to be involved in every ministry of the church.

## **ITINERARY**

**Dec.2-Jan. 6 – OFF**

**Jan. 7-12 – Independent Bible Church, Greenville, SC**

**Jan. 14-17 – Grace Bible Baptist Church, Corinth, MS**

**Jan. 21-26 – OFF**

**Jan. 28-Feb. 2 – Central Baptist Church, Dothan, AL**

**Feb. 4-9 – Cross and Crown Baptist Church, Cantonment, FL**

**Feb. 11-14 – Berean Baptist Church, Elberta, AL**

## **OPEN DATES AHEAD**

### **2018**

**Mar. 4-9 - TX**

**Sept. 9-14 – CA, NV**



### **2019**

We have open weeks in the following locations in 2019:

**Jan. thru Feb. – FL, GA, AL, TN, SC**

**Mar. 3-8 – NC, VA, MD, DE**

**Apr. 14-19 – MA, NH, ME**

**May – Aug. - Canadian Maritimes**

**Sept. – New England**

**Nov. 24-29 - PA, NJ, DE, MD**

### **2020**

**Jan. thru Feb. - FL, GA, AL, TN, SC**

**Mar. – SC, NC, VA, MD**

**May thru mid-July - PA, MD, NY**

**Aug. thru Nov. – PA, WV, NY, OH, MI**

If you are interested in a meeting, and are in any of these areas, please contact us now for specific dates.

***Be sure to check our web site for itinerary updates, cancellations, and other open dates.***

## **REASONS for the SEASON**



**Luke 2:10** *“And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.”* I cannot imagine what it must have been like when the serenity of a starlit night in the fields outside of Bethlehem was suddenly interrupted by the startling appearance of the angel

of the Lord! It had been hundreds of years since Heaven had communicated with Prophet, Priest, or King, let alone the common man, but here now was a royal emissary from the courts of Heaven with a message for a group of lowly shepherds who were guarding their sheep. Why had he come? This envoy of God wasted no time in sharing the reasons for his coming. The angel announced there was:

**I. NO REASON FOR FEAR!** v. 10 *“fear not”* A prominent psychiatrist once stated that fear was the cause of many psychological breakdowns. Some people are **ASHAMED OF THE PAST**. They are burdened with the guilt of their past sins and failures. Others are **ANXIOUS ABOUT THE PRESENT**. They are afraid of their current circumstances. Still others are **APPREHENSIVE ABOUT THE FUTURE**. They are paralyzed by fear of what might lay ahead. However, through the blood of Christ, we lose the guilty stain of our sin. Our anxiety about the present is dispelled by the peace that comes through the power of prayer. And all apprehension of the future is banished by faith in a loving Lord who prepares the way before us, and goes with us each step of that way! In Christ, there is no reason for fear!

**II. NEW REASON FOR JOY!** v. 10 *“behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy”* A world full of sorrow and spiritual oppression can now rejoice because of the *“Saviour, which is Christ the Lord”* The only way a holy and just God could remain true to those attributes, and yet make a way for sinners to be forgiven for their sin, and to dwell forever with Him is that someone who never sinned had to pay the penalty for everyone else who has. God himself provided the **SAVIOR!** (Jn. 3:16) And because of His sinless blood and perfect life, He was able to go to the cross and die as our substitute, paying in full the price of our sin debt. The world can now rejoice not only in the Savior, but in His **SALVATION** available only by faith in his finished work.

**III. NOW REASON FOR WITNESS** v. 10 *“which shall be to all people”* The angel said the whole world needed to hear the joyous message. Once the shepherds had welcomed the Messiah, they returned glorifying God (v. 20) and sharing with everyone what they had heard and seen. They wasted no time in

spreading the news. There is **GOOD NEWS!** We should not keep it to ourselves. Like them, we need to **GO NOW!** (v. 15) (Mk. 16:15) There are still so many who need to hear the message!

**IV. NEAR REASON FOR ACTION** v. 16 *“And they came with haste,”* God’s herald told the Shepherds that the Savior was nearby in the city of David and would be easy to find. It galvanized them immediately to action. We too should respond by **GIVING OUR LIFE TO AN ETERNAL GOD** first in Salvation, (Jn. 1:12) and then in Surrender. (Rom. 12:1-2) Then we should continue by **LIVING OUR LIVES FOR AN ETERNAL GOAL** in service to our wonderful Lord! (I Cor. 15:58)

## **FAMILY NEWS**



At this time of year, our hearts turn to thoughts of friends and family. We will be spending Christmas with Cheryl’s father and mother in Rock Hill, SC. Lorraine is doing well. Recent tests have shown no cancer recurrence, praise the Lord! Cliff has been having some health issues and is getting medical help. We appreciate your prayers for the Propers.

Our oldest daughter, Bethany, and her husband, Phil, continue to serve the Lord as missionaries to the Native Americans in Fort Thomas, Arizona. They have three children; Adam, Janie and Micah. Please pray for a fruitful ministry among the Apaches.



Our other daughter, Rachel, and her husband, Tristan, are still in San Diego. They are helping to plant Metro Baptist Church. They have three children as well; Henry, Brynn, and Pemberly, and Rachel is expecting another girl in January. Please pray that God will continue to use them in the Church.



## **PLEASE PRAY FOR:**

- Good health during this cold and flu season.
- Wisdom in scheduling meetings.
- A safe delivery for Rachel
- Needed work finished before first meeting

May the Lord give you a blessed Christmas and a joyous beginning to the New Year!

Yours for Souls,

*Barry and Cheryl Webb*