



VOICE OF THE APPALACHIAN CONFERENCE OF THE IPHC

MESSENGER

Vol. 86, No. 11 – December 2025

For God so loved the world



*Merry
Christmas*

JANUARY RETIRED MINISTERS' BIRTHDAYS

January 9

Rev. Cleveland Harrison
6517 Northumberland Way
Myrtle Beach, SC 29588



Appalachian Conference *Messenger*

Vol. 86— December 2025— No. 11

Executive Editor – Larry Meadors

Staff

Phone (540) 674-4131
5847 Oak Grove Avenue
Dublin, VA 24084

Evangelism & World Missions Ministries

Wes Galford
5847 Oak Grove Avenue
Dublin, VA 24084

Discipleship Ministries

Ron Fredericks
5847 Oak Grove Avenue
Dublin, VA 24084

Women's Ministries

Tammy Porter
2473 Ivanhoe Road
Max Meadows, VA 24360
Phone (276) 620-7549

WIN

Donna Hankla
139 Ridgeway Drive
Bland, VA 24315
Phone (304) 922-2808

MEN'S MINISTRIES

Steve Winesett
3414 Water Plant Road
Hillsville, VA 24343
Phone (336) 408-2008

Conference Board

Superintendent – Larry Meadors
Asst. Superintendent – Ron Fredericks
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Deadline for all script to reach the office:

First of each month for the next month's issue
Email to Sandy Wood at woodsh12@gmail.com

WEBSITE: www.appconf.org





The Bishop's Page

Larry Meadors



Christmas Greetings!

Our Conference pastors, ministers and churches are a wonderful family in which to belong. You are in our thoughts and prayers not only this time of year but throughout the year.

The great message of Christmas is that God is with us! John wrote that the Word became flesh and dwelt among us. It was the angel of the Lord that declared to Joseph in a dream that his name would be Immanuel, "God with us." Is not the greatest gift we celebrate is that Jesus is HERE! He is with YOU!

Christmas is a time for family, and from our family to yours, we want to wish you a very Merry Christmas and a happy New Year!

Larry & Gloria



Your Giving Makes a Difference...*THANKS!*

As the year 2025 comes to a close, please know that your tithing and offerings to the Appalachian Conference have made, and are making, a huge difference in our region and around the world.

Here are just some of the ways your conference is ministering:

- Providing vision and resources to our churches and keeping the pulpits filled.
- Many youth saved, rededicated and other spiritual experiences in the summer camps.
- Investment of training and encouragement for our pastors and ministers through classes, Ministers' Summit and more.
- Providing on ramps and education for those called to ministry through the Clergy Development classes and The Call event.
- Hosted revival services and Camp Meeting to position us to experience the fresh move of the Holy Spirit.
- Outreach to McDowell County, WV, that resulted in salvations and our churches encouraged.
- Missionary housing on our campground while they itinerate.
- Hosted The Pastors' Huddles to bring us closer together.
- Supported 2 church plants
- Global outreach offering for the nations

Many other strategic ministries flow from your giving! The Conference is good soil, and we are believing in the harvest for you and your church's needs to be abundantly met. Thank you for your faithfulness in giving!



World Missions & Evangelism

Wes Galford



Christmas BLESSINGS

Welcome to the month of December. For many, December is one of the busiest times of the year. As pastors, we do our best to attend every event, enjoy meals, exchange gifts, and spend much-needed time with our families. The challenge, of course, is finding the space to truly enjoy the celebration of Christmas amidst everything that demands our attention. As we pause and reflect, may the joy of Christmas be ignited in our hearts once again. Sit back, relax, and enjoy the read.

Christmas is a season filled with the fragrance of evergreen trees, peppermint, freshly baked cookies, and all kinds of treats. We decorate trees with lights, tinsel, and ornaments, little reminders of Christmases past. We hear the familiar sounds of the season: *O Holy Night*, *O Little Town of Bethlehem*, *Beautiful Star of Bethlehem*, *The First Noel*, and *Away in a Manger*; songs that bring peace to our hearts. We gather with family and friends to share memories and create new ones as our relationships deepen. We pause to count our blessings and refocus on the true reason we celebrate. The narrative of Jesus is truly the greatest missional story ever written.

Reflecting on the Holy Scriptures during this season brings comfort and joy. God had a plan for the redemption of humanity from the sin of this world. We know the familiar verse, John 3:16 (NKJV): *“For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.”* God’s Son would be brought into the world in a miraculous way. Isaiah 7:14 (NKJV) declares, *“Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign: Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His name Immanuel.”* The Son of God would be “God with us.”

Jesus would be the answer to the challenges of life. Isaiah 9:6–7 gives us a clear view of His role: *“For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given; and the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the increase of His government and peace there will be no end, upon the throne of David and over His kingdom, to order it and establish it with judgment and justice from that time forward, even forever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this.”* God is faithful to His Word.

Luke records the miraculous event in what we often call the Christmas Story; yet it is much more than a story, it is the fulfillment of ancient prophecy. Luke 2:1–20 (NKJV) recounts the decree of Caesar Augustus, Joseph and Mary's journey to Bethlehem, the birth of Jesus in a humble manger, the angelic announcement to the shepherds, and their joyful visit to see the newborn Savior. It is a moment filled with wonder, glory, and divine purpose; God stepping into humanity in the most unexpected way.

What an incredible account we read every Christmas! And yet, it does not end there. We know that Jesus lived a sinless life, performed signs and wonders, taught the people, and loved humanity to the point of death. But on the third day, He arose from the grave! Jesus came, laid down His life, and rose again so the world might be saved. He accomplished His mission and is our soon-coming King.

As we reflect on this season, may comfort and joy be evident in every aspect of our lives as we celebrate the true meaning of Christmas. May we live with a missional mindset, not only during the events of this season, but every day of our lives. May humanity see Jesus through our relationship with Him. I'm reminded, there is no one too far gone for Jesus to save, and that gives me hope for all humanity.





Discipleship Ministries

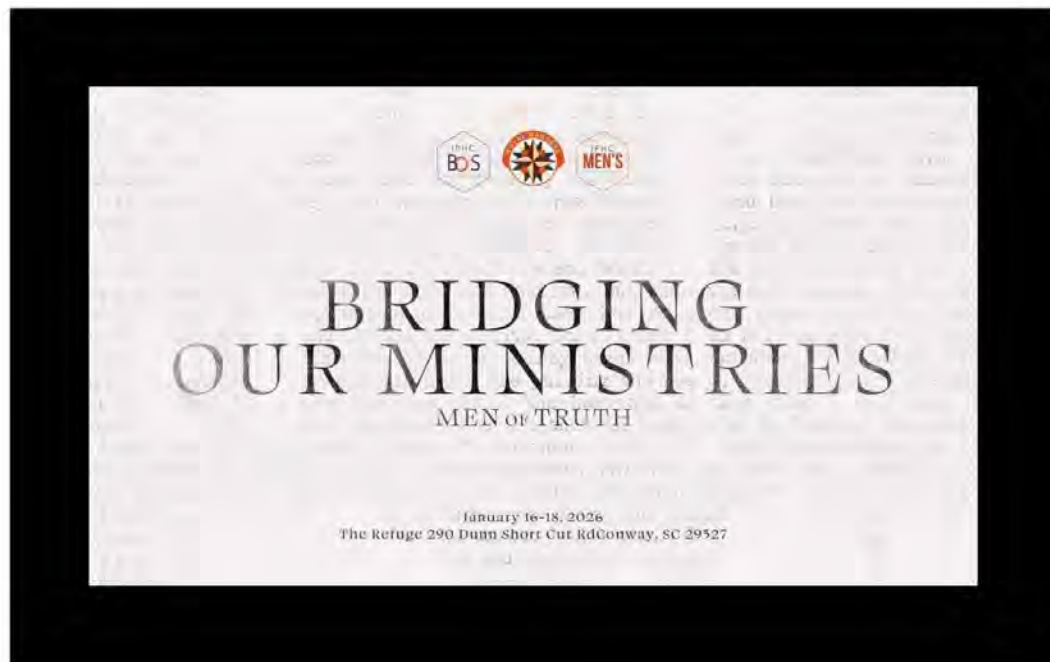
Ron Fredericks

www.appconf.org



D. M. 2026 Year at a Glance

January	February	March
Jan 11: BQ Scrimmage - CLI Jan 16-18: Bridging Our Ministries Jan 29 -Feb 1: ACCELERANT	Feb. 15: BQ Scrimmage - CLI Feb 21: Girls' Ministries, Connect Leadership Day Feb 26 - 28: IPHC The Huddle, Greenville, SC	Mar 6 - 7: IPHC Singing With the Saints - Falcon, NC Mar 8: Women's Ministries Virtual Event Mar 15: BQ Scrimmage - CLI
April	May	June
Apr 10 - 11: Conference Fine Arts Festival Apr 18: WIN Prayer Revival Life Changers Christian Center Apr 25: Inspirational Conference	May 2: BM Pinewood Derby May 16: Senior Rally May 18: Conference Work Day May 22: Master's Seed Time Golf Tournament	Jun 5 - 6: Tower Training Jun 9 - 12: Camp Meeting Jun 14-19: High School Camp Jun 21 - 26: Middle School Camp Jun 28 - July 2: Elementary School Camp
July	August	September
Jul 13 - 17: General Conference - Mobile, AL Jul 23 - 26: Youth Quest	Aug 4 - 11: Mission Trip - Jamaica Aug 14 - 16: 'The Call' Aug 22: Discipleship Ministries Fair	Sep 11 - 13: GM Retreat Sep 18: ATAM Golf Classic Sep 19: Senior Picnic Sep 20 - 22: IPHC D. M. Summit
October	November	December
Oct 2 - 4: Boys' Ministries Retreat	Nov 7: Men's Ministries Rally Nov 13 - 14: Women's Ministries Rally Nov 18 - 21: Encore Ministries Christmas Trip Nov 23 - 24: Harvest Train	<i>Merry Christmas to all!!</i>



Join us for Bridging Our Ministries 2026, a discipleship conference for leaders of men and boys, hosted by IPHC Men's and Boys' Ministries at The Refuge Church in Conway, SC! Together, we're strengthening the bond between generations and building a legacy of faith.

 **January 16–18, 2026**

 Learn more: <https://brushfire.com/iphc/bom2025/611463>



MARK the DATE and MAKE PLANS TO JOIN US!!

ACCELERANT

JAN. 29-FEB. 1, 2026

GATLINBURG, TN

ACCELERANTFIRE.COM

**RUSH
OF
FOOLS**

In Worship

**JORDAN
FELIZ**

**SUSIE
BEEMER
DE KLERK**

**MARKUS
MCFOLLING**

*SPEAKERS/ARTISTS SUBJECT TO CHANGE

CHECK US OUT AT ACCELERANTFIRE.COM

APPALACHIAN CONFERENCE
GIRLS' MINISTRIES PRESENTS:

CONNECT

LEADERSHIP DAY

- EXCHANGE IDEAS AND INSIGHTS
- CONNECT AND COLLABORATE
WITH OTHER LEADERS.
- ENJOY A COMPLIMENTARY BREAKFAST,
AS WE LEARN AND GROW TOGETHER.

Saturday, February 21st

9:00 am - 12:00 pm

Appalachian Conference Training Center, Dublin, VA

Questions? contact:

The Conference Office

540-674-4131 ext. 201

or

Pastor Elaine Wood

Conference Girls Ministries' Director

540-357-5614

Register at
www.appconf.org/events



APPALACHIAN CONFERENCE

FINE ARTS FESTIVAL

APRIL 10-11, 2026

📞 540-674-4131

🌐 www.appconf.com/events



**REGISTRATION
DEADLINE:
MARCH 5, 2026**



Register Now:



2026 EVENTS

MORE INFORMATION TO COME



APPALACHIAN CONFERENCE GOLDEN EAGLE ENCORE MINISTRIES

DEDICATED TO SPIRITUALLY EQUIPPING AND CREATING FELLOWSHIP
AMONG THOSE 50 AND OVER!

APRIL
28-30

Spring Trip

Charleston, South Carolina

MAY
16

Senior Rally

SEPTEMBER
19

Senior Picnic

Claytor Lake

NOVEMBER
18-21

Christmas Trip

Ohio Amish Country

Encore Ministries Directors:

N.R. and Sarah Taylor

Phone: 276-620-3214

Email: ntaylor@vopwc.org

Spring Prayer Revival

000



"And He spoke a parable to them, that a man always ought to pray and not lose heart." ~ Luke 18:1

Guest Speaker:



Veronica McGlothlin

Join us for a transformative Prayer Revival—reconnect, reflect, and be renewed in faith and fellowship.

Sandwich lunch served at 11:30 a.m.



April 18, 2026



11:30AM-End

Life Changers Christian Center
Wytheville, VA



JOIN US!

PINEWOOD DERBY

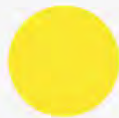
SATURDAY, MAY 2, 2026



Check-in, Pit time, and weigh in
will be 8:00-9:30 AM



Racing will begin at 10:00 AM



Register in person or online:
Registration Fee- \$10.00, second car-\$2.00



Freddie Sweet

Appalachian Conference Boys' Ministries Director



276) 233-8983



applaconfbmrr@gmail.com



www.appconf.org/events



Appalachian Conference Men's Ministries Presents:



25TH MASTERS SEEDTIME GOLF CLASSIC

22 MAY 2026 || 10:00 AM

Blue Ridge Country Club, Galax, VA

Join us for:

- *18 holes of golf**
- *Green fees and riding carts**
- *Lunch and Snacks provided**



For more information contact

Steve Winesett, MM Director

336.408.2008

<https://www.appconf.org/mens-ministry>





ONE WEEK WILL CHANGE A LIFE

Matt. 20:28 "Jesus did not come to be served,, but to serve "

SERVE

CAMP MARANATHA '26

Save the Date

**High School Week
(Grades 9 - and up):
June 14 - 19, 2026**

**Middle School Week
(Grades 6-8):
June 21 - 26, 2026**

**Elementary Week
(Grades 1-5):
June 28 - July 2, 2026**

More Information to follow.

CAMP MARANATHA

ONE WEEK WILL CHANGE A LIFE



**APPALACHIAN
CONFERENCE
CAMPGROUNDS**

Dublin, VA 24084



Questions, call:

540-674-4131 ext. 201

JOIN OUR TEAM!

Register To Be A
Camp Worker Now!

Volunteer For One or All!

**High School Week
(Grades 9 - and up):**
June 14-19, 2026



**Middle School Week
(Grades 6-8):**
June 21-26, 2026



**Elementary School Week
(Grades 1-5):**
June 28 - July 2



Matt. 20:28 "Jesus did not come to be served, but to serve"

SERVE

CAMP MARANATHA '26

REGISTER NOW



**SAVE
THE
DATE**

**DISCIPLESHIP
MINISTRIES**

FAIR

**AUGUST 22
2026**

**COME SEE
WHAT OUR
MINISTRIES
ARE ALL
ABOUT!**

**CONFERENCE
CAMPGROUND**



5905
Maranatha
Street
Dublin, VA

Save the Date:



Girls' Ministries Retreat

11-13 7:00 PM 10:00 AM
SEP Friday, Sep 11, 2026 Sunday, Sep 13, 2026

REGISTER AT:

WWW.APPCONF.ORG/EVENTS



30TH ANNUAL
A T A M
G O L F
TOURNAMENT



September 18,
2026

Location:

**Botetourt
Golf & Swim Club
2414 Country Club Rd,
Troutville, VA 24175**

Register Now: \$100 per person or \$400 per Team



www.appconf.org/events



Appalachian Conference

Boys' Ministries Fall Retreat

A weekend to rest, renew, and reconnect
with God and one another.

October 2 - 4, 2026

Friday 5:00 PM – Sunday 1:00 PM

Appalachian Conference Campgrounds,
Dublin, VA 24084

**Uplifting worship gatherings
Great Outdoor Activities
Engaging Fellowship and Friendship**

www.appconf.org/events





DM DISCIPLESHIP
MINISTRIES

MEN'S RALLY



Saturday, November 7, 2026

10 am - 2 pm

Appalachian Conference Campgrounds

\$15 per person, Lunch Provided

For more Information contact:

Steve Winesett, Men's Ministries Director

336.408.2008

WWW.APPCONF.ORG/EVENTS





Fall Women's Conference

SAVE THE DATE:

Join us on November 13-14, 2026

7:00 PM

**Appalachian Conference Tabernacle
Dublin, VA**



*More information
to come!*

Pam and I want to take this time to wish you and your family a very
Merry Christmas and a blessed and Happy New Year!
May peace and joy, love and laughter fill your heart and home.

Ron & Pam Fredericks

FOR UNTO US A
SAVIOR IS BORN

Luke 2:11





Women's Ministries

Tammy Porter



Share the Gift

It's the Christmas season and one of the most beautiful times of the year. Nothing can take away from the excitement and joy that just seems to be present during the month of Jesus's birthday.

I have heard it said that many people do not like the commercialization that seems to be the norm during the Christmas holidays, but I see it completely differently. I see it as a celebration of His special day, and just as I loved to decorate for my daughter's birthday, I love to decorate for the birthday of my Savior.

There isn't anything that I can do for Him that could even compare to what He has done for me, but I can take a few days to decorate my home differently than any other time of the year. With every nativity scene displayed and every ornament placed on the tree, I am constantly reminded of the gift that my Heavenly Father shared with me when He sent this beautiful, olive skinned baby into this world to be a sacrifice for, not only my sins, but the sins of the entire world.

John 3:16 says, *"For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only son..."*

Wow! What a sacrifice! As a parent, it is hard for me to comprehend giving my child for anyone, let alone in exchange for some else's sin.

Jesus was a gift to the world. A gift that is given to all who will accept Him. As a Christian, I am going to take this Christmas season to decorate my home in honor of His birthday, remember what a sacrifice He paid just because He loves me and share this special gift with anyone who hasn't received Him.

What about you? How will you choose to celebrate Christmas? It doesn't matter if you choose to decorate with extravagance or very simply. What does matter is that you take this season as an opportunity to remember this precious gift that you received and share Him with others.

Merry Christmas from the Appalachian Conference Women's Ministries Board! We love and appreciate you so very much and it is an honor to serve you.

Tammy Porter, Director
Wendy Lowe, Assistant Director
Kim Galford, Secretary





LAUNCHING SPIRITUAL DRONES

Drones are frequently used in warfare and by police. They provide surprise and sudden attacks. One major advantage of drones is the fact that they make precision strikes. In addition, drones are used to gather intelligence and for surveillance.

God also has drones, in the spiritual sense. He has means to strike demonic enemies in a sudden manner. When God launches these sudden strikes, the enemy is disabled. There are numerous biblical examples of enemies becoming confused and even fighting each other after a strike by heaven.

It is to our advantage to stay one step ahead of the devil. We can use spiritual drones to defeat spiritual enemies! Our prayers can provoke angels to actions. Our prayers can bring unexpected warfare against the demonic forces. Our praises can scatter the enemies.

Certain scriptures confirm the concept of sudden spiritual drones released into action for effective spiritual warfare.

“Let the saints be joyful in glory: let them sing aloud upon their beds.

Let the high praises of God be in their mouth, and a two-edged sword in their hand;

To execute vengeance upon the heathen, and punishments upon the people;

To bind their kings with chains and their nobles with fetters of iron;

To execute upon them the judgment written: this honor have all his saints.

Praise ye the Lord” (Psalm 149:5-9 King James Version).

KING HEZEKIAH

King Hezekiah received a threatening letter from the king of Assyria. The letter was sent by a commander named Rabshaketh. King Hezekiah took this letter to the Lord. He spread it before the Lord, and he prayed to God!

“Incline Your ear, O Lord, and hear; open Your eyes, O Lord, and see: and hear all the words of Sennacherib that he has sent to taunt and defy the living God” (Isaiah 37:7 Amplified Study Bible).

God answered the king’s prayer by sending a message from Isaiah, the prophet.

“Therefore, the Lord says this concerning the king of Assyria. ‘He will not come into this city or shoot an arrow there, nor come before it with a shield or raise an assault ramp against it” (Isaiah 37:33).

God sent a spiritual drone against the Assyrian army. An angel of the Lord went out and struck 185,000 men that very night. When Sennacherib saw his army struck dead, he left and lived at Ninevah. (Isaiah 37: 36, 37)

The prayers of King Hezekiah released a mighty force from heaven!

THE SWORD OF THE LORD AND GIDEON

With just 300 men, Gideon defeated a mighty army of the Midianites. God gave Gideon divine instructions for this battle. The weapons of Gideon's army were also unusual. Each man was given a trumpet and a pitcher. The men were divided into 3 companies. Each company was positioned in a strategic manner for the surprise attack upon the enemy.

"When Gideon's men blew the three hundred trumpets, the Lord set the sword of one (Midianite) against another even throughout the whole army: and the army fled as far as Beth-shittah toward Zererah, as far as the border of Abel-meholah, by Tabbath" (Judges 7:22).

CONFUSION was the spiritual drone sent against Gideon's enemies.

When Gideon's men blew their trumpets and smashed their pitchers, a spirit of confusion fell upon the Midianite army.

JESUS CONCEALED HIMSELF

Often Jesus found himself facing angry crowds. The Pharisees confronted Jesus about the topic of Abraham's descendants. They accused him of being of the devil. (John 8:44) The response that Jesus gave brought them to great rage.

"Jesus replied, "I assure you and most solemnly say to you, before Abraham was born, I Am (John 8:58).

They picked up stones to throw at Jesus, but Jesus concealed Himself and left the temple. (John 8:59)

A spiritual drone hid Jesus from the sight of those who tried to harm Him. God can hide us from the hand of the evil one. When we pray this prayer of David, we release the spiritual drone of HIDING His people.

"For in the day of trouble He will hide me in His shelter; In the secret place of His tent He will hide me" (Psalm 37:5).





- 1 New Year's Day – Office Closed**
- 9 Ministers' Summit Registration Due**
- 11 Bible Quiz Scrimmage – CLI**
- 14 Conference Office Day of Prayer**
- 29-2/1 Accelerant**