

# ARKANSAS CHRISTIAN CRUSADER

**Scripture:** Since we have been made right in God's sight by faith, we have peace with God because of what Jesus Christ our Lord has done for us. Because of our faith, Christ has brought us into this place of highest privilege where we now stand, and we confidently and joyfully look forward to sharing God' Glory.  
**Romans 5:1-2 NLT**

**June, 2016**

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**STATE CONVENTION, JULY 13/15TH**  
**Community Park Church**

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**HERITAGE HYMN**

**MY HEART SAYS AMEN**

**I have yielded myself to thy service  
And thy presence my bosom does fill;  
O my Savior, I haste to obey thee  
And my heart says amen to thy will**

**Cho:**

**Yes, my heart says amen to thy will, Lord  
And I know that thou lovest me still;  
While I bow low in humble submission  
And my heart says amen to thy will.**

**All the heart ties of earth may be sundered  
So that I may thy purpose fulfill  
Help me gladly submit and not murmur,  
Ever saying amen to thy will**

**Tho my plans and my hopes may seem  
blighted,  
I will love thee and trust in thee still  
For I know all is well that thou doest,  
And my heart says amen to thy will**

**When I pass to that heavenly country,  
And my soul with its glory doth thrill  
For I now all is well that thou doest,  
And my heart said amen to thy will.**

**Charles Naylor/Clarence Hunter**

# IN MEMORY OF THOSE WHO HAVE GONE TO GLORY

## Parable of Immortality

I am standing on the seashore. A ship at my side spreads her white sails to the morning breeze and starts for the blue ocean. She is an object of beauty and strength, and I stand and watch until at last she hangs like a speck of white cloud just where the sea and sky come down to mingle with each other. Then someone at my side says, "There she goes!"

"Gone where?" Gone from my sight - that is all. She is just as large in the mast and hull and span as she was when she left my sight and just as able to bear her load of living freight to the place of her destination. Her diminished size is in me, not in her. And just at the moment when someone at my side says, "There she goes!" there are other eyes - watching her coming and other voices ready to take up the glad shout, "Here she comes!", "Here she comes!" on the other shore.

Henry Van Dyke



## **STATE MINISTERS REPORT**

Greetings to the Pastors and to the body of Christ within the Church of God in Arkansas,

I pray that this newsletter finds all doing well in the Lord.

I'd like to take this time to say thank you to the body of Christ and our Pastors for allowing me to serve you as Ministry Director of the Church of God in Arkansas. It is a great privilege for me to serve in this calling to the state. I believe that we are allowing Christ to take us to the next level as we learn more about prayer with in our own lives

and within the body of Christ. I pray that we will continue to strive to asked the question as the disciples did when they asked Christ to teach them how to pray.

**This years Church of God in Arkansas state convention will be July 13th, 14th, 15th and General Assembly 16th 2016. It will be held at Community Park Church in Bryant Arkansas.**

Our speaker will be Pastor Ivory Curry from Carrie Street Church of God in Gurdon Arkansas.

Our worship leader will be Marge Mixon, she is the worship leader for Pastor Curry at Carrie Street Church of God. Pastor Curry is the chairman of our state elder board. He's a man of God and believes in holiness and lives his life as such. Please be praying with me, and Pastor Curry that the Holy Spirit will speak through him and we will see the presence of the Holy Spirit.

### **Schedule of Services**

**Wednesday, July 13 the worship service will start at 7 PM.**

**Thursday morning July 14 at 9:30 AM** we will meet at the church for a time of prayer.

These times of prayer are vital for our ministries in the state of Arkansas and in our individual lives.

At 10:30 AM will be our morning session.

Thursday night we will meet at 5:30 PM for prayer. Our evening service will start at 7 PM.

We will have the privilege of having Morgan and Carol Alsip. They will be sharing about Mid- America Christian University. Carol is associate director of annual campaigns University advancement.

Rev. Morgan is Executive Director of Church Relations.

**Friday, July 15 we will meet at 9:30 AM for prayer.**

Our session will start at 10:30 AM.

Friday evening we will meet at 5:30 PM for prayer.

Our service will start at 7 PM p.m.

our credentials committee will be a part of this service.

**Continued**

**Saturday, July 16 we will meet at 9 AM for prayer**

Our general assembly meeting will start at 10 AM.

There will be childcare provided for each part of this convention.

There will be refreshments and fellowship after our Wednesday, Thursday and Friday night services

There will be coffee, orange juice, milk and donuts provided at our GA meeting on Saturday morning.

Please come expecting God to do something wonderful. Let's start expecting the supernatural which Jesus Christ was all about. What I'm realizing is supernatural to us; blind eyes open, deaf ears can hear again, the sick healed, dead brought back to life, churches coming back to life and the most amazing of all how Jesus Christ can take a broken life separated from him and bring hope of eternal life.

Thank you again for allowing me to serve the Church of God in Arkansas.

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## **CHOGAR CHRISTIAN WOMEN CONNECTION**

Thank you for allowing me to serve as your State CWC President!! I am asking for your patience and prayer as I work to get all our plans made for the next coming years. I would like to get all our churches involved in the CWC (Christian Women's Connection). We are working on plans for the Fall state retreat that will be held November 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup>. We will announce the place and times at a later date. I am excited to have Deanne Curtis, she is coming August 25 to Community Park. It will be great to hear about her mission and the mission trip to Africa. We are also working on Planning for the State Convention that will be held next April. In an effort to help me make this all come together, if you could please send me your 2016-2017 Local Leaders/Officers list even if you have already sent it. This would be so helpful so I can open communication with you and your churches. You can mail it to Michelle Coffman – 10285 Gunter Loop, Benton, AR 72019. I look forward to seeing you at the Arkansas State Convention, July 16<sup>th</sup> @ Community Park. May God Bless you! **Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God. I Corinthians 10:31**

**Michelle Coffman, President**  
**State Christian Women Connection**

**Community Park CWC will be hosting Deanne Curtis on August 25<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 pm for an Evening Program and you all are invited.** Deanne is well known to many of us and has been working in churches in Africa to help teach, train and minister. We have missionaries around the world and she is using her talents to do good works. Put this date on your calendar. **Remember All are invited** for an evening of inspiration, amazement and fun with Deanne. We will receive a 'love offering' for Deanne to help her with her expenses in doing what she is called to do.



## NEWS FROM THE CHURCHES

### **Benton: Grape Chapel Church**

We have been so blessed with different Pastor's filling the pulpit for us as we are looking for a pastor. We want to say "Thank You each and every one of you that has stepped up and lead us in the Word." Also thanks for all the individuals that have taken on additional roles for us.

We all have been so busy with two graduating from High School and two obtaining Master Degree. We honor and greatly appreciate their accomplishments.

Colossians 3:23 Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men."

This past week we have held our Vacation Bible School from Sunday evening through Wednesday evening. We had great attendance and many children were blessed with the program "In the Game for God". The Men's Fellowship is meeting the first Saturday of each month and have had numbers increasing every month and great devotions and breakfast. The CWC is having a Women's Night Out Monday, June 13 at the Western Sizzlin that will be a great fellowship.

Betty Baxley, reporting



### **Little Rock: Eagle Point Church**

2016 has provided a number of extra special opportunities to build community and increase spiritual health. Part of this has been experienced around a series of Sunday Evening Services using DVD messages preached during the 2014 and 2015 North American Convention of the Church of God hosted by Crossings Church in Oklahoma City.

Additionally, we have watched two movies, Woodlawn and Risen. One family even purchased and donated a commercial popcorn popper in order to add a little "yummy" to each gathering.

During the month of June we have celebrated Baptisms during two morning services... glory! It was, also, incredible to have Dean & Joli Lewis, presently on Mission to Alaska Christian College, present for our Old Fashion Picnic and Fun Time. Dean provided a fantastic report regarding ministry, as well as, challenged EPC to be on mission within our own community. Our students have just finished raising funds for helping underwrite the expense of attending IYC in San Antonio. Way to go, students and adult Leadership Team. We know God will do a mighty work in those present. Pastor Jerry has recently completed a Sunday morning sermon series built around *Seven Steps For Becoming A Congregation Of A Healthy 100 ... One Person At A Time*. Our next step will be to target and expand ministry focused on assisting Christ followers in realizing even greater significant spiritual growth.

Finally, each "Saturday @ Seven" believers gather in the sanctuary to praise, thank, petition and worship the Lord. Additionally, we have committed ourselves to hearing and obeying Holy Spirit whispers and promptings, realizing it is as we responds to Him that the miraculous occurs.

Jerry Riddle, Pastor

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## **Bryant: Community Park Church**

Community Park Church is a spiritual family who understands that “The Lord has made everything for His own purposes.” (Proverbs 16:4) We were not made just to live on earth. The apostle Paul said he had only one ambition: “to be pleasing to God.” (2 Corinthians 5:9) That goal captivated Paul. It caused him to endure shipwrecks, snakebites, beatings, scourging’s, and imprisonment. But none of those things took away his “joy in the Lord”! He told the church at Philippi, “I’ve got my eye on the goal, where God is beckoning us onward – to JESUS! I’m off and running, and I’m not turning back!” (Philippians 3:12 The Message)

This month we continue in our summer message series GOD BLESS YOU, based on the Beatitudes of Jesus in the Sermon on the Mount found in Matthew 5:3-12. Jesus explains the eight keys for living a blessed (happy) life here on earth. GOD BLESS YOU will teach us how we can experience peace and fulfillment every day in our lives, our work, and our relationships — regardless of our circumstances!

Monday, July 4th, we will be celebrating 240 years of independence as a nation. God has blessed the United States of America in many ways; but many of our fellow-Americans are not following the Lord. I urge you to take time on the 4th of July to pray for our nation and for the people you personally know who are not yet followers of Jesus. Carol Lewis, our Kingdom Kid’s Director, recently shared on Facebook that many Christians in America are pausing every night at 8 PM for one minute (central time) to pray for the safety of the United States (for our troops and our citizens) and that we would return to being a godly nation once again.

Our church has the privilege to once again host the Arkansas State Convention of the Church of God on July 13th (Wednesday) through the 15th (Friday). Worship gatherings will be each night at 7 PM, followed by refreshments and fellowship with other church families from around the state. This year’s speaker is Pastor Ivory Curry from Prescott, AR. Brother Curry spoke at our spring revival in April. I encourage you to consider this another 3-night “revival” and participate every night, expecting the Lord to bring personal and church renewal!



## **Benton - New Song Community**

Things are going well this year. We've been pursuing God's will and asking Him, "What do you want me to do?" It's an exciting thing to watch God move us in His direction. We would ask that you continue to keep us in your prayers as we come to understand His will better. Our Wednesday night feeds, fellowship, and Bible Study have been both rewarding and refreshing. Jeannie and Nicole Richards head up the ministry of feeding us each Wednesday night and various ladies in the church bring salads and desserts. Afterwards, our youth have been studying the armor of God, our children have been studying Christ, and the adults have been working through a series on meaningful prayer and intentional service. We were recently able to celebrate the graduation of 3 of our seniors. All three of these high school graduates are planning on going on to some form of ministry. PTL! We've started a new young adults Sunday School class and our children have begun opening our Sunday morning services with a "Sonshine Moment" where they share scripture and sometimes a song. The seven candidates for ordination are continuing to meet and explore God's call and seek a deeper understanding of His Holy word. Grant and his gang are gearing up for the Singspiration at the end of July and we are looking forward to hosting all the churches as we come together for an evening of fellowship and worship. I hope and pray each of you is doing well.

May God keep you and bless you until next time.....

Bro. Bob Burchfield



## Gurdon - Evergreen Church

Greetings from Gurdon,

Energy! Excitement! Joy! These are words that describe our Sunday morning worship services once every 2 months. Yes I know, that should be the case every Sunday and sometimes is, but it is for sure when we have this special service dedicated totally to our children and Jesus! Every other service, our children go to Children's Church and Nursery after the song service. On these Sundays the children stay with us, come up front and sit on the floor, sing a couple of songs, and hear a message geared toward them. If only we adults had the same enthusiasm as these little ones and their childlike humility. Hearts were touched last time as they willingly knelt at the altar to pray. No wonder Jesus told us we had to be like children to enter the kingdom of heaven.

Here are a few other things happening:

- \*we had an end of school year party for our kids at the Arkadelphia Aquatic Park
- \*bids are now coming in for the remodel on The Community Pantry building
- \*parking areas around the church are being paved and resurfaced with asphalt
- \*we are observing an intense prayer gathering every Wednesday night seeking the presence, power, and direction of God for our congregation

Looking forward to seeing everyone at our State Convention! Blessings to all.

Kevin Sims  
Evergreen Church

## Rogers - Equisita Presenda Church

Short news from Rogers Ar – Church is doing well, every month new believers coming to the Lord, The average weekly attendance on Sundays is now about 60 people and our Home Bible groups still growing up. 50 % of our church is attending home bible studies every week.

We have some brothers who are taking classes to be baptized and three couples ready to be married this summer.

Father's day celebration was an excellent gathering, a new family started coming to the church.

Please keep praying for our worship team, we are asking Lord for new voices and talents to worship God with us Tuesday and Sunday.

Blessings Brother Leo & Fanny Chavarria



