"The thankful heart opens our eyes to a multitude of blessings that continually surround us."

James E. Faust
RETIRING AS SENIOR PASTOR AFTER 38 YEARS

On Sunday, August 9, 2015, our senior pastor, Rev. J. Frank Neff, Jr., delivered his last sermon at Life Line Ministries in Mitchelltown, Virginia. Pastor Frankie and his wife Beth have served God and our church, formerly Mitchelltown P.H., for 38 years, as he became pastor in 1977 when he was 24 years old.

When Frank first became pastor, things were not good, as there had been some negative experiences that could have closed this church for good. There were only about 30 active members, and the church building (which legend has it was built in 1930 for $100) hadn’t changed much since it was built. As Pastor Frank diligently sought and followed the guidance of the Holy Spirit, a transformation took place at LLM that can only be described as a miracle of God!

God built His church under this man’s ministry. The membership has grown to more than 600. Over 2,000 have been saved, and the church is the largest and most attractive in the Alleghany Highlands. A new church has been built that seats about 500. Excellent facilities were added for every age group of younger children, and we have an outstanding teen complex. Our youth programs have grown immensely because Frank had a heart for young people. In addition, a parsonage and a Family Life Center (which includes a large gym, kitchen, fellowship hall and several other rooms) have also been built. Needless to say, the value of the property has increased by several million dollars since we started with that little church with the crumbling foundation. All of this has taken place in a small community with fewer residents than LLM’s membership.

The effect of Frank’s total ministry has been far reaching. Many of his flock have endured difficult and sometimes devastating issues, and Frankie and Beth have always been there to pray for, encourage, and lift us up. Many of his members will tell you without reservation that he is the best preacher they have ever heard speak. God gave him a vision for Life Line Ministries; he followed that up with unconditional faith, and he taught us how to step out in that faith.

In addition to serving as our pastor, Frank currently serves as secretary on the Appalachian Conference Executive Council, was formerly on the C.E. board, and has always been committed to working at Camp Maranatha youth camps (and diligently promotes and encourages camper and worker participation). Frank and Beth have two children, Heather and Philip, and are the proud grandparents of five grandchildren.

On a personal note, I remember the day Frank was born, and I have known and loved his family for years. I have been extremely blessed to sit under his preaching and teaching, and it has been a joy to be a small part of God’s miracle at Life Line Ministries.

–Submitted by John Woodzell

Frank says he has not “retired” but has “left one ministry for another one.” He comes with a wealth of knowledge after 38 years of pastoring. He is now available to fill in for pastors, conduct teaching seminars, hold revivals, and preach homecomings. He is an outstanding speaker, and I am confident he will be a blessing to your church. You may contact him at 540-969-7299 or jfrankneff@gmail.com.

–Bishop Preston Mathena
REV. CECIL ALBANO ENTERS HEAVEN’S REST

On Sunday, September 20, 2015, Rev. Frank Cecil Albano passed away at his home in Dublin. A retired minister, he joined the Appalachian Conference in 1988 and was ordained in 1990. During his active ministry, Brother Albano pastored Bain Chapel, Radford Worship Center, Trinity Fellowship (St. Albans) and Dublin Tower of Refuge. He is survived by his wife Betty, three children and eight grandchildren. His funeral was held on Friday, September 25, with interment at Highland Memory Gardens in Dublin. His faith in God and love for people will live on in the hearts of those who knew him.

DECEMBER RETIRED MINISTERS’ BIRTHDAYS

December 1
Rev. Kenneth Kingrea
3249 Mudpike Road
Christiansburg, VA 24073

December 10
Rev. Earl Ragland
1255 Chomas Chapel Lane
Bedford, VA 24523

December 20
Rev. Bob Corum
P.O. Box 494
Powell, TN 37849

December 10
Rev. Billy Akers
2279 Cox Hollow Road
Pulaski, VA 24301

December 16
Rev. Don Sizemore
5893 Jewell Avenue
Dublin, VA 24084

December 26
Rev. Lacy Griffith
HC 32, Box 309-A
War, WV 24892

December Events

4 Prayer & Fasting for Our Nation
5 W.M. Christmas Luncheon
4-5 24 to Double Sessions
6 Second Sunday of Advent
8 Capitol Hill Phone Prayer Partners
13 Third Sunday of Advent
20 Fourth Sunday of Advent
22 Conference Office Closes at Noon
23-25 Conference Office Closed for Christmas
28 Last Day to Receive Church/Ministers’ Reports
31 New Year’s Eve (Office Closed)
A Missions Trip: “It is an experience you will never forget.”

Hello! My name is Thomas Drumheller, or T.C. for short. I’m 19 years old and I am from Caldwell, West Virginia, where I also attend the Pentecostal Holiness Church. I am the one in the red shirt, in case you’re wondering.

This past February I went on my very first missions trip to Mae Sai, Thailand. It was an amazing experience to travel the world and see a third-world country. Sadly, our time there was short; however, I saw and experienced so much in that time frame that I wanted to return.

This past summer, I had that opportunity. I got an email from Jeff Willhoite saying that some plans did not materialize, and he asked me if I wanted to come back. Of course, I took that opportunity and returned this past summer for two months to see what it was like to live on the mission field, even though it would be just a small taste of what it is really like. I experienced so much, from the culture to the different types of food and how people go about doing everyday things.

What really amazed me was the behind-the-scenes testimony of how I got to return. The plans he originally had were to have a youth team of 20 or so come and stay about a month. When time came for people to sign up to go, not one person signed up or seemed interested—not one. From the beginning, I knew God had a plan for me to come back this summer, but I did not really realize it until then.

After a few days recovering from jet lag, I got right to work on the future dormitory, shaving bamboo, tying wire, hauling gravel and concrete. Over the two-month period, we completed the second floor on the dormitory wing. There were days in the hot summer sun when I thought we would never get done tying wire supports to the rebar and bucketing concrete to the second floor. The concrete we mixed ourselves and hand-bucketed one-gallon buckets at a time to pour the first floor bonding beams and the finishing of the second floor.

By the time we got all of this done, it was time for me to head back home, but not before first heading to a restricted access country for five days. We visited a friend there and attended an underground church on Sunday. That was a very interesting experience for me, and I encourage anyone who has an opportunity to attend one to do so. It is an experience you will never forget. Experiencing what it is like to have a worship service in hiding is heartbreaking.

After living and experiencing a short time on the mission field, I encourage anybody who has an opportunity to go on a missions trip or who is called to the missions field to go. Your life will never be the same after that commitment.

“We are so thankful for your giving to Missions and Evangelism throughout the year! Your gifts are helping to gather a harvest for God’s Kingdom. May God’s blessings be on you and your family.”
Teen Quiz
Material: ACTS 1-28
Roll call for all scrimmages will be 9:30 a.m.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scrimmage Dates</th>
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<td>April 2</td>
<td>Conference Finals</td>
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Junior Quiz
Material: ACTS 1-10
Roll call for all scrimmages will be 9:30 a.m.

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Fact Pak Bible Quiz
6 yr. olds: Questions 1-250
7 yr. olds: Questions 1-325
8 yr. olds: Questions 1-400
9-12 yr. olds: Questions 1-576

2016 Conference Talent Festival
April 16, 2016: Teen Talent Festival
April 23, 2016: Junior Talent Festival
ALL ENTRANTS MUST CHECK IN BY 9:00 A.M.

March 4
Registration Deadline!
March 20
Deadline for: Creative Writing,
Video and Web Design

Registration Fee
$25.00 Single Entry
$50.00 Group Entry

NATIONAL FINE ARTS
FESTIVAL & YOUTH QUEST
DAYTONA BEACH, FLORIDA
JULY 21-23, 2016

Contact Information:
Discipleship Ministries
(540) 674-4131, EXT 201
dmsecretary1@aol.com or
rfredericks58@aol.com

Get Info download @ www.appconf.org

Please mail completed Bible Quiz registration form and fees by October 23 to:
DM Dept.
5847 Oak Grove Avenue
Dublin, VA 24084
Remember to Be Thankful

I recently read a story of a king surnamed “The Wise,” who reigned in 1252. One day he learned that his pages neglected to ask the blessing before eating their daily meals. He was grieved and wanted to point out to them the evil of this omission. So he set forth to plan a way to show the importance of giving thanks.

He had a bountiful meal prepared and invited all of the pages to come and dine. They all assembled around the table and waited for the king to signal it was time to eat. The king gave the signal that all was in readiness for them to begin. Each enjoyed the delicious, rich feast, but not one remembered to ask God’s blessing on his meal.

About that time, unexpectedly to the thoughtless pages, there entered a poor, ragged beggar, who seated himself at the royal table and ate and drank to his heart’s content. The faces of the pages were a sight to behold. They were surprised and astonished. First, they looked at the king, then stared at the intruder. They waited to see what the king would do; they expected him to give orders to have him removed from the table. The king, however, kept silent while the beggar, unabashed by the presence of royalty, ate to his heart’s content. When he was finished, he rose and, without a word of thanks, departed from the palace.

“What a despicable, mean fellow!” cried the pages. The king calmly rose and earnestly said to his pages, “Boys, bolder and more audacious than this beggar have you all been. Every day you sit down to a table supplied by the bounty of your heavenly Father, yet you ask not His blessing, and leave without expressing to Him your gratitude. Yes, each and all of you should be heartily ashamed of your conduct, which was far worse than was the poor beggar’s.”

As I read this story, I couldn’t help but think of the opportunities that I have passed up to say, “Thank you,” to my heavenly Father, the times I neglected to say, “Thank you,” to someone who did a kind deed or said a kind word.

Thanksgiving is sometimes called the “forgotten holiday.” It is sandwiched between Halloween and Christmas. For some, Thanksgiving is a day to get a list together prior to “Black Friday,” a day of marathon Christmas shopping. Somehow our perception of Thanksgiving Day has gone askew. We’ve forgotten the reason for the celebration that first Thanksgiving: gratitude for survival!

During this season of Thanksgiving, let’s not forget to be thankful. “Out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks” (Matthew 12:34b, NKJV). Let’s open our mouths and proclaim to all how grateful we are for all that God has given us. Express your thanks to God and your fellow man.

“He who offers a sacrifice of thanksgiving honors Me.” Psalm 50:23 (NASB)

Have a blessed Thanksgiving and remember to be thankful!

COMING IN 2016
MARK YOUR CALENDARS

“Raising Hope” Workshops
May 7, 2016

WM Bus Trip – Lancaster, PA
April 15-16, 2016
Exciting new adventures
Elijah had challenged the prophets of Baal, and won! The fire of the Lord flashed from the sky and consumed his offering. The people fell on their faces and confessed that God was their God, not Baal!

However, the Heavens were still closed, because judgment was upon the nation. No rain for three years and six months! This drought had brought famine and economic distress upon the nation (1 Kings 18:41-46). The repentance of the people had turned the nation back to God; however, more was needed to open the heavens!

**PRAYERS OF FAITH**

Elijah went to the top of Mount Carmel. He put his face between his knees and prayed with earnest faith! He told his servant, “Go, and look toward the sea!” The servant came back and gave Elijah the following report: “There is nothing!” Faith prays until something happens. Faith does not stop at a report of “nothing”! Elijah prayed again, and again! “The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much” (James 5:16).

**SOUNDS OF HEAVEN**

The report of the servant did not discourage Elijah. He had already heard the “sound of abundance of rain” (1 Kings 18:41). Elijah told King Ahab to prepare for an outpouring of rain!

The year 2016 has received recent prophecy: “There will be an enlargement of sounds and melodies coming out of heaven into the earth. New sounds will come forth. Angelic interventions and visitations will increase” (From Monthly Prayer Calls with Capitol Hill Prayer Partners).

**WHY SEVEN TIMES?**

After the seventh time, the servant reported to Elijah, “Behold, a little cloud arises from the sea. The cloud is about the size of a man’s hand!” (1 Kings 18:44). Suddenly, the heaven was black with clouds and wind. Great amounts of rain poured from the sky. The heavens were opened!

Completion and cleansing are associated with the number 7! Numerous examples are seen to support these meanings. For example, there are seven feasts of the Lord. Six days a week are allowed for labor. However, the seventh is the day of rest. Likewise, the priests applied the blood of the sacrifice seven times for cleansing (Leviticus 8:11).

Repentance and cleansing opened the heavens for the nation. The United States of America needs intercessors like Elijah! Prayers of repentance and cleansing are needed for America!

Will your church offer such prayers for this nation?
RED SUNDAY

Two years ago before the Christmas season, I felt the Holy Spirit leading me to truly bring Christ back to Christmas. What I felt was something very simple, yet has brought very much success. With the Christmas season becoming so commercialized and less and less of Christ being honored, I felt the Holy Spirit say to take Sunday back before the world does. With Black Friday, Buy Nothing Day, Small Business Day, Cyber Monday and Giving Tuesday that follows Thanksgiving, I truly felt the Holy Spirit lay on my heart to take the Sunday that follows Thanksgiving and claim it RED SUNDAY before the world claims it for something else.

We advertised to our church to invite the lost and the unchurched to Red Sunday. I asked everyone to wear red in honor of Jesus Christ and the blood he shed for all mankind. This was very simple and very easy to do, and we almost doubled our church attendance that Sunday. To see a sea of red on that Sunday morning was truly beautiful. What was amazing about this past year is that through sharing the word of Red Sunday through Facebook, we had churches in other towns, cities and states following with us. Two of the major cities that heard about Red Sunday were Atlanta, Georgia, and Chattanooga, Tennessee. I really believe that this year we will see Red Sunday bigger and better than before and soon worldwide.

If any would like to have more information about this year’s Red Sunday, please feel free to contact me at 540-320-7981 or Stacy.towerofrefuge@gmail.com.

–Submitted by Pastor Stacy Cope

BLACKSBURG BAPTISM
AND FELLOWSHIP

On August 8, 2015, Blacksburg P.H. had a wonderful service day of praising and worshiping the Lord. At noon, we had a baptism service at the North Fork River in the Ellett community. Pastor Robert Smith baptized five people: Shirley Boley, William “Tadpole” Smith, Janet Lutz, Brian Harris and Jackson Bean. Jackson is 8 years old, and the entire church is so proud of this young man, that at this age he wants to dedicate his life as a servant of God. Afterward, we met at the church and had a cook-out and fellowship. If anyone left hungry, food or spirit-wise, shame on them! This is a time that we get together and be a family. We are very fortunate to have one another, in good times and bad. We are small in number, but we are a family that will hold each other in prayer, and we are strong in knowing that we are part of God’s family.

–Submitted by Janet Lutz

MARANATHA COLLEGE
OF CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES
FALL SCHEDULE

November 20-21, 2015 – EM 263 Power of Praise & Worship
Guest Instructor: Melanie Atkinson

December 11-12, 2015 – BI 243 Life & Teachings of Jesus Christ
Guest Instructor: Frank Neff