

# All the Highlights!

Pastor Mike Dodson from New Salem Baptist was with us in a joint service with Johana Reyes from Defenders of the Faith, the Hispanic congregation in Bealeton. Serving as a translator we were joined by Enrique Morin from Alexandria. Pastor Mike's leadership in Hope for Appalachia in Eastern Kentucky which is among the most poverty stricken counties in the country, is amazing! Worship leader Andre Marshall from Faith Christian Church & International Outreach Center in Warrenton, not only led us in worship, but delivered encouraging words as well

For two weeks in April, we answered the question, "Why is there evil and suffering in the world?" In elementary terms, God did not create robots. He made man with free will, at the same time He allowed the greatest evil in history with the murder of his Son. However, that evil brought the hope of deliverance to the whole world. Easter reminds that the greatest bombshell to ever explode in the face of an unbelieving world was the resurrection. The cross would have been forgotten had it not been for the sacrifice and death of our savior. That pivotal moment in history..."He is not here, he is risen!"





### **Good Words for Great Souls**

#### BY BISHOP ROBERTS

Have you ever heard of being in the right place at the right time? Or being in the wrong place at the wrong time?

I say to you this; it is not about the right or wrong time or place or even the right or wrong people. It is more of what you CHOOSE to do in that moment, and about making the right choices. Too often we find ourselves at a crossroad between making a quick decision that will satisfy the immediate need or desire, or the more contemplated choice of the longer, winding path that leads to the more successfully and fulfilling end. If you have given it thought and you are believe that you on the right path, know then it will not come easy. Be sure to put your feet in the right place and stand firmly...and when the winds of the storms try to displace you, straighten yourself; stand tall and remain strong in your choices and true to your beliefs.

"Remember not only to say the right thing in the right place, but far more difficult still, to leave unsaid the wrong thing at the tempting moment."

-Benjamin Franklin



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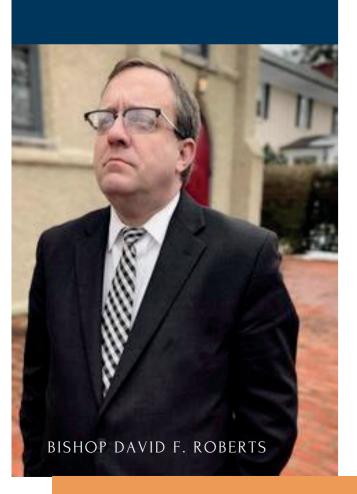
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# "A good man, is a good man, whether in this church or out of it."

-BRIGHAM YOUNG



# 2024 - Year of Activation

#### **BISHOP DAVID ROBERTS**

When Dr Decker Tapscott was with us in November he released us into activation. In the human equation of life we are activated by seasons. I love the transition of one season to the next. I love at least three of the four in their own special uniqueness. As I stated in the message "Come Before Winter" I hate winter. I despise it. I have seriously considered asking my employer if I can hibernate from Thanksgiving until Easter! When the Apostle Paul was writing to his young son Timothy his three words were "Come before winter". There was a sense of urgency. The shipping lanes would soon close, Paul was about to be executed for the gospel, and if Timothy did not come quickly bring his coat, bring his parchment, and bring his books; it would be too late. Martin Luther King called it the urgency of now. Whatever you and I are going to do in life we must do it now. Seasons change quickly. I love the heat of Summer. The beauty of autumn leaves falling from the trees crunching beneath my feet. The bitterness of winter I will not discuss! But the early blooms of spring with longer days and brighter mornings are a delight.

As we journey through life and move through changes we learn more about ourselves. The seasons of life affect us all. In the fall we begin to notice things need to change. We prepare ourselves for winter to hibernate, retreat, reflect, and explore potential change. Winter is a ferocious beast; we go inside, we reflect, we be quiet. We close all doors so new ones can open. We plan for the future. Come Spring, newness bursts into the light. We move forward through opening doors, we begin blooming into a new chapter of life. Summer is my favorite of all time. We step back we celebrate progress and how far we've come. We play, we flourish, and we thrive. Life is a journey and we all change like it or not. As we change we endeavor to improve, enhance and invite newness into life; we deserve it. What season are you and I in right now? Is change happening or are we celebrating changes that have already taken place?

# **Upcoming Events!**

5/05 - VISION SHARING
5/19 - WORSHIP SERVICE
6/02 - WORSHIP SERVICE
6/16 - WORHSIP SERVICE
8/30 - FRIDAY NIGHT 7PM
GUEST SPEAKER CLIFF WEST

# **Special Announcements!**

New brochures & business cards are here!!

\*\*take some and pass them along\*\*

Starting September 2024 we may be having worship service EVERY Sunday--TBD

# You can make a difference too... THE STARFISH STORY

One day a man was walking alone the beach when he noticed a boy picking up and gently throwing things into the ocean.

Approaching the boy he asked: "Young man, what are you doing?"

The boy replied, "throwing starfish back into the ocean. The surf is up and the tide is going out. If I don't throw them back, they'll die."

The man laughed to himself and said, "Do you realize there are mile and miles of beach and hundreds of starfish?" " you can't make any difference."

After listening politely, the boy bent down, picked up another starfish and threw it into the surf, then smiling at the man he said; "I made a difference to that one."

# **Special Thanks!**

We would like to say a special Thank You to:

\*Zach Smith\*

\*Harrison\*

\*TJ\*

\*Joe & Karen Mullins\*

\*Leon Williams\*

\*Remineton Press\*

\*Remington Press\*
\*Rebecca Wareham\*
\*Marg Chiaventone\*



# Online Giving now active!

YOU CAN NOW GIVE ONLINE THROUGH THE FOLLOWING VENDORS

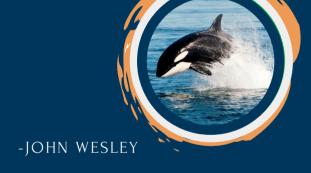
-TITHE.LY -PAYPAL -PUSH PAY



DUE TO SEVERAL REQUESTS, WE WILL BE PLACING A DONATION BASKET OUT DURING EACH SERVICE



"Do all the good you can, by all the means you can, in all the places you can, at all the times you can, to all the people you can, as long as ever you can."





RE-ENTRY RESOURCE FAIR

# O.R.C.A

#### **OUTREACH, RE-ENTRY & COMMUNITY ALLIES**

The region was blessed this year to have the Culpeper Warming Shelter open though the end of March. This helped many unsheltered individuals during the season. However with the shelter closing we are anticipating an uptick in the need for emergency food and supplies for those who again have become unsheltered and those that we have continued to serve throughout the year. Especially as the weather grows warmer. This past year our Center Community members, so graciously donated food, hats, gloves, socks, clothing, hand warmers, blankets, and so much more. We are in awe of the continued blessings that you all give.

There is still a large need for access to shower and laundry service in the surrounding area. The SUDS program that will offer transportation and access to showers and a voucher to launder one load of clothes has been a challenge to find partners that are willing to commit, but we are confident we will get this worked out with more time and discussion.

We are so excited to announce that a very important Center member has joined as a representative to sit on the Regions Re-Entry Council. We are honored to have Harrison sit on the council that meets once a month. We attended the resource fair held at Culpeper Probation & Parole; this offers individuals that are recently released from incarceration an opportunity to learn about all types of resources that may be available to them. Harrison so graciously purchased the Book of John, to be able to pass out.

Within the near future we are planning on starting Forgiveness Fellowship & Mentoring Program. The key to forgiveness is forgiving yourself. This fellowship will be specifically for individuals that have a criminal history. This group will be peer driven and discuss a variety of topics including forgiveness, and the struggles and barriers that they face as a result of their backgrounds. We hope to offer each other support, education, resources and opportunities to learn from each other and grow.

# The Voyage

#### A VOYAGE IS DEFINED AS A COURSE OF TRAVEL OR PASSAGE, AN ESPECIALLY LONG JOURNEY TO A DISTANT PLACE

Our journey together so far....

We continue to look for space and to those that we can partner with. As an immediate goal, we hope to find a space for meetings, and additional worship services that also serves as a very basic day community center. We are currently working with a real estate agent who has been working tirelessly trying to find a space that will fit our needs within the town limits. We have found 2 possible locations and are working with the owner and the town. Meetings have been very positive thus far and we are confident that things will continue to move forward. Our initial location would serve as a small day center, and possible short term overnight housing for less than one week for those that are in between housing resolution or during extreme temperatures. Peer support, food, charging stations, shower and laundry machines would be available to those unsheltered individuals within Culpeper County. We also plan to have a small office, storage and would offer resources and potentially referrals to other agencies for mental health, substance abuse, and housing referrals. We have also selected the larger potential site for the future day center and overnight emergency shelter. This building will need to be entirely stripped and reconstructed. This a certainly a larger, longer term project. If we move forward, that will likely take several years and require multiple funding sources. We still in the infancy stages and have a long road ahead but we feel so blessed to be offered the opportunity.

Our next steps include bringing contractors in for professional insight about viability of the properties, project costs and time lines. If they viable options, we can create a projected budget and a site plan, we will begin work on grant writing. There are 3 local grants that have been recommended; Path Foundation, Northern Piedmont and Culpeper Wellness. Thank you to Zach who has volunteered to assist in the grant writing!

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We all want freedom; though for each that has it's own meaning. Through worship, prayer and acts of service, we can free each other. We can allow ourselves to breathe again, or maybe even take our first breath. Allow our hearts to heal and our weary souls to rest. Join us on this voyage, travel together with us to distant shore, on an uncharted course.

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"Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves"





#### THE VOYAGE CONTINUED.....

We have also recently been added to the region's resource list for the Rapid Response Program to the homeless and hungry. Within less than 24 hours of them receiving the information, we received 3 new calls for homeless individuals in needs of emergency help, and the calls continue to come in. We will also be included in the resource pamphlet that is being printed to be given to Culpeper Town Police Department and Culpeper County Sheriff Department. This small accordion style pocket guide will be given out to anyone they encounter in need of resources. Our Rapid Response is now operating 24/7; specifically during non-business hours and weekends

# **Breaking Bread Journal**

#### **EASTER LUNCHEON**

We were so blessed to enjoy a chili luncheon after the Easter service. We welcomed new friends, we laughed a lot and learned more about each other. Although we did not have as many as those that had RSVP, we understand that life happens and schedules with families and other events come up, and we all still had a wonderful time. And nothing went to waste! We packed meals up and they were taken to Culpeper and passed out amongst the individuals there that we in need. We hope to start doing a luncheon on a regular basis.

# **Special Guest Speaker**

#### **BISHOP CLIFTON WEST**

Clifton West is the State Evangelist for Church of God in Virginia. His commitment to the ministry of evangelism is very strong in Clifton's life. He was called to preach at age 16, and has been evangelizing since 17 years old. He has been an evangelist his entire ministry. He is a gifted speaker and has been faithful to churches of all sizes since 1986. Join us and our special guest on Friday August 30th at 7pm. He will ministering on Faith and Healing. We are so honored to have his at presence at New Beginnings!

# **Community Connections**

As many already know the Outreach Team has been working hard to make solid meaningful connections with community partners. We are working on making stronger connections with other local agencies and non-profits.

We recently were privileged to obtain a seat on the Region Re-entry Council. The council focuses on resources and networking to assist in those that have been released from incarceration. Harrison has attended to represent the Center and very graciously and without hesitation signed up with David to attend the Resources Fair at the Probation and Parole office to reach more individuals.

We have been so blessed for our connection with Rebecca Wareham of Foothills Housing Network. They are the central entry point for the region for homelessness and those is in housing crisis. We are so grateful for Rebecca; her insight, guidance, support and patience with us through this process. She is a wealth of knowledge! We are honored to have her introduce New Beginnings Outreach and what we want to offer to town officials and agencies, this will be in the upcoming months. As we work closer with them, we are hoping for a partnership with Foothills Housing Network and a letter of their support to be offered. We will be attending the Board of Supervisors and Town Council Meetings monthly; as we our schedules allow. If anyone would like to join us, we will be putting up a calendar on the website.

In addition to that Bishop Roberts has been asked to be a guest speaker at several churches and to share the Center's vision. We will also continue to have special guest speakers at the Center.

\*April 14th Yorkshire Free Will Baptist Church Manassas, VA \*May 26th First Assembly of God Eden, NC \*TBD Dumfries, VA

"...Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free..."

-EMMA LAZARUS

# Worship & Message

**Every other Sunday** 

11415 Kings Hill Road Remington, VA 22734 \*Beside the Moo-Thru\*

#### **Mailing Address**

PO BOX 316 Culpeper, VA 22701

540-212-3347 call or text

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