

PILGRIM NEWS



“Know them which labour among you”

I Thessalonians 5:12



OUTREACH: GO TO EVERYONE!



Some people have different ideas about outreach and evangelism. Some want to be confrontational. Others want to be relational. Still others believe that you pray and wait for God to send them into your church. This idea may seem like a noble goal and even sound spiritual. However, the question to ask is this: Is it biblical?

The answer is found in Acts 2:42-47. Notice the verse and the emphasis I made bold:

(42) And they **continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship**, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers. (43) And fear came upon every soul: and many wonders and signs were done by the apostles. (44) And all that believed were together, and had all things common; (45) And sold their possessions and goods, and parted them to all men, as every man had need. (46) **And they, continuing daily with one accord in the temple**, and breaking bread from house to house, did eat their meat with gladness and singleness of heart, (47) Praising God, and **having favour with all the people**. And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved.

The answer to the question is yes. However, it is not just about praying and waiting. Yes, God added to the Church daily, but only after the Church grew spiritually. This growth was in maturity (v. 42), in unity (v. 46), and in favor with its community (v. 47). Are you and your church growing in these areas?

How does one gain favor in their communities? Is it praying and waiting? The answer is quite simple. It is being among your communities. That is outreach. Outreach means going beyond the church to reach your commu-

nity. Asking God to bring people in is great, as long as you are going out to your community to touch them.

Evangelism means going out to tell others about Jesus. I can hear someone say, "I don't like to knock on the doors of people I don't know." That's fine. What about the cashier at the gas station, pharmacy, grocery store, or department store? Have you spoken to them? Have you shared spiritual things with them?

Everyone knows I go to the Speedway gas station almost daily. I have connected with these people, and they call me "Pastor." However, lest you think I am only comfortable with Speedway workers, let me give you an example from Panera Bread. I was meeting a man, Rev. Tim Throckmorton, who works with the Family Research Council and Tony Perkins. I was paying for my coffee. This was my first time at this Panera Bread. I started to hand the cashier my Panera Card and accidentally gave him a grocery store card from Indiana. We laughed as I finally handed him the correct card. However, that little incident opened the door for me to tell him why I moved to New York and to talk with him about spiritual things.

We must be open to God's leading when we are out in our communities. It is not hard because God will give you a segue to talk about spiritual things with people. Our goal is to be in tune with God so that we see these segues. God commands us to go into the world; however, we must first start with our communities. Go, touch someone for Christ.

DR. JOHN A. WHITAKER was elected Conference President of the Pilgrim Holiness Church of New York, Inc., in the 102nd Annual Conference on July 11, 2023. He is also the editor of the *Pilgrim News*.

"God commands us to go into the world; however, we must first start with our communities."

Nominations for the 2026 Annual Conference

The underlined names represent those who currently hold this position.

Conference Secretary: Jonathan Fall, Aaron Lambeth, Richard Owens

Conference Treasurer: To Be Announced

Conference Missionary Secretary: Derald Hunt, Kenneth Sickler

Board of Trustees: Tim O'Brien, David Sickler

Examining Board: Paul Case, Jr., Timothy Montgomery, Richard Owens, John Peabody

Polity Committee: Derald Hunt, Tonweya Sherman

Sunday School Promotional Secretary: Jason Damin, Merle Hock, Trevor Mills, John Ward

Conference Youth President: Joel Byer, Aaron Lambeth

Conference Youth Vice-President: Charles Dodd, Aaron Lambeth

Conference Youth Secretary: Renee Hock, Marianna Sickler

Conference Youth Treasurer: Brian Welch, Josh Withe

Northern Zone Chairman: Paul Case, Jr., Carol Williams, Charles Dodd

Southern Zone Chairman: Joel Byer, Jonathan Fall, Erik Samborski

Central Zone Chairman: Merle Hock, Richard Owens

Western NY Zone Chairman: Aaron Lambeth

Western PA Zone Chairman: Joshua Peck, Daniel Miller

Declaration of Syracuse Church Unorganization

On September 23, 2025, the Council voted upon a request from the church to declare Syracuse unorganized. This notification is given per the Discipline section 5.13.3.

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Unless otherwise indicated, all Scripture references are taken from the King James Version of the Bible.

2026 Pilgrim Holiness Camps

Victory Grove Camp
June 25-July 5, 2026

Evangelists: Rev. David Fulton & Rev. Clair Sams

Song Evangelist: Aaron Lambeth Family

Youth Evangelist: Rev. Tim Forsee

Children Worker: Marlaina Sherman

Pine Ridge Camp
July 13-19, 2026

Evangelists: Rev. Harry Plank & Rev. Marc Sankey

Song Evangelist: Duane & Valerie Quesenberry

Children's Evangelists: Rev. Jonathan & Tami Fall

Adirondack Camp
July 17-26, 2026

Evangelists: Rev. Michael Mason & Rev. Wesley McDonald

Song Evangelist: Luther & Olivia Cole

Children's Workers: Sam & Jackie Nelson

Youth Workers: Dan & Vickie Bubb

Youth Camp
July 27-30, 2026

Evangelist: Rev. Paul Stetler



MID-WINTER YOUTH CONVENTION

We thank the Lord for helping us with our Annual Mid-Winter Youth Convention! Our attendance was up this year and it was encouraging to see God moving! We so appreciated Bro. McMillan's ministry in his messages. Saturday night was especially poignant as he got up and simply shared that he felt that he wasn't to preach that night, but that God was calling different ones to come and seek the Lord at the altar. We so ap-

preciated the many young people that responded to God's call. We are thankful for the solid team that is helping us move forward! A big thank you to Charles Dodd for taking on some increased responsibilities this year. A big thank you as well to Penn View, UBC, and AWC for their help in working with the youth and their music ministry. We are looking forward to Youth Camp this Summer! We are excited to have Rev. Paul Stetler share. Re-

member, you can now go online for any info. You can use your phone to scan the QR code on the youth camp picture right here in this magazine and register online or you can send in a "snail mail" application as well. See you at Youth Camp!
Rev. Joel Byer
Youth President



MEET OUR PASTORAL FAMILIES

“Know them which labour among you.”

1 Thessalonians 5:12



JOEL BYER PASTOR AT TUNKHANNOCK, PA

Meet the Byer family — Joel, Jennifer, and their four kids: Jeffrey (23), Janessa (21), Jaylee (17), and Janae (15). Joel serves as senior pastor at Tunkhannock Pilgrim Holiness Church in Tunkhannock, PA, where the family has faithfully served for sixteen years. He’s quick to describe Jennifer as “awesome,” and family is clearly at the heart of everything he does.

Pastor Joel grew up partly in Quebec, Canada, where he learned to play hockey alongside his brothers — a passion that stuck. Jennifer is famous around Tunkhannock for her crème puffs, and their son Jeffrey has the remarkable gift of perfect pitch, instantly identifying the key of any song he hears. The family loves board games, though Joel admits things get “a bit competitive.”

Joel and Jennifer met at Penn View Bible Institute and married on August 21, 1999 — then stepped into pastoral ministry just ten days later. After a decade leading a church in Ontario, Canada, they answered the call to Tunkhannock, and Pastor Joel says simply: “We don’t regret it.”

He’s passionate about outreach, grateful for a congregation unafraid to try new things, and especially encouraged by the church’s growing number of children and young people. He also believes Conservative Holiness churches must stay true to their message while embracing modern communication.

Oh, and the family occasionally makes animal balloons for outreach events. Pastor Byer is happy to report they’re “a relatively normal family” — though with a laugh, he’s the first to admit that might be debatable.

BRIAN WELCH ASSISTANT PASTOR AT TUNKHANNOCK, PA

Tunkhannock is blessed to welcome Brian and Krystal Welch as our new Assistant Pastoral family! Brian hails from Meshoppen, PA, and Krystal from Wauneta, Nebraska — and their paths crossed at PVBI, where Brian also received his ministerial training. Married in July 2019, they are a wonderful team in life and in ministry.

Their growing family includes son Justice, daughter Aubrey, and a baby girl on the way! At home, they are also kept busy by three lovable Rottweilers — a breed they actually raise and love dearly.

Brian’s passion for ministry is contagious. He loves seeing young people grow in their walk with God and gets excited about trying new approaches to reach more people. His vision can be summed up simply: “New Look, Same Great Message.” He also takes great joy in improving facilities to make ministry more effective.

When they aren’t serving the church, the Welch family enjoys hiking, hunting, fishing, RV camping, and tackling new projects. Krystal loves crafting, while little Justice rules the backyard in his Power Wheels Gator, and Aubrey adores her baby dolls. Fun fact — both Brian and Krystal have served as school bus drivers!

About a year and a half in, one thing is clear: the Welches are here to work, here to love people, and here to make a lasting impact. We are so glad they are part of our church family!



PAUL CASE PASTOR AT LAKE PLACID, NY

Paul Case Jr. grew up a pastor’s kid in upstate New York — born in Amsterdam and raised across several small towns. A self-described extremely shy young man, his one teenage friend and he had big plans to become dairy farmers. “Cows don’t care how shy you are!”

Connie grew up in Weippe, Idaho — a tiny northern Idaho town — and was quite the outdoorswoman, spending her childhood backpacking and tent-camping. The two met at Hobe Sound Bible College in Florida, began dating in 1983, and married in 1986. They’ll celebrate their 40th anniversary on June 21, 2026.

Their family includes three sons: Aaron (wife Lulu); Adam (wife Amanda, and five children); and Nathan (wife Kristina, and daughter Natalie).

By July 2026, Paul and Connie will have completed 40 years in ministry — as Paul jokes, “If I can remember how long we’ve been married, I can remember how long we’ve been pastoring!” Their journey has spanned seven pastorates across the Northeast and the West, and they’re now finishing their sixth year at Lake Placid, NY.

Paul finds the greatest reward in ministry when parishioners reach out to the unsaved and bring them to the cross. He especially loves preaching and teaching through books of the Bible in depth. He treasures his Lake Placid congregation’s open hearts to God’s Spirit and open arms to everyone who walks through the door.

Out of the pulpit, Paul and Connie enjoy card games, walking, and the occasional bike ride. Connie is an avid reader of murder mystery novels. And there was that one memorable Christmas when a church member gave them a hot air balloon ride. “It kind of scared us at first,” Paul admits. “But we enjoyed that ride very, very, very much!”

AARON LAMBETH PASTOR AT CANANDAIGUA, NY

Aaron Lambeth was born in Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania — yes, that Punxsutawney. His path to ministry took a meaningful turn when he transferred to Allegheny Wesleyan College in Ohio to pursue a Bachelor of Arts in Ministerial Studies. It was there he met Clista, and the two married on June 9, 2007 — celebrating 19 years together this spring.

By fall of 2007, the newlyweds were already in ministry, with Aaron commuting weekly between Ohio and West Lebanon, Pennsylvania. After graduating in 2009, he moved full-time to Pennsylvania, was ordained by the New York Pilgrims in 2011, and on January 1, 2012, planted roots in Canandaigua — where he has pastored the Pilgrim Holiness Church ever since. This fall marks nearly 19 years in pastoral ministry.

The Lambeths have four children: Malachi Wayne, Carissa Mae, Callia Ruth, and Isaiah Ray. Summers are largely spent at church camp as a family.

Aaron is a man of many trades — by necessity, he’s become a capable plumber, roofer, carpenter, mechanic, and electrician. He also drives a school bus for Canandaigua City School District. In his free time, he loves fishing, hunting, snow, and Clista is an excellent cook who enjoys painting, crocheting, puzzles, and Christmas. Since marrying Aaron, she’s taken up hunting and harvested several deer.

The kids each bring their own flavor: Malachi loves fishing and wood carving; Carissa is the family bookworm and animal lover — all animals welcome, just please, no snakes or worms; Callia is a people person who loves piano and crocheting; and Isaiah, the youngest, is full of energy — climbing trees, riding ATVs, and snuggling on the couch with mom or dad.



CAROL WILLIAMS PASTOR AT BLOOMINGDALE, NY



Rooted in faith, family, and a deep love for her congregation, Rev. Carrol Williams has served the Bloomingdale church for ten years — a decade marked by devotion, encouragement, and a steadfast belief in God’s faithfulness.

Originally from Schenectady, New York, she and her late husband first met while hiking with friends — a fitting beginning for a life spent journeying together. They shared fifty years of marriage before his passing, building a legacy that now spans five children, twelve grandchildren, and seven great-grandchildren.

Her path into ministry was shaped by formal study and mentorship. She holds a Bachelor of Arts from Empire State College and completed ministerial study under the late

Rev. Stephen Smith — all ten years of her ministry poured into the Bloomingdale congregation she calls home.

Ask what she loves most, and the answer comes straight from the heart: “Being able to share Christ’s faithfulness.” She finds deep joy in walking alongside believers in their struggles, praying with people, and helping each person grow in their personal relationship with God. She describes her congregation warmly as “kind, having a generous heart that loves God.” Her greatest passion looking ahead is growth — seeing more people from the surrounding community discover the love God has for them.

Outside the church, Carrol treasures time with family above all else. She also loves hiking and walking — a love stretching back to those early days with her husband. You might find her strolling along the ocean in Maine, curled up with a good book, or working on a sewing project. A life well-lived, and a heart wholly given to God and others.

BRUSHTON, NY

Nestled in the small upstate New York town of Brushton, this congregation has a heart full of faith and a door wide open. They are a community of believers ready and eager to grow. If God is stirring your heart toward ministry, Brushton may be just where he is calling you. We are praying for God to send just the pastor He has for them!



DAN MILLER

PASTOR AT FRANKLIN, PA



Dan Miller isn't the kind of pastor who came to ministry through a traditional path — and that's exactly what makes him so genuine.

Dan grew up in Polk, Pennsylvania, and his wife Dawn hails from nearby Grove City. Their story began the way the best ones often do: through friendship. Dawn's childhood best friend married a close friend of Dan's, and that connection brought the two of them together. Twenty-eight years of marriage later, it's safe to say the intro-

duction took.

Together, Dan and Dawn have three children. Eileen, their oldest, is married to David Potts and has given the Millers their first grandchild — three-year-old Cohen. Daughter Clarice is married to Gage Sutton, and youngest Josiah rounds out the family. The family dog, Sam, holds his own important place in the household as well.

Dan's roots run deep — in more ways than one. He is part Native American, spent years as a professional blacksmith and farrier, and has spent his life in the logging and lumber business his grandfather started back in 1940. He has also authored and published a book, and in his quieter moments enjoys hunting and writing short stories and poems.

He began teaching Sunday School in 2004 and started preaching in 2019, eventually stepping into the role of pastor at Rocky Grove Pilgrim Holiness Church in Franklin, Pennsylvania — the only church he has ever pastored, now seven years strong.

What keeps him going? Watching the Holy Spirit move. Helping hurting people find hope. And serving a congregation he describes as "so true and genuine" — people who have walked through hard seasons without ever wavering. For Dan Miller, ministry isn't a career. It's a calling he lives every single day.

DAVID WALTER

PASTOR AT GLEN IRON, PA



David and Joyce Walter's story is one of surrender, faithfulness, and a God who clearly had a plan — even when they didn't.

Both born in 1956, David in Pottsville, Pennsylvania and Joyce in Canastota, New York, the two grew up in pastoral homes before meeting at Penn View Bible Institute and beginning to date in 1972. They married on June 15, 1974, just two weeks after high school graduation — a milestone they'll celebrate 52 years this June.

Here's the thing though: when they married, neither of them wanted ministry. David had no desire to preach, and Joyce had no desire to be a preacher's wife. But God had other ideas, and eventually, they yielded. Neither of them can imagine it any other way now!

Their ministry journey has taken them from a small fishing village on the coast of North Carolina, to Shamokin and Lancaster County in Pennsylvania, to Portage — where David survived open heart surgery and Joyce battled cancer, both carried through by a remarkably loving congregation. They also raised five children, did foster care for years, and in 1999 adopted their two youngest.

In 2015, unspeakable grief arrived when a young grandson was tragically killed. David and Joyce stepped away from ministry to be near family during that painful season — a testament to who they are at their core.

They answered the call to Glen Iron Pilgrim Holiness Church, where they have now faithfully served for over ten years. Together they have 22 grandchildren, 9 great-grandchildren, and a legacy of ministry that spans generations.

CHARLES COLTON

PASTOR AT RUSSELL, NY



Rev. Charles and Tiffany Colton pastor the Russell, New York congregation. Charles is originally from Clare, NY, and Tiffany from Harrisburg, PA — two hearts that found each other at PVBI, where both attended college. Sixteen years of marriage and sixteen years of ministry tell a story of commitment to God and His people.

Their household is a full and loving one. Tiffany's brother Tyrone, who is like a son to them, lives with the Coltons, and they pour themselves into his care with great devotion. They also share their home with three puppies — Daisy, Dory, and Tuna — and a turtle named Rebel!

Charles finds his greatest ministerial reward in seeing people reconnect with God, and together he and Tiffany are especially passionate about ministering to the elderly and disabled — a calling that flows naturally from their compassionate hearts. It might be interesting to know that Charles plays the clarinet and Tiffany the flute.

When the day slows down, the Coltons enjoy reading, listening to audiobooks, attending craft fairs and farmers markets, and playing games together. They also share a love of cooking and discovering new recipes.

We are grateful for the Coltons' faithful and tender-hearted service!



DERALD HUNT

PASTOR AT ARCHDALE, NC

Derald and Kim Hunt's story is proof that God can take two very different lives from two very different places and weave them into something beautiful.

Derald grew up in Colorado Springs, Colorado, born into a large pastoral family. Kim came from Northville, New York — a "bus kid" from a deeply broken childhood who found Jesus at thirteen and never looked back. What brought them together was a Bible college in Thomasville, North Carolina, where friendship quietly grew into love. They married on July 11, 1982, and this July will celebrate 43 years together.

Over the next nine years, God filled their home with four children — Marlene, Duane, Nathan, and Judy — who have since married and blessed Derald and Kim with 15 grandchildren. These days, three mini goldendoodles named Ginger, Muffin, and Mitzi keep the house lively when family isn't around. (The Hunts also breed mini goldendoodles to support the Lord's work — find them on Facebook at "Mini Missions Pups!") Pastor Hunt enjoys woodworking, and they find camping relaxing when there is time.

Their ministry journey has been nothing short of remarkable — from a preaching point in High-falls, North Carolina, to a mission in Winston-Salem, to South Texas, to four transformative years in Monterrey, Mexico, where they founded the Faith Holiness Mission, still thriving 38 years later. Eighteen years pastoring in Colorado Springs followed before they answered the call to Archdale Pilgrim Holiness Church in 2011.

What God has done in Archdale is extraordinary. From a hurting congregation, He built something vibrant and diverse — now reaching over 30 nationalities through a Kids' Club outreach ministry. The diversity of Archdale church is so rewarding, from seasoned saints to the sincere youth. The highlight of the week is the Saturday evening and early Sunday morning prayer meetings. For Derald and Kim, watching an entire community discover Jesus together is the greatest reward of all.



MARCY, NY

Marcy Pilgrim Holiness Church is a faithful, friendly congregation diligently pressing forward even in this season without a pastor. Situated on 14 beautiful acres with a large, well-appointed parsonage, they are blessed with a rich history shaped by some truly amazing pastors throughout the years. Though smaller in number today, their hearts remain big and their commitment unwavering. They are actively seeking and praying for new souls, believing God for growth, and trusting Him to send the right pastor to shepherd their devoted flock into its next chapter.

PERRY CASE

PASTOR AT STRATTANVILLE, PA

Perry and Brenda Case are the kind of pastors people feel very blessed to have. Grounded, genuine, and deeply caring, they've become more than leaders to their Strattanville, Pennsylvania congregation — they're family.

Perry grew up in Amsterdam, New York and spent most of his growing up years in the state of New York. After attending college at Hobe Sound, Florida, he came to visit his sister Patty who lived near Strattanville. He picked up a trucking job in the area and started attending the local church. That's where he met Brenda, a Clarion, Pennsylvania girl who had grown up there her whole life. She was wrapping up her nursing degree at the time. They started dating in November 1993 and married in September 1994. This coming September makes 32 years.

They have four daughters. Lynette, the oldest, is married to Andrew Waterman and lives in Thomasville, North Carolina. Larissa is 24 and lives on the property. Liliana is 13 — a social butterfly who loves animals and having friends around. Lindsey is 8 and is all about animals and the tiniest Legos she can find. Their one pet is a cat named Princess.

Perry and Brenda have been in ministry about 25 years, 21 of them at Pierpoint Manor, New York. Three years ago, they began ministering at Strattanville — the same church where they first met!

Perry is passionate about preaching and getting new people into the church. For hobbies, he enjoys collecting and shooting guns, and working crossword puzzles. Brenda enjoys thrift store shopping.

They both simply love people, and it shows. The Cases feel passionately that people are their greatest reward of ministry...." They are like our family."

On March 18th, Perry received good news — he's been placed on a transplant list out of Erie, Pennsylvania. Their church family is standing with them every step of the way. Let us pray much with them as a conference on this important matter!



FOSTORIA, OH



Fostoria is a historic, working-class community that is known for being tight-knit and coming together in times of need. It is best known for its railroad where 100 trains pass through daily.

In the heart of this town is a faithful congregation that has demonstrated remarkable strength and perseverance over the past two years without a pastor. Rather than

allowing the absence of leadership to slow them down, the members have stepped up, stood in the gap, and kept the vision alive. Their children's ministry is doing well under the direction of Sis. Rachel. She is making connections with families and bringing in new children. This church is a shining example of what a committed body of believers can accomplish when they refuse to give up. They are ready to welcome a new pastor!



JOHN PEABODY

PASTOR AT SCHENECTADY, NY

John and Gina Peabody have spent over three decades faithfully serving in ministry, and today they bring that same warmth and dedication to their congregation in Schenectady, New York.

Originally from different corners of the country — Gina from Oak Hill, Ohio, and John from Baltimore, Maryland — the two met at Penn View Bible Institute, where God planted the seeds of both a marriage and a ministry. They have been married 37 years and have built a beautiful family together: five children, Jonathan, Jacob, Jenae, Joshua, and Jianna, along with two grandchildren, six-year-old Nicholas and three-year-old Charlotte Mae. Their youngest daughter,

Jianna, was born with Cornelia de Lange Syndrome, a rare developmental condition that has only deepened the family's faith and compassion.

Rev. Peabody has pastored exclusively within Pilgrim Holiness churches across New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania, also serving as Conference President from 2014 to 2023. Now in his third year at Schenectady, he cherishes the unity and eagerness of his congregation. For Pastor Peabody, ministry is simply about being the hands of Jesus — meeting people, visiting with them, and showing up.

Gina's gifts shine in hospitality, filling the church with warmth through beautifully decorated gatherings and meals. Together, they enjoy country drives, good food, and family — a pastoral couple as genuine as they come.



JOSHUA PECK

PASTOR AT VENUS, PA

Twenty years ago, two students crossed paths at God's Bible School and College — Josh, a fifth-year senior from Breezewood, Pennsylvania, and Heather, a fresh-faced freshman whose pastor-father had moved the family through several towns before settling in Zanesville, Ohio. They married between Heather's freshman and sophomore years, and what began as a college romance has grown into a full and joyful household.

Today, Josh and Heather are surrounded by five children — Emmalee (16), Trevor (13), Alana (11), Kylie (9), and Kara (7) — plus an outdoor cat named Cocoa who wisely keeps her distance from the beautiful chaos within. The family homeschools all five children while Josh serves as pastor of their Venus, PA congregation, a post he has held for fifteen years, having first entered ministry as assistant pastor to Rev. Newman in Zanesville in 2008.

Ask Pastor Peck what he loves most about ministry, and his answer comes quickly: "Seeing people experience the goodness of God." Ask about his church, and the answer is just as swift: "The people — we are a family!" Discipleship and outreach remain his twin passions, and the Pecks pour themselves into both alongside their roles at Pine Ridge Camp and the conference council.

Free time? Josh laughs at the thought. But in the fullness of this busy, beautiful season, the Peck family has found its greatest joy simply doing life — and ministry — together.

JONATHAN FALL

PASTOR AT GREEN GROVE CHURCH
NICHOLSON, PA

Jonathan Fall's story begins halfway around the world. Born in South Korea, he spent his first nine years in orphanages before being adopted in 1975 by an American family in Michigan, where he grew up on a small dairy farm alongside his adopted brother Kevin. God had a remarkable journey ahead for that young boy — one that would lead him to ministry, marriage, and a life poured out for others.



Jonathan met his wife, Tami, at God's Bible School in Cincinnati, Ohio, where they both enrolled in the fall of 1988. Their friendship blossomed into courtship during their second year, and in July 1992 they were united in marriage in Peebles, Ohio. By January 1993, they had entered full-time ministry together — a calling they have faithfully answered for over three decades, pastoring churches in Harrisburg, NC; Haverhill, MA; Endicott, NY; and now nearly 19 years at Green Grove Church in Nicholson, Pennsylvania.

Tami, a pastor's daughter herself, brings warmth and creativity to everything she does — from her excellent cooking and baking to crafting visuals for children's ministry. Pastor Fall is a man of many gifts: preaching, photography, hunting, home repairs, and yes, even sewing.

Together they have raised six children and are grandparents to five, with a sixth grandchild expected this spring. Matthew, their youngest, resides at home with them. Their youngest daughter Brooklynn and her husband are preparing to serve as missionaries to Lesotho, South Africa, beginning July 2026 — a beautiful fruit of a family rooted in faith.

At Green Grove, the Falls treasure their close-knit, country congregation. As Jonathan puts it simply, "Our people are the best!"

SHARON KRUCK

PASTOR AT MILLVILLE, NJ

Sharon Kruck was born and raised in Belleplain, New Jersey — a small town where three families, the Champions, Germanios, and Repicis, made up the heart of the community. As a Champion, Sharon grew up surrounded by grandparents, aunts, and uncles who literally filled an entire block. That deep sense of family has shaped everything about her.

Sharon has been in ministry her whole life in one capacity or another, pastoring at Erma, NJ PHC for approximately ten years before coming to Millville four years ago. Her passion is simple and unwavering: sharing the Gospel according to God's Word and caring deeply for the flock He has entrusted to her.



Her three daughters are a source of immense pride. April is a traveling surgical RN living in South Carolina with her husband Steven. Amanda holds a master's degree in education and sells school curriculum. She and her husband Josh live in Delaware. Sherri is a teacher's aide for Pre-K students and, and she and her husband Matthew, who juggles working out of state and being in New Jersey, live with Sharon along with their two children — granddaughter Alayna, a high-honors sophomore who placed second in Mock Trial and plays flute, and grandson Aaron, a seventh grader who recently won a school award for being a good friend and has even taught Grandma a few computer tricks.

Sharon enjoys Crystal Art in her free time, and her life philosophy is beautifully straightforward: share the good and the bad openly, because it makes a powerful example of what God can do!

ERIC SAMBORSKI

PASTOR AT WILKES-BARRE, PA



It started on a sixth-grade playground in Massachusetts. Erik walked up to Megan, asked what he freely admits was a stupid question, and she was entirely unimpressed. Somehow, it worked. Seventeen years of marriage and five children later, the Samborskis are now planting roots in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania — the conference's newest work — and they couldn't be more all in.

Erik (41) and Megan (41) are joined by Charlotte (16), Jude (14), Adelaide (13), Oliver (11), and Gabe (9), plus Hazel the goldendoodle, whom the family cheerfully credits as the brains of the whole operation. Bro. Samborski came to ministry through an unconventional path — studying from parsonage offices and upstairs rooms through Aldersgate Online and GBS home study — and has been pastoring for twelve years, serving in Bloomingdale and Rome, New York before arriving in Wilkes-Barre five and a half years ago.

What drives Pastor Eric is a big-picture vision: the Gospel expanding across cities, valleys, and nations, mirroring in the here and now the heavenly multitude of every tribe and tongue. His Wilkes-Barre congregation fuels that fire — people who love Jesus so genuinely they can't stop telling others, then ask for prayer for more opportunities.

At home, the family holds friendly competitions, writes songs, stars in Jude's homemade comedy films, and stages neighborhood Nerf battles. Erik hikes, layers instruments in home recordings, and still gets nervous every single time he preaches in the open air. Megan reads, exercises, and hunts thrift store treasures.

We thank God for the great work they are accomplishing at Wilkes-Barre!



JOSH WITHE

PASTOR AT HAVERHILL, MA

Pastor Josh Withe never had to go far to find his calling — it was right where he grew up. A Haverhill, Massachusetts native, Josh returned to his hometown alongside his wife Crystal to pastor the local Pilgrim Holiness Church, a role they have faithfully served in for 14½ years. Notably, they hold a unique distinction as the only Pilgrim Holiness Church pastors in all of New England.

Crystal, originally from Mifflinburg, Pennsylvania, met Josh at Penn View Bible Institute, where their shared faith and vision for ministry brought them together. After 26 years of marriage, they have built a beautiful life with their four children — Abigail, the eldest, now married to Clayton Mowery, and Nicholas, Joanna, and Coral, who still call home their favorite place. Even their cat, Charcoal, is part of the family.

Ministry for the Withes goes far beyond the pulpit. Each week they visit residents at Ivy Hill Nursing Home, bringing warmth and comfort to the elderly. Crystal, a manager at Common Ground Thrift Store, works tirelessly to serve those in need. They are passionate about reaching out to children, the homeless, and elderly there in Haverhill.

Josh, an inventor who created "Poor Man's Fiberglass," also enjoys skiing, biking, boating, and fixing things. Krystal stays active through exercise, baking, reading, and learning Spanish.

For Josh and Crystal Withe, Haverhill isn't just their ministry — it's home.

TIM COOLEY

CO-PASTOR AT MUIR, PA



Tim and Jean Cooley bring a wealth of life experience, faith, and family legacy to their unique co-pastor role at Muir, Pennsylvania — a partnership they share with Chester Handfield, making Muir one of a kind in our conference. Pastors Cooley and Handfield have served at Muir for seven years.

Tim was born in Bethlehem, PA, and has been a God's Missionary Church licensee since 1971, pastoring churches in Bellefonte, Newport, and Pillow, Pennsylvania. He also serves as Academic Dean at Penn View Bible Institute, a role he has held for

a remarkable 42 years. Jean, originally from Rutland, OH, is a retired LPN with over 30 years of service — and a licensed tractor-trailer driver who always drove in a skirt!

The newlyweds married on April 9, 2026, each having been widowed after more than 52 years in their first marriages. Together they bring a blended family of children, grandchildren, and a rich heritage of holiness ministry. Tim's grandparents served as missionaries in China, and his daughter Tabitha has taught in Africa for over 20 years. Jean comes from a long line of holiness preachers.

At Muir, Tim treasures seeing people grow in God's Word and loves the deep fellowship among the congregation. Jean loves connecting with people and lifting her contralto voice in song for the glory of God. We are excited for what God has in store for Pastor Cooley and his new wife, Jean!

GRAND GORGE, NY

Grand Gorge Pilgrim Holiness Church is a small, close-knit congregation in Grand Gorge, New York. Rooted in farming families and community, these down-to-earth folks have kept services running



smoothly on their own for the past year while without a pastor. Everyone pitches in and takes care of what needs to be done — no fuss, no fanfare. A nice, modest parsonage sits just across the street from the church. They are anticipating God to bring just the pastor they need!

CHESTER HANDFIELD

CO-PASTOR AT MUIR, PA

From the shores of the Turks and Caicos Islands, Chester Handfield answered a calling greater than himself. Ordained in 2000, he spent decades quietly building his faith — earning degree after degree, not for recognition, but to better serve others.

Through grief and loss, Chester leaned on God. Then came Misty, a beautiful lady from the plains of South Dakota, whose Native American heritage brought new richness to his life. On April 2, 2021, they became one. They are raising a beautiful four-year-old daughter, Miracle Faith — a name that says everything about the journey that brought her here.

Since 2018, Chester has served alongside Dr. Timothy Cooley, co-pastoring PHC in Muir, Pennsylvania.

With a Master of Divinity, a Master of Theology, and a Doctor of Theology to his name, Chester Handfield is quietly one of the most educated men in the room. He'd never tell you that himself.

That's what makes him great.



TIM MONTGOMERY

PASTOR AT MASSENA, NY



Tim Montgomery grew up in southern Indiana, and Nancy in central Michigan — but their paths crossed at a Nebraska camp meeting when Tim flew a rented plane hoping to meet a "western girl." Instead, he found his lifelong partner. Married in America's Bicentennial year, 1976, they will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary this October.

Together they have six children, 18 grandchildren, and one great-granddaughter — a family of 33 (and counting, with a grandchild due in June!). Tim is happily learning what it means to be a patriarch.

Ministry has been the heartbeat of their marriage for roughly 40 years, spanning pastoral and assistant pastoral roles across Indiana, a season in Christian school administration in North Carolina, and a brief but meaningful pastorate at Fox Hill Pilgrim Holiness Church in

Edinburgh, NY. In 2002, they answered the call to Massena Pilgrim Holiness Church, where they have faithfully served for nearly 24 years in bivocational ministry.

What Pastor Montgomery loves most about shepherding this congregation is watching people — one by one, season by season — experience genuine spiritual and emotional healing. He is passionate about how Christian doctrine shapes real relationships without sacrificing individuality or trust.

Before they were married, Tim was a pilot and Nancy spent several months in Mexico as a missionary assistant. In true Tim fashion, one dark night around 2 a.m., he landed on a highway outside Tipton, Indiana, got gas delivered by the city police — and took off again!

In their free time, Nancy knits, crochets, and cherishes time with family. Tim hikes with his grandchildren and enjoys audiobooks.

MERLE HOCK

PASTOR AT NORTHVILLE, NY

Meet Merle and Cindy Hock — a pastor and his wife whose lives have been shaped by faith, family, and a heart for the world. Originally from Carlisle, PA and Columbus, OH respectively, they met through mutual friends over a meal and games while living in Cincinnati near God's Bible School, where they both earned their degrees. Married in August 1991, they will celebrate 35 years together in 2026.

Rev. Hock holds a Master's in Practical Ministries from Cincinnati Bible Seminary and has devoted himself to pastoral ministry for nearly three decades. Since 2009, he and Cindy have served the Northville Pilgrim Holiness Church in Northville, NY — their third pastorate after Geneva, PA and Windsor, NY. What he loves most? Watching people grow in grace.

Cindy earned her master's from the University of Cincinnati and has taught Spanish at both God's Bible School and Northville Middle School, continuing to substitute teach today.

Together they raised three remarkable children. Renee, a registered nurse with a calling to Brazil, speaks Portuguese and Spanish and helps with Sunday School. Philip works in construction, renovated his own home from the ground up, and plays guitar at church. Brittany, married to Joe McMannaman, teaches and plays piano, violin, guitar, and mandolin.

Here's a fun tidbit: both daughters, Renee and Brittany, graduated as Valedictorians from Penn View Bible Institute — an extraordinary double distinction for one family.

The Hocks have also lived internationally, spending seven months in Belize while serving as interim missionaries, with travels extending to Mexico, Guatemala, and beyond.



KEN SICKLER

PASTOR AT ROCKWOOD, NY

Ken Sickler grew up in Tunkhannock, Pennsylvania. Ruth grew up in Salem, Ohio. Their paths crossed when Ken came to Salem for a year of postgraduate study through the IHC Master's Program, while Ruth was working as a secretary for two local doctors. Nine months after they met, they were married. Three weeks later, they packed up and moved to Monticello, New York — and Ken's first pastorate had begun.

That was 51 years ago. The Sicklers have now been in ministry for over five decades, serving first in Monticello for nine years before answering a call to Rockwood Church, where they faithfully shepherded the congregation for an extraordinary 42 years.

Ken and Ruth have three children, all of whom carry the family's spirit of service in their own ways. Their daughter Tonya is married to Bud Poe and raises her family on a small ranch in Iowa. Marianna pours herself into her community as a daycare teacher, Sunday School Superintendent, junior worship leader, teen class teacher, and youth group leader — all at Rockwood Church. Son Benjie works at Walmart Distribution and lends a hand with the ministry at Rockwood as well.

Ask Pastor Sickler what the most rewarding part of ministry is, and his answer is simple: "Seeing new people come to Christ and spiritual growth in our people." What he loves most about Rockwood is the unity he sees among the congregation — their genuine love, concern, and care for one another and for the newcomers who walk through the doors.

Missions hold a special place in both their hearts — local outreach and foreign missions alike. It's a passion that has shaped the direction of their ministry through the decades.

When he's not pastoring, Ken enjoys reading, working in the garden, and hunting. Ruth has her own favorite ways to unwind — Sudoku puzzles, diamond art, and cooking to share with others. But perhaps most characteristic of Ruth is her habit of calling or texting people simply to let them know she was thinking of them. It's a small thing, she'd likely say. To the people who receive those messages, it means the world.



LINESVILLE, PA

Linesville Pilgrim Holiness Church has been in existence within the community in Linesville, Pennsylvania for decades. Though small and currently without a pastor, the congregation continues to benefit from the former pastor's faithful labors. A completely remodeled parsonage sits right beside the church and is move-in ready. Linesville is a charming little town on the shores of Pymatuning Lake.

RICHARD OWENS

PASTOR AT MIDDLEBURGH, NY

Rev. Richard and Dawn Owens came to Middleburgh Pilgrim Holiness Church in 1992, relocating from Kansas City, where both had served in Christian education and traveled together in song evangelism. Rev. Owens holds a degree in Earth Science with a minor in Art from Southern Illinois University, while Mrs. Owens earned a degree in Music from God's Bible School. The two met at Harmony Hill Youth Camp in Fulton, Missouri, later joined the faculty of Kansas City College and Bible School — now Kansas Christian College — and were married shortly after.

Rev. Owens began his ministry as a teenager and was consecrated to pastoral ministry by Dr. Dale Yocum, under whom he served as associate pastor at South Park Church of God (Holiness) in Overland Park, Kansas. The Owenses have three children — Seth, Isaac, and Rachel and one grandchild. The sons live in Cincinnati, Ohio. Rachel now serves the Middleburgh congregation as music minister, organist, missionary president, hospitality coordinator, and livestream technician. For 30 years, Rev. Owens has also led a Sunday afternoon satellite service at an apartment complex in Cobleskill — a ministry he considers both fulfilling and rewarding. Above all, he is committed to being Biblically sound in both ministry and life.



THOMAS JONES

PASTOR AT LISBON, OH

Thomas J. Jones, Sr. and Carole Ann share a love story that began in a one-room country school between Evart and Marion, Michigan — where they met in the third grade. This July, they will celebrate 60 years of marriage.



Together they have three children, Christa, Thomas, and Matthew. Christa has two children of her own, Rebecca and Daniel.

The Jones' have devoted 48 years to ministry, pastoring churches across Michigan, Pennsylvania, and Ohio. They arrived in Lisbon in 1984, serving faithfully for most of that time, and returned a year ago March to fill in once again.

Thomas describes their current congregation as the most problem-free church he has ever known — a people quick to give, loving toward one another, and responsive to Scripture. Much of the congregation comes from outside the holiness movement. It is refreshing to see them hunger after the Word. Thomas finds particular joy in reaching people who have been hurt by the church, watching them respond when God's Word is made plain.

"Christ is the only sensible answer to problems," he says.

Outside of ministry, Thomas enjoys fishing, cutting wood, and reading extensively. He and Carole both love eating out.

As for surprises — Thomas doubts there are many. They are simply two people, faithful and steady, still serving the same community where God planted them decades ago.

SYRACUSE, NY

We would like to take this time to thank Stephen and Rebekkah Lambeth and their family for their two years of faithful service. They have put much work, effort, and resources into reaching out into the community. We are deeply grateful for all their sacrifices. At this time, they feel led to move to Indiana. Please pray for the Syracuse work and its future.



ANDREW MANLEY

PASTOR AT KINGSTON, ON

Andrew and Susanna Manley have been part of the Kingston Pilgrim Holiness Church since 2011, bringing with them a history of faithful ministry. Andrew is originally from Bedford, Indiana, and Susanna grew up in the Napanee/Kingston, Ontario area. The two met as students at Penn View Bible Institute, where both graduated, and will celebrate 24 years of marriage in August 2026.

Their ministry roots go back to 2002, with pastorates in Troy, New York, Syracuse, New York, and Welland, Ontario. When Kingston found itself without a pastor in 2020, Andrew stepped in to fill the Sunday services — a role he has faithfully held for five years while the church board continues its search.

The Manleys have four children still at home — Jayson, 22, Josiah, 20, Chloe, 17, and Joshua, 15 — all of whom pitch in with the bus ministry, which has been a cornerstone of the family's outreach for 12 years. Susanna also teaches junior church. Andrew works full time as a truck driver and, when time allows, heads for the nearest lake. Susanna manages their small hobby farm — goats, chickens, a vegetable garden — and keeps busy with canning and soap making.

Their goal is simple: to reach as many people as possible in Kingston for God's kingdom.

A Faithful Life

NANCY L. SHUMWAY

JULY 9, 1938 – MARCH 10, 2026

Some lives are lived quietly, yet leave an echo that carries for generations. Nancy Shumway was that kind of woman.

From her youth, Nancy gave her heart to her Lord — and she never looked back. When she married Daniel Shumway in 1958, she stepped into a life of ministry alongside him, and she embraced it fully. For decades, as Rev. Shumway faithfully served as a minister in the New York Pilgrim Holiness conference, Nancy was there — not in the shadows but woven into the fabric of every congregation they served. She played piano and organ, taught Sunday school, and poured herself into each community they called home. She was not simply a minister's wife. She was a minister in her own right.

Her gifts were many. For over 40 years, she opened her home to piano students, shaping young hands and hearts with patience and grace. She was a gifted seamstress, a devoted crocheter whose handiwork found its way into family homes and missionary ministries around the world. Her kitchen was a place of love — the smell of something baking, jars lined up from the garden's harvest, meals made with care for the people she treasured most.

Her devotion to Daniel, to her children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren remained the steady heartbeat of her life.

Nancy slipped away peacefully on March 10, 2026, leaving behind a husband of 68 years, four children, ten grandchildren, six great-grandchildren — and a seventh on the way, a new life arriving even as hers drew to a close.

She was loved. She was faithful. And she is dearly missed.

A celebration of Nancy's life was held May 1, 2026, at Fortune-Keough Funeral Home, Saranac Lake, NY. Rev. Brian Spangler officiated. Burial followed at Union Cemetery, Vermontville.



A Life Well Lived

NANCY VIRGINIA WAYMAN

MARCH 12, 1935 – JANUARY 4, 2026

Nancy Wayman was the kind of woman who made the world feel warmer simply by being in it. To know her was to be loved by her — whether you were family, a neighbor, or a complete stranger. She had a gift for making everyone feel seen.

Her hands were never still. She sewed clothes for her family, filled kitchens with the smell of home-cooked meals and fresh baking, tended her beloved flowers, and created beauty through crochet and crafts. She played guitar and piano, sang with joy, and brought music into every room she entered.

But Nancy's greatest gift was her heart. For 22 years, she quietly served her community through Meals on Wheels — cooking, cleaning, and driving elderly neighbors wherever they needed to go. She didn't help people because it was convenient. She helped because that's simply who she was.

Her faith was the foundation of everything. Rooted in the Pilgrim Holiness tradition for over five decades — most recently as a beloved member of the Pilgrim Holiness Church of Green Grove — she prayed earnestly, loved deeply, and lived out her beliefs not in words alone, but in every act of kindness she offered freely to others. If you needed someone in your corner, Nancy was there — on her knees, praying for you.

To her husband Graydon, her children, grandchildren, and all who were blessed to call her friend, she leaves behind a legacy that cannot be measured — only felt.

She will be greatly missed. And greatly remembered.



A Life Devoted to God

PATRICIA EADS CASE

JULY 22, 1937 – APRIL 4, 2026

If you ever walked through Pat Case's front door, you already know everything important about her. There was always room, always a warm welcome, and somehow she made you feel like you were the person she'd been hoping would stop by.

Pat spent 54 years as a pastor's wife — not as a title, but as a calling she lived out quietly every day. She taught Sunday School, played the piano, sang, and showed up. Week after week, year after year, in church after church. Bro. Case was the pastor, but the people loved them both. They pastored for decades in the New York Pilgrim Holiness conference, and she was currently a member of the Archdale Pilgrim Holiness Church.

At home, she and Paul built something remarkable — five kids, 22 grandchildren, 15 great-grandchildren, and a household that was never really closed to anyone. She loved to entertain, loved to host, and genuinely loved people. That last part sounds simple, but it's actually quite rare.

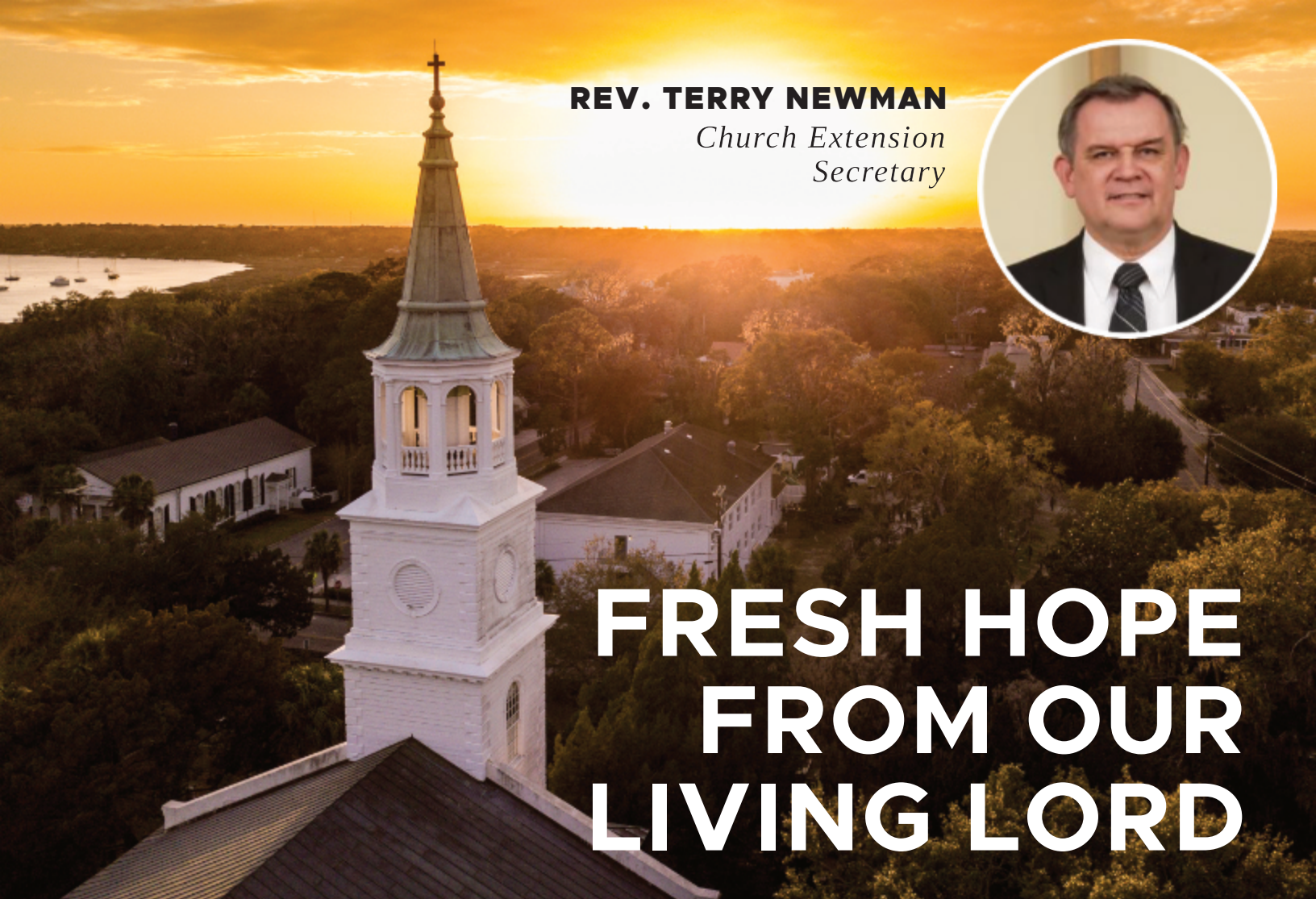
In quieter moments, you'd find her crocheting, reading, or at the piano — not performing, just enjoying it. Music wasn't just something Pat did. It was part of who she was.

She passed at home on April 4th, surrounded by the life she had spent 88 years building. Her husband Paul was there, the man she'd walked alongside for nearly 66 years.

People who knew Pat will tell you she never met a stranger. That's true. But more than that — she never treated anyone like one.

That's a beautiful way to be remembered. She will be greatly missed by all.





REV. TERRY NEWMAN
Church Extension
Secretary



FRESH HOPE FROM OUR LIVING LORD

Greetings Kingdom Builders! The Church Extension department is attempting to build up not only the New York Pilgrim Holiness Churches but the entire Church of Jesus Christ! Thank you so much for your prayerful support of our efforts to expand God's work in various places and ways. Your giving in the Easter offering is so important and your continuing prayerful support throughout the year is greatly appreciated! May God give us a renewed spirit to be active in this important work of Kingdom building.

Luke gives us an insight into the possibilities of a heart set aflame spiritually. *"And they said one to another, Did not our heart burn within us, while he talked with us*

by the way, and while he opened to us the scriptures?" (Luke 24:32, KJV) These men were discouraged at the recent events in their spiritual community. Things had not gone the way they had thought they should, their Lord had died a cruel death and the path ahead looked hopeless. As they thus discussed their situation, a Stranger overtook them and joined in their discussion. Oh, may that same One join us as we discuss our present situation. We may feel like all hope is gone and that we are all alone but as our Lord begins to open the promises of the scripture and reveals His blessed will, we will also find our hearts set aflame! Oh, let us get alone with the Master and realize because He lives, we have life

more abundantly, and we can be victorious — not defeated!!!

We find our Lord is not done with His church. We are finding His power at work in our churches. While we are facing some challenging circumstances, let us look to our living Lord and may it put fresh courage and inspiration in our soul. If we will admit our condition and then allow the Master to work in us it won't be long, we will be in action once again spreading the good news that the Savior has conquered death and gives victory to whosoever will!

Yours for the upbuilding of the Kingdom,
T.D. Newman

Pilgrim Women | **JENNIFER BYER**

Forward!

"And the Lord, he it is that doth go before thee, he will be with thee, he will not fail thee, neither forsake thee: fear not, neither be dismayed."(Deuteronomy 31:8)

We often attribute this time of year with the idea of going forward. There is much excitement and endless possibilities after Graduation Day! This is a good time for us to be reminded of His promise of the future, along with His faithfulness in the past.

The Bible is full of admonition for us to go forward. We read so many accounts of the Lord guiding and protecting, and yet we also see so much uncertainty that He will do it yet again! I love the fact that the Bible is real and transparent. God doesn't just include the times of faith and trust, but He also includes the failures and insecurities of our humanity.

I've often wondered why it is we so quickly forget what God has done for us. When we have so many stories of His goodness, and our lives are full of His interventions. I think fear and lack of faith are some of the top causes. Even though He's been faithful, we begin to wonder if He can do it again! Could He possibly be tired of our constant asking? Is He disappointed in our lack of trust? Will He just give up on us like others may have done.

Even though our fears may tempt us to lose heart, His faithful reminders will always give us the hope we need to keep going forward! *"Be strong and of a good courage, fear not, nor be afraid of them: for the Lord thy God, he it is that doth go with thee: he will not fail thee, nor forsake thee."* (*"And the Lord, he it is that doth go before thee, he will be with thee, he will not fail thee, neither forsake thee: fear not, neither be dismayed."*(Deuteronomy 31:6)

2026 MINISTERIAL CONVENTION

This year's Ministerial Convention was amazing! Everyone received a gift bag upon arrival. We had 83 people in attendance. This included our pastors, interim pastors, laymen filling in as pastors, and the Council. The lodging and food were amazing as always. God's presence was felt in each service.

The first night, President John A. Whitaker challenged the people with a sermon entitled "Can These Bones Live Again?" (Ezekiel 37:1-14). A valley of dried bones seemed utterly impossible to come alive humanly, but was no match for the Divine Breath of God. Each session given by Dr. Chris Dewhurst was packed with information and practical help for dealing with Cancel Culture. President Whitaker had to stop the questions after two sessions to keep to the Montrose Bible Conference's eating schedule! The last session on Thursday was a question-and-answer session. There were many good questions. A favorite of President Whitaker and Dr. Dewhurst was the question, "Are all psychologists crazy?"

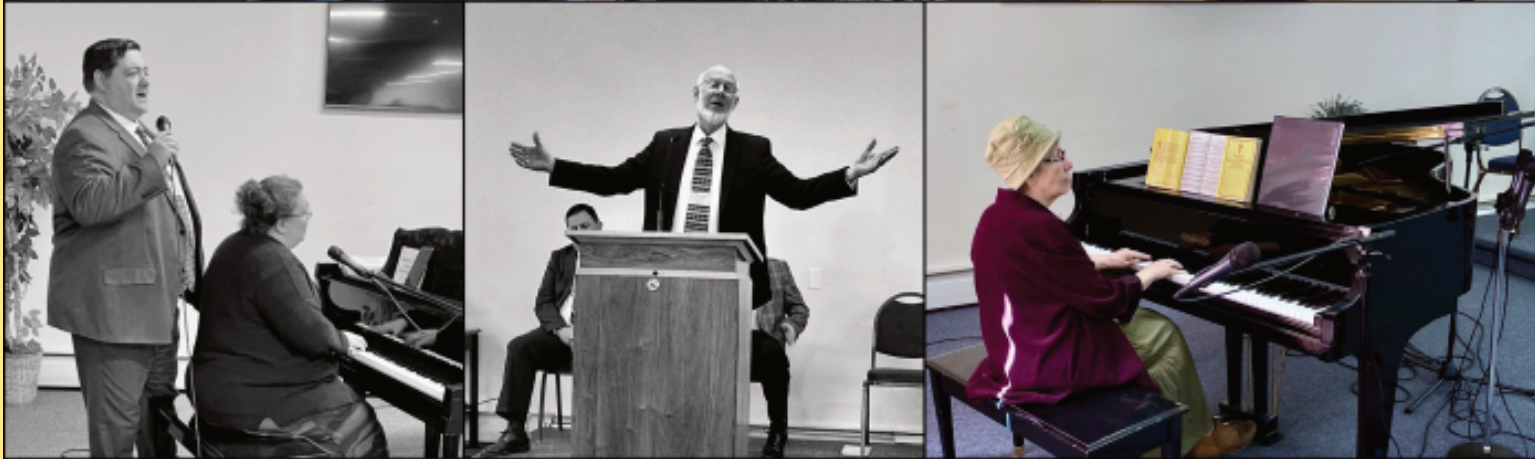
Plan to be there next year on March 23-25, 2027!

See Ministerial Photos
Pages 18-19



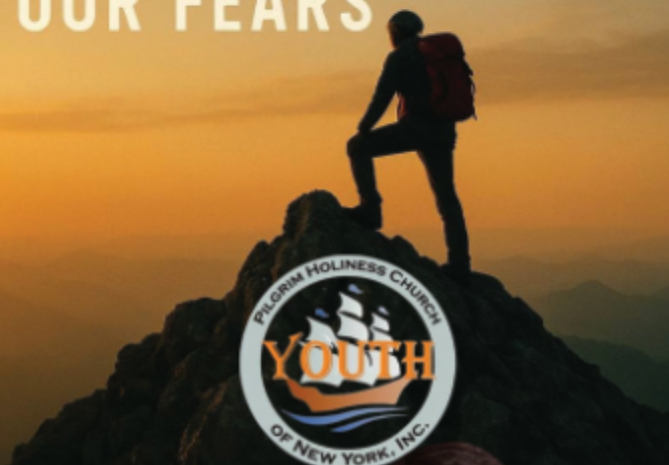


**MINISTERIAL CONVENTION
MARCH 24-26, 2026
MINISTRY STRATEGIES TO AVOID
CANCEL CULTURE**



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FACING OUR FEARS



YOUTH CAMP
July 27-30

Victory Grove Camp Ground
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Register online today! -->

\$60



Rev. Paul Stetler