

the *Maine Focus*

THE MAINE DISTRICT UNITED PENTECOSTAL CHURCH INTERNATIONAL ■ SPECIAL EDITION 2021 ■ VOLUME IX, No. 2



IN LOVING MEMORY OF
CHARLES RILEY
HURST

February 5, 1941 to
August 7, 2021

This special edition of The Maine Focus is dedicated to the memory of Bishop Hurst, a faithful servant of God, a friend, and leader in the Maine District of the United Pentecostal Church International

OBITUARY: CHARLES RILEY HURST

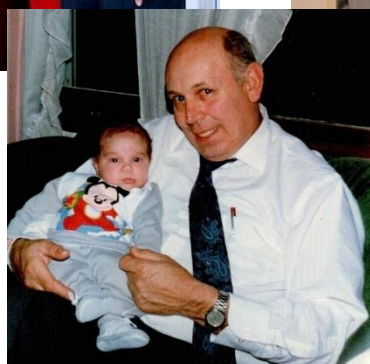
BANGOR – Charles R. Hurst, 80, lived every day of his life and died surprised. He was born February 5, 1941, in Logan, Ohio, the son of Russell and Mabel Hurst.

In 1958, Charles joined the United States Marine Corps where he served as a Supply Clerk for three years. After his military service, he married the love of his life, Sharon Condon. They celebrated 58 years of marriage in November 2020. He became an ordained minister of the United Pentecostal Church in 1976. Later that year he began pastoring the Apostolic Lighthouse Church of Bangor and continued for 45 years. In addition to being a pastor, he was a district presbyter, Bible quiz coach, Home Mission's director and Sunday School director. He helped found the first children's Crusaders Camp at Pea Cove, Maine.

Surviving in addition to his wife, Sharon L Hurst, are his son, Brian Hurst, his wife, Katey, of Bangor; daughter, Kelly Hurst of Bangor; along with his beloved eight grandchildren and seven great grandchildren; as well as many close relatives and friends.

A celebration of life was held August 13, 2021, in Brewer. Those who wish to remember Charles in a special way may make gifts in his memory to the Apostolic Lighthouse Church, 517 Hammond St, Bangor, ME 04401.

Published in Bangor Daily News August 10, 2021.



BRO. CHARLES HURST: A MAN OF FAITH AND A SOLDIER FOR CHRIST

By: Rev. Rick Stoops, Superintendent
Maine District UPCI

Brother Charles Hurst was a faithful man of God. He willingly gave himself to God's work. He and his wife have been an integral part of the Maine District since 1975. Brother Hurst was a faithful pastor of Apostolic Lighthouse, Bangor, Maine. Apostolic Lighthouse members, Sister Sharon Hurst, and Pastor Nick Doucette could testify that this man of God loved and helped everybody he possibly could. He had a big heart that was tender toward anyone in need.

Bro Hurst gave many years of his life serving as Children's Ministries Director, North American Missions Director, and Presbyterian on the Maine District Board. He helped start and strengthen many works in Maine. Millinocket, Calais, Milo, Lubec, Saco, and more benefited from this man's burden for souls. He and I shared many miles driving or flying across this district. He loved Maine Camp Meetings and was a faithful volunteer when work was needed on our Campgrounds. He supervised several camp projects.

Brother Hurst was a man of faith. He believed God for the supernatural. Many can testify to being healed when he prayed the prayer of faith over them.

Several years ago, a faithful saint lay a dying. His pastor went to comfort and pray for him. After prayer, as the pastor was leaving, the saint said, "Pastor, I don't know what you are going to do when I'm gone." The pastor said, "Oh my brother, don't worry about me, I'll be fine." The saint said, "Pastor, you don't understand. I've prayed for you every single day for the last many years, and I don't know what you're going to do when I'm gone." Suddenly that pastor realized what a huge loss this saint's passing was for him personally. I can tell you that Brother Hurst prayed for many of us on a regular basis, and I for one, miss those prayers already.

Brother Hurst was a soldier of Jesus Christ and a proud United States Marine. Allow me to quote from President Abraham Lincoln:

"It is for us the living, rather, to be dedicated here to the unfinished work which they who fought here have thus far so nobly advanced. It is rather for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us -- that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion -- that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain -- that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom -- and that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth."

It is our duty to carry on the unfinished work that Bro Hurst so nobly advanced. Semper Fi!

For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord. Wherefore comfort one another with these words. (1 Thessalonians 4:16-18)

Our prayers are with Sister Sharon Hurst, Brian, Kelly, the Grandchildren and the Apostolic Lighthouse church family. There will be a Memorial Service at 6:00 PM, Thursday, June 23, 2022, at our Maine Family Camp.



BRO. CHARLES HURST: THE MAKING OF A BISHOP

By: Bishop Roger Hennigan

Pastor Charles and Sis. Sharon Hurst with their two children Brian, age 7 and Kelly, age 5 moved to Maine the last week of October 1975. His first service as the new pastor was on November 2, and they had a grand total of 20 people there. The congregation was made up of his family of four, his mother-in-law, Sis. Mabel Condon, Steven and Kathy Ward, and his brother Roger. From the community there was Earl White, Jennie Helms, Edna Helms, Bro. and Sis. Potter, and Sis. Britten and a few kids. One of those kids was Violet Bezio, who is still with us today, and Gloria, her mother. This first group made up the congregation of the United Pentecostal Church of Bangor.

Pastor Hurst brought his trade with him. When he left Toledo, Ohio, he had a thriving carpet business. He immediately started laying carpet in the Bangor area to provide for his family as the church had very little income at that time. Dennis Allen was one of his first converts and was also one of the first of many that Pastor Hurst taught to lay carpet.

In less than a year, the church had outgrown the facility located on Lincoln Street in downtown Bangor. They moved services to the Odd Fellows Hall on outer Union Street which is now a Christian School. The church stayed there for about five years until they were able to purchase the building at 517 Hammond Street. There, they changed the church's name to Apostolic Lighthouse Church, and the building remains, having undergone several remodels and a total excavation of the basement to make room for a kitchen and fellowship hall.

Many ministers have come out from under the ministry of Pastor and Sis. Hurst. Here are just some of the notable ministries that have come out of this congregation: Pastor and Sis. Hurst's son, Brian, pastor of Destiny Worship Center in Bangor, Maine, Sis. Jen Potter Tier, missionary to Slovakia, Ben Kingsberry in Wisconsin, Franky Caruso, Shanna Moss, who is a pastor's wife in West Virginia, Pastor George and Debbie Little who pastor in Sanford, Maine, Bro. and Sis. Bert Cote in Old Town, Maine, Jennifer Lilly, Assistant Pastor's wife in Old Town, Bro. Roger Ackerson who spent

17 years in Bangor as Pastor Hurst's assistant, Sis. Ackerson was the church secretary for many years, the Ackerson's son, Deron, a youth pastor in Tennessee, and their daughter, Radonna Piercey, a pastor's wife in Knoxville, Tennessee, Larry and Evelyn Bennett, pastoring in Brandy, Ohio, Ed and Stephanie Kingsberry ministering in Tennessee, Emily Kingsberry-Martling, ministering in Georgia with her husband, Mike, Sis. Jewel Bryant, ministering with her husband, Gary, as evangelists, Bro. Mike Briggs, and others that only eternity will reveal.

Pastor Hurst and Sis. Hurst invested in other churches. Pastor Hurst was the pastor in Millinocket



Bro. Hurst and Bro. Hennigan with friends enjoying one of many hunting trips!

for a little over a year. He went up on Thursday night for a service and then on Sunday for Sunday School at 10, a break, and then another service at 2. The Hursts would then travel back to Bangor for the evening service

there at 6 p.m. Pastor Hurst also served as the Presbyter for Section 2 of the Maine District UPCI, as well as the Home Missions Director for many years. Early in their ministry, Bro. Hurst served as Sunday School Director in charge of Children's Camp for many years. I can still remember those early morning wake-up calls for the kids in front of the tabernacle as Pastor Hurst had them all say the pledge of allegiance to the American flag. The kids knew not to be late, or there were push-ups for you to do. It was also rumored that a few had to clean the toilets if they were late more than once.

Following his time at Millinocket and after Pastor Sterling Kennedy passed away, Bro. Hurst became the overseer there, preaching twice a week for years. Following that time, he took on the responsibilities as Pastor of the church in Saco, Maine, 140 miles one way. He had service there on Sunday afternoon and Thursday night. They had 26 get the Holy Ghost while Sis. Hurst and he ministered there for about eight months.

After a short break, Pastor Hurst began to pastor in Calais. He and Sis. Hurst were there for 6

Continued on page 5.

CHRISTMASFORCHRIST.FAITH
THIS YEAR'S OFFERING DATE DECEMBER 19, 2021



**This Christmas, give
your best gift to Christ.**

Christmas for Christ is an annual offering for North American Missionaries.

This special offering is received during the Christmas season and is used to enlist, train, and financially support missionaries who are called to establish churches in un-evangelized areas in North America.

HELP US REACH...



Bro. Hurst was an avid supporter and enthusiastic fundraiser for Christmas for Christ! Consider making your gift this year a little bit extra in loving memory of...

Bishop Charles R. Hurst

BRO. CHARLES HURST: THE MAKING OF A BISHOP, *continued...*

½ years. Sis. Hurst traveled with Pastor Hurst everywhere he went. She ministered with him. She taught Sunday School, led singing and worship, she also trained people on how to lead in singing and worship. She played whatever musical instrument they had—piano, organ, or keyboard.

Bro. Hurst also did physical labor and work for many churches across the nation. He put carpeting in many churches over the years including Presque Isle, Caribou, Fort Fairfield (when I pastored there), Mars Hill, Houlton, Cardville, Milo (twice), Brewer, Lincoln, Augusta (twice), Lewiston (twice), Thomaston, Madison, and Rockland. Bro. Hurst and some of the men of the church also put roofs on the Caribou and Lewiston churches. Pastor Hurst took a van full of men and traveled all the way to Sealy, Texas—that's right, Texas—some 2800 miles one way, and they literally remodeled both the inside and outside of a warehouse and made it into an attractive church building with new windows, new siding, and carpet. Pastor Hurst and some of the men of the church also helped with six church-in-a-day projects in the states of Ohio, Indiana (three times), Virginia, and New Jersey. They never charged a cent for any of their labor.

Pastor Hurst once had the privilege of preaching a General Conference in Japan in which many people received the Holy Ghost and were baptized in Jesus' Name. Following the General Conference, Pastor Hurst preached in Okinawa where 13 received the Holy Ghost. On this same trip, Pastor Hurst with Morris Curtis traveled by train deep into China, standing the whole time, just to have the opportunity to preach to the underground church. Knowing that it was illegal as far as the government was concerned, but willing to break man's law to preach God's commandments and laws, they went. Going under the guise of being

teachers from the US, they taught the word of God to the saving of souls.

Pastor Hurst has been known throughout the United Pentecostal Church International as a friend to all those that have visited or preached at his church. He and Sis. Hurst have countless times taken ministers and their families into their very

own home because they had nowhere to stay and because meetings that they were supposed to have got cancelled. Pastor Hurst was truly a great man of God, and Sis. Hurst is a great woman of God. It has been a privilege to know both. Bro. Hurst's ministry will endure through eternity. I have not known of a man of God that sacrificed or

gave more of himself to the Kingdom of God in the last 45 years than Bishop Charles R. Hurst. He was honored and recognized as a Bishop because he truly met the criteria outlined in II Timothy 3:1-7.

Rev. Roger Hennigan pastored in Fort Kent and Jonesport, Maine, prior to moving to the Pacific Northwest to pastor in Bremerton, Washington. He was Sunday School Secretary and worked with Bro. Hurst when he was the Sunday School Director. Bishop Hennigan and Bishop Hurst enjoyed a lifelong friendship that included many hunting trips – an outdoor activity they both enjoyed.



BRO. HURST, MY EXAMPLE AND TEACHER

By: Sis. Shanna Moss

I am not sure where to begin honoring a man who was a giant in my life. So many emotions and memories flooding as I write. I began my journey with the Lord at nine years old. My family was invited to Bangor Apostolic Church by a friend. I remember being so afraid when I first attended. My only experience with any sort of church was a different denomination and definitely not as lively as this one.

I received the Holy Ghost a few weeks later and, well, the rest is history, as they say! Bro. Hurst believed in me, even at a young age. I began teaching Sunday School at 12 years of age, and from there was involved in so many ministries of the church! He taught me to LOVE IT! ALL OF IT! He taught me to put my hand to the plough and not look back! He taught me faithfulness and generosity. He taught me that, if I put my mind to it, I could do anything! He taught me to put the Lord first and best and that if I did the Lord would do amazing things in my life and that he did! I think the most significant contribution to my life though was his FAITH! He was such a warrior! He taught his congregation that the Lord could do anything, no matter the situation, just to BELIEVE! I carry that with me to this day! My husband, Anthony Moss, and I lead a growing

church in Charleston, West Virginia, and the ideas and faith that he passed to me are being established in my own congregation! Charleston is thriving and growing.

Charles Hurst's influence in my life will never be forgotten. His belief in me will continue to fuel my desire to serve the Lord to the best of my ability! I believe with all my heart that there is a great cloud of witnesses cheering us on. I know they are watching from the portals of heaven and applauding us as we continue to carry the baton of this great faith. I don't want to let them down! I want to run this race with patience and perseverance, honoring the commitment they made to our lives. I want to run and carry the torch of FAITH, the FAITH passed down from Jesus to his Apostles and to us! I don't want to waver!

Charles Hurst was a warrior, a Marine! However, he was not only a natural born warrior but a WARRIOR of the faith! Until his last breath, he served and honored the Lord! WHAT A LEGACY! I could go on forever, my memories are cherished. This girl's heart was broken at his passing, BUT evermore resolved to be my absolute best to make him proud! He gave so much of his life, time, energy to so many. I want to sow back into the field that I reaped from him. He is gone from this earthly realm, but he will NEVER be forgotten.

Sis. Shanna (Harris) Moss is pastor's wife at North Charleston Apostolic Church in Charleston, West Virginia. She grew up in the Bangor area and attending the Bangor church.



BISHOP CHARLES RILEY HURST

By: Rev. Clara Cote

When I think of Bishop Hurst, I think of great faith. In Hebrews 11:1-2, we read, “Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. For by it the elders obtained a good report.” Bishop Hurst has obtained a good report.

In James 2:18, we read, “Yea, a man may say, Thou hast faith, and I have works: shew me thy faith without thy works, and I will shew thee my faith by my works.” Bishop Hurst showed us his faith by his works in every which way possible with outstanding results for the Kingdom of God. The seed of the gospel is everywhere the feet of Bro. & Sis. Hurst trod. They were and are (Sis Hurst) kingdom minded foremost. Many different ministries, along with teachers, preachers, and missionaries, have answered the call of God under the leadership of Bishop & Sister Charles Hurst.

Many were delivered, filled, healed, counseled, provided for at difficult times, the dead were raised, the Word was taught, preached, and backed up by their faithful lives.

We were just a young family when we arrived in Maine. We were broken inside and out. We had lost everything we owned, did not know where to turn, and looking for an Apostolic Church. I remember looking in the phone book and found the word Apostolic in the church’s name. I called the number, and Dwayne Judkins answered the phone. I asked him, “Do you guys believe in repentance?” He said, “Yes.” I asked, “Do you guys believe in Jesus Name baptism?” Again, he said, “Yes.” Then I said, “Okay, do you guys believe in receiving the Holy Ghost speaking with tongues?” His response that time was, “Oh, yes!” I asked for the address and what time church service began. We arrived at the next service (with my trumpet) and were not disappointed.

Thank you, Bishop Hurst and Sister Hurst, for your patience with us. We did not say thank you enough. As for Bishop Charles Hurst, you have kept the faith, and have joined the great cloud of witness.

In II Timothy 4:7-8, we read, “I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing.”

Sister Hurst, you are precious to the Lord and the church. A warrior, a woman of faith, an overcomer. God is with you and will help you through every situation you encounter with knowledge and wisdom to make those decisions that need to be made. You still have a ministry, and if it’s possible, rest for a while. It is my prayer that God grant you and your family—Brian, Kelly, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, etc.—peace through this time of great adjustment.

Rev. Clara Cote is the Senior Pastor of Orono Faith Tabernacle Church in Orono. She and her husband served under Bro. Hurst and also served as pastor of the Indian Island Church.

BRO. HURST, MY PASTOR

By: Rev. George Little



Jeremiah 3:15 states: “And I will give you pastors according to mine heart which shall feed you with knowledge and understanding”. My siblings and I were Sunday School bus kids who were invited to the Apostolic Lighthouse Church by a neighbor. Soon enough my whole family was going to church and learning under Rev. Charles Hurst.

I thank God every day for giving me Rev. Charles Hurst as a Pastor. Through his teaching, preaching, council, and prayers- it would help shape me into the man of God that I am today. Also, him being my quiz coach, hunting buddy, and friend showed me the dedication that he had as a Pastor. One of the quotes that he used to say to me was, “if you wanted to run with the big dogs, then you had to get off the porch”. He did just that and was such a great example on how to do it.

He was a wonderful Pastor, mentor, and friend. He left a legacy with me that I will cherish. I miss him every day but am excited to know that I will someday see him on the other side. Until that day, all I can say is thank you for your dedication and sacrifices Bro. Hurst. They never went unnoticed and forever live on in my heart!

Rev. George Little and his wife, Debbie, are pastor at Joyful Harvest Pentecostal Church in Sanford, Maine. Bro. Little attended the Bangor church in his youth and learned under the teaching of Pastor Hurst.

BRO. HURST, MY FRIEND AND ENCOURAGER

By: Rev. Dr. Robert Costa, Jr., CPA, CGMA

I deeply miss my friend. Even as I write this memorial with tears in my eyes, I can't believe he is gone. I knew Charles Hurst for over 30 years. When you write about such a long friendship, there will be those that look for evidence that I was aware of his weaknesses after knowing him so well and for so long. I was (aware), and he of mine. But, what I sometimes thought was his weakness was also his gift.

There were times that he was so passionate about a hurting person that he seemed unaware that the wound was self-inflicted. He was aware but loved so deeply that it dawned on me one day that he saw people with eyes of Jesus. The Bible says Jesus will present His Church as a bride "without spot or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless" (Ephesians 5:25-27). I have never seen, nor pastored, a "without blemish" or "blameless" Church, and Lord knows I've tried to iron out my share of wrinkles. I guess I assumed that we had a long way to go as a Church before we met that description. But through Brother Hurst I understood how Jesus sees us. Seemingly unaware of our faults, quick to shower praise, and offering never-ending support. If you were ever in spiritual battle, Charles Hurst was the marine you wanted in the proverbial foxhole with you.

He was quick to take up the fight for his friends and family. I am glad to be counted among his friends because I suspect the warrior in Brother Hurst could make him a fearsome enemy. But I never knew him this way. He wouldn't appreciate me sharing this, but inside his rough exterior was really a big teddy bear. Anybody that knew him well would agree. He wouldn't listen to negative talk, and it wasn't just because he refused to wear his hearing aids. It was his gift.

He was always so encouraging to me. I can't tell you how many times after preaching he would tell me, "You are my favorite preacher!" or "I've never heard you preach a bad sermon!" I didn't believe him, then or now, but I can't tell you how much I miss hearing him say it. There's no telling just how many "favorite preachers" he had or how many "best sermons" he heard, but I have no doubt that anyone he said it to never doubted his love for them.

In his poem, "Death is Nothing at All", Henry-Scott Holland said, "Death is nothing at all. It does not count. I have only slipped away into the next room."



It reminds me of the scripture in Hebrews 12:1 where the writer said "Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off every encumbrance and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with endurance the race set out for us." It is easy to picture Charles Hurst on the sidelines of glory cheering us on in our

pursuit of God and work for His kingdom. He is just in the next room.

He had an almost child-like faith. How many times did I watch him hold up his hand to display his missing fingers as he said, "The Lord is going to restore these fingers and it will bring a revival to Bangor." While I believe this is possible for God, Charles Hurst had the faith for it. It didn't happen on this side, but on August 7, 2021, Charles Hurst stepped from this life and into the next he saw his fingers again. May his faith and testimony bring revival to the city he loved and labored in for over four decades. And may his example of unconditional love and encouragement be a comfort and model for us all.

Rev. Dr. Robert Costa, Jr., CPA, CGMA, is a longtime friend and fellow minister of Bro. Hurst and the Hurst family. Bro. Costa is a pastor, speaker, teacher, writer, mentor...these roles are a road map in which God uses him in Michigan and to touch lives far beyond.

BRO. HURST, MY COACH AND CHEERLEADER

By: Rev. Bruce Bennett

There is no one that has had such a powerful impact on my life as Charles R. Hurst. He was like a father to me. My first recollection of him was when he used to pick up my siblings and me for Sunday school. The drive to church was not a five-minute jaunt; it was a 30-mile drive. You see, we lived in the country in an area where corn fields were abundant, overgrown trees were prominent, and railroad tracks ruled the land. The church I attended, in Toledo Ohio, was First Apostolic Church on Jackman road in Toledo, pastored by Rev. Fred Kinzie. Bro. Hurst taught the youth class at that time, while I happened to be looking for a place to fit in as a young person.

In school I tried out for a few teams including basketball, but it didn't quite work out, so I ended up running on the track team. I enjoyed being a part of a team. Bro. Hurst invited me to join the Bible Quiz team he was starting up at the church. I remember him saying, "Why don't you come out for the team? We'll have a lot of fun!" I was hesitant, but I gave it a shot anyway. So, he was my coach, he worked with me on memorizing the verses and I got better at it as time went along. I spent a lot of time with him beyond our coaching sessions. During the summer I would work for him installing carpet, basically doing odd man jobs such as putting the tack strip and padding down for him, and of course cleaning up for him. I enjoyed watching his interaction with people. Mostly I saw him go into people's homes to install carpet and before you knew it, he was telling them about Jesus. I learned how to connect with people and how to witness for Jesus.

As some of you may know, a Bible Quiz team is made of three people at the quiz board plus two substitutes. So, to make Bro. Hurst's team, we had to quiz off. The three highest scoring team members gained these positions. I remember during my first year in quizzing we only had the last substitute position left to fill. The last spot on the team. It came down to me and another girl. The girl's score was 0 because she didn't try to answer. My score was minus 5, I shouldn't have made the team. Bro. Hurst chose me. He said, "I would rather have someone try and miss than someone who wouldn't try at all." He was driven, he was a

competitor without a doubt, if you knew him, you would agree. Whether it was a Sunday School contest, a quiz meet, or a softball game, he was on fire for the team. That fire inspired us to keep trying no matter how well we did. We won the State of Ohio Bible Quiz Championship two years in a row!

As years went on, I eventually got married in May of 1974 and Bro. Hurst attended my wedding. In August, my wife and I moved to St. Paul, Minnesota to attend Bible school. Newlyweds at ABI, what a learning experience. While I was at Bible School, Bro. Hurst came to Maine. After finishing my three years of school, I came home to Toledo. I was trying to find the will of God for my life. It just happened that Bro. Hurst came home one weekend and we got together. We talked about the will of God. He said, "Whenever you find the will of God, there are always giants in the way to stop you, but if you persevere you will make it to the promised land." That thought stayed with me for some time. My wife and I flew up to Maine on vacation in July.

We helped with Crusaders Camp and decided this would be a good place to help my friend. Shortly thereafter we moved up and did anything to help in the work of the Lord. We had been married for seven years with no children. One year, on Mother's Day, Bro. Hurst decided to pray for my wife to have a child, and as a result we had a son.

Bro. Hurst took me to the District Conference to apply for a license. Although that time it didn't work out, he was there to console me to prevent me from being bitter. When I took the church in Waterville, Maine, he supported me in my effort to Pastor a church. When things didn't go well, he was always encouraging me. He told me once that some of the best sermons preached in the Bangor church were the ones I preached to them. He always seemed to know what to say in my times of doubt.

He was a soul winner. The reason I'm in Maine is because Bro. Hurst gave me a chance to be on his team in the kingdom of God. I could tell all kinds of stories. This is just a tidbit of what he means to me. He dedicated my three children to the LORD. It's hard to put into words what his life has meant to me and my family through the years.

Rev. Bruce Bennett is a member of the Apostolic Lighthouse in Bangor and serves on the ministry team.

BRO. HURST, A SERVANT LEADER

By: Rev. Terry Long, Sr.

“What do you need help with?”

“I have a few guys who can do that!”

Bro. Hurst and I served North American Missions together for several years as district directors. His passion for church planting and church growth was unmatched. He was always a strong voice on our Board of Directors and an advocate for church planters everywhere.

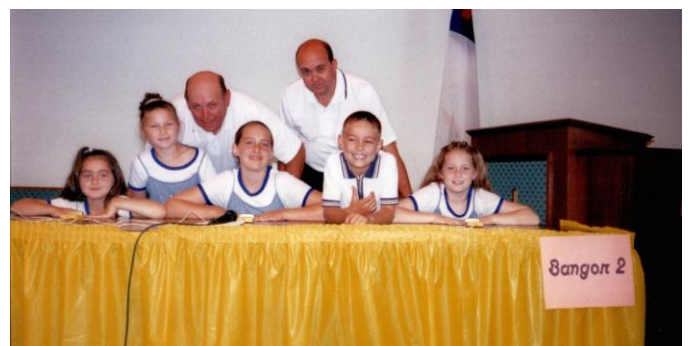
This was never more evident to me than when I was appointed to be the Church In A Day (CIAD) director. From the first project I oversaw, Bro. Charles Hurst was a constant supporter and friend of CIAD. His personal passion for church growth found an outlet in CIAD. He regularly followed our projects and requested updates on each one.

One would think that being in Maine, in the far northeast corner of the country, he would be hindered from participating in projects. That simply wasn't the case. “What do you need help with?” Every project, the same question. “I have a few guys who can do that.” Every project, the same answer. And when the superintendents would meet on Thursday night before the project started, Bro. Hurst would roll in, big grin on his face letting us know he was ready to go, with “guys who can do that” and they would work through completion. Indiana, North Carolina, South Carolina, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Missouri, Kentucky, Ohio, Louisiana, Texas, and more states than I can personally remember are recipients of Bro. Hurst's labor of love.

His personal ability to lay carpet and his ability to garner help in all four corners of our continent will be sorely missed by CIAD, and our movement as a whole. The old hymn of the church says, “What a friend we have in Jesus.” CIAD says “What a friend we had in Bro Hurst!”

Thank you, Sis Hurst, for allowing your hero to serve us so nobly, and thank you, Bro. Hurst, for your labor of love for church planters everywhere in the United Pentecostal Church. You will be missed. Rest well, you deserve it.

Rev. Terry Long, Sr. is Director of the Church In A Day program hosted by the United Pentecostal Church International. He is pastor at Lawrence Apostolic Church in Indiana.





CHURCH IN A DAY

Bro. Hurst was a loyal supporter of the Church In A Day (CIAD) program. He invested time, money, energy, expertise, knowledge, and labor to help build churches across the nation. Rev. Terry Long, Sr., Director of the CIAD program shares this message of gratitude:

“Please express my personal thanks to Sis Hurst and your great district for lending Bro. Hurst to CIAD and for all the many long hours he traveled on so many projects. I loved Bro Hurst. Always so positive. He will be greatly missed.”

The CIAD program provides a church with the equivalent of a \$100,000 to \$250,000 donation, and most importantly, goes from an empty lot to a service-ready sanctuary. CIAD takes a pastor from a storefront to a church building the congregation can be proud of in just 24 hours. The completed church is equipped with a sound system, baptistry, pews, and landscaping, and it seats 125-150 people, putting a congregation years ahead.

CIAD provides a physical location to stabilize the assembly. With the building in place, the pastor can then establish roost so that spiritual growth can happen.

Would you like to help? Are you a craftsman with construction skills or a willing volunteer with a heart for helping others? Why not give your time and talent to help a community build a church? If you would like to join a team of helpers, please contact Rev. Terry Long at lapastorlong@gmail.com. Let the example of Bro. Hurst’s passion for CIAD inspire you to participate or give to support this ministry.

