



# *the Maine Focus*

THE MAINE DISTRICT UNITED PENTECOSTAL CHURCH INTERNATIONAL • FALL 2022 • VOLUME XV, NO. 3

*"Be still, and know that I am  
God: I will be exalted among  
the heathen, I will be exalted in  
the earth."*

*Psalms 46:10*





## CAN THESE BONES LIVE?

*By: Rev. Thomas Channell, Superintendent  
Maine District UPCI*



The text in Ezekiel 37 informs us of the experience of the prophet Ezekiel in the valley of dry bones. The backdrop of our scripture text seems to be the place of a major defeat, a place of devastation and destruction. In fact, each of the bodies that were scattered about the bottom of the valley floor were so far gone, that they were simply bones. There was no living tissue, and with the exception of the faint memory that each had been human with a never dying soul, it seemed as if it was a hopeless pile of rubble.

Ezekiel 37:1-3 tells us: "The hand of the Lord was upon me, and carried me out in the spirit of the Lord, and set me down in the midst of the valley which was full of bones, and caused me to pass by them round about: and, behold, there were very many in the open valley; and, lo, they were very dry. And he said unto me, Son of man, can these bones live? and I answered, O Lord God, thou knowest."

The first thing I notice about this passage is not the valley, or the bones even, it's Ezekiel's response to the Lord. He did not respond as many of us would have. Instead of saying "well God, it's a pile of dry bones, I don't think they can live", he put the question right back on God by saying, "O Lord God, Thou knowest." He responded in a way that took the limits off what God could do in that valley.

There are a few more things that we should take note of in Ezekiel's Boneyard Experience. Notice this:

1. God put Ezekiel in the valley! The beginning part of our passage says, "The hand of the lord was upon me, and cared me out in the spirit of the Lord, and set me down...". This was not a choice that Ezekiel made, to be in this valley of dry bones, instead, God **CHOSE** to set him down there. Does God put us in the middle of a fight to be defeated? No way! Have you ever considered that God put you where you are that you might learn of Him, witness His power, or even save your soul? Notice the Faith of Ezekiel! He said: The hand of the Lord was upon me, and carried me...", he recognized that God put him in that place to show him something miraculous! When we encounter our valley of dry bones, there is a reason that God has put us there. It's a time to have faith and recognize that God is about to perform a miracle.

2. These were dry bones left unburied by the enemy! These bones were left in this valley by an enemy that wanted to remind all who passed through there of a great defeat. Not only a reminder of defeat, but of failure, disappointment, and frustration. These bones were not even laying nicely in full skeleton form, they were disjoined, scattered, and severed. Satan would have us look on our valley of dry bones and see our failures, the shattered hopes and dreams of our past, and our defeat in that place. Satan fills our minds with fear that we can't get ahold of the plan of God! He wants us to remember the defeat so that we cannot remember the promises of victory and restoration. At the same time that Satan would remind you of your past, God would want you to know that He can make all things new, even when the pieces are broken and scattered.

*Continued on page 11.*

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# she can

MOTHERS MEMORIAL 2022

She hath done  
what she could...  
Mark 14:8

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# GOD IS MOVING IN SPITE OF IT ALL

By: Rev. Eric Mailman

In February of 2020, reports of an outbreak of a strange virus in a far region of China started to make its way into the news cycle. Little did we realize that in a few very short months, it would excel into a global pandemic, affecting almost every aspect of our lives. Not only have we seen the effects of this virus, but there has also been a global uptick in political upheavals and turmoil here at home and around the world. The threat of war with China over their claims to Taiwan, or more recently seeing the turmoil and atrocities that are associated with war in the nation of Ukraine are part of what has resulted in a lack of food production causing an increase in food shortages throughout the world. This is just a brief highlight summary of the events that are happening around us in the world currently.

Here in America today, it would be so easy to look at these events, the turmoil, the destruction, and be discouraged by it all. But as blood-bought believers, we have a unique viewpoint and perspective that defies the social norms of our day. We can look at what is happening in this world through the lens as one that already knows how the story is going to end! There is a blessed hope for the child of God! This same hope is also extended to every tribe, nation, tongue, and nation!

While it would be so easy to hop on the same bandwagon as so many around us and focus on everything that is seemingly going wrong, we can see that God is moving all over the world! In nations that have been locked down due to the coronavirus, God has been moving! In nations that have had restricted access to due to political or religious ideologies that have attempted to reject or hinder the gospel, God is still moving!

Here are just a few examples of how God is moving! In Germany, God is helping our missionaries make contact and meet both physical and spiritual needs of those who have been fleeing the nation of Ukraine. New daughter works are

being established in Spain with 25 first time visitors and four people receiving the Holy Ghost! A group of Sri Lankan people have been meeting in Paris! There is such hunger that they are praying for people in parks and streets, and Bible studies are being taught! A 104-year-old woman was baptized in the nation of Cuba! There were also 28 recently baptized in the nation of Bangladesh! In one area of Africa, nine students recently graduated from Bible School while 136 others received the Holy Ghost in just two days!

These few examples of what God is doing all around the world should create great excitement in us! While the media is concerned about the possibility of a third world war, God is opening doors for revival! Even during war, God is still moving in Russia itself!

The church in Moscow has reported baptisms and the outpouring of the Holy Ghost! There are laborers who have taken vitally needed supplies into the nation of Ukraine, an active war zone, to help reach those in great need! This is creating opportunities to show the love of God, and opportunities to share the gospel among them. In the face of great opposition, the gospel is being proclaimed, and God is pouring out his Spirit on all flesh!

While the report of the enemy is declaring that our world is getting worse by the day! It would be easy to focus on the chatter and voices of doom and gloom coming from the media, the sound of the rattling of sabres that seems to be overwhelming. But I choose to believe the report of the Lord! The words of Elijah are ringing in my ears as I write here today! I would encourage you today to not be dismayed or discouraged! Don't allow fear to cripple you! We are on the edge of something amazing! Prepare! Be ready! For "there is a sound of abundance of rain." Get ready! Join with us! Together we can reach our communities, Maine, our nation, and the world! I hear the cries and shouts of revival! How about you?

*Rev. Eric Mailman is the newly elected pastor for the New Life Apostolic Church, Old Town, and serves as Global Missions Director for the Maine District.*



## GREAT THINGS ARE HAPPENING IN WILTON

The church was recently blessed with finances making way to make many needed repairs including painting the auditorium, making repairs to the building, and updating and replacing media equipment. Over the recent months, a new sign with our new logo was designed which now stands tall as a beacon to all to find our church.

The biggest thing we can say is that God is moving in the hearts of the people. We continue to have visitors on a regular basis and look forward to many being baptized and receiving the Holy Ghost. Reverends James and Carolann Parker moved from Massachusetts and are assisting in the ministry at New Life Pentecostal Church working with Pastor Kristy Hutchins and the church family. A new 180 Recovery group will begin being taught on Friday's from 5:30 – 7 PM beginning October 14. Glory be to God for all that He has made possible!



*Pastor Kristy Hutchins is excited about what God is doing in Wilton and in the lives of those touch by the ministry of New Life Pentecostal Church.*



October 21-22, 2022  
Black Bear Inn & Conference Center  
Orono

*Rev. Scott & Michelle Graham*

### Guest Speakers

Online Registration is live for this event at:  
<https://marriageenrichment2022.eventbrite.com>

Full Registration deadline: September 19, 2022

Event sponsors help us keep costs down. We thank the following sponsors for supporting Marriage Enrichment 2022

Maine Ladies Ministries  
Maine Children's Ministries  
Maine Youth Ministries  
North American Missions | Maine

**If you would like to support this ministry to married couples, donations can be mailed to:**

Joseph & Heidi Sage  
10 Barker Street | Jay, ME 04239

### Questions?

Call (207) 491-4939 (Joe) or (207) 446-6839 (Heidi)

# FIRST ANNUAL MAINE DISTRICT PRAYER SUMMIT

By: Rev. Brenda L. Bowley

The first Maine District World Network of Prayer (WNOP) Summit kicked off Friday, August 5, at 9 AM. The theme for the summit was **“Rebirth Prayer!”** It was an exciting time as we opened this new event and felt the presence of Jesus move in a mighty way. Victory was in the air; enlightenment of God’s power and the miraculous healing touch rained down in every service.

Each session began with pre-service prayer. Those who led in this were greatly anointed of God! It set the stage for God to move and minister in a mighty anointing through His servants. Rev. Rick Stoops greeted and welcomed everyone to the 1<sup>st</sup> UPC of Augusta, as the host church. We heard a mighty message from our WNOP District Coordinator. Worship followed with the anticipation of God’s glory surrounding the saints and speakers as they spoke.

“Power of Prayer” was taught by Juli Jasinski. She taught on **“Kids Prayer”** and the importance of covering our children in prayer. She taught on WNOP Prayer Initiatives covering areas of prayer interests.

“Testimonies of Miracles” was shared by Rev. Valori Hodges as she talked about the mighty hand of God moving in her life and that of her children. She spoke of how God miraculously provided in their great time of need.

Corporate Prayer by those in attendance and those who were praying as they live streamed the services filled the atmosphere with praise and worship. Prayer cloths were available to those asking God for His hope and healing. Focused prayer filled the house of God with anticipation. Prayer is the answer, and we need to re-birth a new relationship with God and discover **His Mighty Hand of Power.**

Rev Brenda Bowley cast a vision for the **WNOP Maine District’s Goals** and future events. She encourages **Prayer Walks** and will help churches who request it to set a schedule, gather

volunteers, and join you in your city to pray. To schedule a Prayer Walk, please call (207) 399-0143.

Rev Thomas Channell, Maine District Superintendent, thanked and greeted the audience and guests in the Friday evening service. On Saturday, he shared his vision and thoughts around prayer and fasting and how all ministers and saints of God need a revival of “The Sweet Hour of Prayer.”

During the Friday morning session, Rev. Rick Stoops preached a powerful word from Revelations 12:10 titled, **“His Blood, My Testimony”**.

Rev. Shane Stoops shared Prayer Exhortation of a powerful prayer meeting attended in Brazil. God spoke, **“I am not a monument, I am a movement.”** A great revival is promised all over the world.

Rev Louis Brown, guest speaker, spoke Friday evening on **“A New Great Awakening”**. He prophesied angels being dispatched by God will be with the Maine pastors and God will war on their behalf to set them free for the great revival. A great anointing on Rev. Louis Brown and powerful prophetic preaching was in the house Saturday as he spoke on **“Identity Crisis”** reminding us to know who we are.

Let us build the Kingdom. Wake up, Zion! Prayer will prepare and equip us for a great end time revival. Let’s work the **FIVE-FOLD MINISTRY** and unify **Maine’s greatest revival rebirthed.** Thank-you to all who participated and supported the First Maine District Prayer Summit.

We invite everyone to make plans to be a part of the 2023 Prayer Summit Event! Theme for 2023 **“Operation-Five”**. Dates and location will be announced in 2023. *To view services from this year, go to [augustapentecostals.com](http://augustapentecostals.com), select Facebook live, and scroll to WNOP.*

*Rev. Brenda Bowley is the pastor of High Praises Lighthouse in Madison, Maine, and serves as the WNOP Coordinator for the Maine District.*





# MAINE PRAYER SUMMIT REVIEW

By: Rev. Louis Brown

The First Annual Maine District Prayer Summit was a huge success! The hand of the Lord Jesus Christ was on every service and every minister, moving upon every person in attendance. From the moment that I walked into the building the atmosphere was already set with vibrant prayer in the prayer room. This continued to be a theme throughout the conference.

You could tell that this was not just a conference; it was a true summit in which prayer was the focal point. On Friday night, the speakers and prayer leaders testified of healing and other miracles, which built faith for the congregation. At least one notable miracle occurred when a lady testified that back pain was instantly alleviated when other ladies gathered together and prayed over her.

The theme of the summit was “REBIRTH PRAYER,” and truly there was a shift in the spiritual atmosphere of the district as people began to reposition themselves into a birthing position. Pastor Louis Brown challenged the district on Friday to Rebirth Prayer because God wants to start “A New Great Awakening” in Maine greater than the one that swept through the Northeast in the 1700’s.

The disciples fell asleep in the hour of prayer on the Mount of Transfiguration and almost missed one of the most wonderful experiences in their time with Jesus. They fell asleep again in the hour of prayer in the Garden of Gethsemane when Jesus needed them the most. But thank God they did not fall asleep in the hour of prayer on the Day of Pentecost! As a result, not only was there “A New Great Awakening,” but they never fell asleep in the hour of prayer again.

It was at the hour of prayer that the lame man at the gate Beautiful was healed and the keys of the kingdom that unlocked the door to healing were put to use for the first time in the church. There is going to be A NEW GREAT AWAKENING that is really just a REBIRTH of

true Apostolic Ministry in this region and in this district! But in order for it to happen, we first have to REBIRTH PRAYER!! The key to setting the atmosphere for a supernatural birthing is to REBIRTH PRAYER!! Pastors and their wives were ministered to mightily in a time of praying in the Spirit, serving to truly renew and refresh them. Many were spiritually exhausted and drained, but the Lord strengthened them mightily.

On Saturday morning, great messages were heard from many, and the angels of God were

present. In fact, they were in battle formation around the entire state of Maine preparing to go to war on behalf of the church so the church can focus on the harvest and not be distracted by the warfare.

Pastor Brown preached a message entitled “The Church that Jesus Built,” and all the speakers challenged and encouraged us to not just be a denomination or organization, but to be a movement. The New Testament church is not just supposed to be a place in which we meet, but rather a gathering together to determine the affairs of the state. Every time that church prays, it ought to be determining and declaring things

that govern the state of spiritual affairs. That is what prayer does for us!

A spirit of intercession swept through the congregation as Zion began to travail, and God ministered mightily to many as we all began to pray one for another. Pastors and ministers prayed one for another. Pastors’ spouses prayed one for another. Saints prayed and ministered one to another. The whole body was ministering to the whole body through prayer and intercession. We all left refreshed, renewed, revived, and determined to truly make sure our churches and ourselves are all true houses of prayer.

*Pastor Louis Brown III is the Senior Pastor at The Pentecostals of New Britain, Connecticut. Pastor Brown serves as the Northeast Region Prayer Coordinator with the World Network of Prayer (WNOP).*



## CHRISTMAS FOR CHRIST RALLIES 2022

Make plans to attend a Christmas for Christ Rally in your section to support this important ministry. The schedule of services is as follows:

**Section 1** | November 13 | 4 PM

Living Water Apostolic  
133 Fort Fairfield Road | Caribou

**Section 3** | November 15 | 7 PM

Pentecostals of Jonesport  
10 Lamson Road | Jonesport

**Section 2** | November 16 | 7 PM

Calvary Apostolic Church  
24 Crosby Way | Hampden

**Section 4** | November 17 | 7 PM

First United Pentecostal Church  
8 Wilson Court | Augusta

**Section 5** | November 18 | 7 PM

Landmark Apostolic Lighthouse  
350 US 1 | Scarborough

*Guest Speaker*

**Rev. Darrell Marsh**



*Formerly of Titusville, Florida, now Maine's newest church planter reaching souls in Kittery!*

*Questions about Christmas for Christ?*

Contact: **Rev. Sidney Kear**

Maine District NA Missions Director

☎ (207) 408-0680



GENERAL CONFERENCE 2022

October 4 – 7

Orlando, Florida

### **TUESDAY, October 4, 2022**

6:30 PM WNOP Prayer Service  
6:45 PM Worship – UPCI Music Ministry  
7:00 PM Global Missions Service – Speaker:  
Joel Urshan

### **WEDNESDAY, October 5, 2022**

9:00 AM Business Meeting  
10:00 AM Ministers' Wives Breakfast  
6:30 PM WNOP Prayer Service  
6:45 PM Worship – UPCI Music Ministry  
7:00 PM North American Missions Service  
Speaker: Tim Gaddy

### **THURSDAY, October 6, 2022**

9:30 AM Seminars  
10:30 AM Ministers Session – Nurturing a  
Growth Culture – Speaker: D. G.  
Hargrove  
12:00 PM Children's Ministries Service  
Speaker: Jonathan McDonald  
4:30 PM Seminars  
6:30 PM WNOP Prayer Service  
6:45 PM Worship – UPCI Music Ministry  
7:00 PM General Superintendent's Message

### **FRIDAY, October 7, 2022**

8:30 AM Just Between Us (for ladies)  
9:30 AM Seminars  
12:00 PM Youth Ministries Service  
Speaker: Darrell Bates  
5:30 PM 6:30 pm Memorial Service  
6:45 PM Worship – UPCI Music Ministry  
7:00 PM General Conference Service  
Speakers: Nick Mahaney, Mark  
Morgan, David Norris, Jason  
Sciscoe, and Art Wilson



## GOOD GRIEF, WHAT WILL IT TAKE?

By: Rev. Carolann Parker

Grief is a natural response to loss. It's the emotional suffering one feels when something or someone you love is taken away. Often, the pain of loss can feel overwhelming. You may experience all kinds of difficult and unexpected emotions, from shock or anger to disbelief, guilt, and profound sadness.

Grief is not something that anyone asks to go through; yet, there will come a time in every person's life when they will experience grief. Grief comes when we experience loss.

People experience grief when a loved one dies, or we lose a home or a job, or when a marriage falls apart, just to name a few of life's experiences that may bring grief into our lives. There are different types of grief. Yes, believe it or not, grief comes in different forms. Any change in a person's life can bring about symptoms of grief. How deep grief can go depends on the person. Unlike depression, grief brings a sinking pit in your stomach, but it eventually goes away.

In addition to physical grief, we can experience spiritual grief. Spiritual grief is also that 'pit in the stomach' feeling but in the spiritual sense. Unlike physical grief that happens as a result of a direct action (someone died, a marriage failed, a job ended), spiritual grief sometimes stirs in us when we see someone going down a path toward destruction with no regard for eternity. With spiritual grief, you sit by and watch. It is grieving that the people you love do not have a relationship with the God that you love. Spiritual grief, as well as physical grief, can come in different degrees, under different circumstances.

Sometimes spiritual grief occurs when we feel lost or apart from God's voice and presence. We love him, we serve him, we're faithful, we do everything we know to do, but somehow he seems distant. We read of Cornelius in Acts 10, and he was a devout man. He thought he was doing everything he should. God honored his prayers and spoke to him. He instructed him to send for Peter. When Peter got to the house of Cornelius, he shared

the gospel of Jesus, and Cornelius was filled with the Holy Ghost. Cornelius was fasting, indicating he may have been distressed or grieved in some way. God revealed the gospel to him and gave him the revelation of the Holy Ghost. When you feel distant from God, your spirit may grieve. God will honor your prayer and your seeking and he will connect with you. You may question all you have done or wonder why God is not there when you have been

faithful, but know that God is always there!

Sometimes spiritual grief occurs when individuals watch their loved ones living life on their own terms rather than in accordance to the word of God. Sometimes watching them struggle

or experience hurt and pain because of their decision to turn away from God is frustrating. We know that God could prevent hurt and pain if they would turn to him. It can grieve our spirit to know there is an answer but see them refuse it. This is when we grieve for their souls rather than their physical being.

Sometimes we grieve as we watch those who were so on fire for God and once walked with him decide to engage in the lust of the world and flesh and walk farther and farther away from God. Spiritual grief can lead us to a place of prayer where we ask, *what will it take?!* Then, as our spirit begins to understand the root of grief, we can begin to pray *that is enough!* When our grief begins to motivate us to pray in the spirit, we can then see God do a work. We can so those who have strayed return to God and see our mourning – or grief – turn to dancing.

*Rev. Carolann Parker is Associate Pastor at New Life Pentecostal Church in Wilton.*





LADIES RALLIES  
SPEAKER: CAROLYN CHANNELL

—  
THURSDAY, 9/22, 7PM  
LEWISTON

—  
FRIDAY, 9/23, 7PM  
HAMPDEN

—  
SATURDAY, 9/24, 2PM  
CARIBOU

SAVE  
THE  
DATE

You are seen  
You are loved  
You are cherished  
*Esther*  
CONFERENCE  
CHERISHED

November 11-12 | 2022  
Calvary Apostolic Church  
Hampden, ME  
Maine District UPCI Ladies  
Ministries - Facebook



*Ladies. remember  
these important  
events designed to  
help you.  
encourage you. and  
inspire you!*



## CAN THESE BONES LIVE? *continued...*

3. There is a cure! There is a miracle waiting in your valley of dry bones if you will heed the words of the Lord and speak His life into your situation. The following verses of Ezekiel 37 outline how God spoke to Ezekiel and asked him to speak life into the dry bones. God used His word and Ezekiel's faith to speak life and blessing into those bones.

If the dry bones in Ezekiel's valley can live, that means there is hope for the dry bones in your valley today! By having faith in God and faith to speak His word over the valley, Ezekiel not only saw the restoration of the bones, but life breathed back into them and verse 10 says "...and they lived, and stood up upon their feet, an exceeding great army.". Not only will God put life back into your situation, but He will make those dead things be a fighting force against what you will face in the future. Instead of a reminder from Satan of the failures and disappointments of the past, this army will be a reminder of the power and the faithfulness of God in your situation.

Just as Ezekiel prophesied to the dry bones, we too can prophesy to our situation. We can take the blessings of God and speak them into our lives. Deuteronomy 28 says in verse 2 that if we will hearken unto the voice of the Lord our God, there will be many blessings that come on us and overtake us! Blessings in our homes, on our children, on our livelihoods. God will scatter the enemy before us, and will cause us to be fruitful in all we do. The people of the earth will see that we are called by the name of the Lord, we will be blessed with plenteous goods, and God will make us the head and not the tail.

When you're in your valley of dry bones remember that God has placed you there for a reason, He is with you, and with His words and your faith you can speak to that valley and receive the blessings of God in your life and see those dry bones live.

## SECRETARY SNIPPETS

*By: Rev. Todd Little*

It's a great day to live for God! Camp has come to end. What a great camp meeting we had with Bro. Jeremy Painter and Bro. Chris Green. On Wednesday of camp, we took pledges for the campground to cover the expense of the camp and for future renovations, specifically to focus on building new walls in the tabernacle. We received approximately \$60,000 in pledges! If you made a personal pledge or a pledge from your church, please send that offering in no later than September 22<sup>nd</sup>. If you did not make a pledge but would like to, it's not too late! Campground pledges and offerings can be sent to Todd Little, 204 Montello St. Lewiston, ME 04240.

We have many district events scheduled throughout the year. Please be involved wherever you can. These events are meant to bless the churches and ministers of the Maine District. We are better when we are together. Psalm 133 tells us the unity is good and pleasant, a place of anointing, and that it is where the Lord commands a blessing. Thank you for the honor to serve as your district secretary. I look forward to seeing you and working with the ministers of the Maine district to see revival.

*Rev. Todd Little is pastor at the First UPC of Lewiston, and he serves as District Secretary for the Maine District.*

### Upcoming Missionary Schedule

**November 15 - 20**

Troy Wickett | Solomon Islands/Fiji

*If you want information on hosting a missionary in your church, please reach out!*

**Rev. Eric Mailman**

P. (207) 669-5267

E. [ericmailman@me.com](mailto:ericmailman@me.com)

## September 2022

1	Adopted Missionary Offering Kick-off	
5	Ladies of Prayer International	
12-16	Work Week to Close Campground	Old Town
16-18	Children's Crusade	
22-24	Ladies Sectional Events	

## October 2022

3	Ladies of Prayer International	
4-7	General Conference	Orlando, FL
16	Adopted Missionary Offering Call-in Date	
21-22	Marriage Enrichment	
23	All Nations Sunday	
	Christmas for Christ Offering Kick-off	
24-25	Fall Planning Session	
28	All-state Youth Rally	Hampden

## November 2022

1	AYC Application Available Online	
4-6	Real McCoy Weekend	
7	Ladies of Prayer International	
11-12	Esther Conference	
14-18	Christmas for Christ Rallies	
18	Maine Focus Articles Due	
20	Media Ministry Offering <i>in conjunction with Thanksgiving</i>	



*All correspondence, article submissions and input should be sent to*

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