

the Maine Focus

THE MAINE DISTRICT UNITED PENTECOSTAL CHURCH INTERNATIONAL ■ SUMMER 2023 ■ VOLUME XVI, No. 1



The Lord on high is mightier than
the noise of many waters, yea,
than the mighty waves of the sea.

Psalm 93:4



Superintendent's Pen

ENGRAFTING THE WORD OF GOD

By: Rev. Tommy Channell, Superintendent
Maine District UPCI



Wherefore lay apart all filthiness and superfluity of naughtiness, and receive with meekness the engrafted word, which is able to save your souls. (James 1:21 KJV)

Engraft means “to invigorate (fill with life or energy; or to strengthen) by instruction. A good example of engrafting is fruit trees. Many times, farmers will graft together a root system and a healthy young shoot, so that the resulting tree will bear the fruit of the engrafted portion and not of the root portion.

God commands us to lay up, or place, His words in our hearts. Deuteronomy 11:18 says, “Therefore shall ye lay up these my words in your heart and in your soul, and bind them for a sign upon your hand, that they may be as frontlets between your eyes”. We do this by hearing the word of God, believing His word, and applying His word by the way we live.

Engrafting truth is the process of attaching the Word to the diseased part of the soul. Whether it be anger, bitterness, fear, or doubt, the healing qualities of God’s word can restore those parts of our soul. This only happens if it is applied, or laid up, consistently over those areas of our lives.

In practice, God’s word purifies our hearts through the Spirit and the engrafted word can do so many good things for our lives! It can:

- **Help us to love with a pure heart:** 1 Peter 1:11 says, “Beloved let us love one another...”. The Word helps to transform the way we think, cleanses our minds, and separates us from worldly philosophies, and allows us to love one another as Christ loved us.
- **Establish God’s righteousness:** As we speak, live, and promote the laws of the Lord, we take stand against those things which are contrary to God’s word.
- **Build faith:** Ezekiel 20:19 says, “I am the Lord your God; walk in my statutes, and keep my judgements, and do them”. All the promises of God are dependent on your faith in God’s word. Faith makes you believe it, and believing moves you to live it, all through the power of the engrafted word!
- **Encourage and strengthen us:** The engrafted Word gives us strength to act upon our convictions, a foundation to stand upon when the trials come and the confidence to fight the forces of darkness. Romans 8:37 says, “No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him that loved us.”. Through the engrafted Word, we KNOW that we are more than conquerors!
- **Impart spiritual authority:** Proverbs 28:1 says, “For the wicked flee when no man pursueth, but the righteous are as bold as a lion.” As we stand upon the engrafted Word, we obtain promises. We will be delivered from forces of darkness, we will be advocates for God’s justice and righteous judgement as we speak with God’s authority.

Continued on page 11.

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Rev. Thomas Channell
Monday Night Speaker



Rev. Stan Gleason
Morning Bible Teacher



Rev. Jason Sciscoe
Evening Service Speaker

SCHEDULE

Monday, June 26 | 7:00 PM
Opening Service

Tuesday, June 27 – Friday June 30
10:30 AM | Morning Bible Class
7:00 PM | Evening Service

Kidz Church
10:30 AM Daily
Multipurpose Room

Pea Cove Campground
ME-16 | Old Town, ME 04468



June 26 – 30, 2023
Maine District UPCI Family Camp



YOU WANT US TO GO WHERE?

By: Rev. Eric Mailman

“Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature.” These are some of the very last words that were spoken by Jesus that are recorded in the book of Mark. While pondering and considering this, I wonder if there may have been some questions or apprehension in the minds of the assembled crowd of believers hearing those words that day?

Go ye into **ALL** the world? In the days Jesus and the disciples, this idea or concept of a worldwide impact must have been mind-blowing to say the very least. In the days where traveling on foot, on the back of beasts of burden, or by ship, getting from one place to another would have been such a tremendous challenge. The incredible danger of traveling to these different regions was present as well. Shipwrecks were common, as evidenced by the experiences of Paul. Thieves and murderers were often present, not to mention the dangers of preaching the Gospel of Jesus in these days, and the constant violence which in the end resulted on all the disciples being martyred with the exception of John.

To **every creature**, this idea and concept must have challenged the disciples to their very core. The day and culture in which Jesus and the disciples lived in, had very evident and deeply seated angst and prejudices against those who were not of the Jewish faith or bloodline. We can see these lines crossed many times by Jesus. An example of these lines being crossed is the conversation between Jesus and a Samaritan woman at a well. This is where there was such great surprise when the Holy Ghost was poured out in Samaria, and why Peter struggled with going to Cornelius' house.

Now, let's add in the natural challenges of cultural differences, not to mention the language barrier. The disciples were not able to rapidly

access the tools that we have available to us today. Rapidly learning languages, the ability to rapidly produce materials in different languages to aid in evangelism efforts.

Looking at today and see the challenges and

barriers that the early church had to overcome, I am amazed that despite it all they “turned the world upside down!” Here we are so many years later, with vehicles in which we can travel great distances in such a relatively short amount of time. We can board an airplane and travel to the other side of the world, safely, and in comparison, so quickly!

We have the ability with technology to leverage video conferencing, translation software, or various other programs to

provide information, to interface with someone face to face, in efforts to propagate the sharing of the gospel. The ability to send information and give guidance and direction instantaneously.

We still have those who put motion, and movement to the Gospel! They answer the call of God and sacrifice the comforts of home, the immediate proximity of family, and make their way to a foreign land. They are on the front lines of sharing the gospel to every creature in cultures and languages that are foreign to what we know here in Maine!

How can we be involved in this great commission that was given to us by Jesus so long ago? That's a great question, and it is good to be reminded that this very same command still applies to us! There are several ways for us to be involved! The first is to be a witness, and to share the gospel everywhere we go! Where we work, live, and play! We also have the privilege of being able to participate and help with the evangelistic efforts of our local church! To take part in the door knocking event, or any special event that your church uses to be in the community.

We can also participate with helping and hosting missionaries in our local assemblies. We can support them through becoming a partner in the mission! That is partnering with them financially so



that they can continue fulfilling this great commission. The local church can hold a Faith Promise service! These very special services give the opportunity to allow God to speak and build the faith of the local assembly by giving in faith, and having God show how he can provide and bless in the sacrifice!

Looking at the current state of our world, and keeping the prophecies of scripture in mind, we can understand that we are living in a season that is rapidly leading to the return of Jesus. It is so critical, for the whole church, to be involved with reaching the whole world! Let it be said of the last days church, that we ‘turned our world upside down!’ Would you join with me in doing this? Would you partner with a missionary? Would you give sacrificially? Would you reach out to your neighbor or coworker? Together, we can create the opportunity for every creature, to hear this soul saving message! Let’s do it together!

Rev. Eric Mailman is pastor at The New Life Apostolic Church in Old Town and serves as the Global Missions Director for the Maine District UPCI.



Upcoming Missionary Schedule

June 27 – July 2, 2023

Camp Meeting Week
Missionary to Sensitive Nation

July 25 – 30, 2023

Nate Turner | Estonia

October 31 – November 5, 2023

Henry Ritchie | Windward Islands

November 21 – 26, 2023

James Beek | UK/Channel Islands

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

Rev. Eric Mailman

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SECRETARY SNIPPITS

By: Rev. Todd Little



Good things are happening in the Maine District. There are a couple of quick things to share with you that will hopefully make some things easier.

First, online giving is available through [Faith Teams](#). Ministerial dues and campground pledges can be given through this online platform. There is an option to check to cover the fees for the convenience of paying online. You can choose to use a credit card or ACH. Covering the fees is always appreciated. Faith Teams provides the opportunity to set up recurring giving if you so choose. For those who prefer to use technology to give, [this is a great option](#). If online giving isn’t for you, checks can be sent to:

Maine District UPC
204 Montello Street
Lewiston, ME 04240

Headquarters is switching to an [online platform](#) for the ministerial license application process. This process makes [submitting applications](#) much more efficient than mailing paper copies. The requirements for licensing and the questions remain the same. The application fee, the insurance form, and submission of additional information can all be completed online. Below is a link for the YouTube tutorial to become familiar with the new process. If you have questions, please feel free to contact me via email, text, or phone.

If there’s anything I can do to help you as you reach your communities, please feel free to let me know. It’s an honor to serve. You can reach me via email or telephone at teachtodd@aol.com or (207) 754-3582.

NOT THE BAKER, JUST THE BREAD MAN!

By: Rev. Joey Peyton, PhD

A small lad rolls over from a night of fitful sleep and melodramatically stretches out his arms and legs as boys are prone to do. His hand knocks over an empty bottle and pushes away yesterday's newspaper. His leg kicks the dumpster and is pulled back in pain as he sits up and holds his leg. Tears run down his dirty cheeks, and it is then he hears his stomach rumble. Hunger pangs are a familiar feeling. There is no place to wash up, and he had slept in his clothes. He peers around the side of the dumpster and slowly creeps out into the alley. Dirty hands are run through his hair as he walks out onto the street. The sun is shining while people are bustling about preparing for another day.

The lad is mostly ignored as he squints through the morning sun. The grocery store is open on the corner, the smell of coffee wafts through the air from the cafe, and the bank is rolling out the awnings to protect its affluent customers. Ahh... he sighs as someone opens the door of the bakery. Bread... fresh, baked this morning, and still warm. All of this you could tell from just one whiff when the door was opened by the steady line of customers.

The lad makes his way nonchalantly down the busy street until he is just across the street from the bakery. He waits for a time and then... Yes, there she came down the street, walking with a purpose towards the bakery as if the smell were drawing her like a magnet. As she walked through the door of the bakery, the lad made his dash across the street to lean against the hydrant on the corner. As if orchestrated in a theater, each player knew his role and place. The lad waited, pretending to ignore the drama that was about to play out on this street corner. Without looking he could hear the door creak open several times. He knew the number of customers and he knew which creak was hers. This was not the first time – this was a morning routine.

The lad had his pride, and it forced him to pretend to ignore the approaching steps of the lady as she returned home to prepare breakfast for her family. He heard her pause and ask, "Johnnie, you want a roll this morning?"

As on the previous morning, and for that matter on many previous mornings, the lad turned and was quick to reply as his belly did flip flops at the smell of the bread, "No, thank you, Ma'am. I'm not hungry this morning!"

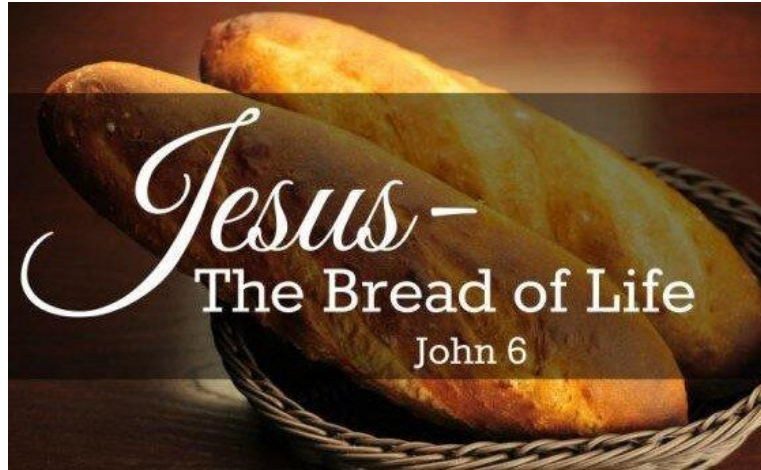
"Well, Johnnie," she replied with a knowing smile, "How about your sister? Maybe you could take a few rolls to her for me?"

"I suppose I could do that. She is very hungry and not likely to get much to eat today!" Johnnie reached out his hand and took two rolls from the lady's basket and moved on down the street. He continued to walk slowly until the lady was out of sight. He ravenously ate the rolls. He has no sister—at least none that he knows of—he just needed bread but didn't know how to ask. Bread...

I heard a minister speak at a missionary conference from the title, "The World Needs Bread." I presume that this is where I first started thinking about being the Bread man. My world involves hospice rooms, small remote churches, lonely pastors, and so much more. In each of these rooms are hungry people, people that are hungry for the Bread of Life. Many, if not most, don't realize they are hungry for that Bread, some are too proud to ask for the Bread, and others don't even know that this Bread exists. Nevertheless, one thing is certain, they all need the Bread.

That's where I come in; I'm the Bread man. I'm not the baker, just the delivery boy. Many years ago, I met someone who gave me some of that Bread. Almost 50 years have come and gone since that day, and still, I am giving away that same Bread. As a child they told me a story about how all this got started. A small child had five small loaves of bread and two fishes. A man who called himself the Bread of Life (*John 6:48*) took that bread, blessed it, and began to divide it up among the multitude. Amazingly enough, those small loaves

Continued on next page.



NOT THE BAKER, JUST THE BREAD MAN!, *continued...*

fed 5000 with leftovers, and another time a few loaves fed 4000 with leftovers to share (*Matthew 14:15-21*).

Throughout the centuries, women and men continue to bless and pass out that Bread of Life. After 2000 years that Bread has not diminished in either size or power. That Bread is just waiting for a Bread man or woman to bless it, break it, and give it out. Again, that is who I am, the Bread man. Each day I step into the lives of sick, dying, lonely, and desperate people. Each without exception need the Bread. All are hungry, and some are even starving; each are praying, “Give us this day our daily Bread” (*Luke 11:3*).

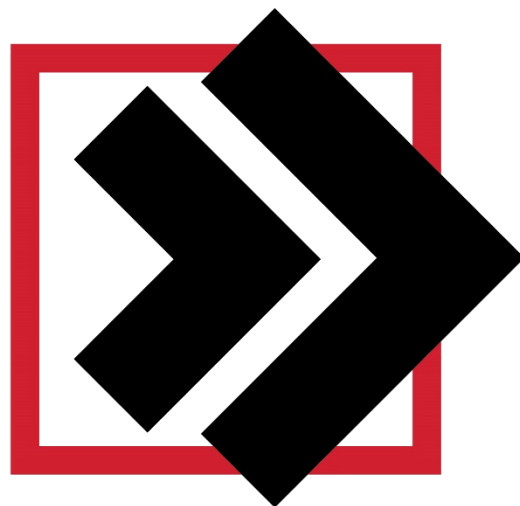
Sometimes I must explain what this Bread is because they have never seen it before. Other times they know about the Bread, but have never tasted it, and so my job is to entice them, “Taste and see that the Bread is Good” (*Psalms 34:8*). Some are like the lad above and too proud to admit they need the Bread, and so I must present the Bread in such a manner that they can save their pride and still eat the Bread.

Finally, there is the good ground; they spent their life eating Bread, and while they may have eaten Bread earlier that same day, there is rejoicing at the arrival of the Bread man. Like little birds, their mouths are open, waiting for more Bread. I’ve held their heads and frail bodies in my arms and fed them the Bread, one small broken piece at a time. I held their hands and fed them Bread as I watched their life here on earth slip away and am assured that the Bread of Life takes over on the other side. Yes, I am the Bread man, breaking Bread from house to house (*Acts 2:46*)! It’s not uncommon for the phone or pager to ring, and when answered, a nurse that recognizes the need for Bread is calling for the Bread man to come. I have a hungry patient... she is sick... he is dying... a family is grieving... a pastor is desperate... would the Bread man come and feed them Bread? Often the door is shut, and my children are in bed; I don’t want to rise and give them Bread. Not because of friendship do I rise, but because of the importunity of a hungry world crying out for Bread, I rise and give the needed as he needs (*Luke 11:5-11*). Why? Because I am the Bread man.

Rev. Joey Peyton, PhD, is an ordained minister with the UPCI and has pastored churches in Illinois, Alaska, and Maine. He has held many positions within the UPCI. Rev. Dr. Peyton served in the US Army. He and his wife, Karen, enjoy spending time with their children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren.



Make plans to attend the
**2023 UPCI General
Conference**
in September!
[Register](#) now and
reserve your room in
Indianapolis!



MOVE the MISSION

Offering Date: August 27, 2023

PEACE, WITH A CAPITAL P

By: Tammy Churchill

“And he arose, and rebuked the wind, and said unto the sea, Peace, be still. And the wind ceased, and there was a great calm.”

Mark 4:39

This scripture has always stood out to me specifically due to the word **Peace** being capitalized. And looking further into the original meaning of the word, Peace is from the Greek word meaning quiet. In this scripture, Jesus is speaking directly to Peace. He spoke to it as we would speak to our child, or another person. And rightfully so as He's the creator of all things. Amazing, isn't it. We have that same power within us to boldly speak to our anxieties. Let's see how.

When the ugliness of anxiety rises in my life, I try to reflect to the root cause. Did someone say something that hurt me? Are my kids having hard time? Is my spouse ok? Once I can pinpoint where my restlessness began, it then allows me to intentionally pray and speak life against this stressor.

Romans 8:6 states, *“The mind governed by the flesh is death, but the mind governed by the spirit is life and peace.”*

We all have choices. You can choose to take your anxiety to someone who will fuel the fire when in fact it needs to be put out. Or you can choose to have a mind that is governed by the Spirit, and this will offer life and peace.

Philippians 4:6-7 says, *“Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayers and petition, with thanksgiving, present your request to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus”*

This is a declaration of what God will do for you if you give your emotions to God. *And the peace of God will guard you.* All those hurt feelings, disappointments, defeats, they will be gone because the God of peace will take care of you.



Lastly, sometimes we don't know where the anxiety comes from. In that case, be an encourager. You're telling me that when I'm depressed to go help someone else? Yes, that is exactly what I'm telling you to do.

In Proverbs 12:25, we read, *“Anxiety weighs down the heart, but a kind word cheers it up.”*

I believe this scripture is again speaking of the life a word can bring. If you speak defeated thoughts, you will feel defeat in your spirit. If you speak life, not only to yourself, but to others, your spirit will be lifted, and anxiety has no room to stay.

- You can be free of the pain anxiety brings.
- Peace is possible.
- Peace is achievable.

Peace is here. Jesus is peace.

Sis. Tammy Churchill is a wife and mother of two children. She and her husband are the youth pastor in Lewiston, Maine, and they also serve on the District Youth Board. Sis. Tammy Church is also a member of the Maine District Ladies Ministries Committee.

NAYC

NORTH AMERICAN YOUTH CONGRESS

July 26 – 28, 2023 | St. Louis, MO

North American Youth Congress (NAYC) is a biennial event focused on teenagers and young adults, with typical attendees ranging from Jr. High ages upward. From its inception in 1979, it has grown from convention centers to basketball arenas to football stadiums. NAYC features dynamic worship services, powerful preaching, and practical breakout sessions.

[#NAYC2023](#)





ENGAGE

FATHER'S DAY OFFERING | JUNE 18, 2023

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Engage with us in our continuing efforts to build better men and grow greater churches.

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THE ENGRAFTED WORD OF GOD, *continued...*

Finally, through the engrafted Word we find the favor of God and man: "... Forget not my law; but let thine heart keep my commandments; for length of days and long life, and peace, shall they add to thee. Let not mercy and truth forsake thee: bind them about thy neck; write them upon the table of thine heart. So shalt thou find favor and good understanding in the sight of God and man." (Proverbs 3:1-4)

Like the fruit tree bears the fruit of the engrafted portion, when we engraft the Word of God in our lives, we are able to bear the fruit of it. We love those around us with a pure heart, we are able to walk in righteousness and faith, we are strengthened daily by the Word, we have spiritual authority, and we find favor in the eyes of God and man.

Let's all take some time to make a daily habit of reading and memorizing the Word, so that it may be engrafted in our lives and that we may be able to bear the fruit of it and be a shining light of love, strength, and faith to our darkened world.

"Too long, too far, and too low." Those words have stuck with me ever since I read them in a story about Manfred von Richthofen ("The Red Baron").

The day was April 21, 1918. Richthofen led his flight of triplanes to search for British observation aircraft. An engagement ensued between a flight of Sopwith Camels led by Canadian Royal Air Force pilot Capt. Arthur Roy Brown. Brown's friend Lt. Wilfred May was a rookie on his first offensive patrol. May had been ordered to keep out of combat but couldn't resist. He jammed his guns and, defenseless, headed away from the battle. Richthofen spotted the lone plane and chose it for kill number 81. Brown observed the scene below him and dove to help his fellow airman, knowing that May was no match for Richthofen. Read what happens next, "It was then, with Brown closing from behind, that Richthofen, usually a meticulous and disciplined fighter pilot, made a mistake and broke one of his own rules by following May too long, too far, and too low into enemy territory. Two miles behind the Allied lines, as Brown caught up with Richthofen and fired, the chase passed over the machine-gun nests of Australian Field Artillery." The debate continues

over who fired the fatal shot that passed through Richthofen's torso. Ultimately it doesn't matter—whether hit from the air or the ground, The Red Baron was mortally wounded.

Richthofen was good. Probably over-confident. But he "broke one of the rules." Maybe in his mind he was just stretching the rule a bit. Or he was distracted by something that appeared too good to be true. Whatever the case, he compromised his standards, which led to his demise. For the Red Baron, the temptation of number 81 was too much to handle.

The temptation always exists for us to focus on the wrong things, forget where you are, and who's we are, and stretch, or compromise, God's rules, even our own rules. It is easy to be distracted. There are always new gimmicks that will try to lure us away from our first love. You are a target of the enemy. Don't lose your primary focus. Keep the main thing the main thing. "Fix your thoughts on Jesus" (Heb. 3:1, NIV). The main thing is to keep God's word the main thing in our lives.



Sunday, June 18

Children's children are
the crown of old men;
and the glory of
children are their
fathers.

Proverbs 17:6

June 2023

1	Save Our Children Offering Due	
3	Junior & Senior Bible Quizzing Finals	
5	Ladies of Prayer International	
10-24	Campground Cleanup Days	Old Town
18	Father's Day Men's Ministry Offering Sunday	
26-30	Maine District Family Camp	Old Town

July 2023

1	Move the Mission Kickoff	
3	Ladies of Prayer International	
10-14	Kidz Kamp (ages 8 – 11)	Old Town
17-21	Youth Camp (ages 12 – 18)	Old Town
16-21	Junior Bible Quizzing National Competition	Branson, MO
22-26	Senior Bible Quizzing National Competition	St. Louis, MO
28-29	Men's Ministry Motorcycle Ride	
29	Men's Ministry ATV Ride	

August 2023

4-5	World Network of Prayer Summit	Bangor
7	Ladies of Prayer International	
9-10	PK Retreat	
18	Articles Due for <i>The Maine Focus</i> September Issue	
25	Back to School Rally	Hampden
27	Move the Mission Call-in Date	



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