lifeinhisname.net August 2021

Sharing the good news of Jesus and His Kingdom and equipping the church to do the same.



Greg West, Evangelist

Medical Outreach to Latinos

BY GREG WEST

greg@lifeinhisname.net

There was a moment of slight panic when Jason Gillikin told me I was going to be one of the translators for the doctors! So, I quickly partnered with Andrea, another translator, to look up and write down words like bladder, liver, kidneys and high blood pressure. This was last Tuesday night at a Latino church in Newport News with some doctors and volunteers wanting to be of help to the community. This was my first time being a part of this ministry in over 10 years.

This ministry started about 15 years ago out of Grace Harbor Church, where I served as Pastor. It was so good to see Robin Jones there who, like Jason, was a part of the original ministry. Robin is a nurse-midwife with a very big heart to bless people and Jason has a great gift for bringing people together in Jesus' name to serve people in need! Jason has also written a computer program to record details about each patient, including the doctor's notes and medicines prescribed. Dr. Mike Bono, another friend and man of deep faith, was the lead physician. He is an integral part of this ministry.

Pastor Leonel from Guatemala serves the church that hosted the outreach. He opened and closed the outreach with moving prayers for the doctors, volunteers and the people in need. He shared with us that he came to know Jesus and the good news while working in North Carolina! He came to the U.S. to make money, but now has riches in Christ surpassing anything the world could offer!

It was so energizing to be in Hispanic ministry again, especially with dear friends. I translated for a young doctor and a doctor in training. There was plenty of time while they were consulting each other for me to get to know the patients, minister to them and pray with some. Latinos are very open to conversations about the Lord and that receptivity is so encouraging. Jason is discerning where and when the next outreach will be. The contacts are growing, and the needs are many.

Upcoming Ministry Events

Aug. 14: Small Group Seminar

- Memorial UMC, Appomattox, VA
- Part of the Evangelical Fellowship's gathering
- Open to all!

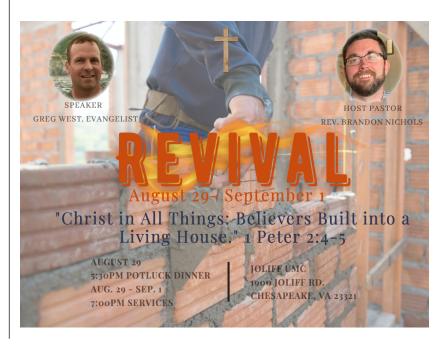
Aug. 15: Preaching at Trinity UMC, Smithfield VA

- 8:30 and 11:00am: Inperson services
- 11:00am: Livestream on the church's website and Facebook page.

Aug. 29-Sep. 1: Revival at Joliff UMC, Chesapeake VA

- Aug. 29, 5:30pm: Potluck Dinner
- Aug. 29-Sept. 1,
 7:00pm:
 Revival Services.
- Speaker: Greg West, Evangelist
- Host Pastor: Rev. Brandon Nichols

For videos of sermons from past ministry events search for us on YouTube!



lifeinhisname.net August 2021

Longing for Revival

When we hear the word revival, we usually think of an event on the church calendar. That is correct, though I would say, incomplete. I want to share about when God puts revival on the calendar! It seems to me that in following Christ we are so often rowing and rowing, but have forgotten to raise our sails so that the wind of the Spirit can move us in ways we never imagined.

God spoke through an angel to the prophet Zechariah centuries ago, "This is the word of the Lord to Zerubbabel: Not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit, says the Lord of hosts" (Zechariah 4:6 NRSV)."

Jonathan Goforth, a missionary revivalist to China in the early 1900s, commented on this verse, "If revival is being withheld from us it is because some idol remains still enthroned; because we still insist on placing our reliance in human schemes; because we still refuse to face the unchangeable truth that, 'It is not by my might, but by My Spirit."

As I share about the 1970 Asbury Revival, John Wesley experiencing an outpouring of God's spirit, and the Great Welsh Revival, I'm praying that your interest will be sparked, and it will grow into a deep longing expressed in continuing prayer for revival. When God's people respond to His Spirit by drawing near and calling on Him for more, God shows up in new and transforming ways! Revival can happen!

There have been moments throughout church history when God pours out His Holy Spirit and people are transformed. Of course, all these moments connect back to the outpouring of God's Spirit at Pentecost, the birth of the Church.

1970 Asbury Revival

Rev. Dennis Kinlaw was the President of Asbury College at the time of the revival. He was traveling in Canada when he received a call from Kentucky concerning the morning chapel service. His thought was to ask how it went, but the report was that it hasn't ended yet. It was 7:00pm Kentucky time! The students and people described the powerful presence of the Lord in the Chapel.

People were drawn there and felt led to repent of and confess their sins, which led them to experience peace with God. Some were renewing their love for and commitment to Christ and others were coming to know His saving grace for the first time. That chapel service went on through the night and into the next day. Classes were cancelled for the next week as the Revival went on 8 days and 8 nights!

Many students felt compelled to travel to other colleges and to their home churches to share what God was doing at Asbury College. The Revival spread to those places and produced the same results:

salvation and reconciliation with God, a deep sense of God's presence, a renewed commitment to follow Jesus at all costs and a desire to make Him known! Leading up to this, there was a group of students that committed to gathering daily and praying for revival. God is calling us to pray.

The Early Methodists Experience Revival

The Methodist movement was launched in revival! Here is an entry from Rev. John Wesley's journal after a "Watch-Night Service," on January 1, 1739.

"Mr. Hall, Kinchin, Ingham, Whitefield, Hutchins, and my brother Charles, were present at our love-feast in Fetter-Lane, with about sixty of our brethren. About three in the morning, as we were continuing instant in prayer, the power of God came mightily upon us, insomuch that many cried out for exceeding joy, and many fell to the ground. As soon as we were recovered a little from that awe and amazement at the presence of his Majesty, we broke out with one voice, 'We praise thee, O God; we acknowledge thee to be the Lord.'"

The Great Welsh Revival

The Great Welsh Revival (1904-1906) was marked with spontaneous outbreaks of singing, prayer, open repentance, and confession. Again, you can trace the revival to praying people. One of them was a preacher named Evan Roberts. Roberts attended many revival services and committed himself to prayer that he might be "bent by God" and be bent according to God's will. His was a life surrendered to Christ. Often, he would be "awoken by the Lord at 1 am and be in prayer for 4 hours till the break of dawn, as he sought the Lord's face for revival to break out in Wales."

He had four points to his message. "Number one: You must confess your known sins and you must make all of your wrongs right. Second, you must put away any doubtful habits. Third, you must obey the Spirit promptly. And fourth, you must confess your faith publicly."

The results of the Welsh revival over a two-year period were stunning! There have been estimates that 100,000 people came to faith in Christ during this revival. Courtrooms were empty as so few crimes were committed; many of the police officers formed singing groups traveling to different churches as they had "free time" and were moved by the S vb. omines were confused because once they were driven by men with use of obscenity and kicks, but now there weren't any.

The Joy of Jesus to You, *Greg*