

# THE Keystone PA DISTRICT UPCI

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA DISTRICT, UNITED PENTECOSTAL CHURCH INTERNATIONAL

**It's still PRAYER Pennsylvania! As has been said, "Prayer does not fit us for the greater work; prayer is the greater work." Prayer works because God works in answer to prayer!**

PA District Superintendent: **REV. MICKEY CLUSTER**

Martin Manser defines UNITY as "A distinguishing characteristic of God's people, which derives from their common relationship with God, and is expressed in commitment to one another, mutual concern, concerted action and harmony within the believing community." This definition was recently in full display at the launching of PA's two newest church plants ... in Berwick and Clarion; each section beautifully (Psalm 133:1) coming together and working as one! Result? — 1 received the Holy Spirit baptism and 12 were water-baptized in Jesus name, with many being impacted by the Gospel message. NOW, that gets to happen with every service in those communities! Let's continue to pray for these new churches and their Pastors, Bro. & Sis. Aaron Wright and Bro. & Sis. Thomas Perkins. Revival!

TONY MANSINHO / Keystone Editor



## UNITY + PRAYER = REVIVAL

*Autoimmune Disease*, simply put, is the body attacking itself. Our body is full of healthy cells. Occasionally "rogue" cells come along and attack the healthy ones. If they are not identified and dealt with, they may grow in numbers and gain in strength causing diseases that can alter or destroy our lives.

Comparatively speaking, "Spiritual Autoimmune Disease" can occur within the body of Christ. When we, as members of the body of Christ don't live in a state of unity with one another, unfortunately, "rogue cells" of bitterness, gossip, pride, selfishness, etc. will make its way in and cause the disease of DIVISION! Division in the body of Christ is much like an autoimmune disease because the body attacks itself. The result is a weakened condition or introduction of disease into the body. If not taken care of, the member of the body can be dangerously damaged (see Galatians 5:15). And as we read in 1 Corinthians 12:26, when one member suffers, the entire body suffers!

To counteract the disease of division we must adopt the lifestyle of unity! Unity, therefore, is vital to the health of the body of Christ! We show our unity for the members of the body by showing love, respect, esteem, and preferring our brother! Ephesians 4:2-3 admonishes, “bearing with one another in love, endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.” We MUST do this! The Bible is filled with many such admonishments to possess and practice unity!

Further, unity, when combined with prayer, creates the perfect equation for revival. Revival too, is a necessity for the body! It breathes fresh breath into it! Calls to repentance and holiness. Causes us to love people as God does and instructs us to. We need revival! A.W. Tozer preached a sermon entitled, “Unity That Brings Revival!” In summary, he believed that it wasn’t necessarily the Holy Ghost outpouring that brought unity to the church, but rather, while praying in the upper room, it was the UNITY THEY POSSESSED that brought the revival! Even now, we still hold to that same equation that was present at the birth of the Apostolic Church: UNITY + PRAYER = REVIVAL!

**CONNIE KRAMER** / PA District Prayer Coordinator



**DEBBIE CLUSTER** / PA Ladies Ministry President

## “WOW!”

What an absolutely wonderful time our recent Pennsylvania Ladies’ Conference was! We started in Section 3 and travelled across our great district to Sections 1 and 2. Each service was Holy Ghost blessed! — specific to each Section. God knows our needs! As for us, we need to know what and where are treasures are and stay focused. Jesus is coming soon! We must be ready ... there won’t be any time to get ready when he does come. A HUGE thank you to Sis. Debbie

Sanders for ministering to us and to the music teams and the pastors’ wives for hosting us. Be watching ([padistrictupci.org](http://padistrictupci.org) or [facebook.com/PADistrictUPCI](https://facebook.com/PADistrictUPCI)) for the announcement for next year’s conference! Believe me — you will not want to miss it!



\* Photos by **FAITH FRANKFORD**



*“A woman who knows  
God cries out to Him in  
times of distress and  
celebrates His goodness  
in times of joy.”*

## INTRODUCING ...

I came into the truth, and into His church in 2009. I was about 20, living in the Atlanta, GA area. Most of my life had been centered around sports (primarily soccer), until I sustained a career ending injury to my knee, specifically my ACL's in both knees, as well as torn meniscus'. It was then that I was invited by my older brother to come by the UPCI church he was attending at the time. Long story short, after some resistance, I went ... God powerfully touched me and moved on my life in such a great way and I knew I had found "new life!" A few weeks later, I was filled with the Holy Ghost for the first time, and baptized in Jesus' name shortly thereafter. As I continued in my new journey, it eventually dawned on me that God was behind my whole sports career ending; He was calling me to be a preacher and serve His Kingdom. That, I have striven to do ever since.

My wife and I married in November of 2016. She is from the Philadelphia area. When I first came to visit her during our year of courting, as we were driving around the region and exploring a city I've never been to before, I felt



such a strong, overwhelming tug and call from the Lord to the area. I tried to shake it, but after marrying and living in Atlanta for about 6 months, we consulted with our Pastor who confirmed what we were feeling. As we further prayed and prepared, we encountered several other dramatic confirmations. We moved to

the Philly area in August of 2017 to answer the call and begin our journey of ministry here. We launched Keystone Apostolic Church in October of 2018 and have seen dozens of people be born again ... find "new life" since then! We are approaching 5 years since launch and God has seen us through several ups/downs and wins/losses. Nevertheless, He has shown us time and time again that He orchestrated our being here and we are thrilled to serve His purposes in this region!

Our vision is to connect lives to the Life Giver through the power of the Holy Ghost and by practical propagation of the gospel in the region. It is a tough region, but where sin abounds, His grace always abounds more!

**KRISS THOMPSON** / Pastor, Keystone Apostolic Church, Philadelphia

## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY IS WORTH ALL THE MESSINESS



it's a jungle and a major juggle! "How could God move in any of this?" The curious stares of the young trying to understand that which is "above" them. While disinterested and disconnected looks from teenagers enduring the program that is "beneath" them. "Do they even want the Holy Ghost?" Regardless of the last-minute changes, the crafts, experiments, and activities that don't function as advertised. Microphone, media, and sound system malfunctions ... BUT GOD! HE CAN AND WILL MOVE DESPITE THE CALAMITIES AND CHAOS! Looking at its appearance, you may feel like a complete failure. Everything may break and crumble around you, yet you don't know what is happening in the minds and hearts of the children (and adults) you are ministering to. All this and more was experienced in late June at Cornerstone UPC in Selinsgrove for Vacation Bible School. God honored the tireless tenacity of teachers, staff members, altar workers, and intercessors. In the end, eight kids were filled with the Holy Ghost, as well as two teenage staff members! Visiting parents were at the altar praying, crying, and seeking God at Sunday's VBS Finale service. THE MESSINESS OF CHILDREN'S MINISTRY IS THE MIRACLE OF IT ALL!

**GREGG L. MARSHALL** / Lead Pastor, Cornerstone UPC



## LISTEN TO YOUR CITY

“And when he was come near, he beheld the city, and wept over it.” — Luke 19:41

“I don’t just pastor the Temple of Pentecost, I pastor Raleigh North Carolina!” — Wayne Huntley

God has a city for your calling and that city has been prepared for your arrival.

I can distinctly remember the day that the Lord revealed the city of my calling to me. The revelation of my city didn’t come immediately with my calling to pastor. At 18, I felt the call to pastor, but I didn’t know where or when. As others, I did my best to run from the call to plant a church but as fast as I ran, I could never outrun the calling. At 20, I finally embraced the call to plant a church and pastor it, but I still did not know where the Lord was leading me. I could have taken the easy route and took over my dad’s church, but the Lord wouldn’t allow me to do that. I felt in my heart that I needed to plant a church. In the summer of 2002, Lisa and I got married. Later that year we visited her parents in Somerset, Pennsylvania. As we visited, Lisa wanted to go for a walk down one of the local country roads. As we walked, I felt the Holy Spirit overwhelm me and I saw Somerset like I had never seen it before. As I looked over the rolling pasture fields, I saw a harvest field of souls. I cannot adequately explain what happened inside of me, but there was a divine shift and I knew that this was my city, my destiny, my mission’s field. That day in the fall of 2002, I fell in love with Somerset. Even though we had not planted the church yet — that event was still 3 years in the future — the love of a shepherd began to grow in my heart. I had a city and soon that city would have a church.

I want to take a moment and share with you one of the most profound spiritual experiences that the Lord has permitted me to feel. In February 2021 I was at our church praying for revival in our local church and community. At this point I had been pastoring 15 years, and let me be candid, I had grown a little weary in well doing! I needed a renewing of my passion for my city and those in it that desperately needed Jesus. As I was praying the Holy Ghost gently spoke to me, “Listen to your city!” All of a sudden a cacophony of thousands of voices flooded my mind at once as God let me hear the prayers of my city. I heard parents pleading for God to deliver their child from drug addictions, I heard wives screaming and asking God to turn the heart of their adulterous husband, I heard wailing from hearts drowning in depression. Thousands of voices screaming, pleading, weeping, begging, praying unto the Lord for His help overwhelmed my senses. My city needed Jesus, my city needed His church. I wept and struggled to verbalize a prayer. The Holy Ghost took over as I just wept and groaned in prayer for my community. I am not sure how long I prayed that day, but the Lord let me hear something that seared the burden to pastor deeper into my spirit. The Lord gently let me know that is what He regularly heard being prayed in my city. That 10 second opportunity to hear my city reignited my burden and passion for Somerset. Listen to your city; it is praying for what you have!



JASON UPTON / Pastor, House of Prayer



**CONGRATULATIONS! RECORD BREAKING OFFERING: \$72,000!**  
**D. J. WILLIAMS — “ROOKIE YOUTH PRESIDENT OF THE YEAR!”**