

Schedule for September and Octo-

September 11 – 12 Men's Retreat, White Mills Christian Camp

September 14 – Ministry to Ministers, Peaks Mill Christian Church, Frankfort Kentucky

September 21 – Ministry to Ministers and Wives, Church Leaders and Women in Ministry Roles, Paoli Christian Church

(If a Ministry is in your location just call the local church involved to register and come share the morning with us – everyone is welcome)

October 4, Fairview Christian in the morning,
Mike Wall and the Hybernia Church in the evening

October 5-7 Worship leader at the Austin Christian Church Revival

October 11, Syria Christian Church morning and evening

Are You Interested?

Last year was the first time we got together to help preachers plan their preaching schedule for the coming year. Many who were involved said it was time well spent.

My question for those of you who are reading this newsletter, Would you like to get together again Monday, October 19, and work on your preaching schedule for 2010?

Don Watts has invited us to meet at Fairview Christian Church if you would like to be a part of this very profitable preparation time. All we need to know is that you are interested and you will participate when the time comes.

If you would like to be a part of this special day, please give me a call 812-595-3898 or send an e-mail to Living Hope Ministry letting us know you will participate. You can also call Don at 812-752-2880.

We will need to know by October 14 if you are going to be with us.

Don't Give Up and Don't Give In!

Sometimes the things around us make it so very hard to keep on keeping on for the Lord. This is a great verse!

"No temptation has seized you except what is common to man. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can stand up under it." (1 Corinthians 10:13, NIV)

"The Words of Jesus are great strength in tough times!"

Our Lord made it very clear throughout His ministry the cost of being a disciple. He didn't try to sugar coat reality or soft peddle the truth. If we are involved in His Word we know this is true, but sometimes the circumstances of this may push the truth off the front burners of life. We get confused and wonder why in the world things are going the way they are when we are just trying to serve the Lord!

Here is what Jesus told His disciples about the troubling times of ministry.

"In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world!" (John 16:33b, NIV)

These are definitely troubling times for many people in this world. Sadly, they can be equally troubling for those who claim Christ as Savior and Lord of their life.

So what is a person to do when the storms of life are raging and we are fearful that we are about to drown?

"Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the Pioneer and Perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God!"

(Hebrews 12:2, NIV)

Contact Information

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"The Way to Have a Good Day"

Norman Vincent Peale

Think a good day. To make the day good you have to see it in your mind as good.

Thank a good day. Thank God in advance for the good day ahead because there can't be a good day without His granting it.

Plan a good day. You'll never get anywhere with a day unless you plan it.

Make a good day. Make it your business to put good into the day.

Pray a good day. Start and finish every day with God.

Get going.

Giving

I want to take just a moment to thank everyone who gives to make this ministry a reality. Your generosity and faithfulness mean more to me than I could ever express.

Yes, the present financial conditions of this life have made it difficult to continue to grow this work. However, God is faithful and He has seen fit to continue to meet our needs.

Your personal commitment and faithfulness to our Lord are blessings beyond our wildest imaginations. Daily we thank God for all you do to help us with Living Hope.

Please pray for us daily if you are not already doing so. We need your prayers more than you may imagine.

If you can give, please do so.

If you have some ideas of how we may expand our work please let us know.

We are in this together and I thank my God daily for every one of you!

Simple Suggestions for Fulfilling Ministry in the Local

Focus completely on Jesus – take your eyes off Christ and you will immediately begin to sink.

Never forget your business – the business of the church is people.

Plant and water the Word of God and God will bring the increase in His time.

Cast a vision the people can catch and run with.

Take charge of your time.

People will always criticize – don't take it personally.

Character and integrity are your two greatest assets.

Read the books of Exodus and Leviticus at least once a month.

Let go of the things others can do in the ministry.

Learn to laugh.

Don't take yourself so seriously – nobody else does.

Resist the demand to be the agent of change.

Preach what you practice – if you cannot, then change your practices.

Make preaching practical and applicable – if you don't know how, then learn.

Keep growing in the grace and knowledge of our Savior and Lord, Jesus Christ.

Polish the Fruits of the Spirit in your own life.

Take advantage of your strengths.

Don't be ashamed of your weaknesses.

Learn how to be a true friend so you can have true friends.

Learn from the past, live in the present, and plan for the future.

A Message from Don Watts

Problem Solving and Crisis Care are probably two of the first phrases many people think about when asked about Living Hope Ministry and Phil LaMaster. My name is Don Watts, minister of Fairview Christian Church in Underwood, Indiana. I, too, would have to say that those two phrases are synonymous with Living Hope, my relationship with Phil LaMaster, and what God has done through his Ministry for me and my family.

However, I want to share with you that there is so much more to Living Hope than the aforementioned two phrases which barely scratch the surface. Problem Solving and Crisis Care have evolved into Continued Care, and Professional Development, and the Professional Development has led to a more proficient, passionate, and purposeful preacher.

Continued Care: Phil and Rhonda, and LH is a ministry that has supported my wife, Julia, and me, and our entire family, in the good and bad. But what is most important, they have never stopped. There was never a lapse in their care. No matter the situation - death, heartache, ministry decisions, or personal events - they are always there. Thank you for all of the time you share in the laughter and the

tears.

Professional Development: I have the extreme privilege of living 600 yards from one of the best ministers of this time, who learned from one of the greatest, and he gives without ever a second thought because he is giving to the Kingdom.

Phil is a natural teacher; I am a better preacher and person for his investment in my life. I am truly grateful for the time and effort. His love for the Lord and people, God's church and the lost is truly an inspiration for me to work harder and be more proficient. This love has inspired in me a greater passion, and has helped me learn to be more personal and patient with people.

There truly is more to LH than meets the eye, and there is more to ministry than most people can ever imagine. May we all do our best to be the best that God designed us to be.

Don Watts,

Minister of Fairview Christian Church

A Message from Darrell Land

As a young preacher striving to follow God's lead to tackle what many said was an impossible ministry Phil LaMaster and Living Hope Ministry was and still is an irreplaceable source of encouragement. I am the senior and planting minister of the Christian Church of Jasper and if you know much about South Western Indiana you will know this town is known for being predominantly German Catholic. With that being said and with our inexperience, Phil has been a great resource and advisor to me and this ministry from the early days of CCJ. It seems like every time I would be facing one of those kinds of weeks the phone would ring and it will be Phil with encouraging words.

Living Hope is such a powerful tool no matter if you need encouragement, advice or just that perfect sermon illustration. I cannot imagine how many ministers have not given up and have pressed on through discouraging times just because Phil has been there with support and love. So many times

those in the ministry pour out their hearts and energy on others but have no one to do the same for them. Living Hope does just that very thing. I believe this ministry is so effective because it follows the Apostle Paul's lead of encouraging, inspiring and if need be correcting ministries and church leaders. The events and seminars offered by Living Hope are just awesome and it truly is a ministry to ministers. I am so honored to call Phil and Living Hope Ministry my friend. Thank you so much Phil and thank you for all of the supporters of this great ministry. If you are a church leader please consider being a partner and supporting this ministry as well.

God bless,

Darrel Land,

Minister of Christian Church of Jasper