



## TABLE OF CONTENTS

NEACE'S PIECE 2

LETTER OF  
GRATITUDE FROM  
HAMPTON CITY  
SCHOOLS TO  
JOYNES ROAD  
CHOG 3

HOW CAN IT BE? 4

COGVA  
LEADERSHIP  
COLLEGE BEGINS  
NEW YEAR 5

JOYNES ROAD  
CHOG TO HOLD  
VIRTUAL REVIVAL 6

CAMPGROUND  
IMPROVEMENTS  
CONTINUE  
THROUGH  
PANDEMIC 7

COGVA INCOME 13

COGVA BUDGET 14

SOUTHEASTERN  
ASSOCIATION  
FLYER 16



## A HOW-TO GUIDE FOR PASTOR APPRECIATION MONTH

October is upon us once again, but before you get out the candy and carve jack-o'-lanterns, do something that will really make an impact. Show your pastor(s) some appreciation.

It is, after all, Pastor Appreciation Month. Of course, we hope you'll demonstrate how much you love your pastors through the year. But October has been set aside to give them a little boost, perhaps just what they'll need before the second busiest—and not always so merry—season of church leadership.

But maybe you don't know where to start. You want your expression of appreciation to mean something, but you don't want it to be cheesy. You don't want to go overboard, but you want to avoid all appearances of cheap. That's why we've

prepared this handy guide to Pastor Appreciation Month.

Step 1: Realize that your pastor probably isn't going to ask for anything. Let's face it—pastors are people, too! It's plain awkward and goes against their humble spirit. This does NOT mean they wouldn't be super blessed by your expression of appreciation. They know their approval comes from God, but they crave a pat on the back now and then like anybody else.

Step 2: Understand that most pastors didn't sign up for the job to make money. They accepted a divine call, often at great sacrifice to self and family. More often than not, they're grossly underpaid (you may never hear about those late nights or the incredible pressure placed on their shoulders). A monetary gift of any size speaks volumes, and makes a bigger difference than you might think.

Step 3: Get to know your pastor throughout the year. Learn what he or she likes, including hobbies and interests that go (Continued on page 12)

## NEACE'S PIECES



**Dr. Bob Neace**  
COGVA  
State Minister

Three Church of God preachers walked into a bar... You would have thought one of them would have seen it. I shared that story at the beginning of a sermon recently, and inserted a dramatic pause, allowing time for folks' mind to go wherever it was

deigned to go after the word "bar". For most of us in the church, our minds went to question why this preacher was going to tell an off-color joke. Others were ready to pounce because they were certain the punchline to this joke would not be honoring to God and impugn the integrity of the pulpit. The sigh of relief was audible when it was realized the joke was pretty benign. And not all that funny, anyway...

That situation illustrates much of what I believe is a problem in our society. We assume what others mean or are willing to attach what is going on in our own minds/hearts and project them onto other people. It can be infuriating.

Paul's letter to the church at Colossae, as well as other places in his letters, reminds us in the third chapter to "Set our minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth." (Colossians 3:2 ESV) The immediate and out of context use of that verse would insinuate a Pollyannaish approach to our walk with Christ. Most of us have heard the statement, "They are so heavenly minded they are no earthly

good." I hope that description never fits me, my local congregation, or COGVA. A further read through the same chapter lays out some significant challenge. Before we go there, let me remind you to whom this epistle is written. Early on, we find the intended audience is the church, the "saints and faithful brothers in Colossae" (vs 1:2) and was intended to be shared with the "church of the Laodiceans" (vs 4:16) In other words, Paul was writing to the church and had no expectations the world would benefit from his doctrine until the gospel of Christ permeated the surrounding society. The church must come to grips with that which Paul identified as an issue for that early church established in his second missionary journey. Because they were professing Christ, he challenges the church to "Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry." (3:5) Apparently some in the church then were wrestling with these things, and overcoming them through the Holy Spirit's presence. He reminds them that they once walked in these things, and that the presence of these issues in the world would bring about judgment.

Interestingly, after he gives that list of things the church should have behind them, he uses the words, "But now..." in the 8th verse, indicating a push to move a little further and thereby grow in their spiritual maturity. He actually says this: "But now you must put them all away: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and obscene talk from your mouth. (3:8 ESV) In the current climate, it seems many of us in the church are disturbed at these trends of the world, but (Continued on page 11)



## Hampton City Schools Administrative Center

ONE FRANKLIN STREET  
Hampton, Virginia 23669-3570

Jeffery O. Smith, Ed.D.  
Superintendent of Schools

September 17, 2020

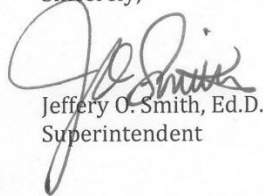
Ministers Coalition for Hampton and Vicinity  
c/o Rev. Dr. Simeon Green, III  
Joynes Road Church of God  
31 Joynes Road  
Hampton, VA 23666

Dear Members of the Ministers Coalition for Hampton and Vicinity:

On behalf of Hampton City Schools and the nearly 20,000 students we serve, I write to express sincere gratitude to the Ministers Coalition for Hampton and Vicinity. We remain grateful for all that the coalition does throughout the year to enrich our community. Your immediate and generous response to our recent request for assistance in providing essential supplies for virtual learning for some of our most vulnerable students is greatly appreciated. Thank you for your very generous gift of \$500 for the purchase of supplies.

Please know that, as the result of your kindness, we have already ordered additional materials to supplement our virtual learning supply packets for students, and we expect them to arrive before the end of this week. Our plan is to begin delivering materials directly to students next week. We will rely upon our teachers and counselors to identify students in need of additional materials and our transportation department to make the deliveries. Yes, there are many hands involved in the work of ensuring academic excellence for *every child, every day, whatever it takes!* Thank you for lending your hands in service to our children.

Sincerely,



Jeffery O. Smith, Ed.D.  
Superintendent

*"Every Child, Every Day, Whatever it Takes"*  
[www.hampton.k12.va.us](http://www.hampton.k12.va.us)



## HOW CAN IT BE?

Earlier this year the congregation of Water's Edge Church in Virginia Beach had to put our normal meetings on Sunday mornings on hold because of the rules of the Commonwealth of Virginia. We were not allowed to meet in person because of the COVID-19 pandemic which has crippled the whole world.

There was a concern because, without meeting physically, our income of the congregation might suffer greatly. In the meantime, we quickly developed a plan to pre-record the music and sermon and have it available for our members to view via the Internet. We had already been recording sermonettes and other videos for our people to watch even before the pandemic hit. Currently we have two different services on Sunday mornings. A 9:00am service for those with a higher risk of complications if infected and our regular service at 10:30am. Our regular service is live streamed over the Internet for those who are not able to attend in person. We also removed the cloth covered chairs and are using metal/plastic chairs which are disinfected before each service. Other procedures are implemented to help protect our attendees like hand sanitizing stations and propping doors open so they don't need to be touched. Our chairs are arranged to provide 6 feet or more between family groups. Our elders started contacting each family regularly to check in on them and to see what needs they might have.

Our congregation also took another hit. Our Lead Pastor, Steve Roby, is an Army Reserve Chaplain. He was activated in early March which meant he then had two

full-time positions. To make matters worse, he was deployed to Houston, Texas on July 25th. After about 7 continuous weeks there he finally returned to Virginia Beach but had to spend 14 days in quarantine.



Even at the beginning of this craziness, we were confident that our congregation would survive this crisis because, years ago, we committed to have an emergency fund in an amount equivalent to three months of our yearly budget. We had deposited these funds within a local credit union in the form of three, three-year Certificates of Deposits with one maturing each year. Yes, there would be a penalty if we needed redeem one or more of them early but that was not a concern because they were specifically there for emergencies. This reserve would allow us time to make proper decisions and allow us to develop reasonable plans for the future. We have six individuals who are paid by the congregation. Two of them are full time staff and the others are part time. With the cash reserve, we would not have to reduce the number of our staff right away but would be able allow enough time to pass so we did not have to make "knee jerk" decisions.

Our congregation was and is committed to (Continued on page 5)

## (How Can It Be? Continued)

our mission because after a few weeks, our income actually increased. It not only increased but increased a lot. Currently our income (including the Governmental Payroll Protection Program) is more than 54% above budget through August. We had been saving to do some capital improvements on our facilities. We were able to replace our children's playground facilities with a larger, higher quality set. Our parking lot has been sealed and restriped. The inside of our Oasis Building has been repainted and the restrooms have been given a complete overhaul/upgrade. The lighting within that building is now in the process of being upgraded. Even with all of these expenses, the amount of cash in our accounts have increased.

We give God the glory for this financial blessing within the midst of this pandemic. We have 6 elders who lead our congregation. Our elders have apparently done a very good job of teaching our members well about finances. One of the many positive things we do is to conduct a Financial Peace University (Dave Ramsey) yearly.

One of my great wishes is for the congregations of COGVA, and for our people, is to be sound with their financial teaching. Many people do not realize that the Bible records Jesus Christ as saying more about money and possessions than both Heaven and hell combined.

Another thing we will do to help COGVA is to provide a free financial seminar to any congregation of COGVA. It would be free



Larry W. Ebinger  
Elder Water's Edge  
CHOG/Virginia Beach

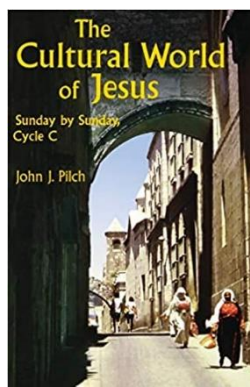
and held on a Saturday from about 9am until about 2pm and will include free breakfast and lunch for the attendees. Feel free to contact the church office [www.info@watersedgeVB.com](mailto:www.info@watersedgeVB.com) if you are interested or want more information.

## COGVA LEADERSHIP COLLEGE BEGINS NEW YEAR

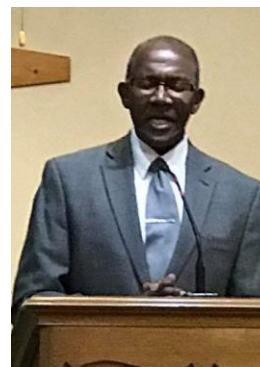
via ZOOM until further notice beginning October 9 at 9:am. The link or call in opportunities can be found highlighted at the end of this article

The books being studied for the Fall Semester

The Cultural World of Jesus' Cycle C by John J. Pilch



Taught by  
Rev. Calvin  
Peterson



(Continued on page 6)



(Leadership College Continued) 'The Master Plan of Evangelism' 2nd



Taught by  
Rev. Silas Oliver

Each student is responsible for purchasing their own books and prior to the session on the 2nd Saturday in January 2021, new books of study will be announced.

Here is an added blessing:

**There will be no tuition for this school year.**

Regular dates for COGVA Leadership School are every month on the Second Sat, until Jun 12, 2021, 9 occurrence(s)

Oct 10, 2020 09:00 AM  
Nov 14, 2020 09:00 AM  
Dec 12, 2020 09:00 AM  
Jan 9, 2021 09:00 AM  
Feb 13, 2021 09:00 AM  
Mar 13, 2021 09:00 AM  
Apr 10, 2021 09:00 AM  
May 8, 2021 09:00 AM  
Jun 12, 2021 09:00 AM

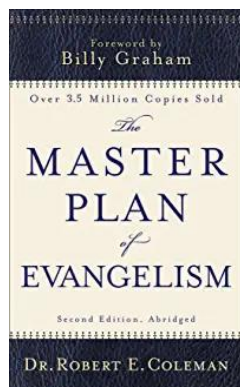
Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89129322078?pwd=aIRBNWdycWY5WE5yeHdQQ1FTUk10QT09>

**Call-in Number: 1 646 558 8656**

**Meeting ID: 891 2932 2078**

**Passcode: 783920**



Edition by Dr.  
Robert E. Coleman

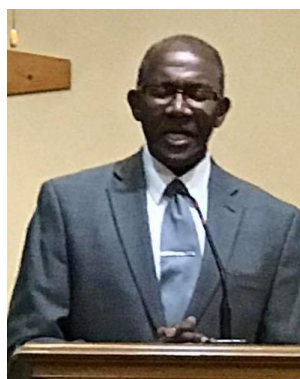
## JOYNES ROAD CHOG TO HOLD VIRTUAL REVIVAL

Mark your calendars for October 21-23 (7:00 pm each evening) as Joynes Road CHOG will host revival with:



Dr. Rawleigh  
Quarles, Senior  
Pastor, Staunton  
Avenue Church of  
God, Roanoke, VA

Rev. Marian Thomas  
Associate  
Minister/Joynes Road  
Church of God,  
Hampton, VA



Rev. Calvin  
Peterson, Senior  
Pastor, Bellamy  
Ave. Church of  
God

Please sign on  
by 6:45 p.m., so  
we can start on  
time at 7:00 p.m.  
by clicking:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5361028465>

Or by dialing-in: (301) 715-8592

Meeting ID: 536 102 8465



## CAMPGROUND IMPROVEMENTS CONTINUE THROUGH THE PANDEMIC

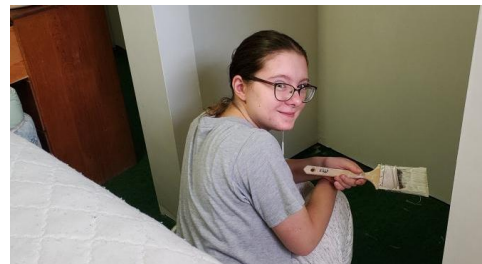
Early in the spring, a plea was put out to COGVA to “Redeem the Time.” The idea was to take opportunity to complete various projects needing attention at our campground facilities that have been difficult to accomplish when the grounds were in use. Among those projects were requirements from our insurance agency that would secure safety of our youth, older adults, and enhance the value of our existing facilities. Funding from these projects has come from the sale of property, as well as ministry teams banding together to raise funding for specific projects. For example, the C.W.C. have been raising funds to improve the cottage at Camp Christi where much ministry takes place throughout the year. As local chapters raised funds for the new flooring that has been completed, the Ministry of Christian Education pitched in, along with COGVA helping to provide the final leg in that process. Pictures below show much of the work either being accomplished, or the final projects.

Campground maintenance and improvements are ongoing and never seem to cease, so, as you view these pictures, please know anytime you would like to perform a service project, there is always a project that could use your attention. All you need to do is call the State Office (540) 268-2040 to see what

needs to be done at the current time and schedule the opportunity.



**A New Roof at Camp Bedford**



**Abigail Neace helps with painting the rooms above the Dining Hall**



**The Portico at the State Office is repaired**



**The Dining Hall at Camp Christi Has a New Roof**



**The Railing Around the Basketball Court/Pavilion Makes the Area Much Safer**



**Dr. Bob Neace, Diana and Mark Aufrecht Make Several Trips to Finish the Dining Hall at Camp Bedford**

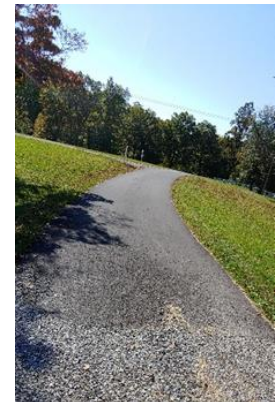




**Almost a Foot of Mulch Will Soften the Blow of Those Who Fall on the Playground**



**The First (and Worst) of the Cabins to Receive a New Roof**



**225 Feet of Paving  
Will Stabilize Road  
Deterioration**





**The Deck of the Home at Camp Bedford has Received Much Needed Repair**



**Dr. Velma Green, C.W.C. President, Alice Noblin,  
Carolyn Ansley, Naomi Kohen, Cory Fisher,  
C.W.C. Vice-President Kathy Neace, Dr. Bob  
Neace, Renita Howard,  
Back Row: Mark Aufrecht, David Ansley Not  
Pictured: Glen and Doris Spradlin**

## (Neace's Pieces Continued)

I submit to you much of what we see in the flesh has infiltrated the church. The growth of anyone who professes Christ must be an ongoing process for the church to become an example of righteousness in an unrighteous world. When the world is unable to see a difference in the anger, wrath, malice, slander, and obscene language coming from pulpits, social media outlets, and other venues the church no longer has a right to expect to be a significant impact in the culture. And that is disturbing, because it is a part of our calling. As Paul continues his discourse, we find these words: "Here there is not Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free; but Christ is all, and in all. Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. (Colossians 3: 11-13 ESV). These words form a very popular passage of text when speaking of the unity we desperately desire. As people professing that newness of Christ, the labels and identifications of a worldly view are to dissipate, and Christ's image should manifest Himself in each of us. A huge part of that is how we treat those with whom we may not have taken the time to hear.

As we strive to live this unity out, the detriment is we often allow remnants of the old man to manifest in our behavior and language and are tempted to hear others through the lens of our own perspective. I want to challenge each

reader to intentionally develop the art of listening with the intent to learn, rather than listening with the intent to defend or in some cases attack. In my annual Report to COGVA dated July/2020, I shared the following challenges for us as COGVA Leaders that have been labeled "The Four L's". They are:

1. Listen – Way too often we hear something that, for whatever reason, sparks an emotional trigger. That often is a justification for explanation of what the hearer heard the speaker say, rather than a disciplined measure of hearing what someone is actually saying. Sometimes the conversation goes along "talking points" and degrades into a bickering, or even fighting match, that benefits no one and fosters underlying resentment. I challenge ALL of us to develop the discipline of listening!
2. Learn – I have something to learn from my brothers and sisters. The truth is that my colleagues have much to learn from me. We all have much to learn and much to teach but I cannot learn if I do not develop the discipline of listening and hearing the heart of those with differing perspectives than mine. What can we learn from one another and just imagine how much richer the church can be if we could only tap the wealth of everyone's experiences?
3. Love – Love is hard. That is why Paul addressed it in his letter to the Corinthian church. It does not seek its own way, he said, but in another passage, he indicated love sought the well-being of others. Loving others is done in action and deed, not only in word.  
(Continued on page 12)



## (Neace's Pieces continued)

4. Live – As we begin to develop the idea of listening, learning, and loving, it behooves us to flesh out the experiences and conclusions to which we come. To become intentional in doing what we know to be as right, being intentional about addressing issues in our immediate lives, to become intentional about affecting change anywhere and everywhere we see injustice. In the realm of racial reconciliation, addressing issues of human trafficking, slaughter of children, and so many social ills of our society, the church is the only one with a tried and true remedy for these and other existing problems the world faces.

As we strive for the will of God to be lived out in the local church, COGVA, and the National/Global settings, please join me in becoming intentional about the discipline of living out Christian unity in such a way the world cannot help but take notice. Let's be about the business of truly listening to one another and hearing all others have to say to us.

## (Pastor Appreciation Month Continued)

beyond the ministry. Does your pastor like the great outdoors? How about a gift card to Bass Pro Shops? Is your pastor a voracious reader? Consider a gift card to Barnes and Noble or Amazon. What kind of food does your pastor love to eat? Maybe a gift card to a certain restaurant would do the trick. Not only are such expressions of appreciation practical, but they also demonstrate thoughtfulness.

Step 4: Consider your pastor's family. Often overlooked, these precious ones experience the same blessings and strain as the pastor—more often, the strain. If

you can figure out how to bless the family, the pastor is also blessed. Are the children young? Arrange a date night complete with babysitting by trusted individuals. How long has it been since your pastor was given a Sunday off (and the week surrounding)? If you're on the board, or if you know someone who is, secure a guest speaker and make it happen. Better yet, see to it that the pastor is afforded quality time with his or her family throughout the year.

Step 5: Write a note of thanksgiving to your pastor, and don't forget the chaplains in your area. Remind your pastor of the difference he or she has made in your life. Demonstrate to your pastor that you won't take their efforts lightly—you'll have their back for the long haul and show appreciation November through September, too. Step up and surprise your pastor by volunteering to lead a new ministry or help with an existing one. Commit to arrive early or stay late at worship services and church functions when the pastor is often alone to do the preparation and cleanup. Showing up and offering to help may more than any card or letter ever could.

Remember, pastors aren't perfect. The loneliness, discouragement, and fear you sometimes face can be a struggle for spiritual shepherds, too. But you really can make a difference. So, you appreciate your pastor? Then...

SAY IT.

SHARE IT.

SHOW IT

By chogministries Posted October 4, 2017



COGVA INCOME: 08/01/20-09/30/2020					
Church	Budget	Other	Kitchen Fund	KB	Total
					Giving
Abingdon	\$500.00				\$500.00
Atkins	\$400.00				\$400.00
Big Stone Gap					\$0.00
Birdsnest					\$0.00
Blacksburg First					\$0.00
Blacksburg Slussers	\$166.66				\$166.66
Bluefield					\$0.00
Boones Mill					\$0.00
Boykins					\$0.00
Bristol					\$0.00
Chesapeake					\$0.00
Chilhowie	\$939.73				\$939.73
Christiansburg	\$1,545.95				\$1,545.95
Cloverdale					\$0.00
Dublin	\$787.38	\$623.89			\$1,411.27
Emporia					\$0.00
Fredericksburg	\$1,983.00				\$1,983.00
Glade Spring					\$0.00
Goodview					\$0.00
Hampton Joynes Rd	\$200.00				\$200.00
Lynchburg Greenview	\$250.32				\$250.32
Lynchburg Mnt. View					\$0.00
Marion	\$200.00				\$200.00
Martinsville					\$0.00
Newport News Cmnty					\$0.00
Newport News First					\$0.00
Norfolk Bellamy Ave	\$428.00				\$428.00
North Tazewell					\$0.00
Norton	\$696.78				\$696.78
Reedville					\$0.00
Rich Creek					\$0.00



# News October 2020

Volume 8 Issue 1



CHURCH  
OF GOD

Richmond First					\$0.00
Richmond 21st	\$400.00				\$400.00
Roanoke First	\$794.54			\$264.85	\$1,059.39
Roanoke Staunton Ave					\$0.00
Rural Retreat	\$294.15				\$294.15
Salem					\$0.00
Saltville Allison Gap	\$376.36				\$376.36
Saltville Broadford					\$0.00
Saltville Chatham Hill	\$50.00				\$50.00
Saltville MtnView					\$0.00
Spotsylvania					\$0.00
Staunton	\$577.62				\$577.62
Suffolk					\$0.00
VA Beach	\$400.00				\$400.00
Wise	\$6,200.00				\$6,200.00
Wytheville					\$0.00
Individual Donation	\$780.00				\$780.00
Faithlife giving					\$0.00
Brotherhood Mutual Covid Refund					\$0.00
Insurance Reimbursement					\$0.00
Total	\$17,970.49	\$623.89	\$0.00	\$264.85	\$18,859.23

## COGVA BUDGET

August 1, 2020 - July 31, 2021		
		Aug-Oct
Categories	Budget	1st Qtr
		Expenses
1000 State Office		
1100 Business Office	\$3,500.00	\$379.13
1200 Insurance	\$14,000.00	\$3,375.50
1300 Office Manager	\$14,437.50	\$2,406.24
1400 Income Taxes	\$3,600.00	\$588.92
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$35,537.50</b>	<b>\$6,749.79</b>
1500 Chair	\$400.00	\$ -
<b>2000 State Minister</b>		
Salary	\$12,000.00	\$2,000.00
Reimbursement Fund	\$5,000.00	\$ -
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$17,400.00</b>	<b>\$2,000.00</b>





Church of God Virginia

**News October 2020****Volume 8****Issue 1****CHURCH  
OF GOD**

3000 Executive Board/Standing Ministries		
3100 Executive Board	\$400.00	\$
3200 Ministry of Church Service/Credentials	\$800.00	\$100.00
3300 Ministry of Christian Education	\$50.00	\$ -
3600 Ministry of Program	\$50.00	\$
3800 Ministerial Fellowship	\$50.00	\$
3900 Church Property Team	\$50.00	\$
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$1,400.00</b>	<b>\$100.00</b>
5000 Property and Maintenance		
5110 Camp Bedford		
5110 Caretaker	\$5,250.00	\$875.00
5120 Campground Expenses (Maintenance)	\$1,000.00	\$ -
Capital Improvements	\$500.00	\$
Camp Bedford Mkt/Advertising	\$250.00	\$
5140 Utilities	\$3,500.00	\$431.66
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$10,500.00</b>	<b>\$1,306.66</b>
5200 Camp Christi		
5210 Caretaker	\$26,565.12	\$4,427.52
5220 Health Insurance	\$7,000.00	\$1,160.00
5250 Utilities	\$14,000.00	\$1,167.17
5260 Maintenance	\$1,500.00	\$250.00
5270 Capital Improvements	\$50.00	\$
5280 Vehicle Maintenance	\$250.00	\$
5300 Legal Fees	\$500.00	\$
5400 Ministry Expenses	\$100.00	\$
Christmas Bonus	\$1,500.00	\$
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$51,465.12</b>	<b>\$7,004.69</b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$116,302.62</b>	<b>\$17,161.14</b>
<b>Total Income</b>		<b>\$17,970.49</b>
<b>Kingdom B. Transfer for State Minister Salary</b>		<b>\$2,000.00</b>
<b>Difference</b>		<b>\$2,809.35</b>

## Southeastern Association Church of God

### VIRTUAL CAMPMEETING 2020

Sunday, Dec 27TH - Tuesday, Dec 29TH

6:00 PM NIGHTLY



Rev. Dr. Simeon Green, III  
Chairperson



Rev. Dr. Bob Neace  
State Minister Virginia



Rev. Reginald Alford  
Vice Chairperson

**THEME: "FORGIVENESS"**  
**Ephesians 4:32**

#### KEYNOTE SPEAKERS



Rev. Dr. Gloria Robinson  
December 27, 2020  
6:00 PM



Rev. Dr. Rawleigh Quarles, Sr.  
December 28, 2020  
6:00 PM



Rev. Dr. Dennis Kidd  
December 29, 2020  
6:00 PM

#### Workshop

Monday, Dec. 28th - Tuesday, Dec. 29th

11:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Rev. Dr. Gloria Robinson, Facilitator

## SAVE THE DATE