

# Home Missions Today

This is John Shaw reporting the December 8, 2021, edition of *Home Missions Today*. God is using your prayers to develop the ministries of Orthodox Presbyterian mission works across North America.

The Committee on Home Missions has been praying that God would raise up capable and gifted men to serve as Regional Home Missionaries (RHMs). We began 2021 with seven presbyteries searching. Three RHMs were called in 2021, and Rev. Charles Biggs will begin his labors in 2022. Praise the Lord for answering this prayer, and please continue to pray for the Presbyteries of Central Pennsylvania, Northern California and Nevada, and New York and New England.

## **PRESBYTERY OF THE MID-ATLANTIC — Charles and Margaret Ann Biggs**

When Jesus was at Lazarus' tomb, just before He powerfully raised Him from the dead, He asked this question for all believers to ponder: "Didn't I say that you would see the glory of God if you just believed?" (John 11:40). As His servant-shepherd, I am grateful to God to say that I have been able to glimpse the glory of God through faith in Christ throughout the years. It causes my heart to respond with Psalm 118:1: "Give thanks to the LORD for He is good; His steadfast love endures forever!"

I have been very grateful to behold the glory of God and taste the goodness of His steadfast love as a servant-shepherd in Purcellville, Virginia, for nearly two decades. In spring 2003, I was called and sent by the Presbytery of the Mid-Atlantic (PMA) of our beloved church to be an evangelist to organize Kectoia Covenant Presbyterian Church. We were particularized as a congregation of the Orthodox Presbyterian Church in 2006, and I am thankful to have been called as their first pastor. KCPC has been a loving and growing congregation, seeking to honor Christ, and to support their pastor prayerfully and generously. On November 28, I preached my last sermon, from Acts 20:17-38, as pastor of this wonderful flock.

Last April, I was kindly approached by Rev. Andrew Miller, the chair of the PMA's Committee on Home Missions and Church Extension, and one of my former pastors and a beloved mentor, Rev. Gerry Taylor. They asked me to prayerfully consider being the PMA's next Regional Home Missionary. I was thankful and honored to be asked, particularly considering the godly and faithful men who have served in this position in the PMA prior to me: Pastors Dick Ellis and Steve Doe.

I asked for time to pray and fast about this important decision, and to seek godly counsel. I consulted my dear wife of thirty years, Margaret Ann, my daughters, some brothers in my presbytery, close friends who know me and the position, and especially Pastor Steve Doe, our former, very faithful RHM. All of them thought that I was a good fit, and in God's good providence, it seemed a good time. In October 2021, I was given a call by the PMA, and I received it gladly. I will be installed as the PMA's newest RHM on January 15, 2022, Lord willing. It is very difficult leaving a beloved congregation like KCPC! My time with the officers and the congregation has been rich and full of many blessings. It is bittersweet to depart for this new mission, but we are all unanimously convinced that this is God's good will and we can rejoice together. And we have, and will continue, by God's grace!

As I begin my new labors for our Lord Jesus in January 2022, please pray for Christ's richest blessings. Pray for my own personal holiness, humility, and ongoing daily honesty before God and men. Pray that I will daily trust God's word that teaches us: "Not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit, says the LORD" (Zech. 4:6). Ultimately, the zeal of the LORD of Hosts in Christ will accomplish the building of His glorious temple! (Isa. 9:6-7; Eph. 2:19-23; 4:11-16). Our Lord Jesus promises that He will build His church and the gates of hell will never prevail (Matt. 16:18). We have His promise to be covenantally close and present by His Spirit in all times and places (Matt. 28:18-20), to work in and through us in ways that are beyond what we could ever ask or think! (Eph. 3:20-21).

For this, let us be grateful, and look forward to seeing more of Christ's glory and goodness and steadfast love as I serve Him in this new calling. There are already some opportunities for serving as new RHM in the PMA. Two congregations have been recently recognized as mission works, one has called an organizing pastor, and there appear to be more works potentially in formation. Let all of God's people in Christ say in faith and hope with me: "Give thanks to the LORD for He is good; His steadfast love endures forever!" (Psalm 118:1).

In Jesus,  
Pastor Charles R. Biggs