

## Camp Meeting 2022 Scheduled for July 27-29

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CHURCH OF GOD VIRGINIA PRESENTS  
**CAMP MEETING**  
**2022**  
*Holiness unto the Lord*  
 HEBREWS 12:14

Chris Kelly Amanda Dr. James Lewis  
 MCMURRAY MCMURRAY SHEPHEARD EVANGELIST

**JULY 27  
 THRU 29**  
 7PM NIGHTLY **FREEDOM BAND**  
 FEATURING LIVE WORSHIP WITH TRIO AND  
 CAMP CHRISTI CAMPGROUNDS  
 4704 ROANOKE STREET CHRISTIANSBURG, VIRGINIA

Watch for emails and future COGVA News for Camp-Meeting 2022, "HOLINESS UNTO THE LORD! Updates!!!

## Neace's Piece

Every so often, a passage of scripture taught to me in my childhood comes to the forefront of my mind. When I was growing up, my pastor (Grandpa) preached from the King James Version of Scripture text. I know there are many translations out there, most with hope of helping to understand scripture in its original context and meaning. None of them are perfect, and some are closer to an original meaning than others. The text that bears heavy on my mind is Proverbs 18: 24, which says, "A man that hath friends must shew himself friendly: and there is a friend that sticketh closer than a brother."

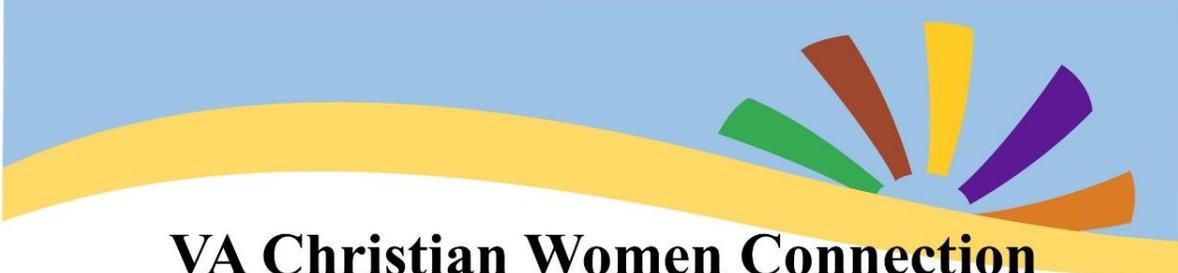
A comparison of other translations next to the one from which I pull from memory reveals a few interesting things. Among them, the ESV says this: "A man of many companions may come to ruin, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother." The Revised Standard Version reads: There are friends who pretend to be friends, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother." And the New Living Translation... "There are "friends" who destroy each other, but a real friend sticks closer than a brother." I hope as you have read these few samplings, you might see my dilemma in properly translating this piece of advice from King Solomon. I would love to pick his brain to see what he really said, and truly meant. From the



Dr. Bob Neace COGVA  
 State Minister

text I memorized in my youth, to the translations presented and others that could be included, a portion of the passage seems to change meaning. I have been asking questions of colleagues, as well as looking at the writings of old, dead guys, some of whom yet speak from the grave through their commentaries about the discrepancy. It has sparked some remarkably interesting conversations. It seems though, the more I question, and the more I search, the more apt I am in this situation to adhere to the basic and simple truth found in the text just the way I have it memorized. As someone I respect recently said, the first half of this text might be paraphrased as: "The quality and quantity of a person's friends is directly affected by the friend they have proven to be." (BTW...That was me... 😊)

(Continued on page 5)



## **VA Christian Women Connection Zoom Meeting**

**THEME: “Self-Care—Loving Self!”**

**February 17, 2022**

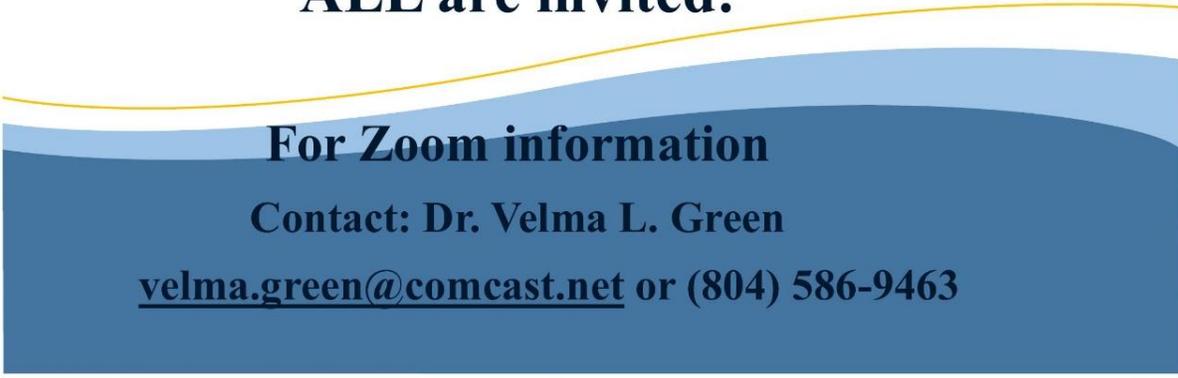
**7:30 p.m.**



**Sister Shana Beverly**  
**Washington Park Church of God**  
**Emporia, VA**

**Pastor: Rev. Brian Beverly**

**ALL are invited!**



**For Zoom information**

**Contact: Dr. Velma L. Green**

**[velma.green@comcast.net](mailto:velma.green@comcast.net) or (804) 586-9463**

## Shanna Davis Pays Tribute to Her Aunt



**Shanna Davis**  
 MSN, RN, CHPN

Monday morning and was late. If I had been on time though, I would have missed this gorgeous view, that I had to pull off the interstate and capture. As I sat quietly with my grief for a moment, I couldn't help but ask myself how that same sunrise looked from Heaven. As I've gone through this week and picked up the phone a dozen or more times to call her, these words kept running through my mind. Tonight, I sat and wrote them down.

### Sunrise in Heaven

What was it like? Your first sunrise in Heaven?  
 Did the view make you catch your breath?  
 What was it like? That first day in Heaven?  
 Could you see our tears as we mourned your death?

Monday morning, I planned to leave for Roanoke by 6am...But I was having a difficult

I'm certain that you couldn't, since there is no sadness there;  
 But can you remember us, and the years we had together?  
 Are you eagerly awaiting us, or blissfully unaware?  
 And do you wave, like I do, when a red bird spreads her feathers?

You always said that's a loved one, come to visit for a minute;  
 But do you recall it now that you're the one we're missing?  
 If we have a message for you, is there a way to send it?  
 Does Jesus hear our hearts, and tell you of our reminiscing?

I know He has my tears in a bottle-every one He saves,  
 And I know He understands the pain and grief I bear.  
 He knows my heart will miss you, til they place me in a grave  
 And I come running to join you for a sunrise over there.

But I wouldn't bring you back to the pain you were enduring.  
 And I'm truly thankful for the new body you were given.  
 So for now, I'll just thank Him for the sunrise every morning,  
 And wonder what it's like to see that same sunrise in Heaven.

(Continued on page 5)

**(Shanna Davis, Continued)**

I know there will be days that I miss my aunt more than words can express. Same as I still miss my dad, my grandparents, and my aunts and uncles who went before her. But I also know that she wouldn't come back if she could, and that as she told me a week ago, as she was beginning to transition, she "woke up and could walk again, and it felt fabulous!" I wouldn't bring her back to a chair-bound life for even five more minutes by her side. I am thankful for all she taught me, all the love she showered on me, and for 40 years of memories. And because of the Salvation of the God who loves us, I can know that one day, I'll see her again. I am thankful for that most of all.



**(Neace's Piece, Continued)** From instructions to how to acquire friends, the translation seems to jump to include admonitions to have many friends, and

a caution to be selective in those who I allow in that circle. I cannot help thinking about the personal responsibilities in my selection of friends, along with the personal responsibility for quality of friendship, and the quantity of them.

But as one can easily attest, various translators have gotten a variety of meaning from the first half of the verse. However, it should also be noted that the last half of the quoted text seems to remain the same. There is a friend that sticks closer than a brother. In each translation, that line remains the same. Many commentators identify the "friend that sticks closer than a brother" as a reference to Christ. I agree. And If I take the entire portion of the verse and apply it to my own life, I would do well to strive to model the life of Christ in all aspects with the expected result that my quality and quantity of friends would increase, and thus the statement the Apostle Paul makes in Galatians 6: 7b would be even more applicable when he says, "whatever one sows, that will he also reap." In other words, if the richness of my life is lacking because of the scarcity of close friends, there lies within me (and each of us) a measure of personal responsibility to become more visibly Christ-like, as in a friend that sticks closer than a brother, with an expectation that this richness will serve to enrich me, those around me, and thus have a ripple effect of which I may never know the impact.

# 2022 IF GATHERING

*March 4 & 5th*



REGISTER AT [RCHUCH.NET](http://RCHUCH.NET)

## You are invited!

This is our 3rd year hosting IF Gathering at Riverside. This Women's event is so impactful! Bring your sister, your mom, your aunt, your neighbor, and your daughter! All women 14 and up are invited! This is a live streaming women's event that we will all share in together with 1000's of other women across the WORLD as we build our LOCAL community for Christ. **You won't want to miss this opportunity, *Let's See What God Can Do!***

To learn more about this Women's conference and speakers please use this link: <https://www.ifgathering.com/iflocal> and register at [rchurch.net](http://rchurch.net) to join Riverside!

### March 4, 2022

Doors open at 7 pm. Coffee, Water, and snacks will be provided. We will begin at 7:15 pm. We will end at 10:30 pm.

### March 5, 2022

A light breakfast will be provided at 9:30 am. We will start at 10 am in the sanctuary. Lunch break will be from 1:30 pm - 2:30 pm. Please bring a lunch or plan to eat out nearby with friends. We will wrap up at 5:30 pm.



Riverside Church 3461 Fall Hill Avenue Fredericksburg, VA 22401

## COGVA Continues Second Opportunity for “Be the Bridge” Discussion Next session February 14, 2022, at 7:00 pm



Rev. Dr. Simeon R. Green III

Rev. Dr. Simeon R. Green III will be hosting and leading the “Be the Bridge” dialogue each second Monday of the month at 7:00 pm. The ZOOM Link for this series of gatherings is:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82552173879> or you may dial in

1-301-715-8592

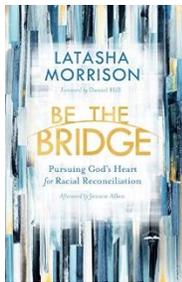
Meeting ID – 82552173879

Passcode - 034680#

Curriculum for these meetings is the same as it was for the first gathering of the Be the Bridge. Each person is asked to read the book, Be the Bridge, Pursuing God’s Heart for Racial Reconciliation” by Latasha Morrison, as well as download the study guide from the site:

<https://shop.bethebridge.com/products/the-bridge-to-racial-unity-discussion-guide-2-0>

This opportunity is for those who have not previously been a part of this conversation and is a great resource for being able to broach the subject of racial reconciliation that is so desperately needed in our time.



This book can be purchased from the website for Be the Bridge, but can also be purchased from numerous local bookstores, as well as online sites such as the following:

[www.discoverbooks.com](http://www.discoverbooks.com)

[www.thriftbooks.com](http://www.thriftbooks.com)

[www.christianbook.com](http://www.christianbook.com)



*Dr. Simeon R. Green III COGVA  
 Christian Men's Fellowship  
 President*



*Dr. Perry Blankenship COGVA  
 Christian Men's Fellowship  
 Vice-President*



**March 5, 2022**  
**10:00 am Rev. Calvin Peterson**  
**will share about COGVA's**  
**Leadership College**

Each man in the Church of God in Virginia is encouraged to take part in the activities of the COGVA Men's Fellowship.

Time: March 5, 2022 10:00 AM Eastern Time

Join us on ZOOM: <https://uso2web.zoom.us/j/81724827237>

Join us by phone: +13017158592, Meeting ID:,81724827237

## COGVA LEADERSHIP COLLEGE

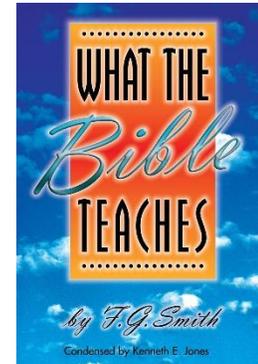
Will meet via ZOOM until further notice each Second Saturday monthly at 9:00 am. The link or call in opportunities can be found highlighted at the end of this flyer.

The books being studied for the Fall Semester are:



**What the Bible Teaches**  
 By F. G. Smith

Taught by  
 Rev. Calvin Peterson

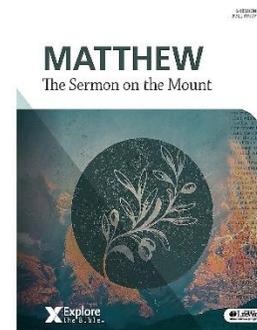


**The Master Plan of Evangelism 2nd Edition**  
 Edition by Dr. Robert E. Coleman

Taught by  
 Rev. Silas Oliver

Each student is responsible for purchasing their own books and 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 Saturday of each month

Robert Neace is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Leadership College

Time: **February 12, 9:00 AM Eastern Time** (US and Canada)

Every month on the Second Sat,

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86369201873>

Dial by local number:

1 301 715 8592 US

Meeting ID: 863 6920 1873

Passcode: 933218

| <b>COGVA Giving<br/>08/01/21 – 1/31/22</b> |               |              |                         |           |                         |
|--|---------------|--------------|-------------------------|-----------|-------------------------|
| <b>Church</b>                              | <b>Budget</b> | <b>Other</b> | <b>Kitchen<br/>Fund</b> | <b>KB</b> | <b>Total<br/>Giving</b> |
| Abingdon                                   | \$1,694.75    |              |                         | \$298.95  | <b>\$1,993.70</b>       |
| Atkins                                     |               |              |                         |           | <b>\$0.00</b>           |
| Big Stone Gap                              |               |              |                         |           | <b>\$0.00</b>           |
| Birdsnest                                  |               |              |                         |           | <b>\$0.00</b>           |
| Blacksburg First                           | \$1,200.00    |              |                         |           | <b>\$1,200.00</b>       |
| Blacksburg Slussers                        | \$499.98      |              |                         |           | <b>\$499.98</b>         |
| Bluefield                                  |               |              |                         |           | <b>\$0.00</b>           |
| Boones Mill                                | \$ 22.00      |              |                         |           | <b>\$22.00</b>          |
| Boykins                                    | \$ 500.00     |              |                         |           | <b>\$500.00</b>         |
| Bristol                                    |               |              |                         |           | <b>\$0.00</b>           |
| Chesapeake                                 | \$22.00       |              |                         |           | <b>\$22.00</b>          |
| Chilhowie                                  | \$1,740.58    |              |                         |           | <b>\$1,740.58</b>       |
| Christiansburg                             | \$5,107.52    |              |                         |           | <b>\$5,107.52</b>       |
| Cloverdale                                 | \$22.00       |              |                         |           | <b>\$22.00</b>          |
| Dublin                                     |               | \$1,243.78   |                         |           | <b>\$1,243.78</b>       |
| Emporia                                    |               |              |                         |           | <b>\$0.00</b>           |
| Fredericksburg                             | \$3,000.00    |              |                         |           | <b>\$3,000.00</b>       |
| Glade Spring                               |               |              |                         |           | <b>\$0.00</b>           |
| Goodview                                   | \$22.00       |              |                         |           | <b>\$22.00</b>          |
| Hampton Joynes Rd                          | \$600.00      |              |                         |           | <b>\$600.00</b>         |
| Lynchburg Greenview                        | \$784.48      |              |                         |           | <b>\$784.48</b>         |
| Lynchburg Mnt. View                        | \$630.00      |              |                         |           | <b>\$630.00</b>         |
| Marion                                     | \$875.00      |              |                         |           | <b>\$875.00</b>         |
| Martinsville                               |               |              |                         |           | <b>\$0.00</b>           |
| Newport News Cmnty                         |               |              |                         |           | <b>\$0.00</b>           |
| Norfolk Bellamy Ave                        | \$1,217.00    |              |                         |           | <b>\$1,217.00</b>       |
| North Tazewell                             |               |              |                         |           | <b>\$0.00</b>           |
| Norton                                     | \$1,955.77    |              |                         |           | <b>\$1,955.77</b>       |
| Reedville                                  | \$2,433.00    |              |                         |           | <b>\$2,433.00</b>       |
| Pearisburg First                           |               |              |                         |           | <b>\$0.00</b>           |
| Richmond First                             | \$3,297.87    |              |                         |           | <b>\$3,297.87</b>       |
| Richmond 21st                              | \$1,600.00    |              |                         |           | <b>\$1,600.00</b>       |
| Roanoke First                              | \$1,509.31    |              |                         | \$503.10  | <b>\$2,012.41</b>       |

|                           |                    |                   |               |                 |                    |
|---------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|---------------|-----------------|--------------------|
| Roanoke Staunton Ave      | \$22.00            |                   |               |                 | \$22.00            |
| Rural Retreat             | \$1,084.65         |                   |               |                 | \$1,084.65         |
| Salem                     |                    |                   |               |                 | \$0.00             |
| Saltville Allison Gap     | \$906.18           |                   |               |                 | \$906.18           |
| Saltville Broadford       | \$300.00           |                   |               |                 | \$300.00           |
| Saltville Chatham Hill    | \$150.00           |                   |               |                 | \$150.00           |
| Saltville MtnView         |                    |                   |               |                 | \$0.00             |
| Spotsylvania              | \$1,000.00         |                   |               |                 | \$1,000.00         |
| Staunton                  | \$1,631.95         |                   |               |                 | \$1,631.95         |
| Suffolk                   |                    |                   |               |                 | \$0.00             |
| VA Beach                  | \$1,200.00         |                   |               |                 | \$1,200.00         |
| Wise                      | \$3,260.00         |                   |               |                 | \$3,260.00         |
| Wytheville                | \$ 1,140.00        |                   |               |                 | \$1,140.00         |
| Individual Donation       |                    |                   |               |                 | \$0.00             |
| Faithlife                 |                    |                   |               |                 | \$0.00             |
| Brotherhood Mutual Refund | \$ 290.00          |                   |               |                 | \$290.00           |
| Credit Card Cashback      | \$ 137.50          |                   |               |                 | \$137.50           |
| <b>Total</b>              | <b>\$39,855.54</b> | <b>\$1,243.78</b> | <b>\$0.00</b> | <b>\$802.05</b> | <b>\$41,901.37</b> |

| <b>COGVA Budget 8/1/21 – 1/31/22</b> |                     |                    |                    |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
|                                      |                     | <b>Aug-Oct</b>     | <b>Nov-Jan</b>     |
| <b>Categories</b>                    | <b>Budget</b>       | <b>1st Qtr.</b>    | <b>2nd Qtr.</b>    |
|                                      |                     | <b>Expenses</b>    | <b>Expenses</b>    |
| 1000 State Office                    |                     |                    |                    |
| 1100 Business Office                 | \$ 3,500.00         | \$ 859.55          | \$ 1,014.34        |
| 1200 Insurance                       | \$ 14,300.00        | \$ 3,496.75        | \$ 3,718.75        |
| 1300 Office Manager                  | \$ 14,437.50        | \$ 3,609.36        | \$ 3,609.36        |
| 1400 Income Taxes                    | \$ 3,600.00         | \$ 884.58          | \$ 884.57          |
| <b>Subtotal</b>                      | <b>\$ 35,837.50</b> | <b>\$ 8,850.24</b> | <b>\$ 9,227.02</b> |
| 1500 Chair                           | \$ 400.00           | \$ -               |                    |
| <b>2000 State Minister</b>           |                     |                    |                    |
| Salary                               | \$ 12,000.00        | \$ 3,000.00        | \$ 3,000.00        |
| Reimbursement Fund                   | \$ 2,500.00         | \$ 763.05          | \$ 882.04          |
| <b>Subtotal</b>                      | <b>\$ 14,900.00</b> | <b>\$ 3,763.05</b> | <b>\$ 3,882.04</b> |

|  |                      |                     |                     |
|--|----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| 3000 Executive Board/Standing Ministries             |                      |                     |                     |
| 3100 Executive Board                                 | \$ 50.00             | \$ -                | \$ -                |
| 3200 Ministry of Church Service/Credentials          | \$ 800.00            | \$ 84.64            | \$ 13.36            |
| 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>\$ 1,050.00</b>   | <b>\$ 84.64</b>     | <b>\$ 13.36</b>     |
| 5000 Property and Maintenance                        |                      |                     |                     |
| 5110 Camp Bedford                                    |                      |                     |                     |
| 5110 Caretaker                                       | \$ 5,250.00          | \$ 1,312.50         | \$ 1,312.50         |
| 5120 Campground Expenses (Maintenance)               | \$ 1,000.00          | \$ -                | \$ -                |
| Capital Improvements                                 | \$ 500.00            | \$ -                | \$ -                |
| Camp Bedford Mkt/Advertising                         | \$ 250.00            | \$ -                | \$ -                |
| 5140 Utilities                                       | \$ 3,500.00          | \$ 620.55           | \$ 1,026.37         |
| <b>Subtotal</b>                                      | <b>\$ 10,500.00</b>  | <b>\$ 1,933.05</b>  | <b>\$ 2,338.87</b>  |
| 5200 Camp Christi                                    |                      |                     |                     |
| 5210 Caretaker                                       | \$ 26,565.12         | \$ 6,641.28         | \$ 6,641.28         |
| 5220 Health Insurance                                | \$ 5,000.00          | \$ 1,250.01         | \$ 1,250.01         |
| 5250 Utilities                                       | \$ 12,000.00         | \$ 4,519.88         | \$ 3,602.17         |
| 5260 Maintenance                                     | \$ 1,500.00          | \$ -                | \$ -                |
| 5270 Capital Improvements                            | \$ 2,000.00          | \$ -                | \$ -                |
| 5280 Vehicle Maintenance                             | \$ 250.00            | \$ -                | \$ -                |
| 5300 Legal Fees                                      | \$ 600.00            | \$ -                | \$ 55.75            |
| 5400 Ministry Expenses                               | \$ 100.00            | \$ -                | \$ -                |
| Christmas Bonus                                      | \$ 1,500.00          | \$ -                | \$ 1,500.00         |
| <b>Subtotal</b>                                      | <b>\$ 49,515.12</b>  | <b>\$ 12,411.17</b> | <b>\$ 13,049.21</b> |
|  |                      |                     |                     |
| <b>Total Expenses</b>                                | <b>\$ 111,802.62</b> | <b>\$ 27,042.15</b> | <b>\$ 28,510.50</b> |
| <b>Total Income</b>                                  |                      | <b>\$ 17,994.59</b> | <b>\$21,860.95</b>  |
| <b>Kingdom B. Transfer for State Minister Salary</b> |                      | <b>\$ 3,000.00</b>  | <b>\$ 3,000.00</b>  |
| <b>Difference</b>                                    |                      | <b>\$(6,047.56)</b> | <b>\$(3,649.55)</b> |