



SACA NEWS

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TIME FOR A CHANGE

Autumn is my favorite time of year! The crispness of cool air that greets your face in the morning... the moving beyond 2020's chaotic Summer... the beautiful transition of hues seen in the leaves... all working in concert to announce the passage of time. The fall of the year is a reminder to me that change is inevitable. Recognizing the changing reality of all things, a character in one of my favorite movies quips that "nature abhors a vacuum." In other words, change is not only inevitable - it is also necessary.

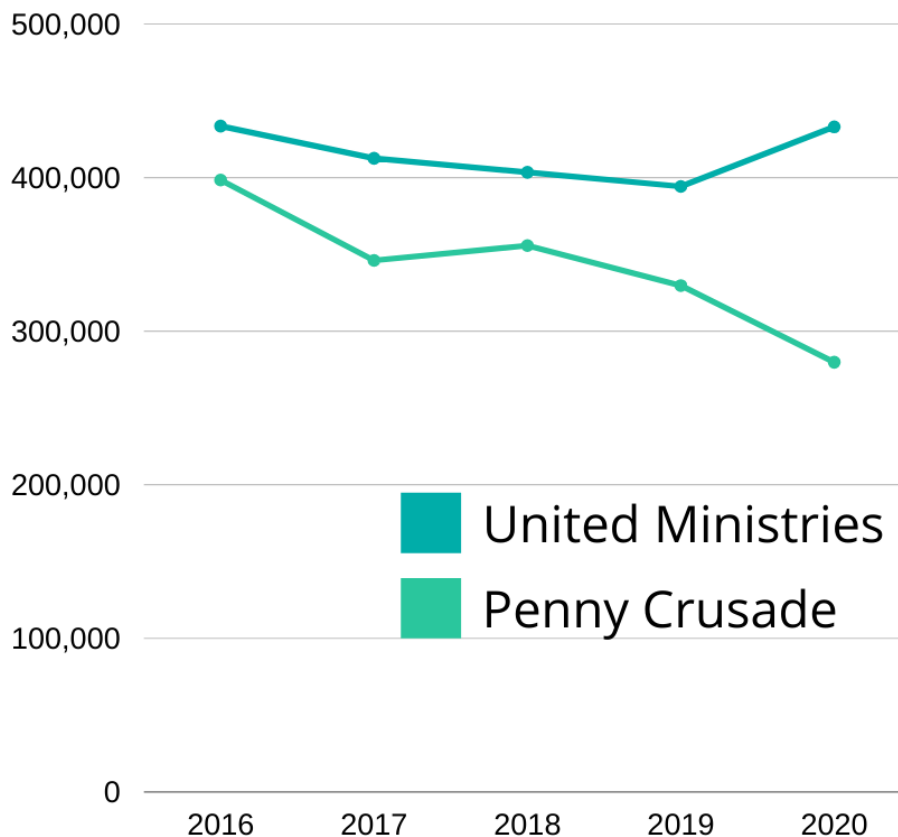
The problem lies in the fact that most of us do not like change. My family has changed dramatically over the last few years as a result of death, sickness, failure, birth, growth, achievement, and blessing. Sometimes the catalyst is painful, sometimes it is joyful, but change comes nonetheless. As much as I sometimes miss those simple days of having my children at home, I know they are experiencing the natural progression of life and I cannot stop it – nor should I try.

Ministry Happenings . . .

Blake's Chapel AC Church, Hampstead, NC, is participating in a new Penny Crusade fundraiser called 100 envelopes. A board with 100 envelopes, marked \$1 through \$100 has been set up in their vestibule. Members take an envelope, fill it with the amount on the label, seal it and place it in the offering box. Simple as that! You are welcome to fill more than one envelope! You choose which envelopes you take. What a creative idea to raise money for Penny Crusade!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS to

join us at Garner Advent Christian Church, 1120 Vandra Springs Rd., Garner, NC, April 21-23 for the ACGC Triennial Convention. More information to come in the future.



Penny Crusade

Penny Crusade is the primary funding mechanism for missions

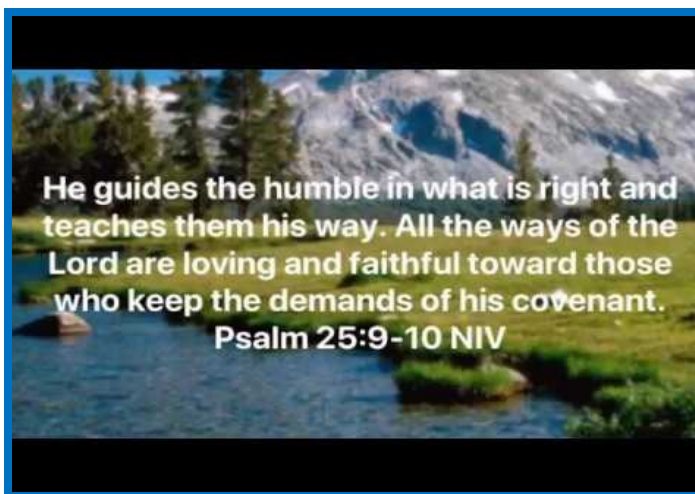
United Ministries giving has been strong, but Penny Crusade has **dropped off by over 50 percent**. Penny Crusade is the primary funding mechanism for our denominational missions work. Your support makes ministry possible in over 20 countries. 100% of Penny Crusade dollars goes to missions.

ACGC has opened up a new way to give to Penny Crusade online. Visit <https://acgc.us/pennycrusade/> and scroll down until you see the button "Give now to Penny Crusade." A new page will open up for you to make your donation. There's even a place for you to let them know to give the credit to your local church.

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So how do we deal with change in a positive way? How do we cope with pandemics, civic unrest, and the confusing and sometimes contradictory wave of government restrictions? How do we overcome the anxiety that often grips our hearts and restricts our breathing when the unexpected smacks us in the face?

Tucked away in one of the Psalms attributed to King David, we find words that can bring real comfort: *"He guides the humble in what is right and teaches them his way. All the ways of the Lord are loving and faithful for those who keep the demands of his covenant."* (Psalm 25:9-10) David, who was well acquainted with the great heights of joy and bottomless depths of despair possible in this life, offers these words as pieces of refreshing manna for our change-ravaged hearts. He gives us a secure foundation to build our lives on, even in the shifting sands of change. Humility and obedience to the Lord are more than simple platitudes; they are tools for facing an uncertain future!



Job changes, illness, new relationships, relocations, weddings, funerals and births – come what may – the power to navigate change successfully is found in humbly seeking God's direction, trusting the advice of his Word, and obediently following his leading.

Rev. Joe Pritchett

Ministry Happenings . . .

Holly Grove AC Church, Benson, NC, will host a drive thru Fall Harvest Dinner on Saturday, September 19th from 4-7 pm. They will be serving BBQ Pork, potatoes and green beans for \$8.00 per plate. Proceeds will benefit the building fund. The menu and hours of serving have been reduced in an effort to minimize food handling and promote social distancing, due to COVID –19.

First Advent Christian Church of Four Oaks, Four Oaks, NC, held revival services on Monday, September 14 –Wednesday, September 16. The revival speaker was Pastor Rodney Raby from Lenoir, NC.

Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will. Romans 12:2

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Coming Events...

September 17 & 18	Tony Jernigan Memorial Golf Tournament, Fayetteville, NC
September 20	Christian Education Sunday
September 27	Women's Sunday
October	Pastor Appreciation Month
October	Christmas in October
October 25	Berkshire Institute for Christian Studies Sunday

Philippians 1:4-6

⁴ In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy ⁵ because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, ⁶ being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.