

Appalachia Reach Out

December '20/January '21

January 29, 2021 Issue #15



Prayer List For 2021

1. New ARO Staff – Dave Crum & Victor Morris.
2. 2021 Ministry Schedule – Work & Witness, Thrift Store,
3. Peace in our homes, peace in our churches, peace in our communities, peace in our

"ARO has done more for the Resource Centers of Martin County than any other organization."

- **Resource Center Director, Martin County Schools**

Psalm 33:4

"For the word of the Lord is upright, and all his work is done in faithfulness."

A Record of Faithfulness

The biblical definition of faithfulness comes from a place of trust and loyalty. So when we say, God is faithful, what do we mean? Is he faithful? How is he faithful? Do you see His faithfulness in your life? When I think about the faithfulness of God I am encouraged and reminded of God's goodness to me as His child. In reflecting on the definition above, it's a great reminder as a follower of Christ I must be trustworthy and loyal to Him. Even before I was a committed follower of Christ, He was faithful. The writer of Romans 5:8 expounds on His faithfulness, "But God demonstrates His own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us." This is foundational of Christ being faithful to us. It's a record of faithfulness. The Bible is full of His promises of being faithful. His promises are "yes and amen." And because of His love for me, I must come to a decision to follow Him. I made that decision in the summer of 1991 and He has always been faithful. To answer the above question, YES, He is faithful! I have plenty of life experiences to share about His faithfulness in my life. Even the fact I woke up this morning reminds me of His faithfulness. Let me remind you, He has, He is and He will continue to be faithful. So I encourage you as you read these words, think about and remember those times He has been faithful. Then celebrate the fact He is faithful and will continue to be faithful. Amen

- *Dwayne P. Mills, ARO, Executive Director*

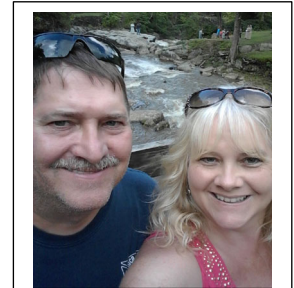
The ARO Family Welcomes Dave Crum & Victor Morris

ARO is committed to stepping through doors God opens. God has been, is and will continue to open doors. Over the past year or so, ARO has been praying about how we can better serve in Appalachia. The ARO Board of Directors stepped out on faith over the past several months and with the Lord leading the way made bold decisions to bring on two new team members, Dave Crum as ARO's Kentucky Work & Witness Site/Groundskeeper Director, and Victor Morris, ARO West Virginia Satellite Site Work & Witness Director (Please refer to the second page of the December/January Newsletter to find out more about this new and exciting opportunity). Dave began serving on December 15, 2020 and Vic began serving at ARO's West Virginia Satellite Ministry Site on January 1, 2021. Welcome to the ARO family Dave & Vic. We're excited you're part of the team! (More about Dave and Vic will be coming in future newsletters.)

Dave, Tate, and Angela Crum



Vic & Lisa Morris



"It is of the Lord's mercies that we are not consumed, because His compassions fail not. They are new every morning: great is their faithfulness." Lamentations 3:22-23



Nicholas County, West Virginia is 3 hours from the Campus of ARO

Thanks!

Thanks to all of you who support us through prayer, serving, and financial support. You can learn more about supporting us online at www.appalachiareachout.com.

Our address is:
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Thanks for your continued prayers and financial support. If you would like to financially bless the ministry of ARO, you can do this through our website or send a check to the above address. Thank you!

You can contact Dwayne Mills, ARO Executive Director at dwayne.p.mills@gmail.com

A New Adventure – ARO West Virginia

The faithfulness of God has been the theme of this newsletter. It continues to be our anthem at ARO. Because of God's faithfulness to ARO for almost 50 years, we believe it's our calling to be faithful to Him when He opens doors that no man can open. After much prayer and doing our part to discern God's leading through the ministry of ARO it was decided by the ARO Board of Directors to step out on faith and begin a new partnership with the West Virginia North & South District Church of the Nazarene in Nicholas, County West Virginia. Summersville, WV is the location of the Nazarene Campground and it was decided this is where ARO West Virginia will host Work & Witness teams wanting to come to serve in Appalachia. ARO Kentucky is booking up with work teams sometimes over 2 years out. It was partly because of this and more about God's timing ARO felt compelled and called to step into West Virginia with a special partnership we have confidence in to look at serving those living in some remote and underserved areas of West Virginia. ARO's mission, Christ's Love in Action, is one we believe transcends location, so at the right time we are now announcing this partnership. Vic Morris will be leading this effort as the Work & Witness Director in partnership with the mission and ministry of ARO. In 2021 ARO West Virginia is looking at hosting at least 8 teams. To date we're already working with a few teams who are on the calendar. What a blessing to know God has opened this door for His Kingdom here on earth. He is faithful and our desire is to remain faithful to His calling to serve our wonderful neighbors in West Virginia. To God be the glory!

A Gift at Christmas!

Just speaking the word, Christmas, usually brings up many great memories from our childhood. Christmas is such a wonderful time to serve and give back. Through partnerships with Second Christian Reformed Church (Fremont, Michigan), Summit Nazarene Church (Ashland, Kentucky), Gardendale Church of the Nazarene (Gardendale, Alabama), and an individual donation, ARO was able to provide Christmas gifts to children who needed love of Christ and encouragement during Christmas in a tangible way. What a joy to partner with the Martin County Resource Centers, Martin County Foster Care Program, Karen's Place Maternity Center and Martin County Serenity House. Through all of these partnerships ARO provided over 400 children in Martin County and surrounding communities with some kind of gift at Christmas. It truly was Christ's love in action. Thanks to ALL who gave in such a selfless way so others could feel the love of Christ at Christmas.



A glimpse at one table holding Christmas gifts for the families and children ARO serves.