

# Pescadores Progress



## Meditation

On October 29th 1992, I was driven to a church about an hour from our house where my name was called and I was loaded on a bus with a bunch of guys who looked to be about as nervous as I knew I was. We were then serenaded by a grinning group of men and women singing some barnyard song as they performed hand motions for the animals they were singing about. The bus then pulled out and an hour later we went right back past my house to a campground a few miles north of where we lived. The campground was located off the main road and the bus never made it past the entrance because it couldn't pull the gravel hill so we walked the last mile or so of our journey in the dark. That is how G.M.T.D #1, my Tres Dias weekend started and at that point I felt like asking the question that Jerry Clower did at the snake handling church - "where's the back door or where do you reckon they'd want one". I wanted to go home. I didn't. And 28 years later there is no place I'd rather be than on a Tres Dias weekend. I tasted grace as never before as it was served to me by those men on that weekend and through those three days God changed me forever.

This community and the God who we serve has blessed Tammy and I over the years in more ways than we could recount and it remains a precious thing to us to be given the privilege of serving on a weekend. Which brings us to 2020. The first year in the history of Georgia Mountains Tres Dias that no weekends have taken place. And I miss it... badly. And I imagine you do as well. Unless you have a

lot better prophetic gift than I do 2020 has not been the year that we expected. And when things don't go as we expect our knee jerk reaction can be to question God. "Where are you and why aren't you doing more to get things back in line with how we expected this year to go?" Our questions don't bother God but when the answers don't come as quickly or in the manner we want our faith can take a hit and we begin to wonder deep down if the plans and promises of God have been derailed. I imagine we've all dealt with that to some extent this year so maybe this is an appropriate time to consider the Virgin Mary and what her life can teach us about expectations.

Here was a 15 year old girl minding her own business and making plans to be wed when she is visited by the angel Gabriel and informed that she had found favor with God and would give birth to the Messiah, the savior of all mankind. Mary struggled to believe the angel's words but eventually trusted this promise and uttered that beautiful faith-filled response - "Let it be unto me according to your will". As Gabriel departed I would imagine that Mary's head was spinning trying to imagine what her life would become as the expectant mother of the King of Kings. I think it's safe to say that her experience did not match her expectations. She immediately became a social outcast because she got pregnant while engaged but not yet married. No one believed her story that she was pregnant by the Holy Spirit; not even Joseph. In fact he was going to have her sent away quietly until an angel appeared to him (possibly Gabriel again) and informed Joseph that what Mary had told him was true.

## December 2020

GMTD #86 Men's:  
April 15-18, 2021

Rector: Glen Nix  
Send-off:  
Thurs., April 15th • 6:30 p.m.

Serenade:  
Sat., April 17th • 6:30 p.m.  
Arrive at 5:30 p.m.

Closing:  
Sun., April 18th • 5:00 p.m.

GMTD #86 Women's:  
April 22-25, 2021

Rector: Eileen Payne

Send-off:  
Thurs., April 22nd • 6:30 p.m.

Serenade:  
Sat., April 24th • 6:30 p.m.  
Arrive at 5:30 p.m.

Closing:  
Sun., April 25th • 5:00 p.m.

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Then to fulfill the scriptures that the messiah would be born in Bethlehem Mary at nine months pregnant had to travel 80 miles on the back of a donkey, a journey which would have taken at least four days. When they arrived in Bethlehem they found no place to stay except a barn and there, in a feed trough, Mary gave birth to Jesus. Then an angel warned Joseph in a dream that they were to flee to Egypt to avoid Herod's decree that all male children in Bethlehem under the age of two would be killed. They finally returned to Nazareth and there they begin to raise their family. Other children are born and Jesus begins to work in Joseph's carpentry business. At some point (scripture doesn't say when) Joseph died and Mary's oldest son leaves the family business to begin His ministry; a ministry which ultimately be fulfilled on Calvary's cross as Mary stood watching in agony. Mary fulfilled God's divine purpose for her life but it did not come without a cost.

But didn't God pronounce through Gabriel that Mary was highly favored? Absolutely; but that didn't mean that everything always went smoothly in her life or how she expected things to go. We who have put our faith in Jesus as Savior are also highly favored of God. The Greek word for favor; charis is where we get our word grace which brings us back to Tres Dias. Wasn't that experience of grace on our weekend real and hasn't that grace continued to impact our lives? Of course it has. But I believe we can also say with Mary not everything has unfolded the way we expected.

We want things to be back to the way they were before 2020 but deep down we know that's not going to happen. Things never stay the same. Change and unexpected events are part of life and we as Christ followers should know that better than anyone. That is part of the glorious mystery of living by faith in His Kingdom and through every challenge that comes along so does His redeeming grace, if we choose to see it.

Yes this year has been like no other but none of it has caught God off guard. His promises are eternal and His timing is perfect. And at some point we as a community will once again be able to meet and laugh and plan and worship; to love on and pray for each other and most importantly to once again see the Father touch new Pescadores powerfully with His amazing grace and we'll smile...because we know just what they're feeling. I can't wait!!

Stacy Avery, GMTD #1

## Secretariat Spotlight: Pre-Weekend

Darryl and Eileen Payne are honored and blessed to serve as the Palanca Couple for GMTD. The duties for this role mainly revolve around receiving the rollo

room palanca letters and sending out palanca letters to other communities. They are also responsible for the oven Palanca sign up, prayer Palanca sign up and getting the banners displayed on each weekend.

They both attended GMTD #44 where God touched them both and they realized they didn't want to be silent anymore. God reigns in their lives and they eagerly share him daily with others! Eileen has been preparing to serve as rector for GMTD 86. Due to covid it has been postponed until further notice! She and God's team are waiting to serve! Darryl and Eileen just celebrated their 22 year anniversary and feel blessed beyond measure with their blended family of 6 kids that range in age from 18-32. Their oldest daughter Kayla and Husband Drew Harris, blessed them with their first grandchild this past April. Chloe brings much joy, even though they live in Kentucky, a distance away. Their son's Christian Payne, Keegan Payne and Kayden



Payne live locally. Keegan and Kayden (who is a senior this year) are the only two at home. Their son Payne Robertson lives in Michigan as well as their daughter Christine and her husband Patrick Gauthier. The Payne's worship at Living Word Church in Jasper, GA, and just completed serving as Elders and Eileen serving as Middle School pastor. They are eagerly waiting on God for their next assignment. The scripture they cling to is "I can do all things, through Christ who gives me strength."

# In Memory Of...

Anderson-Underwood Funeral Home announces the passing of one of our own, Mr. Larry Odom, age 71, of Dahlonega on December 24, 2020. Larry was a native and lifelong resident of Lumpkin County and attended GMTD #2. He was born just off the Dahlonega square on January 6, 1949 to the late Barney and Ellene Trammell Odom. Missing him most will be his beloved wife of forty-nine years Shirley Reeves Odom, Dahlonega; daughter Emily Timms (Eric), of Clermont; son Matthew Odom, of Cameron, NC; his grandchildren, who called him "Poppy", Jackson Odom, Abigail Odom, Taylan Timms, Teegan Timms, and Trennen Timms; as well as innumerable extended family and friends. Funeral services are scheduled for 2:00 PM Wednesday, December 30, 2020 at the chapel of Anderson-Underwood Funeral Home. The Rev. Eric Timms, and the Rev. Chris Anderson will officiate. Interment will follow in Siloam Baptist Church Cemetery with the Rev. Lyman Caldwell officiating. The family will receive friends from 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM and from 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM Tuesday at the funeral home. In lieu of flowers please make contributions to the Dahlonega Lions Club, P.O. Box 293, Dahlonega, GA 30533.

## GMTD SECRETARIAT

The next secretariat meeting is scheduled for Friday, January 8th, 2021 at 7 p.m. The meeting's location is Assembly of God in Dahlonega.

## PESCADORE'S PROGRESS

Subscribe to the Pescadore's Progress at [www.gmt.org](http://www.gmt.org). To receive your Pescadore's Progress in the U.S. mail, please send your name, address and weekend attended to:

Carol Brett  
248 Long Mountain Trl.  
Cleveland, GA 30528

## UPDATE YOUR CONTACT INFO!

If your address, phone number or e-mail has changed, please notify GMTD Database Manager, Greg Purcell at [gregcpurcell@gmail.com](mailto:gregcpurcell@gmail.com)

*The database is confidential and for GMTD use only to contact sponsors, team members, rector nominees, secretariat nominees, and for general GMTD purposes.*

### GMTD Secretariat Members

Chairman .....	Kevin Hill.....	706-768-5301
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Food Supply.....	Bill & Casandra King.....	678-591-2195
Fourth Day.....	Raymond & Donna Posey .....	706-973-0757
Fourth Day (In training).....	Dan & Jerilyn Harder .....	404-509-2460
Leaders-A .....	Randy and Marla Flake.....	706-344-8338
Leaders-B .....	Rick & Mary Martinez.....	470-248-8719
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Newsletter (In Training).....	Carol Brett.....	706-969-1578
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Treasurer .....	Brian & Diana Cartwright.....	706-244-4173
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Weekend .....	Chris & Chrissy Owenby .....	706-768-5325
Worship Director .....	Todd Pealock .....	706-949-4251
Worship Director (In Training).....	Gary Knight.....	706-244-0310

Find e-mail contact info at [www.gmt.org](http://www.gmt.org)

## Georgia Mountains Vida Nueva

Vida Nueva is a weekend retreat for young men and women ages 15-20. Vida Nueva is Spanish for "New Life" and like the Tres Dias, VN weekends are intended as an encounter with Jesus Christ. The weekends are similar to the structure of a Tres Dias weekend with certain changes to make it more relevant for teens. VN weekends begin on Friday evening and end on Sunday evening. The cost to sponsor someone on a VN weekend is \$100 and is \$100 for team members. If you have a teenager who you would like to sponsor, you can download an application at the web-site [www.gmvm.net](http://www.gmvm.net). A group of teens who have made a Vida Nueva weekend recently put together a video to tell what VN has meant to them. The video can be found at [www.youtube.com/watch?v=8DNV99f2Hko](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8DNV99f2Hko). Georgia Mountains VN currently holds two sets of weekends a year, one in the spring and one in the fall. The next set of weekends are to be determined.

