

20th Anniversary

In This Issue:

Upcoming Prayer Summit	1
GPRM Celebrates 20 Years	2
Harvey Cedars Bible Conference	4



**Thanking God
For Our Past
Praising Him
For Our Present
While Building
For Our Future**

Greater Philadelphia Renewal Ministries
Celebrates 20 Years of Ministry

1992-2012

The 20th Anniversary Pastors' and Spouses' Prayer Summit

March 5-8, 2012

HARVEY CEDARS CONFERENCE CENTER

HARVEY CEDARS, NJ

Begins: Monday, March 5th at 2 PM.

Concludes: Thursday, March 8th at 11:30 PM.

Theme: "Jesus In Our Midst"

Scripture: Psalm 27

GPRM

P.O. Box 588

Chester Springs, PA 19425

Phone: 610.458.5177

Fax: 610.458.2569

Email:

gprm@pastorsprayersummits.org

Website:

www.pastorsprayersummits.org

“Come to Me, all who are weary and heavy-laden, and I will give you rest.”

Matthew 11:28

GPRM: 20 Years of Ministry—1992-2012

By Paul Chaya,
GPRM Prayer Summit Coordinator

Periodically through this 20th year we will feature articles which look back over the history of GPRM so that we can thank God for His faithfulness, His grace, His provision, and for His direction over these past 20 years.

How It All Got Started

Greater Philadelphia Renewal Ministries was birthed out of the Prayer Committee of the 1992 Greater Philadelphia Billy Graham Crusade. It was first called the Delaware Valley Prayer Movement, then the Philadelphia/Delaware Valley Renewal Ministries, and finally Greater Philadelphia Renewal Ministries.

Rev. Paul Chaya, chairman of the Prayer Committee has been the overseer of this ministry along with a number of pastors and spouses over the years.

The late Dr. Joe Aldrich, then President of Multnomah Bible School, in Portland, Oregon, has been recognized as the “father” of prayer summits, although these prayer gatherings were first called Pastors’ Prayer Summits by Ray Brigham. He gave Dr. Joe Aldrich permission to use the term around 1990.

Pastors’ Prayer Summits grew out of Dr. Joe’s quest to find the answer to the question ‘What would it take to initiate and sustain a significant work of God in a specific geographical community? What would it take to see John 17 lived out in answer to Christ’s prayer?’ It was from there that he developed a five-part process for renewal which included: holiness, humility, unity, community, and impact.

In the late 1980s Dr. Aldrich invited Terry Dirks to join him in what was then referred to as Northwest Renewal Ministries. They dreamed of the day when they would bring together pastors from a specific geographical areas for the purpose of seeking the Lord. Finally it came about as pastors in nearby Salem, Oregon invited Dr. Aldrich and Terry Dirks to facilitate the first pastors’ prayer summit in 1989.

Soon pastors’ prayer summits spread throughout the Pacific Northwest. In 1991, in preparation for the Greater Philadelphia Billy Graham Crusade, Dr. Joe Aldrich was invited by the Graham organization in November 1991 to speak with pastors from Philadelphia, New Jersey and Delaware about how they could provide leadership for the Billy Graham Crusade. It was at this time, that pastors’ prayer summits were first introduced to the East Coast. It was then that Dr. Joe Aldrich invited some of the leadership of the crusade to attend a pastors’ prayer summit at Cannon Beach, Oregon later in January.

Rick Marshall, the director of the Greater Philadelphia Billy Graham Crusade invited 10 members of the executive committee of the crusade to join him in accepting the invitation to attend this prayer summit.

(continued on page 3)

“Come to Me, all who are weary and heavy-laden, and I will give you rest.”

Matthew 11:28

GPRM: 20 Years of Ministry (Continued)

Rick Marshall, along with the co-chairmen of the crusade – Judge Nelson Diaz and Rev. William B. Moore; the prayer committee co-chairs: Rev. Paul Chaya and the late Rev. Calvin Thomas, the late Rev. Benjamin Smith, Rev. Larry Dunn, Rev. Ernie Morris, Rev. Gus Roman, Rev. Lin Crowe, and Rev. Glenn Blossom flew to Portland, OR and then on to Cannon Beach for three and a half days of prayer, worship, and seeking the Lord. They returned different men. They had been dramatically changed by the work of the Holy Spirit. Their hearts had been knit together as one. These eleven men became known as The Brothers. Together, they became the heart of the 1992 Billy Graham Crusade.

The Brothers met regularly for prayer, and then were led to plan the first pastors' prayer summit. Working closely with Terry Dirks from Northwest Renewal Ministries, later to be called, International Renewal Ministries, the first prayer summit was held on May 4-7, 1992 at Harvey Cedars Bible Conference in Harvey Cedars, NJ.

We mirrored the Pacific Northwest. Three facilitators from Northwest Renewal Ministries: the late Terry Dirks, the late Bob Cryder, and Nathan Barnett facilitated our first summit. Nearly 100 pastors attended. The Lord worked in a mighty way for 3 ½ days in exposing sin, pride, breaking down barriers of racism and denominationalism, and making us one. The Lord renewed and united His shepherds.

The Lord stirred the hearts of pastors to pray, and they continued to do so. They formed groups throughout the Greater Philadelphia region and met regularly for prayer. The movement spread. More and more pastors and churches were praying. This prayer network was one of the main reasons why God blessed the Billy Graham Crusade in June 1992. People were crying out to God from all over the Delaware Valley, for Him to save the lost and to renew His church. God graciously answered those prayers.

Following the crusade, the prayer committee received a grant of money to continue the work of Pastors' Prayer Summits. Through this, Greater Philadelphia Renewal Ministries was birthed. The Brothers immediately planned a second pastors' prayer summit. It was held that same year, in October. There were 73 pastors in attendance. God continued to break down walls and knit hearts together.

The purpose of Pastors' Prayer Summits was to gather pastors from the Greater Philadelphia Region together for an extended period of time (Monday-Thursday) to seek the Lord. Guarding this purpose has always been difficult because pastors often want to use prayer summits to launch pet ministries or support their causes. A few months before Terry Dirks went home to be with the Lord, he exhorted me, to guard the original vision for pastors' prayer summits. By God's grace, the servant leaders of Greater Philadelphia Renewal Ministries have done just that. There are many voices, many agendas, many pressures to pull the summit movement away from its original intent, but by God's grace, GPRM has remained faithful.

Jeremiah 6:16 Thus says the Lord: "Stand by the roads, and look, and ask for the ancient paths, where the good way is; and walk in it, and find rest for your souls. GPRM continues to follow the ancient paths of focusing on God's Word and Prayer as its primary ministry. As one pastor said, "A prayer summit is the only thing I participate in, that when it's over, I have less on my plate than when I first came.

In the June edition we will examine the first decade of Greater Philadelphia Renewal Ministries – from 1992 through 2002.

“Come to Me, all who are weary and heavy-laden, and I will give you rest.”

Matthew 11:28



Harvey Cedars

BIBLE CONFERENCE

Harvey Cedars Bible Conference has been pleased to host the Greater Philadelphia Renewal Ministries - Pastors Prayer Summit for many, many years. It has been one of our joys, some years to watch up to 100 pastors and wives open their hearts in prayer - their voices in song - and their memories in reciting scripture to one another as they glorify God together and rejoice in His very presence. This is a very inspiring conference.

It is not just pastors who come to this wonderful God blessed conference center 6 miles at sea on beautiful Long Beach Island, New Jersey. Thousands come each year. - June & July sees thousands of High Schoolers come. In August we have four delightful and inspiring family weeks. -During the other 40 weeks - (on weekends and mid weeks) - we host many wonderful groups. Colleges - Christian schools - church leadership groups - Ladies groups - Men groups - Missionary groups - Para-Church Organizations - (Navigators-YL-Campus Crusade-Intersity-etc.) We also have an increasing number of Groups from International churches. With our creative new activity center we are developing conferences in marine biology, quality sports groups-surfing groups and fishing conferences.

Why don't you plan to bring your family-your teens-your Christian group to Harvey Cedars Bible Conference.

St. Mark in the first nine chapters of his Gospel indicates that Jesus spent a good portion of his 3 year public ministry at Capernaum by the sea. We invite you to come and be our guest and His guest here at Harvey Cedars by the sea.

GPRM Servant Leader Team

Pastor Paul Chaya - Prayer Summit Coordinator, Windsor Baptist Church, Uwchland, PA

Rev. Otis Banks - Former Pastor of Diamond Street Community Church, Philadelphia, PA

Bishop Sam Ellis - First Pentecostal Holy Church, Chester, PA

Rev. Fred Estrada and Sister Diana Estrada - Bethel Temple Community Bible Church, Philadelphia, PA

Rev. John Grove - Columbus Baptist Church, Columbus, NJ

Rev. William B. Moore - Tenth Memorial Baptist Church, Philadelphia, PA

Rev. John O. Parker - Antioch Baptist Church, Camden, NJ

Rev. Bob Santilli - Pastor to Missionaries - International Ministries, ABCUSA

GPRM Staff

Women Facilitators

Sister Diana Estrada - Bethel Temple Community Church, Philadelphia, PA

Sister Jean Chaya - Windsor Baptist Church, Uwchland, PA

Sister Marianne Parker - Antioch Baptist Church, Camden, NJ

Administrative Assist - Janis Oeschger

Web Tech - Rhonda Marks

Consultant - Rev. Rick Marshall, Springton Presbyterian Church, Newtown Square, PA

Welcome to Greater Philadelphia Renewal Ministries. We are happy to have you as a member of our community. Your email address and contact information from previous summits have been recorded in our database. In the future, you will receive periodic newsletters and emails concerning prayer summits, prayer gatherings, etc.

Privacy is important to us; therefore, we will not sell, rent, or give your name or address to anyone. At any point, you wish to be removed from our mailing list and email list, please contact us.