



ATHENS COLLEGE *of* MINISTRY

DEVOTIONAL & MARCH 2018 NEWSLETTER

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Thanks, Volunteers!

Dear ACMin Family & Friends,

Our college exists to help equip the saints for the work of the Kingdom! We hope that you will take advantage of so many opportunities to be involved in God's work at ACMin as you become a part of our growing family! With abundant blessings-
The ACMin Leadership Team

Mile 19

A marathon is 26.2 miles in length and marathoners often say, when you reach mile 19, you are half way finished. By the time you are in mile 19, your energy



reserve is gone and every part of your body is telling you to stop, to pack it in, and to end the ordeal. But your mind is saying, it is only 7.2 miles to the finish, I can do it, and it would be so heartbreaking to be a DNF (Did Not Finish) when you are so near the end. So, you struggle to continue. From this point on it is not the physical endurance that carries you; now it has become a mental contest. And so, it is the determination of the mind that carries you those final miles to the finish line.

The marathon provides a fitting metaphor for life, especially the Christian life. It is not a sprint, and it is not easy. God calls us to a journey, a marathon of sorts. The journey is unique to each. Some parts are pure joy and other parts are pure struggle. We each have our unique gifts, ministries, life experiences, and challenges. Yet we all journey toward the same finish line. Paul defines our finish line in his letter to the Philippians in this way, "...forgetting what lies behind and reaching forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus." (NASB)



What a grand time we had on our ACMin campus property on Feb. 23rd and 24th. Lots of volunteers gave their time and effort to help us clean up the property in anticipation of its future use! Anne McKelvy (above) helps keep our entrance and driveway looking tidy!



Michael and Earl (above) prepared a bonfire area for student, youth, and community gatherings. And Josh (below) accomplished a LOT of mowing!



Student leader, Greg Thomas (left), and ACMin President, Dr. Marcia Wilbur (right), symbolically "broke ground" where we anticipate the location of our upcoming multi-purpose building. Many, many thanks to every volunteer who came out to help and to pray!

Just as the marathoner must draw upon an inner strength of the mind to finish the race, we as believers find our inner strength in God. Isaiah tells us, "Yet those who wait for the Lord will gain new strength; they will mount up with wings like eagles, they will run and not get tired, they will walk and not become weary." (NASB) And a little later, "Do not fear, for I am with you; do not anxiously look about you, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, surely I will help you, surely I will uphold you with My righteous hand." (NASB) Therefore we must, as exhorted in the book of Hebrews, "...run with endurance the race that is set before us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith..." (NASB) As long as our eyes are fixed on Christ and we are counting on His strength and not our own, we will finish—strong and victorious!

Student Spotlight



The grandson of a preacher, son of two country music musicians, born some 50 years ago, Stacy is now a single father of four and works as the Electrical Operations Supervisor for Athens/Clarke County. Having grown up in the church it wasn't until he was 20 that he had, what

he refers to as, his "feel good salvation" moment. "I wanted to have a better life. I wanted to live better. I wanted to have that peace and joy I heard believers talk about. So I said the prayer and was dunked in some water at the church." [Continue this article](#)

Transformed! Conference April 28th

Join ACMin President, Dr. Marcia Wilbur, for a day of



inspiration and teaching! Participants will explore:

- the indwelling presence of Christ in us,
- the power and authority within us as co-heirs with Christ;
- how to effectively exercise that authority in the heavenly realm; and
- the resulting power of God to transform! Discover how to exercise your power and authority as a believer in order to obtain Kingdom victory for yourself and others in the courts of heaven! [Register today!](#)

National Day of Prayer - May 3rd

Make plans now to attend the Athens Area National Day of Prayer Breakfast on Thursday, May 3rd at the Classic Center. This year's national theme is UNITY based on Ephesians 4:3. Come hear keynote speaker, Dr. Fritz Schaefer with special music by Dr. Greg



Building for Eternity



Have you considered how becoming a regular, monthly supporter of God's work through ACMin can make an eternal difference? As we are faithful to God's calling to equip the saints for the work of ministry, your regular gift of any amount can help build a sure foundation with ripple effects that will go exceedingly, abundantly beyond what you can imagine! Your monthly gift will:

- provide scholarships for students preparing for vocational ministry;
- help with the ongoing costs of accreditation; and
- increase our capacity to support area churches through effective, advanced discipleship opportunities.

Would you make today the day you commit to becoming a regular supporter of God's work through ACMin? [Click here](#) to set up your monthly recurring gift. **Every gift matters!**

Broughton, and pray with others from across our area! Whatever you do, make plans to PRAY on May 3rd! [Athens National Day of Prayer](#)



Summer Semester Enrollment



Whether you want to earn college credit or simply want to grow in your faith and effectiveness in serving God, ACMin welcomes you! Summer semester classes

begin May 15th.

- Want to know more about "the end times?" Come, join Dr. Raymond Morris for a study of *The Book of Revelation*.
- Have you ever wondered what the Bible says about our sexuality? Then Phyllis Kiser's course *God's Design for Sexual Wholeness* is a must.
- [Click here](#) to see the full summer semester schedule available for all.

New degree-seeking students please note these important dates:

Application Deadline: April 1, 2018
Financial Aid Application Deadline: April 1, 2018

To apply or ask questions please contact Rev. Paul Cooke at 706-769-1472 or pcooke.acmin@gmail.com.

Wholeness Care Project



Healthcare professionals are very familiar with the fact that our emotions and our thought life affect our physical health. Our brains serve as "command

central" for our systems. Every thought we have triggers the release of a chemical response in our bodies. An obvious example is when our hearts begin to race in response to fear.

Proverbs 23:7 says, "*For as he thinks within himself, so is he.*" Because our bodies, souls (mind, will, emotions), and spirits are inseparable, it's vital that we attend to our emotional health. Prolonged agreement with stress, fear, despair, bitterness and other destructive feelings can take a toll on our physical wellness.

Through the Wholeness Care Project, ACMin will provide opportunities for project participants to receive

Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give! (2 Corinthians 9:7)



Are you ready to live your faith in powerful, life-changing ways? Join us for the next 7-week Life-IN-Christ seminar, **Alive in Christ**, on Tuesday evenings starting March 20th. [Life IN Christ](#)
[Spring 2018 Schedule](#)

CONNECT!



[Click here](#) to CONNECT to great ministry opportunities in our area like:

- Prayer Walking at UGA: Saturday, March 10 / 10 am to just before noon @ UGA Arch - Corner of Broad Street and College Ave

- Prayer for the Middle East: Wednesday, March 21/noon to 1pm @ Living Hope (House

Prayer Ministry in conjunction with the care that they are receiving from their healthcare provider. The goal of receiving Prayer Ministry is to help participants identify their ungodly beliefs and replace those with God's Truth. By identifying and eradicating the spiritual or emotional root causes of the presenting problem, participants can experience transformation and tremendous freedom in Christ!

The good news is that you can receive Prayer Ministry any time from ACMin's wonderful Prayer Ministry Team and student apprentices. [Click here](#) to learn more or [make an appointment](#). When Christ sets you free, you will be free indeed!

[Click here](#) for complete details about ACMin's Wholeness Care Project.

Librarian Needed

Do you love books and Jesus? ACMin is looking for an individual to lead our students and faculty in the effective use of our growing college library. A Master's in Library Science or similar degree is required. This is a part-time position for 20 hours per week.



Interested candidates should contact Dr. Marcia Wilbur for additional information: mwilbur@acmin.org.

Inductive Bible Study (IBS) in Spanish



ACMin. is excited to announce a new course - IBS in Spanish. ACMin.'s Dr. Dan Dunn will offer his excellent Inductive Bible Study course in Spanish as a two-week intensive this summer 2018.

The goal of inductive Bible study is to equip students with the tools to be life-long students of the Scriptures. The objective of the IBS methodology is to understand what the text would have communicated in the context of the time and culture that produced and used it, while also understanding that contemporary questions are conditioned by our own language, culture, and history. Most importantly, IBS helps students apply the living Word of God to their own lives and ministries in a way that transforms them and those they reach.

Dr. Dunn earned a M-Div. from Candler School of Theology and a Ph.D. in Evangelization Studies from

of Prayer)

- Pastors Racial Reconciliation Gathering: Thursday, March 29 / 10am to noon @ Living Hope (House of Prayer)

Remember to see the [Community Jobs Board](#) for local ministry positions

Contact ACMin to post your ministry's job needs and community events!

Asbury Theological Seminary. Along with instructing courses at ACMin., Dr. Dunn teaches at Asbury Theological Seminary and Wesleyan Seminary of Venezuela in Cabudare, Venezuela. Dr. Dunn has been a missionary to Venezuela where he preaches and teaches and leads mission teams to Latin American countries through UMC Venezuela Now, Inc. Dr. Dunn is an ordained elder in North Georgia Annual Conference, UMC and a published author. His most recent book is *Offer Them Life: A Life-Based Evangelistic Vision*.

The Inductive Bible Study in Spanish course will be offered at ACMin. June 5-15, 2018 from 8:30 AM to 1:30 PM each day, Monday - Friday. [Click here](#) for registration. [Click here](#) to hear Dr. Dunn speak about the course.

ACMin Impact



ACMin is having a profound impact on students. Listen to what just one student sees as a rare benefit to being here— **"The most benefit to me personally has been the development of close, rich, lasting relationships with many of the faculty. In many ways, some have served as solid mentors to me in my journey through, in and toward vocational ministry."** Ministry is relational, and to be trained for ministry requires being deeply affected and shaped by relationships, especially with those who would be mentors. What a unique privilege we have at ACMin to be a part of lives being shaped by deep relationships as they are being equipped to serve relationally in ministry.

Full Scholarship Available for a Master's Student

Would you like to answer your ministry calling by earning a Master of Arts in Christian Ministry at no cost?!! ACMin is offering a full work-study scholarship opportunity for an individual interested in being part of the ACMin Leadership Team while they study as our **Event Coordinator**.



Earn a ministry degree and gain powerful leadership experience while you study! It's a win-win! Interested candidates should contact Dr. Marcia Wilbur for additional information: mwilbur@acmin.org.

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