



ATHENS COLLEGE *of* MINISTRY

DEVOTIONAL & NOVEMBER 2017 NEWSLETTER

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New Year - New
Heart
January 20th



The 5th annual ACMin
New Year - New Heart

Dear ACMin Family & Friends,

It always give us great joy to share with you the many ways that God is working in and through His college. We're glad to be on this journey together with you! See the links to the left to navigate *Inside This Issue* or the *Quick Links* for more ACMin information.

With abundant blessings-
The ACMin Leadership Team

Thy Kingdom Come!

John the Baptist and Jesus both declared, "Repent, for the Kingdom of Heaven has come near." They understood that



holiness is a requirement for entering into the Kingdom. We are to seek first His Kingdom and His righteousness. Jesus taught about His Father's Kingdom more than any other topic. The Kingdom of Heaven is real—more real than the ground under our feet. It is a Kingdom of light. The Kingdom of Heaven is now, yesterday, and tomorrow, not just for when we "get to heaven." It will never end. It has a King—Jesus—who rules with a scepter of justice. And Jesus taught His disciples to pray that his Father's Kingdom would come to earth, so that earth could be like Heaven. He has given us the keys to His Kingdom, made us to be His Kingdom, and has called us as priests to serve God and to reign on the earth.

So how do we operate in and cooperate with God's Kingdom? Jesus sent His disciples out to proclaim the Kingdom in tandem with healing the sick and driving out demons, for the Kingdom of God is not a Kingdom of words but of power. It is not our power, but rather, the power of Jesus indwelling each one of us that enables us to accomplish the "greater things" of His Kingdom as we surrender that power in obedience back to our Heavenly Father. We are to encourage, comfort, and

Prayer Conference promises to be the best yet! The 2018 theme is *Run With Endurance!* Click on the link below for all the details. Bring a friend!

[New Year - New Heart Prayer Conference](#)

Sat, 1/20, 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

EVERY GIFT MATTERS!



As you prayerfully consider your year-end giving, we hope that you will keep the Athens College of Ministry on your heart! We are eager to situate the ministry of the college on our permanent campus. Will you help make that a reality? We welcome recurring gifts, one-time gifts, and gifts of stock, property, or legacy pledges. Naming opportunities are also available. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts for allowing the LORD to provide through you!

In Memory of Dr. Richard Cooke



1930 - 2017

urge others to live lives worthy of God who has called us all into His Kingdom and glory.

How do we discern the presence of God's Kingdom all around us? The Kingdom is ever present in our midst. But Jesus said that we could not see the Kingdom of God unless we are born again, and that we could not enter into it unless we are born of water and the Spirit. He declared that we must enter into it as little children—humble, unassuming, trusting.

Lord, help us to hear and understand, and to perceive and to see the glory of Your Kingdom all around us! May Your Kingdom come and Your will be done!

Spring Semester Student Enrollment!



Earn your Associate's, Bachelor's or Master's degree

right here at the Athens College of Ministry. It's affordable, nearby, personal and interactive. We are truly unique among Christian colleges in Northeast Georgia! So, break the mold and come and join us for the spring semester. Registration is in full swing and the [Spring 2018 Course Schedule](#) is incredible! Auditing students are always welcome! Start the new year by enrolling in courses like:

- Old Testament Hebrew
- Prayer & Spiritual Direction
- Discipleship
- Identity in Christ

Got questions? Check out [Why enroll in ACMin?](#), for more information, go to: [Admissions Information](#) or see: [Dual Enrollment Students](#). We also invite you to call our office at 706-769-1472, or contact Paul Cooke, ACMin's Director of Student Affairs, at pcooke.acmin@gmail.com.

Full Scholarships Available for Master's Students

Would you like to answer your ministry calling by earning a Master of Arts in Christian Ministry at no cost?!! ACMin is offering two full work-study scholarship opportunities for individuals interested in being part of the ACMin Leadership Team while they study as:



- An Event Planner; or
- An Administrative Assistant

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.

The entire ACMin family is saddened by the loss of Dr. Richard Cooke, father of Paul Cooke, our Director of Student Affairs. Dr. Cooke lived a lifetime of serving the LORD with his gifts of music and voice. He also served as a faculty member at ACMin, teaching voice and piano. We thank God for Richard's legacy and pray comfort and encouragement to his entire family. The Memorial Service for Dr. Cooke will take place on Saturday, November 4th, at 7:00 PM at Faith Presbyterian Church in Watkinsville.

Life IN Christ Seminars

LIFELONG
MINISTRY
PROGRAM

ACMin is passionate about making disciples empowered with the practical knowledge of who they are in Christ and how to co-labor with the Lord to usher in the Kingdom of Heaven on earth! So we've developed a suite of 7-Week seminars to help YOU be all that God says you are!
[Life IN Christ Seminars](#)
[Spring 2018 Schedule](#)

Connect

Honoring Local Pastors



We were honored to refresh and equip pastors from multiple denominations and geographic areas - from Athens, Watkinsville, Hull, White Plains and other

surrounding areas—at ACMin's annual Pastors Appreciation event. Rev. Dr. David Holt from Living Hope Church, and Dr. Marcia Wilbur, ACMin President, provided pastors with a seminar intended to help their times of preaching and teaching have maximum impact. Our guests enjoyed an amazing lunch by Dawg Gone Good BBQ, and they left with gifts of books and free passes to other ACMin teaching conferences. One veteran pastor commented, "This was exceptional!" ACMin would like to thank Roll-Off Systems, Cable East, and WMSL for their co-support in hosting this effort.

Wholeness Care Project

Sentinel research on the implications of faith and health on health promotion has been conducted by Dr. Harold G. Koenig, the Director of Duke University's Center



for Spirituality, Theology and Faith yielding nearly 450 published scientific peer-reviewed articles and book chapters and over forty books in more than thirty years of research. In his book, *The Healing Power of Faith*, Dr. Koenig concludes that people who maintain spiritual practices, pray regularly, attend worship regularly, volunteer or serve others, and have a social network of friends, stay healthier, have fewer hospitalizations, fewer surgeries, and recover more quickly after hospitalizations (*The Healing Power of Faith* 231).

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

Welcome to the ACMin Team - Pam Brown



ACMin is abundantly blessed to announce the addition of Pam Brown to our ACMin Leadership Team. Pam will serve as the Director of Lifelong Ministry, heading up our conferences and non-degree seminars and workshops. For the past 20 years Pam has been an Administrative

Manager in the Department of Crop and Soil Sciences at the University of Georgia.

[Click here](#) to read Pam's story. You may contact Pam at: pjbrown.acmin@gmail.com.



Remember to visit the [ACMin Connect Page](#) for info about local opportunities for prayer and Christian growth like:

- Nov. 2nd Night of Healing Prayer @ SJUMC
- Spiritual Warfare Conference Nov. 2nd-4th
- Athens Prayer Network opportunities

And remember to see the [Community Jobs Board](#) for local ministry positions:

- Full-time Worship Pastor
- Children's Pastor

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

ACMin Impact

Recent student survey data indicate that ACMin is making excellent progress in meeting the college's objectives. 100% of the respondents either agreed or strongly agreed that the quality of our courses is excellent and their coursework fosters intellectual growth in biblical knowledge and understanding. Studies at ACMin have contributed well to both understanding who God is and understanding God's will for their lives. Read more about ACMin effectiveness in our [2016-17 Annual Report](#).



What IS Effective Teaching?

At ACMin, we are committed to ensuring that the way we teach is conducive to powerful learning. We base our approach on what we know about how people learn best. Consider that:



- We only remember 5% of what we hear and 10% of what we read!
- Further, in 12 months, we will have forgotten over 90% of what we knew when we "learned" it.

The good news is that we remember 75% of what we practice doing, and 90% of what we teach others to do! For these reasons, we hold to the strong conviction that every course we offer must include a significant opportunity for our students to apply what they are learning in real-life ways. We want our students to learn the "What?" of theology, but in equal measure they need to be equipped to understand and apply the "So what?" of our Christian faith. That is the ACMin difference!

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