



December 2019 Newsletter

Dear Partners and Friends,

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! I hope and pray that your holiday season was filled with love, laughter, family, and the presence of God! The Christmas season is a favorite around the Connolly house. We enjoy many traditions during that time — including the celebration of two birthdays: mine on Christmas Eve and my oldest daughter’s, Emma’s, on New Year’s Eve. Most of all, we love spending time with one another. I was privileged to be able to spend the majority of my girls’ Christmas break from school at home with them. We played lots of games together and they enjoyed playing with all of their Christmas gifts.



Driving while looking at Christmas lights



Four generation Christmas cookie baking



Faith Like Birds Christmas Party



Enjoying new Christmas presents



Family Christmas picture

SOMETHING TO CELEBRATE

It’s hard to believe, but it’s been one whole year since we stepped out in faith to do itinerant ministry. I just wanted to honor and thank all of you and the Lord for what has been a fruitful and blessed year! The Lord has been faithful and kind with all of the doors He’s opened and with the growth He’s performed in me. Likewise, your kindness and generosity through faithful giving and support through prayer and friendships has also played a significant role in the success of this ministry. Thank you!!!



FAITH LIKE BIRDS WEBSITE



Please visit faithlikebirds.com to check out the latest blogs and podcasts, purchase merchandise, and check out where I’ll be ministering next. You can also get to know the Faith Like Birds Interns by visiting the ‘ABOUT’ page. If you know of a church or youth group that you believe could benefit from this ministry, please share the website with them and encourage them to contact me. It’s my desire to serve and love as many people as I can. Thanks for your help!



MINISTRY AND TESTIMONIES

The Foundry — Greenwood, DE

The Foundry, a home group of six families, officially opened their meetings to the public the last time I was with them on December 1st. We worshiped together and I felt compelled to share on anxiety and minister to those places where people had been experiencing it. I genuinely believe that anxiety is something that the Lord wants to target in 2020 and I fully anticipate speaking on it often throughout the year. We had a wonderful time in the Lord and many confirmed the direction of God by stating how they've been battling anxiety as of late.

Freedom Christian School — Gettysburg, PA

This school has become a first Friday of the month stop for me. I absolutely love the students at this school and enjoy sharing the heart of God with them. I shared on how the Gospel isn't just something you hear, it's also something you see. Some of the interns and I ministered to the students through words of knowledge for healing. Many of the students responded to the various ailments and conditions that were called out and those that stood up reported that they were either healed or experienced improvement. We saw pain leave knees, wrists, and backs. I remain convinced that the greatest thing this generation needs is an encounter with God. It's my plan to continue to help the students encounter God in a way that results in love for and awareness of Him.

Hope City Church — Lancaster, PA



I had the honor of being asked to minister to the leadership team of Hope City Church on Friday, December 6th. It was such a fun time! I was able to share some prophetic words with those in attendance, as well as a prophetic word for their church. The pastor affirmed the word and those who received personal prophetic ministry were very much encouraged and believed the words to be accurate.

The following Sunday morning, December 8th, I shared at Hope City's Sunday morning service and spoke on anxiety once again. I truly sense that the enemy is purposefully seeking to increase worry in the lives of the Lord's children. A few of the interns and I ministered to places of worry people were struggling with at the end of the service and we once again received overwhelming feedback that anxiety is something that people are struggling with and is on the rise. Those who received ministry were extremely grateful!



Old Union Methodist Church — Townsend, DE

Now this place truly took me by surprise! A friend of mine had asked me to lead the Christmas service for the Old Union Church Society that endeavors to preserve this old Methodist church that was built in the 1700s. There was no electric in this building, but every pew was filled with people! This event that was held on Sunday afternoon, December 8th, is their largest fundraising event of the year! Once again, I had spoken on anxiety, but urged the hearers to not limit Jesus to a memory we entertain at Christmas. I exhorted them to make seeking Him their number one goal and to

understand that when we don't choose Him, we choose worry and doubt. So many of the people in attendance told me on their way out that it was the best service they had ever been to at that church! What a compliment! Praise the Lord!

Praise Community Church — York, PA



As is true to form this time of year, I was asked to share any insights I had received from the Lord regarding the ministry of the Spirit for 2020 on Sunday, December 15th. This is one of my favorite things to do, because it brings so much hope to those in attendance. In short, I truly believe this is going to be a year where the Lord overwhelms us with who He is from the inside out. We too often allow what's happening outside of us determine what's happening inside of us. God wants to change that.

Because of a prompting from the Holy Spirit, I also led a service called Overwhelmed at Praise on Friday, December 20th, with the sole intention of ministering to those who have also been battling anxiety. I led those in attendance through a prayer strategy that I felt was from the Lord and ministered individually at the end to those who needed it. Tears ran down the faces of those who were experiencing relief from this weapon of the enemy. Both messages can be found on our YouTube channel: Praise Community Church.

Williamsport Home Group — Williamsport, PA

Armed with various words of knowledge that targeted specific areas of torment in people's lives, I visited my dear friends in Williamsport and spoke to a crowd of roughly 25 people. This meeting was filled with the move of the Spirit. I shared words of knowledge that targeted such things as difficulty sleeping, depression/sadness around the holidays, sudden loss of energy, and a desire to quit smoking. All of the words proved accurate and applied to several of the people in attendance. While ministering to those areas, I also shared what I was hearing from the Lord with each individual person. There were many tears as the Lord ministered both freedom and encouragement.

BECOMING A MONTHLY PARTNER



If you haven't yet already, would you consider becoming a monthly partner with Faith Like Birds? Your partnership allows me to minister freely to whomever and wherever. There are many places that I go that are unable to pay for my services. I never want that to be a hindrance. Your willingness to sow into Faith Like Birds grants me the freedom to minister without the concern of being able to provide for my family. We also honor and thank those of you who have given a one time donation. The fact is that any and all donations have truly contributed to the success and reach of this ministry.

Ways to Give:

- **The Church Center Mobile App** - (download it for free on the App Store) Set up recurring giving or a one-time gift and select the fund "Faith Like Birds."

- **Online** - <https://www.praiseyork.churchcenter.com/giving> - Set up recurring giving or a one-time gift and select the fund "Faith Like Birds."
- **Texting** - Text the dollar amount you'd like to give to 84321, followed by "faith like birds."
- **Mail** - Mail your check or cash to Praise Community Church (705 S. Ogontz St., York, PA 17403). Put "Faith Like Birds" in the memo line.
- **Visit** - www.faithlikebirds.com/give for more.

PRAYER REQUESTS

- Please pray that the Lord gives me creative strategies to make the ministry of Faith Like Birds known. I believe in the ministry God does through me and I'm wanting to encourage and minister to as many people as I can.
- Please pray that the Lord gives me direction and wisdom for the next The Shout event we will be planning in the fall this year. Specifically, please pray that the Lord leads us to a building to use in York. I believe that hosting the event at Praise last year was a stumbling block for some.
- Please pray that God continues to send us monthly partners. I have hopes and dreams for this ministry that will not happen without the continued support of others.
- Please pray that I lead and mentor my teenage interns well.
- Please pray that I'd be faithful in all of my endeavors and a good steward with all that God has entrusted to me — including the finances we are receiving.
- Pray that God continues to open doors to places we've never been.
- Pray that God continues to form His humility and attitude in me. It remains to be my greatest desire!



PROPHETIC WORD FOR 2020

Lastly, for those who have not yet heard or read what I believe the Lord shared with me concerning the activity of God in 2020, I submit that to you now. I pray that as you read it, you'll experience the peace of the Lord and that hope will flood your soul. I pray that it brings confirmation to things you've been sensing as well. Please feel free to share it. May it prove to be true, in Jesus' name. Here it is:

I believe with all of my heart that 2020 marks the year where Jesus becomes the most famous person in church again. For I see that 2020 will be a year where Jesus and Jesus alone will be cherished and where we become utterly fascinated with Him and His message. Indeed, I believe that this year will be marked with insatiable hunger and desire for the Lord and that this year will be the beginning of a genuine Jesus movement.

I believe that there is going to be a return to simply preaching Jesus, for there is nothing that any one person will face in this life where Jesus isn't the answer (**ACTS 8:5-8**). Therefore, I see pastors and preachers and leaders taking the attitude of Paul who said that he determined to know nothing among the church at Corinth but Jesus Christ and Him crucified (**1 CORINTHIANS 2:1-5**). I believe the wisdom and cleverness of man will be replaced by the testimony of God. Cleverness in the church and in the pulpit is going to be replaced by the preaching of Christ, who is the wisdom of God. This will result in the faith of the people resting on the power of God and not the wisdom of man.

I believe that this will be a year of evangelism where those both in and outside of the church will be saved. I believe that the demonstration of the Spirit and the power of God will accompany the preaching of Jesus. Indeed, I believe we will fall in love with Jesus and the Gospel all over again and that our souls will exult in God because of His glorious grace. I believe that the proclamation of Christ will result in people getting healed and delivered and will cause cities to rejoice.

I believe that this will be a year where we become overwhelmed by the Lord. In fact, if there was one word that I believe God is using to describe the year 2020, it'd be just that: **OVERWHELMED**. I believe we will see God overwhelm us from the inside out. When we are overwhelmed internally with the person of Jesus, we can't be overwhelmed externally by the cares and worries of the world. For far too long the people of God have been overwhelmed by life. It's time to be completely consumed, completely overtaken, completely overrun, and completely captivated with Him (**LUKE 10:38-42**).

I believe that we are going to fall so in love with Jesus that we won't be able to take our eyes off of Him. I believe this is the year where Jesus becomes completely and totally real to us again — where we experience Him in new and amazing ways and where it will be reminiscent of when we first encountered Him, for I believe that God is wanting to answer the prayer of Paul found in Ephesians 1:17 when he prayed that, "...the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you a spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of Him." It is indeed the knowledge of God that the Lord wants to increase within us.

I believe that we will see the church become full of life. I believe we will see authentic hearts rising up — hearts that burn for and love God. The return to simply preaching the Gospel will expose the counterfeits to the Gospel. Things like hypocrisy, compromise, pride, and the pursuit of things that don't really matter will be exposed. As a result, I believe we can anticipate individual and corporate repentances. Indeed, I believe we are going to see the house of God be cleansed.

I also perceive that there is going to be a movement that takes place among the young ones and those humble of heart. I believe the true poor in spirit and young people will recognize this move of the Lord and catch fire. As a result, this will also stir up the religious spirit, which will seek to quench the move of the Spirit among students and children (**MATTHEW 21:10-17**).

I see this being a year where we begin to desire His inner disposition more than His outward manifestations. I see the church not just wanting to do the works of Jesus, but also desiring His attitude, His inner life. I see people crying out to have a heart like His. I see the humility of the Lord being treasured and taking its rightful place again within His people. I see the first becoming last and

the last becoming first. I see a sincere desire to put His name in the lights and a deep repentance over the glorification of man and selfish ambitions.

As a result, I see perversions being corrected, attitudes being adjusted, and motivations changing. I see people being more concerned about the inside than they are with the outside. I see people getting their heart in order. I see people being honest with themselves. Because of this, I saw outward changes that were the result of an inward repentance. I saw people getting physically healthier. I saw people losing weight and gaining self-control. I saw their physical appearance change.

I also saw deep seated issues being healed and resolved. I saw deep emotional healings taking place and the uprooting of bad, toxic, and traumatic things.

This is a year where I believe we will consider Jesus more than ever before and where our vision gets corrected and we begin to see clearly once again the more we look upon Him. I believe the more we consider Him, the more fascinated we will become by what moved Him. We will long for His why more than His what. 20/20 vision is the byproduct a life that gazes upon Him.

It's time to fix our eyes on what matters most. The things that need to change are easily corrected and adjusted when we behold Him, not when we try to manage them. Indeed, I believe the Lord is releasing the spirit of Mary to a Martha church. What overwhelmed Mary must overwhelm us. And I believe that we are becoming an unmoved people when it comes to the cares and worries of this world because we'll be moved by the One who is capturing our gaze.