

NEWSLETTER JUNE 2020  
VOLUME 6, ISSUE 2

THEN JESUS SAID, "COME TO ME, ALL YOU WHO ARE WEARY AND BURDENED,  
AND I WILL GIVE YOU REST." – MATTHEW 11:28



**GAIN 24 - June 22-28:** Lord willing, the GAIN servant team will gather on Ocracoke to serve 5 families in ministry. This time of ministry will be unique in so many ways! Ocracoke was devastated by Hurricane Dorian last September. God used this and other circumstances to draw together the Lifesaving Church and Ocracoke UMC to worship and serve side-by-side. We know God has been preparing the atmosphere on the Island. We're excited to support the local church and small businesses on Ocracoke again! AND as we begin to "re-open" our country, pastors are more tired than ever. We believe God will bring great time of refreshing and renewal to all who are involved this summer!

## SUMMER 2020

**Family Camp – August 2-5:** Lord willing, GAIN will provide the opportunity for 10 former GAIN participants to fellowship with their family at Family Camp at Williamsburg Christian Retreat Center. Several members of the GAIN Servant Team will join us in various roles at the camp, including Camp Pastor. This will be a great "reunion" opportunity as well as a wonderful time for families in ministry to be together without being the ones "responsible" for the event.



### REMEMBER TO PRAY - 2020 GAIN EVENTS

*June 22-28 – GAIN 24 – Ocracoke, NC*

*August 2-5 – Family Camp – Williamsburg, VA*

*October 12-18 – GAIN 25 – Corolla, NC*

*Fall – Night of Worship – Clinton, NC*



## PARENTING CONFERENCE

March 6-7: Three GAIN couples met together at Paul Tripp's Parenting Conference in Raleigh, NC. He reminded us all of some really great principles and instructed us in God's grace in ways many of us had not contemplated. It is God's grace when He shows us an area our children are struggling in, and it is our privilege to be used as His instrument to remind our children of their great need for Jesus in their lives.



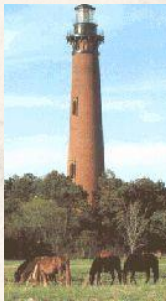
### THE GRACE PLACE APARTMENT

We had no idea how the Lord would use the apartment nor how quickly He would show us a family who could use it. We learned of a small pastoral family who needed transitional housing in mid-March. They moved in at the end of March and will stay through mid-June. They have been so kind in helping work out the kinks and prepare the apartment for other families who will come after them. In July, we hope to be able to offer the apartment again to a person, couple, or family in ministry who need a brief respite and some quality time with the Lord. Thank you to ALL of you who gave at a moment's notice to make it possible for the Burris family to stay in the apartment! We are still looking for some cookware and possibly one more mattress. If you would like to help out with any of those items or you know a person in ministry who could use some time alone with the Lord, let us know! Please keep the Burris family (pictured right), their current church, and their new church in your prayers during this ministry transition.



### GAIN 25

Because of the overwhelming response of applications for this summer's GAIN, our board has approved another retreat in Corolla. *October 12-18, 2020*, the GAIN servant team will gather in Corolla, NC to host 5 additional families in ministry. Families who were waitlisted during the summer as well as a few new families will participate in this retreat.



### GET INVOLVED IN 2020

- Partner with GAIN by donating monthly to the ministry.
- Volunteer on the Servant Team or Prayer Team (year-round opportunities).
- Sponsor a family activity on a GAIN retreat or at Family Camp.
- Recommend someone for the apartment.
- Invite a GAIN speaker to share at your church or group.

### TRAUMATIC RESPITE

A couple of GAIN families contacted us about a family in ministry who has experienced deep trauma in their family affecting several generations and two pastoral families. Since the summer's retreat was already at full capacity with participants, we approached our board to ask about how we could help. After prayer, consideration and talking to a few people, property owners in Corolla donated their rental property at a reduced rate to meet this family's need. Please pray for this time in August, that God will bring healing to these wounded families.



**For more information about any of our activities,**  
contact us at: [gainretreats@gmail.com](mailto:gainretreats@gmail.com)  
(919) 634-5658

### ***To support the ministry:***

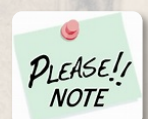
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**Faith Walkers Missions**  
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*Your contribution is tax deductible.*

### ***Mail to:***

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*Clinton, NC 28329*

### ***Give online:***

[www.gainretreats.org](http://www.gainretreats.org)





## Devotional Thought



Brenda and I have served in various forms of ministry over the years, but one of our favorite times was serving as Youth Pastor in the early years while we were young. As a Youth Pastor in the mountains of western NC, we found an activity the youth enjoyed and would bring their friends to. We would hike up Mt. Pisgah on the Blue Ridge Parkway with the group and have our devotions on a platform at the top of the mountain. We did this almost every week either on Saturday night or after church on Sunday night. The kids enjoyed the thrill of making the challenging climb, and God would often move and deal with hearts during the time of devotions and testimonies when we reached the top.

When we were older, serving as Senior Pastor of our first church and our children had come along, we thought it would be fun to take our children on the hike up Mt. Pisgah. It was a beautiful, sunny Saturday afternoon. We brought packs to strap the young ones on our backs and headed up the mountain. It was a challenge, but we made it to the top. When we reached the top, we heard loud booms coming from the other side of the mountain and looked down to see what it was. On the other side of the mountain were dark luminous clouds with lightning and thunder and this bad storm was coming up the mountain toward us. We quickly headed back down the mountain on the sunny side. However, about halfway down, the storm caught us. We ran and screamed as lightning was striking all around us, and we got soaked by the torrential rain that fell. The babies were scared and screaming but we made it back to the van, stripped off our wet clothes and changed into drier clothes to drive back home. It was frightening in the middle of it, but after we were safe, we simply looked at each other and began laughing.

That day I learned a great lesson in perspective. Your attitude is clearly affected by which side of the mountain you choose to look over. As we climbed up the sunny side of the mountain, there was joy and fun and laughter. After we looked over to the stormy side of the mountain, our attitude changed to fear and anxiety.

In these stormy times we are living in, we can be strongly affected by our perspective. If we choose to look at the stormy side of our lives instead of looking at the bright side with thankfulness and gratitude, we will become bitter at the circumstances around us or at the hurt people have brought into our lives. May I suggest a change in perspective if we are tempted to hunker down and hide until this storm passes by. Maybe we should see the dark clouds that seem to hang around us as an opportunity to share the grace and love of Christ. There is no time when the light of Christ's love for us all is more needed than in these dark times of uncertainty. We, as the people of God, are more needed now than ever to help people find hope and a way to keep going. Knowing that these things have an effect on all of us gives us the opportunity to have compassion and empathy for others. We must take the opportunities that God gives us to shine for His Glory.

Ricky Bishop

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I want to partner with GAIN and Faith Walkers Missions to encourage men, women, and families in Christian ministry!

- \_\_\_\_\_ I would like to be on the GAIN Servant Team. (This includes opportunities prior to and during the retreats.)
- \_\_\_\_\_ I wish to give a one-time/monthly gift of \$ \_\_\_\_\_.
- \_\_\_\_\_ I would like to know more about \_\_\_\_\_. Please, contact me.
- \_\_\_\_\_ I am interested in donating time at my vacation home for an individual, couple or family in ministry.
- \_\_\_\_\_ I know someone in ministry who would like a short get-away with the Lord at the Grace Place Apartment. Please contact me.
- \_\_\_\_\_ I would like for someone to share about GAIN with my local fellowship.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

*GAIN is a ministry of Faith Walkers Missions, Inc.  
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