

Newsletter June 2021 Volume 7, Issue 1

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

What God's done...

At the end of 2020 and into 2021, the Lord began speaking, "Be still and know that I am God" (Psalm 46:10a) to our Board. Normally at this time, we would be making plans for the coming year, but the Lord was clear. So 2021 has looked different for GAIN than it has over the past 8 years. In spite of some of our attempts to make plans or work things out, God really meant, "Be still and know that I am God!" This has been a time of remembering Who has called us and Who we belong to...saying "no" to striving and "yes" to resting in the Lord and waiting (expectantly hoping) for God to move in His right time to show us the next steps.

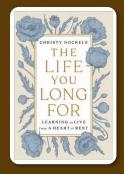
<u>January</u> – a book for Pastors

To encourage our GAIN family, we shared *Dangerous Calling* by Paul Tripp with 20 GAIN pastors in January. This book entreats pastors to stay connected to the Vine and to the Body of Christ.



<u>May</u> – a book for the GAIN Women

At Mother's Day, we wanted to bless the GAIN women with the book *The Life You Long For: Learning to Live from a Heart of Rest* by Christy Nockels. 30 ladies accepted our offer and have been reminding themselves that they are Christ's beloved daughters.





<u>March</u> – Servant Team Retreat – Corolla, NC Members of the Servant Team gathered together in Corolla to serve and minister to one another. Of course, good food and fellowship were a part of our time, but daily worship, prayer, and counsel from the Word of God were a huge encouragement to us all. We were refreshed and reminded that God is still in control of all of our circumstances!



<u>April</u> – Meridzo Center – Lynch, Kentucky

On our vision trip to get acquainted with Meridzo Center, we found a fascinating ministry led by a group of people who are deeply in love with Jesus and who walk in step with the Holy Spirit to minister the Gospel to those around them. We are looking forward to what God might have in store for the future with this ministry. We are hopeful this will be a great location for future GAIN events such as a Family Camp, a Family Mission Trip, or a peaceful time alone with the Lord. Learn more about Meridzo at www.meridzo.org.



What's still to come ...





June & July – Galilee Near the Sea in Beaufort, NC

In June, God connected us with a ministry in Beaufort called Galilee Near the Sea, where they "offer a place of quiet solitude enabling you to hear the things that the world often drowns out and allows you to push the "pause" button, if only for a few days." (www.galileenearthesea.com) We had the privilege of visiting with Tammy, founder of the ministry, and her husband, George, at the retreat house. They shared the vision God laid on her heart, and they gave us a tour of Beaufort and the surrounding area. A few GAIN pastors will spend some quiet moments with the Lord at this location in July.

Women's Summer Fellowship

A longing that we keep hearing in everyone's voices is to fellowship with other believers. This summer, the GAIN women will have the opportunity to meet together and share from the book *The Life You Long For*. We'll meet for three sessions in Clinton.



Sabbatical through the end of 2021

The Lord told us to "be still" and "wait on Him," but we've been investigating new partnerships and sending out resources to people so that when God says, "Go!" we'll be ready to run. That is not how resting and waiting on the Lord works, though! As the Board has continued to pray, we all know it is time for a true rest. At our June board meeting, the Board unanimously voted to put the ministry of GAIN on sabbatical until the end of 2021. We encourage people in ministry to take time to rest in the Lord and be refreshed, and now it is our turn to follow this model. There are a few commitments that we are finishing up, but we will pause for a break beginning in July. We made this decision with full expectation that there will be a rich harvest after the rest.

For more information or to ask questions, contact us at: gainretreats@gmail.com

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PRAY IN 2021 THAT GOD WILL...

- Use this time of sabbatical to refresh and encourage the GAIN Servant Team as we wait on the Lord and soak in the presence of God.
- Renew the vision of the GAIN Leadership Team.
- Provide a rich and bountiful harvest at the end of the sabbatical time.