



The Vanguard

The Vanguard - Fall, 2021

Mission Statement

The church of God must not only send forth missionaries into all the world, but she must, with open arms, assist those who have gone, given sacrificially, and returned after many years of faithful service. This is our mission for which we exist and are wholly dedicated.

We Are the Vanguard!

The dictionary definition of "Vanguard" is: 1. "A group of people leading the way in new developments or ideas." 2. "The foremost part of an advancing army or naval force." In other words, *the first ones in!* The membership of the VGMA certainly fit into that category. Many of our Elder Veterans were literally *the first ones in*.

Other synonyms that come to mind are:

Advance-guard is a detachment of troops sent ahead of a main force to reconnoiter and provide protection.

Forerunners.

Precursors.

Leaders.

Spearhead is one who leads or initiates an activity (such as an attack or a campaign).

Forefront is defined as the thing that is the most important, the position that is first or facing you or the extreme front.

Front-line is a line or position of direct and immediate contact or confrontation as with an enemy, a line or position of furthest progress or advancement.

Cutting-edge is the position of greatest advancement or importance.

The term "Vanguard" originates with the medieval French *avant-garde*, i.e. "the advance guard". The vanguard would lead the line of march and would deploy first on the field of battle, either in front of the other wards or to the right if they stood in line.

As Veteran Missionaries, I think we can all identify with the above-mentioned definitions and synonyms. Many of us arrived in virgin territory and had to figure out a plan of action "on the fly." We didn't have a map or instruction manual outside of the Bible. With the Holy Spirit as our guide, we launched out into the unknown and watched in wonderment as God honored those valiant efforts and *gave the increase*.



We Are the Vanguard *(Continued)*

I think we all, as a corporate body, can deeply appreciate the prayers and support we received from the “folks back home.” No vanguard can survive or succeed without a good supply-line of materials and encouragement. Historically, the United Pentecostal Church International has certainly risen to the task and we will be forever grateful.

In so many ways, Global Missions UPCI, continues to provide emotional and financial support to our honored Veterans. We tip our hats to the great leadership of the past, and present, for their benevolent efforts in recognizing the contribution and immeasurable value that the vanguard has provided.

Now the “vanguard” has become the “rearguard.” The “rearguard” is of no lesser importance. It is so encouraging to know that we are still in the fight! Different roles—but still vitally important.

Veterans, be encouraged today,! Victory is now nearer than ever before. There is a grand contingent of fellow Veterans that have already been promoted and are cheering us on! We have fought a good fight and soon, very soon, we will obtain that crown of righteousness that the Lord has prepared for us!



Remember When?





2021 “Business Meeting” Election Results

The VGMA wishes to express a world of gratitude to outgoing Chairman Bro. Dorsey Burk and his beloved late wife, Bev, for their many years of faithful and diligent service as a part of the VGMA Executive Committee. Bro. Burk has served with distinction in all three Executive positions at one time or another!

Bro. Jerry Burns was selected to serve for the next 3 years as VGMA Chairman, having previously served in this position from 2006 to 2009.

VGMA Executive Committee

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Garry Tracy
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Visit us at
www.vgmaupci.com

We are in the process of redesigning our VGMA Website. The new site will be interactive in nature, will allow for online giving and will be formatted to better fit the new wide-screen monitor format. Watch for it!



Special Appeal

Our Association Membership is growing, resulting in an increase of expenses. We urgently need to increase our PIM support base. If you are a Pastor, could you please add the VGMA to your PIM list? If you, as an individual, are looking for additional opportunities to support the cause of Global Missions, please consider supporting our Veteran Missionaries.

You may do so by contacting Andrea Sanders in Global Missions at (636) 229-7915.

Welcome to our Newest Members!

**Scott and Nicole Carpenter
Nathan and Halley Hulsman
Steve and Yvonne Nix
Dennis and Stephanie Moore
Patrick and Sandy Miller
Terry and Cheryl Riddick
Amy Sawyer
Howard and Vonda Smith**



The VGMA extends their sincerest and heartfelt condolences to the Families of the following Members who have been recently promoted to their Heavenly Home:

*Donald Bryant
Dennis E. Burgess
Bobby Carpenter
Gabriel Cruz
Paul Dennis
John Stuart Lassetter
Sydney Perdue
Cole Price
Freida Richardson
Evangeline Rodenbush
Brenda Russell
Ruth Leah Smith*

