



# RENEWAL MINISTRIES

Proclaiming Jesus through Catholic Renewal and Evangelization

Celebrating  
**35**  
YEARS  
of God's  
Faithfulness

## *Faithful Friends,*



### **A letter from Ralph Martin, July 2015**

In the last issue, we commemorated Renewal Ministries' 35th anniversary. I hope you were inspired by it. We were. We find it absolutely amazing all that the Lord has done through the "yesses" of so many people over the last 35 years. Thank you for your part in it all.

We celebrated the anniversary at the annual Renewal Ministries Gathering. For the first time, we reached the 300-person capacity and had to close registration two weeks before it happened! We will include highlights in an upcoming issue.

Recently, Bishop Lesanu Christos Matheos Semahun from Ethiopia came to visit us. He was just named the Bishop of a new diocese which happens to be where the Orthodox Church claims to have custody of the Ark of the Covenant. (It's a long story and hard to verify since no one is allowed to see the Ark except its Guardian for Life.) You remember the Queen of Sheba who visited Solomon and marveled at his wisdom? And then the Ethiopian eunuch in the Acts of the Apostles who was baptized by the Deacon Philip? They're all part of a long history of a very ancient Christian Church in Ethiopia.

Lloyd and Nancy Greenhaw, along with Fr. Scott McCaig, CC, Moderator of the Companions of the Cross — and a member of our Canadian Board — just returned from a very fruitful trip to Bishop Semahun's diocese (see p. 6). Also part of the mission team were Joseph and Serah Alumansi from Uganda. They will be called upon to help form the Bishop's catechists.

The Bishop was baptized in the Spirit as a young man and is very keen on his people having a more profound encounter with Christ and being awakened to both primary (directed towards people who haven't heard the Gospel) and new (directed towards baptized Catholics not living as disciples of Christ) evangelization. I introduced the Bishop to several representatives of Sacred Heart Major Seminary where I teach. In addition, I was also able to put him in touch with EWTN to discuss the possibility of an Ethiopian program to be distributed over the EWTN African satellite.



Bishop Lesanu Christos Matheos Semahun, Diocese of Bahir Dar - Dessie, Ethiopia stopped to visit Renewal Ministries' offices. Pictured above are left to right (back): Gary Seromik, Jack Lynch, (front) Kathleen Kittle, Sr. Ann Shields, SGL, Bishop Semahun, Laura Gurta, and Ralph Martin.

My booklet *The Final Confrontation* seems to have struck a chord. We are getting orders for multiple copies from all over: 20 copies to Baltimore, Maryland; 15 copies to Barclay, Maryland; 40 copies to Ft. Worth, Texas; 5 copies to Cody, Wyoming; 10 copies to Jacksonville, Illinois; 20 copies to Ypsilanti, Michigan; 25 copies to Derwood, Maryland; 14 copies to Ellicott City, Maryland; (What's going on in Maryland??) 20 copies to Leawood, Kansas; 10 copies to Flower Mound, Texas; 20 copies to Botsford, Connecticut and it goes on and on!! Not only for this booklet but many others as well.

*continued on pg 2*

#### *Inside this Issue*

Called to Be Instruments  
of the Holy Spirit  
Page 4

Mission to Ethiopia  
Page 6

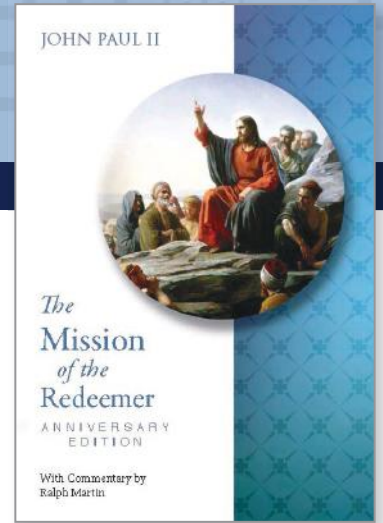
On the Road  
Page 8

On another note, David Came, a friend from the “early days” recently retired from his job as editor of *Marian Helper* magazine. The magazine which is focused on the Divine Mercy devotion is headquartered in Stockbridge, Massachusetts. His farewell issue included a great story about him and his amazing family, who were doing “New Evangelization” before it was even named. They have given us permission to excerpt part of this article (see p. 3) that I think you’ll find quite inspiring.

Thanks for all your support for the work of renewal and evangelization!

*Ralph Martin*

Ralph Martin



Ralph Martin wrote a commentary on Pope St. John Paul II’s *Mission of the Redeemer (Redemptoris Missio)*. It will be available in September from the Daughters of St. Paul. Pictured above is the cover.



Peter Herbeck was a plenary speaker at the fourth annual Benedictine College Symposium on Advancing the New Evangelization: Influential Joy. Additional speakers included Fr. David Meconi, SJ, Assistant Professor of Early Christianity at St. Louis University, (left) and Fr. Stuart W. Sweiland, STD, President of Donnelly College and Editor of *Homiletic and Pastoral Renewal*. While at Benedictine, Peter was presented with the Pope John Paul the Great, Distinguished Speaker Series Award.

Ralph gave a study day for priests and deacons of the Diocese of Cornwall, Ontario.

## Please Pray...

- ☩ That the personal encounter with Jesus may arouse in many young people the desire to offer their own lives in priesthood or consecrated life.
- ☩ That the Holy Spirit will animate the work of all who proclaim the Gospel, especially in the poorest countries.
- ☩ For the prayer intentions of all our supporters and their family members, especially as they face the challenges of illness and economic uncertainty.

# This month on *The* CHOICES *We* face



July 7 & 9 **Special guest Msgr. Charles Pope**

*Bringing New Life to Your Parish*

July 14 & 16 **Special guest Dr. John Wood**

*Everyday Saints*

July 21 & 23 **Special guest Eric Mahl**

*Taking Mercy to the Streets*

July 28 & 30 **Ralph Martin and Peter Herbeck**

*Clotherd in Power*

*The Choices We Face* is distributed by national and local cable networks, independent broadcast stations and international satellites. To find out when the program airs in your area, please visit [RenewalMinistries.net/TV](http://RenewalMinistries.net/TV).

## *New Evangelization Before it Became Known*



David Came, a longtime friend of Renewal Ministries recently retired from the position of editor of *Marian Helper* magazine.

Raised in Reno, Nevada, David Came did not have an ordinary childhood. His mother, Nancy, incorporated four of her five children into her homespun Catholic Charismatic Renewal ministry. She founded prayer groups and led retreats with David's brother Chad. In earlier years, she would also lead the family after dinner every evening in praying the Rosary.

As a member of the Legion of Mary in her local parish, Nancy would go door-to-door with a couple of her children in tow, inviting fallen-away Catholics to come back to Mass. Doors were slammed in their faces. When the family got involved in the renewal, Nancy's family and her prayer group would sing at the airports and bus stations and even outside the casinos in downtown Reno. She and Chad would lead the singing with their guitars. Named the Parable Players, Nancy's group soon began to perform plays, sing, and witness at orphanages, nursing homes, and prisons.

Nancy's audacity and perseverance – modeled on the steadfast risk-takers of the early Church – nearly led to an early martyrdom for David's sister, Katie.

During a performance of the Parable Players on April 19, 1981, at the Nevada Maximum Security Prison for Men in Carson City, two inmates pulled out knives, with one of them holding Katie at knifepoint. Nancy persuaded the inmates to release Katie and take her instead. She then managed, after a standoff of several hours, to emerge unscathed, with the two inmates claiming they had experienced conversions through the witness of the group.

Though gentler in approach, David was indelibly marked with an unflinching eagerness to dedicated his life in the service of God's Kingdom.

*Reprinted with permission from the Marian Fathers of the Immaculate Conception of the B.V.M.*



# Called to be Instruments of the Holy Spirit

Editor's note: the following is an excerpt from a homily given by Detroit Archbishop Allen H. Vigneron to more than 160 priests and 800 members of the faithful gathered for the Chrism Mass on Holy Thursday, April 2, 2015.

"Heal our wounds, our strength renew; on our dryness, pour your dew. Melt the frozen, warm the chill." Sequence from Pentecost

Being dry, being frozen, being chill — that seems to me to be a condition which is very particular to our time. Has there ever been a time like ours when a people who once heard the Gospel, living in a culture that had over time been shaped according to the principles of the Gospel, has so willingly become asleep about the Gospel, and shed the Gospel, and become indifferent to the Gospel? Are we not frozen, chill, and dry? Are we not bored with Christ? Is that not the condition that the Holy Spirit needs to heal in our time?

Have we not come to a time when, sad as it is, hearts no longer seem to be restless, but rather more drugged, befuddled? Are we not at a time when there's a loss of confidence that there is out there, somewhere, some good worth striving for?

I think Cardinal Ratzinger was speaking about this at the beginning of the millennium. He said: The deepest poverty is the inability of joy, the tediousness of a life considered absurd and contradictory. This poverty is widespread today... The inability of joy presupposes and produces the inability to love, produces jealousy, avarice — all the defects that devastate the life of individuals and of the world."

As I, as a pastor, consider the challenges of today, I look and see so many who are resigned in order to be destitute of what is good and noble, because our age claims to have discovered that anything that presents itself as worth the warmth of one's heart is mere trumpery — an illusion concocted in order to manipulate, often with a view to gaining power or money. Don't we live in an age when so many are dry, chill and frozen because every claim

seems to be merely an advertisement, and we know what advertisements are about.

... [This] attitude of heart that the ancients call *acedia* — the noonday devil. The sort of weariness that saps the vitality out of life. The kind of thing that's very typical of people who are past their prime. About this condition Dorothy Sayers writes: "This is the sin which believes in nothing, cares for nothing, seeks to know nothing, interferes with nothing, enjoys nothing, loves nothing, hates nothing, finds purpose in nothing, lives for nothing, and only remains alive because there is nothing it would die for." We have known it far too well for many years. Incessant activity, she says, this desire to always be connected which is typical of our time, she observes — these are all disguises for an empty heart and an empty brain and the empty soul of *acedia*.

I do believe in my heart as a priest that this condition is the great wound which we must call upon the Holy Spirit to heal today. This kind of weariness that saps life of its vitality. Imagine if you would a retelling of the parable of the merchant who searches for a fine pearl. And in our day, might that parable be about a merchant who doesn't care anymore? Who goes from market to market, never even able to recognize the pearl of great price? And to this condition there has to be a response. God does not want it to be this way. This is of great evil — a great affliction that so many should be bored with Jesus Christ. And we must then, the Church and especially we pastors, we must — as Pope Francis says — give people back the joy of the Gospel. We have to help them rediscover the joy that comes from knowing that they are loved by God, and that they can reciprocate that love to God, and that God wants it back.

We have to teach our age to ask from God, to expect everything from God, even God himself. Somebody has to teach the 21st century in the United States to believe again that each of us is made for some purpose beyond oneself.

Someone has to teach our age about Jesus. And that then is the strategy of the Holy Spirit — to lead in the re-proposing of Jesus Christ. To



bring those whom Christ loves face-to-face with Him. Because it is out of that face that His love shines. It is the work of the Holy Spirit to present Jesus as His most attractive. Jesus healing our wounds. Jesus forgiving our sins. Jesus standing with us in our trial. It is the work of the Holy Spirit to make Christ present in the power of His Love. To touch us with His anointing externally in the sacraments. To touch us in the anointing of our hearts and minds through His internal action.

This is the case for all of us. For you and me who are already fully initiated sacramentally in to the Church. It is the work of the Holy Spirit to stir into an ardent flame whatever ember might be banked up and suffocated by our own difficulties and our own trials, our own acedia. It is the work of the Holy Spirit to do this for us who seem to be all-in and all-committed. It is the work of the Holy Spirit to do this for those who are lax and languid in their life of faith. People we see at Christmas and Easter and funerals. It is the work then finally of the Holy Spirit to do this to make Christ present, to anoint them, to help them know Christ, even for those who have never yet heard of Him.

We are all called then to be instruments of the Holy Spirit. It is only the Holy Spirit who can make Jesus present. But we, each of us, can do our part. That's what the New Evangelization is about. To assist the Holy Spirit in making supple once again minds that have become brittle and dry because they are — falsely, but they are nonetheless — resigned to a meaningless existence. We're called to be instruments of the Holy Spirit because only He can melt frozen hearts, hearts that are frozen in lovelessness. And it is our great vocation to assist the Holy Spirit in warming spirits that have become so chilled...that acting in order to lay hold of what is truly good seems just too impossible. What is the New Evangelization? It is about dedicating ourselves totally to assist the Holy Spirit in making present Jesus Christ in His compelling love. ✚

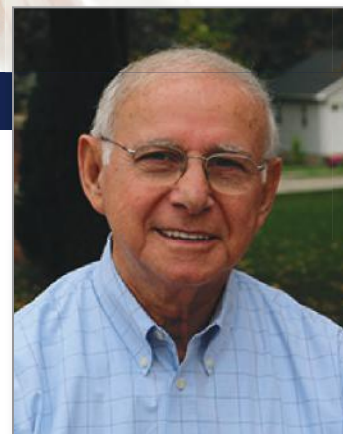


## *The Spirit is Moving in Rhode Island*

**By Don Turbitt, Country Coordinator**

Fr. Frank Santilli, pastor of St. Philip's parish in Greenville, Rhode Island led a seven-week course entitled Living the Gifts of the Holy Spirit. The diocesan director of Religious Education invited all of the directors of religious education in the Providence Diocese. In addition, Fr. Frank invited all parishioners and the Men of Saint Joseph International. More than 200 people signed up! They were all prayed with to receive the Baptism of the Holy Spirit!

This one seminar has the potential to profoundly impact the children and young adults of this diocese for years to come. So much of the news concerning the Church is about decreasing numbers. But this seminar should give us hope for the future of the Church and God's people.





# Mission to Ethiopia



Our team was privileged to attend the establishment of a new diocese of Bahir Dar – Dessie and the installation of the new bishop, Eparch Lesanu Christos Matheos Semahun (gold vestments).

THE CHURCH IN ETHIOPIA is persecuted by the Orthodox, Pentecostals, and the Muslims. As recently as 25 years ago there was only one Protestant church in Bahir Dar– Dessie and now there are 19; there was one mosque and now there are 42! In addition, Ethiopia has been targeted by Islam as the last big country standing between them and Sub-Saharan Africa so evangelization is crucial.

This mission included work in two different dioceses: Addis Ababa and Bahir Dar – Dessie. We addressed a variety of groups: priests religious, lay leaders, and university students. We were honored to attend the installation of the bishop in Bahir Dar – Dessie. Our team included, Joseph and Serah Alumansi from Uganda and Fr. Scott McCaig, CC who is Moderator for the Companions of the Cross. Because of delayed flights, we missed the meeting of the Plenary Association of Bishops of Ethiopia. Fortunately, Fr. Scott very ably spoke on behalf of Renewal Ministries.

## Addis Ababa

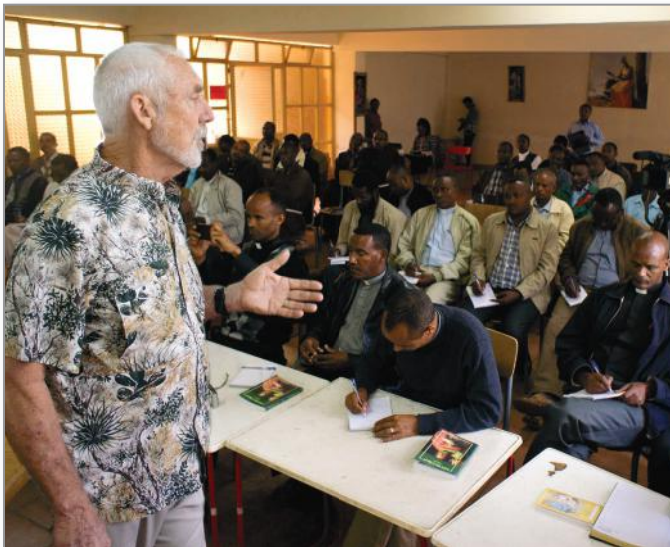
The day we arrived in Addis Ababa, we spoke at the annual meeting of the Our Lady of Ethiopia Catholic Priests Association. Getting to the meeting was difficult. The entire downtown area was blocked off because more than a million people had come to protest the beheading of 30 Ethiopian Christians (one was a Muslim) by ISIS.

Fr. Scott spoke about the four key aspects of the New Evangelization: witness, proclamation, discipleship, and mission. He also emphasized the importance of being baptized in the Holy Spirit. He said we are like the apostles. Although they were with Jesus for three years witnessing His miracles, signs and wonders, they were not changed. After Jesus died and rose they hid in fear and then went back to their previous occupations. “Simon Peter said to them, ‘I am going fishing.’ They said to him, ‘We will go with you.’ They went out and got into the boat” (Jn 21:3).

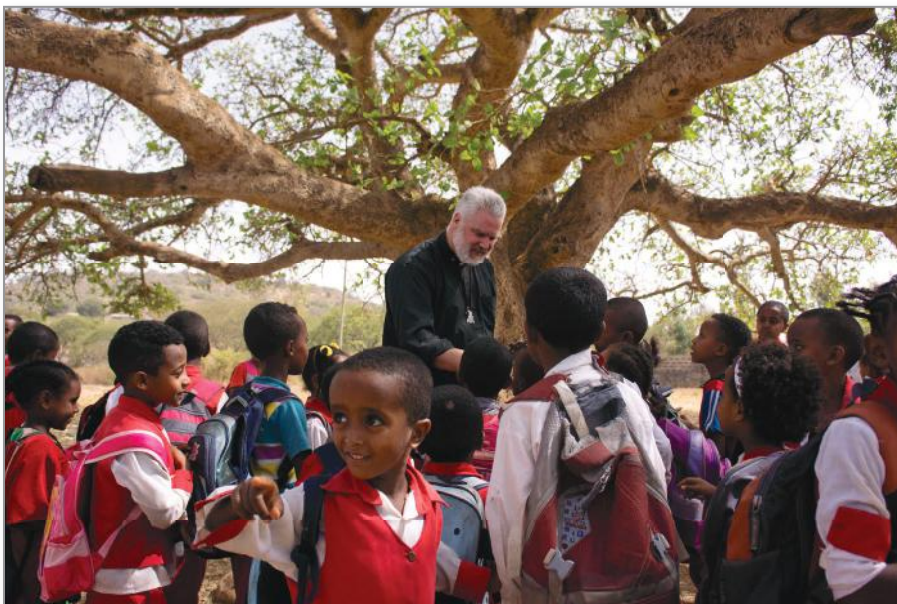
Fr. Scott then described the effects of Baptism of the Holy Spirit: 1) a new relationship with Jesus, 2) new abilities and new power to overcome the power of sin and temptations, and 3) new charisms. He also presented the Five Keys of the *Unbound* model of healing and deliverance.

In Ethiopia, many Catholics are leaving the Church to join Pentecostal groups so the Bishop asked Lloyd to give a presentation on knowing and defending the Catholic faith. His presentation had the priests shouting “amen” and “alleluia.” Many came up to ask when he could come teach in their parishes. Joseph and Serah finished the day with a talk on the Charismatic Renewal and the positive effects it has had on the Church in Uganda.

Our next assignment was speaking to about 75 lay leaders and religious sisters. Fr. Scott spoke on the New Evangelization and Marian apologetics. Lloyd spoke on apologetics. Joseph and Serah fleshed out exactly how the New Evangelization works in their lives. I spoke on the mercy of God through the life of St. Therese of Lisieux.



Lloyd spoke at the annual meeting of priests in the Addis Ababa diocese. His topic was defending the Catholic faith.



Fr. Scott McCaig, CC was a big hit with the beautiful Ethiopian children.



## Bahir Dar – Dessie

Next, we flew to the new diocese of Bahir Dar – Dessie. For five years the government has refused the Catholic Church the right to build a cathedral here. Although this new diocese has a school, it has no church and no bishop's residence.

Our first assignment here was teaching university students from both Addis Ababa and Bahir Dar – Dessie. The program was held at Blessed Gabre Michael Catholic School. Bishop Semahun insisted on doing the translation himself. He loves the kids and the kids love him. And he obviously enjoyed being with us.

We spoke on apologetics, provided an overview of the Five Keys of *Unbound*, led them in reciting the Miracle Prayer to accept Jesus as their Lord, and finished with a time of renunciation. The students were a bit shy but interested and excited. Once they understood the process, there was much in their lives that they wanted to renounce! Joseph and Serah then talked about Baptism in the Spirit and led the students in a prayer asking for a fresh anointing of the Spirit.

Sunday was a big day for the town, the local Church in the Ethiopian Rite and the Church universal. A new diocese (Eparchy) was established and a new charismatic bishop was installed: Eparch (Bishop) Lesanu Christos Matheos Semahun. The Ethiopian rite Mass started at 8:30 a.m. and lasted until noon. We recognized the offertory and communion, but not much else.

Joining the celebration were a people known as the Gumuz from Ambaraon on the border of Sudan and Ethiopia. They were a “no people,” slaves for centuries. Recently, they were evangelized by the Comboni Fathers. The Gumuz have now come out of slavery and are beginning to join the rest of society. They came by bus and are so grateful to be Catholic and to have a new bishop. About 70 were baptized by the new bishop the following weekend!

We returned to Addis Ababa where we spoke with the Charismatics. Lloyd began with an overview of the Charismatic Renewal and explained the key role the Renewal plays in the New Evangelization. He also spoke on defending the faith. I spoke on mercy and releasing God's power with the Five Keys. Fr. Scott spoke about the New Evangelization. Joe and Serah spoke on obedience and how the Renewal grew and prospered in Uganda. ✠



### The Team:

Joseph & Serah Alumansi,  
Uganda

Lloyd & Nancy Greenhaw,  
United States

Fr. Scott McCaig, CC,  
Canada



University students with the Renewal Ministries team, Cardinal Souraphiel and the bishops from the dioceses of Addis Ababa and Bahir Dar – Dessie.

# On the Road

“ You cannot please both God and the world at the same time. They are utterly opposed to each other in their thoughts, their desires, and their actions. ”

— St. John Vianney

## July 2015 ENGAGEMENTS

**Ann Arbor, MI**  
**i.d.9:16 Disciples' Night**  
July 2  
Join us via livestream: [id916.com/live](http://id916.com/live)  
Contact: [pete@id916.com](mailto:pete@id916.com)

**Philadelphia, PA**  
**National Cursillo Convention**  
July 23-24  
Ralph Martin  
Contact: [Hoangtran888@gmail.com](mailto:Hoangtran888@gmail.com)

**Peoria, IL**  
**Annual Catholic Charismatic Conference**  
July 24-25  
Ralph Martin, Sr. Ann Shields, SGL  
Contact: Angela Ham at 309-210-2067 or [ajjam76@gmail.com](mailto:ajjam76@gmail.com)

## August 2015 ENGAGEMENTS

**Dublin, Ireland**  
**Intercession for Priests Retreat\***  
August 3-7  
Ralph Martin

**Jackson, MI**  
**Pine Hills Girls' Camp**  
August 9-15  
Debbie Herbeck and staff  
Contact: [dherbs24@gmail.com](mailto:dherbs24@gmail.com)

\* Not open to the public  
For a complete listing visit  
[RenewalMinistries.net/Events](http://RenewalMinistries.net/Events)

**Waterford, Ireland**  
**Catholic Charismatic Conference**  
August 7-9  
Ralph Martin  
Contact: [sbgrant@live.com](mailto:sbgrant@live.com)

**Knock, Ireland**  
**Our Lady of Knock Shrine**  
**Day of Prayer for Priests**  
August 10  
Ralph Martin

**Detroit, MI**  
**Sacred Heart Major Seminary Conference**  
August 10-12  
Ralph Martin, Peter Herbeck

**Tucson, AZ**  
**International Priests Retreat\***  
August 26-30  
Sr. Ann Shields, SGL

## MISSIONS

<b>Uganda</b>	June 26-July 10
<b>Romania</b>	June 30-July 5
<b>Cameroon</b>	June 22-July 5
<b>Tanzania</b>	July 7-23
<b>Slovenia/Latvia</b>	July 8-20
<b>Ukraine</b>	July 18-20
<b>Ghana</b>	July 19-25
<b>Romania</b>	July 28-Aug 2
<b>Turkmenistan</b>	July-August

For more information about missions contact:  
Kathleen at 734-662-1730 ext. 132  
or [kkittle@renewalministries.net](mailto:kkittle@renewalministries.net)

## Renewal Ministries

*In the United States*

### Episcopal Advisor

Archbishop Robert J. Carlson, St. Louis, MO

### Chairman of the Board

Deacon Dan Foley

### President

Ralph Martin

*In Canada*

### Episcopal Advisor

Cardinal Thomas Collins, Toronto, ON

### Chairman of the Board

Msgr. Gregory Smith, Vancouver, BC

*Renewal Ministries is a Catholic ministry committed to renewal and evangelization in the Church. It seeks to proclaim Jesus Christ through its TV and radio outreaches, as well as through books, conferences, retreats and other international evangelistic events.*

### Editor

Rose Wingfield

### Design

Cynthia Rutherford

© 2015 by Renewal Ministries

[www.renewalministries.net](http://www.renewalministries.net)

P.O. Box 1426 Ann Arbor, MI 48106 phone 734-662-1730

*In Canada* P.O. Box 400 Station U Toronto, ON M8Z 5Y8 phone 416-251-4255