



## THIS WEEK IN AG HISTORY

BY RUTHIE EDGERLY OBERG

Otto J. Klink (1888-1955), a German-born American Pentecostal evangelist, traveled the United States in the 1930s and 1940s, preaching salvation through Jesus Christ and warning his listeners about the dangers of socialism, atheism, and modernism.

Born in Hersfeld, Germany, he was educated in Berlin. In 1905, 17-year-old Klink attended a Holiness tent meeting where he claimed God's promise of salvation and felt called to the ministry.

While attending the University of Berlin, he came to believe that salvation was achieved by good character and social action. Ultimately, he embraced atheism.

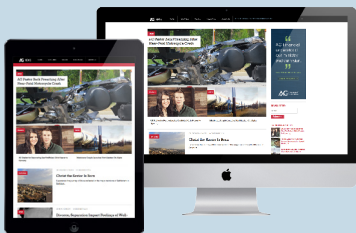
He secured a position in the office of Kaiser Wilhelm II. But just three

months before World War I broke out, he sailed to the United States. In 1917 he married a Pentecostal girl, Ida Ball. Her prayers were answered when Klink came back to Christ and, in 1921, received the baptism in the Holy Spirit. He received ministerial credentials with the Assemblies of God in 1923.

Klink wrote several booklets, including, *Why I Am Not An Atheist*, and *Why I Am Not A Modernist*. He was known as a speaker who combined fire with level headedness.

Read Klink's article, "The Language of the Blood of Christ," on page 1 of the July 18, 1931, issue of the *Pentecostal Evangel* online at [s2.ag.org/july181931](http://s2.ag.org/july181931).

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SUNDAY, JULY 21, 2019

# AG NEWS

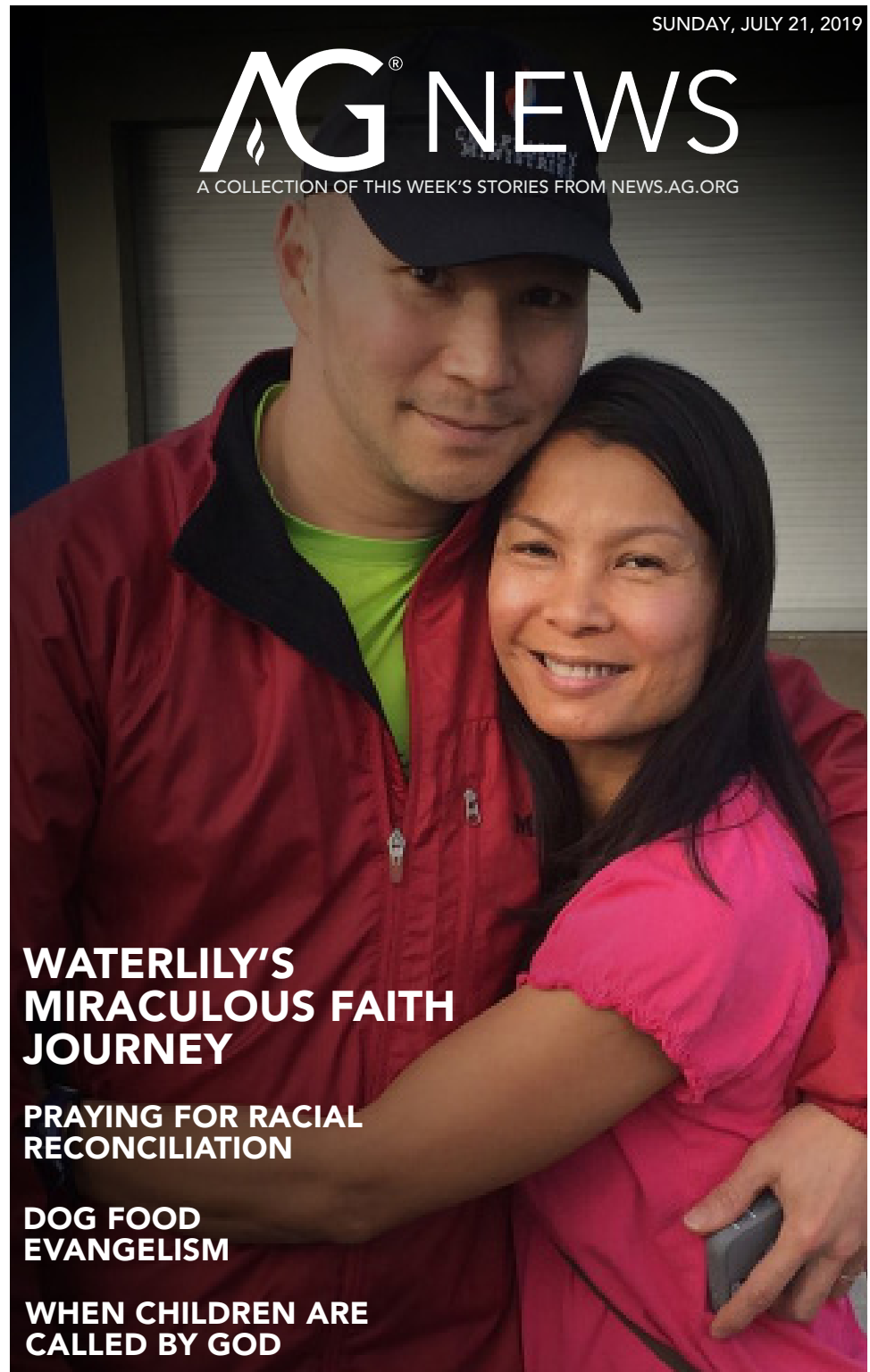
A COLLECTION OF THIS WEEK'S STORIES FROM [NEWS.AG.ORG](http://news.ag.org)

## WATERLILY'S MIRACULOUS FAITH JOURNEY

PRAYING FOR RACIAL  
RECONCILIATION

DOG FOOD  
EVANGELISM

WHEN CHILDREN ARE  
CALLED BY GOD





## WATERLILY'S MIRACULOUS FAITH JOURNEY

BY JOHN W. KENNEDY

Waterlily Tung is a petite, confident, and well-spoken woman whose broad smile and expressive voice hide a childhood of pain. She grew up in Cu Xa and Cam Ranh Bay, site of a U.S. Army-Air Force base during the Vietnam War. After Communists took over in 1975, her parents determined that their daughter needed to flee the country to have a better future. In 1980, they allowed their 11-year-old girl to escape, with Waterlily's aunt and grandmother.

After hefty payoffs and months of waiting, a smuggler agreed to transport Waterlily safely out of the country. Along with 29 other people, Waterlily scrunched in the cramped hold of a fishing boat. But en route to Malaysia, the craft was stopped by a pirate boat from Thailand. Knife-wielding marauders confiscated jewelry and gold passengers had carried on as their only valued goods.

The next day, four more menacing

pirate ships simultaneously commandeered the fishing vessel. Although she had lived through war as a child, Waterlily had never seen such violence perpetuated against other people. And she never had experienced such unbelievable brutality at close range.

Pirates shot the captain and began pushing crewmen from the fishing boat into the water. A bandit, while laughing, began stabbing a crewman two feet in front of Waterlily, splattering blood over her. A few feet away, Waterlily heard — and saw — women being raped.

As the melee continued, Waterlily sat motionless, expecting to be the next torture or assault victim. But by the end of the siege, neither Waterlily, her aunt, nor her grandmother had been touched.

"This forever changed my life," Waterlily says. "God used that experience to establish my faith in Him. I

## HISPANIC PATRIARCH MIRANDA DIES

BY JOHN W. KENNEDY

Hispanic Pentecostal pioneer Jesse Miranda Jr., a bridge builder among various ethnic, generational, denominational, and political entities, died July 12 at the age of 82.

With his irenic personality, Miranda was widely regarded as the driving force behind uniting disparate U.S. Hispanic evangelicals on issues such as theological education, social ethics, and racial reconciliation.

In late June, Miranda interrupted a family vacation in New Mexico because of a sudden decline in health. Hospital tests back home in California revealed he had inoperable B-cell lymphoma originating in his liver. Miranda's oncologist stated chemotherapy would be ineffective because of the location of the aggressive cancer. As a result of the medical diagnosis, Miranda went home under hospice care.

Miranda served as an AG executive presbyter for 22 years, ending in 2017. He became the first Hispanic

nonresident to the top rule-making body of the Fellowship.

He became the founding president of the Alianza de Ministerios Evangelicos Nacionales, a multidenominational networking organization of Protestant ministry leaders. He also served as executive director of the National Hispanic Christian Leadership Conference, the nation's largest Christian Hispanic organization.

Dennis J. Rivera, director of the Office of Hispanic Relations at the AG national office in Springfield, Missouri, notes that Miranda was a trailblazer in multiple ministry and leadership arenas.

"Jesse Miranda will always be known as a visionary whose greatest joy was to pass the baton and mentor a new generation of Hispanic AG leadership," Rivera says. "Jesse has lived to see so many of his dreams come to pass in the lives of his spiritual sons and daughters."

### THE ABCs OF SALVATION

**ACCEPT** that you are a sinner, and God's punishment for your sin is death and separation from God forever.

**BELIEVE** that Jesus paid God's price for your sin when He died on the cross.

**CONFESS** "Jesus, I believe You are who the Bible and history declares You are — the Son of God. I humble myself and surrender to You. Forgive me. Make me spiritually whole. Change my life. Amen."



## DOG FOOD EVANGELISM

BY JOEL KILPATRICK

When Emmanuel L. Hernandez prepared to relaunch an AG church in Wasco, in partnership with nearby Canyon Hills AG in Bakersfield, he knew compassion outreach would be part of the California church's DNA. CityServe, a major compassion ministry supported by the SoCal Network, launched simultaneously, and the new Canyon Hills Wasco became one of its early points of distribution.

Hernandez didn't know how effective the initiative would be to bless not only people, but their pets. The CityServe warehouse in Bakersfield contained a great quantity of surplus 50-pound bags of dog food.

"Nobody wanted the dog food; they wanted the nice stuff — furniture, sofas," Hernandez says. So he divided the pooch food into smaller bags and took them along as he evangelized door to door. As he offered to pray with people, he also handed out dog food.

That act of kindness and generosity made people more receptive to

spiritual matters. Residents inquired what church he came from and some started attending.

Fernando A. Segura, pastor of Canyon Hills Wasco, says the dog food gesture has proven to be an effective ministry device.

"It sounds strange, but it opens huge doors for us to speak to people about the gospel, and they show up to church," says Segura.

Many homeless people have dogs with them. So the church packs the dog food into smaller bags and gives it away along with food for humans.

"It's unorthodox, but you see the appreciation on their faces," Segura says. "For a person on the streets, it means the world to them to feed their animal."

In two years, the church has given away thousands of pounds of kibble, along with many other items, including heaters and air mattresses to help families whose kids have been sleeping on the floor.

## WHEN CHILDREN ARE CALLED BY GOD

BY DAN VAN VEEN

It's summertime and kids are swarming AG church camps throughout the U.S. Even though it is a week filled with fun, it is also a week where kids are in a "Jesus-saturated" environment, are able to focus on God, and seek to hear from Him.

"It's not surprising for kids to come home from a church camp or retreat with a call upon their lives," says Mark Entzminger, AG Children's Ministries director.

The question many children, parents, and even children's pastors are left with is, "Now what?"

To assist children in better understanding the call of God on their lives and what the next steps may be, AG Children's Ministries and My Healthy Church have partnered to create a booklet titled, *Now What? for Kids Called by God*.

The 32-page *Called by God* booklet covers five key and common questions kids often have about God's call, including: What is God's Call?, How Can I Know What God is Calling Me to Do?, How Do I Get Ready for God's Call?, What if I am Called to Missions?, and Where Can I Start?

"The truth is," Entzminger says, "if a child is old enough to accept Christ as his or her personal Savior, a child is old enough to hear from God."

The booklet is a sister booklet to two other *Now What?* booklets on salvation and the baptism in the Holy Spirit.

## POWER OF MISSIONS INVOLVEMENT

BY RENÉE GRIFFITH

To the Ends of the Earth, this year's AGWM theme based on Acts 1:8, can give rise to self-reflection for stateside churches on their role as Jesus' witnesses. But what does it look like to be a sending individual or church? Mark Lehmann, lead pastor of Cornerstone Church in Bowie, Maryland, a nationally ranked church in missions giving, says it looks like giving by faith.

Lehman recalls a miracle surrounding constructing their current building.

"We faced incredible resistance from our local city council. We prayed, and we felt that we should invest in missions as a sign that we were trusting God for the breakthrough because we understand that the mission of the Church is missions."

The next week, a congregation member wrote a check to replace the entire amount and the city council reversed its vote, 7-0, in favor of the building going forward.

"God is faithful as we reach out with His heart to the world," says Lehmann. "He has enabled us to give about one-third of all money that comes into our church to missions."

Over the past decade, Cornerstone Church has been a part of 27 missions trips and currently supports more than 290 missionaries.

Lehmann adds, "I want to encourage every pastor and every church to see the joy and share in the greatest mandate the church has ever been given."





## ROUGH INNER-CITY ASSIGNMENT

BY GINGER KOLBABA

Monica DeLaurentis's life flipped upside down when, at the age of 12, her father died of cancer. She turned to drugs, and for the next 15 years she lived on the streets of Chicago, spending upward of \$500 a day to feed her cocaine and heroin addictions.

By 1986, at the age of 27, DeLaurentis tried to take her own life. Hospitalized after her suicide attempt, a chaplain gave DeLaurentis a Bible. Inside the cover she saw that the chaplain had written the name and phone number of a Christian recovery program. She enrolled, though she still felt controlled by her desire to do drugs. Nine months later, she broke before God. Her craving for drugs disappeared, she got clean, and felt God's call on her life.

In 1988, she entered North Central University, where she met her husband, Chris. In 1993, by then both ordained, the couple opened their apartment to minister to drug-addicted homeless

people.

"I didn't care who came — prostitutes, drug addicts, gang members," she says. "If we didn't go to them, how else were they going to hear about Jesus?" Initially, 35 people showed up.

But as the DeLaurentises ministered, more and more arrived, until more than 100 people crammed into their apartment. Eventually they bought an abandoned building and founded Inner City Christian Ministries Life Center.

In addition to weekly church services, ICCM also offers street, prison, and shelter ministries, support and addiction recovery groups, food assistance, life skills training, and discipleship programs. Today, Monica DeLaurentis, who serves as a U.S. missionary, preaches to 400 to 500 people in ICCM's weekly worship services and the center serves almost 1,000 every week.

didn't even know God at the time."

In the meantime, an emotionally exhausted Waterlily had only the clothes on her back, no prospect of food, and shark-infested waters surrounding her. Thirty grains of rice and a lemon discovered in the hole where the engine had been removed were divided 26 ways for those still surviving on board.

For four days, Waterlily waited to die, blistered by the hot sun during the day and chilled by cold winds at night.

Waterlily finally arrived in Thailand, and she stayed in refugee camps behind barbed wire fences for nearly a year.

In 1980, she reached the U.S., with her Buddhist aunt and grandmother as guardians. She made a commitment to Christ in college. In 1998, Waterlily

married Brian Tung, who enrolled at Assemblies of God Theological Seminary in 2003. After graduation, Brian became an AG chaplain. His deployments have included Iraq and Kuwait. For the past two years, Brian has been at Fort Jackson, South Carolina, where he molds the spiritual and character development of incoming chaplains.

Waterlily, 48, home-schooled their two boys, Daniel, now 20, and Elijah, 19, through high school and is still teaching daughter, Shekinah, 15.

"Where God is taking us is not always my first choice of ministry, but I accept His calling," Waterlily says. "God has brought me on an adventurous journey of trust — and surrender — to Him."

## PRAYING FOR RACIAL RECONCILIATION

BY KEN WALKER

When middle school science teacher Stacey N. Williams signed up to go on Life Church's June 14 trip to the Mason-Dixon Line, she had no idea the outing would prove to be life changing.

"It was powerful and history making," says the 47-year-old Williams, whose multiple roles at the Williamstown, New Jersey, church include serving on the intercessory prayer team.

The prayer and praise service at the site was an outgrowth of the church's 4-year-old Life House of Prayer initiative, with 23 members making the trek.

Near the end of the service, lead pastor Jamie P. Morgan, 55, anointed the marker with oil before praying for

racial reconciliation in the nation.

Morgan announced the Mason-Dixon trip this spring to her multiracial congregation of about 180.

The names of the two surveyors came to represent the nation's division over slavery, and the line took on powerful symbolism.

"We prayed at the Mason Dixon Line because it represents division between North and South, and freedom and slavery," says Morgan, a member of the AG Prayer Committee. "We wanted to repent for national and individual sin, slavery, and prejudice, and pray for racial unity in our nation and the Church."

Morgan has served all 12 of her years as a senior pastor at Life Church.