



July 8-12, 2024
Indianapolis, IN

GA Today

GENERAL ASSEMBLY TODAY



TUESDAY | JULY 9, 2024

Tuesday Events

Registration – ICC Main Lobby

Tuesday, July 9 – 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Wednesday, July 10 – 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Thursday, July 11 – 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Friday, July 12 – 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

International General Council – Halls H-J

8:00 a.m. – 8:30 a.m. — Priority Prayer

8:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.; 1:30 – 4:30 p.m.

International Junior Talent—Bible Teaching, Preaching, and Testimony

Time: 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Location: ICC – Room 101

International Junior Talent – Bible Quizzing

Time: 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Location: ICC – Rooms 105-106

International Junior Talent—Music

Time: 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Location: ICC – 500 Ballroom

365 Kids Club—Passport to Adventure

Time: 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Location: ICC – Room 116-117

International Junior Talent – Art/Creative Writing Check-in and Gallery

Time: 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Location: ICC – 500 Reception Room

Delmarva–D.C. State Council Luncheon

Time: 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Location: ICC – Room 133

365 Kids Club—Passport to Adventure

Time: 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Location: ICC – Room 116-117

Next Gen Gathering (For ages 18–39-year-old leaders)

Time: 5:30 p.m.

Location: ICC – Room 107-108

Children's Church (Ages 3–6 Potty Trained)

Time: 6:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.

Location: ICC – Room 142

Kid's Church (Ages 7–12)

Time: 6:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.

Location: ICC – Rooms 143-145

A Harvest NOW Agenda

By Art Rhodes

Indianapolis, IN—The 2024 General Assembly has as its theme, “Harvest NOW,” a continuation of the FINISH Commitment emphasis started under the direction of outgoing General Overseer Timothy M. Hill. He will call the International General Council session to order Tuesday morning with Communion and prayer being the first order of business.

Once instructions are provided to the Council delegates and the appropriate committees are appointed, the body of ordained bishops will move immediately into the nomination of International Executive Committee members. Due to term limitations, the positions of general overseer, first assistant general overseer, and third assistant general overseer will be vacant and open for nominations by

the General Council. Although the positions of second assistant general overseer and secretary general are not open, nominations for those two positions may be necessary if the current incumbents are nominated for other positions. The director and assistant director positions at World Missions are similarly situated, because the incumbents have time remaining in their current positions, but they are eligible to serve in other elected positions. Should either of those incumbents be nominated to another position, their current position will then be open for nomination.

In addition, the General Council will nominate candidates to fill the positions of director and assistant director of Youth and

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LEAD Conference Highlights Opening Events

By David White



Pastor Stephen Chandler addresses the LEAD audience.

California pastor Deena Querry loves her country. That's why, on the 4th of July, she celebrated her nation's birth at a patriotic show with military flyovers, classic cars, and hot dogs.

At the same time, she said, it's time to do more than remember what happened at our nation's birth in 1776. This is the hour we must restore the nation to its Christian roots, setting the tone for the pre-Assembly LEAD Conference in the Indiana Convention Center.

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General Council Set to Reconsider Evangelism Priorities

By James Cossey

The first director of Evangelism and Home Missions for the Church of God, Bishop Walter R. Pettit, was appointed by General Overseer Wade H. Horton and the International Executive Committee in 1963, although there had been a General Evangelism and Home Missions Board since 1956. When a clarion call to prioritize evangelism in the church was presented to the 50th General

Assembly in Dallas in August 1964, it was determined that a movement-wide effort to fulfill the Great Commission would best be served by an elected director whose duties were defined by, and who was directly answerable to the General Assembly. Subsequently, Pettit was elected to fill that position, tenure limitations were designated, and individual states or regions began to designate state

or regional evangelism directors and boards. Sixteen years later, as the ministry of evangelism expanded, an elected assistant director was added at the 58th General Assembly, also held in Dallas. It is notable that, with this renewed emphasis on evangelism, from 1964 to 1980, U.S.A. and Canadian membership more than doubled, and by the mid-nineties, had quadrupled.

The original Evangelism and Home Missions Department served as an umbrella and a conduit to the state offices and local

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Prayer Opportunities Throughout the Week



Continuing a long-standing and beloved tradition—on-going prayer for the General Assembly—will take place all week, starting with “Priority Prayer” at 8:00 a.m. on Tuesday, July 9 just prior to the official opening of GA24. Priority Prayer will take place each succeeding day through Friday.

Following the opening time with the General Council each morning, focus will move to intercessory prayer held every day in rooms 137–139 across from the main hall entrance. Prayer will begin every day at 8:30 after Priority Prayer with a lunch break at noon.

Beginning at 2:00 p.m., prayer will be “taken to the streets,” walking just a couple blocks to the Indiana State Capitol for prayer on the lawn in the afternoons (Tuesday through Friday). Each day’s activities will

conclude with preworship prayer from 5:00–6:00 p.m. back in the Intercessory Prayer Room, breaking for dinner until joining worship in the evenings.

According to Arnie Clemm, who will be leading Assembly prayer activities, prayer points will be posted in the room along with the relevant topics being discussed by the International General Council that day.

“We look to provide the prayer foundation, so critical to the decisions being made by the International General Council,” Clemm stated. “Additionally, we will pray for our leadership who will be leading the meetings, which begin on Tuesday morning. We already know Tuesday will have nominations for the Executive Committee, followed by nominations for Church department ministries and then the election of the Council of Eighteen.”

Clemm’s leadership of the Assembly prayer activities continues the pre-Assembly prayer called by Indiana State Overseer Barry Clardy and led by the Indiana region since early this year. The participants have been praying at the Indiana Convention Center the last Thursday of each month since February. The final pre-Assembly prayer was held on June 27. ♦

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GA Today

GENERAL ASSEMBLY TODAY

General Assembly Today is produced in the interest of delegates to the 79th Church of God International General Assembly. It is published daily, Monday through Friday, July 8–July 12, 2024.

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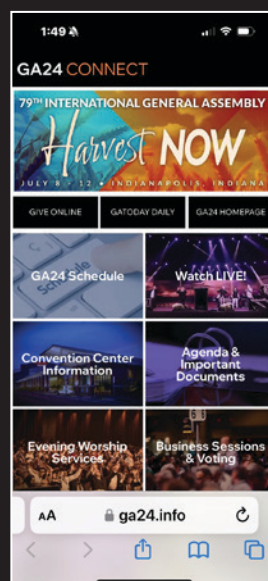
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Comments or inquiries about General Assembly Today are welcomed and can be emailed to the editor, Cameron Fisher, cfisher@churchofgod.org.



GA24CONNECT: One Stop Shop



If you haven’t discovered it already, there is a virtual location for everything a delegate needs when it comes to the 79th International General Assembly: *GA24Connect*.

This app is designed specifically for GA24 and available by scanning the QR code on the delegate and ordained bishop’s manual, and on the back of every delegate badge. It is also on signs in strategic locations of the Convention Center, as well as below.

The online site is designed to be mobile-friendly, so everyone has instant access to the latest information. The menu includes the schedule, convention center information, official agenda, instructions on voting procedures, registration details, exhibit hall vendor listing, children’s activities, the latest news (including issues of *GA Today*), and much more. Forgot your offering? There is even an option for giving online.

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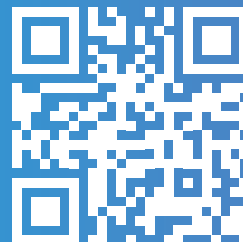


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General Council Set to . . . —continued from page 1

churches for ministry emphases, including pulpit evangelism, personal soulwinning, conferences for active evangelists, church planting, church growth, jail and prison ministries, Native American ministries, multicultural ministries, lay leadership development, and more. From the 1960s until the department was realigned in 2012, an important discussion point in many state/regional minister's meetings was the adoption and application of unified efforts toward evangelism, outreach, and ministry multiplication that were developed and disseminated by this department.

In 2008, the General Assembly implemented a revision of the tithe system, which affected the percentages coming from local churches to the State and International Offices. This necessitated a total reallocation of funds to enable leadership to wisely steward the resources provided. Since it was generally hoped that all departments were doing the work of evangelism, the decision was made in 2010 and implemented in 2012 to transition from having a Department of Evangelism and Home Missions with elected leadership, to the Ministry of USA Missions. This revised entity (USA Missions) was, and is, administered by appointed leaders who, unlike the previous elected leaders, were appointed by, and responsible directly to the International Executive Committee.

In 2012, this writer had the distinct privilege of being the first person appointed by the

Executive Committee to serve as Administrative Coordinator of USA Missions. I served under the supervision of the Third Assistant General Overseer who was the liaison to the Division of World Evangelization. One year later the title was changed to Executive Administrator of USA Missions. In this role, I served under the Executive Committee liaison seeking to carry out some of the many tasks that were previously assigned to an elected director of Evangelism and Home Missions. The challenge was that, with the downturn in the national economy and the realignment of funds, USA Missions operated with a bare-bones budget. Furthermore, this office was filled by executive appointment, not by General Assembly election, and thus had little to no recognition on the field. Although the designation, *USA Missions*, continued as an item in the General Assembly *Minutes* (S11. MINISTRY OF USA MISSIONS), it was generally believed that the *Evangelism* Department no longer existed. At the 76th General Assembly in Orlando in 2016, I transitioned to Special Projects coordinator (from which I retired in 2018), and the Executive Committee created the office of director of USA Missions. That position continues to this day as an appointed position.

The General Assembly is the highest authoritative body in the Church of God, and the General Council sets the agenda for the Assembly. As an agenda item for this 79th General Assembly, the Executive Council has tasked the General Council with again deliberating how we should prioritize the ministries of evangelism in the Church of God.

Some of the questions before us are:

1. What should be the role of evangelism in the Church of God denominationally, and what should it look like going forward?
2. Has our financial position as a denomination improved sufficiently for us to adequately fund and transition the current ministry of USA Missions back to a Department of Evangelism that would provide impetus, training, and programming for evangelism at both the general and state levels?
3. Should we prioritize evangelism in each individual state/region by the appointment of state/regional Evangelism directors either as paid, part-time, or volunteer positions?
4. Perhaps the most important question is this: Should the person or persons leading such an international department be appointed by and answerable to the International Executive Committee, or should they be elected by and directly responsible to the International General Assembly?

Since the 24th General Assembly in 1929, the International General Council (first called the *Bishop's Council*, then the *Ordained Minister's Council*) has deliberated Church of God polity and practice, drafting recommendations to be presented to the General Assembly Business Session. Of paramount importance, there have always been questions regarding where we place our priorities, who will those persons be who will lead us, and how will they be chosen. May the Holy Spirit lead us as we once again consider these questions. ♦

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A Harvest NOW Agenda

—continued from page 1

Discipleship. All leaders nominated to these positions will be presented to the International General Assembly on Friday afternoon for confirmation. The General Assembly will have the final say, not only on the election of international leaders, but also on the final passage of all agenda items.

Council of Eighteen members, however, are nominated and elected solely by the International General Council and are not subject to election by the General Assembly. When the Council of Eighteen elections are completed, most likely on Wednesday morning, the General Council will move to the heart of the *Harvest NOW* Agenda.

Unlike in previous years where a host of items were rolled over or mandated to be addressed by previous Assemblies, the agenda at the 2024 General Assembly contains all new items. To provide a definitive position on important biblical and social issues facing the church, this year's agenda includes eight "statements" on different topics. These statements of the church's position, if adopted, will be included in a new section of the Church of God *Minutes*, providing concise and definitive direction to ministers and members of the Church of God. Spread throughout the agenda, the General Council will consider statements on racism, biblical sexuality, doctrinal fidelity, biblical worldview, the priesthood of all believers, as well as on other relevant Biblical and social issues.

The agenda includes a discussion of the creation of a Ministry of Evangelism Department within the church's structure, both on the international and on the state/regional levels. If adopted, these provisions would provide for the election of an international director and assistant director who would lead the Ministry of Evangelism (see article this issue for more details).

The agenda will then lead the General Council into a discussion of adding ordained female ministers to ecclesiastical trial boards when the state overseer "deems such to be prudent and appropriate."

To ensure that ministers are committed to and support the church's Declaration of Faith, a separate motion would require that ministers affirm their belief in the Declaration of Faith at least once every two years. Another provision encourages ministers to digitally report, while a later motion would create a Center for Leadership Development to provide training and lifelong learning for both ministers and laity alike. Three separate motions are included in the agenda dealing with social media, with one addressed toward members and two directed toward ministers.

A measure is being proposed that would make sacraments of the church available to "other Christian believers." The motion would allow born-again believers under the age of 16 and/or believers who may attend regularly but are not currently members of the Church of God to participate in Communion and footwashing.

Previous notice has been given concerning the possibility of five Bylaw changes during this General Assembly. Four of the changes concern the election of the director and assistant director of Evangelism. The final Bylaw change deals with the requirement in the *Minutes* that previous notice on Bylaw issues must be published in two issues of the Church of God *Evangel*.

The formal agenda will conclude with a series of appreciation resolutions read and voted on as the final step in completing all items. Once the agenda is complete, the General Council will turn its attention to any motions or resolutions filed during the course of the meeting. All "new" business will be taken up and addressed, if time permits,

through the conclusion of the General Council session on Friday morning.

While only ordained bishops are allowed to participate in the General Council sessions, any registered delegate is allowed to attend the sessions and listen to the debate. On Friday afternoon during the General Assembly session that begins at 1:30 p.m., all registered delegates 16 years of age and older are allowed to attend, address issues raised, and vote. Participation in conducting the important business of the church is encouraged. ♦

—Art Rhodes is president and CEO of the Church of God Benefits Board and serves on the General Assembly Cabinet.

GA24...It's for Kids, Too!



The upcoming generation of the Church of God will be well represented this week as hundreds of children will be participating in Junior Talent beginning Monday, July 8. After months of preparation at the state level, young people will be gathered across the Indiana Convention Center competing in music, drama, multimedia, creative writing, and Bible. Scan the QR code on page 2 for complete details, locations, and times. Or you can consult the Monday edition of General Assembly TODAY. Headquarters for Junior Talent is in and around the 500 Ballroom in the Convention Center.

Other opportunities available this week include the 365 Kid's Club, a fun-filled interactive walk-through experience, highlighting the five regions of Church of God World Missions. It is open Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 9:00 – 11:00 a.m. and Wednesday from 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. Kids, don't miss this exciting "passport to adventure" located in rooms 116-117.

Finally, during the evening services Tuesday through Friday, children age 3-6 are invited to Children's church, while Kid's Church is designed for ages 7-12, both taking place in Rooms 142-145 of the convention center. Parents are encouraged to bring their children by 6:30 p.m. for a time of biblically based entertainment and learning and pick them up immediately following the service or no later than 9:30 p.m.

The Church of God General Assembly...it's for kids, too!



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LEAD Conference Highlights Opening Events —continued from page 1

"I'm sad to say we've come a long ways from where our nation began," Pastor Querry said. "I love celebrating who we are but we must go back to restoring the foundation from which we started. We trust in so many things: government, schools, economy. But, to restore the foundations, our trust must be in God!"



*Pastor Deena Querry exhorts
LEAD delegates.*

It's a theme that permeated throughout the LEAD Conference—a one-day training seminar for pastors and lay leaders on the eve of the 79th International General Assembly. "Restore the Foundation: Nation, Family, and Biblical Truths" was more than a theme on a PowerPoint slide; it was a clarion call to the church to remember and restore its Christian foundation in our nation, our home, and our hearts.

Querry focused on turning our nation back to Christ. Jason Stidham challenged leaders to put greater value on our content—Jesus Christ—than the cosmetics of lights and style.

Dave Martin and Sam Chand used humor and experience to make the same point: Realizing what has been placed inside of you is often something to be shared with others.

In all, each session pointed the Church of God to the lost and broken in a world that is in desperate need of a Savior.

"Don't take your information on the 'state of the church' from the media," Pastor Stephen Chandler said. "They do not know what God is doing in the earth. The fields are ripe for harvest!" ♦



Dr. Sam Chand has been a popular LEAD speaker for years.



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Agenda: Cosecha AHORA

Por Art Rhodes

Indianápolis, IN—La Asamblea General de 2024 tiene como tema “Cosecha ahora”, una continuación del énfasis en el Compromiso FINAL iniciado bajo la dirección del Dr. Timothy M. Hill, el supervisor general saliente. El Dr. Hill abrirá la sesión del Concilio General Internacional el martes por la mañana con la Santa Cena y oración como primer punto del orden del día.

Una vez que se proporcionen las instrucciones a los delegados del Concilio y se nombren los comités apropiados, el cuerpo de obispos ordenados procederá inmediatamente a la nominación de los miembros del Comité Ejecutivo Internacional. Debido al límite de términos, los cargos de supervisor general, primer asistente al supervisor general y tercer asistente al supervisor general estarán vacantes y abiertos a nominaciones por parte del Concilio General. Aunque los puestos de segundo asistente al supervisor general y el de secretario general no están vacantes, las nominaciones para esos dos cargos pueden ser necesarias si los titulares actuales son nominados para otros puestos. Los cargos de director y director asistente de Misiones Mundiales se encuentran en una situación similar, porque a los titulares les queda tiempo en sus puestos actuales, pero pueden ser elegidos para servir en otros cargos. En caso de que alguno de ellos sea nominado para otro cargo, su cargo actual estará abierto a nominaciones.

Además, el Concilio General nominará candidatos para ocupar los cargos de director y director asistente de Juventud y Discipulado. Todos los líderes nominados para estos cargos serán presentados a la Asamblea General Internacional el viernes por la tarde para su confirmación. La Asamblea General tendrá la última palabra, no sólo sobre la elección de los líderes internacionales, sino también sobre la aprobación final de todos los puntos en la agenda.

Sin embargo, los miembros del Concilio de los Dieciocho son nominados y elegidos únicamente por el Concilio General Internacional y no están sujetos a elección por la Asamblea General. Cuando las elecciones del Concilio de los Dieciocho se realicen, probablemente el miércoles por la mañana, el Concilio General procederá al corazón de la Agenda de Cosecha AHORA.

A diferencia de años anteriores, todos los puntos en la agenda de la Asamblea General de 2024 son nuevos. Para proporcionar una posición definitiva sobre importantes temas bíblicos y sociales que enfrenta la iglesia, la agenda de este año incluye ocho “declaraciones” sobre diferentes temas y si se adoptan, se incluirán en una nueva sección de las Minutas de la Iglesia de Dios, proporcionando una dirección concisa y definitiva a los ministros y miembros de la Iglesia de Dios. A lo largo de la agenda, el Concilio General considerará declaraciones sobre el racismo, la sexualidad bíblica, la fidelidad doctrinal, la visión bíblica del mundo, el sacerdocio de todos los creyentes, así como sobre otros temas bíblicos y sociales relevantes.

La agenda incluye discutir el tema sobre la creación del Departamento del Ministerio de Evangelización dentro de la estructura de la iglesia, tanto a nivel internacional como estatal/regional. Si se adoptan, estas disposiciones prevén la elección de un director internacional y un director asistente que dirigirán el Ministerio de Evangelización (para más detalles, véase el artículo de este número).

Luego, el siguiente punto de la agenda a discusión por el Concilio General será la adición de ministras ordenadas en comités de juicio eclesiástico cuando el supervisor estatal/regional “lo considere prudente y apropiado”.

Para garantizar que los ministros estén comprometidos y apoyen la Declaración de Fe de la Iglesia, otra moción exigirá que los ministros

afirmen su creencia en la Declaración de Fe al menos una vez cada dos años. Otra disposición anima a los ministros a reportar sus informes mensuales digitalmente, mientras que una moción posterior creará un Instituto para el Desarrollo del Liderazgo para brindar capacitación y aprendizaje permanente tanto para los ministros como para los laicos. En la agenda también incluyen tres mociones distintas relacionadas con las redes sociales, una dirigida a los miembros y dos dirigidas a los ministros.

Se propone una medida que pondría los sacramentos de la iglesia a la disposición de “otros creyentes cristianos”. La moción permitiría que los creyentes nacidos de nuevo menores de 16 años y/o los creyentes que pueden asistir regularmente, pero que actualmente no son miembros de la Iglesia de Dios, participen en la Santa Cena y el Lavatorio de Pies.

Se ha notificado previamente la posibilidad de que se produzcan cinco cambios en los Reglamentos de la Iglesia de Dios durante esta Asamblea General. Cuatro de los cambios tienen que ver con la elección del director y el director asistente de Evangelización. La última modificación en los Reglamentos tiene que ver con el requisito en las *Minutas* de que el aviso previo sobre asuntos de los Reglamentos debe publicarse en dos ediciones de la revista *El Evangelio*.

La agenda oficial concluirá con una serie de resoluciones de agradecimientos que se leerán y votarán como paso final para completar todos los puntos. Una vez completada la agenda, el Concilio General se ocupará de las mociones o resoluciones que se presenten en el transcurso de la reunión. Todos los asuntos “nuevos” se examinarán y tratarán, si el tiempo lo permite, hasta la conclusión de la sesión del Concilio General el viernes por la mañana.

Si bien sólo los obispos ordenados pueden participar en las sesiones del Concilio General, cualquier delegado registrado puede asistir a las sesiones y escuchar el debate. El viernes por la tarde, durante la sesión de la Asamblea General, que comienza a la 1:30 p. m., todos los delegados registrados mayores de 16 años pueden asistir, abordar los temas planteados y votar. Se anima la participación en la conducción de los importantes asuntos de la iglesia. ♦



Distinguished Educator Award Winners Named

By Cameron Fisher

This Wednesday, the Church of God Division of Education will hold the International Educators Luncheon in the Wabash Ballroom. The event is a time to celebrate education around the world and present awards to notable educators.

The Division of Education will be presenting the following awards at the luncheon:



• **Dr. Yattenciy Bonilla**, Vice President of South American Seminary (SEMISUD), will receive the Distinguished Educator Award for Faculty. Dr. Bonilla holds a Ph.D. in Biblical Sciences, is an ordained bishop of the Church of God, and an expert in ancient and biblical languages. He is the author of several books, some of which are used as textbooks for courses in seminaries and universities. He has published more than 100 academic and general reading articles.



Dr. Bonilla is also part of the founding team of SEMISUD. He is also part of the faculty of the Theological University of the Caribbean and frequently teaches courses at various seminaries and universities. Dr. Bonilla's most recent project is lead translator on a translation of the New Testament from Greek to Spanish. The *Contemporary Translation of the Bible* affirms the goal of bringing the Word of God to everyone with clear, simple language that easily connects with current reality.

• **Dr. Debbie Murray**, Provost and Chief Academic Officer at Lee University, will receive the Distinguished Educator Award for Leadership. She holds the Ed.D. in Curriculum and Instruction, a Master of Science in Special Education from the University of Tennessee at Knoxville, and an undergraduate degree from Lee College in Mathematics Education. Dr. Murray served as founding dean of the Helen DeVos College of Education, director of Graduate Studies in Education, director of the Teacher Education Program, and chair of the Department of Teaching and Learning.

Murray holds the rank of distinguished professor, one of only three Lee professors to hold the rank at the time it was bestowed in 2011. She has been recognized for excellence in advising, Distinguished Educator Award, and

Alumna of the Year by the Lee Department of Natural Sciences and Mathematics. Dr. Murray has served as president of the Tennessee Association for Independent Colleges of Teacher Education, and chair of the Chief Academic Officers Council for the Appalachian College Association.



• **Dr. Oliver McMahan**, who passed away earlier this year, was chosen posthumously to receive a Lifetime Achievement Award. At the time of his passing, Dr. McMahan was serving as Professor of Clinical Mental Health Counseling, Vice President for Institutional Effectiveness and Accreditation, and Professor of Benevolence at the Pentecostal Theological Seminary. During his career, Dr. McMahan held the positions of associate professor of Bible, dean of Students, and pastor of the Total Life Center at Northwest Bible College in Minot, North Dakota; dean and professor at the Jimmy Swaggart Seminary and Bible College; member of the Executive Council of the Church of God from 1994–1996, 2006–2010, and 2012–2016; and member of the General Board of Education 1992–2000. He was chair for seven years of the Association of Theological Schools (ATS) Committee on Race and Ethnicity (CORE). He also served more than 25 years as a pastor, associate, and evangelist. ♦

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Church Awards and Recognitions (State/region, church, pastor)

Category 1 – 50 in Membership

Winner North Georgia/Freedom Daniel Henderson
Runner-Up Virginia/Deerfield Merle Dodson

Category 51 – 100 in Membership

Winner South Carolina/Huggin Oak Edgar Nelson Foster II
Runner-Up Florida – Tampa/Loxahatchee-Agape Temple John Marks

Category 101 – 200 in Membership

Winner E. North Carolina/Smithfield Jerry Waters
Runner-Up Florida – Tampa/Ocoee Graham Chancey

Category 201 – 300 in Membership

Winner Pennsylvania/Greencastle Floyd Myers
Runner-Up Texas/Harvest Philip Samuel

Category 301 – 400 in Membership

Winner Tennessee/Bristol-Grace Point Brandon Smith
Runner-Up Florida-Tampa/Restoration John Morgan

Category 401 – 500 in Membership

Winner Florida-Tampa/Williston Wes Smith
Runner-Up W. North Carolina/Landmark Philip Pearson

Category 501 – 750 in Membership

Winner Florida-Tampa/Gulf Coast Joshua Couch
Runner-Up Florida-Tampa/Gainesville Edward “Chris” Chrisopolus

Category 751 – 1000 in Membership

Winner W. North Carolina/Kannapolis Greg Sloop
Runner-Up Tennessee/South Cleveland Edwin Lipsey

Category 1001 – 1,500 in Membership

Winner DelMarVA/Christian Life Hugh Bair
Runner-Up Alabama/Life Church Huntsville Kevin McGlamery

Category 1,501 – 2,500 in Membership

Winner Tennessee/Restoration International Outreach Christi Prater
Runner-Up South Carolina/Fort Mill Jacob King

Category 2,501 – UP in Membership

Winner South Carolina/Praise Cathedral Jerry Madden
Runner-Up W. North Carolina/Charlotte-Central H. Loran Livingston

STATE AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

Category C

Winner Rocky Mountain Region David B. Smith
Runner-Up Hawaii J. Rob Taylor

Category B

Winner Northern New England Donald Michael White
Runner-Up North Central Region Mark Steven Cary

Category A

Winner Alaska Jeffery McGirt
Runner-Up New Jersey Raymond Burch, Jr.

Category AA

Winner Missouri Michael John Stigile
Runner-Up Illinois David Lee Kemp

Category AAA

Winner Pennsylvania Rick Whitter
Runner-Up California/Nevada Sean O’Neal

Category 4 Star

Winner W. North Carolina Kip A. Box
Runner-Up Texas Charles Fischer

Category 5 Star

Winner Tennessee T. Wayne Dority
Runner-Up South Carolina Bruce Rabon

Category 6 Star

Winner Florida – Tampa Timothy E. Brown
Runner-Up North Georgia Thomas A. Madden

LARGEST CATEGORY AWARDS

Largest Church Contribution

Winner Praise Cathedral Jerry Madden
Runner-Up Charlotte-Central H. Loran Livingston

Largest Group Contribution

Winner Tennessee T. Wayne Dority
Runner-Up W. North Carolina Kip A. Box

Largest Per Capita-Church

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Runner-Up North Georgia/Freedom Daniel Henderson



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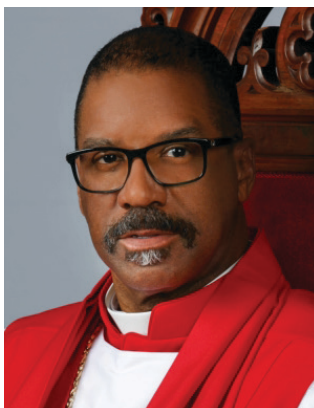
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Special Orders Feature Sister Denominational Leaders

By Cameron Fisher

Following an opening keynote message from General Overseer Tim Hill on Tuesday morning, July 9, Special Orders of the Day for the General Council begin Wednesday morning and will be highlighted by top leaders of sister denominations of the Pentecostal persuasion.

Kicking off the series on Wednesday morning will be Bishop J. Drew Sheard, Presiding Bishop and Chief Apostle of the Church of God in Christ, Inc., one of the largest African American Pentecostal denominations in the United States with 12,000 churches in more than 112 countries. Bishop Sheard has more than 30 years of leadership in the COGIC, including pastor, a member of the Presidium (General Board), superintendent of the Emmanuel District, president of the International Youth Department; and chairman of the



Bishop J. Drew Sheard
(Wednesday a.m.)



Bishop Tim Coalter
(Thursday a.m.)



Dr. Alton Garrison
(Friday a.m.)

AIM Convention.

On Thursday morning, the General Council will hear from Bishop Tim Coalter, Presiding Bishop of the Church of God of Prophecy since 2022. He provides inspirational leadership to the COGOP general presbyters, national bishops, and members in 135 nations of the world. Previously, Coalter served more than 1,700 local churches as North America general presbyter from 2014 to 2022. Bishop Coalter served 28 years in pastoral ministry and six years as the state bishop of South Carolina.

Wrapping up the Special Orders series on Friday morning will be Dr. Alton Garrison

who previously served as assistant general superintendent of the Assemblies of God, the world's largest Pentecostal denomination with more than 86 million members worldwide. Garrison also served as the executive director of the Division of Church Ministries and Discipleship for the AG, giving oversight to departments serving children, youth, and adults. He is director of the Church Transformation Initiative which helps churches renew their spiritual vitality and reach their full kingdom potential.

All registered delegates are invited and encouraged to hear the powerful messages from these distinguished leaders. ♦

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