



EMPOWERED
July 27-31, 2026 • Orlando, Florida

GATODAY

GENERAL ASSEMBLY TODAY



WEDNESDAY | JULY 29, 2026

Wednesday Events

International Women's Ministries Service

Time: 9:00 a.m.
Location: Valencia Ballroom

International Teen Talent – Art/Creative Writing Check-in & Gallery

Time: 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Location: OCCC 414C

International Teen Talent – Bible Quizzing

Time: 8:00 a.m. – 8:30 p.m.
Location: OCCC 414AB

International Teen Talent – Bible Teaching/Multi-Media

Time: 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Location: OCCC 414D

International Teen Talent – Drama

Time: 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
Location: Valencia Ballroom A

International Teen Talent – Music

Time: 8:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Location: Chapin Theatre

Distinguished International Educator's Luncheon

Time: 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Location: OCCC 311

Buy A Tree, Change A Life Luncheon

Time: 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 PM
Location: OCCC 209ABC

World Missions Board of Directors Meeting

Time: 12:00 – 1:30 p.m.
Location: OCCC 314A

Canada CoG Office Luncheon

Time: 12:00 – 2:00 p.m.
Location: OCCC 307

African Descent Ministries Luncheon

Time: 12:00 – 2:30 p.m.
Location: OCCC Hyatt Regency

Credentialed Women's Gathering

Time: 3:00p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Location: Valencia Ballroom

World Missions Kids Club Experience

Time: 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Location: OCCC 204ABC

Worship Leaders Reception

Time: 3:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.
Location: OCCC 209

Bible Colleges Alumni Reception

Time: 9:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m.
Location: OCCC 307ABCD

Emerging Leaders Reception

Time: (following service)
Location: OCCC 209

Europe Field Area Dinner

Time: (following service)
Location: OCCC 314B

Lee University Alumni Reception

Time: (following service)
Location: Valencia Ballroom

Ministry to the Military Reception

Time: 9:30 p.m. – 11:00 p.m.
Location: OCCC 311

Children's Church (ages 3-6 potty trained)

Time: 6:30 p.m. – 9:30 PM
Location: OCCC 206

Kid's Church (Ages 7-12)

Time: 6:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.
Location: OCCC 205

Ramírez, Charles Nominated for World Missions in Historic Vote

By David White



Dr. Ishmael Charles

Dr. David E. Ramirez

The sound of history echoed through the halls of the 80th International General Assembly on Monday, with its impact resounding from Orlando to the Caribbean and South America.

Dr. David E. Ramirez was nominated to serve as the next Director of World Missions, making the Chile native the first foreign-born minister elected to serve in that executive role. Moments later, Ishmael Prince Charles of the British Virgin Islands was nominated to serve as the Assistant Director of World Missions, a first for a minister of African descent.

"This is a historic moment for our church," said Presiding Bishop Dr. Gary Lewis, as the body of Ordained Bishops who make up the voting International Executive Council rose to their feet in applause. "Both of these men are products of Church of God World Missions.

"They stand here today, on July 28, 2026, because the Church of God said we're going to take the Gospel around the world."

Dr. Ramirez has been making history for years. His story began as the son of Church of

—continued on page 6

General Council Elects Council of Eighteen

By Cameron Fisher

The General Council of Ordained Bishops was called to order on Tuesday morning with General Overseer Gary Lewis serving as moderator for the first time.

—continued on page 17

Memorial Tribute Is Tonight

The biennial video memorial tribute to deceased ministers, which has traditionally taken place on Friday, will be presented during this evening's service. Please visit the Memorial Wall in the Exhibit area. The printed list will run in the Friday edition of *General Assembly Today*. ♦



Welcomes you to the

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Orlando, Florida

July 27-31, 2026

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Behind-the-Scenes:

Housing and Hospitality for GA26

By Kevin Brooks

In the week leading up to the 80th International General Assembly, we had surpassed 10,000 hotel room nights for our GA26 guests. Few delegates realize the large amount of work that goes into GA housing and hospitality behind the scenes for many months before.

The GA Housing Team of Kevin Brooks, Kalea Blair, and Kendall McGlamery have been working diligently since January to ensure all hotel rooms are reserved and hotel accommodation requests are communicated correctly.

Among the many moving parts are two headquarter hotels, two more adjoining hotels and six neighboring hotels for all GA26 guests. With ten hotels total and thousands of bed type and location requests, the work continued right up to opening day of the Assembly.

Thankfully, the City of Orlando and its partner *Visit Orlando* are uniquely suited for an international assembly. The Orange County Convention Center (OCCC) has over seven million square feet of convention space ready for events our size. Annually, the OCCC hosts over 180 separate events, including conventions, trade shows and conferences, drawing over two million attendees per year.

The Orlando International Airport is truly accommodating to welcome the world. MCO welcomes over 50 million visitors each year and both national and international delegates find traveling to and from Orlando's airport very accessible.

The Church of God International General Assembly brings large amounts of delegates who drive to Florida. The modern interstate systems and Orlando's central location makes this year's location extremely popular with delegate families.

Most hotels for the General Assembly are located along the I-Drive Corridor in the convention zone. Among dozens of hotels, the I-Drive corridor holds hundreds of restaurants with multiple dining options and family fun.

No matter how you got here, driving or flying, we looked forward to welcoming you to Orlando. When it comes to accommodations, we are confident that the 80th Church of God International General Assembly will be the best yet!

Kevin Brooks serves as Agent of Record for the Church of God and has been involved in GA hotel arrangements since 2006. ♦



OnSocial Posts @COGGA26

Anthony McDaniel

Church of God 80th General Assembly. My dad, who will be 97 on August 3, has been coming to the General Assembly since 1946. There's so many fond memories of me and my sister and my parents coming to the General Assembly ever since we were little kids. The COG is a family and it's great running in to people you've seen and known for many years.

jordanmaples86

This is such a special General Assembly for me! My first time with coghq credentialed minister on my badge. I love our great church and global family.

@robdeveney

Day one of General Assembly business! It's great to see friends and connect as a church.

@intl_entrepreneur

What a powerful time of fellowship and blessing we shared with them at the Latin American Pre-Assembly.

GATODAY

GENERAL ASSEMBLY TODAY

General Assembly TODAY is produced in the interest of delegates to the 80th Church of God International General Assembly. It is published daily, Monday through Friday, July 27-31, 2026.

Produced under the auspices of the General Assembly Cabinet:
John Childers, chair, Ken Bell, Kevin Brooks, Scott Hager,
Raymond Hodge, Anthony Pelt, David Ray, Art Rhodes.
KaLea Blair, Max Reyes, consultants.

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Cameron Fisher

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Cameron Fisher, chair, David White, co-chair, Justin Holbrook,
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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.

GA26.org/CONNECT: All Things GA26!



There is a virtual location for everything a delegate needs when it comes to the 80th International General Assembly: GA26.org/connect.

This site is designed exclusively for GA26 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 Orange County Convention Center (OCCC).

The online site is designed to be mobile-friendly, so everyone has instant access to the latest information. The menu includes the schedule, OCCC information, the official agenda, instructions on voting procedures, exhibit hall vendor listing, the latest news (including issues of *GAToday*), and much more. Forgot your offering? There is even an option for giving online. Another feature for the General Council is an Ordained Bishop "look-up" for easy research of ministerial numbers for voting.

The easiest way to explore
GA26 Connect is to simply
scan this code.



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Ramírez, Charles Nominated for World Missions . . .

Continued from page 1

God ministers and missionaries who shared Christ throughout Latin America.

He already became the first South American to serve as the Assistant Director of World Missions at the General Assembly two years ago. Before that, he served as the first Latin American elected to the Executive Committee for eight years.



Secretary General Tom Madden, right, leads a prayer for the newly nominated World Missions leaders, David Ramirez and Ishmael Charles.

"When I was 13, I received the call to be a missionary and filled with the Holy Spirit ... my life was changed," Dr. Ramirez said. "It is amazing what God can do with an individual that He calls and the church sends. None of this would have been possible without the Church of God truly being an international church."

For two years, Dr. Ramirez partnered with outgoing Director of World Missions Dr. M. Thomas Propes as the department raised over \$15 million. Dr. Ramirez has served in leadership roles in Argentina, Ecuador, California/Arizona and Latin America. His initial plan? Continue to spread the Gospel globally and accelerate church plantings throughout the world.

"We want to care for our missionaries with tenderness and compassion and move forward with the leadership of the Holy Spirit," Dr. Ramirez said.

Bishop Charles, too, had his life shaped by World Missions. Born to a single teenaged mom on the streets of St. Vincent, he met a Church of God missionary named Robert Cary in a convenience store as a 13-year-old boy.

"He saw me and said, 'Young man, God has plan for your life. We have two children. You will be our third child.' Today, I stand on the shoulders of a Church of God missionary who picked me up from the streets."

Bishop Charles served as a long-term pastor in Tortola of the British Virgin Islands, and advanced to his current position of World Missions Field Director of the Caribbean region.

Both men will advance for election to their respective positions Friday when the voting body International General Assembly convenes Friday. ♦



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Vocational Chaplains Renew Calling

By Brenda Pace

More than 200 ordained vocational chaplains from across the United States and three international locations came together for a different kind of preparation that included spiritual renewal, professional growth, and fellowship. The annual Church of God Vocational Chaplains Conference, held the weekend prior to the Assembly, centered on the theme, “Walk Worthy: Living the Call, Bearing the Fruit.”

Serving in hospitals, correctional facilities, military installations, healthcare settings, and industries around the world, chaplains were encouraged through dynamic keynote sessions that combined biblical truth with practical ministry insight. Each message challenged attendees to remain faithful to their calling while growing in effectiveness as ministers of the gospel.

“This conference gives us the opportunity to plug back into our spiritual roots,” said Chaplain (COL) Jerry David Hall. “It reminds us that we are not alone. To reconnect with my brother and sister chaplains is so important. The speakers have been phenomenal.”



In addition to the plenary sessions, chaplains gathered in ministry-specific breakout groups for hospital and clinical chaplaincy, correctional chaplaincy, and military chaplaincy representing the Army, Air Force, and Navy. These sessions allowed participants to address the unique opportunities and challenges within their respective fields while learning from experienced colleagues.

A delegation of correctional chaplains from the United Kingdom praised the conference as “Empowering! Inspirational! The speakers are

masters of their trades and spoke knowledge and wisdom into our lived experiences.”

One of the conference’s most meaningful moments came as attendees united in prayer for chaplains currently deployed in regions of heightened conflict around the world. Surrounded by members of the Chaplains Commission Board of Directors, participants were reminded that wherever they serve, they represent Christ and the Church of God with the faithful prayer and support of an entire denomination standing behind them. ♦

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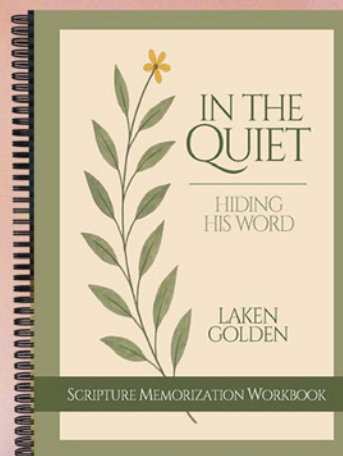
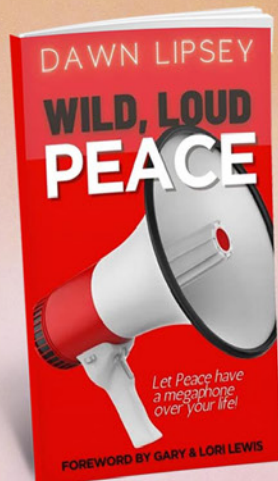
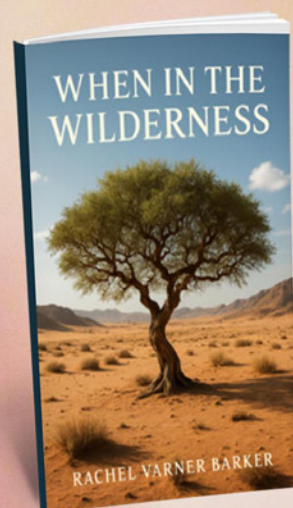
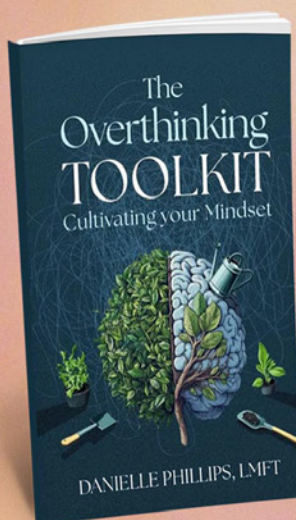
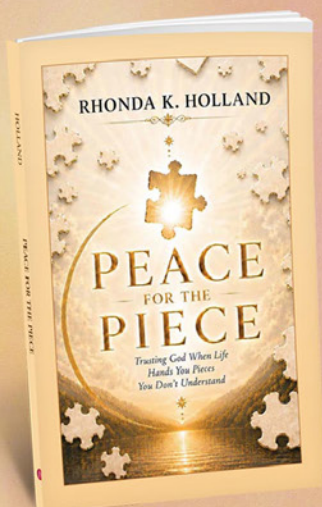
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1 A **HEALTHY Church** is the hope of the world.
Matthew 5:14 – “You are the light of the world...”

2 **HEALTHY Leaders** are the hope of the church.
1 Timothy 4:16 – “Watch your life and doctrine closely...”

3 There is a **LEADERSHIP CRISIS** in both ministry and the marketplace.
Judges 21:25 – “...everyone did what was right in their own eyes.”

4 The crisis is a crisis of **CHARACTER** and **COMPETENCE**—which ultimately determines **CREDIBILITY**.
Psalms 78:72 – “Integrity of heart... skillfulness of hands.”

Formation is not accidental.
2 Corinthians 6:3 – “We put no stumbling block...”

5 If they do not believe the messenger, they will not believe the message.



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General Council Elects Council of Eighteen

Continued from page 1

Following an 8:00-8:30 a.m. time of "Priority Prayer," Lewis called on First Assistant General Overseer Tony Stewart for a dialogue on "We are Empowered to Go," with a discussion on vision casting and the progress made over the past two years in evangelism around the globe. The conversation was punctuated by statistics, including 10,000 churches planted, three million souls saved, and 1.4 million baptized in the Spirit. Stewart gave details about the upcoming Project 33, which entails a goal to reach everyone with the Gospel.

Lewis announced the Urban Vision Collective and appointment of an Urban Vision Task Force, and strategic evangelism targeting the upcoming 2028 Los Angeles Olympics. The two leaders ended their dialogue calling attention to a bag distributed earlier that contained a symbolic fire starter. The session concluded with a majority of the General Council streaming to the altars for a time of extended prayer.

Prior to the start of official Council business, General Overseer Lewis arranged for a special Zoom call with Dr. Sean O'Neal, director of the Ministry of Evangelism for the Church of God who has been hospitalized for the last several weeks with a life-threatening illness. O'Neal testified of significant progress in healing and returned home last week to recuperate. His wife, Shyrel, addressed the Council thanking everyone for their prayers.

The Council undertook the first order of business, that of nominating the director of World Missions. Dr. David Ramirez, currently serving as assistant director, was nominated on the first ballot, followed by Dr. Ishmael Charles, field director of the Caribbean, who was nominated for the assistant post (please see article this issue).

The General Council began the process of electing members of the Council of Eighteen, the group of their peers to serve on the executive body of leaders. The Nominating Ballot was cast, producing the first two members who were elected of the eighteen. Pastor of the North Cleveland Church of God, Kevin McGlamery, went first on the Council and will return as chairman. Also elected was Toby Morgan.

The Council cast the First Ballot (second round) of votes before adjourning for the lunch break at 11:30. Upon return, Lewis reported a technicality that necessitated a re-vote. When the vote was re-cast the round produced six more members. They were Maurice "Mo" Huggins, Jerry Madden, Loran Livingston, Ryan Sharpe, Timothy Hill, and Rob Bailey.

The next round of voting saw the following men elected: Miguel Perdomo, Barry Clardy, Jerry Jeter, Philip Bonaparte, Jamie Barfield, and J.C. Worley. Needing the required number of pastors and international representatives, motions were made to reduce the number of those on the list to get to the final eighteen.

With fourteen elected, a final round with 41 to choose from, the General Council elected three more members with Niko Njotorahardjo, Roy Notice, and Eliezar Bonilla, Sr. A final round with a motion to select from the Top Five, the Council completed the elections choosing Angel B. Marcial Cordero (Jr.) after two rounds.

Please see the Thursday edition of *General Assembly TODAY* for a formal group photo of the new Council and additional information. ♦

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WE Gather Weekends Now Set for 2027

By Cameron Fisher

In an effort to refresh, reward, and strengthen lead pastors in the Church of God, General Overseer Gary Lewis and the International Executive Committee hosted four weekend get-aways entitled “We Gather” events in 2025.



General Overseer Gary Lewis attended all four of the 2026 We Gather events

“These incredible weekends provided a format with a focus on connection, growth, and fellowship,” stated Mark Swank who helped coordinate the weekends. The Friday and Saturday gatherings featured a time of fellowship and reconnection at a local church or

venue, punctuated by a night out at a Major League Baseball game, where participants unwound and rooted for their favorite team in a fun and relaxed atmosphere.

The first round of We Gather weekends targeted the regions surrounding the MLB cities of Dallas (Texas Rangers), Baltimore (Orioles), Cincinnati (Reds), and Atlanta (Braves). Lead pastors attended from over 30 states.

“The We Gather weekends were a refreshing and encouraging experience for me,” said Pastor Allen Townsend of the Rose Heights Church in Tyler, Texas. “The fellowship with pastors, along with the practical wisdom shared by leaders within our movement, strengthened both my ministry and my soul. I am deeply grateful to our denominational leaders for investing in opportunities like these that encourage, equip, and support pastors as we serve our churches and communities.”

Pastor of LifeSource International Church in Baltimore, Michael McDermott said, “We Gather in Baltimore connected pastors across the region providing fellowship, inspiration and training. Gathering is at the core of New Testament Christian life. Great vision from our Church of God leadership!”

We Gather weekends for next year were just confirmed this week with the release of the 2027 MLB schedule and increase from four to seven



To help promote the 2027 events, souvenir baseball cards with photos of the International Executive Committee were included in a packet of materials distributed to the General Council on Tuesday.

weekends across the country. They include: April 12-13 – Los Angeles (Dodgers vs Rockies); April 16-17 Seattle (Mariners vs. Astros); April 19-20 – Phoenix (Diamondbacks vs. Cubs); May 3-4 Boston (Red Sox vs. Blue Jays); May 7-8 New York (Mets vs. Rays); May 10-11 Toronto (Blue Jays vs. Red Sox); September 10-11 Atlanta (Braves vs. White Sox).

“Senior pastors and spouses are invited to participate in the 2027 We Gather Pastors Weekend with topics that will inspire as well as fellowship with colleagues that are on the same ministry journey,” Swank concluded. “Registration will start soon!”

To learn more, please visit wegathercog.com. ♦

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La División de Evangelización Mundial da la Bienvenida a los delegados de la Asamblea General Internacional

por Carlos S. Morán

Durante la 80.^a Asamblea General Internacional, la División de Evangelización Mundial le invita a visitar su espacio en la sala de exhibiciones, donde podrá conocer de cerca los ministerios, programas y recursos que impulsan la misión evangelizadora de la Iglesia de Dios alrededor del mundo. En nuestro espacio encontrará información sobre la labor que realizan los Ministerios Hispánicos, Militares, Afrodescendientes e Interculturales. Cada uno de estos ministerios comparte iniciativas, testimonios y recursos que reflejan el compromiso de una iglesia diversa, unida por el propósito de llevar el mensaje del Evangelio a personas de diferentes culturas, idiomas y contextos. También tendrá la oportunidad de conversar con nuestros líderes y equipos ministeriales, hacer preguntas, intercambiar experiencias y conocer maneras de participar y apoyar la obra de evangelización. Será un tiempo especial para fortalecer la comunión y celebrar juntos la misión que compartimos. Le invitamos a visitar especialmente la mesa de Ministerios Hispánicos, donde nuestro equipo le recibirá con alegría y hospitalidad. Hemos preparado materiales informativos, pequeños obsequios, agua y dulces para agradecer su



visita y hacer de este encuentro una experiencia agradable. Además, podrá tomarse fotografías, compartir con líderes y delegados de diferentes países, disfrutar de un espacio cómodo para descansar y vivir momentos de fraternidad que fortalecen los lazos entre quienes servimos al Señor alrededor del mundo. Será un privilegio recibirle en nuestro espacio. Su visita nos

anima y reafirma nuestro compromiso de continuar fortaleciendo el ministerio latino y la obra evangelizadora de la Iglesia de Dios. **¡Le esperamos!** Venga a conocer la labor de la División de Evangelización Mundial y descubra cómo, juntos, seguimos llevando el mensaje de esperanza y salvación a todas las naciones. ♦

Momento histórico en la Iglesia de Dios

Por Cesia Kerem Ramos

La Iglesia de Dios escribió una nueva página en su historia durante la sesión del Concilio General del martes 28 de julio, al nominar al Dr. David E. Ramírez como director general de Misiones Mundiales y al obispo Ishmael Charles como director asistente de Misiones Mundiales. La elección de ambos líderes representa un hito para la denominación y reafirma su carácter como una iglesia global.

El Dr. Ramírez sirvió con excelencia durante dos años como director asistente de Misiones Mundiales. En su mensaje de aceptación, Ramírez agradeció la confianza del Concilio y recordó su llamado al campo misionero a los trece años. Junto a su esposa, María Fernanda, han servido por más de cuatro décadas en Argentina, Ecuador, Estados Unidos y América Latina, formando cientos de líderes y promoviendo la plantación de iglesias en más de 30 países. Asimismo, destacó que su nominación, como el primer director de Misiones Mundiales procedente fuera de Norteamérica, no constituye un logro personal, sino una evidencia de que Dios está levantando una iglesia que envía misioneros “desde todas partes hacia todas partes”.

Por su parte, el Dr. Ishmael Charles, originario de Tórtola, Islas Vírgenes Británicas, fue nominado como director asistente de Misiones Mundiales. Emocionado, compartió su inspirador testimonio de vida, recordando que nació en circunstancias humildes, y cómo un misionero de la Iglesia de Dios, Robert Cary, transformó su futuro al



Dr. Ishmael Charles

Dr. David E. Ramírez

invertir en su educación y ministerio. El obispo Charles atribuyó su trayectoria al compromiso misionero de la Iglesia de Dios y dio toda la gloria a Dios por permitirle servir en esta nueva responsabilidad.

Al concluir la sesión, ambos líderes fueron rodeados en oración por el Comité Ejecutivo y los delegados del Concilio de los Dieciocho, quienes reconocieron este acontecimiento como un momento histórico para la Iglesia de Dios y renovaron su compromiso de llevar el evangelio a todas las naciones bajo la dirección del Espíritu Santo. ♦

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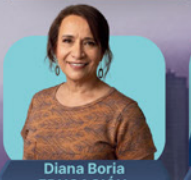
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Three to Receive Distinguished Educator Awards

By Blayne Waltrip

The Church of God Division of Education has announced three awards honoring educators within the Church of God.

The awards will be formally presented during the International Educators Luncheon for educators from around the world on Wednesday, July 29, at the Orange County Convention Center, Room 311.

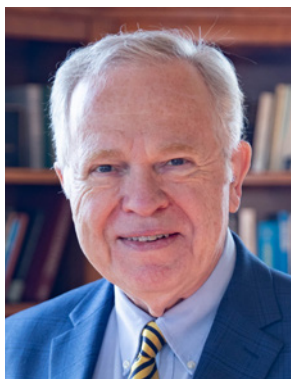
Since 1976, the Church of God has conferred the Distinguished Educator Award to recipients who have made a significant or unique contribution to education in the Church of God around the globe. This year, the Church of God Division of Education will be presenting the following: Faculty Award: Dr. Terry Cross; Leadership Award: Dr. Francisco Ortiz Ocasio; and Lifetime Achievement Award: Dr. Paul Conn.

Dr. Terry L. Cross, is the Dean of the School of Theology and Ministry and Distinguished Professor of Systematic Theology at Lee University. He has served on the Lee faculty since 1997 and been Dean since 2002. On August 1 he will step aside as Dean after 24 years of administrative service and plans to retire in 2027 after 30 years of teaching at Lee.

Dr. Cross received a B.A. from Lee College (1978) and went on to Ashland Theological Seminary (Ohio) for an M.A. in Early Church History and an M.Div. in Christian Theology. He pursued further education at Princeton Theological Seminary, obtaining a Th.M. in Doctrinal Theology and a Ph.D. in Systematic Theology. His focus in theology has been trinitarian thought, especially in the work of Swiss theologian Karl Barth.

Training future ministers for work in a complex world has been Cross's focus while at Lee University. He worked with the university to establish graduate programs on campus and at three international sites (ETS, SEMISUD, and SEBIPCA), where he has also taught. Over the years, several thousand students have been challenged to see the importance of theology for the work of ministry today.

Dr. Francisco Ortiz Ocasio is president of Universidad Teológica del Caribe (UTC) in Puerto Rico. In 1974, he entered the Bible Institute Program in Caguas at the Pentecostal Bible College (now Caribbean Theological University), earning the Ministerial Missionary Diploma. In 1995, he obtained a Bachelor of Arts degree with a concentration in Pastoral Studies



Terry L. Cross



Francisco Ortiz Ocasio



Charles Paul Conn

from the Pentecostal Bible College, and in 2005, a Master of Divinity from the Evangelical Seminary of Puerto Rico. In June 2018, he received an honorary Doctor of Divinity from the South American Seminary (SEMISUD).

In his first church he exercised various functions, including serving as pastor for 15 years. He was Youth Coordinator in the District of Caguas, a member of the Executive Committee of the National Administrative Bishop (1999-2003), bishop of the District of Trujillo Alto on two occasions, and chaplain of the House of Representatives in the Capitol of Puerto Rico. He directed the Office of Pastoral Care of the Mission Board of God in Puerto Rico and served on several other governing boards.

In 2006, he was appointed Executive President of what was then Pentecostal Bible College. During his two decades of leadership, he has guided the institution through a stage of academic transformation, physical expansion, and institutional strengthening. In 2008, the institution adopted the name of Theological University of the Caribbean. The graduate school was developed, and internationalization was strengthened through alliances with Pentecostal Theological Seminary (PTS) and SEMISUD.

Dr. Charles Paul Conn has dedicated more than five decades of his professional life to Lee University, shaping its identity and trajectory more than any other individual in its history. After serving as president for 34 years (1986-2020), he transitioned to chancellor, a role he held for nearly four years before serving one additional year (2024-2025) as both president and chancellor.

Under Dr. Conn's leadership, Lee University experienced extraordinary growth in enrollment, academic offerings, campus development, and national reputation. During his presidency, the university's enrollment and campus size increased fivefold, the annual operating budget grew tenfold, and more than 30 major construction projects were completed. He launched Lee's first graduate and doctoral programs and introduced hallmark initiatives such as Global Perspectives and Service Learning.

Conn earned a Ph.D. degree in psychology from Emory University in 1974. Subsequently,

he spent three years at Harvard University as a postdoctoral student. He was a Visiting Scholar at Harvard Divinity School in 1982 and 2023. He completed his undergraduate work at Lee College and Georgia State University and earned an M.A. from Emory University.

He has served on the board of directors of numerous higher education organizations, including the Council of Independent Colleges, and as chairman of the President's Council of the Southern States Athletic Conference. He served six years as a Commissioner of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, including two years on the Executive Committee of the Commission on Colleges. He has served on the Executive Committee of the Appalachian Colleges Association, on the board of the Tennessee Independent Colleges and Universities Association, and on the national board of the Council for Christian Colleges and Universities. Conn served nine years (2015-2024) on the Board of Commissioners for the Chattanooga Airport Authority.

Conn has also enjoyed an impressive writing career, which includes author or co-author of twenty popular books between 1972 and 1988, writing about diverse people and topics. He shared bylines with recognizable names in the worlds of entertainment, including singer Johnny Cash, in athletics with pro quarterback Terry Bradshaw, politics (Kentucky Governor Julian Carroll), and business in books with Rich DeVos and Jack Eckerd. He has been published in hardcover by five national publishers such as Putnam, William Morrow, Fleming H. Revell, Bantam Books, and Word. Conn's magazine articles have appeared in numerous publications and he has been recognized by the Associated Press with the *Best News Feature of the Year*. His book *Kathy*, was named Book of the Year by *Campus Life* magazine in 1980 and was also the subject of a feature-length movie. *The Possible Dream* was on the New York Times bestseller list for eleven weeks and ranked the #6 bestselling non-fiction book in the country by Publishers Weekly for the year 1977. His books *The Winners Circle* (1979) and *An Uncommon Freedom* (1982) were ranked #10 and #14, respectively, among non-fiction best-sellers nationwide in total sales for the year. ♦

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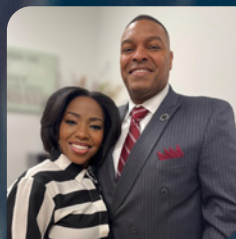


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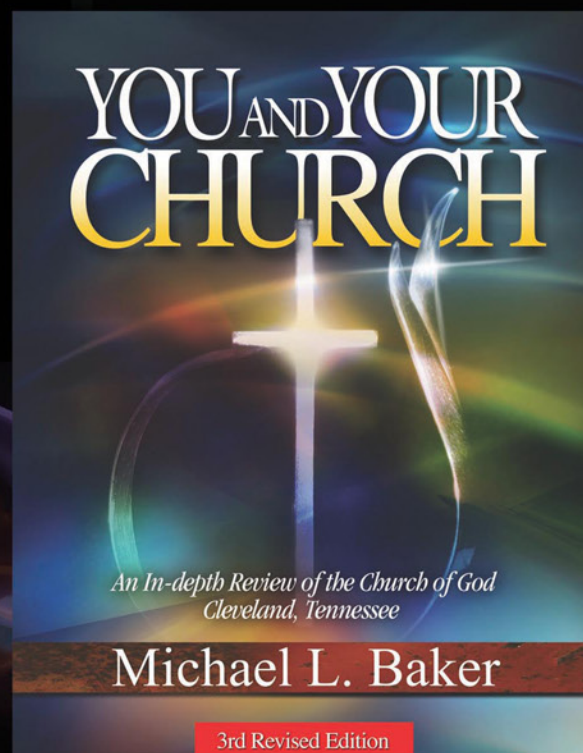


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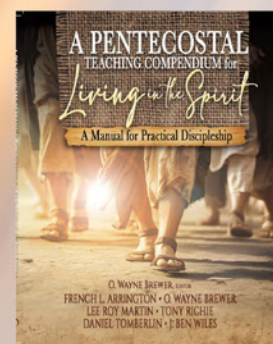
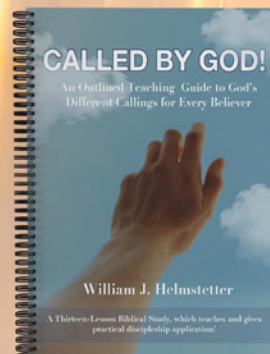
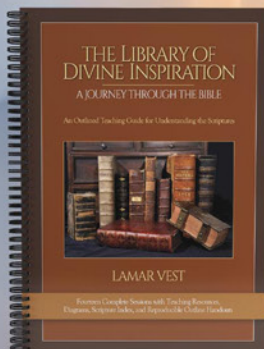
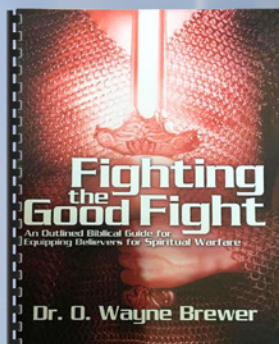
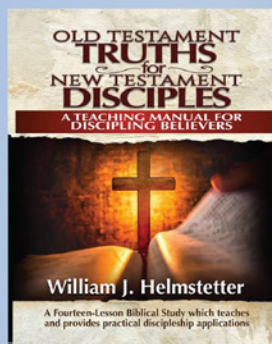


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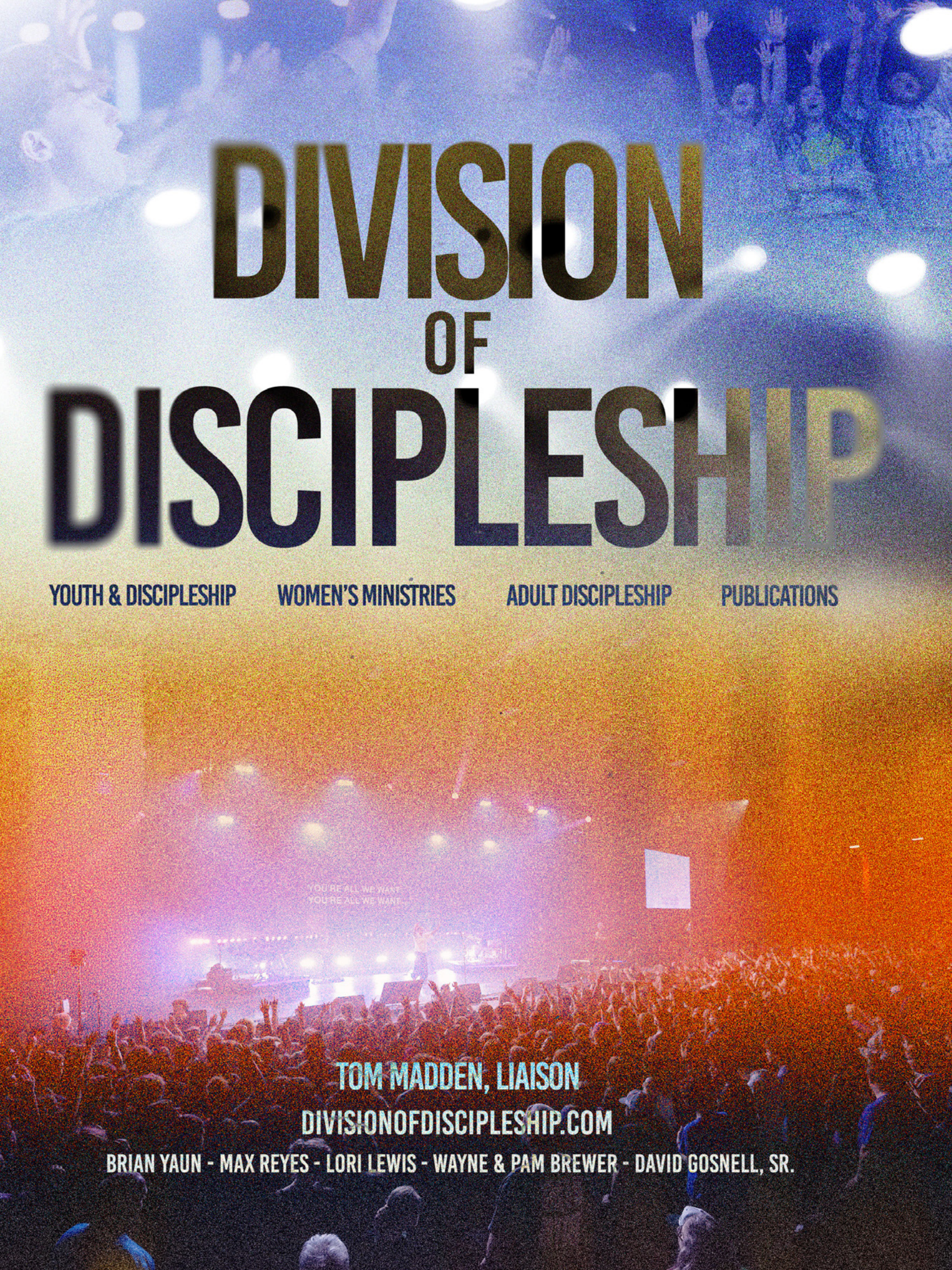
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