

# CHURCHRIGHT

*Doing church right*



## Know Anyone in France?

The coordinators of Zone 7 (Europe) of the International Ministerial Congress (Paulo Coelho, Ramon Ruiz, John Klassek, and Bryan Cleeton) are trying to develop the work of the Church of God (Seventh Day) in France. We know this country receives many immigrants from different locations. If you know any brothers or sisters currently residing in France, please send their contact information to Dr. Paul Jorge Coelho at [aid7dp@gmail.pt](mailto:aid7dp@gmail.pt).

## Our Global Church

The Church of God (Seventh Day) in the United States and Canada is linked with the CoG7 in other parts of the world through our International Ministerial Congress (IMC). As our church spread throughout the world, those in leadership at the time wisely responded in two ways. First, they began organizing the churches in various countries, or regions, into their own national/regional conferences. Second, to maintain doctrinal unity among them, the leadership established the IMC, a ministerial council made up of delegates from each of the affiliated conferences.

Individual conferences of our church may create their own formal statements of doctrinal beliefs, such as ours published in *This We Believe*. However, to maintain affiliation with the global CoG7 through IMC membership, individual conferences' statements of belief must compliment, not contradict, the official statements of belief formally adopted by the IMC. More recently, our church's various conferences around the world were organized into seven IMC zones, served by zone representatives. This allows IMC to serve, not only as a global ministerial council for our global church but also as a global facilitator and coordinator for preaching the gospel and expanding the CoG7 throughout the world.

The 2023 IMC meeting is scheduled for November 13-18 in Port Harcourt, Nigeria. I will be the GC's delegate. Elder Daniel Flores, Jr., president of the North American Ministerial Council (NAMC), will be our alternate delegate. Other members of the GC will attend as observers or, in a few cases, as officers of IMC. (Elder Ramon Ruiz is the current IMC president; Elder Whaid Rose is vice president; and Elder Bryan Cleeton is the outgoing executive director.) Among other things during this meeting, the IMC delegates will consider a proposal by the IMC Global Church Administration Committee to improve the administrative infrastructure of the global Church of God (Seventh Day).

It is a wonderful blessing to share in the gospel ministry with brothers and sisters of the CoG7 around the world. Watch for additional information regarding the 2023 IMC meeting as it becomes available.

— Loren Stacy  
GC President



## District News

### Northeast

*Contributors: Ada Joya, Blanquita Vega, Wilber Arias, and Heber Vega, superintendent*



**Combined congregations.** Recently, the Bowser, Lafayette, and Monon congregations (Indiana) gathered for services at the Bowser church, and five people were baptized. Visiting brethren from the Bridgeport, CT, and Ossining, NY congregations also joined the event.



**Spirit-filled youth.** Fifteen people from the Lanham, MD congregation were baptized on August 13. What a blessing to see so many young people and young adults from GC congregations in this and other districts. The Spirit of God in them is evident and makes a difference at local, district, and Conference levels.



**Baptisms.** Eight people from the Ossining, NY church were baptized on August 19 during their annual church camp in Dingmans Ferry, PA. Instead of preaching a sermon, Wilmer Arias divided those in attendance into five groups and assigned each a Bible passage to study and apply to their lives. The pastor and elders joined Pastor Arias in anointing and praying for each candidate before going down to the river.



**Youth/young adult camp.** “The Break Trail Experience” was the theme of our youth and young adult camp (ages 13-25) held in Emmitsburg, MD, August 25-27. Those from Lanham and her daughter churches in Alexandria and Richmond, VA, attended. Eighty-four campers and 27 staff members experienced a blessed time.



**Youth revival.** A Spirit-filled day, July 29, was hosted by a loving, hard-working, and visionary youth group from Fort Wayne, IN. They were supported by a solid congregation that worked tirelessly to ensure a successful event. An anointed speaker, Pastor Narciso Betances, from our Lanham, MD congregation, brought his daughter, Cesi, with him and seven other musicians to lead in powerful worship. We had youth from Illinois (Justice); Indiana (Bowser, Lafayette, and Monon); Kentucky; Maryland (Lanham); Michigan (Holland /West Olive); and their chaperones, leaders, and drivers.



## Central

Contributor: Ronald Rousseau, superintendent



**Women's Retreat.** The annual Women's Retreat was held at the Coteau des Prairies Lodge in Havana, ND, April 28-30. Karen Avalos (Justice, IL congregation) spoke at the event, organized by Stephanie Kalinowski. Reflecting on her experience, Karen writes, "If at least one sister has been encouraged to seek the Lord more closely, then it was all worth it."

## Southeast

Contributor: Steve Krome, superintendent



**Ordination.** On July 22, the Stone Mountain church in Georgia held an ordination service for Pastor Walter Apen. His wife, Lily, and sons (Kevin, Walter Jr., and Joshua) were also recognized for their service and support. Congratulations to Walter and his family for this milestone achievement!



The SHINE missionary group ministered in Honduras August 14-19 in the town of Cali. A group of 60 missionaries served as evangelists, doctors, dentists, hygiene educators, and much more.



As a missionary, one needs to learn to roll with the punches. We were down one doctor on a certain day, and another doctor from Nicaragua could not get through due to roadblocks. Still, we served around 530 people. The evangelists were also hard at work and brought many souls to Christ, and our first revival service was packed. We had to borrow chairs.

Though the turnout for the next evening's service was greatly reduced due to people needing to get water, we still labored so that our service would be a praise to the Lord Almighty.

— Ronald Rousseau



**Across the pond.** On July 8, Ronald Rousseau and his wife, Maria, were blessed to visit the Croydon church in the United Kingdom. Pastor Ronald shared the Word in a lively and joyful service, followed by food and fellowship. Afterward, he gave a presentation on SHINE to many unfamiliar with it and used the opportunity to call new missionaries to share the gospel of Jesus Christ.





**Leadership Conference.** The district held its annual Leadership Conference August 11-13 at the Drury Inn in Valdosta, GA. Focusing on the theme “Marriage in the Ministry,” presentations were given by Loren and Karen Stacy, Walter and Lily Apen, Al and Grace Haynes, and Steve and Jo Allison Krome. Announcements were made of new district positions: Walter Apen as assistant district superintendent and Tereso Hernandez as area representative for both the English- and Spanish-speaking churches in North Carolina.

## Southwest

Contributor: Chip Hinds, superintendent

SWD photos taken by SWD Media Ministry



**New congregation.** On August 26, the Church of God in Jesus Christ congregation was recognized and welcomed as an affiliated local church of the General Conference. It meets at 411 W. Marshall Dr., Grand Prairie, TX. Left to right: Teresa Garcia (treasurer), Vanessa Ahuyon (board member), Chip Hinds, Ivan Villeda (SWD Area 1 director), Elmer García (local leader) and his wife, Marlis, and Gustavo Salcido (elder-mentor).

**Celebrating #100!** Bill Muncy, longtime member of the Church of God (Seventh Day) in McAlester, OK, marked his 100th birthday on August 17. He has been a loyal member, as well as board member and trustee of the church for decades.



## West Coast

Contributors: Harold and Vona Ogren, Melva Smith, and Kurt Lang

**Baptism.** Megan Ogren, who attends the Eugene church, was baptized during Teen Camp at Sis-Q Meadows in July. The Eugene congregation was delighted to pray with her and welcome her into the family of God on Sabbath, August 12. Megan is the wife of Jerry Ogren, mother of Penny, and daughter-in-law of Harold and Vona Ogren. May the Lord bless her as she walks daily with Him.



**Teen camp.** Sis-Q-Meadows Camp welcomed 84 youth (13-18 years) and 33 staff from Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Colorado, and Oklahoma for camp held July 23-30. Based on the theme “Foundations of the Faith,” campers were encouraged to build on the foundation of the Word of God. Pastors Tim Hinds and Kurt Lang

teamed up to bring thought-provoking messages each day. The best highlight was the baptisms on Sabbath afternoon of two campers and one staff member, Megan Ogren. Many other young people decided to be baptized at their home churches. We praise God for those who chose to give their hearts and lives to Jesus Christ.



**Seekers Camp.** “Shine Like the Stars” was the theme for the Sis-Q-Meadows Seekers Camp, held July 30 - August 6. Sixty-one 8-12 year-olds from Oregon, Washington, and Idaho and 30+ staff gathered for a week of fun in the Son and the sun, moon, and stars! Morning devotions, classes, music, and crafts focused on how to be a light that shines brightly for God. One highlight was watching a camper be baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, and many campers go home with a new commitment to “let their little lights shine” for Jesus.

## Western Canada

Contributor: Orville Rose, superintendent



**Baptisms.** On June 10, six older and younger converts publicly dedicated their lives to Christ through water baptism. It was an exceptional time of rejoicing as the church gathered by the river to witness the testimony of these brethren.

## ASLEEP IN JESUS

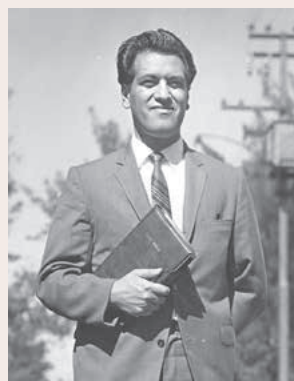
### Noah H. Camero

1936 - 2023

Noah H. Camero was born February 24, 1936, in San Antonio, Texas. He passed away June 30 at age 87.



Noah was a graduate of Spring Vale Academy. He and his wife, Belinia, pastored churches in Saginaw, Michigan; Alfred, North Dakota; Saint



Paul, Minnesota; and Bloomington, California. From 1967 to 1970 Noah served as editor of the *Bible Advocate* in Stanberry, Missouri. Once the Cameros moved to Bloomington, California, he established a local radio program there.

Please visit our Memorials page ([churchright.org](http://churchright.org)) for more on Noah's life and ministry.



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Church of God (Seventh Day) • P. O. Box 33677 • Denver, CO 80233 • Phone: (303) 452-7973 • Fax: (303) 452-0657  
[churchright@kog7.org](mailto:churchright@kog7.org) • [churchright.org](http://churchright.org)





**Late Spring Graduates**

Wilmer Arias, Associate of Christian Leadership (Pastoral Ministry)\*

Granville Mullings, Associate of Christian Leadership (Pastoral Ministry)\*

Troy Webb, Associate of Christian Leadership (Pastoral Ministry)\*\*

\*Cum Laude

\*\*Magna Cum Laude

**Spring Dean's List Recipients**

William Aba, Pete Capetillo, Aaron Coulson, Abraham Garcia, Eduardo Garza, Elias Gomez Marroquin, Karlene Green, Jacob Keim, Alirio Luna Sosa, Israel Pacheco.

Dean's List recipients are students who have earned 8+ credits during the Spring quarter (two terms), with a minimum 3.5 GPA.

**Late Fall Classes**

BIS 101 - History and Literature of the Old Testament

COM 121 - Written Communication for Leadership

LEA 111 - Essentials of Vibrant Leadership

WOA 301- Worship Arts



Register at <https://my.artioscollege.org/en/courses>

**Calendar Events**

**October 30** - Late Fall registration closes

**November 5** - Late Fall classes begin



***Campout.** The annual campout, hosted by the Parkland congregation, took place July 28-30. Despite the lower-than-expected turnout, the district members enjoyed a Spirit-filled family time on the vast, lush Parkland church grounds. The celebratory and worshipful atmosphere could not be contained.*



***Super Sabbath.** On August 19, the Calgary congregation hosted their annual Super Sabbath. Upwards of 130 brethren and visitors came from near and far to share in a day packed with inspiration, encouragement, and fellowship. Pastor Ash Khalil, our guest speaker, reminded the attendees of the changes possible when a person encounters Christ.*



**Books from BAP** [cog7.org/online-store/books](http://cog7.org/online-store/books)

*Make your own home the center of evangelistic mission to your friends and neighbors. \$11.20*

*Join the Capetillo brothers on a journey toward becoming a truly welcoming church. \$11.20*



# Revelation

## Bible Studies for Adults

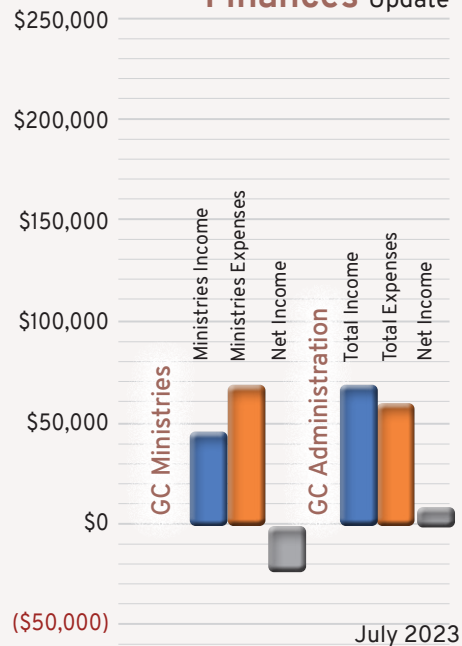
Quarters 1 and 2- 2024



In this two-part exploration of the Bible's most exciting and mysterious book, we will encounter terrifying beasts and glorious angels, the Red Dragon and the Scarlet Harlot, the fallen city of Babylon, and the descending City of God.

In his introduction, series author Rick Straub writes, "Our goal in these lessons is to continually be drawn back to the heart of Jesus' message." The Revelation of Jesus Christ is as timely for the twenty-first century church as it was for the first century church. It's a warning and encouragement for Christian overcomers in Babylon: Remember your first love, maintain steadfast faith, have Spirit-led discernment, and possess an urgent hope.

### Finances Update



### General Conference Ministries

#### Total Receipts and Total Expenses

Artios Christian College, Missions, and Publications (Bible Advocate Press) are the current GC Ministries. They receive financial support from direct offerings and from a portion of the 15 percent of members' tithes received by the General Conference. Expenditures are guided by each ministry's annual budget. In addition, the General Conference manages the receipt and disbursement of your gifts to a variety of additional ministries, such as Orphans and Widows, SHINE, Cristo Viene, and Disaster Relief.

### General Conference

#### Total Receipts and Total Expenses

The General Conference administration (president, executive director, IT, finance, office management, and other staff not connected to a specific GC Ministry or district) receives financial support from 15 percent of members' tithes (minus what is then allocated to the GC Ministries) and direct offerings. Expenditures are guided by an annual budget.





# GC Ministries

Through teaching , printing, and providing the means to grow in the faith,  
we are making an impact around the world every day.

Please give to the Ministries of the Church . . .

- Artios
- Bible Advocate Press
- GC Missions

IMC Sabbath

## Continuing the Mission of Jesus

November 4, 2023

