

# CHURCHRIGHT

DOING CHURCH RIGHT

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June - July 2016



## G. C. Convention

Mark your calendar! The General Conference Biennial Convention will be in Springfield, Illinois, July 2-8, 2017. The Crowne Plaza Springfield, our convention headquarters, provides all activities under one roof. Plan now to join your General Conference president, board of directors, and fellow believers in revising the Church bylaws and exploring the theme "Worthy is the Lamb!"

Home of Abraham Lincoln, Springfield is a historic town with many significant sites to visit. Arrive days early or stay later and explore what Springfield offers. You won't want to miss the Lincoln Memorial Museum.

Watch our church publications for detailed information in the months ahead. In the meantime, pray for those on the Convention Committee as they make plans to serve you before and during Convention 2017.

Hope to see you there!

## Transforming Vision into Reality See It and Be It

During opening day ceremonies for Disney World in Orlando, Florida, one of the officials reportedly turned to a colleague and lamented concerning the late Walt Disney, "It's too bad that Walt couldn't see this." The woman replied, "Oh, but he did. That's why it's here."

A vision can be powerful. Indeed, visions of what could and should be have led to most every improvement over the course of human history. Someone had a dream. Someone saw something that wasn't as if it actually were, and worked to bring it into existence.

God has given the General Conference of the Church of God (Seventh Day) a vision of what we can and must be: Christ-centered, Distinct but not exclusive, Sabbath-observing, Bible-based, Spirit-formed, Passionate in Worship, Compassionate in Service, Bold in Witness, Warm in Fellowship, and Committed to Discipleship. For our church to achieve this wonderful vision, however, each of us must see it and be it. We each must keep our vision continually in focus, or we will lose track of our intended destination. We each must think and act as if our vision is our reality, because as we do, it *will* be our reality.

Executive Director Jody McCoy and I travel throughout our church, ably assisted by our district superintendents, area representatives, and ministries directors, calling upon each member, congregation, and district to work with God as He transforms our vision into our reality. We want you to see it so we all will be it.

As we do this, tools are being prepared for our future. It's tempting to read the ten points of our vision, shrug our shoulders, and think, *Been there, done that*. And, to some extent, we have! But we still have so much more to understand and become. Beginning January 2017, *Bible Advocate* articles, Sabbath school quarterlies, Bible study materials, and many other tools will help us all plumb the infinite depths of each part of our vision.

The more we can see, the more we can be. So let's see it and be it, together — a vibrant twenty-first century church!

— Loren Stacy

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## ASLEEP IN JESUS

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### Carl Palmer

1939 -2016

Elder Carl Palmer (77), who served a lifetime in the Pacific Northwest, died March 24. He was a beloved son — one of thirteen children — to Luvelt and Bernice Palmer, a devoted husband to RowEna for 53 years, a faithful father to David, Carla, and Karen, and granddad to their nine children.

As a gentle and godly shepherd, Carl believed a pastor should join in people's lives, not just address them from a pulpit. He was always there for them. As a wise student-teacher of Scripture, he championed justification by faith —salvation through the grace of God alone and received by faith in Jesus Christ alone.

As a Church administrator, Carl built harmony and fellowship among members, leaders, and churches with his genial manner — especially when opinions varied. God has greatly blest the home and Church families of Carl Palmer through his humility, integrity, and legacy.

*Visit our new page, "Memorials," at cog7.org.*



### LifeSpring Grads

Congratulations to Germaine Reece (Acworth, Georgia), on graduating with a Certificate of Biblical Studies in Winter 2016.

Also, congratulations to the Winter 2016 Dean's List Recipients\*: Francisco Garcia Gonzalez, Brownsville, Texas; Germaine Reece, Acworth, Georgia; Samuel Santos Preza, Laval, Quebec; Adam Slawson, Owosso, Michigan; Esther Winchell, Saginaw, Michigan.

*\*These students took courses half time and earned a minimum 3.5 GPA.*

### Looking Back, Looking Forward

Since the last *Churchright*, President Stacy and Executive Director Jody McCoy have worshipped with our Colorado Springs congregation, led the annual General Conference Leadership Meeting in Denver, and participated in wonderful Super Sabbath gatherings of area congregations in St. Joseph, Missouri, and McAllen, Texas. One or both men have also represented the General Conference at the Southwest District Men's Retreat and at Spring Vale Academy's Graduation Weekend.

The schedule for June and July includes June 3-6 - Central District Men's Retreat (Alfred, North Dakota); June 11 - Super Sabbath (Michigan); June 18-19 - Super Sabbath and Leadership Meeting (Los Angeles, California); June 24-26 - Eastern Canadian District Conference; July 9-10 - Super Sabbath and Leadership Training (Port St. Lucie, Florida); July 23 - Super Sabbath (Chicago, Illinois).

### Prayer Requests and Prayer Partners E-mail Group

The General Conference is pleased to announce a new e-mail address ([prayer@cog7.org](mailto:prayer@cog7.org)) for prayer requests, prayer updates, and thanksgivings. Please remember to always acquire prior consent before e-mailing requests on behalf of another.

The General Conference office will combine these e-mails and periodically send out a consolidated e-mail to the Prayer Partners, a new e-mail group announced recently. This newsletter will relay the prayer requests but not provide an ongoing prayer list. We rely on our Prayer Partners to transfer requests to their own prayer lists. Since requests are many, we ask that they be stated concisely and that they refrain from directives, such as fasting. We want to respect our Prayer Partners and trust them to do as God's Spirit leads them.

Visit [cog7.org/newsletters](http://cog7.org/newsletters) to sign up for Prayer Partners or our other e-mail newsletters. We encourage you to join in this vital ministry!



*The Southeast District held its annual men's retreat at Lake Placid, FL, April 15-17, with Darrel Walters emceeding. Pastors Jeff Endecott (English) and Ismael Martinez (Spanish) gave presentations, and Ezra Modeste provided the music.*



## Annual G. C. Leadership Meeting

Approximately 50 General Conference and district leaders gathered in Denver, Colorado, April 3-5, for the annual Leadership Meeting. Hosted by Loren Stacy and Jody McCoy, this year's theme was "Transforming Vision into Reality." The meetings focused on the need to make our church's vision our reality and on things each of us can do to help bring that about.

## Transitions

**Linda Michalak and Martha Muffley.** After almost 20 years of receiving and filling orders for Bible Advocate Press, Linda Michalak has retired. Martha Muffley is now fulfilling this important responsibility. Thank you, Linda, for your years of faithful service!



**Glen Palmer and Ken Lawson.** Due to health issues, Glen Palmer declined to be reappointed as Central District superintendent and asked to be replaced as soon as possible. At the request of the Central District board, the General Conference board of directors appointed Ken Lawson to Glen's position beginning May 1, 2016, and expressed great appreciation to Elder Palmer for his service.

## Revamping BA Online

New things are happening at [baonline.org](http://baonline.org)! Thanks to the dedicated work of the G. C.'s IT whiz, Chris Idemmili, the website has a fresher, cleaner look — and offers much more than the previous site. In addition to accessing the current issue and past articles, you can read the history of one of America's oldest religious magazines still in print, find out more about the BA staff, and donate. There are also links to *Churchright* and *Now What?*, plus details on books published by the Bible Advocate Press, curriculum, and topical pamphlets (tracts).

Stop by [baonline.org](http://baonline.org) and tell us what you think!

## CALENDAR - 2016



**June 3-6** – Central District Men's Retreat, Alfred, ND

**June 24-26** – Eastern Canadian District Conference, Kingston, Ontario

**July 9-10** - Super Sabbath and Leadership Training Day, Port St. Lucie, FL

**July 18-24** - West Coast District Youth and Seeker Retreats, Capital Mountain Christian Camp, Weimar, CA

**July 18-24** - West Coast District Youth Retreat, Camp Wamatochick, Prescott, AZ

**July 23** - Super Sabbath in Chicago, IL area

**July 24-31** - West Coast District Youth Retreat, Sis-Q Meadows Camp, Cave Junction, OR

**July 26-28** - Annual Southeast District Leadership meeting, Jacksonville, FL

**July 31 - August 7** - West Coast District Seeker Retreat, Sis-Q Meadows Camp, Cave Junction, OR

**August 19-21** - West Coast District Sword Retreat, Sky Camp, Fall Creek, OR

**August 20** - Super Sabbath at Calgary, Alberta, Canada

**September 12-17** - North American Ministerial Council, near Asheville, NC

For a more complete list of events, including contact information, please visit [cog7.org/churchright](http://cog7.org/churchright).

## LifeSpring Calendar Events

**June 12** - Summer District scholarship applications due

**June 19** - Summer General scholarship applications due

**July 5** - Summer course registration ends

**July 17 - August 21** - Summer class in session

**August 9** - Fall certificate program early applications due

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Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Bahrain, Malaysia: New Great Commission opportunities await us in these and other least-reached nations of the world.

CoG7 missionaries stand ready. Your family and local congregation are invited to support one leader and commit monthly to pray and financially support this leader's mission. Will you?

To sponsor this work, visit [cog7.org/giving](http://cog7.org/giving) or earmark your local offering "Cristo Viene - Monthly." Thank you!

Contact us at 303-452-7973 or [gcmisions@cog7.org](mailto:gcmisions@cog7.org).

July is Missions Emphasis.



Find out more at [gcmisions.cog7.org](http://gcmisions.cog7.org)  
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**Now Enrolling Domestic and International Students for the 2016-17 School Year**

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