

CHURCHRIGHT

Doing church right



The board of directors has approved GC Missions and its ministries (SHINE, Orphans and Widows, DRF, Cristo Viene, etc.) to use up to 10 percent of donations received for media, fundraising, communication, and administrative purposes.

Practiced by the majority of non-profit organizations, this policy ensures GC Missions has adequate resources to provide strong communication, accountability, and implementation of all projects on behalf of its donors and supporters. The policy applies to donations received after May 31.

If you need further information, please contact office@cog7missions.org.

One Job

Google the term *one job*, and you will find examples of people's failures to accomplish the simplest tasks: signs installed upside down; common items mislabeled; doors installed in places that prevent them from opening. The Internet teems with examples of failures to get that one job done.

We, too, have been given one primary job. As Jesus turned over His earthly ministry to His followers, He commanded, "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you" (Matthew 28:19, 20, ESV).

In a nutshell, our one job is to share the good news of what God is doing through Jesus Christ, and then to teach those who believe how to live as Christ's followers. That's pretty much it.

I am excited to witness a renewed interest in evangelism and discipleship throughout the General Conference. Before COVID-caused restrictions on travel and gatherings, momentum was growing. Elders Mike Vlad and Larry Zaragoza taught seminars on personal evangelism during our 2019 convention in Albuquerque. Elders Bryan Cleeton, Ramon Ruiz, Daniel Flores, and others led weekend training events in our Southwest District.

Now as we look forward to when we can freely travel and gather again, momentum is building. The Central District has already embarked on an evangelistic effort using our book *This We Believe*. Elders Vlad and Zaragoza are ready to travel and teach as soon as possible. Dates for their classes are under consideration in our Southeast District. And during its March meeting, the General Conference board of directors mandated the creation of General Conference evangelism/discipleship training materials before the end of this year.

These are exciting indications. However, training is not *doing*. How sad if we train and practice, but never actually enter the game. Let's also *do*, focusing on Jesus. When we meet Jesus, we don't want Him to say, "You had one job. . ."

— Loren Stacy



District News

Southwest

Contributor: Jamin Teran

SWD photos taken by SWD Media Ministry



Outstanding volunteers. On February 22, Bryan and Sue Burrell were honored at the Fairview Chamber of Commerce Annual Meeting and Awards Banquet as 2021 Volunteers of the Year. Praised for their long-standing involvement in the community, the

Burrells always help with numerous community events throughout the year, as well as with church functions. We praise the Lord for this couple who blesses the church and others.



Baptisms. During February and March, several of our district churches celebrated baptisms. We rejoice with those who have entered the Church family!

Opening for a full-time pastor at the Eugene, Oregon church. Licensed NAMC ministers may contact Eugene Chairman Richard Keim (rKeimdcor@gmail.com) or West Coast District Superintendent Larry Zaragoza (zman52@msn.com).



Counting blessings. The SWD Media Department created the 10,000 Gratuudes Project, inviting churches and Conference members to send videos of what God is doing in their lives so we can praise together during the rest of 2021. Brethren have been submitting videos, and those have been shared online. If you want to express your gratitude, send your short video (30 seconds - 1 minute) to swdmedia@cog7.org.



Super Sabbath. Brethren in Oklahoma and Fort Smith gathered April 24 to celebrate their first face-to-face Super Sabbath. Pastor Don Rodgers' sermon, "The Need for a Fresh Start," motivated the church to continue even during the pandemic. We thank God for this opportunity to worship together!

100+ Years Strong

The Fairview, Oklahoma church, the first CoG7 organized in the state of Oklahoma, is celebrating 127 years of ministry. Its beginning dates back before statehood when Oklahoma, then Indian territory, was opened for settlement.

Generations of Church of God folks with roots in the Fairview church now reside all over the country. Some of the ministers who served there through the years were A. Craig, C. Adams, C. Faubion, R. Marrs, Hawkins

(Haskell and Enis), F. Walker, L. Hadden, K. Knoll, R. Sanders, and Burrell (Calvin, Ivan, Denis, and Titus). O. T. Whitten and K. C. Walker were the traveling evangelists.

Throughout the years, changes have occurred in the membership and have been made to the church building. But the gospel that the congregation studies on Sabbath mornings is the Word of the never-changing God.



— Bryan and Mary Sue Burrell

Read the full history of the Fairview church at churchright.org.

SWD Upcoming Events
June 13-20 - Dover Family Camp

Northeast

Contributor: Esther Winchell



Women's Sabbath. Women Equipping Women in the NED was active with the Annual Women's Sabbath in March. It is usually the first Sabbath in March, but sometimes church schedules don't allow it. Ladies groups participated from Saginaw and Owosso, MI; Ossining, NY; and Bridgeport, CT. Those who attended said how blessed they were with the program on the theme "Always With You," based on Deuteronomy 31:8.

ASLEEP IN JESUS

Valente Gutierrez Perez

Brother Valente Gutierrez (91) went to sleep in the Lord on March 26. He helped establish the first congregation (Ysleta) in El Paso, Texas, and went on to pastor the churches at Tigua and Socorro, Texas, until he retired from the pastorate.



Pedro (Pete) Capetillo

Elder Pedro Capetillo (85), long-time minister and pastor of the Albuquerque, New Mexico congregation, passed away April 29.



Please visit our Memorials page (churchright.org) for complete information on these servants' lives.



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The average GC income for the previous five years has been \$1,517,180 per year. At the close of our fiscal year (March 31, 2021), our income was \$274K short of this average. Thankfully, with severe cost-cutting throughout the year and the forgiveness of a \$210K PPP loan (\$45K of which aided most of our US GC districts), we ended the year nearly break-even. The GC will not have a PPP loan this year, so we are facing a \$165K loss in fiscal year 2021 at the current income rate.

At its annual meeting in March, the board of directors made the following decisions in anticipation of a second lean year: 1) It injected \$40K income immediately from its reserves into the GC budget; 2) It approved the GC to budget a loss of \$40.6K for fiscal year 2021, which will require a second withdrawal from its reserves; and 3) It approved GC Missions to

collect a 10 percent administration fee for donations to international ministries it manages (estimated to assist GC Missions' income by \$27K in 2021). This covers \$107.6K of the current shortfall. We're hopeful that the rest will come from increased giving as health and economic conditions improve.

We are so thankful for you all and for your faithful support. Please continue to stay safe and share God's love with the joyful hope we have in Christ! God is good!



Fresh Insights for a Fresh Start

The Artios Center is pleased to announce a new seminar series designed to provide fresh encouragement and biblical insights for coping with life and work in our new COVID-19 reality.

The series will be presented by instructors from the Master Life Coach Training Institute in a joint venture with the Artios Center.

Mastering Life Seminar Series

- June 7: Stress-Proofing Your Life & Ministry (Hawkins)
- June 21: Embracing Uncertainty (Smithart)
- July 12: What Makes You Tick (Vance)
- July 26: Dealing With Anxiety & Depression (Love)
- August 9: Stress-Proofing Your Life & Work (Hawkins)
- August 16: When What Makes You Tick Leaves You Overwhelmed (Vance)



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Each seminar will be conducted on a Monday evening, 6:00-9:00 p.m. (Eastern time). Cost: \$50 per seminar.

Register here:

<https://my.artioscollege.org/en/resource/25>

