

CHURCHRIGHT

Doing church right



An Invitation

Early in His ministry, Jesus saw Philip and issued the invitation “Follow Me.” Philip immediately went to find Nathanael, telling him, “We have found the one that Moses and the prophets wrote about – Jesus of Nazareth.” Skeptical, Nathanael wondered if anything good could come from Nazareth. “Come and see,” Philip told him. Find out for yourself.

This is your invitation to “Come and See” Jesus with fresh eyes at the GC Convention. Be inspired to return home and impact your family with your personal story of Jesus.

Join us in Covington, Kentucky, July 10-15, 2023, for a great gathering. Come and see!

Have You Not Read?

Dr. Howard Hendricks asked pastors, “Have you not read Ephesians 4:11-16?” He was addressing church leaders who try to do everything themselves, or at least control everything. He was reminding them that Christ “gave some as apostles, and some as prophets, and some as evangelists, and some as pastors and teachers,” not to do or control everything but “for the equipping of the saints for the work of service” (NASB). Ephesians 4 goes on to say that this results in all believers becoming stable in doctrine, resistant to false teaching, and loving and honest in their relationships. Each member of the body is to be equipped and unleashed to perform their ministry unto Jesus.

Let me speak the truth in love. Pastors who do not equip and unleash the saints for ministry, leaders who attempt to do everything themselves or micro-manage those they may have delegated to ministries, are violating this portion of God’s Word and the example of team ministry in the New Testament. Have they not read Ephesians 4:11-16?

While the predominant metaphor in the Bible compares the church and her individual members to the human body and its individual parts, let’s compare them to a sports team and its individual players and coaches. Successful coaches don’t run on to the field and attempt to play every position themselves. No, they identify each player’s strengths (gifts) and place each player in the position that requires those strengths. They then instruct as needed, correct as needed, encourage continuously. But for the most part, they get out of the way and allow their players to play their positions.

Though my position is president, can you imagine how ineffective I’d be if I tried to do everything myself? I depend on the members of my team, who depend on the members of their teams, who depend on the members of their teams. Together, with members fulfilling their own ministries, we all succeed and God is glorified. Go team!

– Loren Stacy
GC President



District News

Central

Contributors: Stephanie Kalinowski and Ken Lawson, Superintendent



Newly appointed Superintendent Ronald Rousseau (left) speaks of the Lawsons' faithful ministry.

Goodbye to the Lawsons

The district board gathered on Sabbath, March 19, at the St. Paul, Minnesota church to recognize Elder Kenneth Lawson and his wife, Sandra, for their years of service to the district. Ken and Sandra were presented with a plaque of appreciation, along with gifts and cards from many district churches. Overwhelmed by emotion, Ken could hardly speak as he was handed the plaque.

This couple is a great example of service. Brother Ken has helped the churches in the Central District through some difficult times. Though their watch has ended, their words and efforts will continue to stand as examples to us all.

Transformation of the Heart

On a windy day we drove to the lodge located on one of the few hills in North Dakota for our women's retreat April 8-10. We enjoyed tasty meals prepared by ladies from our local churches; worship songs sung in one accord; instruction from the Word to transform our hearts; testimonies of women on how the Lord is seeing them through; a special of "How Great Thou Art," sung while looking out at God's creation; and other activities.

Mary Jean Knoll gave context of our key verse

(Ezekiel 36:26). Using a list of names and attributes of God, she led us in discussions of who God is, finding our identity in Christ, and understanding God's love for us.

We arrived on a dry spring day and left on a rain-soaked morning. It paired well with our arriving with stony hearts from the world and its troubles and leaving with hearts of flesh as soft and fresh as the morning rain.

— Stephanie Kalinowski



Ordination. Mike Wallace, who serves members and contacts spread 600 miles across Montana, was ordained by Elder Brian Larson on April 9 in Spokane, WA. Mike is also the senior spiritual advisor helping the Colorado Springs, CO congregation. Living in Missoula, he and his wife, Bonnie, both have theological degrees and will be a great asset to the work in the Central District.



District board meeting. The Central District board held its annual meeting in the Twin Cities March 19-20. Elder Kenneth Lawson (front row, center), superintendent for the past six years, is retiring

(again). The entire board placed hands on Elder Ronald Rousseau, praying for God's strength for him and his wife, Maria. They assume leadership of the district on July 1.



Children's Concert. On March 12, churches from across the Chicago area gathered at the Elgin church for the first Children's Concert. The children of Calumet performed on musical instruments for the first time. In addition to singing songs, the Elgin children performed a play themed after the animal kingdom. Let's pray that occasions like this continue to inspire more generations of Christ's children to honor Him with music.

Northeast

Contributors: Esther Winchell and Marna Reneria

Women's Emphasis Sabbath 2022

If I remember correctly, this special occasion has been celebrated since 2010. This year's theme, "Living for God's Glory,"



was chosen to match our current quarterlies that have been teaching us to live for God by discipleship and sharing His love. Many groups kept the suggested scripture, 1 Peter

4:7-10, to love one another and share Jesus' love with those who do not know Him.

The first Sabbath in March was originally chosen for this event, but it has been expanded to include any



Sabbath available for the local churches. It has nothing to do with the secular month of women empowerment but with God welcoming all of us to serve as His disciples, proclaiming the good news to everyone.



If you can join in this celebration, think about what would work best for your local congregation. Please enjoy the photos of some groups that participated. You can see by their smiling faces that these ladies live for God's glory and His glory only!

Ugly quilt. On April 23, women's groups from the Lafayette Street and Bowser Avenue churches in Fort Wayne IN, finished an "ugly quilt." Women donated fabric squares from many churches, and Sister Jacquelyn Scott led the group in completing it. Covered with love and prayers, the quilt will go to someone in need of warmth.



Southeast

Contributor: Steve Krome, Superintendent



Baptisms. On March 7, the Marietta, GA church celebrated the baptisms of seven brothers and sisters, performed by pastors Walter Apen and Ismael Marinez. Also, Pastor Germaine Reece baptized five new brothers and sisters from the NW Atlanta and Grace Fellowship churches on April 9. Welcome to our new family members!



New churches. On February 26, the Spanish-speaking district churches met in Ocala, FL, to welcome seven new Florida mission churches, located in Bradenton, Davenport, Lakeland, Naranja, Ocala, and Orlando. Approximately 800 members from the entire district were present.

Anniversary. Grace Fellowship Ministries in Atlanta, GA, celebrated its seventh anniversary on April 23. Sister E. Reece presented the church's history, and Pastor G. Reece preached. We wish them many more years of service to their community!



Senior service. The Senior Ministry has provided painting classes on Facebook February-April. Our senior brethren learn a new skill, improve their creativity, and increase their cognitive function. The classes allow them to share their talents with their local churches.



Beautifully Rooted. During March, Women's Emphasis Month, the district Women's Ministry provided resources so all women could lead a service in their churches. The theme "Beautifully Rooted," based on Jeremiah 17:7, 8, was displayed through worship, fellowship, and God's Word.

Southwest

Contributor: Jamin Teran

SWD photos taken by SWD Media Ministry



Leadership conference. On March 12, the SWD leadership team gathered in San Antonio, TX, for its annual conference with the theme "Focus on Jesus and Follow His Plan." GC President Loren Stacy introduced more details about the GC initiatives and evangelistic teams, and he provided an overview of the core principles to lead in each ministry. Objectives, expectations, and goals were revised, and new ministries leaders were presented and prayed over. Triple Tree church hosted the event and blessed the leaders with meals and great fellowship.

Bread of Life. Our sister church in Fort Smith, AR, recognized families on April 9 that have been serving with an outreach ministry called Bread of Life. Jan and Judy Hamilton, Randy and Marcia Sanders, and David and Cathy Burrell have been involved for 40 years. Pam Curtis was also praised for her job in the Dorcas ministry, which provides coats and clothes to those in need.



Lord's Supper. On April 14, Lord's Supper was celebrated in all district churches. Sermons called the Church to understand the sacrifice of Jesus, and they encouraged us to be the bride Jesus wants at His return. This commemoration was a great opportunity to worship together and renew our vows to God.



Super Sabbath. The Oklahoma Conference held its Super Sabbath in Tulsa on April 23. About 150 brethren gathered to hear God's message through Pastor Moises Capetillo. Also, Superintendent Chip Hinds ordained Brother Jason Brown as a CoG7 minister. A raffle and auction of baked goods raised \$2,600 for playground equipment at Dover Camp.



Fellowship moments. On April 23, the Artesia Wells, TX church welcomed The Orchard, a mission of the CoG7. The church started this fellowship partnership last year to strengthen and encourage our brethren and to cultivate spiritual growth in each other. We thank the Lord for the opportunities the church opens up to develop the fruits of the Spirit.

Blessed by baptisms. The district celebrated baptisms in several churches recently. We rejoice with those who have entered the church family!



Upcoming Events

- June 12-19 - Dover Family Camp
- June 17-18 - Area 1 Super Sabbath
- June 17-18 - Area 3 Personal Evangelism Training

West Coast

Contributors: Melva Smith, Greg Lincoln, and Loren Gjesdal



Envision Next

On March 5, the churches of the Willamette Valley in

Oregon sponsored an Envision Next event, hosted at the Marion church. The Portland church joined Marion for the day, while the Harrisburg and Eugene churches joined for the messages by livestream in the morning and in person in the afternoon. All were encouraged to hear Whaid Rose present a Big Vision for Small Churches.

The all-day Super Sabbath-style event included three sessions. The first described the church as a refuge of hope in our troubled times, while the second reminded us that the church is to be at the center of what Jesus is doing in the world. The final session challenged us to not curse the darkness but to light a candle by sharing the life and love of Jesus. The day concluded with an evening meal and activities for youth and young adults.

Along with joyful worship and fellowship and encouraging messages, the Willamette Valley churches hope that the event prepared hearts to receive forthcoming training for Personal Evangelism, Home Evangelism, and Welcoming Churches. We encourage any church interested in hosting a similar Envision Next event to visit center.artioscollege.org.



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Evangelism seminar. On April 17, nearly 40 people from three area churches gathered at the Harrisburg, OR church for an all-day evangelism and relationship-mentorship seminar, sponsored by the district. Superintendent Larry Zaragoza and Elder Mike Vlad inspired and equipped attendees to share the gospel, and gave practical tools to accomplish relational evangelism. They also interspersed personal faith stories and shared moments of divine appointments that encouraged and blessed all who participated. We look forward to the great things God will do with the seeds sown!



Sprucing up Sis-Q. More than 30 volunteers came for a spring clean-up at Sis-Q Meadows March 20-21. The highlight of the weekend was a dual baptism (yes, the water was cold) and welcoming our new caretakers to camp: Calvin and Shelley Jenkins and their two daughters. We thank God for those willing to spend their lives so there will be a place to slow down and allow God to speak into lives of young and old.

West Coast District 2022 Camp/Retreat Schedule

July 18-24 - Youth, Weimar, CA; directors: Irene Sotelo (irenesotelo@netzero.net) and Levi Van Fossen (559-731-5578)

July 18-24 - Seekers; director: Isabel Hernandez

July 24-31 - Youth, Sis-Q Meadows; directors: Harold and Vona Ogren (hogren@msn.com), Greg and Lori Haffner

July 31 - August 7 - Seekers, Sis-Q Meadows; directors: Matt and Johanna Stucker (mattnjo@highstream.net)

September 14-17 - Senior adult, Sis-Q Meadows; contacts: Martha Ling (martha@nonys.net), Jan Pedersen-Shibly (japede7@yahoo.com), and Larry Zaragoza

Note: Any camp could be subject to change or cancellation.

Western Canada

Contributor: Orville Rose



Ladies Day

It has been nigh unto a decade since the General Conference coordinated Ladies Sabbath. The Calgary CoG7 celebrated this event on March 19.

There was great anticipation, as the pandemic had prevented the church from celebrating in this fashion last year. Touted as one of the most well-attended activities on the congregation's calendar, members are encouraged to use the occasion as an evangelism tool, to invite the community to worship and experience the fellowship that the church offers.

Annmarie Rose spoke on the need to be strong in the Lord as we ward off the attack of the Adversary and open our hearts and church to all. This was supported by Debbie Chavez, who led the Sabbath school lesson on sharing our experience as witnesses. God had the preeminence as the young praise team guided us in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs.



Celebration Sabbath. The Calgary congregation considered the Sabbath following Lord's Supper a reason to celebrate, to remember what Christ has done for humanity. It was a special time as well to invite friends to come out to church, a reminder that churches were once more fully open. The rousing chorus that Jesus saves filled the neighborhood as the celebration continued late into the afternoon hours. This was capped off by a specially prepared fellowship luncheon, enjoyed by brethren and visitors alike.

Mile High meeting. The GC's annual Leadership Meeting took place April 4-6 in Denver.



District superintendents and Ministries leaders joined GC President Loren Stacy and Executive Director Jody McCoy to discuss business and the 2022 evangelism focus. Pictured here (L to R) are BA Editor Jason Overman and Superintendents Orville Rose (Western Canada) and Heber Vega (Northeast).



ASLEEP IN JESUS

Hugh Burton Butrick

1928 - 2022

Hugh Burton Butrick (94) passed away on March 29 in his home in Albuquerque, New Mexico. He was born March 8, 1928, in Stanberry, Missouri.

Hugh married Lucille Marie Schlenker in August 1949 in Stanberry. After graduating Midwest Bible College in 1961, he became pastor of the Church of God (Seventh Day) in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. Hugh also pastored several other churches, including Las Cruces, New Mexico; Eureka, South Dakota; Kansas City, Missouri; St. Paul, Minnesota; Claremore, Oklahoma; and Albuquerque and Roswell, New Mexico.

Hugh faithfully served the Lord and the Church for more than 70 years. He is survived by his daughter, Vicki Butrick; grandson, John; and countless other family and friends.

Please visit churchright.org for a longer version of this memorial and for other memorials.



General Conference Ministries

Total Receipts and Total Expenses

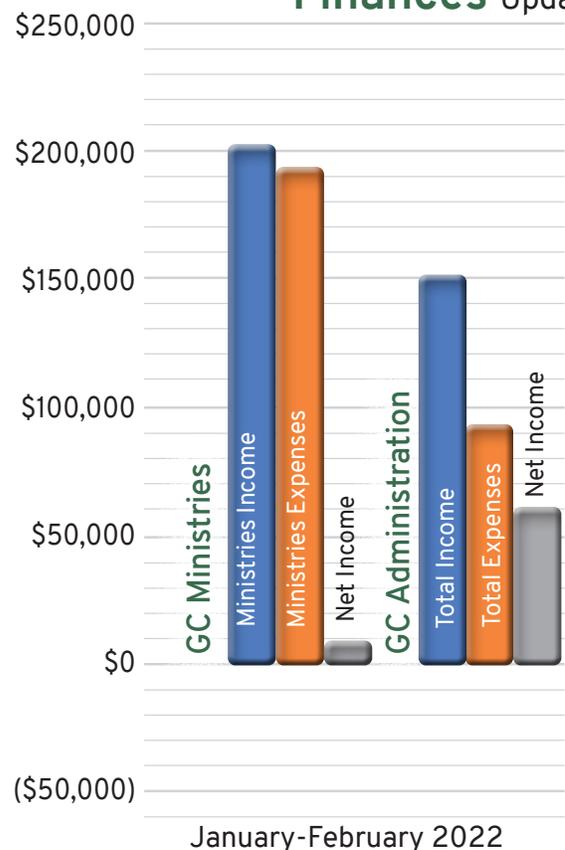
Artios Christian College, Missions, and Publications (Bible Advocate Press) are the current GC Ministries. They receive financial support from direct offerings and from a portion of the 15 percent of members' tithes received by the General Conference. Expenditures are guided by each ministry's annual 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.

Finances Update





**THE ARTIOS
CENTER** FOR VIBRANT
LEADERSHIP

The Artios Center for Vibrant Leadership
is pleased to announce its 2nd annual

Virtual Summer Seminar on Gospel-Centered Preaching

Date and Time: Sunday, August 28, 2022 (1-3 p.m. EDT)

Featuring Loren Stacy, Ramon Ruiz, and Whaid Rose,
along with Artios staff — Brian Franks and Loren Gjesdal

Mark your calendars and watch for more details.

center.artioscollege.org/events



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