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In Memoriam



Calvin Burrell
1943 – 2022

Elder Calvin Burrell passed away the evening of June 29, surrounded by his wife, children, and grandchildren. Throughout his adult life, Elder Burrell was a consummate churchman, serving Christ and our church in numerous roles. His service as editor of the *Bible Advocate* magazine, as instructor of so many who studied for ministry, as member of countless committees, and as one to whom many of us regularly looked for biblical wisdom has left a positive mark on our church that will last for generations. Elder Burrell will be greatly missed. (A full obituary is available on our Memorials page at churchright.org.)



District News

Central

Contributor: Ronald Rousseau, Superintendent



Sharing Jesus. On April 30, 131 people from the Chicago-area churches met at the Addison church to learn how to share Jesus Christ with “pre-Christians.” Elders Mike Vlad and Larry Zaragoza led this day-long seminar on personal evangelism as part of the General Conference’s “Come and See” evangelism initiative.



Revival. The Chicago-area women’s group held its revival meeting at the Calumet City church on May 8. Guest speaker Jochebeth Martinez is the Women’s Ministry leader for the General Conference in Mexico. With the theme based on Luke 10:38-42, the day was filled with many activities, plays, sermons, and special prayers. This event was prefaced by a Zoom call on the same topic earlier in the week and during an all-day Sabbath service, allowing many women to benefit from Sister Jochebeth’s visit.

Northeast

Contributors: Esther Winchell and Marna Renteria



Big on small churches. On June 25, the Church of God in Petersburg, MI, hosted an all-day seminar, presented by Elder Whaid Rose. The Fort Wayne, IN; Holland, MI; Moundsville, WV; and Saginaw, MI churches were represented. Elder Rose said that the world is hungry for smaller churches that offer a small, loving community. We are to share the hope of Jesus in this broken world. Thank you, Elder Rose and Petersburg CoG7!



Grateful Hearts

The “Grateful to God” service was held in Fort Wayne, Indiana, at the Lafayette Street church on June 17-18. Guests arrived from the Bowser Avenue church, along with visitors from Ohio and Michigan. The entire service was filled with gratitude to God, who has allowed the Lafayette Street congregation to pay off their mortgage. They are now the proud owners of their own church building and property!

A short history, shared through testimonies and videos, began on Friday evening and continued throughout Sabbath day. We enjoyed hearing what God has done, even through the many rentals, struggles, obstacles, and uncertainties. To God be the glory for all He has done! Many praises in song and prayers were dedicated to the Lord.

A Lord's Prayer wall hanging was presented to this congregation from the Northeast District in recognition for all they have done and as a reminder that God will continue to prevail.

God is good. And this service truly showed evidence of "all the time"!

– Esther Winchell



Youth ministry. The Lafayette Street church hosted Minister Rex Miller on April 23 to preach during the morning service. In the afternoon, Bowser Avenue joined the gathering and led praise and worship. Brother Rex spoke a powerful message about God's Word and His empowerment to do His will.

Southeast

Contributor: Steve Krome, Superintendent



On the move. Congratulations to our new church in Lake Worth, FL! Formerly in West Palm Beach, it moved several months ago when a building was purchased. Co-pastored by Brothers Margarito and Jose Perez, the church has approximately 150 members and visitors who attend weekly. All of us in the Southeast District wish them continued success and growth!

Upcoming SED Events

August 5-7 - Leaders Conference, Adrian Camp and Conference Center; contact Steve Krome (sdkrome@yahoo.com)

September 9-11 - Women's Retreat, Adrian Camp and Conference Center; contact Zahida Hrenyk (zahidamhrenyk@gmail.com)

November 4-6 - Men's Retreat, Adrian and Conference Center; contact Walter Apen (walterapen600@gmail.com) or Steve Krome (sdkrome@yahoo.com)

December 16-18 - Youth Retreat, Mikell Camp and Conference Center; contact Allison Krome (joakrome@yahoo.com)

Southwest

Contributor: Jamin Teran

SWD photos taken by SWD Media Ministry



Area 3 worship. The doors of the Eperanza Viva church in Houston opened to 85 youth and young adults on April 30 for a worship night. The message encouraged them to remember the special place God has given each one of them. During the night, all of the youth and young adults praised, learned, and fellowshiped together.



Celebration. On May 14, our sister church, New Hope United, celebrated ten years of God's grace in their midst. The congregation enjoyed a blessed service and message, as well as a time of fellowship. We praise the Lord for His faithfulness!



SWORD joy. More than 100 young adults gathered at the CoG7 Truevine in Austin, TX, on May 21. During the day, the young adults learned about the joy they can find in such areas as evangelism, finances, fellowship, relationships, and worship. The day was full of activities, games, and most important, God's presence.



Leadership meeting. On May 22, the Area 1 pastors and leaders gathered in at the CoG7 Piedra Angular. Pastors and leaders were introduced to the GC Initiatives. Virtually and in person, different speakers went over their needs, requirements, and resources. Superintendent Chip Hinds encouraged the pastors to be intentional in their calling and edify the Church. After the meeting, the congregation provided lunch to the participants.



Bearing fruit. The SWD Senior Ministry held its first meeting on May 29 at the CoG7 Ceralvo in San Antonio. More than 40 seniors gathered to praise the Lord, enjoy fellowship, and delight in God's Word. Pastor Thomas Childers encourage them to continue bearing fruit in this stage of their lives. Sister Merari Teran talked about the importance of good health, touching on social, physical, and mental areas. Afterward, seniors could paint, do

crafts, or just socialize and play games. It was a great opportunity for them to feel loved and encouraged by the Church.



Super Sabbath. At Area 1's first Super Sabbath of the year, held June 17-18, 470 brethren gathered in Dallas to worship our Lord. Using the theme "The Great Commission," Pedro and Moises Capetillo and Daniel Flores encouraged the brethren to be a friendly church that shares the gospel. Superintendent Chip Hinds attended, as well as Brian Baker, director of the Orphans and Widows ministry. Brethren were also honored with the presence of Brother Robert Coulter, founder of the International Ministerial Congress. In each service, churches in this area ushered us into the presence of God. We are thankful to Him for allowing us to have this Super Sabbath for His honor and glory.



Pastoral support. On June 19, 52 pastors and leaders of Area 1 gathered for a leadership meeting at the North Dallas church. During the training, Elder Daniel Flores and Pastor Ramon Ruiz preached the Word of God, emphasizing the importance of family groups. Superintendent Chip Hinds also encouraged attendees to continue moving forward.

Dover Family Camp

Two hundred brethren from all over our district, and outside it, gathered June 12-19 in Dover, Oklahoma, to enjoy a week of worship, fellowship, and friendships. The theme of this year's camp was "Walking Free."



During the week, brethren heard eleven speakers. Among them was Superintendent Chip Hinds, whose messages revolved around the camp theme, as well as our GC initiatives in evangelism. “Come and See” workshops were led by Daniel Flores, Moises Capetillo, and Pete Capetillo.

The children visited Science Museum of Oklahoma, and youth had a great time at the Frontier City Amusement Park. On Sabbath, Pastor Barry Mauldin recited and preached on the Sermon on the Mount. The celebration continued with several specials, the children’s program, consecration of programs, and most important, memories and friendships.

We thank God for everyone who made this year’s camp possible under the leadership of brother Jerad Ullrich and his wife, Heather.



Evangelism training. Area 3 held personal evangelism training June 17-18 at the Galena Park church. West Coast District Superintendent Larry Zaragoza and Elder Mike Vlad provided this two-day training on how to present the gospel in an easy way. More than 50 brethren reviewed the whole course and had a clear expectation of how to implement the techniques in any environment. They engaged in a question-and-answer session, developed their personal testimony, and practiced sharing it.

Upcoming SWD Events

- August 5-6** - Personal Evangelism Training in Jasper, AR
- August 21** - Small Groups Evangelism Training in Galena Park, TX
- September 2-5** - National Women’s Retreat in Dallas, TX
- September 10** - SWORD Worship and Community Outreach event in Houston, TX



Our condolences to the family of Larry G. Brooks (79), who passed away on November 28, 2021. Larry served the Church and SWD in many capacities, including local and district-wide boards, master of ceremonies, song leader, Sabbath school teacher, and mentor. Visit churchright.org for a longer version of his memorial.



West Coast

Contributor: Melva Smith



New mission. On June 25, Superintendent Larry Zaragoza visited our congregation in Lyndon, WA, and formally recognized and blessed them as the district’s newest mission. Welcome, Lyndon, WA Church of God (Seventh Day)!



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Work “Party”

For years, Harold and Vona Ogren have been involved in many areas of service and ministry on the local, district, and national levels. But recently the brothers and sisters at the Eugene CoG7 gave back to Harold and Vona in a tangible way.

In April, the Ogrens’ daughter, Lacey, unexpectedly went to sleep in the Lord. So we did for the Ogrens what they would normally do for others. Harold and Vona own a few acres that they have made into a beautiful events venue. Because of the changes to their lives, they couldn’t prepare their property for wedding season. So on May 15, more than forty people came to clean, weed, spread bark, and anything else that needed to be done. The morning work ended with lunch, a lot of smiles, and hearts that were full. It was a privilege to be the hands and feet of Jesus to this couple!



Yakima Mission Trip

June 21-26, thirty-eight youth and adults from the Eugene, Harrisburg, Marion, Toppenish, Spokane, and Meridian churches shared the gospel and displayed Jesus’ love to the people of the Yakima Indian Nation in Washington. A Vacation Bible School-style outreach was presented in the neighborhood called Apas Goudy in Wapato on Wednesday and Thursday. Attendance ranged between twenty and thirty.

A small work crew did simple yard work and clean-up in one of the neighborhoods and volunteered at the Toppenish food bank. The entire group volunteered Friday at the Union Gospel Mission in Yakima. On Sab-

bath, the team played support roles as the Toppenish church led a “Church Service in the Park” in the Apas Goudy neighborhood. The entire congregation enjoyed an outdoor worship service with the neighbors and provided a potluck lunch after church. The mission team helped with games and activities that afternoon.

Over the years, many young people who have gone on one of the mission trips to the Yakima Indian Nation have been so moved that they have gone on other mission trips to Mexico, Guatemala, Haiti, Cambodia, and other countries. We are so proud of all these young people and adults and their commitment to go on this mission trip.



GC Missions Donations

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

Practiced by the majority of non-profit organizations, this approach ensures that GC Missions has adequate resources to provide strong communication, accountability, and implementation of all projects on behalf of its donors and supporters. This policy will apply to donations received after July 30, 2022.

If you need further information, please contact office@coG7missions.org.

Welcome, Jamin!

We are pleased that Jamin Teran has agreed to become the full-time General Conference Communications Director, starting August 3. Working with the GC and its three ministries,



this person develops plans for the Conference’s social media strategy, web presence, videography, public relations, promotion, advertising, media relations, and GC news. We are blessed to have someone of Jamin’s education, experience, and abilities in our church and on our GC team!

Biennial Convention



At this writing, GC Convention 2023 is about one year away. Are you making your plans? July 10-15 will be a week filled with blessings, good fellowship, God-inspired sermons and workshops, and lots of worship. There are activities for all age groups. The week features a fun, educational children's program; energetic, inspiring youth activities; encouraging, inspiring young adult activities; and opportunities for adults to be involved in the business of the Church and spiritual growth experiences. All attendees will come together in the evening for a large corporate gathering. We would love to see you there!

As in previous years, several hotel options will be available. Nightly costs range from \$119 to \$140. These are special convention rates and are not available on general hotel websites. The hotels will prepare a special convention website for reserving your rooms. Your willingness to reserve a room in the convention block greatly reduces the costs of meeting space in the hotels and Convention Center. More details will be released in late 2022 or early 2023.

Hopefully, this will help you plan for GC Convention 2023. Start saving so you can join us in Covington, Kentucky. And don't forget to come early so you can visit the Ark Encounter with friends and family. It will be worth it!

— *Convention Planning Committee*

Special note: The Planning Committee needs your assistance in identifying someone to coordinate a nursery program, including planning activities and recruiting volunteer assistants. If you or someone you know would be interested, please contact Mary Jean Knoll (knoll5853@comcast.net).





IMC SABBATH

CONTINUING

THE MISSION OF JESUS

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NOVEMBER 5, 2022



Gospel-Centered Preaching

Summer Seminar 2022

Presented by the
Artios Center for Vibrant Leadership



Ramon Ruiz



Loren Stacy



Whaid Rose

Sunday, August 28,
at 1:00 p.m. (EDT)

Suggested donation: \$30

Equipping leaders to more effectively carry out the biblical mandate to preach the gospel, presented in three segments:

Tell Me, Show Me, and Send Me

The seminar will be recorded and available to registrants within a couple of days after the live event.

Coaching opportunity: Beyond the three-hour seminar, participants can go deeper through several one-on-one coaching sessions. This option is designed to provide practical help and self-confidence in preparing and delivering powerful gospel-centered preaching. It will be offered at an additional cost.

Register at
my.artioscollege.org/en/resources