

THE Restitution Herald

& Progress Journal

God's Best Gifts

By Ken Howe

“He brought me socks instead of a bicycle? Socks?? What was he thinking???” How many times do I have to tell the jolly old elf that I want a bike—not socks, not underwear, not pajamas!!! I WANT A NEW BICYCLE!!!!!!” That’s what I was thinking. What I said was, “Oh, socks.” Such was the life of a child as the Santa Claus myth met the reality of poor-side-of-town economics. My brothers and I had food, shelter, clothing (plenty of socks and underwear) and yet each Christmas we hoped for more, waiting for some sort of realized wish that would alter the ordinary, boring course of our lives. What seemed to temper the sense of “my-life-is-useless-and-Santa-is-a-loser” loss at not getting everything we’d asked for were the “surprises.” These were the unexpected gifts that often became our favorites. Maybe Santa wasn’t such a loser after all.

As we grew older and came to realize that Mom and Dad were the ones sacrificing to give us Christmas, we became more appreciative and less discouraged and frustrated. Life was good. It could’ve been better, but it was pretty good.

Now, as an adult, the Santa Claus myth has been replaced by the reality of God. In my prayers I still ask, still don’t always receive, and yet I have a much calmer attitude

about not getting everything I would like. I’ve come to assume there’s a greater purpose at work: my loving God is busy packaging up some really great surprises to give me, in due time, at just the right moment. “Surprise!” Just as we enjoy seeing the glee in the eyes of our loved ones whenever we bless them with unexpected goodness, so to, I believe, does our kind Creator relish



the giving of the unanticipated gift. And usually we enjoy God’s wise gift much more than we’d have guessed. “Wow, is this the greatest present or what!?!?”

More and more I’ve come to appreciate the value of the “empty” prayer. You see, I like to surprise God, too. My empty prayers are empty of any requests, yet full of praise and thanksgiving. I can just imagine the gleam in my Father’s eyes as I pray, “This is all so good, Lord. Thank you.” What a priceless gift it must be for our Creator to receive such words of satisfied heart peace. On other days, I simply ask

God to surprise me. That’s my prayer of trust in His kindness and goodwill toward me personally. He knows my needs, so it’s very easy to ask for unspecified blessings. Trust. On the days when I do ask for certain needs to be met, I never fail to put everything in the context of God’s perfect understanding of my life. “Whatever my future holds, Lord, I know you have blessed my days with your absolute love.”

During this Advent season, how can we forget the greatest surprise of all? “. . . in the fullness of time, God sent forth His Son.” The expectant faithful one had been earnestly praying for the appearance of the Messiah, fully expecting him to come in power and glory. They didn’t get exactly what they’d been asking for in the sense that the baby Jesus was born in perfect humility: the “unwelcome welcome,” the stable, the raggedy clothing. No thunder and lightning, no trumpeted anthem, “just” the angelic proclamation to some stunned shepherds in the field: “Peace on earth . . .” And “just” the star, the guiding Star of Bethlehem. God was packaging up in humble wrappings the most glorious gift we humans have ever seen. And so we open up love and joy and peace and all of the glorious gifts of our salvation—transformation and resurrection, faith and hope and love. Miraculous Surprise! “Lord, it’s all so good; so much more than we could ever ask or think. Wow! Is this the greatest Present or what!?”■

Greetings to you from Atlanta, Georgia. Even as the summer months fade into memories and the weather cools, we are very busy with many exciting events. I want to take the opportunity to update you on the current state of our most ambitious current project—the Campus Development Plan with the associated relocation of our operations. As we have previously discussed, the reasons for the Board’s decision are related to the College Vision. Planning has been underway since the Board of Directors’ decision last spring to proceed with the relocation, as you will see below.

Discussions with Clayton State University regarding their purchase of all holdings have been fruitful. Appraisals for the current site have been

approximately \$2,400,000. In order to execute the sale, Clayton State University (CSU) must obtain approval from the Georgia Board of Regents. Their next scheduled meeting is in January 2008. It is expected that if the Board of Regents staff agrees to the proposals from CSU, the Board of Regents will approve the project. The most basic elements of the plan include the following five steps:

1. Sell the existing campus to Clayton State University. If the plan is submitted to the Georgia Board of Regents as expected in January, the sale could be completed by early 2008.
2. Lease the existing facility from Clayton State for a time not to exceed 36 months. This will allow us to continue operating in Morrow while developing the Northeast and Henry County

facilities. It is in the best interest of the College that the transition period be as short as possible, to reduce the total amount paid to Clayton State University for the lease.

3. Purchase the necessary technology to broadcast instruction to remote sites. We have examined new technology being used at Clayton State University and other colleges to provide distance learning/remote instruction opportunities. The classrooms are provided with cameras that capture the instructor and broadcasts this to other locations as the class is conducted. The instructor, in turn, receives video coverage of the students in the remote locations. Using tablet computers or Smartboard support, the students see all notes and other documentation the instructor supplies. This capability allows instructors, at any campus

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THE RESTITUTION HERALD ADVOCATES:

- THE ONENESS OF GOD (1 COR. 8:6);
- THE HOLY SPIRIT IS GOD'S POWER (ACTS 1:8);
- JESUS CHRIST IS GOD'S ONLY BEGOTTEN SON (MATT. 16:16), AND IS OUR MEDIATOR (1 TIM. 2:5);
- THE BIBLE IS THE INSPIRED WORD OF GOD (2 TIM. 3:16);
- THE MORTALITY OF MAN (JOB 4:17; PSA. 146:4);
- THE NEAR RETURN OF CHRIST (ACTS 1:11), AND LIFE ONLY THROUGH HIM (COL. 3:3);
- THE LITERAL RESURRECTION OF THE DEAD (JOHN 5:28);
- THE IMMORTALIZATION OF THOSE IN CHRIST (1 COR. 15:53, 54);
- THE DESTRUCTION OF THE WICKED (REV. 21:8);
- THE FINAL RESTORATION OF ISRAEL AS THE KINGDOM OF GOD UNDER THE KINGSHIP OF CHRIST (LUKE 1:32);
- THE CHURCH TO BE JOINT HEIRS WITH HIM (ROM. 8:17), AND ISRAEL TO BE MADE HEAD OVER GENTILE NATIONS (ISA. 60:1-3);
- THE "RESTITUTION OF ALL THINGS WHICH GOD HATH SPOKEN BY THE MOUTH OF ALL HIS HOLY PROPHETS SINCE THE WORLD BEGAN" (ACTS 3:21).
- IT ALSO FIRMLY ADVOCATES REPENTANCE AND IMMERSION IN THE NAME OF JESUS CHRIST FOR THE REMISSION OF SINS (ACTS 2:38), AND A CONSECRATED LIFE AS ESSENTIAL TO SALVATION.



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location, to conduct simultaneous classes at multiple sites. This technology will also allow the College to expand classes to the Mid-West or other locations. For example, a similar classroom might be located in or near some of our existing churches in Indiana or Ohio and provide the opportunity to offer classes in that region.

4. We will continue to explore options to relocate portions of the College program to Henry County and simultaneously open a campus facility on the northeast side of Atlanta. Upon the sale of the existing campus, we will begin the selection of an appropriate site to the northeast side of the metro Atlanta area, as demonstrated by the accompanying diagram. The plan is to buy sufficient acreage to construct a campus including classrooms, a worship center, and potential residential facilities. Classrooms would be equipped to support distance learning and remote instruction capability, as previously described. At this time, we have not identified additional land adjacent to or very near the existing Cornerstone Church location at an acceptable price. **W h a t e v e r f o r m s t h e**

structure/location eventually takes, the facility would have classrooms equipped with remote instruction facilities.

5. Use the remote instruction technology to expand educational offerings to additional locations near existing churches and develop the procedures for a Master's Degree program. This option has been discussed several times since the College was relocated to Atlanta. At all previous times, the situation was not favorable to proceed with the initiative. The primary reason has always been that a sufficient concentration of students and potential faculty could not be counted upon to make the program financially viable. However, with the remote instruction capability, it will be possible to allow students and faculty to participate in the program from areas much closer to their homes. We can also add educational offerings for non-degree programs that would be beneficial for our churches and pastors. All these programs will add additional earned revenue to the College budget.

We believe the primary benefits of this plan will be as follows:

1. Replacement of current facility will improve class effectiveness, address space/expansion issues, and avoid problems associated with increasing obsolescence of the current building.
2. Better quality of life, employment opportunities, and enhanced safety for students and staff in Henry/Gwinnett Counties.
3. Improved access to proposed campus locations for existing students.
4. Improved involvement with local churches.
5. Increased potential for Atlanta metro area student recruitment and other nation-wide students.
6. Conference meetings and seminars will be easier to host with adjacent lodging and travel accommodations.
7. Masters program and out-of-state College locations will offer new professional opportunities for pastors and ministers of the Church of God.

In addition to these benefits, the staff estimates that a potential enrollment of 200 students in the Korean Extension is possible. A potential expansion of the ABC undergraduate program, addition of a Master's Program, and larger enrollment in ABCKE classes may have a very positive impact on our budget.

We ask you to make the continuing efforts to plan this project a part of your prayers. God has opened some doors to marvelous opportunities. We are seeking to follow His leading as the project moves forward. We look forward to continuing to share information with you as it becomes available.

In Christ.
Tim

Plan now for CWS '08!!

April 6 - 11, 2008

★ New Location: Grand Resort Hotel & Convention Center

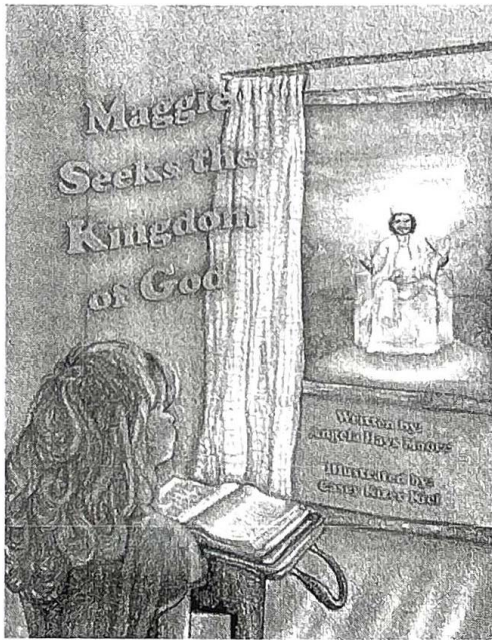
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Prices for 2008 are:

- four (4) to a room - \$309/person
- three (3) to a room - \$339/person
- two (2) to a room - \$409/person
- one (1) to a room - \$539/person

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Written by Angela Moore; Illustrated by Casey Kiel

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Only a few copies are still available through the Church of God General Conference.

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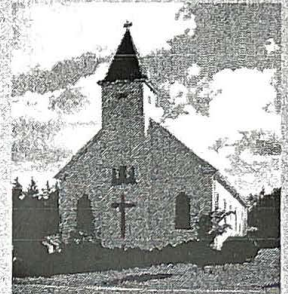
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CHURCHES SEARCHING FOR PASTORS...

GUTHRIE GROVE

Guthrie Grove Church of God of the Abrahamic Faith, Pelzer, SC, is beginning its search for an Associate Pastor. Located in a rural setting, but near growing cities of the Upstate, Guthrie Grove is seeking an individual with a love for the Truth and for the lost to work with the pastor and congregation in ministering to those in our church family and community. For more information please contact Mike Montgomery at (864) 947-7660 (405 Guthrie Grove Ch. Rd., Pelzer, 29669; mymimont@charter.net).



BLANCHARD

The Blanchard Church of God in Blanchard, Michigan is currently seeking a growth-oriented pastor. We are an established church with approximately 40 dedicated people with great growth potential in the surrounding area. Interested pastors may call Elder/Chairman of the Board, Terry Kunst, at 989-560-1268 or e-mail him at: terry@mtpleasantagency.com.

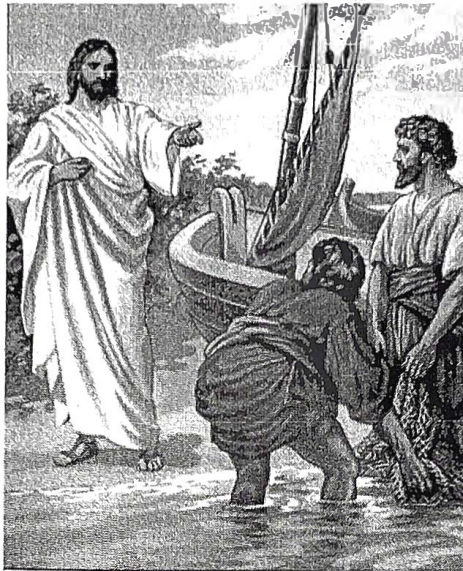
CONGER STREET CHURCH OF GOD

The Conger Street Church of God in Waterloo, Iowa is in need of a pastor. We are looking for a part-time pastor to work with our small group of dedicated members. Please contact: Danny McGowan at: dantheman5169@aol.com; 2672 Logan Ave., Waterloo, IA 50703

I'm fascinated by Jesus' initial contact with the fishermen. He seems to be straight and to the point. I've experienced a busy summer and it's going to be a busy fall as well. Often we run around doing things because we've always done them that way. The routine just feels good or normal to us. However, Jesus will break the routine if we allow him. When he tells the fisherman, "Come follow me," what was the context of that call to them?

Over the summer I had the opportunity to go to Africa, and on the way I read the book titled, "Velvet Elvis, Repainting the Christian Faith." You ought to love the title! Remember back in the 70's and 80's they would paint things on a black, velvet canvas—beautiful pictures. Rob Bell, the author of "Velvet Elvis," encourages us to rethink our faith. He paints a clear picture as he describes the Jewish education system in those days. A good summarization of his description is when you think of what Jesus told Peter, Andrew, James, and John, "come follow me," it must be understood in the context of the education system of the times. By the way, the first thing you talk about after Mark 1:14 and 15, "Repent for the Kingdom of God is at hand," is basically the same as, "Come follow me."

It's kind of interesting the direction the scenario went, but here's the system. The main teaching was at home (Deut. 6:7), but when the child turned about six, they would go to the rabbis for further learning. That initial phase was called the "House of the Book," *Bet Sefer*. They went to the "House of the Book," and for about four years they would intently study the Torah (Genesis-



Deuteronomy). This is not like what we study. When I was growing up it was: softball, baseball, hunting, fishing, and then maybe if you got a little time, you would hit the books and that's all (but that's Pumpkin Center, Louisiana for a boy!). But in that Jewish system if you wanted to show yourself successful, it was study, study, study. In fact the "super students" (I was never one of those) were those who could memorize the Torah by the time they were 10 or 11 years old! If a student proved

himself, he went up to the House of Talmud, *Bet Talmud*, the "House of Learning." Here's what Bell says, "But those who didn't continue their education would continue learning the family business." Therefore, at about 10 or 11 years old if you showed potential, you were invited to a higher level of learning in the system.

Past the memorization stages they started asking you questions about the material. For 4 or 5 years you intently studied and dialogued, but the critical change came around 14 or 15 when only the best of the best were invited to continue their studies. Here is what Bell said about that: "This level of education was called, *Beth Midrash*, "House of Study." A student would present himself to a well known rabbi and say, "Rabbi, I want to become one of your disciples." At that time, if you felt like you had the "stuff," you would go to a Rabbi and literally ask to be under them. The rabbi would start grilling you, maybe for a week, testing to see what was really studied and learned. After a period of time, if the Rabbi thought you could handle the situation, he would say, "Come, follow me!"

When you followed a rabbi, it meant you stayed right behind him in his dust. Wherever he went, whatever he did, you watched, you saw, you did. The funny part of this is, a true disciple of a rabbi was covered

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in his rabbi's dust by the end of the day. That is tough teaching. I remember in 5th grade, Mrs. Marsalles' class, we had to write in all the state capitols on a map of the whole United States. This had to be by memory in class one day. She gave us a big sheet of paper with the map on it and said to do it. The next day, she handed them out. There were 5 people who got 100% on this test. Some of the other kids who got 100% had really nice, neat papers, and they colored in the lines—capitols nice neatly printed with arrows pointing to the little states where the capitols belonged, like Rhode Island. However mine was very messy. She read the first four names of all the super students and then noted there was another paper that was correct but the penmanship was "so terrible." "Oh, that belongs to Joe."

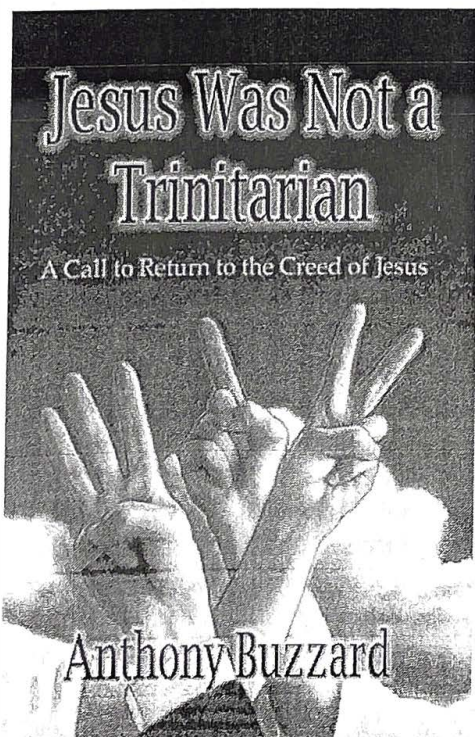
Can you imagine being one of

those Jewish boys who went through the training and you went to the Rabbi and he said, "Come follow me." Now remember what happened if you didn't make the cut! You went back to your family and you did what they did. Bell's statement is, "Your Rabbi, Jesus, wants you to follow him, he knows you're able." Look at Mark 1. "The time has come Jesus said, the Kingdom of God is near, repent, believe the good news." What happens next? As Jesus walked beside the sea, he saw Simon and his brother, Andrew, casting their nets into the lake; they were fisherman. Here it is. "Come follow me." Isn't that beautiful?

These guys who were rejected by other Rabbis, were told to go back and be fisherman or whatever the family job was. Then here comes a noted, honored Rabbi and he says, "Come follow me and I will make you fishers of men." I

love it in Luke 5 when it gives some additional detail; this is where Jesus asks if he can borrow Peter's boat. Then he asks if they had caught any fish. No they hadn't caught any all night long, but he tells them to cast their nets out into the deep. Peter says, "Because you say so." And then Peter says, "Lord, go away from me, I am a sinful man." But Jesus STILL says, "Come follow me, I will make you fishers of men."

The point is, YOUR RABBI thinks you can. In him, we are a new creation. In him we can have a transforming of the mind. In him, we can do all things. It is interesting in John 21, Jesus' reinstatement of Peter. Jesus, asks Peter, "Do you love me? Love me? Love me?" Verse 17 says, "Peter was hurt." The final "feed my sheep" to Peter is concluded with Jesus saying, "Follow Me!" His rabbi, still thought he could! Thank God for grace. ■



Jesus Was Not a Trinitarian *A Call to Return to the Creed of Jesus*

In this new book, Anthony Buzzard invites scholars and laymen alike to take seriously Jesus' Jewish creed, his recitation of the Shema, "Hear, O Israel," which proclaims God to be one single Lord. Defining God and His Son biblically remains part of the unfinished work of the Reformation. The evidence placed before the reader shows a major paradigm shift is needed if Christians are to worship their God in spirit and in truth, uncluttered by the philosophical and confusing ideas about God which form part of received church tradition. Order your copy by calling: 800-347-4261 or 404-362-0052; or order online at: restorationfellowship.org (465 pages, \$18)

A NEW CHAPTER...

One of the things I never aspired to be was a church planting pastor. My wife, Joyce, and I had served established traditional churches for over a quarter century. Church planting was way too far outside my comfort zone. I trembled emotionally and physically at the very thought of doing such a thing. However, God had other plans for my life; He was about to write a new chapter in our lives.

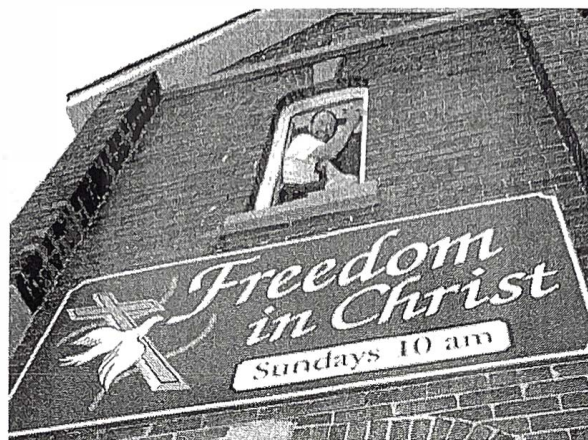
In 1996, a group of displaced believers who were looking for something different came together to begin "Freedom In Christ Ministries." We were hungry for more of God and wanted to know and experience a greater fullness of His presence and power; we wanted to grow in the freedom Jesus promised for our lives . . . *"if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed"* (John 8:36).

The local Anglican church graciously offered their building for our worship meetings. This was the hand of God; we never asked to use their building—they volunteered their facilities before a decision had been made to launch a new church. The Anglican rector refused to accept any payment toward rent or utilities or storage of our equipment. All we had to do each week was "set up and tear down" the seating, sound

equipment, etc. We met in the Anglican church on Saturday nights for two years.

OUR OWN MEETING PLACE...

We knew a venue change had to occur. We needed to meet in a place that presented our own identity to the community, and we needed to meet on Sundays; this is not a sufficiently metropolitan environment to accept a "Saturday night



church." Through the summer and autumn of 1998, we searched for a rental site where we could hold Sunday services. There were no facilities available that would rent to us for 52 Sundays per year. I began to thank God in advance for the building He had prepared for us. Everyday as I drove to my part-time job in Niagara Falls, I would thank God aloud for our Sunday meeting place.

At 6:00 a.m. on a Monday morning in mid-November, God woke me with this word: "Contact the people at the Italian Pentecostal Church."

This is the local name for an old church building situated on the corner at a major intersection in the southeast section of Welland. It had no active congregation, but was being rented by a healing ministry that only held Tuesday night meetings. I immediately contacted their leader. He told me that after three years of being unable to make a go of things they were going to relinquish the building at the end of the month and transfer their ministry to Hamilton. On December 1, 1998, just two weeks after I received that word from God, we were the delighted renters of an ancient building, in poor repair, in the depressed section of Welland. It was then that my tutoring from God began in earnest.

WELCOME TO FREEDOM BOOT CAMP...

It seemed God heard our heart's hunger to know the fullness of His freedom. It was as if He said, "So you want freedom! I'll put you in a place where you can learn through experience what a life of freedom really is!" The neighborhood of our church, where we have been for the past nine years, is the closest thing Welland has to an inner city environment. Most of the city's bars are within walking distance. After dark prostitutes, strippers, drug dealers, and alcoholics walk up and down

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King Street, passing in front of our church.

I was very uneasy in this new location, knowing that Joyce and I had no relational identity points with the people of this neighborhood. We were suddenly in a different universe. We grew up in homes where the father and the mother were married to each other and lived in the same house. As children we each weekly attended Sunday School and youth group; we graduated from high school, never once trying to smoke a cigarette, get drunk, or do drugs. Our life experience bore no similarity to the people living where we were now to minister. We were not qualified to relate to people in these lifestyles. We were totally out of place and we knew it.

After a year of frustration, feeling inadequate and inept, God helped me to realize that I was where HE wanted me. If I were qualified to minister, the fruit would be the result of my skill, not His miraculous working. The question was not, "Am I where I think I can do the most for God?" [Notice how much "self" there is in that question.] The right question is, "Am I where God wants me to be, submitting to His leading, abiding in His will?" Knowing that I am where God wants me to be, doing what God wants me to do, gives me a peace and a freedom. I am free from competition or comparison to what others in ministry are doing. I'm just doing what God wants me to do. I became free

to function in this new environment as the person I am, the person God made me to be. In our inexperience and weakness God showed Himself to be strong (2 Corinthians 12:10).

FALSE VALUES . . .

Through varied incidents in the next few years and conversations where people shared their painful pasts, God tutored me. I began to see that the bondages many of our church neighbors had went deeper than just their recent personal choices. The godless environment in which they had grown since childhood had spawned a totally foreign set of core values in them that was terribly warped. The foundational principles I thought everyone embraced (honesty, hard work, always do your best, play fair) were not the ones of this new universe.

Here are some of the principles, values and expectations that are central to many people in our low-end socio-economic environment:

- Attitude of Entitlement: an expectation that other people (social agencies, the government, the church, well-to-do relatives) should meet my needs. I am owed; the world owes me.
 - Self-Focused: making themselves the centre of every conversation; socially unable to inquire about or give attention to the life experience of another.
 - The police are the enemy.
 - Never "rat" on anyone; it's
- contrary to the code.
 - Personally exact vengeance on those who have offended me.
 - No plans for the long-range future.
 - Little to no sense of budgeting; money in the pocket can be spent rather than saved for next month's rent.
 - No pretense or cover-up; a blatant honesty regarding personal feelings and behavior. (I was once told, "Sorry I didn't make to church on Sunday, pastor; I had a terrible hang-over.")
 - Family Fighting over the possessions of the deceased will automatically occur when a relative dies.
 - Commonplace assumptions regarding one's self and others:
 - *a life of government checks (welfare or disability payments).
 - *the presence of one or more addictions.
 - *having spent time in jail (a criminal record).
 - *a sequence of common-law partners.
 - *children in any given household come from different parents
 - *others are superior to me.

As I put this list on paper it still affects me; my heart aches for the despair and misery that is produced when the lies of the "god of this world" are accepted as truth. "The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they

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cannot see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God" (2 Corinthians 4:4).

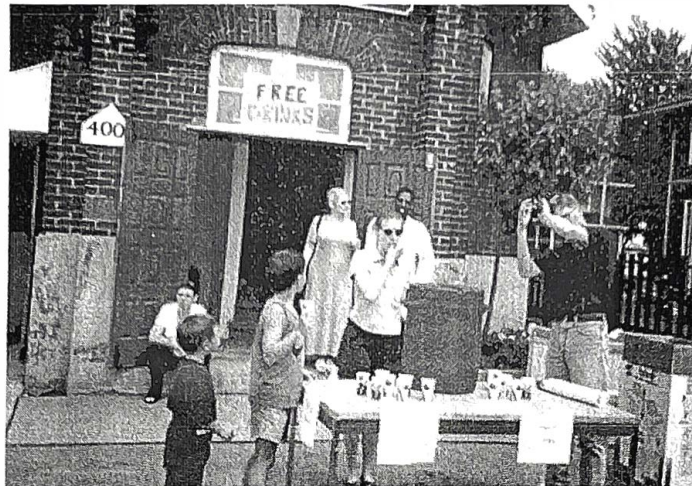
MINISTERING HIS FREEDOM . . .

As we have ministered in this inner city environment for the past 9 years, we have touched many lives. We have supplied basic needs (food vouchers, transportation) when warranted; we have freely given smiles and friendship; we have sought to be a church that gives to the community rather than trying to get something from them (free community barbecues, free car washes, and free refreshments as the Rose Parade marched past our church).

What is it that gives us any degree of effectiveness? What makes Freedom In Christ Church a blessing to our community? For those who have come through our church doors, Joyce and I and our staff consciously give them four intangible gifts:

LOVE—everyone is warmly and personally welcomed with the love of Jesus; a genuine interest is expressed in who they are.

RESPECT—each person is treated with honor; each is an individual of worth (even when they smell of alcohol or marijuana). "Be devoted to one another in brotherly love. Honor one another above yourselves" (Romans 12:10). "We regard no one from a worldly point of view" (2 Corinthians 5:16).



ACCEPTANCE—a non-judgmental attitude. We know very well the truth of the old maxim, "There, but for the grace of God, go I" (*attributed to English Protestant martyr John Bradford*).

TIME—We, our elders, staff and core people, spend much personal time mentoring, discipling, and befriending those with: spiritual, emotional, mental, financial, and physical needs. Much of our ministry and energy is spent doing intense, one-on-one counseling, coaching, exhorting, guiding, and praying. [This approach is necessary because our ministry

field is distrustful of sharing personal feelings/struggles/regrets in a group setting, and will not attend small group gatherings.]

Relying on the power of the Holy Spirit we seek to model and teach a new life paradigm based on spiritual realities rather than the devil's lies. Our goal is to be facilitators of the

Lord's freedom (John 10:10b; 8:36).

We are seeking to be children of God living in a crooked and depraved generation, shining like stars in the darkness, holding out the word of life (Philippians 2:15, 16). The love that Christ demonstrated for us compels us to active—rather than passive—compassion for

others (2 Corinthians 5:14a). This giving of ourselves is not a duty; it is a privilege.

These tools are constantly employed in our ministry. We have seen these spiritual tools break down strongholds and melt defensive walls (2 Cor. 10:3, 4). People have often been moved to tears when touched by these things. These gifts release a freedom in their spirit, which allows them to experience God and seek more of Him.

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ATLANTA BIBLE COLLEGE DISTANCE LEARNING COURSES

- B111DL – Old Testament Survey I (3 Sem. Hrs.) (Martin) – DVDs
 B112DL – Old Testament Survey II (3 Sem. Hrs.) (Martin) – DVDs
 B113DL – New Testament Survey I (3 Sem. Hrs.) (Buzzard) – DVDs
 B114DL – New Testament Survey II (3 Sem. Hrs.) (Buzzard) – DVDs
 B161DL – Basic Bible Doctrine (2 Sem. Hrs.) (Buzzard) – Video/Internet/E-mail
 B221DL – Pentateuch (2 Sem. Hrs.) (Martin) – DVDs/E-mail
 B222DL – History and Major Prophets (2 Sem. Hrs.) (Martin) – Videos/Internet/E-mail
 B224DL – History and Minor Prophets (2 Sem. Hrs.) (Martin) – Videos/Internet/E-mail
- B242DL – Gospel of John (2 Sem. Hrs.) (Buzzard) – Videos/Internet/E-mail
 B342DL – Acts (2 Sem. Hrs.) (Krogh) – Reading/Writing Assignments
 B461DL – Church Fathers and Conditional Immortality (2 Sem. Hrs.) (Roller) – DVDs
 B470DL – Evangelical Theology (2 Sem. Hrs.) (Martin) – DVDs/E-mail
 M112DL – Introduction to Ministry/Leadership (2 Sem. Hrs.) (Cheatwood) – DVDs
 M121DL – Christian Education Principles/Practice (2 Sem. Hrs.) (Rebekah Martin) – DVDs
 M141DL – Principles of Church Growth, Evangelism and Discipling (2 Sem. Hrs.) (Krogh)
 Videos/Workbook
- M/B230DL – Why I Believe (Apologetics) (2 Sem. Hrs.) (Finnegan) – DVDs/E-mail
 M242DL – Evangelism and Missions (2 Sem. Hrs.) (Krogh) – Videos/Internet/E-mail
 M281DL – Mission Perspectives (2 Sem. Hrs.) (Martin) – Reading/Workbook
 M362DL – New Testament Preaching (2 Sem. Hrs.) (Martin) – DVDs
 M372DL – Church Leadership (2 Sem. Hrs.) (Riley) – DVDs
 M384DL – Small Group Ministry (2 Sem. Hrs.) (Krogh) – Videos/Workbooks/Readings
 M443DL – Church Planting (2 Sem. Hrs.) (Krogh) – Tapes/Workbook
 M473DL – Pastoral/Church Leadership and Administration (Martin) (2 Sem. Hrs.) – DVDs
 G181DL – Personal Finance (3 Sem. Hrs.) (Krogh) – Videos/Workbook/Internet/E-mail
 G261DL – Greek I (2 Sem. Hrs.) (Buzzard) – DVDs
 G271DL – Church History I (3 Sem. Hrs.) (Graham) – DVDs

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CHECKING THE CALENDAR

January 7, 2008—ABC block class begins; January 14, 2008—ABC regular classes begin

January 18-20, 2008—Re:FUEL in Milford, Indiana (Camp Mack)

February 8-10, 2008—Refuge in Indianapolis, Indiana

February 11-15, 2008—Ministerial Conference on the ABC campus

March 6-8, 2008—Atlanta Bible College Invitational (ABC-I)

April 6-11, 2008—Christian Workers' Seminar in Pigeon Forge, Tennessee

April 27-30, 2008—Theological Conference in Atlanta, Georgia

July 13-18, 2008—FUEL—Youth event at "new location to be announced later"

July 31-August 1, 2008—88th General Conference—Ohio location to be announced later

(Continued from page 10)

MOVING FORWARD . . .

God has been preparing us for this season of life for more than three decades of pastoral ministry, marriage, and family life. Our children are grown and have their own families, leaving us free to give greater time and attention to hurting people. We have become a spiritual "mom and dad" to many "twenty something" and "thirty something" people in our church. We have experienced a greater joy and sense of purpose in the service of Christ than we have ever known.

In Deuteronomy 15:11 Moses said, "There will always be poor people in the land. Therefore I command you to be openhanded toward your brothers and toward the poor and needy in your land." Jesus referred to this verse when he said, "The poor you will always have with you, and you can help them any time you want" (Mark 14:7a).

I have thought and meditated on the principle of these verses this past summer: "there will always be poor

people . . . there will always be people in need . . . there will always be people trapped in lifestyles that are the result of the enemy's deceptions. The job is so enormous that we can never get it done; we can only help a few; does that really make any difference?"

The seeming impossibility of the task, even in our small city of 50,000, doesn't mean we shouldn't try to reach as many people as possible. We may not make a great impact on the sea of unsaved persons, but we will continue to minister the love and freedom of Jesus to as many as we can, where God has planted us, as God gives us the strength to do so.

An anonymous author has written a story about making a difference—to stranded starfish.

Once upon a time there was a wise man who used to go to the ocean to do his journal writing. He had a habit of walking on the beach before he began his work. One day he was walking along the shore. As he looked down the beach, he saw a human figure moving

like a dancer. He smiled to himself to think of someone who would dance the day. So he began to walk faster to catch up. He saw that it was a young man and the young man wasn't dancing, but instead he was reaching down to the shore, picking up something and very gently throwing it into the ocean.

As he got closer he called out, "Good morning! What are you doing?"

The young man paused, looked up and replied, "Throwing starfish in the ocean."

"I guess I should have asked, 'Why are you throwing starfish in the ocean?'"

"The sun is up, and the tide is going out. And if I don't throw them in they'll die."

"But, young man, don't you realize that there are miles and miles of beach, and starfish all along it. You can't possibly make a difference!"

The young man listened politely. Then he bent down, picked up another starfish and threw it into the sea, past the breaking waves and said, "It made a difference for that one." ■

Verses to Live By

By Jim Mattison

Philippians 4:14

“Do everything without complaining or arguing” (NIV).

“Do all things without grumbling or disputing” (NAS).

“Do all things without murmurings and disputings” (KJ).

“Do all you have to do without complaint or wrangling” (NE).

The Israelites murmured against God's chosen leader, Moses, many times before leaving Egypt (Ex. 5:21); at the waters of Marah (15:24); before the manna came (16:2, 3); in the incident of Korah (Num. 16:2-35); before the speaking to the rock (20:2-4), and others. They also murmured against God when they did this complaining. Job said this was rebellion against God (Job 34:37).

Murmuring is complaining. We are not supposed to complain and grumble. Sometimes this is hard to do, but we must check our mouths before we complain, for we are expressly commanded by the Lord to do all things, to live life, without grumbling and complaining. It is good for us to always be mindful to dwell on the things that are good, lovely, true, honorable, and right (Phil. 4:8). This is the mindset we need to keep to prevent us from complaining. If we think of the good it will be hard to grumble. Grumbling makes everyone

feel down. Did our Lord Jesus ever complain?

I suppose the closest thing to a complaint Jesus gave was when, in agony of mind, He asked God that the cup of suffering and death might pass from Him. But then He immediately said, “Not my will but Thine be done.” No, Jesus did not complain. Complaining is the opposite of thankfulness. When we complain we are forgetting the good things in our lives. They far outweigh any grumbings we might have.

When you think about complaints, most of the time they are not really legitimate. Someone may do something in a different way than you would.

Disputing is arguing irritatingly. It is wrangling. It is not a discussion. It is quarreling with another. It might be better to be quiet and hold one's tongue. One time I walked away rather than say something I would regret. It is enough for the two opinions to be given. To go on and on, trying to prove one is right accomplishes nothing. We are supposed to love one another even if we have two differing ideas.

Love for one another is the greatest virtue after loving God with all your heart.

Complaining and wrangling are not Christian characteristics. They are not part of the Spirit of God. The spirit we are to have is a sweet spirit, and a holy spirit. The next time you think of complaining, take that attitude out of your mind and think of something noble and good. ■

The Ministry of Development is best described as *the effort to provide a connection between the work of the Kingdom of God and those who have resources to get that work done.* The work of development is often thought of in the limited terms of fundraising. While there is no development without money, development is much greater than the simple task of collecting funds. The Ministry of Development is knowledge of the need, identification of the source, and spiritual support for the donor. Stewardship and development go hand-in-hand. As the Christian steward seeks to diligently manage all the resources God has placed in his hands, the Ministry of Development strives to provide strong opportunities for giving into the Kingdom work in this world.

The Development Office of Atlanta Bible College and the Church of God General Conference was formed November 1, 2006, with the earnest desire to provide giving opportunities at a variety of levels to serve their operations in Atlanta and the local and regional

ministries of the Church of God General Conference.

The work thus far has been the *significant study* of current and lacking streams of income and development including:

- Donor development
- Donor retention
- Major or "Signature" fundraising events
- Foundation and Government Grant research
- Discovering significant needs in the ministry field
- The formation of priorities and strategies

The Development Office has also played a significant role in the sale of the duplex properties on Trammel Road and continues to work in conjunction with the newly formed Campus Development Committee.

The Development goals for the 2007-2008 are:

- Launching of a new "It's a New Day" Capital Campaign.
- Advancement and increased enrollment of the Church Builder's League.
- Work with the ABC Alumni Association to enhance the giving influence of the ABC/OBC Alumni

- Reworking the ABC Booster Campaign to provide more focus and inspiration to individuals and groups.
- Formation of a grant writing team to serve the college, churches, conferences, and individuals seeking funds from foundations and/or government grants.
- Continued work to assess and meet the needs of the Campus Development Committee (CDC).
- Provide training, consultation and encouragement for the Ministry of Development to local churches, conferences, and individuals.

This is a tall order for a department that is barely a year old. However, I truly believe that God has even greater days ahead for the ministry we share. He has placed everything we need within our reach. With much prayer, diligent effort and bold faith, we can make sure our ministry is full, abundant, and not lacking anything for the work to which we are called.

In Faith,
 Dale T. Bliss
 Director of Development
 Atlanta Bible College/Church of God General Conference

One Person's Ministry Really Can Make a Difference!

Shelby Chandler, a third grader at Springfield Elementary School, recently held a fan drive for the elderly in her community. The fan drive was prompted by her teacher Ms. Vicky Coats. Ms. Vicky educated Shelby on the dangers of heat exhaustion and death when our elderly do not have air conditioning or fans. Immediately, Shelby took action making flyers and decorating donation envelopes. Shelby also made a presentation asking for donations at her church, Blood River Church of God. Shelby explained in her presentation, "We need to take care of the elderly because it is only getting hotter!" The church was more than generous donating \$301 to the fan drive. With the aid of her family, Shelby was able to purchase 30 box

fans. Lowe's, in Hammond, donated one fan to make the final donation 31 fans. Most of the fans were donated to the Quad Area facility in Hammond, Louisiana. On the day of the donation, the Quad Area had received a call from Hospice needing fans for the elderly.

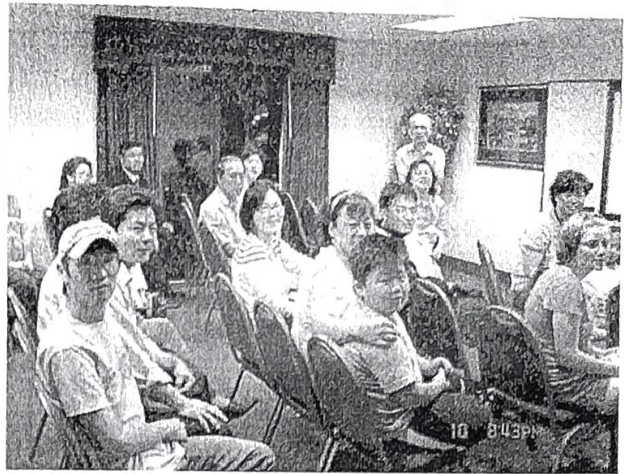


Campus Bible Church

The name of the church is "Campus Bible Church of God." It was initiated by requests from the Korean Extension students commuting from Duluth, Korean Town, where we plan to have a Northeast campus.

Since the Korean Extension students have been learning the Bible-based truth, numerous students had been seeking the opportunity to have Bible Study meetings with their family members and to invite their friends who are attending other Bible Colleges. Since July 25, we have been meeting from 7:30 to 9:00 p.m. every Wednesday. We are planning to change the day to every Thursday from the first week of November, because it will be more convenient to the students attending other Bible Colleges to accept their friends' invitation.

Steve An and Sam An (graduated in 2006) have been leading the meeting and Yeoil Jang (graduated in 2006) joined this ministry last week



(Oct. 10) for his internship training. Eventually, this meeting will be a new Korean church at the Northeast campus.

Thank you very much.

In His Name,
Steve An

Dean Moore Honored



The Lord's Harvest International Mission Board decided at their recent meeting to honor Dean Moore for his faithful service to Mexico Missions. A plaque was presented to him at the Oregon, IL Church of God during the morning service on November 4 by Mission Board Chairperson Judy Myers and Board member Larry Bolhous. The plaque reads: "Presented to Dean Moore with grateful appreciation for faithful and dedicated service to Mexico Missions for more than 45 years, Church of God General Conference 2007."

Dean started his Mexico ministry while he was serving as pastor of the Blanchard, MI Church of God. Migrants from Mexico were employed in the vegetable fields near Blanchard. The church offered Sunday evening services in Spanish and gave Bibles and other literature to the men to take home. In 1961, Robert Badillo was given a Spanish Bible which he took to his home in Labor Vieja, a small village about 350 miles south of the US border. His Bible was the only one available in the village of 1,200 people. In 1963, Dean and his wife, Virginia, and their two daughters, Sharon and Eileen, moved to Mexico. Since moving back to the United States some years ago, Dean has made many trips back to Mexico, and he has encouraged and supported the work in many ways.

Income Report for September 2007

	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	This Month <u>Variance</u>	Prior Month <u>Variance</u>
CONTRIBUTIONS:				
General Contributions	100,150	100,328	178	-34,547
Building Our Future Campaign	750	75	-675	-450
[Gen Contrib & BOF combined]	0	100,403		
G.C. - Devises & Bequests	1,250	4,221	2,971	2,574
ABC Boosters	4,250	10	-4,240	-2,823
Subtotal	106,400	104,634	-1,766	-35,246
SALES:				
Christian Education Materials	5,250	6,188	938	938
Books	10,000	9,144	-856	9
Restitution Herald	0	0	0	0
Age to Come Media Products	0	0	0	0
Theological Journal	0	120	120	96
Sale of Assets	0	0	0	0
Subtotal	15,250	15,452	202	1,043
ABC:				
Tuition	50,000	43,023	-6,977	3,246
Korean Extension Tuition	121,362	122,850	1,488	-4,378
ABCDF Support	9,000	9,000	0	0
Lodging	21,667	19,344	-2,323	-5,222
Washers/Dryers	225	269	44	119
Rentals - ABC Plant	1,250	800	-450	-433
Late Fees/Rent	2,125	3,450	1,325	714
Fees	5,000	4,340	-660	395
Subtotal	210,629	203,076	-7,553	-5,558
PROGRAM INCOME:				
Conferences & Workshops	-9,000	-10,478	-1,478	46,960
Subtotal	-9,000	-10,478	-1,478	46,960
MISCELLANEOUS:				
Interest	300	285	-15	3
Transferred In	5,813	4,023	-1,790	148
Subtotal	6,113	4,308	-1,805	151
Income Total	329,392	316,992	-12,400	7,349

BUILDING OUR FUTURE CAMPAIGN

Total contributions since inception (2003): **279,157**

**** ABCDF Support ** - Please praise God that we are again able to receive support from the Atlanta Bible College Development Foundation!**

- These statements report College/Conference income and expense for July, 2007 through June, 2008.
- The "Budget" column in each report shows the year-to-date portion of the annual budget for each line item.
- The "Variance" column in each report shows the difference between the amount budgeted and the amount actually received (income) or spent (expense). A positive number in this column means the income or expense is better than budgeted. A negative number in this column means the income or expense is worse than budgeted.

Expense Report for September 2007

	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>This Month Variance</u>	<u>Prior Month Variance</u>
STAFF:				
Salaries & Wages	138,546	133,916	4,630	4,463
F.I.C.A. Tax	2,050	2,265	-215	56
Employee Benefits	28,776	26,866	1,910	204
Subtotal	169,372	163,047	6,325	4,723
SERVICES:				
Assistance to Churches	2,500	1,100	1,400	867
Ministerial Association	2,400	2,400	0	0
Youth Program	12,000	12,000	0	0
Subtotal	16,900	15,500	1,400	867
SALES EXPENSE:				
Printing & Binding	8,000	10,671	-2,671	-262
Postage & Shipping	3,500	3,080	420	1,060
Media Production Expenses	0	0	0	0
Book Store	4,250	4,704	-454	1,306
Royalties	0	0	0	0
Subtotal	15,750	18,455	-2,705	2,105
ABC:				
Clayton Rebate	0	0	0	0
Advertising--Recruitment	1,200	2,505	-1,305	-938
ABC Korean Extension Support	5,000	5,259	-259	1,491
Library Periodicals	500	152	348	205
Library Books	200	1,030	-830	-897
Staff Periodicals, Books, Dues	450	167	283	282
Staff Training	750	1,373	-623	-297
Subtotal	8,100	10,486	-2,386	-153
ADMINISTRATION:				
Travel	12,250	18,210	-5,960	-2,259
Motor Vehicles	0	0	0	0
Office Supplies & Expense	3,250	1,950	1,300	1,123
Professional Services	2,750	5,754	-3,004	-2,118
Telephone	6,250	5,738	512	387
Insurance - Non Plant	125	42	83	83
Supplies & Expense	1,500	1,950	-450	-580
Repairs/Maintenance - Non Plant	5,000	1,292	3,708	2,205
Subtotal	31,125	34,936	-3,811	-1,159
PLANT EXPENSES:				
Utilities	9,500	8,685	815	-1,204
Insurance - Property	4,000	4,739	-739	-1,931
Repairs/Maintenance - Plant	2,750	2,464	286	295
Furniture & Equipment	4,000	636	3,364	2,031
Supplies/Expenses Plant	1,250	562	688	447
Subtotal	21,500	17,086	4,414	-362
MISCELLANEOUS:				
Interest	1,750	5,713	-3,963	-3,371
Other	2,000	1,093	907	650
Subtotal	3,750	6,806	-3,056	-2,721
Expense Total	266,497	266,316	181	3,300
GRAND TOTAL (Income less Expense)	62,895	50,676	-12,219	10,649

Church News

Baptisms

California

Pomona – Stacie Prater (9/2/07) by Pastor Chuck Jones

Illinois

Oregon – Bryce Noon (5/27/07) by Pastor Michael Hoffman

Indiana

Timberland – Alan and Lisa Town (10/14/07) by Pastor Dustin Smith

Minnesota

Eden Valley – Blaire Thielen (8/4/07) by her aunt, Pastor Michelle Millard; Walter, Sheree, Edwin, and Holly Coulter (8/18/07), Charles Fyle and Devon Spiegelberg (8/19/07) by Pastor Daniel Smead

Hutchinson – Jasmine Billmann (9/16/07) by Pastor V.E. Kirkpatrick

Ohio

North Hills – Nina Dishon (7/29/07), James Severs (8/5/07, re-baptism), Katlyn Martin (8/19/07), Margie Middlesworth and Ray Middlesworth (9/9/07); Lisa Deel (9/30/07) by Pastor Seth Ross

South Carolina

Guthrie Grove – Lindsay Smith (1/14/07), Billie Greene (8/16/07), Bill Latham (9/10/07) by Pastor Michael Montgomery; Paige Montgomery (10/28/07) by her father, Pastor Michael Montgomery; Rachel Franco (11/4/07) by her uncle, Robert W. Alcumbrack

Marriages

Illinois

Flagg Center – Kyle Gay and Miranda Foster (8/18/07) by Pastor Gordon Landry

Oregon – Ryan Wexell and Christine Porter (6/16/07) by Pastor Michael Hoffman

Deaths

California

Bill Dick, 78, (10/30/07), 1951 graduate of Oregon Bible College, son of the late Otto E. Dick (former President of Oregon Bible College)

Illinois

Rockford – Zella Parker-Harmon, 93, (9/11/07). Service by Pastor Neal Bryant

Ohio

Bedford – Dorothy Robertson, 81, (9/2/07), long time faithful member. Service by Pastor Rex Cain

Golden Rule – Helen May Matthews, 89, (11/4/07), long time member. Service by Pastor David Swartz

South Carolina

Bethel – [correction] Tillman Gentry (8/16/07). Service by Pastor Jeff Fletcher, Pastor Wally Winner, and Bill Vaughan; Joe Shaw (9/3/07). Service by Pastors Mike Montgomery and Wally Winner; Ida Mae Davenport (10/2/07). Service by Pastor Jeff Fletcher;

Guthrie Grove – William C. Tripp (9/7/07). Service by Pastor Michael Montgomery; Ethel Lee Capps (10/23/07). Service by Pastor Michael Montgomery

Greg Demmitt ministered in the Blanchard area teaching and preaching at the Church of God during the last three weeks of August. Greg taught about ministering in the local community and surveyed the congregation on its gifts and areas of strength. Families in the church took turns taking Greg to dinner and spending time talking about ministry and the layman. He participated in the church's annual family camp at Coldwater Lake and had a chance to enjoy some of Michigan's famous waterfront sports! Everyone enjoyed Greg's visit and we look forward to having him back in our area in the future.

Prayer & Praise

January 2008

- 1 Pray that Jesus will return to the earth soon.
- 2 **Pray for Atlanta Bible College students as they prepare for their second semester studies.**
- 3 Pray for Pastor Rufus and Jerri Meyers and the Simple Teachings Bible Church in Morrow, GA.
- 4 **Pray for outreach work in Lima, Peru.**
- 5 Pray for the outreach ministries of your church.
- 6 **Praise God that we can be a part of the family of God.**
- 7 Pray for ABC students taking block classes this week.
- 8 **Pray for Pastor Warren and Irene Sorenson and the Simi Valley, CA Church.**
- 9 Pray for Tim Jones, Chief Administrative Officer of the ABC/General Conference.
- 10 **Praise God for a recent answer to a prayer.**
- 11 Pray for Pastor Chris and Jennifer Seiders and their ministry at Fort Valley, VA.
- 12 **Praise God for Korean Churches of God in California.**
- 13 Pray for instructors as they teach Korean language classes at ABC this semester.
- 14 **Pray for ABC students and staff beginning regular new semester classes today.**
- 15 Praise God for financial and prayer supporters of the College/Conference.
- 16 **Praise God for the freedom to worship Him.**
- 17 Pray for someone you know who needs to accept Jesus as Savior.
- 18 **Pray for the Re:FUEL 'Retreat' in Indiana and Jon Cheatwood as he leads it.**
- 19 Pray for Pastor Dan and Amy Kennedy and their work at New Life Bible Church in Winnebago, Illinois.
- 20 **Pray for the American and Korean congregations in Nashville, Tennessee.**
- 21 Pray for your pastor and family.
- 22 **Praise God for the work of those preparing Christian Education materials.**
- 23 Praise God for those who give of their time and talents in serving on Conference advisory committees.
- 24 **Pray for your nation's leaders.**
- 25 Pray for teachers in your local church.
- 26 **Pray for an opportunity to share Christ with someone this week.**
- 27 Pray for opportunities to start new churches.
- 28 **Pray for Pastor Larry and Karen Mayberry and the Pennellwood Church in Wyoming, MI.**
- 29 Praise God for the direction He provides for your life.
- 30 **Praise God for the many students who are preparing for ministry at ABC.**
- 31 Pray for "shut-in" members who cannot meet regularly with other believers.

February 2008

- 1 **Pray for churches that are seeking pastors.**
- 2 Pray for the students at Atlanta Bible College.
- 3 **Pray for someone you know who needs to accept Christ.**
- 4 Praise God for your family and friends.
- 5 **Pray for Anthony and Barbara Buzzard and the Restoration Church of God in Fayetteville, GA.**
- 6 Pray for Pastor Alan and Susan Cain and the Lawrenceville, OH church.
- 7 **Pray for our Ministerial Association Leadership Team.**
- 8 Pray for the Refugee 'Retreat' in Indiana and Jon Cheatwood as he leads it.
- 9 **Pray for the brethren in the Philippines.**
- 10 Pray for the members of your church family.
- 11 **Pray for our pastors who are beginning their annual Ministerial Conference on the ABC campus.**
- 12 Praise God for the opportunities He has provided for outreach in Russia.
- 13 **Praise God for the Board of Directors and its leadership.**
- 14 Pray for the ministries of your local church.
- 15 **Pray for youth and youth ministries in the Church of God.**
- 16 Pray for a renewed spirit of evangelism and revival in our churches.
- 17 **Pray that God will raise up many donors for ABC's financial needs.**
- 18 Praise God for a recent answer to prayer.
- 19 **Pray for Joe and Dana Myers and their ministry at Cornerstone Bible Church in McDonough, Georgia.**
- 20 Pray for retired Pastor Richard K. Smith and his wife Dorothy Jean.
- 21 **Pray for the Board of Directors of Atlanta Bible College/Church of God General Conference as they begin meeting today in Atlanta.**
- 22 Pray for someone you know who is in need of healing (physical, emotional, or spiritual).
- 23 **Pray for the staff at the College/Conference.**
- 24 Pray for Stepan and Tracy Zhykhovich and their work in Russia.
- 25 **Pray for the church in Magazine, AR.**
- 26 Praise God for the ministry taking place in the dozens of African churches connected to the General Conference.
- 27 **Praise God for the promise of a new heaven and earth.**
- 28 Pray for the teachers in your local church.
- 29 **Pray for God's insight about how to best use this extra February day.**

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Prayer & Praise

March 2008

- 1 **Pray for the peace of Jerusalem.**
- 2 Pray for Pastor Tom and Debbie New and the work at McGintytown, Arkansas.
- 3 **Praise God for those who provide prayer and financial support for the College/Conference ministries.**
- 4 Pray that God will raise up missionary candidates.
- 5 **Pray for Gary Burnham, Operations Manager and Ministry Services Network Director of the College/Conference.**
- 6 Pray for this weekend's gathering of prospective ABC students attending the ABC-Invitational.
- 7 **Pray for those considering attending Atlanta Bible College in the future.**
- 8 Pray for strength to overcome temptation and for power in the battle against sin in the world.
- 9 **Pray for someone you know who is discouraged or depressed.**
- 10 Pray for God's blessing on ABC students and staff at the half-way point of this semester.
- 11 **Pray for Pastor Michael and Diane Brown and the Glad Tidings Church, Fonthill, Ontario, Canada.**
- 12 Praise God for those who have provided spiritual instruction for you.
- 13 **Pray for Wally and Peggy Winner and the work at Joy Fellowship in Anderson, South Carolina.**
- 14 Praise God for all who have dedicated their lives to ministry.
- 15 **Pray for a spirit of unity in the bond of peace.**
- 16 Pray for a special need in your life.
- 17 **Pray for the contacts with churches and Bible colleges in South Korea.**
- 18 Pray for an opportunity to share God's love with someone.
- 19 **Pray for those who are searching God's Word for answers to life's problems.**
- 20 Pray for students and staff of ABCKE (Atlanta Bible College Korean Extension).
- 21 **Pray for the brethren in India.**
- 22 Pray for God's blessing on your family.
- 23 **Pray for the leaders of your government.**
- 24 Praise God for your pastor.
- 25 **Pray for preparations being made for next month's Christian Workers Seminar.**
- 26 Pray for the church work in Malawi and Mozambique.
- 27 **Praise God for the promise of Christ's soon return.**
- 28 Praise God for Hope Kirkpatrick, Kim Musch, Ashley Taylor, and Robin Taylor who provide administrative support at Atlanta Bible College and the Church of God General Conference.
- 29 **Pray for preparations being made for next month's Theological Conference.**
- 30 Praise God for new attendees or members at your local congregation.
- 31 **Pray for Pastor Mike and Myra Montgomery and the Guthrie Grove Church, Pelzer, South Carolina.**

CAO Update . . .

By Tim Jones

It is a great pleasure to be writing to you again from the pages of the Herald/Journal. As each issue of the magazine is released, we attempt to bring you news of the activities, plans, opportunities, and challenges of our work at the College and General Conference. It is always my prayer that you feel connected to our ministries—that you regularly lift up our ministries in your times of prayer. As a whole the staff appreciates and prays for God’s Holy Spirit to be at work with you and your ministries as well.

Relocation Update

At this time the Georgia Board of Regents—the state governmental entity that oversees the state’s university system—is scheduled to vote on the purchase of our campus during their meeting scheduled in mid-March. The Regents will be asked to authorize a purchase option that allows Clayton State University to purchase our existing campus.

We were disappointed that this decision, originally scheduled to take place in February, was delayed for one month. The Georgia State Attorney’s office is responsible for insuring that all necessary title checks had been made prior to the purchase being considered by the Regents. The special appointee for the State’s Attorney was unable to complete the necessary reviews in

time for that meeting. As a result the vote was removed from the Regent’s agenda and re-scheduled for the March meeting. At this time, we have every reason to believe, along with Clayton State University, that the purchase will be voted on by the time you are reading this column. We will post on our web-site any update on the progress of the sale, as well as notify our pastors and church leaders e-mail groups as new developments arise.

We have begun the process of planning for new facilities and locations. Although we have not finalized the decision of either new campus, we are evaluating the space needs and potential size required to support our College and MSN activities. These plans will help identify the amount of space required and other major site requirements. The Board of Directors met in Atlanta February 21 and 22. As we discussed the progress of the relocation project, we identified several specific milestones for the project that we hope to have accomplished by the time General Conference convenes in July.

We continue to plan for other aspects of the campus relocation. It is much more than simply choosing to move to another geographic site. The locations selected will open the door to more people in the Atlanta area that can benefit from the

College and its ministry. The proceeds from the sale will also do much more than construct new buildings. We are continuing to develop our plans for new distance learning technology, which will allow students from various locations to take classes without being in an Atlanta site. We also intend to use the funds available from the sale to create locations for members of our churches to also attend college training and classes at locations much closer to their homes. These are the reasons this relocation is exciting—it opens the door to more and better expressions of our ministry and support for you and your church. The opportunities lie before us for greater service. Join in prayer that God will lead us as we seek to follow His leading.

General Conference Events

The annual Ministers Conference was hosted by ABC February 11-15. It was a great week of fellowship and growth for those who attended. Pictures of the event are included in this issue.

By the time you received this issue we will have concluded the annual ABC Invitational event. This fun and educational weekend is intended to give prospective students the opportunity for a short “test-drive” of college life. We will bring you more information and pictures of this event in the next issue.

(Continued on page 2)

(Continued from page 1)

The annual Conference will be held near Springfield, Ohio and hosted by the North Hills Church July 30-August 1, 2008. Preliminary information on the Conference can be found in this issue, and the next issue will have detailed information on the program and schedule for the event.

In addition, Christian Worker's Seminar is only a few weeks away. I hope many of you are planning to attend this wonderful time of worship, teaching, and restoration. I look forward to seeing all of you there. Till then may God bless you all. ■

Tim

Plan now for CWS '08!!

April 6 - 11, 2008

★ New Location ★

Grand Resort Hotel & Convention Center
Pigeon Forge, Tennessee

LATE REGISTRATIONS ACCEPTED AFTER MARCH 14

Prices for 2008 are:

four (4) to a room - \$309/person
three (3) to a room - \$339/person
two (2) to a room - \$409/person
one (1) to a room - \$539/person

Questions?

If you have any questions
feel free to contact
Kim Musch
by calling 1-800-347-4261.

5 Easy Ways To Register!

1. Email: KMusch@abc-coggc.org
2. Call toll free: 1-800-347-4261
3. Complete and Mail Registration to:
Atlanta Bible College
PO Box 100,000 Morrow, GA 30260
4. Fax registration to: 404-362-9307
5. Online: www.abc-coggc.org

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THE RESTITUTION HERALD ADVOCATES:

- THE ONENESS OF GOD (1 COR. 8:6);
- THE HOLY SPIRIT IS GOD'S POWER (ACTS 1:8);
- JESUS CHRIST IS GOD'S ONLY BEGOTTEN SON (MATT. 16:16), AND IS OUR MEDIATOR (1 TIM. 2:5);
- THE BIBLE IS THE INSPIRED WORD OF GOD (2 TIM. 3:16);
- THE MORTALITY OF MAN (JOB 4:17; PSA. 146:4);
- THE NEAR RETURN OF CHRIST (ACTS 1:11), AND LIFE ONLY THROUGH HIM (COL. 3:3);
- THE LITERAL RESURRECTION OF THE DEAD (JOHN 5:28);
- THE IMMORTALIZATION OF THOSE IN CHRIST (1 COR. 15:53, 54);
- THE DESTRUCTION OF THE WICKED (REV. 21:8);
- THE FINAL RESTORATION OF ISRAEL AS THE KINGDOM OF GOD UNDER THE KINGSHIP OF CHRIST (LUKE 1:32);
- THE CHURCH TO BE JOINT HEIRS WITH HIM (ROM. 8:17), AND ISRAEL TO BE MADE HEAD OVER GENTILE NATIONS (ISA. 60:1-3);
- THE "RESTITUTION OF ALL THINGS WHICH GOD HATH SPOKEN BY THE MOUTH OF ALL HIS HOLY PROPHETS SINCE THE WORLD BEGAN" (ACTS 3:21).
- IT ALSO FIRMLY ADVOCATES REPENTANCE AND IMMERSION IN THE NAME OF JESUS CHRIST FOR THE REMISSION OF SINS (ACTS 2:38), AND A CONSECRATED LIFE AS ESSENTIAL TO SALVATION.

2007 Memorials

We are very thankful for all who helped support the work of Atlanta Bible College and the Church of God General Conference during the past year by giving gifts in memory of friends and loved ones.

Gifts were given in memory of the following individuals:

Bob and Melody Ballard
Francis Burnett
Carolyn Chapman
Iva Mae Holt
Harvey and Mary Krogh

Bernard and Ophie Lobell
Arlen Marsh
Martha Jones Mattison
Jennie R. Pryor
Jimmy Williams

Scholarships and Grants for Atlanta Bible College

Grants and scholarships provided assistance to Atlanta Bible College students during 2007 by the following individuals, churches, conferences, and groups and in memory of many individuals. Other individuals, churches, conferences, and groups provided assistance directly to students in addition to these scholarships and grants administered by the college.

ABC/OBC Alumni Association
Bob and Melody Ballard Memorial
Burnham-Stadden Memorial
Burr Oak Scholarship
Cecil Smead Memorial
Delbert Jones Memorial
Francis and Lila VanFleet Memorial
Glen and Violet Booth Memorial
Harold J. Doan Memorial
Harry and Emily Berry Memorial
Harvey and Mary Krogh Memorial
Hattie Bottolfs Memorial
Helen Overholser Memorial
Indiana Conference
Iris Elton Memorial
James A. Patrick Memorial -
Northeast Conference
Jean Elton Fortney Memorial
John and Opal Hayse Memorial
John and Ruth Lewis Memorial
Lawrenceville/Overholser
Lois Blakely Memorial
Lucian and Thelma Murphy Memorial

Mary Helen Mattison Memorial
Martha Jones Mattison Memorial
Michigan State Conference
Minnesota Conference
Ministerial Association
Monroe Elton Memorial
New Hope Church, Little Rock
J. O. and Mary Lou Pack Memorial
Orine Richardson Robinson Memorial
Ritenour Trust Fund - In Memory of
Eliza Boyer Ritenour, Virginia
Ritenour Kincheloe, and Seraphine
Ritenour Cleek
Southwest Members in Memory of
Norman McLeod, S. J. Lindsay, Harold
J. Doan and C. E. Randall
Stan Ross Memorial
Treva Williams Memorial
Troy View/Demmitt/Overholser
William G. and Nina G. Hicks Memorial
William and Rhoda Hanson Memorial
Zelma Weaver Memorial

CHURCHES SEARCHING FOR PASTORS . . .

BLANCHARD

The Blanchard Church of God in Blanchard, Michigan is currently seeking a growth-oriented pastor. We are an established church with approximately 40 dedicated people with great growth potential in the surrounding area. Interested pastors may call Elder/Chairman of the Board, Terry Kunst, at 989-560-1268 or e-mail him at: terry@mtpleasantagency.com.

CONGER STREET CHURCH OF GOD

The Conger Street Church of God in Waterloo, Iowa is in need of a pastor. We are looking for a part-time pastor to work with our small group of dedicated members. Please contact: Danny McGowan at: dantheman5169@aol.com; 2672 Logan Ave., Waterloo, IA 50703

GATESVILLE CHURCH OF GOD

The Gatesville Church of God in Gatesville, Texas is currently without a pastor. We are a hard working and dedicated church in a growing community, but we know that a pastor is needed to flourish and grow. Come visit us at our expense and see what we are all about. Call Mark Henson at 254-865-8452 or Stephen Burkett at 254-865-5780.

HAPPYWOODS CHURCH

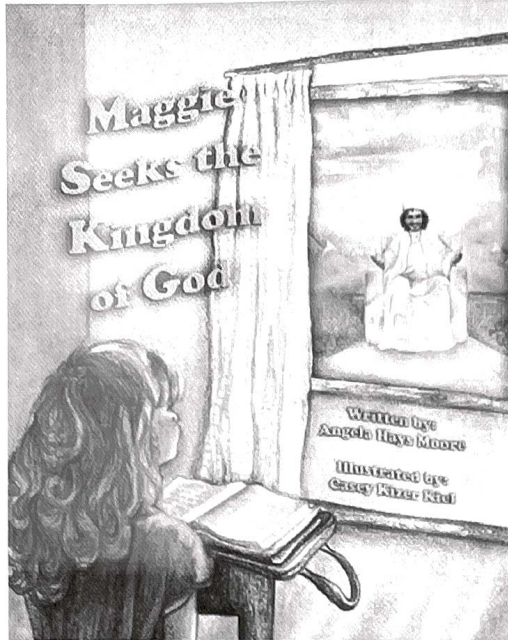
The congregation of the Happywoods Church is seeking a full-time Pastor. We are a relatively small congregation and are located in the community of Hammond, LA. This area is in the southeast tip of Louisiana and currently has a population of approximately 100,000 people within relatively easy driving distance of the church. Our area is located in the center of the I-12 corridor, which is predicted to grow to over 2.5 million people within the next 30 or so years. We have a new and newly renovated facility of 12,000 sq. ft. of space that needs lots of people to serve.

Our congregation has been involved with our community in the past and looks forward to growing in the community and in faith. If you are interested in pastoring in an environment, which is both challenging and invigorating, where you and the church can grow both numerically and spiritually through outreach, please think of us.

For more information, please contact Elder Charles Bottolfs at 985-542-1555 or via e-mail at cgbottolfs@bellsouth.net. Or you may contact Elder John Fauntleroy at 985-345-7134. Both phones take messages and you will be contacted. You may also write to us at the following address: C. G Bottolfs, 43137 Happywoods Road, Hammond, LA 70403



Maggie Seeks the Kingdom of God!®



Written by Angela Moore; Illustrated by Casey Kiel

A delightful and heartwarming resource for your children, grandchildren, friends and family that will explain to the special people in your life what you believe!

In this enchanting children's book, **Maggie Seeks the Kingdom of God, ©** God's Kingdom is captured in our imaginations like never before! As our eyes are captivated by the illustrations that aim to portray how the Bible describes what the Kingdom will be like, our ears will be caught up in the simple story of a mommy teaching her little girl named Maggie, about what Jesus preached. We pray for God's Kingdom to come and this charming book brings home this simple Gospel message to its readers.

Only a few copies are still available through the Church of God General Conference.

Please order copies through:

www.amazon.com

■ www.walmart.com

■ www.barnesandnoble.com

Atlanta Bible College Honor Roll

In order to be on the Honor Roll, a student must be a full time student enrolled in 12 or more semester hours of classes. Congratulations to the following students for their academic accomplishments during the fall 2007 semester:

High Honor Roll – 3.5 grade point average and above

Young Hee An
Kyle Casey
Mark Clarke
Erica Fitzsimmons
Zechariah Hamm
Jung Sim Ji
Jin Hee Joung
Hee Sun Jun

Simon Kang
Ho Boon Kim
Jin Chul Kim
Yeong Beom Kim
Festus Kirui
Young Hwan Kong
Ja Hyun Koo
Hak Keun Lee

Han Jin Oh
Hyun Sook Park
Ju Young Park
Eugenia Roberts
Annette Williams
Jung Sook Won

Honor Roll – 3.0 to 3.49 grade point average

Bun Soon An
Sung Woong Cho
Ruth Gutu
Jung Hwa Hong
Jong Hyun Hwang
Ki Young Jang
Dong Hyun Kang

Hong Ki Kim
Jae Yeong Kim
Seong Kee Kim
Hope Kirkpartrick
Geoffrey Kithimba
Eun Kyu Lee
Seung Kwang Lee

Yun Koung Lee
Il Gi Moon
Yong Jae Moon
Jeong Ho Park
Mi Na Park
Jae Soon Son
Bok Soon Sung

General Conference Information

The 2008 General Conference will be held at the North Hills Church of God in Springfield, Ohio Wednesday evening, July 30 through Friday evening, August 1. Since the Conference became a one-and-a-half to two-day event several years ago, requests have been made to increase the content of the Conference. This year's program will do just that. We'll begin with a great barbeque and worship service on Wednesday evening, July 30, continue with practical, participation oriented classes/workshops Thursday morning and early afternoon, delegate business sessions late Thursday afternoon and Friday, and conclude the Conference with an uplifting worship service Friday evening, August 1. Please be watching for more details on the schedule, program pricing and hotel accommodations. In the meantime, please mark your

calendar to join us at the North Hills Church of God beginning Wednesday evening, July 30. It will be a great Conference!

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

The following amendments have been recommended by the Michigan State Conference and will be submitted to the delegates during the Summer General Conference. The Board of Directors supports both amendments:

Article I, Sec. 2:

The General Conference shall meet once each year at such time and place between July 1 April 1 and August 31 as may be determined by the Conference or its Board of Directors. Announcement of the time and place shall be made by the secretary of the Conference at least six months in advance by publication in *The Restitution Herald* and/or *Progress Journal*, or by other

suitable means of communication. The General Conference may be called at such other times as may be necessary, and may convene upon consent of a majority of the member churches.

(Strikethroughs indicate present language that would be deleted, and additions are underlined.)

Article IV, Section 4:

Nominations for the Board of Directors of the College/Conference may be submitted by State or District Conference Board of the Church of God; Churches that are members of the General Conference; Ministerial Association of the Church of God General Conference. Name(s) of nominees and resumes will be submitted to the Chief Administrative Officer of Atlanta Bible College/Church of God General Conference by May 1 at least three months before the meeting and will be printed in the General Conference issue of *Progress Journal*, or disseminated by other suitable means of communication at least one month before the meeting.

(Strikethroughs indicate present language that would be deleted, and additions are underlined.)



“Asking church members to give money is not fundamentally different from making an alter call or encouraging a parishioner to read the Bible”

– Ben Patterson *

The apostle Paul does not hesitate to follow the dynamic teaching on the resurrection of the dead and the victory of death with the practical application he calls “the work of the Lord.” Paul encourages us to stand firm in this work and to give ourselves fully to it. His very next thought begins teaching about the “collection for God’s people.” It is clear that the highest theological teaching and the daily practical application are inseparable. This is especially true when it comes to stewardship and

giving money to the church (1 Corinthians 15 and 16).

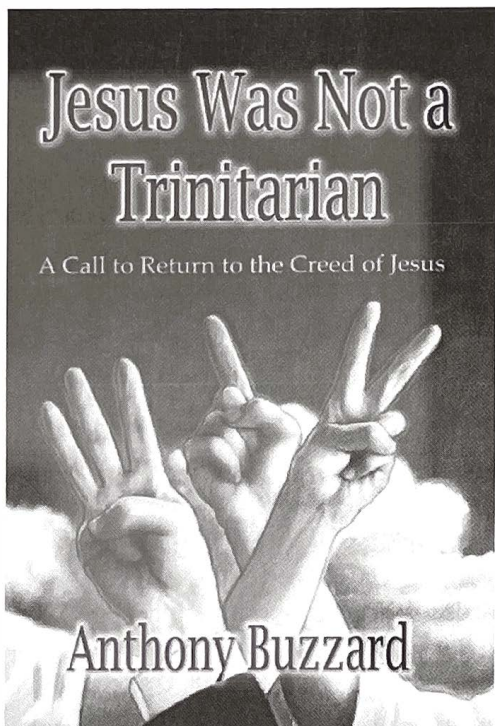
Biblical stewardship has supernatural power. When understood and embraced, how we handle the wealth God has given us can produce a harvest of righteousness, it can bring praise and thanksgiving to God, reflect obedience and confession of the Gospel of Christ, increase prayer, turn people’s hearts toward each other, multiply generosity, and enable every good work, and much more (2 Corinthians 9). All this is the supernatural result of stewardship.

The Church of God General Conference/Atlanta Bible College Development Office is dedicated to serving you, your church or your para church ministry in the area of resource development. Because of so

many advances being made by the ministries of the Church of God, the need for support in the area of stewardship is great. Whether you need outside funding from grants or events, Capital or Stewardship Campaigns, or training for members or leaders, we would like to help.

For more information on the support services offered by the Development Office, please contact Dale Bliss at 765-236-1979 or dbliss@abc-coggc.org.

**Ben Patterson is a campus pastor at Westmont College in Santa Barbara, California and a contributing editor to Leadership Journal* ■



***Jesus Was Not a Trinitarian
A Call to Return to the Creed of Jesus***

In this new book Anthony Buzzard invites scholars and laymen alike to take seriously Jesus’ Jewish creed, his recitation of the Shema, “Hear, O Israel,” which proclaims God to be one single Lord. Defining God and His Son biblically remains part of the unfinished work of the Reformation. The evidence placed before the reader shows that a major paradigm shift is needed if Christians are to worship their God in spirit and in truth, uncluttered by the philosophical and confusing ideas about God which form part of received church tradition. Available from 800-347-4261 (404-362-0052) or restorationfellowship.org (465 pages, \$18)

2008 Theological Conference

Sunday-Wednesday, April 27-30, 2008

Simpsonwood Conference Center, Norcross, Georgia

April 27, 2008 marks the beginning of the 17th "Theological Conference." It is important for us to point out right away that this is not some abstruse meeting for professional scholars only! On the contrary it provides a rare opportunity for believers in the God of Israel and in Jesus as Messiah and in the saving Gospel of the Kingdom to come together for mutual support, comfort, and exhortation. Our speakers will once again be drawn from various parts of the world. They are in many cases full-time workers for the faith and they will bring us the best of their own research and meditation in matters directly related to the faith of Jesus. Most importantly they will help us to improve our own individual service of the Message of the Kingdom. The Church, Paul said, is to be equipped for ministry. Ministry is not the sole responsibility of a single "pastor"; it is the task assigned to each one of us as members of the body of Messiah.

We were very thrilled to hear of two of our lady participants of last year who, when they arrived home after the conference and the following three-day intensive class on the Kingdom of God, began to introduce the ladies of their Bible Study to what they had been learning and confirming at the 16th annual conference. The ladies were thrilled with the refreshing new clarity brought to them and a united group of truth seekers and finders emerged. Above all, the Bible students were taught to read the Bible in its proper first-century Jewish environment, uncluttered by the deadening and confusing traditions which have been added to it by mainstream theology.

Please do seriously consider making the trip to Atlanta and the excellent Simpsonwood Retreat Center. I feel you will be richly rewarded for your participation. We hope this year to allow extra time for fellowship and enjoyment of the beautiful setting in which the conference is held. But there will also be intense learning, as well as every opportunity for questions. A special feature of the conference is of course the celebrated "faith stories" of any who choose to give them. Many who come are finding fellowship for the first time, since it is difficult to meet with others of similar beliefs in many parts of the U.S. and the world. The conference is only as good as its participants. Plan on being a blessing to others and on gaining a corresponding inspiration. Jesus did say that we are all expected to share the gifts of truth we have received and at no time in history, I suppose, is the world more desperately in need of a sound, simple presentation of the Gospel of the Kingdom and the identity of the human Messiah and his One God.

Registration

To register please call Atlanta Bible College at 800-347-4261 or 404-362-0052 or mail the form on the next page. The minimum deposit is \$50 per room. **The registration deadline is March 31, 2008.**

Cost

	Single	Double (per person)	Quad (per person)
3 nights w/meals	\$223	\$175	\$159
Conf. fee	\$20	\$20	\$20
Total	\$243	\$195	\$179

Transportation

We will provide transportation between the Atlanta airport and Simpsonwood for \$25 round-trip or \$15 one-way, at the following times:

Airport to Simpsonwood		
Sunday, April 27	1:00 pm	3:30 pm
Simpsonwood to Airport		
Wed., April 30	1:00 pm	

Please arrange your arrival time on Sunday early enough to catch one of the two shuttle runs. On Wednesday, April 30, we will provide one (1) shuttle run. In order to allow you enough time to catch your return flight, we suggest you not book your return flight prior to 3:30 p.m.

The conference begins with registration at 4 pm on Sunday and ends with lunch on Wednesday. Driving directions to the Simpsonwood Conference Center are at: simpsonwood.org.

REGISTRATION

Post-conference class

Anthony Buzzard will teach "The Crisis over God: Helping Others Understand Who God and Jesus Are" from Wednesday afternoon, April 30 to Friday, May 2. The cost for the class is \$298 for credit and \$149 for continuing education. It will be held at Simpsonwood, with the same room/meal rates for Wed. and Thurs. nights: \$74 per night for single, \$58 per person per night for double. Please call Atlanta Bible College at 800-347-4261 or 404-362-0052 **before March 31** to register.

Theological Conference • April 27-30, 2008

Simpsonwood Conference Center, Norcross, Georgia

Name _____
Address _____
City, State, Zip _____
Phone-Home _____
Cell _____
Email _____

Conference rates per person (includes room, meals, breaks, fee, tax):

Single: \$243 Double: \$195 Triple: \$190 Quad: \$179

Room type: Single___ Double___ Triple___ Quad___
Roomates' Name(s) _____
Would you like us to assign a roommate? _____
Do you need transportation to/from Atlanta airport? _____ \$25 round-trip, \$15 one-way
If so, Date & Time of Arrival _____
Departure _____
Airline & Flight
Number _____
Shuttle on Sunday to Simpsonwood (Circle one) 1:00 pm 3:30 pm
Are you taking the after-conference class? _____

Send with minimum deposit of \$50 per room by March 31 to:
Atlanta Bible College, PO Box 100,000, Morrow, GA 30260

CHECKING THE CALENDAR

April 6-11, 2008—Christian Workers' Seminar in Pigeon Forge, Tennessee

April 27-30, 2008—Theological Conference in Atlanta, Georgia

May 16, 2008—Atlanta Bible College Graduation Ceremony

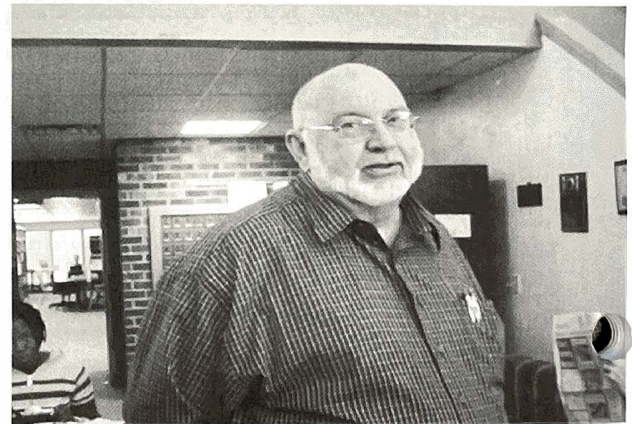
July 20-25, 2008—FUEL—Held at Manchester College in North Manchester, Indiana

July 30-August 1, 2008—88th General Conference—Held at North Hills Church (Ohio)

August 11-15, 2008—Block Classes at Atlanta Bible College

August 18, 2008—Atlanta Bible College Fall Semester Classes begin

The 2008 Church of God Ministerial Conference was held February 11-15 on the Atlanta Bible College Campus. The week's theme, *Ministry Miscellany Potpourri*, allowed for a variety of sessions to encourage our pastors and to help them continue to build their ministry skills. It was a great week together!



Verses to Live By

By Jim Mattison

Matthew 11:28-30

“Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.” (KJ)

In this passage Jesus opens the way for our peace in this troubled world—it is by coming to him with our heavy load. He will give us relief. If we are overburdened and will come to Jesus, he will cause us to rest. He will ease, relieve, and refresh our souls.

But he asks something of us. Take upon you my yoke—the yoke of subjection to Jesus. Learn about him. The way to do this is to read in Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John the story of the life and works of our Redeemer. Why does Jesus remind us that he is meek and humble? Because it is in that spirit that we are to come to him. That is how he approached his Father. We come to him in faith and prayer telling him of our need for rest and peace.

This is not a harsh command. This is a friendly request Jesus is asking, a friend begging us to find the rest we need, which God has for His own. This heavy load Jesus speaks

about may be a load of sin, guilt, or a lack of strength to meet life’s responsibilities.

This passage means a lot to me. Years ago I was pastoring a church of about 100 members, and the needs were great. There were so many sick folks to visit in the hospitals, so many needs to care for—sermons to get, studies to make, so many people’s salvation to be concerned about, that my strength was overwhelmed. I became full of stress. One night in bed at midnight, I lay there stiff as a poker. It felt like someone had put a steel band around my head and was squeezing it tighter and tighter. I couldn’t stand it. I got up in the dark and without waking my wife, made my way into the living room and knelt by the couch. I said, “Oh, God,” Jesus said, “Come unto me and I will give you rest.” In agony I cried out, “Please give me that rest!” Instantly, all that stress went out of me and I had a perfect peace. It was startling—one moment I was in bad shape, the next, full of quietness. I never forgot that. Later, when my beloved wife died, again he gave me that peace when I came to him.

This is a true and faithful promise, an invitation, Jesus is giving us. It works! We can find relief. It is through our Lord Jesus Christ, our friend. He will help us.

This same statement is found in John 14:27. Jesus said, “Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.” In other places Jesus told his disciples to “Fear not.” He said he would be with us to the end of the age. After forgiveness, this “peace that passeth understanding” is the next greatest blessing.

Our Christian goal is to have such a close fellowship with our God and our Lord so nothing that happens to us can shake us. Friend, let not your heart be troubled. Go to Jesus in prayer and ask for help with life’s problems. He will not turn you away ■

Income Report for December 2007

	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>This Month Variance</u>
CONTRIBUTIONS:			
General Contributions	200,300	191,346	-8,954
Building Our Future Campaign [Gen Contrib & BOF combined]	1,500 0	150	-1,350
G.C. - Devises & Bequests	2,500	5,035	2,535
ABC Boosters	8,500	3,745	-4,755
Subtotal	212,800	200,276	-12,524
SALES:			
Christian Education Materials	10,500	12,375	1,875
Books	18,000	15,945	-2,055
Restitution Herald	0	0	0
Age to Come Media Products	0	0	0
Theological Journal	0	630	630
Sale of Assets	0	15	15
Subtotal	28,500	28,964	464
ABC:			
Tuition	90,000	76,273	-13,727
Korean Extension Tuition	161,817	159,300	-2,517
ABCDF Support	18,000	18,000	0
Lodging	39,000	36,457	-2,543
Washers/Dryers	450	269	-181
Rentals - ABC Plant	2,500	1,620	-880
Late Fees/Rent	4,250	7,039	2,789
Fees	6,000	8,075	2,075
Subtotal	322,017	307,032	-14,984
PROGRAM INCOME:			
Conferences & Workshops	1,500	1,592	92
Subtotal	1,500	1,592	92
MISCELLANEOUS:			
Interest	600	439	-161
Transferred In	11,625	9,097	-2,528
Subtotal	12,225	9,536	-2,689
Income Total	577,042	547,400	-29,642

BUILDING OUR FUTURE CAMPAIGN

Total contributions since inception (2003): **279,232**

**** ABCDF Support ** - Please praise God that we are again able to receive support from the Atlanta Bible College Development Foundation!**

- These statements report College/Conference income and expense for July, 2007 through June, 2008.
- The "Budget" column in each report shows the year-to-date portion of the annual budget for each line item.
- The "Variance" column in each report shows the difference between the amount budgeted and the amount actually received (income) or spent (expense). A positive number in this column means the income or expense is better than budgeted. A negative number in this column means the income or expense is worse than budgeted.

Expense Report for December 2007

	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>This Month Variance</u>
STAFF:			
Salaries & Wages	277,092	284,121	-7,030
F.I.C.A. Tax	4,100	5,735	-1,635
Employee Benefits	57,552	55,794	1,758
Subtotal	338,744	345,651	-6,907
SERVICES:			
Assistance to Churches	5,000	1,800	3,200
Ministerial Association	4,800	5,785	-985
Youth Program	12,000	12,000	0
Subtotal	21,800	19,585	2,215
SALES EXPENSE:			
Printing & Binding	16,000	22,294	-6,294
Postage & Shipping	7,000	7,948	-948
Media Production Expenses	0	0	0
Book Store	8,500	7,732	768
Royalties	0	0	0
Subtotal	31,500	37,973	-6,473
ABC:			
Clayton Rebate	0	0	0
Advertising--Recruitment	2,400	4,599	-2,199
ABC Korean Extension Support	10,000	11,921	-1,921
Library Periodicals	1,000	864	136
Library Books	400	1,030	-630
Staff Periodicals, Books, Dues	900	872	28
Staff Training	1,500	1,835	-335
Subtotal	16,200	21,121	-4,921
ADMINISTRATION:			
Travel	24,500	37,490	-12,990
Motor Vehicles	0	0	0
Office Supplies & Expense	6,500	5,155	1,345
Professional Services	11,000	12,819	-1,819
Telephone	12,500	12,189	311
Insurance - Non Plant	250	42	208
Supplies & Expense	3,000	4,724	-1,724
Repairs/Maintenance - Non Plant	15,000	14,586	414
Subtotal	72,750	87,005	-14,255
PLANT EXPENSES:			
Utilities	19,000	19,166	-166
Insurance - Property	8,000	8,499	-499
Repairs/Maintenance - Plant	5,500	3,601	1,899
Furniture & Equipment	8,000	2,256	5,744
Supplies/Expenses Plant	2,500	1,125	1,375
Subtotal	43,000	34,647	8,353
MISCELLANEOUS:			
Interest	3,500	14,944	-11,444
Other	4,000	2,223	1,777
Subtotal	7,500	17,167	-9,667
Expense Total	531,494	563,150	-31,656
GRAND TOTAL (Income less Expense)	45,548	-15,750	-61,298

Church News

Baptisms

Michigan

North Kent—Samantha Alters and Robert Hyde (11/18/07) by Pastor Michael Cisler

Ohio

Lawrenceville—Lance Anthony (3/25/07), Shelby Lindner (5/13/07), Robert Miller and Judy Miller (5/15/07), Rick Jordan, Charlie Knox and Susan Knox (7/1/07), Tom Hupman and Travis Pyles (7/15/07), Ariel Wilson (8/26/07), Sydnie Barnhart (9/16/07), Jacob Boggs and Jake Hupman (1/6/08), Logan Hinshaw and Josiah Cain (1/27/08), Josh Studebaker and Mike Youngerman (2/3/08) by Pastor Alan Cain; Janie Kaffenbarger (12/9/07) by her father, Rod

South Carolina

Bethel—Landon Monroe (11/18/07), James Marks and Allison Hopper (12/23/07), Carly Griffith (12/30/07), Crystal Lee (1/13/08), Michelle Gregory (1/27/08) by Pastor Jeff Fletcher

Deaths

California

Pomona—William Dick (10/29/07), son of Otto Dick; John Taylor (12/12/07), long-time faithful member; Kenneth McLeod (12/22/07), son of Norman McLeod. Services by Pastor Chuck Jones

Canada

Glad Tidings—Alfred Payne (12/1/07), long-time faithful member. Service by Pastor Michael Brown

Illinois

Mt. Sterling—Lozelle Burnett, 86, (1/25/08), brother of the late Pastor Francis Burnett, and sister of Helen Jones

Indiana

Timberland—Carl Heiser, 85, (1/19/08), long-time faithful member, baptized by F. L. Austin in 1938. Service by Pastor John Railton; Kent Hoffman, 75, (1/28/08). Service by Pastor Dustin Smith

Nebraska

Cozad—Lucille Story, 87, (11/27/07), long-time faithful member of the Holbrook church. Service by Pastor Scott Ross

South Carolina

Bethel—Amber Gokey (11/20/07). Service by Pastors Jeff Fletcher and Alan Cain; Minnie Lee Owens (12/29/07). Service by Pastor Jeff Fletcher

Guthrie Grove—Beth Durham Simpson (2/3/08). Service by Pastor Mike Montgomery



Prayer & Praise

April 2008

- 1 **Pray for your pastor and family.**
- 2 Pray for Pastor Vivian and Paula Kirkpatrick and the Hutchinson, Minnesota Church of God.
- 3 **Pray for retired pastor Jack Hearp.**
- 4 Pray for Pastor Rex and Sharon Cain and their work in Bedford, Ohio.
- 5 **Pray for Anthony Buzzard's correspondence with truth seekers around the world.**
- 6 Pray for the Christian Workers Seminar that begins today in Tennessee.
- 7 **Pray for those whose eyes are blinded to the Gospel.**
- 8 Pray for volunteers to be short-term missionaries this summer.
- 9 **Pray for opportunities to witness to those without Jesus as their Savior.**
- 10 Pray for Sam An as he assists with the administrative work for the ABC Korean Extension.
- 11 **Pray for retired pastor Ed Goit and his wife, Viola.**
- 12 Praise God for new life in Christ.
- 13 **Pray for the churches in your state/district Conference.**
- 14 Pray for the students and staff of Atlanta Bible College.
- 15 **Pray for Pastor Lesly Bertrand and others who are preaching and teaching in Haiti.**
- 16 Praise God for a new day.
- 17 **Pray for the New Hope Church in Little Rock, Arkansas.**
- 18 Praise God for dedicated Church of God ministers.
- 19 **Pray for retired Chaplain Orville Westlund.**
- 20 Pray for the ministry of the Badillo family in Mexico.
- 21 **Pray for Pastor Michael and Melinda Cisler and the North Kent Bible Church in Rockford, Michigan.**
- 22 Praise God for His faithfulness.
- 23 **Praise God for the gift of His Son, and the resurrection of Jesus.**
- 24 Pray for Pastor Curt and Anita Rowden and the East Peoria, Illinois Church.
- 25 **Pray that God might use you to lead the lost to salvation.**
- 26 Pray for Pastor Steve and Young An and the Korean American Community Church of God in Morrow, Georgia.
- 27 **Pray for the Theological Conference that begins today in Atlanta, Georgia.**
- 28 Pray for the Family of God Fellowship in Maple Grove, Minnesota.
- 29 **Praise God that His mercies are new every morning.**
- 30 Praise God for the ministry and service of your church leaders.

May 2008

- 1 **Pray for the editors of our Conference publications.**
- 2 Pray for Pastor Ray and Susan Hall and the Garden Park, Michigan Church of God.
- 3 **Pray for Pastor Charles and Carol Jones and the Pomona, California Church.**
- 4 Pray for the ministry of Pastor Ken and Eva Howe and the Country Chapel, Indiana Church of God.
- 5 **Pray for the missionary work in Mexico.**
- 6 Praise God for students who are preparing for service at Atlanta Bible College.
- 7 **Praise God for new attendees at your local church.**
- 8 Pray for the ministry of Pastor Michael and Linda Hoffman and the Oregon, Illinois Church of God.
- 9 **Pray for Pastor Steve and Jill Taylor and the work at the Lakeshore Bible Church in Tempe, Arizona.**
- 10 Pray for Pastor Jeff and Karen Fletcher and the Bethel Church in Pelzer, South Carolina.
- 11 **Praise God for your mother and her influence.**
- 12 Praise God for the strength He provides each day.
- 13 **Pray for believers who are in nursing homes and hospitals.**
- 14 Pray for the congregation at Omaha, Nebraska, and Pastor Scott and Gayle Ross.
- 15 **Pray for Pastor Johnathan Wincapaw and the Blood River, Louisiana Church of God.**
- 16 Praise God for ABC students as they receive Bachelor's Degrees, Associate's Degrees, and Foundation Certificates tonight.
- 17 **Pray for God to raise up workers for our churches.**
- 18 Pray for those who are responding to the Focus on the Kingdom radio program.
- 19 **Praise God for the faithful work of retired pastor Leon and Delores Driskill over many years.**
- 20 Pray for healing for someone you know who is in need.
- 21 **Praise God for the faithful years of work from retired pastor David and Wanda Cheatwood.**
- 22 Pray for your family and friends.
- 23 **Pray for the ministry of Pastor Scott and Theresa Deane and the church at Pleasant Hill, Ohio.**
- 24 Pray for those who are preparing for Christian service.
- 25 **Pray for the work of Pastor Don and Joyce Ward and the Countryside Bible Church in Missouri.**
- 26 Pray for the International students at ABC.
- 27 **Pray for Elder Jim Davis and his wife Betty and the New Family Bible Church in Pueblo West, Colorado.**
- 28 Pray for Church of God members throughout the world as they minister to others.
- 29 **Pray for the brethren in India.**
- 30 Pray for Pastor Jon and Rene Welch and the Fredericktown, Missouri Church.
- 31 **Praise God for all that He has done and is doing in your life.**

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Prayer & Praise June 2008

- 1 **Pray for Atlanta Bible College students as they make decisions for the future.**
- 2 Pray for Pastor John Nelson and the Open Bible Church, Bolivar, Missouri.
- 3 **Pray for the Midwest Family Camp at Camp Mack this summer.**
- 4 Praise God for the beauty of His creation.
- 5 **Pray that God will speak deeply into your heart today.**
- 6 Pray for boldness to share your faith.
- 7 **Pray for Pastor Dan and Charlotte Fyfe and their work at Anderson Chapel, Hendersonville, North Carolina.**
- 8 Praise God for His power and knowledge.
- 9 **Pray for the ministry of your local church.**
- 10 Praise God for those who regularly remember our Conference and College with their prayers and contributions.
- 11 **Praise God for your pastor and his family and their dedication to ministry.**
- 12 Pray for Pastor James and Linda Hill and the work at Royal, Arkansas.
- 13 **Praise God for your family and circle of friends.**
- 14 Pray for the summer General Conference to be held at the North Hills Church in Ohio beginning in late July.
- 15 **Praise God for your father.**
- 16 Pray for Pastor Rufus and Jerri Meyers and the Simple Teachings Bible Church, Morrow, Georgia.
- 17 **Pray for Pastor Gordon and Barbara Landry and the work at Flagg Center, Illinois.**
- 18 Pray for Pastor Christy Ross and her work at the Jaynes Street Church in Omaha, Nebraska.
- 19 **Pray for those who are listening to the Focus on the Kingdom Radio Program.**
- 20 Praise God for the beauty of His creation.
- 21 **Pray for the believers in Lima, Peru as they continue to plan their ministry after the death of Pastor Beder Ucanay.**
- 22 Pray for believers in the Phillipine Islands.
- 23 **Praise God for those who write lessons for our Adult Sunday School curriculum.**
- 24 Pray for pastors who are changing pastorates this year.
- 25 **Pray for God's direction in future mission efforts.**
- 26 Pray for God's direction in the preparation for FUEL (Youth Program) next month.
- 27 **Praise God for your church family.**
- 28 Pray for Bible Schools being held at many churches this summer.
- 29 **Pray for the Board of Directors as they lead the College/Conference.**
- 30 Praise God for the dedication of the College/Conference staff.

THE Restitution Herald

& Progress Journal

CAO Update . . .

By Tim Jones

Greetings to all of you from Atlanta, Georgia! Spring has arrived in full force and we are enjoying the green and growing new season. We will celebrate Atlanta Bible College's graduation next week, bringing to a close a tremendous semester for staff and students. Allow me to highlight some of the major initiatives we anticipate for the months and years ahead.

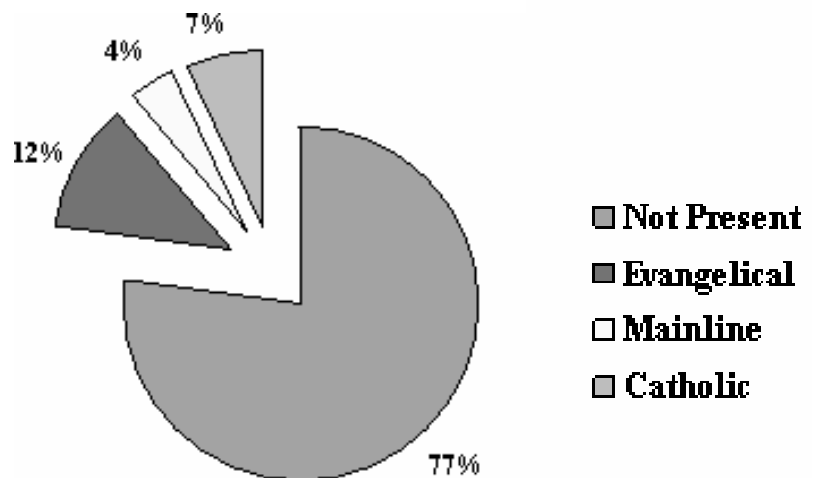
Our Campus Development program continues to move forward. The primary reasons for the efforts we are directing towards relocation and campus development are to improve the ability of the College to educate and train future leaders for the Church of God.

Why is this so important? The world around us is steadily changing, becoming more diverse and secular with each passing year. One week ago I attended a conference with my pastor at a large church in Atlanta. Across the street from this enormous, multi-building evangelical Christian mega-church, was an equally large facility—the Hindu Center of Atlanta. These symptoms of our increasingly pluralistic society are more common every day. It is essential that we prepare people to minister in this emerging culture, rather than in the world that is becoming a thing of the past.

The United States is alone among large developed nations in having a rapidly growing population. While most other industrialized countries are stable or declining in population, since 1967 the U.S. population grew from 200 million to more than 300 million people. Our country's population grew by 52 million people in the period of 1990 to 2006. Even as the population continues to grow, the number of people engaged in Christian church attendance and participation continues to fall. According to studies that have been done, in 1990 approximately 21% of the population of Americans were in a Christian church on any given Sunday. By 2005 that percentage had fallen to 17.5%. No state in the nation had church attendees, as a percentage of the total population, keep pace with population growth for 2000 to 2005. As shown below,

participation studies indicate 77% of Americans do not have a vital connection with any church.

Is the Church of God immune to these changes? Perhaps, as God blesses us, we can hold onto our families and make inroads into our communities and towns. However, we see few of our churches rapidly growing numerically or spawning new churches. Even as our faith spreads overseas in Africa, or in communities like the Korean-American population, many of our older churches still look for pastors and leaders to begin new ministries in their towns or cities. On a more personal level, I have made it a practice to ask our new students at the College if they have been taught how to focus on growing spiritually. Although most say that they recognize this is a critical part of



2)

(Continued from page 1)

their personal lives, the large majority report that they do not know how to pursue a life-changing experience with God.

According to research, America's unchurched population has become the largest English speaking mission field in the world. A revolution in how we teach the Gospel of the Kingdom is desperately needed.

I read recently in the book, The American Church in Crisis about the story of the religious group known as the Shakers, also known as the "shaking Quakers." They were founded in England in 1772 and moved to America two years later. They are renowned for the culture they developed and

devotion to their beliefs, and at their peak, numbered over 6,000 people in 19 communities. However, they adopted two strategies that ensured that their faith would not survive. Their first practice was that of a celibate lifestyle, meaning their faith could only survive by conversion and adoption. In 1965, they formally adopted the second lethal strategy when they decided to allow no new members into the group. At the time of this book's¹ writing, only three Shakers remained. With the death of the two brothers and a sister that live in Maine, the more than 200 year history of the group will conclude with their extinction.

Is this to be the fate of the faithful to God, closing their

communities to the people outside that need to know Jesus? I believe God wants us to reach out into this world in a way that spreads the Gospel and leads people into transformed lives of service and ministry. *To lead our churches in a new world, men and women need to be trained for ministry in new and more effective ways.* The College is committed to making changes that will support our students in these efforts. We are just as committed to finding ways for us to aid pastors, teachers, and laity in their ministries in our existing churches.

By the time you receive this Progress Journal, the sale of our existing campus to Clayton State University should be

(Continued on page 3)

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THE RESTITUTION HERALD ADVOCATES:

- THE ONENESS OF GOD (1 COR. 8:6);
- THE HOLY SPIRIT IS GOD'S POWER (ACTS 1:8);
- JESUS CHRIST IS GOD'S ONLY BEGOTTEN SON (MATT. 16:16), AND IS OUR MEDIATOR (1 TIM. 2:5);
- THE BIBLE IS THE INSPIRED WORD OF GOD (2 TIM. 3:16);
- THE MORTALITY OF MAN (JOB 4:17; PSA. 146:4);
- THE NEAR RETURN OF CHRIST (ACTS 1:11), AND LIFE ONLY THROUGH HIM (COL. 3:3);
- THE LITERAL RESURRECTION OF THE DEAD (JOHN 5:28);
- THE IMMORTALIZATION OF THOSE IN CHRIST (1 COR. 15:53, 54);
- THE DESTRUCTION OF THE WICKED (REV. 21:8);
- THE FINAL RESTORATION OF ISRAEL AS THE KINGDOM OF GOD UNDER THE KINGSHIP OF CHRIST (LUKE 1:32);
- THE CHURCH TO BE JOINT HEIRS WITH HIM (ROM. 8:17), AND ISRAEL TO BE MADE HEAD OVER GENTILE NATIONS (ISA. 60:1-3);
- THE "RESTITUTION OF ALL THINGS WHICH GOD HATH SPOKEN BY THE MOUTH OF ALL HIS HOLY PROPHETS SINCE THE WORLD BEGAN" (ACTS 3:21).
- IT ALSO FIRMLY ADVOCATES REPENTANCE AND IMMERSION IN THE NAME OF JESUS CHRIST FOR THE REMISSION OF SINS (ACTS 2:38), AND A CONSECRATED LIFE AS ESSENTIAL TO SALVATION.

(Continued from page 2)

complete. This initial step opens the door to many more changes in the future. We have the right to continue to operate from our Morrow location for up to 36 months. We believe that God's will is for us to build two campuses in the Atlanta region. One campus will be to the south of the city in Henry County and one campus will be located to the northeast side of the Atlanta region. The new campuses will be designed to be economical to operate and flexible enough to adapt as the College changes to meet the needs of students.

We have just announced that Robert Jones will be joining our teaching faculty in the fall. We are excited about adding qualified, excellent instructors to our faculty like Bob. We are committed to building a faculty that teaches both Scriptural truths and relevant skills to all of our students. We are planning to enhance the quality of our distance learning through teleconferencing and other technologies. These enhancements will allow people in our local congregations who have never before been able to participate in ABC programs to benefit. God will raise up these potential leaders, and we will seek to provide the support they desire to assume these leadership roles in the local church.

We are committed to holding fast to our beliefs in the teachings of God's Word, attracting men and women to God's service, and developing new ways and ideas to bring these truths to a wider audience. God's truth is powerful and transformative, but He has ordered the world in such a way that people must hear His message from other people. The local church and its members are on the front lines of the struggle to spread the Gospel. The General Conference stands ready to provide the support and assistance to help the local church prosper.

We need your help to make this vision become a reality. Your support is vital in the following ways:

1. **Pray that God is at work** in the lives and ministries of all that are seeking to serve Him in spirit and in truth. We need God's blessing during this time of change more than ever. Your prayer support is very important to our efforts.

2. **Give financially** to support the Campus Development program. The sale of the existing campus gives us a position of financial strength from which to begin. However, we will need additional support from all our members to make both campuses a reality. Will you give of the blessings God has provided to you to make our future a time of growth and

vitality? Paul wrote this to the Corinthian believers: *"Remember: A stingy planter gets a stingy crop; a lavish planter gets a lavish crop. I want each of you to take plenty of time to think it over, and make up your own mind what you will give. That will protect you against sob stories and arm-twisting. God loves it when the giver delights in the giving. God can pour on the blessings in astonishing ways so that you're ready for anything and everything, more than just ready to do what needs to be done"* (2 Cor. 9, *The Message*).

3. **Become a partner** and get involved in our vision of what can be. Make yourself aware of the plans and goals we are seeking to achieve. Share with Dale Bliss, Gary Burnham, me, or any staff member you meet, about what you and your church hope to see as a result of this program. Dream great big dreams about what God can and will do through the blessed efforts of His children.

There is much work to be done in a world that needs Jesus and the message of the Kingdom of God more than ever. I look forward to working together with you all.

Tim

¹ [The American Church in Crisis](#), David T. Olson, page 127.

CHURCHES SEARCHING FOR PASTORS . . .

BLANCHARD

The Blanchard Church of God in Blanchard, Michigan is currently seeking a growth-oriented pastor. We are an established church with approximately 40 dedicated people with great growth potential in the surrounding area. Interested pastors may call Elder/Chairman of the Board, Terry Kunst, at 989-560-1268 or e-mail him at: terry@mtpleasantagency.com.

CONGER STREET CHURCH OF GOD

The Conger Street Church of God in Waterloo, Iowa is in need of a pastor. We are looking for a part-time pastor to work with our small group of dedicated members. Please contact: Danny McGowan at: dantheman5169@aol.com; 2672 Logan Ave., Waterloo, IA 50703

GATESVILLE CHURCH OF GOD

The Gatesville Church of God in Gatesville, Texas is currently without a pastor. We are a hard working and dedicated church in a growing community, but we know that a pastor is needed to flourish and grow. Come visit us at our expense and see what we are all about. Call Mark Henson at 254-865-8452 or Stephen Burkett at 254-865-5780.

HAPPYWOODS CHURCH

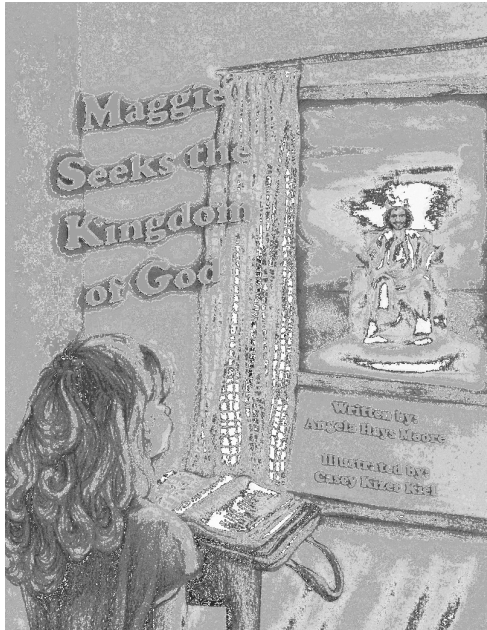
The congregation of the Happywoods Church is seeking a full-time Pastor. We are a relatively small congregation and are located in the community of Hammond, LA. This area is in the southeast tip of Louisiana and currently has a population of approximately 100,000 people within relatively easy driving distance of the church. Our area is located in the center of the I-12 corridor, which is predicted to grow to over 2.5 million people within the next 30 or so years. We have a new and newly renovated facility of 12,000 sq. ft. of space that needs lots of people to serve.

Our congregation has been involved with our community in the past and looks forward to growing in the community and in faith. If you are interested in pastoring in an environment, which is both challenging and invigorating, where you and the church can grow both numerically and spiritually through outreach, please think of us.

For more information, please contact Elder Charles Bottolfs at 985-542-1555 or via e-mail at: cgbottolfs@bellsouth.net. Or you may contact Elder John Fauntleroy at 985-345-7134. Both phones take messages and you will be contacted. You may also write to us at the following address: C. G Bottolfs, 43137 Happywoods Road, Hammond, LA 70403



“Maggie Seeks the Kingdom of God!” ©



Written by Angela Moore; Illustrated by Casey Kiel

A delightful and heartwarming resource for your children, grandchildren, friends and family that will explain to the special people in your life what you believe!

In this enchanting children's book, "*Maggie Seeks the Kingdom of God*" © God's Kingdom is captured in our imaginations like never before! As our eyes are captivated by the illustrations that aim to portray how the Bible describes what the Kingdom will be like, our ears will be caught up in the simple story of a mommy teaching her little girl named Maggie, about what Jesus preached. We pray for God's Kingdom to come and this charming book brings home this simple Gospel message to its readers.

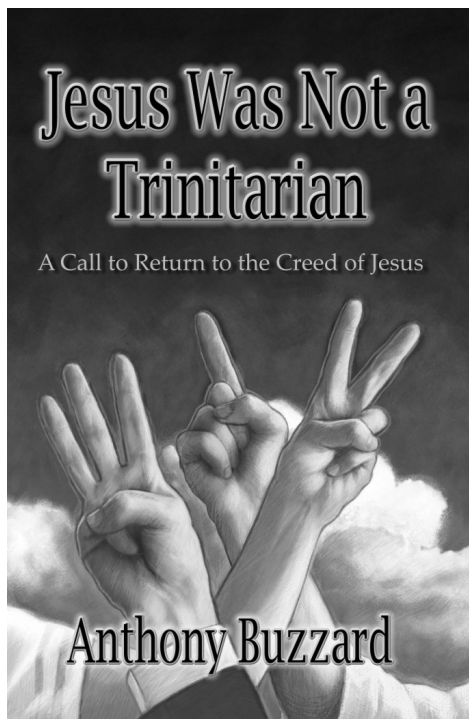
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Jesus Was Not a Trinitarian *A Call to Return to the Creed of Jesus*

In this new book Anthony Buzzard invites scholars and laymen alike to take seriously Jesus' Jewish creed, his recitation of the Shema, "Hear, O Israel," which proclaims God to be one single Lord. Defining God and His Son biblically remains part of the unfinished work of the Reformation. The evidence placed before the reader shows that a major paradigm shift is needed if Christians are to worship their God in spirit and in truth, uncluttered by the philosophical and confusing ideas about God which form part of received church tradition. Available from 800-347-4261 (404-362-0052) or restorationfellowship.org (465 pages, \$18)

General Conference Information

The 2008 General Conference will be held at the North Hills Church of God in Springfield, Ohio Wednesday evening, July 30 through Friday evening, August 1. Since the Conference became a one-and-a-half to two-day event several years ago, requests have been made to increase the content of the Conference. This year's program will do just that. We'll begin with a great barbeque and worship service on Wednesday evening, July 30, continue with practical, participation oriented classes/workshops Thursday morning and early afternoon, delegate business sessions late Thursday afternoon and Friday, and conclude the Conference with an uplifting worship service Friday evening, August 1. Please mark your calendar to join us at the North Hills Church of God beginning Wednesday evening, July 30. It will be a great Conference!

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

The following amendments have been recommended by the Michigan State Conference and will be submitted to the delegates during the Summer General Conference. The Board of Directors supports both amendments:

Article I, Sec. 2:

The General Conference shall meet once each year at such time and place between July 1, April 1, and August 31 as may be determined by the Conference or its Board of Directors. Announcement of the time and place shall be made by the secretary of the Conference at least six months in advance by publication in *The Restitution Herald* and/or *Progress Journal*, or by other suitable means of communication. The General Conference may be called at such other times as may be necessary, and may convene

upon consent of a majority of the member churches.

(Strikethroughs indicate present language that would be deleted, and additions are underlined.)

Article IV, Section 4:

Nominations for the Board of Directors of the College/Conference may be submitted by State or District Conference Board of the Church of God; Churches that are members of the General Conference; Ministerial Association of the Church of God General Conference. Name(s) of nominees and resumes will be submitted to the Chief Administrative Officer of Atlanta Bible College/Church of God General Conference by May 1 at least three months before the meeting and will be printed in the General Conference issue of *Progress Journal*, or disseminated by other suitable means of communication at least one month before the meeting.

(Strikethroughs indicate present language that would be deleted, and additions are underlined.)

■





Join us for
General Conference 2008
 July 30 through August 1, 2008
 at
 North Hills Church of God, Springfield, OH

Enjoy . . . fellowshiping and worshipping with believers . . . exploring the vision for the future of the General Conference and Atlanta Bible College . . . working together to see God's direction in our body of believers.

PLEASE NOTE: The fees for General Conference DO NOT include lodging. You must arrange lodging by contacting the hotel directly. The fees for the Conference cover the costs of the General Conference meeting and the meals. Local hotel contact numbers are provided that are relatively close to North Hills Church of God, but you may choose any hotel you desire in the Springfield area or make other arrangements.

1. Fill out the following form. Rates are per person.
2. If today's date is July 14 or later, please add \$25.00 to your total.
3. Mail this form to: General Conference 2008 PO Box 100,000 Morrow, GA 30260
4. Or register online at www.abc-coggc.org (or contact Kim Musch 800-347-4261)

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	Children 6 to 12—\$35.00 per child _____ Age (s) _____	
	Commuters: No Meals—\$35.00 _____	
(We encourage you to enjoy the meals with other attendees!)		
Do you give COGGC permission to put your information in event directory? Y___ or N ___		

The program will begin Wednesday (7/30) with a late afternoon Barbeque and evening service. Thursday and Friday will include a complete schedule of interactive classes/workshops and delegate sessions. The Conference will conclude after the Friday evening service.

<u>Hotel Information</u>		
Comfort Inns & Suites - (937) 322-0707 Country Inns & Suites - (937) 322-2200 Call the hotel directly, and please make reservations by <u>JUNE 30TH</u>. Church Address: 2950 Moorefield Road Springfield, OH 45502	Adults at \$99 per person	\$
	Children ages 6 to 12 at \$35 per person	\$
	Commuters, no meals X \$35 per person	\$
	Subtotal	\$
	Pastor Discount—subtract 10%	\$
	Registration on or after July 14, 2008 add \$25	\$
	Less \$25 Deposit	- \$25.00
	Total due at Conference	\$

Board of Director Nominations

At General Conference we will be electing three (3) directors for the Board of Directors. The terms of Michael Hoffman and Joe James expire this year. Additionally, one year is left on the term of Dale Bliss per his resignation at the time he became a staff member last Fall (see Section 2 below). Currently we have five (5) nominees. Article IV of the constitution directs the process for nominating and electing directors.

ARTICLE IV

Officers of the Conference

Section 1. Seven directors shall be elected in General Conference delegate sessions; said directors shall constitute the Board of Directors of the College/Conference. The Board of Directors shall organize by the election of necessary officers at the first meeting following each annual Conference election. These officers shall be a chairman, vice-chairman, secretary, and treasurer, and three board members. The term of office of a director shall begin at the close of the Conference in which said director is elected.

Section 2. No elected director shall be a paid employee of the College/Conference for a period longer than two months in any one year.

Section 3. The qualifications of each director shall be those given in 1 Timothy 3, Titus 1, and such other Scriptures as teach the qualifications of church leaders. A director may be either male or female.

Section 4. Nominations for the Board of Directors of the College/Conference may be submitted by: State or District Conference Boards of the Church of God; Churches that are members of the General Conference; Ministerial Association of the Church of God General Conference. Name(s) of

nominees and resumes will be submitted to the Chief Administrative Officer of Atlanta Bible College/General Conference by May 1 and will be printed in the General Conference issue of *Progress Journal*.

Section 5. Nominations printed in the *Progress Journal* will be brought to the floor of the business session by the Chairman at least one day before the day set for the election. Additional nominations will be received from the floor, and shall not be closed with fewer than one more nomination than the number of directorships.

Section 6. Nominations shall be made from the floor; but voting shall be done by ballot, and no nominee shall be elected unless he receives a majority of the votes cast. The total list of all nominees shall be submitted to the delegates for election. If no majority is reached in the first balloting, the list of nominees shall be reduced to the three receiving the highest number of votes. When no majority is reached with the list of three nominees, the one receiving the fewest votes shall be removed from the list. Of the two remaining nominees, the one receiving the majority of votes is elected. If other directors are to be elected, all names, except the one(s) previously elected, shall be resubmitted, and the same election process repeated until all positions are filled.

Section 7. The term of office for all College/Conference directors shall be for four years. No director shall succeed himself for a second term.

Section 8. Any director who may become inactive through sickness, resignation, prolonged absence, or death, shall be replaced for the unexpired term by election at the next annual conference. Temporary appointment of such directors may be made by the Board of Directors.

Larry Bolhous

The Oregon Church of God is pleased to nominate Larry Bolhous for a position on the Board of Directors. Larry wrote the following: I am interested in serving on the General Conference Board of Directors. I have been married to my wife Virginia for 35 years. We have two sons, a daughter and five grandsons. As I write this, we are expecting our first granddaughter to be born in June. I am 56 years old. I have been in the grocery business for 30 years, owning my own business for over 25 years. I attended Oregon Bible College for two years back in 1968 and 1969. I served in the U.S. Army for 2 years. I have been a member of the Oregon Church of God since leaving the military in 1972. I have held many ministry positions over the years, including: Youth Leader, Sunday School Teacher, Budget Chairman, Board Chairman, and Elder. In my community, I have served on many school committees—was a member of the village board, zone committee for the village, and presently the township. I have worked with the Winnebago county on growth and planning. I have been a Lion's Club member since moving to Winnebago in 1979. I have served as Secretary and President. I have been President of the Winnebago Chamber of Commerce for 2 years and was Chairman of the group that established the organization. I am presently serving on the Ministerial Recognition Board, which is the licensing board for our pastors. I appreciate being on this board and want to see our pastors held in the highest esteem.

I would like to serve on the General Conference Board of Directors because I feel more can be accomplished for God if many work

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together. Exciting things are going on and I would like to be a part of it. Over the past few years serving my church on the national level has been on my heart. God has trained me through the things I have mentioned above and it is time to give God some return on His investment in me. I appreciate the privilege of being considered for this position.

Greg Demmitt

I'm honored to be nominated by the Korean Church Conference and am willing to serve the General Conference as a member of the Board of Directors. With the current changes facing the Conference, I can appreciate the need to have experienced leadership in these times.

During the next four years, Atlanta Bible College plans to develop two locations, one for the Korean extension and also a new location south of Atlanta. The way we develop these campuses will affect ministry in the Church of God for many years, and I see this as the top priority for our staff and the Board of Directors.

I hope to spend at least 20 more years in ministry serving our churches as they advance the Kingdom in their communities. I've invested in training to be able to more effectively coach churches and pastors and to teach the biblical skills and understandings necessary in moving forward when we face conflict. I see much opportunity for continued ministry, especially as mature Christians are challenged into greater opportunities for service.

Experience:

Church service: Interim pastor, Gatesville Church of God, 2008; Blanchard Church of God, 2007; Timberland, South Bend, IN, 2007; Lakeshore Bible Church, Tempe, AZ,

1992-2006; Happywoods Church of God, Hammond, LA, 1986-1992; Country Chapel, Michigantown, IN, 1980-86; Associate Pastor, Bible Church of God, Phoenix, AZ, 1979-1980; intern, Bible Church of God, Phoenix, AZ.

Church of God General Conference service: Adult Quarterly editor, 2007 to present, 1988-1990; Ministerial Recognition Board, 2003-present (currently chairman, term expires in 2012); Youth camp staff, 1975-present; Quiz director; 1982-87, 1998-2000; Adult Quarterly writer, 1980-present; General Conference Board of Directors 1999-2003.

Other professional experience: Corporate Recruiter, Competent Search, 2003-present; Project Coordinator, Thompson Newspapers, 1997-1999; various journalist positions, 1984-present.

Education and certifications: Certified coach with Coachnet, April 2007; Certified in Natural Church Development; October 2000; Graduated Oregon Bible College, 1978.

Personal: Born Nov. 23, 1955 in Wilmington, Ohio to Dwaine and Joyce Demmitt. Baptized July, 1969. Married Karen Circle, August 18, 1979. Three children, Daniel, 25. Allison Valenzuela, 23, and Michael, 16.

Daniel W. Siderius

The Indiana State Conference nominates Daniel Siderius for election to the Board of Directors of the General Conference, and this nomination is joined by a letter of support from the North Kent Bible Church in Michigan. Dan was raised near Grand Rapids, Michigan and has also lived in Wisconsin, Indiana, and Missouri as his education and career

have demanded. His family began fellowshipping with North Kent Bible Church when he was a child, but he was raised with Biblical Unitarian and Kingdom-seeking doctrines prior to affiliating with the Church of God. He now resides in St Louis, Missouri.

Dan completed a B.S. in Chemical Engineering at Michigan Technological University, after which he completed a M.S. in Chemical Engineering and Doctor of Philosophy degrees at Purdue University. While completing these degrees, he developed an interest in education and pedagogy, particularly at the university level, interests which would be useful in the oversight of Atlanta Bible College. Dan has continued his education through his current employment as a post-doctoral research scientist at Washington University, a private, nonsectarian research university in St Louis.

Dan has served in various roles at churches affiliated with the General Conference. At the Maple Grove Church in Kokomo, Indiana he restarted and oversaw the Christian Education program when that church moved to its new facilities and taught Sunday school classes. After attending the Kokomo church, Dan was involved with the initial organization of the New Covenant Church in Indianapolis, assisted in writing its governing documents, and led home fellowships. Along with local church responsibilities, he served as a church representative to the Indiana State Conference, was later elected a Director of the State Conference, and took the roles of Conference Vice President and President.

Dan observes that the GC is at something of a critical juncture at

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CHECKING THE CALENDAR

July 20-25, 2008—FUEL—Held at Manchester College in North Manchester, Indiana

July 30-August 1, 2008—88th General Conference—Held at North Hills Church (Ohio)

August 18-22, 2008—Block Classes at Atlanta Bible College

August 25, 2008—Atlanta Bible College Fall Semester Classes begin

October 13-18, 2008—Block Classes at Atlanta Bible College

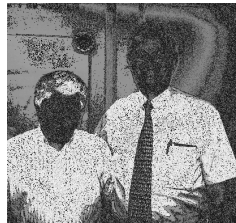
Church of God Ministry Expands in South America

Bill Wachtel and David and Lynne Krogh traveled to Peru and Uruguay April 5-13. Bill Wachtel spoke at the Sunday morning service in Lima on April 6 and on Saturday night April 12. We spent time Sunday afternoon, Monday, and Saturday discussing the ministry following the death of Pastor Beder in February. Gaston, the brother of deceased pastor Beder Ucanay, has been preaching at the church and it is agreed that he will serve as the new pastor with the help of several other dedicated believers. Gaston has been disciplined by his brother for the past several years, and he is currently taking some classes at a seminary in Lima. Gaston is well grounded in the truths of Scripture and is a very capable person to serve as pastor.

We were delighted to see that the attendance at the church has improved and there is a good spirit in the church. The widow and children of Pastor Beder are very active in the church and seem to be doing well. Maria has a ministry with the women of the church, and her daughter Maria Mercedes plays the



Bruno Laborde, Lynne Krogh, Mauro Gonzalez, and Bill Wachtel before baptism



Pastor Gaston and David Krogh

The city of Lima has been doing some road construction near the church and the earth moving equipment and jack hammers have weakened the rafters in the roof of one of the rooms in the church. The rafters have cracked and the roof is sagging. We would like to help the congregation replace the roof with new rafters and covering. The cost is approximately \$1,200. Individuals and groups are invited to help with this expense. The funds will be much appreciated.

We traveled on to Montevideo, Uruguay where we met Mauro Gonzalez, 34, who has been in contact with Anthony Buzzard, Bill Wachtel, and Beder Ucanay for more than two years. It has been his desire for someone to come to his country to baptize him so that he in turn can baptize those who have been studying with him. It was a privilege for Bill Wachtel to baptize Mauro in the Rio de la Plata, a huge river that separates Uruguay from Argentina. After being baptized, Mauro then baptized two individuals that he has been working with: Bruno, a 19 year old outstanding young man, and Doris, a second mother to Mauro. With these three baptisms, we now have the

keyboard for worship during services. Maria's son, Josue who is 13, takes part in services with Scripture readings and short messages.

nucleus of a new Church of God congregation in a new country in the Western Hemisphere.

Mauro is involving others in his Bible study and he along with Bruno and Doris have a real desire to reach out to those without Christ. Mauro also has contacts in Argentina and Chile who have been studying the Scriptures. He plans to travel soon to these two countries to baptize those who have been studying. Our prayer is that these individuals will start Bible studies and churches in their countries.

We are thankful for safety, good health, good meetings, and smooth travel during our trip. We also are thankful for the individuals and groups who provided financial support to make this trip possible. About \$2,500 is needed to finish paying for the travel expenses. Thanks for any help you can provide. ■

—David Krogh



Family of Pastor Beder

Verses to Live By

By Jim Mattison

Be Happy

**“Rejoice in the Lord always:
again I will say, rejoice”**

Philippians 4:4

Happiness is a state of mind that we can choose to have or choose not to have. It is a very desirable attitude to have. It is a first-cousin to cheerfulness. “Be of good cheer,” Jesus said to the palsied man whose friends let him down through the roof, “thy sins are forgiven thee” (Matt 9:2, KJ). Not only was the man healed physically, his sins were also forgiven! As the saying goes, “It doesn’t get any better than that!”

We who have taken Jesus as our Lord and Savior have every reason to be cheerful all the time. Our sins are forgiven! Jesus calls us his friend! (John 15:14, 15). He gives us the promise of Eternal Life in God’s coming Kingdom on Earth! He gives us his peace and rest (Matt. 11:28-30; John 14:27). He promised to be with us to the end of the age; we are not alone! “Lo, I am with you always.” And he promised that he and his Father would love us and come to us and make their abode with us (John 14:23). Such fellowship with the Almighty God of Heaven and Earth and with His son is the cause of our happiness and cheerfulness. Besides this, look at all these blessings God gives us here in this life!

To go around with a long sorrowful face acting like we have no friend in the world, and that everything is going wrong is not a good way for a Christian to witness his faith to other people. For we are to be witnesses to others about OUR God and OUR Savior! A good witness is cheerful and upbeat about his life “under the blood.” To show others a countenance of sadness and gloom much of the time is not only not uplifting, it is downright **sinful**. It tells others “God doesn’t love me” and “this is a lie.” God **does** love us. He cares for you, and He cares for me. He takes care of us all through life. We have every reason to be cheerful and happy. Notice these Bible statements:

“Happy is that people, whose God is the LORD” (Psa. 144:15).

“Happy is he that hath the God of Jacob for his help, whose hope is in the LORD his God” (Psa. 146:5).

“Whoso trusteth in the LORD, happy is he” (Prov. 16:20).

“A merry heart maketh a cheerful countenance” (Prov. 15:13).

Jesus’ assurance to his apostles when they were afraid, seeing Him walk on the sea, was, “Be of good cheer; it is I; be not afraid” (Matt. 14:27). This should be our assurance, too: “It is I, be not afraid.”

So, be happy! Be cheerful! Be upbeat. See the good in situations and in people rather than looking for what is wrong with the situation or the person. May God make you a happy person if you aren’t already. ■

—Jim Mattison

Income Report for April 2008

	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>This Month Variance</u>
CONTRIBUTIONS:			
General Contributions	333,833	259,705	-74,128
Building Our Future Campaign [Gen Contrib & BOF combined]	2,500	225	-2,275
G.C. - Devises & Bequests	4,167	20,990	16,823
ABC Boosters	14,167	8,451	-5,716
Subtotal	354,667	289,371	-65,296
SALES:			
Christian Education Materials	17,500	17,500	0
Books	20,000	22,137	2,137
Restitution Herald	0	0	0
Age to Come Media Products	0	0	0
Theological Journal	0	762	762
Sale of Assets	0	15	15
Subtotal	37,500	40,414	2,914
ABC:			
Tuition	110,000	109,880	-120
Korean Extension Tuition	323,633	322,750	-883
ABCDF Support	30,000	30,000	0
Lodging	43,333	38,541	-4,792
Washers/Dryers	750	1,105	355
Rentals - ABC Plant	4,167	2,950	-1,217
Late Fees/Rent	7,083	11,801	4,718
Fees	10,000	10,542	542
Subtotal	528,966	527,569	-1,397
PROGRAM INCOME:			
Conferences & Workshops	2,500	3,160	660
Subtotal	2,500	3,160	660
MISCELLANEOUS:			
Interest	1,000	678	-322
Transferred In	19,375	9,097	-10,278
Subtotal	20,375	9,775	-10,600
Income Total	944,008	870,289	-73,719

BUILDING OUR FUTURE CAMPAIGN

Total contributions since inception (2003): **279,307**

**** ABCDF Support ** - Please praise God that we are again able to receive support from the Atlanta Bible College Development Foundation!**

- These statements report College/Conference income and expense for July, 2007 through June, 2008.
- The "Budget" column in each report shows the year-to-date portion of the annual budget for each line item.
- The "Variance" column in each report shows the difference between the amount budgeted and the amount actually received (income) or spent (expense). A positive number in this column means the income or expense is better than budgeted. A negative number in this column means the income or expense is worse than budgeted.

Expense Report for April 2008

	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>This Month Variance</u>
STAFF:			
Salaries & Wages	461,819	483,002	-21,183
F.I.C.A. Tax	6,833	10,075	-3,242
Employee Benefits	95,920	95,681	239
Subtotal	564,573	588,758	-24,186
SERVICES:			
Assistance to Churches	8,333	5,400	2,933
Ministerial Association	8,000	8,985	-985
Youth Program	12,000	12,000	0
Subtotal	28,333	26,385	1,948
SALES EXPENSE:			
Printing & Binding	26,667	27,770	-1,103
Postage & Shipping	11,667	11,848	-181
Media Production Expenses	0	0	0
Book Store	15,583	11,312	4,271
Royalties	0	0	0
Subtotal	53,917	50,930	2,987
ABC:			
Clayton Rebate	0	0	0
Advertising--Recruitment	4,000	3,507	493
ABC Korean Extension Support	18,333	26,857	-8,524
Library Periodicals	1,667	998	669
Library Books	667	1,335	-668
Staff Periodicals, Books, Dues	1,500	1,321	179
Staff Training	2,500	1,613	887
Subtotal	28,667	35,631	-6,964
ADMINISTRATION:			
Travel	40,833	52,797	-11,964
Motor Vehicles	0	0	0
Office Supplies & Expense	10,833	8,427	2,406
Professional Services	11,000	11,043	-43
Telephone	20,833	19,763	1,070
Insurance - Non Plant	417	85	332
Supplies & Expense	5,000	6,254	-1,254
Repairs/Maintenance - Non Plant	18,333	19,724	-1,391
Subtotal	107,250	118,093	-10,843
PLANT EXPENSES:			
Utilities	31,667	32,263	-596
Insurance - Property	13,333	14,718	-1,385
Repairs/Maintenance - Plant	9,167	5,688	3,479
Furniture & Equipment	13,333	1,973	11,360
Supplies/Expenses Plant	4,167	2,685	1,482
Subtotal	71,667	57,327	14,340
MISCELLANEOUS:			
Interest	5,833	25,470	-19,637
Other	6,667	4,595	2,072
Subtotal	12,500	30,065	-17,565
Expense Total	866,906	907,189	-40,283
GRAND TOTAL (Income less Expense)	77,102	-36,900	-114,002

Baptisms

Canada

Welland – Matt Bastien, Jaimie Bilodeau, Jeannette Faragalli, Danielle Goupil, Charlotte Grant, and Jenna Silvestri (3/16/08) by Pastor Steve Bolhous

Uruguay

Montevideo – Mauro Gonzalez (4/10/08) by Bill Wachtel; Bruno Laborde and Doris Correa (4/10/08) by Maruo Gonzalez

Deaths

Illinois

Dixon – Elwyn Drew, 91, (2/20/08), faithful long-time member. Service by Pastor Hollis Partlowe

Ohio

Brush Creek – Meriam Sigler, 94, (3/10/08), long-time faithful believer. Service by Pastors Rex Cain and Dave Hixon

South Carolina

Bethel – Elizabeth “Lib” Sims (3/30/08). Service by Pastor Jeff Fletcher

Death of Pastor Linford W. Moore

Pastor Linford W. Moore, 85, of Waterloo, Iowa died Sunday, April 6, at his home. He was born November 14, 1922 in Niagara Falls, New York, son of Linford W. and Cecil A. (Cartwright) Moore. He married Ruth Eleanor Hill on April 15, 1944 in Niagara Falls. She died June 11, 1991.

Pastor Moore was licensed for pastoral ministry by the Church of God General Conference after graduating from Oregon Bible College, Oregon, Illinois in 1945. He later received his Master’s Degree in Education from the University of Northern Iowa. He pastored Churches of God in: Macomb, Illinois; Waterloo, Iowa; Van Nuys, California; and Ft. Valley Virginia. While in Waterloo, he served Conger Street Church of God from 1950-1965, and again upon his return from Virginia. He also taught for the Cedar Falls School District at Cedar Heights Elementary while in ministry.

Survivors include two sons, Stephen P. (Kirsten) Moore of Cedar Falls and Pastor Paul M. Moore of Waterloo; a daughter, Cecilia L. Shepard of Dysart; five grandchildren; thirteen great grandchildren; a brother, Paul V. (Dorothy) Moore of Columbus, Ohio; and a sister, Viola (Ed) Goit of North Tonawanda, New York. He was preceded in death by a daughter, Patricia Ann Moore and a sister, Shirley Hoy.

Funeral services were conducted by his son, Paul, April 9 at Conger Street Church of God, Waterloo, with burial in Greenwood Cemetery, Cedar Falls.

Organ available

“Lonely” Yamaha 6000 Electone home organ seeks new owner. Full-sized home organ, 20 years old, free to the church that will come and get it (Spartanburg, SC). Walnut finish, 61 keys on upper and lower keyboards, 25 pedal keys. Weight 300 lbs, detached pedals 48 lbs., 52" wide x 30" deep x 45" high. Call Brenda Holt at (864) 578-6126 evenings and weekends for more information.

New Adult Quarterly Editor

Beginning with the March/April/May, 2008 quarter, Pastor Greg Demmitt is the new Adult Quarterly editor. Greg is coordinating the editing work to include brand new lessons each quarter. If you haven’t used the quarterly recently, be sure to take a look at the newly written lessons. At your request we can e-mail or mail you a sample copy for your review.



Serve the Lord with Gladness

- 1 **Pray for the Africa Mission Team as they continue to minister in several African countries.**
- 2 Pray for Pastor James and Rebecca Ritch and the work at Lenoir, NC.
- 3 **Pray that God might move the Church of God forward in new areas of ministry.**
- 4 Praise God for the blessings of freedom we celebrate today in the United States.
- 5 **Pray that many will hear God's call into full-time Christian service.**
- 6 Pray for the soon return of Jesus.
- 7 **Praise God for the leadership of your church family.**
- 8 Praise God for the abundant life you have in Christ.
- 9 **Praise God for efforts being made to plant new churches.**
- 10 Pray for the Pastor Dustin Smith and his ministry at Timberland Bible Church.
- 11 **Pray for Pastor Jamie Engelbert at King's Corner Church in New York.**
- 12 Pray for your pastor as he prepares to share God's message tomorrow.
- 13 **Pray for students considering enrollment at Atlanta Bible College.**
- 14 Pray for Jon Cheatwood and the Youth Advisory Committee.
- 15 **Praise God for the continuing opportunities to present the Gospel of the Kingdom over the radio, shortwave, and the Internet.**
- 16 Pray for someone you know who needs to accept Christ as Savior.
- 17 **Pray that God will lead many of our young people into ministry at home and abroad.**
- 18 Pray for those who are studying the Systematic Bible Study course over the Internet.
- 19 **Pray for the Mexico Mission team as they prepare for their trip into Mexico in a few days.**
- 20 Pray for students arriving at FUEL today.
- 21 **Pray for God to bless the FUEL program at Manchester College (North Manchester, Indiana) this week.**
- 22 Pray for a great hunger and thirst for righteousness in your church.
- 23 **Pray for the staff of FUEL and the influence they are having on the young people.**
- 24 Praise God for the many people in our churches who have been baptized recently.
- 25 **Pray for safety for those traveling home from FUEL today.**
- 26 Pray for Pastor Dan and Amy Kennedy and their work at Winnebago New Life Church in Illinois.
- 27 **Pray for the brethren in India.**
- 28 Pray for the Badillo family and the work in Mexico.
- 29 **Pray for Freedom in Christ Ministries, Welland, Ontario and Pastor Stephen and Joyce Bolhaus.**
- 30 Pray for the Mexico Mission Team members that begin traveling toward Mexico today.
- 31 **Pray for God's leadership and blessing on those attending General Conference in Ohio today and tomorrow.**

(Continued from page 9)

present. In recent years there has been less interaction between the local churches and the GC, leading to members that see the GC as having little relevance to their church, especially among the generation that must take up church leadership in the next ten years. Ultimately, this will lead to both weak churches and a weak Conference. For both to thrive in the future depends on a more extensive, proactive, and free cooperation where the churches work together through the GC to organize ministry and fellowship, and the GC works to serve the local churches with integrity. One aspect of this is to organize and promote a ministry through the GC to 'legacy' believers that are currently isolated from local churches. In our highly

mobile society, our members may increasingly be disconnected from local churches due to education and career, and the GC should look to serve these members through other means. Lastly, Dan views the current circumstances at ABC as an opportunity to rethink the operation of our Bible College as both a tool to reinforce theological doctrine for all and to mentor and educate pastors for active ministry. While the GC will need a physical campus as a center for the GC educational ministry, we should examine the possibility of satellite locations and increased use of distance-learning for bringing this ministry to local members.

Dale H. Swartz

Pastor Dale H. Swartz is nominated by the Litchfield Church of God as

a candidate for the Board of Directors. Dale was born in North Olmsted, Ohio and attended the Golden Rule Church of God. He was baptized by C.F. Pryor in November of 1961 and then along with his parents, Don and Ethel Swartz and the rest of the Swartz family, he helped plant and establish the Columbia Church of God in Columbia Station, Ohio. After graduating in 1967, Dale attended Oregon Bible College where he received his Bachelor's degree in Theology. He then did a one year internship in Tempe and Phoenix, Arizona before taking his first pastorate. Dale married Cheryl Fletcher, daughter of the late Joe and Shirley Fletcher in June of 1973. Together they have pastored the East Peoria Community Church

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Atlanta Bible College
Church of God General Conference
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Morrow, GA 30260

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of God in E. Peoria, Illinois; the Lighthouse Church of God in Digby, Nova Scotia, Canada; the Fort Valley Church of God in Fort Valley, Virginia; the Cool Spring Church of God in Browntown, Virginia; the Brush Creek Church of God in Tipp City, Ohio; and currently serves the Litchfield Church of God in Litchfield, Minnesota.

During most of Dale's ministry he has served as a bi-vocational pastor working in various occupations that have enhanced his ministry. Dale has worked in advertising for both radio and television and newspaper; he has driven a charter coach, driven a school bus in several locations and currently is working for the Meeker County Public Transit in Litchfield, which provides public transportation

for people of all ages particularly of the elderly. He is also serving as a part-time employee for Johnson-Hagglund Funeral Home. Dale created, developed, and runs Kingdom Ministries Inc. It is a non-profit ministry corporation through which he broadcasts the "Voice of Tomorrow" radio show.

Dale has served as President of the Ministerial Association in the early 1990's, was a member of the Board of Directors from 1995-1999 where he served as the Board's representative on the Mission Board and currently he is secretary of the Ministerial Association Leadership Team, (MALT). In between times, Dale has continued his education through Rock River Christian College.

Workers in pastoral ministry are

greatly needed. I am concerned with how the Church of God is serving small congregations who are struggling without a pastor. The Conference and College need to serve and provide direction and leadership so the small churches can be revived and maintained. We need to maintain a strong emphasis on God's message of the Kingdom of God. This message that God has entrusted to us still has the power to change the lives of anyone. God is still looking for a few good men and women to "stand in the gap" for Him. ■

THE Restitution Herald

& Progress Journal

CAO UPDATE . . .

By Tim Jones

“After you've done a thing the same way for two years, look it over carefully. After five years, look at it with suspicion. And after ten years, throw it away and start all over.”

Alfred Edward Perlman, *New York Times*, 3 July 1958

Greetings to everyone from Atlanta! It is our pleasure to bring this issue of the Restitution Herald/Progress Journal to you. Hopefully in the following pages you will find valuable information on upcoming activities and events from throughout the Church of God.

There is great truth contained in the quotation above from Alfred Perlman. We humans are creatures of habit. We tend to do the same things the same way each and every time. However, the world we live in has not been designed by God to offer us this option. We could even make a case that in this world today, the speed of change is an ever-increasing phenomenon. To keep our ministries relevant, they must be changing as well.

As we have mentioned many times over the recent past, major change is sweeping over the Conference and College. On May 15, 2008, the current Atlanta Bible College campus was sold to Clayton State University. The facility will continue to be leased from Clayton State for up to 36 months as the College and Conference develop their plans to relocate operations to two new campuses in the Atlanta metropolitan area.

The decision to sell the campus was not made in haste. The Board of Directors began discussions of this possibility in 2006. The final determination that God's will was for the College to relocate was reached late in that year. Within days of that determination, Clayton State University President Thomas Hardin and VP of Operations David Heflin has visited our campus and expressed their desire to negotiate a purchase of

the College site. With a handshake, the agreement was reached to give them the first option to buy our location. In spite of the early agreement, the process was much longer than anyone for buyer or seller would have expected. As part of Georgia's state government, Clayton State University had to adhere to state procedures and processes that frequently delayed progress. Yet throughout the intervening months, I have only felt more strongly that God was at work in the process. The deal was truly a win-win opportunity for ABC and Clayton State University, and the successful conclusion of the process is cause for celebration.

In 1942, during the enormous conflict of World War II, things were not going well for the Allies. Germany had conquered all of Western Europe and was threatening to overrun the

(Continued on page 2)

(Continued from page 1)

Soviet Union and seize all of Egypt from Great Britain and her allied forces. However, after a critical victory in North Africa against the Axis, England's Prime Minister Winston Churchill said: "*Now this is not the end. It is not even the beginning of the end. But it is, perhaps, the end of the beginning.*"

I believe this statement well represents where we stand in terms of progress towards our future. God willing, we have reached the end of the beginning of our campus development project. Now we look ahead to the future development of two campuses, planned improvements in the quality and flexibility of our College programs, and the

ability to expand our services to churches and members. Gaining the means and opportunities to pursue these changes are the reasons for selling the campus. God is opening doors of opportunity to the College and General Conference in this nation and abroad. He is calling on His people to address these opportunities with prayer, service, and financial support. For many people, a time of change is always uncertain and sometimes even chaotic. Webster's New Collegiate Dictionary defines "chaos" as "a state of things in which chance is supreme." God's people know that they are not subject to the winds of chance—they have a God that is working in their lives. **Romans 8:28** says, "*And we know that all things work together for*

good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose." What a glorious promise!

There is much that we have to do and the clock is ticking. We know that you want to know more about how God is leading the General Conference and our plans and goals for the future. This Progress Journal contains the detailed schedule for the upcoming General Conference. We hope many of you plan to travel to Ohio for the Conference. We will be sharing more information on our progress and upcoming milestones. We look forward to a blessed summer season—may God be with all of you! ■

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THE RESTITUTION HERALD ADVOCATES:

- THE ONENESS OF GOD (1 COR. 8:6);
- THE HOLY SPIRIT IS GOD'S POWER (ACTS 1:8);
- JESUS CHRIST IS GOD'S ONLY BEGOTTEN SON (MATT. 16:16), AND IS OUR MEDIATOR (1 TIM. 2:5);
- THE BIBLE IS THE INSPIRED WORD OF GOD (2 TIM. 3:16);
- THE MORTALITY OF MAN (JOB 4:17; PSA. 146:4);
- THE NEAR RETURN OF CHRIST (ACTS 1:11), AND LIFE ONLY THROUGH HIM (COL. 3:3);
- THE LITERAL RESURRECTION OF THE DEAD (JOHN 5:28);
- THE IMMORTALIZATION OF THOSE IN CHRIST (1 COR. 15:53, 54);
- THE DESTRUCTION OF THE WICKED (REV. 21:8);
- THE FINAL RESTORATION OF ISRAEL AS THE KINGDOM OF GOD UNDER THE KINGSHIP OF CHRIST (LUKE 1:32);
- THE CHURCH TO BE JOINT HEIRS WITH HIM (ROM. 8:17), AND ISRAEL TO BE MADE HEAD OVER GENTILE NATIONS (ISA. 60:1-3);
- THE "RESTITUTION OF ALL THINGS WHICH GOD HATH SPOKEN BY THE MOUTH OF ALL HIS HOLY PROPHETS SINCE THE WORLD BEGAN" (ACTS 3:21).
- IT ALSO FIRMLY ADVOCATES REPENTANCE AND IMMERSION IN THE NAME OF JESUS CHRIST FOR THE REMISSION OF SINS (ACTS 2:38), AND A CONSECRATED LIFE AS ESSENTIAL TO SALVATION.

Church of God General Conference 2008

July 30-August 1, 2008

North Hills Church of God, Springfield, OH

We are pleased to present detailed information about the upcoming Church of God General Conference meeting to be held in Springfield, Ohio July 30-August 1, 2008. The items in this Restitution Herald/Progress Journal will provide you with all the information required to make the most of your trip to General Conference. You will find all the information needed to be prepared for the delegate Business sessions and the decisions that will be made at the Conference. In addition, you may also consult the General Conference web site at any time for additional information.

Summer Conference items in this issue:

- Schedule
- Constitutional Amendments
- Board of Directors Candidates
- Budgets for Delegate approval
- Registration Form

On the first day of the Conference we are offering a number of workshops on topics of great importance to our churches, the General Conference, and our membership as we plan for the future. We encourage you to take advantage of the opportunity to attend 3 different sessions, offered on a rotating basis Thursday.

We look forward to seeing you in Ohio this summer!

Detailed Schedule for General Conference

Wednesday, July 30

4:30 p.m. Barbeque hosted by North Hills Church—**RSVP to GC by 7/25**
7:00 Worship Service—Scott Dean, Speaker
9:00 Ministerial Association Meeting

Thursday, July 31

8:30 a.m. Delegate check-in/Registration
9:00 Morning Chapel
9:30 Workshop Period 1—*Choose 1*
10:45 Workshop Period 2—*Choose 1*
12:00 p.m. Lunch
1:30 Workshop Period 3—*Choose 1*
2:30 Afternoon Chapel
3:00 Delegate Session Begins
5:30 Dinner
7:00 p.m. Worship Service—Seth Ross, Speaker
9:30 Late Night Movie & Discussion at North Hills

Workshop Topics:

Lost Cause—Leading Comeback Churches
Lost Identity—Recapturing Our Spiritual Identity
Paradise Lost—New Frontiers in Kingdom Theology
Lost Sheep—Needs-Based Evangelism
Lost Coin—Faith-Based Funding
Never-Lost—GPS & Other Hi-Tech to Reach the Lost
Lost in America—Finding Faith in a Postmodern World
Lost Control—Finding Faith in a Busy Family

Friday, August 1

9:00 Morning Chapel
9:30 Delegate Session
12:00 Lunch
1:00 Delegate Session (if required) and Association Meetings
 1:00—2:00 *ABC DF Meeting*
 2:00—3:00 *Ministers' Voluntary Retirement Association*
 3:00—4:00 *ABC Alumni Association*
 4:00—5:30 *Possible Ministerial Association Meeting*
5:30 Dinner
7:00 Worship Service and Commissioning Service—Alan Cain, Speaker



Church Address

**2950 Moorefield Road
Springfield, OH 45502**

Conference ends

CHURCHES SEARCHING FOR PASTORS . . .

BLANCHARD

The Blanchard Church of God in Blanchard, Michigan is currently seeking a growth-oriented pastor. We are an established church with approximately 40 dedicated people with great growth potential in the surrounding area. Interested pastors may call Elder/Chairman of the Board, Terry Kunst, at 989-560-1268 or e-mail him at: terry@mtpleasantagency.com.

CONGER STREET CHURCH OF GOD

The Conger Street Church of God in Waterloo, Iowa is in need of a pastor. We are looking for a part-time pastor to work with our small group of dedicated members. Please contact: Danny McGowan at: dantheman5169@aol.com; 2672 Logan Ave., Waterloo, IA 50703

GATESVILLE CHURCH OF GOD

The Gatesville Church of God in Gatesville, Texas is currently without a pastor. We are a hard working and dedicated church in a growing community, but we know that a pastor is needed to flourish and grow. Come visit us at our expense and see what we are all about. Call Mark Henson at 254-865-8452 or Stephen Burkett at 254-865-5780.

HAPPYWOODS CHURCH

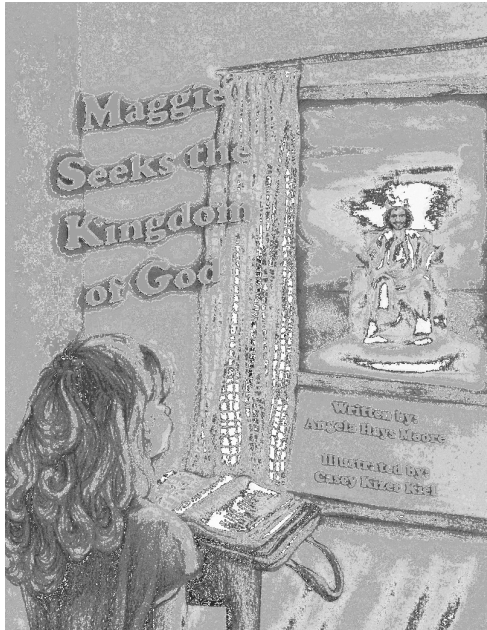
The congregation of the Happywoods Church is seeking a full-time Pastor. We are a relatively small congregation and are located in the community of Hammond, LA. This area is in the southeast tip of Louisiana and currently has a population of approximately 100,000 people within relatively easy driving distance of the church. Our area is located in the center of the I-12 corridor, which is predicted to grow to over 2.5 million people within the next 30 or so years. We have a new and newly renovated facility of 12,000 sq. ft. of space that needs lots of people to serve.

Our congregation has been involved with our community in the past and looks forward to growing in the community and in faith. If you are interested in pastoring in an environment, which is both challenging and invigorating, where you and the church can grow both numerically and spiritually through outreach, please think of us.

For more information, please contact Elder Charles Bottolfs at 985-542-1555 or via e-mail at: cgbottolfs@bellsouth.net. Or you may contact Elder John Fauntleroy at 985-345-7134. Both phones take messages and you will be contacted. You may also write to us at the following address: C. G Bottolfs, 43137 Happywoods Road, Hammond, LA 70403



“Maggie Seeks the Kingdom of God!”[©]



Written by Angela Moore; Illustrated by Casey Kiel

A delightful and heartwarming resource for your children, grandchildren, friends and family that will explain to the special people in your life what you believe!

In this enchanting children's book, "*Maggie Seeks the Kingdom of God*" © God's Kingdom is captured in our imaginations like never before! As our eyes are captivated by the illustrations that aim to portray how the Bible describes what the Kingdom will be like, our ears will be caught up in the simple story of a mommy teaching her little girl named Maggie, about what Jesus preached. We pray for God's Kingdom to come and this charming book brings home this simple Gospel message to its readers.

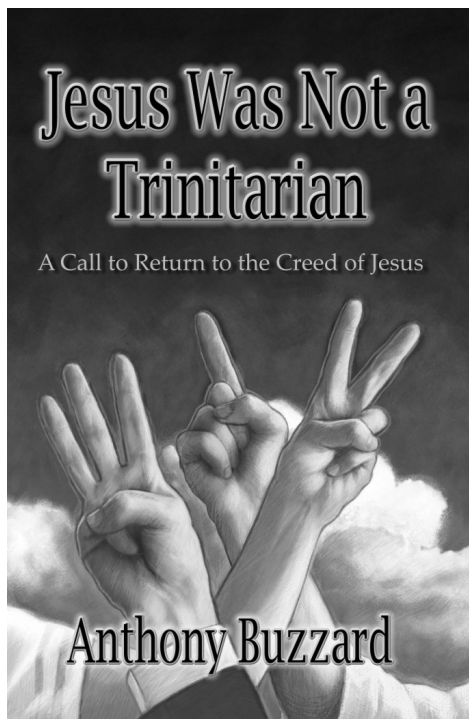
Only a few copies are still available through the Church of God General Conference.

Please order copies through:

www.amazon.com

■ www.walmart.com

■ www.barnesandnoble.com



Jesus Was Not a Trinitarian *A Call to Return to the Creed of Jesus*

In this new book Anthony Buzzard invites scholars and laymen alike to take seriously Jesus' Jewish creed, his recitation of the Shema, "Hear, O Israel," which proclaims God to be one single Lord. Defining God and His Son biblically remains part of the unfinished work of the Reformation. The evidence placed before the reader shows that a major paradigm shift is needed if Christians are to worship their God in spirit and in truth, uncluttered by the philosophical and confusing ideas about God which form part of received church tradition. Available from 800-347-4261 (404-362-0052) or restorationfellowship.org (465 pages, \$18)

General Conference Information

The 2008 General Conference will be held at the North Hills Church of God in Springfield, Ohio Wednesday evening, July 30 through Friday evening, August 1. Since the Conference became a one-and-a-half to two-day event several years ago, requests have been made to increase the content of the Conference. This year's program will do just that. We'll begin with a great barbeque and worship service on Wednesday evening, July 30, continue with practical, participation oriented classes/workshops Thursday morning and early afternoon, delegate business sessions late Thursday afternoon and Friday, and conclude the Conference with an uplifting worship service Friday evening, August 1. Please mark your calendar to join us at the North Hills Church of God beginning Wednesday evening, July 30. It will be a great Conference!

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

The following amendments have been recommended by the **Michigan State Conference** and will be submitted to the delegates during the Summer General Conference. The Board of Directors supports both amendments:

Article I, Sec. 2:

The General Conference shall meet once each year at such time and place between (July 1) April 1, and August 31 as may be determined by the Conference or its Board of Directors. Announcement of the time and place shall be made by the secretary of the Conference at least six months in advance by publication in *The Restitution Herald* and/or *Progress Journal*, or by other suitable means of communication. The General Conference may be called at such other times as may be necessary, and may convene upon consent of a majority of the member churches.

Article IV, Section 4:

Nominations for the Board of Directors of the College/Conference may be submitted by State or District Conference Board of the Church of God; Churches that are members of the General Conference; Ministerial Association of the Church of God General Conference. Name(s) of nominees and resumes will be submitted to the Chief Administrative Officer of Atlanta Bible College/Church of God General Conference (by May 1) at least three months before the meeting and will be printed in the General Conference issue of *Progress Journal*, or disseminated by other suitable means of communication at least one month before the meeting.

Present language that would be deleted is enclosed by parenthesis and additions are underlined. ■





General Conference 2008

July 30 through August 1, 2008

North Hills Church of God, Springfield, OH

Enjoy fellowship and worship with other believers . . . Explore the vision for the future of the General Confer-

PLEASE NOTE: The fees for General Conference DO NOT include lodging. You must arrange lodging by contacting the hotel directly. The fees for the Conference help offset the costs of the General Conference meeting and the meals. Local hotel contact numbers are provided below that are relatively close to the North Hills Church, but you may choose any hotel you desire in the Springfield area or make other arrangements.

1. Complete the following form. Rates are per person.
2. If today's date is July 14 or later, please add \$25.00 to your total.
3. Mail this form to: General Conference 2008 PO Box 100,000 Morrow, GA 30260
4. Or register online at www.abc-coggc.org (or contact Kim Musch 800-347-4261)

Childcare provided for those ages six and under only.	Name _____	Day Phone _____
	Cell Phone _____	E-mail _____
Street _____		
City _____ State _____ Zip _____		
Attending the Wednesday barbeque? No _____ YES (number) _____		
Pastor Discount? (10%) Y/N _____ Home Church _____		
Fees: Adults—\$99.00 per person _____		
Children 6 to 12—\$35.00 per child _____ Age (s) _____		
Commuters: No Meals—\$35.00 _____		
(We encourage you to enjoy the meals with other attendees!)		
Do you give COGGC permission to put your information in event directory? Y ___ or N ___		

The program will begin Wednesday (7/30) with a late afternoon barbeque and evening service.

The Conference will conclude after the Friday Evening Service.

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Hotel Information</u></p> <p>Comfort Inns & Suites - (937) 322-0707 Country Inns & Suites - (937) 322-2200</p> <p>Call the hotels directly, and please make reservations by JUNE 30TH. Other hotels are available in the area.</p> <p>Church Address: 2950 Moorefield Road Springfield, OH 45502</p>	Adults at \$99 per person	\$
	Children ages 6 to 12 at \$35 per person	\$
	Commuters, no meals X \$35 per person	\$
	Subtotal	\$
	Pastor Discount—subtract 10%	\$
	Registration on or after July 14, 2008 add \$25	\$
	Less \$25 Deposit	- \$25.00
	Total due at Conference	\$

Board of Director Nominations

At General Conference we will be electing two (2) directors for the Board of Directors. The terms of Hugh Harmon and Larry Bolhous expire this year. Larry Bolhous has been nominated again this year. His nomination is being accepted because he has served for only one year, filling out an unexpired term of a previous board member. Currently we have four (4) nominees. Article IV of the constitution directs the process for nominating and electing directors.

ARTICLE IV Officers of the Conference

Section 1. Seven directors shall be elected in General Conference delegate sessions; said directors shall constitute the Board of Directors of the College/Conference. The Board of Directors shall organize by the election of necessary officers at the first meeting following each annual Conference election. These officers shall be a chairman, vice-chairman, secretary, and treasurer, and three board members. The term of office of a director shall begin at the close of the Conference in which said director is elected.

Section 2. No elected director shall be a paid employee of the College/Conference for a period longer than two months in any one year.

Section 3. The qualifications of each director shall be those given in 1 Timothy 3, Titus 1, and such other Scriptures as teach the qualifications of church leaders. A director may be either male or female.

Section 4. Nominations for the Board of Directors of the College/Conference may be submitted by: State or District Conference Boards of the Church of God; Churches that are members of the General Conference; Ministerial Association of the Church of God

General Conference. Name(s) of nominees and resumes will be submitted to the Chief Administrative Officer of Atlanta Bible College/General Conference by May 1 and will be printed in the General Conference issue of *Progress Journal*.

Section 5. Nominations printed in the *Progress Journal* will be brought to the floor of the business session by the Chairman at least one day before the day set for the election. Additional nominations will be received from the floor, and shall not be closed with fewer than one more nomination than the number of directorships.

Section 6. Nominations shall be made from the floor; but voting shall be done by ballot, and no nominee shall be elected unless he receives a majority of the votes cast. The total list of all nominees shall be submitted to the delegates for election. If no majority is reached in the first balloting, the list of nominees shall be reduced to the three receiving the highest number of votes. When no majority is reached with the list of three nominees, the one receiving the fewest votes shall be removed from the list. Of the two remaining nominees, the one receiving the majority of votes is elected. If other directors are to be elected, all names, except the one(s) previously elected, shall be resubmitted, and the same election process repeated until all positions are filled.

Section 7. The term of office for all College/Conference directors shall be for four years. No director shall succeed himself for a second term.

Section 8. Any director who may become inactive through sickness, resignation, prolonged absence, or death, shall be replaced for the unexpired term by election at the next annual conference. Temporary appointment of such directors may

be made by the Board of Directors.

Larry Bolhous

The Oregon Church of God is pleased to nominate Larry Bolhous for a position on the Board of Directors. Larry wrote the following: I am interested in serving on the General Conference Board of Directors. I have been married to my wife Virginia for 36 years. We have two sons, a daughter, five grandsons and one granddaughter. I am 57 years old. I have been in the grocery business for 30 years, owning my own business for over 25 years. I attended Oregon Bible College for two years back in 1968 and 1969. I served in the U.S. Army for 2 years. I have been a member of the Oregon Church of God since leaving the military in 1972. I have held many ministry positions over the years, including: Youth Leader, Sunday School Teacher, Budget Chairman, Board Chairman, and Elder. In my community, I have served on many school committees—was a member of the village board, zone committee for the village, and presently the township. I have worked with the Winnebago county on growth and planning. I have been a Lion's Club member since moving to Winnebago in 1979. I have served as Secretary and President. I have been President of the Winnebago Chamber of Commerce for 2 years and was Chairman of the group that established the organization. I am presently serving on the Ministerial Recognition Board, which is the licensing board for our pastors. I appreciate being on this board and want to see our pastors held in the highest esteem.

I would like to serve on the General Conference Board of Directors because I feel more can be accomplished for God if many work together. Exciting things are going

(Continued on page 9)

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on and I would like to be a part of it. Over the past few years serving my church on the national level has been on my heart. God has trained me through the things I have mentioned above and it is time to give God some return on His investment in me. I appreciate the privilege of being considered for this position.

Greg Demmitt

I'm honored to be nominated by the Korean Church Conference and am willing to serve the General Conference as a member of the Board of Directors. With the current changes facing the Conference, I can appreciate the need to have experienced leadership in these times.

During the next four years, Atlanta Bible College plans to develop two locations, one for the Korean extension and also a new location south of Atlanta. The way we develop these campuses will affect ministry in the Church of God for many years, and I see this as the top priority for our staff and the Board of Directors.

I hope to spend at least 20 more years in ministry serving our churches as they advance the Kingdom in their communities. I've invested in training to be able to more effectively coach churches and pastors and to teach the biblical skills and understandings necessary in moving forward when we face conflict. I see much opportunity for continued ministry, especially as mature Christians are challenged into greater opportunities for service.

Experience:

Church service: Interim pastor, Gatesville Church of God, 2008; Blanchard Church of God, 2007; Timberland, South Bend, IN, 2007; Lakeshore Bible Church, Tempe, AZ, 1992-2006; Happywoods Church of God, Hammond, LA, 1986-1992;

Country Chapel, Michigantown, IN, 1980-86; Associate Pastor, Bible Church of God, Phoenix, AZ, 1979-1980; intern, Bible Church of God, Phoenix, AZ.

Church of God General Conference service: Adult Quarterly editor, 2007 to present, 1988-1990; Ministerial Recognition Board, 2003-present (currently chairman, term expires in 2012); Youth camp staff, 1975-present; Quiz director; 1982-87, 1998-2000; Adult Quarterly writer, 1980-present; General Conference Board of Directors 1999-2003.

Other professional experience: Corporate Recruiter, Competent Search, 2003-present; Project Coordinator, Thompson Newspapers, 1997-1999; various journalist positions, 1984-present.

Education and certifications: Certified coach with Coachnet, April 2007; Certified in Natural Church Development; October 2000; Graduated Oregon Bible College, 1978.

Personal: Born Nov. 23, 1955 in Wilmington, Ohio to Dwaine and Joyce Demmitt. Baptized July, 1969. Married Karen Circle, August 18, 1979. Three children, Daniel, 25. Allison Valenzuela, 23, and Michael, 16.

Daniel W. Siderius

The Indiana State Conference nominates Daniel Siderius for election to the Board of Directors of the General Conference, and this nomination is joined by a letter of support from the North Kent Bible Church in Michigan. Dan was raised near Grand Rapids, Michigan and has also lived in Wisconsin, Indiana, and Missouri as his education and career have demanded. His family began fellowshiping with North Kent Bible Church when he was a child, but he

was raised with Biblical Unitarian and Kingdom-seeking doctrines prior to affiliating with the Church of God. He now resides in St Louis, Missouri.

Dan completed a B.S. in Chemical Engineering at Michigan Technological University, after which he completed a M.S. in Chemical Engineering and Doctor of Philosophy degrees at Purdue University. While completing these degrees, he developed an interest in education and pedagogy, particularly at the university level, interests which would be useful in the oversight of Atlanta Bible College. Dan has continued his education through his current employment as a post-doctoral research scientist at Washington University, a private, nonsectarian research university in St. Louis.

Dan has served in various roles at churches affiliated with the General Conference. At the Maple Grove Church in Kokomo, Indiana he restarted and oversaw the Christian Education program when that church moved to its new facilities and taught Sunday school classes. After attending the Kokomo church, Dan was involved with the initial organization of the New Covenant Church in Indianapolis, assisted in writing its governing documents, and led home fellowships. Along with local church responsibilities, he served as a church representative to the Indiana State Conference, was later elected a Director of the State Conference, and took the roles of Conference Vice President and President.

Dan observes that the GC is at something of a critical juncture at present. In recent years there has been less interaction between the local churches and the GC, leading to members that see the GC as having

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little relevance to their church, less interaction between the local churches and the GC, leading to members that see the GC as having little relevance to their church, especially among the generation that must take up church leadership in the next ten years. Ultimately, this will lead to both weak churches and a weak Conference. For both to thrive in the future depends on a more extensive, proactive, and free cooperation where the churches work together through the GC to organize ministry and fellowship, and the GC works to serve the local churches with integrity. One aspect of this is to organize and promote a ministry through the GC to 'legacy' believers that are currently isolated from local churches. In our highly mobile society, our members may increasingly be disconnected from local churches due to education and career, and the GC should look to serve these members through other means. Lastly, Dan views the current circumstances at ABC as an opportunity to rethink the operation of our Bible College as both a tool to reinforce theological doctrine for all and to mentor and educate pastors for active ministry. While the GC will need a physical campus as a center for the GC educational ministry, we should examine the possibility of satellite locations and increased use of distance-learning for bringing this ministry to local members.

Dale H. Swartz

Pastor Dale H. Swartz is

nominated by the Litchfield Church of God as a candidate for the Board of Directors. Dale was born in North Olmsted, Ohio and attended the Golden Rule Church of God. He was baptized by C.F. Pryor in November of 1961 and then along with his parents, Don and Ethel Swartz and the rest of the Swartz family, he helped plant and establish the Columbia Church of God in Columbia Station, Ohio. After graduating in 1967, Dale attended Oregon Bible College where he received his Bachelor's degree in Theology. He then did a one year internship in Tempe and Phoenix, Arizona before taking his first pastorate. Dale married Cheryl Fletcher, daughter of the late Joe and Shirley Fletcher in June of 1973. Together they have pastored the East Peoria Community Church of God in E. Peoria, Illinois; the Lighthouse Church of God in Digby, Nova Scotia, Canada; the Fort Valley Church of God in Fort Valley, Virginia; the Cool Spring Church of God in Browntown, Virginia; the Brush Creek Church of God in Tipp City, Ohio; and currently serves the Litchfield Church of God in Litchfield, Minnesota.

During most of Dale's ministry he has served as a bi-vocational pastor working in various occupations that have enhanced his ministry. Dale has worked in advertising for both radio and television and newspaper; he has driven a charter coach, driven a school bus in several locations and currently is working for the Meeker County Public Transit in

Litchfield, which provides public transportation for people of all ages particularly of the elderly. He is also serving as a part-time employee for Johnson-Hagglund Funeral Home. Dale created, developed, and runs Kingdom Ministries Inc. It is a non-profit ministry corporation through which he broadcasts the "Voice of Tomorrow" radio show.

Dale has served as President of the Ministerial Association in the early 1990's, was a member of the Board of Directors from 1995-1999 where he served as the Board's representative on the Mission Board and currently he is secretary of the Ministerial Association Leadership Team, (MALT). In between times, Dale has continued his education through Rock River Christian College.

Workers in pastoral ministry are greatly needed. I am concerned with how the Church of God is serving small congregations who are struggling without a pastor. The Conference and College need to serve and provide direction and leadership so the small churches can be revived and maintained. We need to maintain a strong emphasis on God's message of the Kingdom of God. This message that God has entrusted to us still has the power to change the lives of anyone. God is still looking for a few good men and women to "stand in the gap" for Him. ■

Christian Workers' Seminar 2008

Report

More than a 100 of us enjoyed a week together in Pigeon Forge, Tennessee April 6 through 11. We relaxed, learned, ate, laughed, and worshipped together. Through the theme "Coram Deo" (in the presence of God), we were encouraged and challenged to develop intimacy with God in our personal, family, church and work life. We also attended classes/workshops to help us learn and grow in our ministry skills. It was a great week together. In addition, there was plenty of time in the afternoon to sightsee, shop, or just relax.

We are exploring venue and date alternatives for CWS '09. Be looking for more information soon.

CWS Photos!

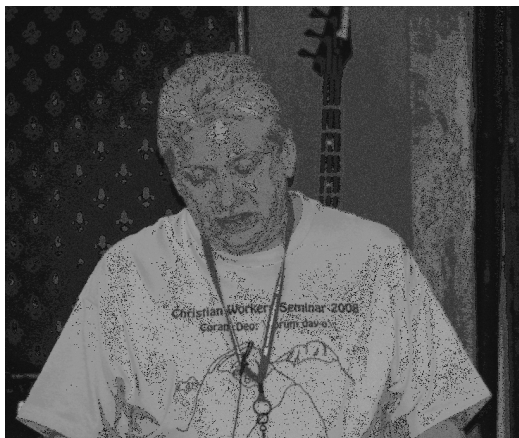
Maybe you can join us next year?!



Some of the CWS '08 attendees



Pastor Joe Myers



President Tim Jones



Some of the CWS '08 children in class

Two years ago I attended Theological Conference for the first time, and was very impressed with Anthony Buzzard's work in preparing a very educational and fun conference full of people who are excited about God, His word, and sharing those truths with others. I remember when I decided to go, I heard three very different points of view. One was, "Oh, you'll love it!", another was, "That's way too 'over my head' but good luck!", and another was complete apathy toward the conference as well as the doctrine being taught there. I went with very little expectations, but just interest, and certainly came away having learned so much through excellent teachers and having thoroughly enjoyed it. This year I had the opportunity to go again, and I enjoyed it even more. Each presenter provided information in a way which was certainly able to be understood even by a "blonde girl from southern Indiana", each one welcomed questions, and each one demonstrated an excitement for the God we serve and His coming kingdom. I am so thankful for Kent Ross and Anthony Buzzard who make this conference possible, and I am also thankful and encouraged by each of the presenters. I would highly encourage this conference to anyone, and would recommend promotion of this conference within our local churches.

In the last two years I have heard similar varying comments to the ones mentioned before, but these have been regarding doctrinal teaching in general that certainly extend beyond the personal opinions of this specific conference

to demonstrate a rather significant divide in the thought regarding Bible study of these truths and their role in our lives within the Church of God. I was recently struck with a similarity of this division to that of the way our own physical body functions...or dysfunctions....when it is operating with division. For example, imagine that you are buttering a piece of toast. Now cutting a juicy piece of steak. Now, buttoning, writing, opening a shampoo bottle, washing dishes, or holding open a good novel or the Bible. This time, imagine that you are doing these things one handed. All of these activities are considered to be "bilateral hand skills", and they are just a few examples of activities that we perform every day, often without conscious thought, using both of our hands together. In turn, each of these activities are far more difficult and time consuming to perform when done with only one hand.

As a hand therapist I work with patients on a daily basis who are striving to recover the use of one or both of their hands which may not be working as well as they should be for any number of reasons associated with various injuries or conditions. Although I love my job and even pursued it as a result of my own experiences having numerous hand surgeries to correct a congenital deformity with which I was born, and although it is my opinion that my job does have some worth to my patients, neither I nor any of my patients would ever state that I am "saving lives." Hand therapy is simply not a branch of medicine that deals with "life and death" situations or

treatments. However, it doesn't appear to me that because of this I should quit my job and advise my patients at their first appointment that, "No one needs two hands to survive so it doesn't matter anyway. . .go home and use the rest of your body since you don't need this hand to live."

Instead, it appears to me that I should provide the most information, education, and assistance I possibly can to help my patients develop the most independence and function they can to facilitate their quality of life.

As a Christian, and particularly as a member of the Church of God of the Abrahamic Faith, I have frequently heard the statement made regarding any number of our doctrinal truths that, "I don't think it's a salvation issue, so it doesn't matter anyway." I have heard it in many contexts, but some recent examples have been: lack of interest in theological conference or Bible study regarding doctrine, attendance of churches of other denominations with larger churches and more social benefit, singing or listening to songs with non-COG doctrinal teachings, attending performances by artists at COG events with messages contrary to our COG beliefs, and general conversation regarding if witnessing to Christians of other denominations or discussing doctrinal differences in dating relationships or marriages is even necessary. This reminds me of the potential non-life threatening hand patient in that it seems to me that just because an individual may not think that a particular doctrinal belief is essential for eternal salvation, this does not give logical

(Continued on page 13)

(Continued from page 12)

reason to avoid teaching that truth at all, and certainly not justification to teach opposing beliefs with apathy toward it altogether.

At the same time, as a Christian, and as a member of the COG, I have also frequently heard the statement made that “Doctrine doesn’t save you!” or “I grew up knowing the right doctrine, but I didn’t know God!” This statement again has been made in several contexts, with many of them being heartfelt personal testimonies of people who do today love God but have voiced frustration over doctrine being pushed heavily in their childhood with little attention to the mercy of our very personal God and His whole salvation plan including desiring the love and relationship with us that goes beyond knowledge of facts alone. I can relate to both sets of statements, and certainly see the importance of recognizing the message behind each idea. However, my fear is that the COG is becoming increasingly divided over the two ideas rather than blending the importance of both together. Certainly one can see that just because doctrine may have been pushed too heavily in the past doesn’t mean that it shouldn’t be taught at all now. And just because a particular truth might be viewed as vital in terms of the gospel Christ taught doesn’t mean that we should isolate ourselves from other Christians, judge others unbiblically, and become intellectuals without a personal love for a God who we will never fully understand no matter how much of His word we may know...perhaps even in three languages!

My personal opinion based on observation of the Church of God and its diverse members and churches, is that our current trend as individual members is to focus on one set of the above quotes rather than focusing on integrating the importance from both sides into a functional, “bilateral” approach. It appears to me that those who frequently use the “I don’t think it’s a salvation issue” line tend to in turn, nearly eliminate doctrinal truths or the importance of educating our youth and church members of these truths. To me, this behavior appears as irresponsible as me telling my patient that “Well, it’s not a life or death issue so I won’t treat you at all”. Just because doctrine alone doesn’t “save”, and just because it may have been pushed too heavily in some environments historically within our church does not give just cause to allow for teaching beliefs contrary to ours in our own churches, camps, and classes, nor does it mean that we should all go find the most convenient and favorite Christian church in our communities to support in place of our Church of God, marry whomever we please as long as he or she owned a Bible once, and avoid teaching doctrine in our churches or even families which may “scare off” some of the new attenders or “brainwash” our children. If that is the case, why do we exist at all?

At the same time, it seems equally irresponsible and very un-Christlike to make Bible Study so academic and complex that the simple salvation message Christ did preach becomes cold and impossible to understand for our youth, less educated, and those

from other languages and cultures. It also appears every bit as much of a concern to participate in slander or gossip about those who aren’t “preaching truth”, and this certainly holds true for the reverse statements as well. Every member of the Church of God has distinct backgrounds, personalities, gifts, and visions for its purpose and future. It is my sincere hope that we can unify these and analyze our own personal relationships with God and our churches to see what areas of weakness or barriers we have put into place which we can work to minimize, as well as utilizing the lessons we have learned and strengths we have as individuals to strengthen our churches by holding others accountable and facilitating closer relationships with the one true God based on the sacrifice of His son, Jesus.

The future of the Church of God is not the primary benefit of such unification or efforts either, but instead, the opportunity for each of us to love Him to the best of our abilities, with all of our hearts, not with one side of our hearts or without any areas of our heart which may be “difficult to understand”. I pray that His kingdom comes soon! I look forward to that day, and I do hope that the common goal we do have in being a part of that kingdom, and drawing others into that hope with us, may unify us as we strive to serve Him in the coming days left here on earth. ■

*By Jennifer Koryta
New Covenant Bible Church*

CHECKING THE CALENDAR

July 20-25, 2008—FUEL—Held at Manchester College in North Manchester, Indiana

July 30-August 1, 2008—88th General Conference—Held at North Hills Church (Ohio)

August 18-22, 2008—Block Classes at Atlanta Bible College

August 25, 2008—Atlanta Bible College Fall Semester Classes begin

October 13-18, 2008 & December 15-19 —Block Classes at Atlanta Bible College

Theological Conference Report



17th annual Theological Conference

The seventeenth annual “Theological Conference,” on April 27-30, 2008, was an exhilarating experience for everyone who attended. Some came from England and from Germany. We were united in our belief that God is the God of the Bible, the one God of Abraham and Isaac and Jacob, the one who in Jesus’ words is “the only one who is truly God” (John 17:3). That central creed needs to be understood by every one of Earth’s six billion inhabitants. Other contradictory views of God presently divide world religions on a massive scale and prevent Bible readers from resonating with the words of Jesus about who he is—the Messiah, the Son of God, certainly not God Himself. There is only one God, not two. Two Gods is one too many.



Sean Finnegan

The beautiful Simpsonwood Conference Center located in north Atlanta provided just the right setting for informative sessions on biblical topics. We enjoyed 12 presentations, including those from Sean Finnegan, Alex Hall, Chuck Jones, and Dustin Smith who may be heard also at the archived radio site thebyteshow.com. Other seasoned Bible students tackled various aspects of the Christian faith. All the speakers may be heard on the internet, thanks to the marvel of modern technology, at kingdomready.org/theo. The papers are also available at that site. There is also a link to a wonderful slideshow of pictures of this year’s meeting put together by Michele Cox. DVDs are available from the college at 800-347-4261.

Six attendees were baptized by immersion in the Chattahoochee River. Some were rebaptisms since coming to the knowledge that God is one seemed to require a new commitment to the God of Jesus and not the God/Jesus of so much misguided theology.

Our “surprise guests” were Joel and LaBreeska Hemphill. Joel and LaBreeska have been in the preaching and Gospel music ministry for over 45 years. They have received 8 Dove Awards and had numerous #1 songs. Joel gave a thrilling presentation about his coming to the understanding that the God of the Bible is the Father (see the May “Focus on the Kingdom” magazine for his story). In 2006 he wrote *To God*

Be the Glory: Examining the Bible View of God (available at Amazon.com).

The conference gathered together from widely different faith journeys, folk who have suffered at the hands of false beliefs and are finding the simple truths of the Bible, often withheld from the churchgoing public, as balm to their souls. New friendships are created around the Messianic faith of Jesus and hope of a new world coming when Jesus returns to rule the world in the Kingdom. One participant wrote, “I came away renewed in my appreciation of God’s goodness, the beauty of His plan, and in my desire to seek and serve Him.” Perhaps you would seriously like to consider joining the 18th conference in 2009. Dates will be announced. ■



Joel Hemphill

Verses to Live By

By Jim Mattison

BLESS AND CURSE NOT

ROMANS 12:14

This is one of Paul's teachings about how Christians ought to live and conduct themselves in Paul's famous Romans 12 chapter. It is based on Jesus' teaching in Matthew 5:44:

I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you,
do good unto them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you;
That you may be the children of your Father which is in heaven.

Paul added to that his own commentary in the above short phrase, "Bless and curse not."

Now what did he mean? "Bless and curse not."

He is speaking about the inner Christian stand we take, the attitude we should have about people that irk us or speak against us, or are actually our enemies. It is the attitude that if you can't speak well of another, say nothing. And going beyond that, don't even "curse" them in your heart.

Wish every other person well. Pray for their welfare and well being. Do good to them. Don't talk about other people, or pass on gossip you have heard about them. Watch your mouth, and your inner heart. Do not even entertain evil thoughts about other people. Speak (and think) only *good* about people. This is the true Christian way of dealing with unpleasant or hateful people, people who may do you or your reputation harm.

Remember Jesus. The Bible says, "He was despised and forsaken by men." He felt bad many times because of how people treated him. He grieved. Here he had come to offer them God's own eternal life if they just lived like God wanted

them to live and they "laughed him to scorn," as the Bible says. He was speaking to them for their own blessing. And most wouldn't even consider what he was saying. A few followed him. The majority didn't. The leaders wanted to kill him. Then he gave this advice in Matthew 5:44: to love your enemies, wish well to those who speak evil of you, do good to those who don't like you, and pray for the people who actually injure your feelings or reputation.

"Bless and curse not."

Our natural inclination is to strike back, get revenge, give it back to them. But this is not the avenue to take if we want to be God's children. And aren't we trying to please GOD? He is the One who has offered to save us from sin and death. He is the One who sent His own perfect son to be the sacrifice for our deathly sins; deathly because we will die forever if they aren't forgiven by our accepting Christ's sacrifice for the sins we commit ourselves.

So let's "arm ourselves" with the mind of our Lord, face unpleasant situations concerning other people in the way he did. It says, "He opened not his mouth." We must accept the unkind words others say about us, think well of them and go on with our ministry for righteousness, doing good, encouraging one another, and pray.

We need to pray for ourselves as well as for that other one. We need encouragement, love, relaxation, and peace. God will give it to us. He will also protect us from evil if we ask Him. God put a "hedge" around Job to protect him. He will do the same for you.

We *can* have Christ's mind and heart in dealing with other people. It is a mind and heart of thinking well of them, seeing how their lives would be blessed if they were changed, and praying that that might happen. Encourage them. Actually *love* them, and be kind to them. Bless them and curse not. ■

—Jim Mattison

Update on Atlanta Bible College

Atlanta Bible College Graduation

The 2007-2008 school year came to a conclusion with a delightful graduation ceremony in the college chapel on the beautiful evening of May 16th. This was the 65th graduation service for OBC/ABC. Pastor Seth Ross of the North Hills Church in Springfield, OH and Pastor Steve An delivered inspiring graduation messages to the graduates and many friends and relatives.

Dr. Joe Martin served as Master of Ceremonies. Sam An presented Foundation Year certificates to Johnny Colquitt and Zechariah Hamm. Anthony Buzzard and David Krogh presented Associate Diplomas to Andre Bean, Cyprian Maturu, Hendrix Mumba, and Misuk Rodgers. Jung Jae Lee could not be present for the service. Steve An and Tim Jones presented Bachelor of Theology diplomas to Kyle Casey, Joon Chan Lee, Terence Lester, Yong Jae Moon, Dong Ho Sin, Annette Williams, and Hyo Jin Yoo. Soon Yim



Pastor Seth Ross

Choo could not be present for the service. Gary Burnham concluded the service with the benediction.

Graduate Kyle Casey is currently serving his internship under the supervision of Pastor Seth Ross. Terence Lester has been accepted into a Master's degree program. Annette Williams will be teaching a class at ABC in the fall and is also planning to pursue a Master of Ministry degree. Other 4 year graduates will begin

serving in ministry. Most of the one and two year students will be continuing their education in the fall semester. We pray God's blessing on all these students as they use the Bible knowledge and skills they have gained at ABC.

New Faculty Member

Bob Jones will be a full-time instructor beginning with the Fall, 2008 Semester. Bob graduated from Case Institute of Technology in 1970 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Chemistry. He graduated from Oregon Bible College in 1973 and then earned a Master of Arts in Theological Studies (Old Testament emphasis) in 1976. He pastored the Flagg Center Community Church of God, Rochelle, Illinois 1973-1974. He was an instructor at Oregon Bible College from 1976 to 1981. He most recently served as an instructor at Rock River Christian College in Beloit, WI.

Bob and his wife Nola have two grown children, Chris and Hillary. Bob and his wife will be moving to Georgia in July. We are looking forward to having Bob serve on our faculty.

Masters Program

Dr. Garnet Pike, Dean of the Graduate School of Southwestern Christian University (SCU) in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, was on the campus of Atlanta Bible College on May 7th to share information about their Master of Ministry degree program. He met with members of the ABC faculty and staff followed by a session to which current students and recent graduates were invited.

(Continued on page 17)



2008 Atlanta Bible College Graduates

Update on the Korean Extension

On behalf of the Korean Extension, it was an honor to be a part of the 65th graduation ceremony at Atlanta Bible College. The spring semester of 2008 was truly an exciting time for everyone, especially for our Korean students. Five Korean students graduated with Bachelor of Theology Degrees and two Korean students graduated with Associate in Theology and Ministry Degrees. God continues to work

through all our students and I pray He will work through our graduates in their future ministries.

Paul says it well: Ephesians 4:11-13, "It was he who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers, to prepare God's people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith and in

the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ."

Thank you very much for your continued support! ■

Pastor Sam An
Atlanta Bible College –
Korean Extension
Administrator

(Continued from page 16)



President Tim Jones

Some graduates desiring to pursue a Master's program have had difficulty being accepted into some graduate schools. Although Atlanta Bible College

is not accredited by one of the large accrediting agencies, SCU is willing to accept students who have graduated from ABC with a Bachelor of Theology degree on a probationary status. The Master of Ministry program of SCU is fully accredited by the North Central Association, the largest of the regional accrediting bodies for higher education.

The University offers several programs of study: Chaplaincy Ministries, Church Planting,

Church Revitalization/Renewal, Intercultural Studies, Leadership, Pastoral Ministries, Pre-Doctoral Studies, and Work Place Ministries.

In addition to offering courses on the campus in Oklahoma City, SCU would like to offer courses on the campus of Atlanta Bible College, and use some of our faculty to deliver Master's level courses. We hope to schedule the first course on our campus in the spring of 2009. Ten students must be enrolled to offer a course. ■



2008 Atlanta Bible College Graduates



Bachelor of Theology diplomas presented

Explore our Distance Learning opportunities with these classes:

ATLANTA BIBLE COLLEGE DISTANCE LEARNING COURSES

- B111DL – Old Testament Survey I (3 Sem. Hrs.) (Martin) – DVDs
B112DL – Old Testament Survey II (3 Sem. Hrs.) (Martin) – DVDs
B113DL – New Testament Survey I (3 Sem. Hrs.) (Buzzard) – DVDs
B114DL – New Testament Survey II (3 Sem. Hrs.) (Buzzard) – DVDs
B161DL – Basic Bible Doctrine (2 Sem. Hrs.) (Buzzard) – Video/Internet/E-mail
B221DL – Pentateuch (2 Sem. Hrs.) (Martin) – DVDs/E-mail
B222DL – History and Major Prophets (2 Sem. Hrs.) (Martin) – Videos/Internet/E-mail
B224DL – History and Minor Prophets (2 Sem. Hrs.) (Martin) – Videos/Internet/E-mail
- B242DL – Gospel of John (2 Sem. Hrs.) (Buzzard) – Videos/Internet/E-mail
B342DL – Acts (2 Sem. Hrs.) (Krogh) – Reading/Writing Assignments
B461DL – Church Fathers and Conditional Immortality (2 Sem. Hrs.) (Roller) – DVDs
B470DL – Evangelical Theology (2 Sem. Hrs.) (Martin) – DVDs/E-mail
M112DL – Introduction to Ministry/Leadership (2 Sem. Hrs.) (Cheatwood) – DVDs
M121DL – Christian Education Principles/Practice (2 Sem. Hrs.) (Rebekah Martin) – DVDs
M141DL – Principles of Church Growth, Evangelism and Discipling (2 Sem. Hrs.) (Krogh)
Videos/Workbook
- M/B230DL – Why I Believe (Apologetics) (2 Sem. Hrs.) (Finnegan) – DVDs/E-mail
M242DL – Evangelism and Missions (2 Sem. Hrs.) (Krogh) – Videos/Internet/E-mail
M281DL – Mission Perspectives (2 Sem. Hrs.) (Martin) – Reading/Workbook
M362DL – New Testament Preaching (2 Sem. Hrs.) (Martin) – DVDs
M372DL – Church Leadership (2 Sem. Hrs.) (Riley) – DVDs
M384DL – Small Group Ministry (2 Sem. Hrs.) (Krogh) – Videos/Workbooks/Readings
M443DL – Church Planting (2 Sem. Hrs.) (Krogh) – Tapes/Workbook
M473DL – Pastoral/Church Leadership and Administration (Martin) (2 Sem. Hrs.) – DVDs
G181DL – Personal Finance (3 Sem. Hrs.) (Krogh) – Videos/Workbook/Internet/E-mail
G261DL – Greek I (2 Sem. Hrs.) (Buzzard) – DVDs
G271DL – Church History I (3 Sem. Hrs.) (Graham) – DVDs

Box 100,000, Morrow, GA 30260; 404-362-0052; 800-347-4261

Finance—Explanation of Accounts in the Budget

The budgets proposed include both a revision of the budget for the fiscal year July 1, 2008 to June 30, 2009 adopted by the delegates at the 2007 Summer Conference and a budget for the fiscal year July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2010.

Income

- 1. General Contributions** – non-specific giving by individuals, churches, and conferences
- 2. G. C. – Devises & Bequests** – the College/Conference is the recipient of annuity payments on a contract of a deceased member; other estate gifts are also received each year
- 3. ABC Boosters** – an annual giving program that raises funds for the College
- 4. Christian Education Materials** – includes all sales of Quarterlies & Kingdom Quest materials
- 5. Books** – cost of books purchased for resale
- 6. Theological Journals** – *A Journal From the Radical Reformation* is currently \$24/year
- 7. Sale of Assets** – non-recurring sales of property or assets
- 8. Tuition** – income is based upon growth in enrollment and increased tuition rate
- 9. Korean Extension Tuition** – income is based upon growth in enrollment and increased tuition rate
- 10. ABCDF Support** – transfer of investment income from the Atlanta Bible College Development Foundation.
- 11. Lodging** – rent received from residential properties of the College
- 12. Washers/Dryers** – income from laundry facilities in apartment building
- 13. Rentals – ABC Plant** – rent received from use of the administration building
- 14. Late Fees/Rent** – interest income, registration and other fees from students
- 15. Fees** – charges for specific programs for college students, such as application fee, seminars or educational events
- 16. Conferences & Workshops** - net income after event expenses are deducted from event income.
- 17. Interest** – money earned on checking account through the year

- 18. Transferred In** – amounts transferred in from Restricted Funds for Missions Support & income from the Church Builders Appeal designated for Atlanta Bible College

Expenses

- 1. Salaries and Wages** – compensation for all full-time and part-time staff, student employees, paid committee staff, and some writers/editors for publications. Full-time staff in the Atlanta area are co-employed by ADP, an employment service that provides tax compliance, legal compliance assistance, employment services, and benefit provisions
- 2. FICA Tax** – required payment of employer taxes on all employees not covered by ADP.
- 3. Employee Benefits** – tax coverage, health insurance premiums, Workers compensation, and other charges for co-employed ADP employees, as well as conference premiums for Ministers' Voluntary Retirement Association for some employees
- 4. Assistance to Churches** – funds provided to churches granted Church Development Aid
- 5. Ministerial Association** – support for programs and expenses of the Ministerial Association
- 6. Youth Program** – funding to subsidize the cost of Turning Point Youth Ministries and the summer FUEL event
- 7. Printing and Binding** – includes all materials printed by the College/Conference, such as Adult Quarterlies, *The Restitution Herald & Progress Journal*, and the binding of permanent materials for the Library
- 8. Postage and Shipping** – shipping charges for *The Restitution Herald & Progress Journal*, *A Journal from the Radical Reformation*, tracts, books, and all correspondence
- 9. Book Store** – textbooks and other materials, which are purchased for resale
- 10. Advertising–Recruitment** – includes newspaper, television, radio advertising (Telephone calls, travel, printing, and postage are included under other line items)
- 11. ABC Korean Extension Support** – expenses associated with the providing for the expense budget of the ABC Korean Extension
- 12. Library Periodicals** – journals and other magazines for the Library collection
- 13. Library Books** – newly published books are acquired to keep the Library collection up to date
- 14. Staff Periodicals, Books & Dues** – a small allowance is provided to staff to purchase resource material for classes and to participate in professional organizations
- 15. Staff Training** – staff members are provided opportunities to enhance their skills in areas associated with their responsibilities
- 16. Travel** – includes travel for Board members, advisory committees, special boards and committees, student groups, and staff
- 17. Office Supplies & Expense** – paper, printer cartridges, stationery, envelopes, etc., and supplies for our office production
- 18. Professional Services** – costs of annual audit, as required by the Constitution and annual fees to accrediting association
- 19. Telephone** – basic and long distance service, including the cost of all “800” number calls which are provided toll free to the caller; also includes internet data lines
- 20. Insurance – Non-Plant** – liability insurance for employees and directors
- 21. Supplies & Expense** – printing supplies, paper products, and other operational expenses
- 22. Repairs & Maintenance – non-plant** – maintenance agreements and repairs for office and library equipment
- 23. Utilities** – costs of electricity, water, gas, etc.
- 24. Insurance – Property** – costs of insurance for facilities
- 25. Repairs/Maintenance – Plant** – costs for plant support and maintenance
- 26. Furniture and Equipment** – includes all furniture, software, computers, and office machines
- 27. Supplies/Exp – Plant** – cleaning supplies, restroom supplies, etc.
- 28. Interest** – interest paid on funds borrowed from Restricted Funds
- 29. Campus Lease** – monthly payments to lease the campus from Clayton State University
- 30. Other** – miscellaneous charges

**Church of God General Conference/Atlanta Bible College
Budgets for FY 2008-2009 & FY 2009-2010**

<u>Income</u>	<u>A</u> FY 2008-2009 Previously Proposed Budget	<u>B</u> FY 2008-2009 Amended Budget Request	<u>C</u> FY 2009 - 2010 Proposed Budget Request
CONTRIBUTIONS:			
General Contributions	\$480,600	\$380,600	\$420,600
Building Our Future Campaign	\$0	\$0	\$0
[Gen Contrib & BOF combined]	<u>\$480,600</u>	<u>\$380,600</u>	<u>\$420,600</u>
G.C. - Devises & Bequests	\$5,000	\$15,000	\$25,000
ABC Boosters	\$18,000	\$18,000	\$19,000
Subtotal	<u>\$503,600</u>	<u>\$413,600</u>	<u>\$464,600</u>
SALES:			
Christian Education Materials	\$21,000	\$24,150	\$26,565
Books	\$26,000	\$30,231	\$33,254
Theological Journal	\$0	\$0	\$0
Sale of Assets	\$0	\$0	\$0
Subtotal	<u>\$47,000</u>	<u>\$54,381</u>	<u>\$59,819</u>
ABC:			
Tuition	\$132,000	\$120,000	\$138,000
Korean Extension Tuition	\$355,997	\$355,011	\$532,516
ABC Dev. Foundation Support	\$50,000	\$52,500	\$77,000
Lodging	\$53,000	\$54,999	\$41,249
Washers/Dryers	\$900	\$1,200	\$900
Rentals - ABC Plant	\$5,000	\$6,039	\$4,529
Late Fees/Rent	\$8,500	\$10,000	\$10,000
Fees	\$12,000	\$12,000	\$12,000
Subtotal	<u>\$617,397</u>	<u>\$611,749</u>	<u>\$816,194</u>
PROGRAM INCOME:			
Conferences & Workshops	\$4,000	\$2,000	\$4,500
Subtotal	<u>\$4,000</u>	<u>\$2,000</u>	<u>\$4,500</u>
MISCELLANEOUS:			
Interest	\$1,200	\$15,125	\$12,000
Transferred In* (includes lease payments)	\$18,000	\$166,499	\$128,747
Subtotal	<u>\$19,200</u>	<u>\$181,624</u>	<u>\$140,747</u>
Income Total	<u>\$1,191,197</u>	<u>\$1,263,354</u>	<u>\$1,485,861</u>
Expense Total (details in Expense section)	<u>\$1,102,343</u>	<u>\$1,255,221</u>	<u>\$1,347,091</u>
GRAND TOTAL (Income less Expense)	<u>\$88,854</u>	<u>\$8,133</u>	<u>\$138,770</u>

Column A) This budget was prepared for General Conference and reviewed and approved by the delegates at last year's General Conference.

Column B) This budget provides recommended changes to the budget presented in Column A, based upon changes and events during FY 2007 - 2008.

Column C) This is a preliminary budget for FY 2009 - 2010. The budget is to be approved by the delegates at General Conference, and then amended in next year's budget process. Column C this year becomes Column A next year.

**Church of God General Conference/Atlanta Bible College
Budgets for FY 2008-2009 & FY 2009-2010**

<u>Expense</u>	<u>A</u>	<u>B</u>	<u>C</u>
	FY 2008-2009	FY 2008-2009	FY 2009 - 2010
	Previously	Amended	Proposed
	Proposed	Budget	Budget
	Budget	Request	Request
STAFF:			
Salaries & Wages	\$594,808	\$617,063	\$647,916
F.I.C.A. Tax	\$8,610	\$9,000	\$7,000
Employee Benefits	\$138,125	\$142,662	\$156,928
Subtotal	\$741,543	\$768,725	\$811,844
SERVICES:			
Assistance to Churches	\$10,000	\$7,500	\$8,000
Ministerial Association	\$9,600	\$9,600	\$9,600
Youth Program	\$13,000	\$12,000	\$13,000
Subtotal	\$32,600	\$29,100	\$30,600
SALES EXPENSE:			
Printing & Binding	\$34,000	\$34,000	\$38,000
Postage & Shipping	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$17,000
Book Store	\$18,000	\$14,500	\$16,000
Subtotal	\$67,000	\$63,500	\$71,000
ABC:			
Advertising--Recruitment	\$5,000	\$4,500	\$6,000
ABC Korean Extension Support	\$23,000	\$33,000	\$36,000
Library Periodicals	\$2,300	\$1,500	\$1,500
Library Books	\$1,200	\$1,700	\$3,000
Staff Periodicals, Books, Dues	\$2,100	\$1,600	\$1,700
Staff Training	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$5,000
Subtotal	\$37,600	\$46,300	\$53,200
ADMINISTRATION:			
Travel	\$56,000	\$57,000	\$65,000
Office Supplies & Expense	\$16,000	\$12,000	\$15,000
Professional Services	\$15,000	\$12,500	\$21,000
Telephone	\$26,000	\$24,000	\$33,000
Insurance - Non Plant	\$600	\$300	\$300
Supplies & Expense	\$7,000	\$7,800	\$8,400
Repairs/Maintenance - Non Plant	\$12,000	\$25,000	\$28,000
Subtotal	\$132,600	\$138,600	\$170,700
PLANT EXPENSES:			
Utilities	\$40,000	\$40,000	\$30,000
Insurance - Property	\$7,000	\$8,000	\$8,000
Repairs/Maintenance - Plant	\$6,000	\$3,500	\$4,000
Furniture & Equipment	\$19,000	\$4,000	\$35,000
Supplies/Expenses Plant	\$7,000	\$2,500	\$4,000
Subtotal	\$79,000	\$58,000	\$81,000
MISCELLANEOUS:			
Interest	\$0	\$0	\$0
Campus Lease	\$0	\$144,996	\$108,747
Other	\$12,000	\$6,000	\$20,000
Subtotal	\$12,000	\$150,996	\$128,747
Expense Total	\$1,102,343	\$1,255,221	\$1,347,091
Income Total (details in Income section)	\$1,191,197	\$1,263,354	\$1,485,861
GRAND TOTAL (Income less Expense)	\$88,854	\$8,133	\$138,770

Church News

Marriages

Ohio

Navarre – Andrew Weaver and Kristen Jones (5/17/08) by Pastor Rex Cain

Deaths

Illinois

Oregon – Sarah Callaway, 17, (4/13/08). Service by Pastor Michael Hoffman

Indiana

Country Chapel – Opal V. Huffer New, 84, (5/6/08), long time faithful member. Service by Pastor Ken Howe and Opal's brother, Alva Huffer.

Organ available

"Lonely" Yamaha 6000 Electone home organ seeks new owner. Full-sized home organ, 20 years old, free to the church that will come and get it (Spartanburg, SC). Walnut finish, 61 keys on upper and lower keyboards, 25 pedal keys. Weight 300 lbs, detached pedals 48 lbs., 52" wide x 30" deep x 45" high. Call Brenda Holt at (864) 578-6126 evenings and weekends for more information.



Prayer & Praise

August 2008

- 1 Pray for God's blessing and direction on the delegates during General Conference business sessions.
- 2 **Pray for the Mexico Mission team in Labor Vieja.**
- 3 Pray for Pastor Connie Scott and her ministry at Pine Grove, Minnesota.
- 4 **Praise God for the faithful ministry of the ABC/General Conference Staff.**
- 5 Pray for new students as they prepare to attend Atlanta Bible College later this month.
- 6 **Praise God for the beauty of His creation.**
- 7 Continue your prayers for the ministry of the Mexico mission team.
- 8 **Pray for Mark and Terri Tschaenn and the New Covenant Bible Church in Indianapolis, Indiana.**
- 9 Pray for the Board of Directors as they lead the ministries of the College/Conference.
- 10 **Pray for your pastor and his family today.**
- 11 Pray for the mission team and their return from Mexico.
- 12 **Pray for ABC instructors as they prepare to teach classes at Atlanta Bible College.**
- 13 Pray for the Focus on the Kingdom radio ministry.
- 14 **Pray for Jon Cheatwood in his work as Youth Coordinator for ABC and the General Conference.**
- 15 Praise God for the faith of the brethren in the Philippines.
- 16 **Praise God for the challenges He sends your way.**
- 17 Pray for God to raise up more pastors.
- 18 **Praise God for His love and faithfulness.**
- 19 Pray for the ministry of the Blanchard Church of God in Blanchard, Michigan.
- 20 **Pray for spiritual renewal for yourself and for your church.**
- 21 Pray for individuals who feel led by God to pursue mission careers.
- 22 **Praise God for His love and faithfulness.**
- 23 Pray for the leadership of your local church.
- 24 **Praise God that He is sufficient to meet every need.**
- 25 Pray for Atlanta Bible College students and staff as classes begin today.
- 26 **Pray that the financial needs of the Conference and College will be met.**
- 27 Praise God for your heritage of faith.
- 28 **Pray that God might speak through you to someone who is hurting.**
- 29 Pray for someone you know who needs to make Christ Lord.
- 30 **Pray for an opportunity to share your faith this week.**
- 31 Pray for Pastor Sydney and Dee Kirkpatrick and their ministry at Pine Grove, Minnesota.

September 2008

- 1 **Pray for the youth of your local church and the General Conference.**
- 2 Pray for Pastor John and Gayle Guthrie and their work at East Oregon, Illinois.
- 3 **Praise God for the growth of the Maple Grove congregation in Kokomo, Indiana.**
- 4 Pray that God might be praised through your worship today.
- 5 **Pray for Pastor Dale and Cheryl Swartz and the congregation at Litchfield, Minnesota.**
- 6 Praise God for the faithful ministry of your local church pastor.
- 7 **Pray for healing for someone you know who is in need.**
- 8 Pray that God would continue to financially bless the work of the General Conference and Atlanta Bible College.
- 9 **Praise God for the gift of His Son.**
- 10 Praise God for His daily mercies.
- 11 **Pray for the outreach of the church in Lima, Peru.**
- 12 Praise God for the beauty of each season.
- 13 **Pray for retired pastors and their spouses.**
- 14 Pray for spiritual renewal and growth for students preparing for ministry.
- 15 **Praise God for the prayer partners and financial supporters of the General Conference.**
- 16 Pray for your church family and for spiritual growth.
- 17 **Praise God for Tracy Savage Zhykhovich and her ministry in Russia.**
- 18 Pray for your own personal desire to love God more.
- 19 **Pray for mission work in the Philippine Islands.**
- 20 Pray for your family and your friends.
- 21 **Pray for ABC students as they prepare for ministry.**
- 22 Pray for all the faithful pastors and workers in Malawi.
- 23 **Pray for those who are seeking God's will for their lives.**
- 24 Pray for church workers in India.
- 25 **Pray for Pastor Dale and Connie Ramsey and the Cool Spring Church in Virginia.**
- 26 Praise God for His Word which provides guidance for your life.
- 27 **Pray that you will let your light shine for Christ.**
- 28 Praise God for new believers in your church family.
- 29 **Pray for the faith to stand firm when temptation comes.**
- 30 Pray for the soon return of Christ and that you will remain faithful.

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*...They shall obtain joy and gladness,
And sorrow and sighing shall flee away.*

Isaiah 35:10

