

THE RESTITUTION HERALD

VOLUME 103, NUMBER 1, NOV/DEC 2013 & JAN. 2014

& PROGRESS JOURNAL

○ Bethlehem, Bethlehem...

By Dr. Joe Martin

The “Holiday Season” is coming up—Thanksgiving and Christmas. Rebekah is looking for a new computer, and my son Jeremy (the computer expert) and I have talked about going on a buying spree on “Black Friday” Nov. 29. Sometimes the season is about “STUFF!” “What should you buy for the person who has everything? NOTHING! But you don’t have the guts to do it!!” (Tony Campolo)

However, as I was rereading Micah 5, I realized more and more it is about an amazing human being born in an obscure, almost nothing, village in Judah. I still do not know how Jesus did it, “steadfastly set his face to go to Jerusalem,” (Lk 9:51) endured his “cup,” after praying fervently, “Father, if you are willing, let this cup pass from me, nevertheless, not as I will, but as you will.” (Lk 22:42) WOW!!!

Part of the answer, as I continue to study, may be in the fact that Jesus knew who he was and could be from scripture in *intricate detail*. One of the main passages is about Bethlehem. Let’s review that to get a glimpse of the “real Jesus.” In Micah 5:2, the context is Israel/Judah under attack. Then we have this phenomenal prophecy about Bethlehem, a village just five miles southwest of Jerusalem at 2550 ft. elevation. “YOU ARE SMALL,” figures in well with how God does things. We compare Gideon, the “least from the littlest.” In Jacob’s time it was called “Ephrath” or fruitful. It was the burial place of Jacob’s

beloved Rachel. Later it is known as Bethlehem (literally “house of bread”) בֵּית לֶחֶם in Judah. In Ruth 4:17, Ruth and Boaz have a kid named Obed (cp. Hebrew *ebed* = servant). Obed has a kid named Jesse (meaning “I possess”). And the littlest of Jesse’s kids was David (meaning “beloved one”), and as Paul Harvey used to say, “and now you know the rest of the story.” (See II Sam 7:16 for the Davidic covenant) Interesting... a... Servant ...I possess... My beloved one,



eventually gives us Jesus, the ultimate servant (Mark 10:45).

“*One will come from you to be ruler over Israel for Me.*” (v. 2 continued) Daniel 9:25 connects the ruler and the “anointed one.” “From the time the word goes out to restore and rebuild Jerusalem until the *anointed one, the ruler*, comes, there will be seven 'sevens,' and sixty-two 'sevens.’ (NIV) Therefore, at this point, this ruler could potentially be “the Christ!” But, he is a ruler “for Me.” The ruler rules for God! Revelation says Jesus is the ruler of God’s creation. (Rev 3:14 NIV) Later in Micah 5:4, the HCSB has “He will stand and shepherd them

in the strength of Yahweh, in the majestic name of *Yahweh His God!*” Jesus also said “I am the good shepherd; the good shepherd lays down His life for the sheep. (Jn 10:11 NAS) This ruler will shepherd us for His God and in the majestic name of His God, YHWH. Remember, the throne of Israel, was the throne of the LORD/YHWH! See 1 Chronicles 28:5, where David says, “Out of all my sons -- for Yahweh has given me many -- he has chosen my son Solomon to sit on *Yahweh’s sovereign throne* over Israel.” (NJB) Jesus rules for God in the kingdom!

This ruler’s “origins, are from of old, from ancient times.” (Mic 5:2 NIV) מִיּוֹם יְעוֹלָם “*Min Yom Olam*,” “from days long ago.” Many have tried to read a literal preexistence into this, but it is simply stating that God had planned (cp. *logos/dabar*) Jesus from wayyyy back. In fact, the “*protoeuangelion*,” the first good news is of the “seed of the woman,” a human being, crushing the serpent’s head, (Gen 3:15). In this context we see not only the “seed of the woman,” but... the “seed” of Abraham blessing the world (Gen 12:3), “the scepter not departing from Judah” (Gen 49:10), “the star coming from Jacob” (Num 24:17), the descendant of David’s throne enduring forever (II Sam 7:16), nations conspiring against “the LORD’s anointed one” (Psa 2:2), in fact, “the lamb slain from the foundation of the world!” (Rev 13:8) This ruler of Bethlehem was planned **A LONG TIME AGO!!!**

(Continued on page 13)

**THE RESTITUTION HERALD
& Progress Journal
VOLUME 103 NUMBER 1
Nov/Dec/ 2013 & Jan 2014 ©2013**

Publishing Specialist: Ruth Finnegan
Proofreader: Robert Jones
Coordinators: Gary Burnham and Joe Martin

Address editorial correspondence to: THE RESTITUTION HERALD, ATTN: Joe Martin, 2020 Avalon Parkway, Suite 400, McDonough, GA 30253

PERMISSIONS: Atlanta Bible College/Church of God General Conference grants permission for any original article (not a reprint) to be photocopied or duplicated for use without charge, provided the material is distributed free and the copies indicate the name of the publication and the name of Atlanta Bible College/Church of God General Conference, and our mailing address.

THE RESTITUTION HERALD is owned and published by the Church of God General Conference, a nonprofit Christian corporation located at 2020 Avalon Parkway, Suite 400, McDonough, GA 30253. THE HERALD is mailed four times a year.

Authors and books are sometimes promoted in THE RESTITUTION HERALD. We believe these contain items of interest to our readers. This does not necessarily mean they exactly reflect the statement of faith below.

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.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

November 7-9

Fall Board Meeting in McDonough, GA

January 17-19

reFUEL for 7th grade and up, young adults, and youth workers
Camp Mack, Milford, IN

February 10-14

Annual Ministers Conference
McDonough, GA

Feb. 28 to March 2

Refuge for those out of high school ages 18 to 25
Camp Mack, Milford, IN

March 20-22

ABC Invitational, McDonough, GA

April 6-11

Christian Worker's Seminar
Pigeon Forge, Tennessee

May 1-4

Theological Conference
Simpsonwood, Norcross, GA

July 2-4, 2014

94th Annual General Conference and
75th Anniversary of Atlanta Bible College
Cornerstone Bible Church, McDonough

July 20-25

FUEL Youth Program
Manchester University, Indiana

41st Annual CWS / Christian Workers Seminar

April 6-10, 2014

Holiday Inn – 3230 Parkway, Pigeon Forge, TN 37868

Theme: Making Christian Education EXCITING!

Evening Messages:

- Sunday: Focus on the Father, ABBA, What an EXCITING God We Serve
- Monday: Focus on the WORD, through Christ, LIVING & POWERFUL
- Tuesday: Focus on LOVING God, LOVING Your Neighbor as Yourself, LOVE One Another, How to LOVE in an EXCITING WAY
- Wednesday: Focus on Going Global, GOING IS EXCITING, GO-GO-GO
- Thursday: Focus on THE BLESSING, Children & Their Kingdom Future

MAKE PLANS TO ATTEND NOW!

Great Fun, Great Growth, Great Times!!

Prophecy Page

By Wally Winner

It was “Dictators Week” recently at the United Nations building in New York City. While the nations of the world gathered supposedly to provide updates and warnings concerning their individual territories, the single-most important reason for the gathering continues to boil in turmoil. It is about one nation, one mount that provides political tensions that will certainly result in war. Mount Moriah—the Temple Mount—continues to be the fuse that will trigger mankind’s final war prior to Christ’s second advent.

Since the Jimmy Carter administration’s 1979 breach with Iran’s Ayatollah Khomeini, the political rhetoric between the U.S. and Iran has just kept escalating. So, it was reasonable for the primary talk at the beginning of the big New York gathering was of the potential meeting between President Barack Obama and the new Iranian second-in-command, President Hassan Rouhani. Just one photo op of the two shaking hands. That would instill hope that a solution to the Iranian nuclear buildup could find a solution. Their hopes were dashed as the Iranian would have no part of the handshake.

In spite all of the high-powered world leadership in attendance at the UN summit, world peace really boils down—whether thinking in terms of *secular perspective* or in *Bible prophecy perspective*—to the matter of Jerusalem, Israel, and, most particularly, the Temple Mount. Iran’s nuclear development program, almost certainly for the primary purpose of producing nuclear weaponry, directly relates to Jerusalem, Israel, and the Temple Mount.

This Iranian Islamist leader is just like the last—same theme. He wants Israel off the Holy Land, out of the Middle East—removed from planet Earth. Ditto for a large majority of all leadership gathered at the UN summit. The leaders of the Muslim states surrounding Israel and those other Islamist dictatorships all want Israel bulldozed into the Mediterranean so they will not be distracted on killing each other.

Trouble is reaching a boiling point over the control of the Temple Mount area. On this spot where the two previous Jewish Temples sat—where Abraham brought Isaac to be a sacrifice, where the ark of the covenant sat, and near where Jesus Christ was cruci-

fied for the sins of man—are in evidence, as always. The violence exploded again during the Jewish Sukkot holidays just past, as the following excerpt reports. The Al-Aqsa mosque on the Temple Mount was the scene of clashes between Palestinian youths and Israeli police, the latest in a series of skirmishes as Jewish pilgrims had flocked to the site over the holiday.

After Palestinians in the courtyard began stone-throwing and rioting, police officers stormed the compound. Ma’an News Agency reported that police fired stun grenades at the rioters. Seven Palestinians were injured, according to Ma’an.

Just before the Jewish New Year, on September 4, fifteen Palestinians were arrested after fighting with police, and hundreds of Muslims were denied access. Security forces have been on high alert during the entire holiday period. (Lazar Berman, “Troops Clash with Palestinians on Temple Mount,” *Times of Israel*, 9/25/13)

It seems something akin to insanity, the fact that Israel has been attacked in major assaults on three occasions by Muslim coalitions in 1956, 1967, and 1973. Each time, Israel defeated the vastly superior in numbers forces and won territory from its attackers. Then, each time, Israel, under UN pressures, gave back much of what was won in war. Particularly flabbergasting is the fact that Israel gave controlling authority over the Temple Mount to the Muslims following the 1967 Six Day War. No one has been able to fully fathom to this day why the hardened Israeli general, Moshe Dayan, did so.

All of that, then to consider that Muslims are given free rein to worship and visit its shrines atop Mount Moriah while Jews are strictly forbidden from worshipping there and from visiting except under the most stringent of regulations, is just mind-bending.

There is building a desire by the Jewish people to push back against this restriction against interacting with this most holy place in its history. The Muslim Arabs and others are becoming just as exercised while the Jews are ratcheting up demands that they be given access to the Temple Mount. *(Continued on page 5)*

From a Servant Seat: CAO/President Dr. Joe Martin

It is now mid-semester at Atlanta Bible College. We've had Kent Ross down for Church History, focused on the Radical Reformation. David Krogh will continue that class with Church of God history. If anyone can tackle that, it would be David. I could make a joke about David and his longevity of service, but I am getting there too.

Also, as this is being written, Sean Finnegan is down for "double header" of classes on Apologetics (Why I Believe, 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.) and also Church History II, (5:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.) Obviously this is a busy week for him and any student in both of these classes. Sean's master's degree is in church history. He is also finely tuned in to defending our faith with his understanding of apologetics.

Our "thorn in the flesh" at this point is still the recertification process with the Immigration Department to accept international students. The bureaucracy is tremendously backlogged with the "hot topic" of immigration, and, on top of that, we had the shutdown of the government during this time. We keep praying, but the thorn is still there. Hopefully, by the time you receive this, progress will be made. If you remember the situation, we came up to the deadline in August with no conclusion to the matter, and they gave us an extension to January 2014. As the persistent widow of Luke 18, please continue in prayer for this.

Several items among the staff may be of interest and concern. Kim and Mitch had baby Malachi recently. Malachi, God's

messenger, may he live up to his name! Kim will be taking some time off from work. Again, as this is written, Bill Burnham has died. Please pray with the Burnhams as they deal with this loss and other health issues with Lori's grandfather.

As noted in other emails and the Electronic Restitution Herald, the Korean Extension is in a tough situation because many students were "scared off" enrolling due to the lack of response to recertification. Many of you have received a Fall Church Builders League request to help both our campuses during this time. Despite the hard times, many have responded with both prayer and financial support. Several unexpected gifts have also made recruiting new students and helping current ones possible. The board meets in November to review this and other items.

We have a good group of students, and we ask for your continued prayer for them. There is a weekend "GO SERVE" trip planned in November to the Louisiana-Arkansas Youth Retreat at the Blood River Church at Tickfaw State Park (a few miles from the church.) The theme of the weekend is M.A.D., Make A Difference!

We hear lots of good news from churches. I attended the Heritage Conference at North Hills. Rebekah and I spoke at Lawrenceville church, sharing about the Africa mission. I also attended the 50th anniversary of the Jaynes Street Church, Omaha. God bless you as we continue to work together to get and disciple kingdom citizens. ■

Warren Sorenson Honored

Pastor Warren Sorenson was recently recognized by the presentation of a plaque for 52 years of outstanding service on behalf of mission work of the Church of God General Conference. Former chairman of the Board of Directors Joe Myers, made the presentation on behalf of the LHI Board at the morning service at the Lakeshore Bible Church in Tempe, AZ on September 15.

Warren was first elected as president of the National Department of Evangelism and Missions at the summer General Conference in August 1961. He served for 4 years as president and another seven years as a board member. In 1979, Warren was employed by the General Conference to serve as Director of Outreach and Church Development. In this position, he was heavily involved in mission work overseeing the work of Steve Grant and Judy Myers who were mission coordinators. In 1993 when the Lord's Harvest International Board was established by delegate action, Warren was

elected by the Ministerial Association to be its representative on the Board. He has served in this position continuously for 20 years until this summer's conference.

We can't begin to express our thanks to him for advancing the work of missions for the past 52 years. Church of God mission

work has increased dramatically during the years that Warren has been involved. We praise God for the doors he has opened to us and for the hundreds of churches that are now affiliated with us overseas.

--David Krogh, LHI Secretary



Greetings to the saints of the Church of God and all that look forward to the appearing of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

I consider it a privilege to be part of a people who have always looked forward to the return of Jesus Christ to redeem both His people and the earth which His heavenly Father created.

I can't remember a time in my life that I didn't think it was possible that Jesus would be returning soon. I was 11 during Israel's six-day war in 1967. I was just entering my senior year of high school during the Yom Kippur War in 1973. I entered pastoral ministry at the end of the 1970's and in the next decade we saw the fall of the Iron Curtain and the rise of radical Islam. The Common Market added its much anticipated tenth nation and didn't stop there. In the last decade of the previous century the United States invaded a Middle Eastern country, and China arose as a dominant economic power in the world. In this century

the United States suffered a terrorist attack in New York City and has fought on multiple fronts in the Middle East.

As I write this, the Middle East has multiple places where conflict could erupt. Our CogPastor list serve was alive with speculation that cataclysmic events could begin with the fall feast days which God gave Israel, yet those days have now passed.

The words of the Apostle Paul remain relevant. "So let us not grow weary in doing what is right, for we will reap at harvest-time, if we do not give up. So then, whenever we have an opportunity, let us work for the good of all, and especially for those of the family of faith." (Gal. 6:9-10)

As I write this, the board continues to spend a great deal of time and energy in addressing budget needs. The General Conference technically ended the 2012 fiscal year in the black although uncollected debt actually put our bal-

ance in the red. The board continued to pare down the budget last year, but the unexpected delay of our recertification with INS resulted in substantial tuition income loss for the current budget resulting in the need for further cuts.

The board will meet in November, and we request your prayers for wisdom. It has been suggested that we look for doors which the Lord might be opening even as it appears to grow more and more challenging to have international students on our Georgia campuses. Pray that the Lord will give us vision.

I believe Paul gave his admonishment because he knew that believers would grow weary. We make decisions to persevere because we know that the harvest is coming and we want to take part in the Lord's harvest. It's a privilege to be a part of God's people and we want to be faithful to the calling which He has given to us. ■

(Continued from page 3)

The Temple Mount Faithful are preparing for a Third Temple atop Moriah. Many Christians have that same expectation. It is foretold that Israel's land will be divided in an act that will cause God to bring all of Israel's antagonists into the Valley of Jehoshaphat for punishment (Joel 3: 2). The UN dictators see a "two-state solution"—an Israeli state and a Palestinian state—as the formula for the Middle East and world peace. In actuality, they want Israel gone, and believe when there is a Palestinian nation, Israel will be so surrounded as to set it up for complete destruction.

The God of Heaven, of course, has other ideas.

"Also I will restore the captivity of my people Israel, and they will rebuild the ruined cities and live in them. They will also plant vineyards and drink their wine, and make gardens and eat their fruit. I will also plant them on their land, and they will not again be rooted out from their land which I have given them," says the Lord your God" (Amos 9:14-15).—Adapted from an article "Nearing Midnight: Temple Mount Still the Fuse," Oct. 1, 2013 eNews by Terry James. ■

Good News

*Like cold water to a weary soul,
So is good news from a distant land.
Proverbs 25:25*

From the **Wenatchee Church of God Faith of Abraham in Wenatchee, WA** – **Pastor Merry Peterson** reports that the church is now enjoying a new carpet in the sanctuary and a modified front of the sanctuary as well. Coupled with updates in the sound system wiring, the church has a wonderful new look. Congratulations! Merry also reports a fantastic youth camp at Daroga State Park with 27 in attendance. The youth learned about the role Christ has in their lives, as well as enjoying sunshine, water games, crafts, lessons, favorite songs, and fine fellowship.

From the **Bethel Church of God in Pelzer, SC** – **Pastor Kyle Casey** reports that the church celebrated its 62nd anniversary with a homecoming service on October 6. Keep up the good work for the Lord! (GNP) Congratulations go out to **MJ Lee** on receiving a medal for raising over \$100 for the Pelzer Community football team and to **Codie Sloan** for induction into the National Honor Society. Bethel's nursing home shut-ins recently celebrated birthdays – **Reba Childs** (94), **Delma Fuller** (84), and **Kathleen Mull** (86). Happy Birthday to all!

From the **Pine Grove Bible Church in Brooklyn Park, MN** – **Pastor Sydney Kirkpatrick** wants COG-Land to be aware that **Todd and Amy Blanchard** recently celebrated their 25th anniversary. Congratulations and many more to come! (GNP)

From the **Eden Valley Church of God in Eden Valley, MN** – **Pastor Tom Fischhaber** has a special birthday to report. **Lee Wendroth** turned 80 in September. The church helped Lee celebrate with an open house.

From the **Oregon Church of God in Oregon, IL** – **Pastor Michael Hoffman** has loads of thanks to go out for his hard-working members. Thanks to: **Felipe and Jenny Rodriguez** for hosting game night; **Abigail Myers** and **Hayden Stormont** for helping in the nursery while **Nadia Vanderkolk** was on vacation; **Dawn and Nadia Vanderkolk** for weekly nursery staffing; **Aaron Wells** for working on the church computers; **Gail Tuttle, Felipe and Jenny Rodriguez** who faithfully provide for the children's church ministry; and **John Tuttle** for mowing. Everyone using their gifts for the Lord!

From the **Minnesota State Conference** – The fall conference was held September 6-8 at Long Lake Bible Camp with **Paul Moore** as the guest speaker. Paul has pastored churches in Illinois, Louisiana, Texas, and Iowa, as well as serving in the US military in Vietnam. Paul's messages and lessons focused on Israel – Past, Present, and Future.

From the **Ripley Church of God in Mt. Sterling, IL** – **Pastor Rufus Meyers** was the guest speaker for special meetings September 13-15. Everyone who attended was blessed by what Rufus had to say.

From the **Resurrection Hope Church of God in Lenoir, NC** – **Pastor James Ritch** reports that **Robert Bernheisel** was the guest speaker for special meetings October 18-20. Robert's topic for the meetings was: 40 Years of Knowing and Experiencing God.

From the **Lawrenceville Church of God in Springfield, OH** – **Pastor Alan Cain** reports that **Kara Baker** is going to Guatemala from November 2-10 to work with Mission Impact building water filtration systems for houses. Please remember her in prayer for safety and for blessing on the project. A big thank you goes out to those who helped with the meal at the homeless shelter. The chili and chicken noodle soup was a big hit! [I can imagine! – GNP] Also, Rainbow Table II is having their annual coat and warm clothing drive on October 29. The church plans to support the effort with lots of new or gently used winter clothing (coats, hats, scarves, mittens, gloves, socks, sweaters, sweatshirts, boots, shoes) and blankets.

From the **Oregon Church of God in Oregon, IL** – **Pastor Michael Hoffman** has more thanks to hand out. Thanks to: **John Tuttle** and **Steve Hammer** for setting up the blood drive; **Sheila Schmitt** for playing favorite songs of **Walcie Kirkpatrick** in her honor and memory; **Tim Callaway** for running the sound system at Walcie's funeral; **Beth Hall** and **Kathie Rager** for special music at the funeral; and for the many ladies who helped cook and serve and support the meal after the funeral.

From the **GNP desk** – Remember to send in the names of your milestone anniversary or birthday people. We want to celebrate the milestones along with them, and we want everyone in COG-Land to know about it. [**PLEASE** help us out! – GNP]

Hey, there COGLand! GNP wants to hear what YOUR good news is! We know there's good news everywhere, so send us e-mails, bulletins, phone calls, etc. to tell us your good news. PLEASE SEND YOUR GOOD NEWS, and we'll put you in print!—Robert L. Jones

Verses to Live By

RESPONDING TO THE GOODNESS OF GOD “...the kindness of God leads you to repentance” --Romans 2:4

All through the Holy Bible we read of the goodness of our Almighty God, who created us as the crown of His creation. He made us like Him, in His image. He crowned us with glory and honor. He put all things under our feet—gave us dominion over His creation.

He has blessed us in every way possible, giving us everything we need, taking care of us all through life, making everything work out well for those who love Him, even inviting us to eternal life in His kingdom Christ will establish here on earth at His second coming.

He is kind, merciful, hears our prayers and answers, gives us comfort and peace, has given us rules of life to live by, and watches over us. Knowing our mortal sinful condition, He sent His Son Jesus the Christ to die for our sins that we might have forgiveness and inherit the precious promises of resurrection to eternal life, and eternal inheritance of a renewed earth.

Psalm 103 is a precious recital of God's goodness to us. Here are a few: “The LORD is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in loving kindness...He has not dealt with us according to our sins, nor rewarded us according to our iniquities...as a father has compassion on his children, so the LORD has compassion on those who fear Him...He...knows our frame: He is mindful that we are but dust...the loving kindness of the LORD is from everlasting to everlasting on those who fear Him.”

All He is looking for in return is our love for Him, our thankfulness, our praises, our humility, our coming to Him in every life circumstance. This is known as “RESPONDING.”

The reason the gospel of the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ is now being

preached in all the world for a witness to all people is to let people know of His goodness and plans and have the chance to respond. Many do respond when they understand. They see that they are sinners and need to repent of sin and be baptized in the name of Jesus for forgiveness. They want to live the righteous life God has laid out in Jesus' Beatitudes in Matthew 5, 6, and 7, and in Paul's list of the fruit of the Spirit in Galatians 5:22 and 23: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.

A person is supposed to appreciate everything good that another does for him. This is BEING THANKFUL. How much more thankful should we be to our Heavenly Father for His love for us, shown in so many ways. He is behind every blessing we have. If you have a loving spouse—that is from Him. If you have good things to eat—they came from Him. Every good and perfect gift comes from Him (James 1:17). He is not only worthy of praise and thanks; every child of God *desires* to return thanks and *acknowledge what God has done, especially in his own life*. We are witnesses for Him. We confess Him before men.

Those who respond to God's goodness with thanks and obedience will be saved. But those who are not thankful or appreciative will be thrown in the lake of fire at the judgment. Will we be one of those who is weeping and gnashing his teeth as we see the faithful go into the kingdom, and we ourselves left out? God forbid.

By Jim Mattison



Preston and Dorothy Landry celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary recently

2013 General Conference Delegate Minutes

General Conference Delegate Business Session

July 11, 2013

Chairperson stand-in Greg Demmitt offered welcoming comments. Rob Helenburg offered the opening prayer.

Greg Demmitt recognized first time delegates, new churches, and also recognized newly licensed pastors. Greg offered thanks to Pastor Mike Montgomery and the Guthrie Grove Church of God for their hospitality in hosting General Conference.

Greg addressed the delegates with the chairman's message. Greg offered explanation on how the board of directors is organized internally regarding chairperson, secretary, and treasurer positions as well as the changes he has observed in serving, including the priority that the board has placed on bringing our spending in line with our expense and income expectations. It is the board's intention to not borrow from restricted funds and rather use a line of credit to meet the needs. The board is committed to developing new leadership and to encourage new ministry possibilities that our members envision. Isa. 55:6 was the parting thought meant to inspire.

Charles Bottolffs is serving as parliamentarian.

Gary Burnham has been unable to attend this year due to family illness. David Krogh presented the financial report in his place. David noted that there are three items that have contributed to the income shortfall. General Income contributions were less. Smaller enrollment in ABC and also ABCKE. Tenant income was less than expected. New leases have been developed in the building and we expect additional revenues. Salaries and wages are nearly



Terry Ferrell teaching a class on Church of God history



Board members Rick McClain, Julie Driskill, and Greg Demmitt

half of the expense budget. Reductions in employees as well as wages have helped decrease the shortfall. Publications are increasingly being sent electronically which helps save in printing expenses. Please sign up for the electronic version.

A \$20,000 loan and \$32,000 loan were repaid this past year but are not noted in the financial report. The true deficit was actually \$73,427 for this past fiscal year. This is the third year for free tuition to ABC for Church of God students.

Greg Demmitt explained that the terms of Carrie Briggs and Joe Myers expire this year. They may not be re-elected. He then opened the floor for nominations. Bob Collier and the Indiana State Conference recommended Dan Knowlton for a board position. Joe James and the Guthrie Grove Church of God submitted for nomination Chris James as a nominee for the board of directors. Bob Collier nominated Valerie Sharp for the board of directors as submitted by Andy Cisneros and Timberland Bible Church. These three nominations were previously submitted and published in the HERALD.

Rob Helenburg moved and Scott Millard seconded that nominations be closed. Motion carried.

Dr. Joe Martin presented a CAO Report. He believes the second half of the year has been a tremendous blessing. His latest class was a very fulfilling experience this past semester. Several of the COG events (Pastors Retreat, Theological Conference, and CWS) were very successful. Dr. Joe continues to make intentional efforts to connect with

(Continued on page 9)

(Continued from page 8)

individuals and churches. Then Joe spoke on his vision To Join God, knowing, growing, going, serving, teaching, and preparing for His Kingdom through His Son and Spirit both our generation and the next. Joe continues to focus on serving the local churches. The strength of the local church will lead to a strong General Conference. Joe shared a recent experience driving home from a traffic jam and gave us the spiritual analogy. He encouraged us to tune into what God desires and join Him. Joe shared some experiences from Africa and that the churches in Mozambique are bursting. He is excited about how God is moving and how God is calling us to the tasks ahead as we consult Him.

Steve An presented the report for the ABCKE extension. He shared Acts 1:8 as inspiration. Spring semester had 73 students enrolled. Seven Korean graduates were granted degrees. Two graduates were hired by local Korean churches, and one graduate applied and was accepted by New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary. Pictures of the newest

Korean church were shared as well as pictures and experiences from his latest recruitment travel to South Korea with his wife, Young. They met with nine prospective Korean students and prayerfully are awaiting the SEVP re-certification.

Greg Demmitt shared the immediate need for a report to come back from INS by Aug. 27 in order to allow international students to continue their studies at ABCKE and ABC. A time of prayer will be scheduled before the end of General Conference.

David Krogh presented the budget proposals for 2013-2014 and 2014-2015. The board previously decided to change the budget proposal in fiscal year 2013-2014 by increasing tenant income \$20,000, raising the original \$65,000 to \$85,000 and by decreasing general contributions by \$20,000 to \$344,000.

David Krogh closed the session with prayer.

July 12, 2013

Greg Demmitt opened the meeting with a welcome. Prayer was offered by Mark DeYoung.

Minutes from the July 11 meeting were read and approved at the close of yesterday's meeting.

Dr. Joe Martin presented plaques to Carrie Briggs and Joe Myers in honor of their service on the Board of Directors. Your service is greatly appreciated.

Greg Demmitt conducted a straw poll inquiry with the delegates on whether a weekend conference for next year's 94th Annual General Conference in Atlanta, Georgia, might be better attended with a change of the traditional days of the week. Thoughts from the delegates were collected.

Elections were conducted for the position of director to the board of directors. A director must be elected by a majority of the votes. Chris James and Dan Knowlton were elected.



Installation of newly formed Board of Directors

David Krogh provided a report on behalf of the Lord's Harvest International Mission Board (LHI). David thanked delegates for their prayer support as

well as generous financial support. A couple was sent to check on the work of the eight churches in Pakistan this spring. They have sent an extensive report that David and the LHI is reviewing. The committee will report on the work there soon. A team will be traveling to Peru this fall to encourage ministry there. The work in Haiti continues and re-building efforts still take place from the earthquake in 2010. Mexico and Tanzania are also two countries that LHI continue to focus efforts toward. Rebekah Martin reported on the latest trip to Africa. Their trip was exhausting but very beneficial. Joe and Rebekah Martin, and Jack Kmiecik visited Malawi, Mozambique, and Kenya in June. They visited churches and met with the boards that oversee the work. They thanked the churches for all their support financially and with prayer. A team will go back next May.

Delegates were asked to approve the revised 2013-2014 budget. Jeff Fletcher moved and Joe James seconded to approve the 2013-2014 budget. Motion passed unanimously. Michael Hoffman moved and Rob Helenburg seconded to approve the 2014-2015 budget. Motion passed unanimously.

(continued on page 13)

In 1975 our pastor, Dr. William Kammen, asked the congregation if anyone would be interested in becoming a friend during the upcoming Billy Graham Crusade? He said that volunteers would have to sit by their phone and wait for a call during the program that was aired on TV. I volunteered and my name and phone number were passed to the Crusade which was in Detroit.

At the time I was working in a factory during the day and the program started at 8:00 p.m. When I got home from work I waited near the phone, and then it rang. It was a man named Phillip who lived close by. I was shocked when he said he planned to commit suicide. I said to him, "Phil, please talk to me. I know you called the program number because there was no other place to turn. Please promise me you will not do anything until we have a chance to talk. Tell me what is going on to make you so depressed?"

He said, "My wife divorced me, and I am not allowed to see my two daughters, and I'm losing my job and I am drinking heavy, and there is nowhere else to turn." "That's not true," I told him. "I will show you a way out of your problems, because we serve a loving God who loves us if we love Him. I am not going to

bore you with all the details of my life now, but if God helped me he will surely help you. Do you believe in God?" "Yes." "Do you believe in God's Son?" "Yes." "Do you know why Christ was crucified? He was crucified for Rick and Phil." He replied, "He was crucified long ago, and He did not know you or me." "Phil, if we are sinners, He does know us and loves us and wants to save us. Promise you will call me tomorrow night."

He agreed. Over several phone calls I learned he was a Catholic, but had not been to church in years. We talked every night for weeks before he agreed to come to Bible study. We met every Thursday at my next door neighbor's house. We welcomed Phil as one of our own, and he came every week. He even visited his church and quit drinking and got a job. After about a year, Phil walked into our church with his two daughters. All I could say was "PRAISE GOD."

God puts people's lives together His way. No, Phil did not join our church, but changes happened in his life. When we plant seeds, we must not forget that God adds the increase. When we are put in a position to help someone, God expects us to help like the good Samaritan. ■

Peru Trip



As this is written, a team is preparing to travel to Peru in early November to visit our church in Lima, a Bible study in Ventanilla, and make contact with some individuals who would like to be involved with the work in Peru. The team consists of Rachel Carr who will do most of the translating, Rick McClain who is a member of the LHI Board and also the board of directors, Amber McClain, and David Krogh. Your prayers for safety, good health, and effective ministry will be appreciated.

Board Meeting

The LHI board will hold its annual meeting in Atlanta December 6-8.

--David Krogh

Finding Comfort in the Promises of the Messiah

By Dustin Smith

As the season of Advent quickly approaches we will soon be directing our attention toward the birth of the Savior. While our holiday season urges us to reflect on the birth of baby Jesus, which was performed when the Holy Spirit overshadowed Mary to bring about the miraculous begetting of the Son of God, we should never lose sight of the significance of his position as God's Messiah. As the Father's anointed king of the coming kingdom, Jesus is the figure in whom all of God's promises are to be fulfilled.

I wanted to spend some time reflecting on a remarkable passage from the Hebrew Bible which sometimes gets overlooked when churches study the promises of the coming Messiah. My hope and desire is that we find comfort in the words of these promises as well as discovering new opportunities to further our appreciation of the significance of the man Jesus Christ. This passage can be located in Jer. 23:5-6 where the prophet writes: "Behold, the days are coming," declares the LORD, "when I will raise up for David a righteous branch; and He will reign as king and act wisely and do justice and righteousness in the land. In His days Judah will be saved, and Israel will dwell securely..."

This prediction of Jesus Christ is full of amazing truths worth reflecting on. First of all, God promises to bring about a figure who is described as the righteous branch of King David. David was the famous king of Israel to whom God promised the establishment of his descendants, throne, and kingdom forever (2 Sam. 7:12-16). Jesus, as the human descendant from the line of David, is considered the righteous branch of the Davidic family tree. Other passages likewise describe the coming Messiah as a 'branch' from the Davidic line (cf. Isa. 4:2; Jer. 33:15; Zech. 3:8; 6:12; 4QFlor 10-14).

Secondly, the promised king is said to reign, act with wisdom, perform justice, and exhibit righteousness (a big word which means "loyalty to God's standards"). The history of Israel is full of kings who failed to rule with integrity or who acted foolishly. Some of the terrible rulers failed to demonstrate any sort of justice and righteousness dur-

ing their tenure. The qualities spoken by Jeremiah are essential for the ruler of *any* kingdom, even into the present day. The kingdom of America, with its recent financial crisis, attests to our need for Jesus to return and reign as the king of kings, apart from any corruption or immorality.

Another gem of truth found within this promise of the coming Messiah is the assurance that His reign will be located in the land. The coming king of the kingdom, contrary to the teaching in most churches, is not destined to reign in the heavens. Rather, the Scriptures repeatedly attest to the geographic specificity of Christ's promised inheritance. As this passage states, it is the land which will benefit from the Son of God's righteous rule. This everlasting era of peace will be exhibited with the rescue of Judah from foreign oppressors. The Prince of Peace, Jesus Christ, will not tolerate war or violence in God's kingdom. Even Israel is promised to dwell securely, which is certainly good news in light of the numerous wars and conflicts which have taken place on her soil over the years.

As we draw our short study to a close, it is important for us to reflect on the many valuable truths which the prophet Jeremiah attributes to the coming Messiah. Jesus Christ is to be the human descendant of King David, drawing his covenant promises to a climax. Christ will also administer his everlasting kingdom with wisdom, justice, and righteousness. These qualities are great news to those who are frustrated with the current governments which have failed to demonstrate a just and honest tenure. Finally, the coming Messiah will rule on the earth which will be highlighted by the absence of war, violence, and oppressive nations. In short, we can take these promises foretold by Jeremiah and use them to bring a greater appreciation to our understanding of the birth of the king of God's coming kingdom: Jesus Christ our Savior. ■

O Bethlehem, Bethlehem continued...

Again, “HOW DID JESUS DO IT???” He stood and shepherded “in the strength of Yahweh, in the majestic name of Yahweh His God.” (HCSB 5:4) Please notice the ultimate descriptions from Isaiah’s Servant Songs:

“I, Yahweh, have called You for a righteous purpose, and I will hold You by Your hand. I will keep You and appoint you to be a covenant...” (HCSB Isa 42:6)

“My vindication is with the LORD, and my reward is my God...my God is my strength... This is what the LORD says: I will answer you in a time of favor, and I will help you in the day of salvation. I will keep you...” (49:4, 5, 8)

“The LORD God will help me... The One who vindicates

Me is near... The LORD God will help me... Who among you fears the LORD, and listens to the voice of His Servant? ... Let him trust in the name of Yahweh; let him lean on his God.” (50:7-10)

“He was pierced for our transgressions, crushed because of our iniquities... The LORD has laid on Him the iniquity of us all... You make Him a restitution offering... My righteous Servant will justify many... “ (Isa 52:5, 6, 10, 11)

My favorites passages there are “**MY REWARD IS MY GOD [and] MY GOD IS MY STRENGTH!**” THAT is why he didn’t depend on men for rewards of glory and fame. His God and Father was His reward. THAT is how he could set his face steadfastly to Jerusalem. (Lk 9:51)

THAT is how he could ride into Jerusalem and die as the Good

Shepherd. THAT is how he did not come down from the cross but boldly proclaimed “It is finished!” Hallelujah, Praise God, Amen!

The final thought from our “Bethlehem passage,” is verse five, “He will be their peace... ” **SHALOM, Peace**, will only come from the one born in the manger, the one strengthened by His God, and our God (Jn 20:17) to accomplish the Father’s will. He is the total basis of the new creation in which we inherit the kingdom prepared for us from the foundation of the world. (Matt 25:34) In this season of the year, celebrate Bethlehem, literally “House of Bread,” that gave us Jesus who is the “bread of life!” “O little town of Bethlehem,” thank you for being the littlest who gave us the greatest. ■

(Continued from page 9)

Delegates were informed of Recommendation 1— proposal for the delegate representation of isolated members. The proposal was presented by David Krogh. Bob Coverstone moved and Keith Williams seconded to accept Recommendation 1. Motion passed unanimously.

Delegates were informed of Recommendation 2 – proposal for the establishment of an Academic Advisory Committee for Atlanta Bible College. It was presented by David Krogh. Scott Millard moved and Michael Smith seconded to accept Recommendation 2. Motion passed unanimously.

Darrell Cardwell on behalf of MALT would like to encourage their pastors and spouses to attend various COG events, especially General Conference.

On behalf of the credentials committee, David Krogh presented the following delegate information. Present today are 5 directors, 42 church and state conference delegates, and 32 pastors. There are 79 delegates total compared with 95 last year.

Greg Demmitt moved to accept the minutes as read, Gerald Brewer seconded. Motion passed. Charles Bottolfs moved and Larry Mayberry seconded to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted, Julie Driskill, Board Secretary

Church News

Baptisms

Arkansas

Greenbrier - Allie Leggitt (9/15/13) by Pastor Tom New.

Kansas

Edgerton - Emily Hail (8/28/13) by Pastor Dustin Smith.

Missouri

Peculiar - Kiefer Adams (9/15/13) by Pastor Dustin Smith.

South Carolina

Bethel - Timothy & Margaret Morton, Crystal Lee, MJ Lee (9/29/13) by Pastor Kyle Casey.

Joy Fellowship - Ashby Winner (8/24/13) by Pastor Wally Winner .

Ripley - (9/13) Jacob Laning, Lindsey Dyer, Janaia Vega, and Alexis Tovar and Rob Laning by Rob Laning and Rufus Meyers and T.W. Hetrick by Todd Hetrick.

Virginia

Cool Spring - Morgan Berry- age 10, Dylan Berry- age 10, Kassie Jo Fletcher- age 13, and Josiah Fletcher- age 9 by Pastor Jeff Fletcher, Michael Berry, Judy Berry and Terry Berry.

Ohio

Pleasant Hill - (7/2/13) Teresa Lambert, (8/18/13) Hannah Deane, (9/9/12) Mary Miller, (10/7/12) Nick Smith, by Pastor Scott Deane.

Deaths

Georgia

McDonough - Bill Burnham 87, (10-16-13), long-time member, former controller of the Church of God General Conference; oldest Atlanta Bible College student; survivors include his wife Marion; children, Gary, Karen (Jeff) Fletcher and Scot.



Illinois

Oregon - Walcie Rhea Kirkpatrick (8/3/2013), 92, wife of former pastor and OBC instructor Vivian E. Kirkpatrick. Her children include Judith Myers, Rebekah Needham, Vivian Kirkpatrick, Sydney Kirkpatrick, Deborah Kirkpatrick, and

Donna Dimmick. She was a life-long member of the Church of God. By Pastor Michael Hoffman.

Michigan

Blanchard - Charles Baldwin (10/10/13), 86, long time member by Pastor Larry Mayberry.

Missouri

Fredricktown - Nina Thomas (9/10/13), 94, life-long member by her grandson Pastor Jon Welch.

Peculiar - Virginia Shain (5/25/13), faithful member by Pastor Scott Ross.

Sullivan - Dr. William Norman Tierney (8/8/13), 84, life-long member of Morse Mill Church, and at one time active on the staff of National Youth work of the Church of God General Conference by Pastor Craig Wagganer.

Ohio

Bedford - Al Szekely (10/9/13), 82, long time member by Pastor Rex Cain

Marengo - Jean Morczek (9/9/13), 75, long-time member of the Church of God in Columbus and Urbana, by Pastor Bruce Reye.

Pleasant Hill - Joan Baker (12/7/12), member; Don Louderback (2/7/13), member; Curis Vance Jr (6/7/13), member; Tim Goines (8/23/13); all by Pastor Scott Deane.

South Carolina

Bethel - Joe Goodman (8/1/13) by Pastor Kyle Casey and Pastor Wally Winner.

Washington

Wenatchee - Lou Ann Davis (8/24/13), life-long member by Pastor Merry Peterson.

Wenatchee - Gary France (10/16/13), 88, long-time member, graduated from Oregon Bible College in 1946, pastored the Wenatchee Church for about 30 years.

Correction from the previous issue... Wenatchee—Two obituaries appeared for Elder Davis. The correct one is: Elder Boyd Davis (4/3/13), baptized in 1946, a long-time faithful member. Memorial service conducted by Pastor Merry Peterson.

Wisconsin

Amery - Erma Jane VanBlaricom (6/4/13), 94, former member of Graytown Church.

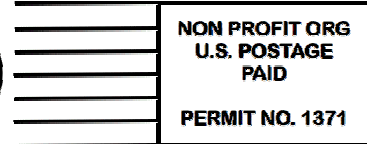
- 1 **Pray for Pastor Jason and Marcee Turner and Beloit New Life, WI church.**
- 2 Praise God for your pastor as he or she shares God's Word today.
- 3 **Pray for our missionaries all over the world.**
- 4 Pray for Pastor Jeff and Karen Fletcher and the Cool Spring Church in Browntown, Virginia.
- 5 **Pray for Pastor Seth and Stacey Ross and the North Hills, OH church.**
- 6 Pray for the Lord's Harvest International Board as they meet in McDonough, GA today.
- 7 **Praise God for the dedicated service of the staff for our college and conference.**
- 8 Praise God for the promise that Jesus will come a second time.
- 9 **Pray for Pastor Richard and Jan Alcumbrack and the Southlawn Church in Wyoming, MI.**
- 10 Pray for Pastor Bruce and Jackie Reye and the Chapel Hill congregation in Urbana, OH.
- 11 **Praise God for the ministries of your local church.**
- 12 Pray that God would lead you in the way of righteousness.
- 13 **Pray for those who are leading the work in the Philippine Islands.**
- 14 Pray for the Fredericktown Church in Fredericktown, MO.
- 15 **Pray for your next door neighbor(s) today.**
- 16 Pray for Hadayat Din as he conducts a Bible study with several folks in Cordova, TN.
- 17 **Pray for Pastor Darrell and Diana Cardwell and the Macomb Church of God in Macomb, IL.**
- 18 Thank God for His goodness to you.
- 19 **Pray for the *Focus on the Kingdom* ministry as it shares God's truth throughout the world.**
- 20 Pray for Pastor Steve and Young An and the Korean Church that meets in the Duluth, GA ABC campus.
- 21 **Pray for an individual you know who has not accepted Christ.**
- 22 Pray for the pastors serving God in Pakistan.
- 23 **Pray for ABC instructor Bob Jones.**
- 24 Pray for encouragement for those who are separated from family and friends at this Christmas season.
- 25 **Praise God for the gift of His Son, Jesus.**
- 26 Pray for preparations for the new semester at ABC that will begin after the first of the year.
- 27 **Pray for Pastor Bob and Susan Collier and the North Salem, IN Church.**
- 28 Pray for the work of native workers in Malawi and Mozambique.
- 29 **Pray for understanding for those around the world who are taking the Systematic Bible Study Course in print and on-line.**
- 30 Pray for revival throughout the Church of God in the coming year.
- 31 **Praise God for the way He has blessed you in 2013.**

Prayer and Praise

January 2014

- 1 Pray that God will direct every area of your life in 2014.
- 2 **Pray for Atlanta Bible College students as they prepare for their spring semester studies.**
- 3 Pray for Pastor Rufus and Jerri Meyers and the Simple Teachings Bible Church in McDonough, GA.
- 4 **Pray for outreach work in Lima, Peru.**
- 5 Pray for Pastor Chris and Jennifer Seiders and their ministry at Fort Valley, VA.
- 6 **Praise God that we can be a part of the family of God.**
- 7 Pray for the outreach ministries of your church.
- 8 **Pray for retired Pastor Warren and Irene Sorenson.**
- 9 Pray for Joe Martin, Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) of Atlanta Bible College/Church of God General Conference.
- 10 **Praise God for a recent answer to a prayer.**
- 11 Pray for ABC teachers as they finish preparations for spring semester classes.
- 12 **Pray for someone you know who needs to accept Jesus as Savior.**
- 13 Pray for ABC students and staff beginning spring semester classes today.
- 14 **Pray for our youth attending reFUEL at Camp Mack in Indiana January 17-19.**
- 15 Praise God for Korean Churches of God in California.
- 16 **Praise God for financial and prayer supporters of the college/conference.**
- 17 Pray for teachers in your local church.
- 18 **Pray for Pastor Bill and Lacey Dunn and the New Beginnings Church of God in Desloge, MO.**
- 19 Praise God for the freedom to worship Him.
- 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 God's blessings on ABC Korean Extension students and staff.
- 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 Pray for the church in Magazine, AR.
- 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.

Atlanta Bible College
Church of God General Conference
2020 Avalon Parkway, Suite 400
McDonough, GA 30253



Address Service Requested

THE RESTITUTION HERALD & PROGRESS JOURNAL is owned and published by Church of God General Conference, 2020 Avalon Parkway, Suite 400, McDonough, GA 30253. Published quarterly. Gary Burnham and Joe Martin, Coordinators; Ruth Finnegan, Publishing Specialist; Robert Jones, Proofreader. Telephone 678-833-1839 or 800-347-4261; FAX 678-833-1853. E-mail Address: info@abc-coggc.org. Website: <http://www.abc-coggc.org>.

Prayer and Praise

February 2014

- 1 **Pray for churches that are seeking pastors.**
- 2 Pray for the students at ABC and ABC Korean Extension to know God's leading in their lives and ministries.
- 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 the members of your church family.
- 7 **Praise God for the direction He provides for your life.**
- 8 Pray for Pastor Alan and Susan Cain and the Lawrenceville, OH church.
- 9 **Pray for the brethren in the Philippines.**
- 10 Pray for the pastors as they begin meeting today through Thursday at the Cornerstone Bible Church in McDonough.
- 11 **Pray for a special need in your life.**
- 12 Praise God for the opportunities He has provided for outreach in numerous foreign countries.
- 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 Pastor Mark and Sandy DeYoung.
- 17 **Pray that God will raise up donors for ABC's financial needs.**
- 18 Praise God for a recent answer to prayer.
- 19 **Pray for our Ministerial Association Leadership Team.**
- 20 Pray for retired Pastor Richard K. Smith and his wife Dorothy Jean.
- 21 **Pray for Pastor David and Mary Riley's ministry at Cornerstone Bible Church in McDonough, Georgia.**
- 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 the Refuge retreat to be held in Indiana on Feb. 28 to March 2 and for those traveling to and from the event.
- 25 **Pray that Jesus will return to earth soon.**
- 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 all of the faithful workers in your local church.

THE RESTITUTION HERALD

VOLUME 103, NUMBER 2, FEBRUARY/MARCH/APRIL 2014

& PROGRESS JOURNAL

Faith to Live By

By Pastor Michael Mattison

"The pen is mightier than the sword." That's because the words produced by the pen persuade minds, change hearts, and produce a faith to live by. The words may be a rallying cry for revolution, freedom, communism, Christianity, or some other commitment. On the other hand, the sword forces external compliance while increasing internal resentment and resistance.

The mightiest pens are the ones which wrote the words of God and which today explain those words to us. "For the word of God is living, and energetic, and more cutting than any two-edged sword, cutting through even to a separation of life and breath, and of joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart." (Hebrews 4:12, Emphatic Diaglott translation of the New Testament.) But without the response of faith and obedience, those words are unprofitable. As an example, for those who followed Moses out of Egypt, "the word of the report did not profit them, not being mingled with faith in the hearers." (Hebrews 4:4, Diaglott.)

When God's pen is unsheathed, its power is backed up by accountability to an all-seeing God. "No creature is concealed in his sight, but all things are naked and exposed to his eyes whose word is addressed to us." (v. 13, Diaglott.) But we are also offered help from the sympathetic one on the throne of grace (vv. 14-16). This could be called the carrot and stick approach. The word of God offers a warning and an incentive at the same time to obey by faith.

What would change in your life if you began to live more by faith in God? Motivational speakers and books assert that what the mind can conceive can be achieved. In other words, believing is seeing! While it's true that faith in yourself can create new efforts and new realities, faith in God is not based on our imagination but on his promises.

There are many promises given in both the Old and New Testaments.



"The Faith Chapter", Hebrews 11, tells of ancient people who believed in the power of God for their lives. It tells of what they accomplished and endured because of their faith. We stand in awe of their strong faith. But for all of them it started weak and grew. One famous example is Abraham's wife. "In faith, also Sarah herself received power for conception, even beyond the proper period of life, since she regarded him faithful who promised." (Heb. 11:11, Diaglott.) She went from laughing at the promise to living the promise! Even the apostles started out

as disciples (followers) who were weak in faith. Eventually they became apostles (sent-out leaders) as their faith grew.

Who do you look up to as a person of great faith and significant influence? For me that was my Dad. As most of you know, he just died on Nov. 11, 2013, just short of age 90. I was in awe of who he was and what he did. Only after this giant in my life died did I understand his humility before his God. In his own eyes he was small and dependent. What mattered to him was faith in Jesus his Savior, love, prayer, and the hope of being in the coming kingdom of God on earth when Jesus returns. It's hard for me to go back in my mind 85 years, 80 years, 75 years, to when he first knew there was a God, to when his faith started, and to know how it grew.

He must have been influenced by S. J. Lindsay, his grandfather who was the first editor of the RESTITUTION HERALD, who lived until my Dad was 14. My Dad spoke often of important advice he heard at age 16 from Pastor Clarence Lapp about praying for God's help in finding a spouse. For the next five years he prayed for that continually until he met and married my Mom. He became a prayer warrior. But this faith, love and concern for others, and prayer life had to grow slowly. His last ministry was a regular column in the RESTITUTION HERALD called "Verses to Live By". As he grew old, his writing became simpler and his calls to following Jesus became more direct.

(Continued on page 3)

**THE RESTITUTION HERALD
& Progress Journal
VOLUME 103 NUMBER 2
February/March/April 2014 ©2014**

Publishing Specialist: Ruth Finnegan
Proofreader: Robert Jones
Coordinators: Gary Burnham and Joe Martin

Address editorial correspondence to: THE RESTITUTION HERALD, ATTN: Joe Martin, 2020 Avalon Parkway, Suite 400, McDonough, GA 30253

PERMISSIONS: Atlanta Bible College/Church of God General Conference grants permission for any original article (not a reprint) to be photocopied or duplicated for use without charge, provided the material is distributed free and the copies indicate the name of the publication and the name of Atlanta Bible College/Church of God General Conference, and our mailing address.

THE RESTITUTION HERALD is owned and published by the Church of God General Conference, a nonprofit Christian corporation located at 2020 Avalon Parkway, Suite 400, McDonough, GA 30253. THE HERALD is mailed four times a year.

Authors and books are sometimes promoted in THE RESTITUTION HERALD. We believe these contain items of interest to our readers. This does not necessarily mean they exactly reflect the statement of faith below.

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.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

February 10-14

Annual Ministers Conference
McDonough, GA

February 28 to March 2

Refuge for those out of high school
ages 18 to 25
Camp Mack, Milford, IN

March 20-22

ABC Invitational, McDonough, GA

April 6-11

Christian Workers Seminar
Pigeon Forge, Tennessee

May 1-4

Theological Conference
Simpsonwood, Norcross, GA

July 2-4

94th Annual General Conference and
75th Anniversary of Atlanta Bible College
Cornerstone Bible Church, McDonough

July 20-25

FUEL Youth Program
Manchester University, Indiana

**2014 Church of God
General Conference**

will be held July 2-4, 2014

at the

Cornerstone Bible Church

in McDonough, GA 30253

where we will celebrate

75 years of service

by Oregon/Atlanta Bible College

Prophecy Page

By Wally Winner

Not all families were making precious and happy memories over the Thanksgiving-Christmas season. Consider some headlines in the past few weeks.

- 11-year-old Dallas girl arrested after stabbing mother nine times
- Arizona man guns down young daughters in New Year's Day murder-suicide
- Man allegedly kills 13-year-old son with axe; believed he was demon-possessed
- Redlands California man suspected of killing his mother, wounding his sister
- Man 'killed girlfriend's baby son because he was crying during a football game'
- Florida teen murders his mom on Christmas Eve
- Arizona man kills wife, daughter, male friend in murder-suicide
- Husband, wife and two sons found dead in upstate New York murder-suicide

Paul warns us of all this in 2 Timothy 3:1-5:

“This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come. For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good, traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God; having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away.”

Highlighting just a few of the words from this passage with the headlines indicate we are living in the age of this passage.

“**perilous**” This word describes times of annoyance and oppression that will be troublesome, dangerous, and hard to bear.

(Continued from page 1)

My Dad often spoke of his desire for the next generation to accomplish more than he did. Even Jesus said, "Truly, truly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do shall he do also, and greater works than these shall he do because I go to the Father." (John 14:12, NAS) After a leader or loved one is gone, if we truly admired that person, we grow into their space and fill it in a new enriched way. It's inspiring to read of the faith and works of our ancestors

“**lovers of their own selves**” This phrase is one word in the original and appears nowhere else in the New Testament.

“**proud**” The idea expressed in this word is that of show one's self above others with an arrogant estimate of one's own means or merits. The word is used in the New Testament only in a bad sense. God is always against the proud (James 4:6).

“**unholy**” The word “unholy” means “to be impious,” “wicked, or “irreligious.”

“**without natural affection**” This expression means there will be an absence of love and affection among family or kindred.

“**incontinent**” That is, without power or self-control, in-temperate.

“**fierce**” Savage, beastly.

“**despisers of those that are good**” This is one word in the original, meaning “opposed to goodness and good men.”

“**traitors**” “Betrayers,” used only elsewhere in the New Testament with reference to betraying Christ by Judas (Luke 6:16) and by the people (Acts 7:52).

“**heady**” “Rash” or “reckless,” “falling headlong.”

“**lovers of pleasure**” This is the only appearance of this word in the New Testament.

How far the world has gone and probably will go from these verses:

“Children, do what is ordered by your fathers and mothers in the Lord: for this is right. Give honour to your father and mother which is the first rule having a reward, So that all may be well for you, and your life may be long on the earth. And, you fathers, do not make your children angry: but give them training in the teaching and fear of the Lord.”
(Ephesians 6:1-4 BBE)

in the faith in spite of harsh conditions. But with that as a foundation and many more resources, how much will we do? What is your vision for how living more by faith in God would change your life and actions? It doesn't have to be a spectacular change. Everything starts small. As someone said, "we cannot accomplish great things, only small things with great love." And as Jesus said, do these things for the "small people" and we do them to Him. (Matthew 25:40.) That is living by faith! ■

A note on the Korean effort is that the process to receive international students has been extended again. Praise God! It is still not totally resolved, and the wheels of bureaucracy seem to be spinning ever so slowly. But, progress has been made. We now talk to real people, and receive e-mails directly from real people.

Also, Steve and Young An will be traveling to Korea, per board action, to start a branch campus of Atlanta Bible College there! Their flight is scheduled for Feb. 4. See Steve's plans on a separate page. Please pray for this effort.

Many of you have heard some of this personal story, but it has dominated much of my thoughts and prayers lately that I think it best to share more. On December 11, Rebekah (my wife) went into the hospital for bladder surgery. It was an extended surgery, but the surgeon came out, noting that I should be able to see her in an hour or two. After three hours, I felt something was up. The nurse coordinator came to me and said the doctors wanted to meet with me. In a nice little "counseling room" (evidently where they need to share difficult information) I heard the words "Your wife has had a heart attack." An echocardiogram had been done along with blood tests and the results were... she had a heart attack.

I tried to call both my adult children, luckily my daughter was working, as a nurse, and couldn't take a call. When I tried to speak the words to my son, "Mom had a heart attack," they just wouldn't come out. Finally they came out through tears, but then the story really began. It was a "mild attack" and occurred because her blood pressure dropped to around 50/30 which caused the heart to be deprived. For those who know Rebekah, she is about the most health-conscious person I know.

The saga continued in that she could not eat. She kept continually throwing up. Finally, after the cardiac ICU,

they did an X-ray of her abdomen and there was an intestinal blockage, a large one. Evidently when the intestines are manipulated in surgery, they are very sensitive and can just shut down. She had not eaten for a long time, and she became uncommunicative. My daughter, the nurse, was here and it was bad. I remember praying on the way up during that time. I had no words left to pray, I had prayed them all. I couldn't think of a thing I hadn't prayed. The elders had anointed her with oil per scripture. All I could do was pray "Father, oh Father, Father, Abba Father..." all the way up to the hospital.

Finally, (with a major push from the family) they put an intravenous line in direct to the heart to feed her. It is called TPN, Total Parenteral Nourishment. She started doing better immediately. She got out of the hospital January 10, after a full month!! She is doing her own TPN at home and, LORD willing, surgery will be avoided to clear the blockage as she progresses. Thank you all for the cards, letters, calls, and visits by those nearby. Keep praying. I know this is extremely personal, but that is life at present.

Other news is that Atlanta Bible College semester has started and is in full swing. Please pray for the staff at both campuses. The ministers will be meeting Feb. 10-14 at Cornerstone Church near the college. We look forward to student, staff and ministers interaction. Their special guest will be Kermit Zarley. Seth Ross has volunteered to head up FUEL this year in conjunction with the Youth Advisory Committee (YAC) and other workers. Thanks Seth. The board is asking for input and meetings with youth leaders and workers, before a new Youth Coordinator is appointed. The board is to meet at the Troyview Church in Ohio for meetings, Feb. 20-22. The planning of the 75th anniversary of Atlanta Bible College at the summer General Conference will be part of their meeting. Remember all these things in your prayers. ■

2014 Theological Conference

May 1-4, 2014 Simpsonwood Conference Center, Norcross, GA

Please mark your calendars now for what promises to be a quite exceptional gathering of passionate kingdom and biblical unitarian believers! The truth of the kingdom and the one God is increasingly impacting the lives of people in various countries. Our team effort is required for maximum effect. It is vitally important for believers in the one God, Jesus as Messiah, Son of God, and the gospel of the kingdom to gather for purposes of mutual blessing and encouragement. We really need you to be there as a blessing for us all. The Abrahamic promise is that the seed of Abraham would not only be blessed but be a blessing. We look forward to seeing you! Details for registration at theologicalconference.org.

2013 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:

Laura M. Ashelford
Bob and Melody Ballard
Bill Burnham
John Craig English

Juanita Pryor English
Nedra Helenburg
Harvey and Mary Krogh
Jim Mattison

Martha Jones Mattison
Mary Helen Mattison
Lucian and Thelma Murphy
Patricia Piter

Scholarships and Grants for Atlanta Bible College

Grants and scholarships provided assistance to Atlanta Bible College students during 2013 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. This aid is a tremendous help for our students.

ABC/OBC Alumni Association
Bob and Melody Ballard Memorial
Burnham-Stadden Memorial
Caroline Brown Memorial
Cecil Smead Memorial
Delbert and Bernedene Jones Memorial
Francis and Lila VanFleet Memorial
Fulton Ramsey 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
Illinois Conference

James A. Patrick Memorial -
Northeast Conference
Jean Elton Fortney Memorial
John and Ruth Lewis Memorial
Lawrenceville/Overholser
Lois Blakely Memorial
Lucian and Thelma Murphy Memorial
Martha Jones Mattison Memorial
Mary Helen Mattison Memorial
Michigan State Conference
Mildred Schroeder Memorial
Monroe Elton Memorial
New Hope Church, Little Rock
J. O. and Mary Lou Paek Memorial
Orine Richardson Robinson Memorial
Ritenour Trust Fund - In Memory of
Eliza Boyer Ritenour, Virginia

Ritenour Kincheloe, and Seraphine
Ritenour Cleek
Simi Valley Church
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
Wenatchee, WA Church of God
William G. and Nina G. Hicks Memorial
William and Rhoda Hanson Memorial
Willie Smith Memorial
Carolina Conference
Zelma Weaver Memorial

Letter from the Chairman of the Board

Greetings our brothers and sisters in the Church of God General Conference.

It's a privilege for me to represent the board of directors to the people of the General Conference.

In the last issue I challenged us to heed the admonishment of the apostle Paul to not grow weary in doing well. We do face challenging times, but shortly after writing the last article, I was looking at the giving to the General Conference and saw that it is up considerably this year over the last year. About \$40,000 more has been contributed since the summer General Conference than what was contributed

during that same period last year. That's a real blessing.

I don't consider it a burden to serve on the board of directors. I'm excited about the door opening in Korea for our first campus outside of the United States. Steve An says that he is as excited now as he was when he was first developing the Korean extension in Georgia. I am so thankful for the dedicated sacrifice by Steve and his family in so many areas of ministry.

We are thankful for all of our staff. Many make personal sacrifices to serve the General Conference. We had to make the difficult decision to eliminate the salary for two important positions, the youth coordi-

By Pastor Greg Demmitt

nator and the mission coordinator, and we appreciate the willingness of Judy Myers to continue in a volunteer capacity as missions coordinator.

I want to conclude with a special thanks to Jon Cheatwood for his years as the youth coordinator and for his leadership of FUEL. My family has been personally blessed by FUEL, and Jon has been a big part of its continued excellence. I believe the conference made a bold step back in 1999 by having a full-time youth coordinator and teacher after many years of that being an extremely part-time position. I regret that we couldn't continue to fund the position, but I appreciate the work that Jon has done.

Good News

Like cold water to a weary soul, So is good news from a distant land. Proverbs 25:25

From **Bedford Church of the Open Bible in Bedford, OH** – The congregation celebrated Rally Day on October 20, 2013 with **Gary and Glenda Turner** from Winnebago, IL. Gary was the guest speaker, and a potluck dinner was enjoyed after the service. On October 13, the congregation celebrated Pastor Appreciation Month by honoring all of their speakers for the past year – **Andrew Weaver, Steve Weaver, Mark Cain, and Richard Marsh.**

From the **Oregon Church of God in Oregon, IL** – The church enjoyed a wonderful concert by MVP (**Larry Mayberry** and **Steve Venema Praise**) November 3. Larry and Steve wish to lift up and encourage others through music, while proclaiming the good news of the kingdom through their lyrics.

From **Hutchinson Church of God in Hutchinson, MN** – **Pastor V.E. Kirkpatrick II** reports that the church observed International Day of Prayer for the persecuted church on November 10 with special prayers for missionary brethren and persecuted Christians worldwide. On November 17 the church celebrated the church's 12th anniversary, calling it Harvest of Hope Celebration Sunday. On November 24 **Kelly Sehr** shared her personal testimony and life journey with the congregation during the sermon portion of the service. It was a powerful testimony, Kelly. Thank you!

From **Bedford Church of the Open Bible in Bedford, OH** – A big thank you goes out to **Mary Ellen Jones** for taking the food basket donations to the food bank in Bainbridge. [Way to go, Mom! – GNP]

From **Pine Grove Bible Church in Brooklyn Park, MN** – The church welcomed **Jake, Amber, and Melody Ballard** to Minnesota in early December. Thank you goes out to all who helped them unload, provided a full pantry, donated pieces of furniture, renovated the parsonage, and who helped in any other way so that their transition might be as seamless and stress-free as possible.

From **Bethel Church of God in Pelzer, SC** – **Pastor Kyle Casey** and the church have lots of good things to report. On October 27 the church celebrated Pink Sunday, recognizing and honoring **Judy Turner** and **Martha Vinson** who have completed treatment for breast cancer and are cancer-free. Praise the Lord! On November 10 the honored its veterans, recognizing **Michael Gentile, Marvin Kay, James Lowry, Steve Riddle, David Sloan, Jim Turner, and Tyler Cunningham** for their service. November 17 was Youth Sunday

with the worship service led by the youth. The service included singing, skits, and a devotional message.

From **Hutchinson Church of God in Hutchinson, MN** – **Pastor V.E. Kirkpatrick II** and the church send out a thank you to **Dan and Rachel Karl** for building a beautiful serving island for the fellowship room and for putting a new top on the serving shelf in the corner. Dan and Rachel were also generous in hosting the Fall Fellowship in their home on November 2. A good time and good food were enjoyed by all. Thank you also to **Denise and Vivian Kirkpatrick** for delivering the collected packages of diapers to Common Cup Ministries. There were 1001 diapers delivered. [Denise counted!!]

From **Lawrenceville Church of God in Springfield, OH** – **Pastor Alan Cain** reported that the church gave \$1901.94 in a love offering for our brethren who were victims of the Philippine typhoon disaster. The junior church sent \$200 to the conference for the disaster relief fund. The quarters-in-prescription-bottle project raised \$345.00 for the homeless shelter. Thanks to everyone for your loving generosity!

From **Bedford Church of the Open Bible in Bedford, OH** – The church's annual Christmas caroling was December 8 at Summit Point. They sang especially for **Fred Schuld**. Fred appreciated the visit, but, sadly, Fred died two days later. **Doris Schuld** won a laptop from Publishers' Clearing House. Congratulations! [It's the first person I have personally known who actually won something from that. – GNP] On December 15 the church enjoyed a Christmas dinner catered by Bob Evans. It was delicious, and the fellowship was sweet as well.

From **Bethel Church of God in Pelzer, SC** – On December 15 the church celebrated an Everybody's Birthday Party. The special guest was Jesus. Tables were set up to represent each month with good food, great fellowship, and lots of fun. The Christmas program was held on December 22. The children presented "That's My Story and I'm Sticking to It" and the choir presented a cantata entitled "Christ Was Born For This."

From the **Oregon Church of God in Oregon, IL** – Congratulations to **Zach Hall** who has been selected to participate in Illinois All State Choir on January 18. Thank you from **Pastor Michael Hoffman** and the church to the following: **Ellen Laurent, Beth Hall, Delene Young, Jay Laurent, Paul Newell, Joel Cheatwood, Alex Bolhous, Zach Hall, Roy Keebler, Lyvvi Matheson, and Felipe Rodriguez** (musicians during Advent celebrations); **Mike, Kathie, and Mitch Rager** (snow plowing and shoveling); **Liz Rubio, Todd Myers, and Sharon McGlenn** (testimonies on December 29); **Marilyn Dick, Mary Ann Mortellaro, and Donna Mattison** (wreaths on front of building in memory of their parents **Don and Vera Mattison**); **John and**

(continued on page 7)

Verses to Live By

WHAT IS JESUS DOING IN HEAVEN NOW?

“He is able to save forever those who draw near to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them.”

Heb. 7:25

“Christ Jesus is He who died, yes, ...who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who also intercedes for us.”

Rom. 8:34

“If anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and He Himself is the propitiation for our sins...”

1 Jn. 2:1,2

A man recently asked me the above question. At first I was surprised, for I thought all Christians knew why Jesus was in heaven at the right hand of God. But as I pondered the question and looked up the verses, I saw it was a really great question which required a Bible answer.

There are several Bible words that help us understand Jesus' present work at God's right hand.

- An advocate is one who pleads the cause of another.
- One who intercedes is to act between two parties to reconcile them.
- One who makes propitiation is one who appeases and makes acceptable.

God asked Jesus to do three things to save us eternally:

be the sacrifice for our sins; be our high priest to intercede for us, and be the coming king of kings in God's coming kingdom.

To put it simply, Christ is there at God's right hand interceding for us, daily finishing our complete salvation process. When we accepted Jesus' gospel message of the coming kingdom of God and Christ as our Savior and were baptized, at that moment all our sins up to that time were forgiven. But what about the sins we commit after baptism? How are they forgiven? As we come to God daily asking for forgiveness for the sins we commit after baptism, our Savior pleads our case with His Father, asking Him to have mercy on us and forgive us. This is a very important work Jesus is doing for us now.

It is “a keeping us constantly in the saving process” by daily giving us forgiveness in our imperfection. It is for us a daily being forgiven. That is why Jesus is our high priest.

Israel's high priest went into the Holy of Holies once a year on the Day of Atonement to make atonement before God for the sins of Israel. Jesus is the antitype of this. He has entered into the Holiest of all, even heaven itself, to intercede for us before God (Heb. 9:24).

Look up all the high priest verses in the book of Hebrews. We would list them here, but they are very numerous. And while you are studying this subject, also look up all the verses on mediator and intercession.

Jesus' sacrifice work is done. He is now mediating for us before His Father. He will come as King.

This is how this Bible student understands Jesus' present work in heaven.—Jim Mattison

(Continued from page 6)

Carson Andrew (hanging and removing the wreaths). Many people involved in ministry in practical ways!

From the **Farmington Church of the Open Bible in Farmington, MO** - Co-pastors **Donna Cooper and Carl Jennings** have some good news to report about their church building. This past summer the church put a new metal roof on the building, and the shutters were painted to match. A vinyl railing was added to the front steps, and new windows were installed. A new sign is ready to go up as soon as the snow goes down. All improvements have been paid for with cash. And, in the Christmas program, Batman, Batgirl, the Incredible Hulk, Spiderman, and Superman all found God's

son in the manger and learned that the real superhero is Jesus.

From the **GNP desk** – Remember to send in the names of your milestone anniversary or birthday people. We want to celebrate the milestones along with them, and we want everyone in COG-Land to know about it. [**PLEASE** help us out! – GNP]

Hey, there COGLand! GNP wants to hear what YOUR good news is! We know there's good news everywhere, so send us e-mails, bulletins, phone calls, etc. to tell us your good news. PLEASE SEND YOUR GOOD NEWS, and we'll put you in print.—Robert L. Jones



I am fascinated by the early church's presentation of Jesus and how sometimes the modern church's presentation is "different." Sometimes we do not ask the same questions they ask, such as "Are you the Christ, the Son of the Living God?" A key verse in this exploratory thought is Acts 2:36, "Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly, that God hath made that same Jesus, whom ye have crucified, both Lord and Christ." (KJ) The NIV says, "Therefore let all Israel be assured of this: God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Messiah. Compare the title, "**Master and Messiah.**"

The context is Peter preaching to the crowds on the day of Pentecost. The background is that between Passover and Pentecost there are fifty days. We know Jesus was killed shortly before Passover, was in the grave (*sheol, hades*) three days, was resurrected and appeared to them for forty days preaching the kingdom of God. (Acts 1:3) That leaves about a week, 7 days, with a group (120 people, Acts 1:15) in prayer waiting for the promise of the Holy Spirit. The spirit came in Acts 2, with some fifteen named categories of people in Jerusalem celebrating Pentecost.

Peter took his stand, with the eleven, and explained to the crowd that they were not drunk since it was only nine in the morning. In verse 22, he explains it is about Jesus, "a man attested to you by God with miracles and wonders and signs which God performed through Him... ." In fact, he further states, "This Jesus, God raised up again, to which we are all witnesses." (v. 32)

The pivotal verses that explain about the day's events begin in verse 33, that Jesus, "...exalted to the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, He has poured forth this which you both see and hear." (NASB) The explanation is that the Spirit is being poured on them by Jesus! A further reference from the Hebrew scriptures (Psa. 110:1) notes Jesus' position again, "The LORD (YHWH) said to my Lord, sit at my right hand... ." (This is the most referenced [20+ times] Old Testament verse in the New Testament!) Evidently, the Spirit is now flowing to them through this person Jesus.

In our key verse 36, we are to "know assuredly" (KJ), "know for certain" (NASB), "be assured" (NIV) of several key points! **First**, "GOD MADE..." The events at the birth of the church that are happening are under the authority of Almighty God! "For God so loved the world... " is the beginning of everything. "In the fullness of time, God sent forth His son, born of a woman..." (Gal. 4:4) "God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself..." (2 Cor. 5:19) Notice, it does not say, "God was Christ!" as some modern traditionalists preach. It says first, "God was in Christ..." By the way, as Christ should be in you and me as spirit-led Christians! (Gal. 2:20).

Secondly in our key verse, v. 36, it says "God has made Him both Lord and Christ." Because of obedience to the ultimate sacrificial death, God confirms Jesus' identity in two ways. He is both Master and Messiah to all of humanity! "Lord" can be a generic title and, as we know, especially a name, YHWH, that the translators use in abbreviation of the name of God. If one deducts the 6,828 times YHWH is translated LORD, from the 7,102 times Lord is used in the O.T., that leaves some 274 times "Lord" is applied to others not necessarily the LORD God Almighty (YHWH El Shaddai!). Sarah called Abraham, "Lord." (Rebekah, my wife, has not done that to me... yet! ☺) Joab, Bathsheba, and Nathan, referenced David as Lord, etc.

I have grown to appreciate the work of the actor Russell Crowe, as many others have. In *Gladiators*, he is a "man's man!" He comes back from total adversity to avenge the evil Lord Emperor! Especially, in *Master and Commander*, though almost totally destroyed at sea, he, as ship master, comes back and conquers! He is more "human" in *A Beautiful Mind* where he portrays a genius with schizophrenia. (PS- He will play Noah, in *Noah* coming out this year.) It should be interesting. He is a "Master" or "Lord" in many of his movies.

In the New Testament, "Lord" is used 651 times, with many times for the Lord God, and most times

(Continued on page 9)

(Continued from page 8)

for the Lord Jesus, but also there are other “lords.” For example, Festus tells Agrippa that he has nothing to write to “his lord” (meaning Caesar, since Paul appealed to Caesar). Thus Caesar is a “Lord.” In the book of Revelation, John speaks to one of the elders saying, “My lord, you know.” (Rev. 7:14) But in our key verse God is making Jesus Lord over all humanity for all time by virtue of his resurrection! “There is no other name under heaven that has been given among men by which we must be saved.” (Acts 4:12 NASB) Jesus is Lord of all so-called lords! Of course, the LORD God is still Jesus’ Lord and God! (cp. I Cor. 15:28 where “the Son Himself also will be subject to the One who subjected all things to Him, so that God may be the all in all.” [some Greek manuscripts have **τὰ πάντα ἐν πᾶσιν** THE ALL IN ALL]) God will be the all in all, with Jesus reigning for Him in the kingdom.

The **third** major aspect of our key verse is “Messiah!” “God has made this same Jesus whom you crucified both Lord and **Messiah**/Christ.” Some versions read Christ, and some read Messiah. Same thing! However, to be more Hebraic, it is good to fully understand our Master and Messiah from how “God made...” him this.

Christos, the Greek, comes from *Mashiach*, the Hebrew, which originally simply means to “anoint.” Moses *mashed* (*mashach* occurs 770 times in the O.T., so many things are anointed) the tabernacle and everything in it, the altar and Aaron. Of course eventually, the prophets anoint the king that YHWH determines. The king then becomes “The Anointed,” or *Ha Mashiach*. The

king who eventually will reign forever is the ultimate *Ha Mashiach*, THE CHRIST!

Psalm 2 further clarifies the connection between God and Jesus, “Why do the nations conspire and the people plot in vain... against the LORD [YHWH] and His Anointed One... .” (Psalm 2:1,2) The LORD God is working through His Christ, compare Acts 3:18, 4:26, Rev. 11:15, 12:10. God makes it personal that Jesus is “His Christ!” He is the one God is working through to bring us salvation and to rule in His Kingdom.

At Jesus’ birth, in Luke 2:11, the shepherds are told that one is born who is “Christ the Lord!” The ultimate question to Jesus was “Are you the Christ the Son of God?” Contrariwise, the question was never, “Are you the Christ, God?” Jesus told the Pharisees, “You believe in God, believe also in me.” (Jn. 14:1) Joel Hemphill suggests one of our purposes now needs to ask the modern church, “You believe in Jesus, believe also in God” who made him both Lord and Christ, Master and Messiah for all time.

Jesus, Yeshua or Yahshua, in scripture is called the “Holy One of God,” the “Christ of God,” the “Lamb of God,” the “salvation of God,” the “gift of God,” the “bread of God,” the “power of God,” the “wisdom of God,” the “image of God,” the “priest of God,” the “word of God,” the “ruler of God’s creation,” etc! THANK GOD FOR JESUS! Jesus has shown the way, the truth, and the life. He is the Way! He was “tempted in every way as we are, yet without sin.” (Heb. 4:15) He is our brother, but our **Master and Messiah**. King Jesus, we submit to you

Atlanta Bible College Honors

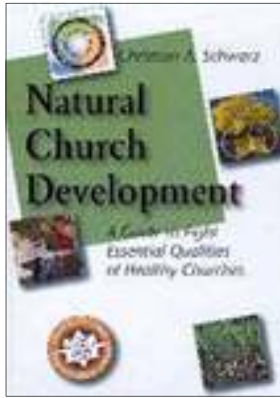
In order to be on the President’s and Dean’s lists, a student must be a full time student enrolled in 12 or more semester hours of classes. The grading system is based on a 4.0 scale. Congratulations to the following students for their academic accomplishments during the fall 2013 semester.

President’s List (3.5 and above)

Stephanie Blanchard	Bethany Reise
Joel Fletcher	Jacob Rohrer
Hyeon Mi Jeong	Jae Yun Shim
Jack Kmiecik	Shelby Upton
Nathan Massie	

Dean’s List (3.00 to 3.49)

Eun Hee Eom
Chan Koon Im
Eun Ah Shim
Eun Joo Yang



Natural Church Development (NCD)

This feature in THE RESTITUTION HERALD & Progress Journal highlights concepts from NCD. Rather than focus on a church's growth statistics, NCD

is a tool designed to help a church focus attention and effort on its health.

Are Your Small Groups Holistic?

This article is the sixth of eight articles offering an extended view into each of the eight quality characteristics of Natural Church Development. The sixth quality is Holistic Small Groups.

All churches have small groups, but those small groups may or may not be holistic. What does holistic mean? We'll get to that shortly! You might find it interesting to note that people that experience truly holistic small groups, when asked about their church, most often first talk about their small group. Why? Because for them it is the highlight of their church experience.

Please know that small groups are not just Bible study groups—likely our first thought when focusing on small groups. While small groups may very well be formed primarily for Bible study, they also may be formed primarily for fellowship/relationship building, for a task (i.e., worship team), or for other reasons.

Generally speaking, a small group is holistic when group members are participating on a variety of levels: Bible study, prayer, relationships, service, leadership development, etc. Does this list describe what you receive in a small group in which you are a member?

NCD measures four critical components for churches seeking to build and maintain holistic small groups.

The first component addresses the development of a spiritually oriented community. To what degree is scripture and prayer part of the small group life? In what ways do the small groups nurture group members' spiritual growth? How well have the small group members learned to trust each other and rely on each other? How transparent are group members with each other about what is *really* going on in their lives?

The second component considers multiplication of disciples, leaders and groups. What clear process is in place to train, apprentice and coach small group leaders? How do we assess leaders' effectiveness and provide accountability? In what ways does our small group "system" support successful multiplication of both leaders and groups?

The third component evaluates how well we integrate newcomers. In what ways do our small groups bring in new people and help them feel welcome? To attract newcomers, what events do small groups plan? When someone visits a small group, what follow-up is provided to engage the potential new group member? How successfully do our groups incorporate new people?

The fourth component measures group relevance. How are group activities and topics of discussion chosen to ensure they are relevant to group members' lives. How do we make small group involvement an integral part of group members' lives? What do we see that indicates groups really help people with the challenges in their lives? How well, and in what ways, do group members interact with each other between group meetings?

My vision is to see churches of God all around the world evidencing the eight quality characteristics of NCD. I see healthy churches ministering well to members, friends, and entire communities, making an eternal difference in folks' lives.

If you would like to explore how the NCD tool can be used in your local church, please contact me for more information.

Gary Burnham
Ministry Services Network Director
gburnham@abc-coggc.org; 678-833-1839

To all,

On behalf of the Korean Extension staff and the student body, I thank all of you for your consistent support for the Korean mission and providing the Korean Extension with the opportunity to convey the Abrahamic Faith to the Korean Community in the United States and in South Korea.

As a method to enhance our efforts to provide God's message, the Korean Extension was established in 2003. During that time, 19 students from South Korea enrolled and began their studies. In the following year, the Korean Extension student body increased to 48 and to 64 in 2005 and climbed to 102 in 2010.

As of May 2013, we have awarded 50 Korean students with bachelor's degrees and three students with associate's degrees, and all have moved on into various mission fields in South Korea as well as the U.S. More specifically, a number of graduates have accepted positions as Bible college instructors, pastors, assistant pastors, and private chaplains in the South Korean military while others have pursued higher education.

As most of you know, we are experiencing unreasonably delayed processing times for our school's I-17 certification from the U. S. Citizens and Immigration Services (USCIS) to accept foreign students into our program. Of course our theological knowledge and the quality of our teaching is what attracts our students, rather than the immigration department's certification. Nevertheless, we do not believe that God's will is to stop the Korean ministry. Rather He is providing the Korean Extension with a new opportunity, possibly to establish the Korean Extension operation in South Korea. ("...and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." NIV Matt. 28:20)

In the last ten years, a number of Korean students were unable to complete our program for various reasons, such as the lack of finances, other personal problems that they have experienced in the U.S., and also to serve a mandatory term in the Korean military. Most students have reassured us that they had plans to return to the U.S. to complete their studies.

Furthermore, many prospective students who I met during my travels to South Korea were eager to enroll into the Korean Extension but later realized the high living cost in the U.S. The difficulty in securing an entry visa from the U.S. Embassy also discouraged them from applying to our program.

Thus, we proposed (and the board approved) establishing an additional Korean Extension branch campus in South Korea besides the Duluth campus, to meet the needs of individuals overseas. It has become clear that the Korean Extension in South Korea will be more effective and successful alongside a campus in the U.S. What is more, future students as well as former students would have the opportunity to complete the program. Also, they will be pleased that they do not have to spend thousands of dollars to travel to a foreign country to hear and learn the truth. In addition, a second campus means that we would not have to undergo strict government regulations including immigration department facility requirements; students are not obligated to take 12 semester hours; proper immigration department documentation of foreign students is not necessary; and we will not have to be certified by USCIS. By establishing a program in South Korea, we can focus more effort and time in developing our Christian curriculum in order to provide the Korean students with meaningful classes. The core value of the Korean Extension, both in the U.S. and South Korea, is to offer Korean students quality Christian instruction, which is what our students are seeking.

Young and I are scheduled to depart on February 4. Once we arrive in South Korea, we will stay in a motel until we find and rent an apartment. We have attained a list of several units from a website, and once we choose an apartment, it should be available to us to move in hopefully between 2/15 and 2/20. The city of Chun-an is located approximately 50 miles south of Seoul. Since we will not purchase a vehicle (maybe rent if necessary), the location is ideal because of its close proximity to public transportation giving us convenient access to travel to three different cities such as Seoul, Dae-jeon, and Chung-ju where the classes will be held in church buildings.

Please continue your support for the Korean mission.

God bless all of you.

41st Annual Christian Workers Seminar



Pigeon Forge,
Tennessee
April 6-11, 2014

This Christian Workers Seminar will focus on Making Christian Education Exciting! Through the eyes of workshop leaders and speakers, you will leave with encouragement, stronger relationships, new information, and better tools to be effective in your ministry. We invite you to come spend the week being trained, challenged, and inspired to continually serve God in your everyday life!

Small Group Leaders

Dennis Baldwin
Joyce Knapp
Dale Ramsey

Greg Demmitt
Joe James
Andy Cisneros

Theme: Making Christian Education Exciting!

Conflict Resolution – Greg Demmitt
**Advancing and Expanding with
Adults** – Kent Ross

Master and Messiah – Joe Martin
Exciting Prophecies – Cathy Cunningham
Making Church Exciting – Andy Cisneros
Strategies for Sharing and Defending Your Faith
– Dan Gill

Remarkable Christians/Tips from Titus – Wally
Winner

Exciting WORD – Dustin Smith

Scripture and Prayer – Vince Finnegan

**The Huge Responsibility of being a Christian:
Destined to Fix the World with Jesus** – Anthony
Buzzard

4 Doctrines I Can't Live Without — Dennis Baldwin

Local Attractions: Dollywood & Dolly's Splash Country, Dixie Stampede, Ripley's Aquarium
of the Smokies, Country Tonite Theater
Enjoy a show and explore the local attractions!
Childcare provided during morning classes (9:30-12:20) and evening service (7:30-9:00)

ABC News

The winter/spring semester at Atlanta Bible College began with 12 new students. Two new courses are being offered this semester: The Messiah/The Christ taught by Dr. Joe Martin and Science and the Bible taught by Bob Jones.

The annual Atlanta Bible College Invitational for prospective students will be held on campus March 20-22. ABC-i is for students (9th grade and up), young adults, and youth workers. We encourage churches to send individuals who will learn more about the college and its programs. Kim Raper can provide more information at kramer@abc-cogc.org or 678-833-1839.

LHI News

The Mission Board met in Atlanta December 6 and 7 for its annual meeting. All mission fields were discussed and plans were discussed of how we can help meet needs and increase outreach to those who are lost.



Pictured l to r are: Judy Myers, chairperson, Tracy Zhykhovich, Rebekah Martin, Rick McClain, Kim and Malachi Raper, Andy Cisneros, and David Krogh.

Haiti Orphans There are 30 children living in the orphanage outside of Port-au-Prince that was built with funds from the Minnesota State Missionary Department. It costs \$30 per month to support each child. We are looking for 30 donors who will provide \$30 per month for one child for the 12 months of 2014. If you will help, please call 678-833-1839.

41st Annual Christian Workers Seminar

April 6-11, 2014

Located at Holiday Inn
3230 Parkway, Pigeon Forge, TN 37868

Registration Deadline is: 3/14/2014

Check in time is at 3 P.M.

Do you give the Church of God General Conference permission to put your address, phone number and e-mail address in a CWS 2014 directory to be distributed to all attendees? **Please circle: Yes / No**

Last Name _____
First Name (s) _____ / _____

Children:

Name _____ Age _____

Name _____ Age _____

Name _____ Age _____

Name _____ Age _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone Number _____

E-mail Address _____

Room Occupant (1) Name _____

Room Occupant (2) Name _____

Room Occupant (3) Name _____

Room Occupant (4) Name _____

If you have special dietary requirements, please notify the college/conference staff, and we will work with the hotel to try to accommodate you.

Adults (x) ____	\$
Children (x) ____	\$
Saturday Night Stay	\$
Subtotal	\$
Any Discounts/Deposits	\$
Registrations Postmarked After 3/14/14 (add \$40 per adult /\$25 per child)	\$
Total due at Christian Workers Seminar	\$

Prices (housing, meals, program)

Children (in parent/guardian room)

0-2 No Cost

3-11 \$129.00 \$25.00 Deposit

12-18 \$199.00 \$25.00 Deposit

Adults

(PER PERSON RATES)

1 per room: \$629.00

2 per room: \$419.00

3 per room: \$349.00

4 per room: \$309.00

Saturday Night: \$84.00 (per room)
(car show weekend)

**\$50 deposit PER ADULT is due
at the time of registration
to receive early discount.**

★5 Easy Ways To Register★

1. E-mail: info@abc-coggc.org
2. Call toll-free: 800.347.4261
3. Complete and mail registration to:
Atlanta Bible College
PO Box 2950
McDonough, GA 30253
4. Fax your registration form to: 678.833.1853
5. Web registration: www.abc-coggc.org
(click General Conference; then click Events)

Submission of this form gives your consent to being filmed and photographed for possible use in a publication, website or video without compensation.

Church News

Baptisms

Illinois

Oregon - Laurie Suter, (10/27/13); Felipe Rodriguez, (11/3/13); Mandi Callaway, (1/5/14); Kaedi Beth Stark, (1/5/14) all by Pastor Michael Hoffman

Missouri

Farmington - Brandon Cooper & Chloe Thomas, (9/8/13) and Dillon Tripp & Lisa Hymer, (9/15/13) by Donna Cooper

Virginia

Front Royal - Marcus and Tyson Funk (9/25/13) by grandfather Dale Ramsey; Christy Jamal (5/26/13), Johnnie (1/13/14), Fern Lockhart (10/6/13), and Lisa Wright (10/30/13) by Pastor Dennis Baldwin

Marriages

Missouri

Church of the Open Bible, Farmington, MO - (7/13/13), Carl Jennings baptized his soon to be son-in-law Cory Condor and five of his friends & relatives in the waters off Florida's Anna Maria Island. Following the baptism, he married Cory and his daughter Corina.

Illinois

Oregon - (5/25/13) - Tim Callaway and Mandi Stark; (6/29/13) - Adam Groenhagen and Brittany Corcoran; (7/23/13) - Jack Heffner and Patsy Perry; (9/7/13) - Bethany Hall and Ryan Carlson; (11/23/13) - Sarah Remour and Frank Rowe by Pastor Michael Hoffman. (10/12/13) - Molly Oltmanns and Joshua Mattus by Jay Smith.

Deaths

Arkansas

Morrilton - Jerry Roberson, 93, (12/15/13), long-time Bible teacher and member of the Cleveland, Arkansas COG, service by Dr. Brian J. Atra.

South Carolina

Bethel Church of God—Julius Reid, (11/4/13) by Pastor Kyle Casey. Hazel Gillespie, (11/27/13).

Iowa

Belle Plaine – Susann Bartz, 85, (10/16/13), member, by Pastor Delbert Rankin.

Waterloo - Darius Clark, 76, (10/29/13), by Delbert Rankin and Dan McGowan.

Georgia

Lawrenceville - Evelyn E. (Burch) Fisher, 95, (10/30/13), long-time member of the North Salem Church of God, Plymouth, IN.

Illinois

Morton - Terri Lea (Driskill) Emmett, 59, (10/26/13), daughter of deceased Pastor Leon Driskill and Deloris Lewis Driskill by Pastor Curt Rowden.

Oregon - James Corcoran, (11/25/13), member. Walter Spangler, 92, (1/15/14), member, by Pastor Michael Hoffman. Margaret Lois Cline, 95, (1/22/14) life-long member of Oregon and Flagg Center churches by Pastor Gordon Landry.

Louisiana

Blood River—Orion R. Anthon, 97 (1/13/14) long-time member. Son of Affred Anthon. Both were great Bible teachers and servants.

Michigan

Grand Rapids - David McClain, 57, (1/15/14), former controller of the General Conference in the early 1980s. Marie Ashley, 88, (8/2/13) former long-time member of the Southlawn Church.

Minnesota

Eden Valley - Edward Kirkpatrick, 90, (7/20/13) long-time member by Tom Fischhaber.

Missouri

Fredericktown - Nina E. Thomas, (9/10/13) by her grandson, Pastor Jon T. Welch.

Overland - Amos Wagganer, 90, (11/28/13) life-long member of Church of God in Missouri.

Ohio

Macedonia - Fred Schuld, Jr., 87, (12/10/13) life-long member of Golden Rule and Bedford, OH churches by Andrew Weaver.

Rocky River - Edith Speer, 78, (1/16/14) long-time member of Golden Rule and Bedford, OH churches.

Cleveland - Judy Hively, (12/24/13) life-long member, former member at Timberland Bible Church in South Bend, IN by David Swartz.

Pastor Available

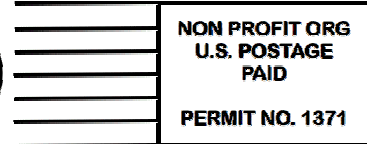
Last fall, Michael Medlock, received a Church of God pastoral license. He currently pastors an Advent Christian Church near Augusta, GA. He is open to pastoring a Church of God congregation. He wrote, "I deeply value the twenty-five years of practical ministry experience gained through pastoring and teaching. I have a degree in pastoral ministries/Biblical studies. I also minister through music. I welcome an opportunity to visit with other churches regarding pastoral ministry opportunities." Pastor Michael Medlock, 229 Flores Lane, Martinez, GA 30907, 606-627-4863, pastormichael53@hotmail.com.

- 1 **Pray for the peace of Jerusalem.**
- 2 Pray for Pastor Tom and Debbie New and the work at McGintytown, Arkansas.
- 3 **Pray for a spirit of unity in the bond of peace.**
- 4 Pray that God will raise up missionary candidates.
- 5 **Pray for preparations being made for Christian Workers Seminar to be held in April.**
- 6 Pray for Gary Burnham, Operations Manager and Ministry Services Network Director of the college/conference.
- 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 Praise God for a new day.
- 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 Pastor 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 the board of directors as they make decisions.**
- 16 Pray for God's blessing on ABC students and staff.
- 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 students attending ABC-I in McDonough, GA**
- 22 Pray for God's blessing on your family.
- 23 **Pray for the leaders of your government.**
- 24 Praise God for your pastor's commitment to ministry.
- 25 **Praise God for those who provide prayer and financial support for the college/conference ministries.**
- 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 Kim Raper, Denise Cramer, and Simone James who provide administrative support at Atlanta Bible College and the Church of God General Conference.
- 29 **Pray for preparations being made for the Theological Conference to be held in May.**
- 30 Praise God for new attendees or members at your local congregation.
- 31 **Pray for the ministry of Lupe Badillo in Mexico.**

April 2014

- 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 Pastor Lesly Bertrand and others who are preaching and teaching in Haiti..**
- 4 Pray for Pastor Curt and Anita Rowden and the East Peoria, Illinois Church.
- 5 **Pray for Anthony Buzzard's correspondence with truth seekers around the world.**
- 6 Pray for God's special blessing on those participating in Christian Workers Seminar, which begins today in Pigeon Forge, Tennessee.
- 7 **Praise God for new life in Christ.**
- 8 Pray for those whose eyes are blinded to the gospel.
- 9 **Pastor for Pastor Mike and Myra Montgomery and the Guthrie Grove Church, Pelzer, South Carolina.**
- 10 Pray for opportunities to witness to those without Jesus as their Savior.
- 11 **Pray for Sam An as he teaches and assists with the administrative work for the ABC Korean Extension.**
- 12 Praise God for the incredible beauty of "new birth" we see every spring!
- 13 **Pray for the ministry of the Abundant Life Community Church in Rockford, Illinois.**
- 14 Pray for the churches in your state/district conference.
- 15 **Pray for the students and staff of Atlanta Bible College.**
- 16 Pray for the ministry of your church elders.
- 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 Praise God for His resurrected Son!
- 21 **Pray for Pastor Michael and Melinda Cisler and the North Kent Bible Church in Rockford, Michigan.**
- 22 Praise God for His faithfulness.
- 23 **Pray for Pastor Darrell and Diana Cardwell and the Macomb, Illinois Church of God.**
- 24 Pray for volunteers to be short-term missionaries this summer.
- 25 **Pray for God's blessings on your next door neighbor(s).**
- 26 Pray that God might use you to lead your family toward an even deeper relationship with Him.
- 27 **Pray for Pastor Steve and Young An as they develop the new ABC extension campus in South Korea.**
- 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.

Atlanta Bible College
Church of God General Conference
2020 Avalon Parkway, Suite 400
McDonough, GA 30253



Address Service Requested

THE RESTITUTION HERALD & PROGRESS JOURNAL is owned and published by Church of God General Conference, 2020 Avalon Parkway, Suite 400, McDonough, GA 30253. Published quarterly. Gary Burnham and Joe Martin, Coordinators; Ruth Finnegan, Publishing Specialist; Robert Jones, Proofreader. Telephone 678-833-1839 or 800-347-4261; FAX 678-833-1853. E-mail Address: info@abc-coggc.org. Website: http://www.abc-coggc.org.

Prayer and Praise

May 2014

- 1 **Pray for the editors of our conference publications.**
- 2 Pray for the Theological Conference being held May 1-5, in Norcross, Georgia.
- 3 **Pray for Pastor Ray and Susan Hall and the Garden Park, Michigan Church of God.**
- 4 Pray for Pastor Charles and Carol Jones and the Pomona, California Church.
- 5 **Pray for the missionary work in Mexico.**
- 6 Pray for the ministry of Pastor Ken and Eva Howe and the Country Chapel, Indiana Church of God.
- 7 **Pray for God to raise up workers for our churches.**
- 8 Pray for believers who are in nursing homes and hospitals.
- 9 **Praise God for new attendees at your local church.**
- 10 Pray for the ministry of Pastor Michael and Linda Hoffman and the Oregon, Illinois Church of God.
- 11 **Praise God for your mother and her influence.**
- 12 Praise God for the strength He provides each day.
- 13 **Pray for Pastor Kyle and Angie Casey and their ministry at the Bethel Church in Pelzer, South Carolina.**
- 14 Pray for the congregation at Omaha, Nebraska, and Pastor Scott and Michele Millard.
- 15 **Pray for healing for someone you know who is in need.**
- 16 Praise God for ABCKE and ABC students as they receive bachelor's degrees, associate's degrees and foundation certificates.
- 17 **Pray for Pastor Johnathan and Lila Wincapaw and the Blood River, Louisiana Church of God.**
- 18 Pray for someone you know who doesn't yet know Jesus Christ as their Savior.
- 19 **Praise God for the faithful work that was provided by our retired pastors and their wives.**
- 20 Pray for Pastor Steve and Jill Taylor and the work at the Lakeshore Bible Church in Temple, Arizona.
- 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 teachers at ABC.**
- 26 Pray for the international students at ABC.
- 27 **Pray for Elder Jim Davis and his wife Betty and the New Family Bible Fellowship in Pueblo West, Colorado.**
- 28 Pray for Church of God members throughout the world as they minister to others.
- 29 **Pray for your next door neighbors.**
- 30 Pray for Pastor Bill and Lacey Dunn and the New Beginnings Church of God in Desloge, Missouri.
- 31 **Praise God for all that He has done and is doing in your life.**

75
YEARS

OREGON/
ATLANTA
BIBLE
COLLEGE

1939
to
2014

Celebrating 75 Years of Service for Christ and the Kingdom of God

94th Annual Church of God

General Conference

July 2-4, 2014

at

Cornerstone Bible Church of God

180 Nail Dr.

McDonough, Georgia

Highlights:

Wednesday Night Cookout

Recalling Significant Events from the Past 75 Years

OBC/ABC Chorale Reunion

Special Activities for the Alumni Association on Saturday

PowerPoint Pictures from the Past

Tour of Avalon Campus and old Morrow Campus

Large Selection of Workshops

Delegate Business Sessions

Good Food and Fellowship

Inspiring Worship Services

Registration Form and Additional Information Inside

THE RESTITUTION HERALD AND PROGRESS JOURNAL

Volume 103, Number 3, May/June/July 2014

I extend a personal note of thanks for all who continue to express prayers for Rebekah's health. She is getting much better. She did take a three-month leave of absence from work. Thank you for your concern. My heart goes out to many families who have lost loved ones in the recent past. Some whom we acknowledge are Bill Burnham, Orion Anthon, Jim Mattison, Carl Jennings, Alva Huffer, Delbert Rankin, etc. Thank God for the "BLESSED HOPE" of the return of Jesus and resurrection of the dead.

We just concluded the Christian Workers Seminar. Because of those involved, it was a great success. Again, thanks to all who participated. Highlights were in the music area: Paul and Dolena Shaw in the evenings, and Dale Ramsey with lots of "COG talent" which included Sir Anthony on the oboe, and Dennis Baldwin and others with specials. Also special thanks need to go to Kim Raper, Joyce Knapp and others who worked to make it an exciting event. Our special guests, Vince and Mimi Finnegan, were a blessing again.

Jack Kmiecik, one of our graduating seniors at ABC this year, gave a great sermon, "Going Global, by Starting Local." The wonderful work of Sharon and Dan Gill to record many of the classes and messages are a blessing. You can visit www.21stcr.org to view some of the latest postings.

Our thoughts and prayers are also with Steve and Young An as they are now in Korea working to establish connections for the beginning of a Korean ABC next fall. Steve is sending us weekly reports and is doing well. He has reconnected with many former students from the ABCKE in Duluth that have returned home. The board has given the current CBA, Church Builder's Appeal, to this effort. We have had great responses in donations from the members of the Church Builder's League.

At this point, we are still "in process" with INS/ Department of Homeland Security) in regard to recertification to receive international students at our campuses. David Krogh, as the PDSO (Primary Designated School Official) has been

diligent in responding to all the governmental requests. We have now had several personal contacts and names from the "Update Team" in charge of this. Please continue prayers for this as well. The extended deadline is May 28, but we are meeting other requests in the meantime. (See page 9 for further update).



"Missions is still on our minds!" For about three months, we have had limited contact with our Africa contacts in Malawi and Mozambique due to health situations. However, recently there has been a flurry of e-mails about activity. The Malawi board had a major meeting in April and sent a report to Rebekah. Our liaison there, Linda Limbe, also sent Rebekah and the LHI board several reports. We continue to hear from other areas as well.

ABC graduation is scheduled for May 16. ABC Korean Extension will be hosting Steve An for a class this summer, shortly before General Conference. Steve will give a report there in July. As a reminder, from the cover, this is the 75th anniversary of Oregon/Atlanta Bible College!!! Please consider coming and celebrating with us, July 2-4 at Cornerstone Bible Church in McDonough, GA. The Alumni Association is also preparing some special events for Saturday, July 5 (see page 5).

Theological Conference is May 1-4. I have appreciated the scholarship of many who are turning to the biblical truths we hold near and dear. Some are Kermit Zarley, Dale Tuggy, Joel Hemphill, etc. LaBreeska Hemphill is recovering from surgery on a large brain tumor. Continue to pray for her. On a point of interest, Anthony Buzzard was noted in recent book, *The Only True God*, by James McGrath. Remember, ALL "...will know that I am the LORD / YHWH" is quoted 77 times. We are just helping people know that now. "This is eternal life" ... to know Him and His Son. (Jn. 17:3) ■

Prophecy Page

By Wally Winner

The Blood Moon series of 2014 and 2015 is generating a significant amount of speculation that these could be signs connected with the second coming of Jesus Christ.

These four consecutive total lunar eclipses are known as a “blood moon tetrad.” What calls attention to this series is that they fall on the same Jewish Feast days in the next two years. They fall on Passover (April 15, 2014, April 4, 2015), the first of the seven annual Jewish feasts, and the Feast of Tabernacles (October 8, 2014, September 28, 2015), which is the last of the seven annual Jewish feasts as given in Leviticus 23. We also have a solar eclipse that will occur on the first day of the religious New Year on the Jewish calendar, Nisan 1, which is March 20 in 2015.

Blood moons are when the moon appears red due to lunar eclipses. They occur when the earth is positioned between the sun and the moon. The earth’s shadow blocks the sun’s light, which would normally reflect off the moon. The delicate layer of dusty air surrounding our planet reddens and redirects the light of the sun, filling the dark behind the earth with a sunset-red glow. This is in contrast to a solar eclipse where the moon is positioned between the earth and the sun causing darkness.

Israel has long felt that the Blood Moons bring disaster to them. The Jewish Talmud says: “When the moon is in eclipse, it is a bad omen for Israel. If its face is as red as blood, (it is a sign that) the sword is coming to the world.

According to this tradition: Lunar Eclipse = bad omen for the Jewish people and Israel; Blood Moon = sword coming; Solar Eclipse = bad omen.

Historically, these have happened only eight times in 2000 years. It is the tetrads that fell on Jewish Feast days that seem to validate the Talmud. It happened before the destruction of Temple/ Jerusalem A.D. 70. The tetrads of A. D. 1493-1494 coincided with the Spanish Inquisition. It occurred 1949-1950 while Israel was establishing

its statehood. It appeared again in 1967-1968 when Israel regained the Temple Mount.

While all this looks ominous for the Jews and nation of Israel, could it be the fulfillment of Joel 2:31: “The sun will be given over to darkness, and the moon to blood, before the coming of the great and terrifying Day of the Lord.” (ISV)

Here are two events described by one verb. The sun turns dark, and the moon turns red, both at the same time. There are not two actions going on at the same time, one affecting the sun and one affecting the moon. There is only one event going on, and it’s affecting both heavenly bodies at the same time.

Joel doesn’t predict four lunar eclipses that will come a year apart. There’s only one event: the darkening of the sun, followed by a red hue coming to moonlight. The red hue is coming from a startling and terrifying diminished output of visible light from the sun itself that causes the moon to turn red in appearance.

This seems to be in harmony with the corresponding passage as found in Matthew 24:29: “Now immediately after the troubles of those days, the sun will be darkened, the moon will not reflect its light, the stars will fall from the sky, and the powers from the heavens will be disrupted.” (See also Revelation 6:12)

What Jesus said regarding the sun and moon does not seem to match current views about the events surrounding His return. Notice that:

First, the sun and moon being struck appears at the end of the time of trouble, not before it begins.

Second, the stars throughout the universe will fall from their courses (comet ISON is on its way this fall and may be seen by the naked eye during the daytime). Heavenly “powers” (whatever that may entail, the text doesn’t say) will be disrupted.

Third, after all of these events occur Christ descends from heaven.

Watch therefore, for you do not know what hour your Lord is coming... Therefore you also be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect. (Matthew 24:42, 44, NKJV) ■

Nomination for the Board of Directors

At General Conference, one director will be elected to the board of directors. The term of Alan Cain expires. He may not be nominated. Currently we have one nominee. One additional nominee is required according to Article IV of the constitution.

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 at least three months before the meeting, and will be published by the most effective means of general communications at least one month before the meeting.

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.

Scott Millard

Pastor of the Jaynes Street Church of God, Omaha, Nebraska.

Married 39 years to wife Shelly and we have 3 grown sons.

I am the great-great grandson of Almus Adams. Almus was an early Church of God pastor in Nebraska who travelled extensively to preach and lead Bible studies. I am at least a fifth generation member of the Church of God. I grew up in the church and was taught early on to order my life to the teachings of Christ. I have served in ministry as a Sunday School teacher, elder and pastor since 1976.

- A 1976 graduate of Oregon Bible College
- Internship with the Happy Woods Church in Hammond, LA under Pastor Vernis Wolfe 1976-1977

(Continued on page 5)

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION CELEBRATION

(Continued from page 4)

- Received Masters of Divinity from Brite Divinity School of Texas Christian University 1977-1980
- Pastor of the Royal Village Church, Front Royal, VA 1980-1982
- Pastor of the Pennellwood Church of God, Grand Rapids, MI 1982-1987
- Went into the family auto parts business where I worked in management for 10 years. Sold the business in 1997.
- Worked in real estate, selling residential homes from 1997-2012.
- Became pastor of the Omaha Church in 2012 when Pastor Scott Ross retired.

While we in the Church of God have a unique message, the primary reason why our college and conference exists is to spread the gospel of Jesus Christ and to make disciples as we have been commissioned. I believe Atlanta Bible College primarily exists to prepare both lay and pastoral leaders for our churches, and the primary mission of the General Conference should be to help our local churches accomplish their ministries and to communicate the gospel to a world in need of salvation.

The next four years will be crucial as we undergo possible leadership changes at our college and conference. It will be essential that we obtain the best qualified people to lead us into the future. We will need to develop and work a succession plan for this leadership.

Due to cost constraints, we may be required to examine different ways to train and educate our future leaders. Are there ways to use technologies to promote the truths of the scriptures which we haven't yet tapped?

While steeped in the Church of God, I think I bring a different perspective in how we minister to a very diverse world. As a conference we need to ask "what are people in our world looking for?" How can the church address the needs of people in this generation? We believe Christ is the answer, but how do we frame Him in a way that will communicate His message to meet their concerns? I hope I can help us meet these challenges.

Additional nominations may be submitted to CAO Dr. Joe Martin prior to Conference and they will be emailed to pastors and churches. Or nominations may be made at the business session at Conference.

The Oregon/Atlanta Bible College Alumni Association has planned a schedule of special activities for Saturday, July 5:

8:45 a.m.—meet at [Cornerstone Church](#) for continental breakfast

9:30 a.m.—travel to [World of Coca Cola](#)—tour takes about two hours.

Seniors 65+ \$14.00

Adult 13-64 \$16.00

Youth 3-12 \$12.00

Toddler 0-2 free with adult

Noon—lunch at the [CNN Center Food Court](#) (within walking distance from Coke Museum) - Restaurants include Arby's, Chick-fil-A, China Breeze, Fresh to Order, Great Wraps, Moe's and many others

1:00 p.m.—[Georgia Aquarium](#) (within walking distance of CNN Center). Group rate requires 25 people arriving at the same time.

	Regular Rate	Group Rate
Senior 65+	\$31.95	\$28.95
Adult 13-64	\$35.95	\$31.95
Child 3-12	\$29.95	\$26.95

3:30 p.m.—travel to [Braves Stadium—Atlanta Braves vs. Arizona Diamondbacks](#)—game time is 4:10

7:00 p.m. (or whenever game is over) travel to [Stone Mountain for Lasershow Spectacular and Fireworks Show in the evening](#). The July 3-5 fireworks display is called by Reader's Digest "America's Most Spectacular Fourth of July Fireworks."

Entrance and Parking per car is \$10. (15 passenger vans are \$20)

Plan to join us for all or part of the day. This will be a great time to reconnect with classmates and instructors. Please let one of the officers know if you can come so the breakfast and transportation can be arranged:

Amanda Jacinto—Amanda.Jacinto@newellco.com

Jillian Lasky—jillian.ramsey@gmail.com

David Krogh—dkrogh@abc-coggc.org

Good News

Like cold water to a weary soul, So is good news from a distant land. Proverbs 25:25

From **Glad Tidings Church of God in Fonthill, Ontario, Canada** – **Pastor Michael Brown** announced that the September Prophecy Rally/Kids Bible Camp was a rousing success. Over 100 people attended one or more of the sessions. **Pastor Steve Taylor** of Arizona was guest speaker and workshop presenter. The theme for the adults was Hope for Uncertain Times. The kids' weekend theme was Colossal Coaster World – Facing Fear, Trusting God. There were lots of activities in the church garage and in tents on a beautiful fall weekend.

From **Lawrenceville Church of God in Springfield, OH** – Youth leaders **Jill and Gary Hedges** report that a whopping \$4,175 was donated to the 30-hour youth famine for World Vision to feed the hungry! [Congratulations from GNP! That's the way to show love to all people in a very big and practical way!]

From **Cleveland Church of God in Cleveland, Arkansas** – Happy Birthday greetings to **Lucille Scroggins**, who reached the century milestone. **Dr. Brian Atra** presented a special service for her 100th birthday, and there were people visiting from four different states. **Jeannette White** wrote a moving piece which was read at the service. In remarkable health, Lucille continues to be a regular attender at the church. Congratulations!!

From the **Troy View Church of God in Troy, OH** – We have another 100th birthday to announce. **Myrrl Schellhaas** recently celebrated her century birthday. There was a celebration at Koester Pavilion on February 8. Congratulations to Myrrl!

From **Eden Valley Church of God in Eden Valley, MN** – **Pastor Tom Fischhaber** announces a new Sunday School class that will meet *after* the worship service. The class will be led by Lynn Piram, and it is especially for ages 4-12. During the social hour, the children have stories, songs, fun, and snacks with a goal of building stronger Christian foundations in the children. [Sounds like a great idea. – GNP]

From **Maple Grove Community Church in Kokomo, IN** – The church has launched Advantage

Housing to provide quality affordable housing in the community. The ministry has grown to nearly 30 units used to help people transition out of homelessness. This spring the church is partnering with other local agencies to provide the community's first transitional housing for homeless teenagers. For more information, contact **Pastor Dale Bliss** at 765-271-2435.

From **Glad Tidings Church of God in Fonthill, Ontario, Canada** – Other activities at the church have been a youth bowling night, a movie night at the church to watch "Courageous," Halloween fun at Howell's Pumpkin Patch, Harvest of Blessings dinner, a kids' Christmas program/play entitled "The Reason for the Season," and many successful fund-raisers.

From **Bethel Church of God in Pelzer, SC** – **Pastor Kyle Casey** and the church congratulate **Willman and Martha Gentry** who celebrated their 61st wedding anniversary on January 21. The couple also celebrated birthdays recently, Willman 82 on March 24 and Martha 84 on February 19. Several of the church ladies enjoyed relaxing weekends at Myrtle Beach, SC for the Bethel Ladies Retreat in January and at Flat Rock, NC in March for the Carolina Conference Women's Retreat. And the youth enjoyed a Winter Ski Retreat at Blowing Rock, NC in February.

From **Cornerstone Bible Church in McDonough, GA** – **Pastor Dave Riley** and the church celebrated the annual "What If?" Sunday on March 23. CBC welcomed guests who had come to Atlanta Bible College for ABC-i, and many people returned to their Cornerstone home. Those who attended could see what the church would look like if everyone who called CBC home came to church that Sunday. The total attendance was 192, putting a huge smile on Pastor Dave's face.

From the **GNP desk** – Remember to send in the names of your milestone anniversary or birthday people. We want to celebrate the milestones along with them, and we want everyone in COG-Land to know about it. [**PLEASE** help us out! – GNP]

Hey, there COGLand! GNP wants to hear what YOUR good news is! We know there's good news everywhere, so send us e-mails, bulletins, phone calls, etc. to tell us your good news. PLEASE SEND YOUR GOOD NEWS, and we'll put you in print.—Robert L. Jones



Kingdom Quest, the Church of God General Conference curriculum for children and teens, is available without charge at AbrahamFaith.org. For preschool (ages 3-5) there are six units with several quarters of seasonal lessons (Christmas and Easter); for primary (ages 6-8), elementary (ages 9-12), and teen (ages 13+), there are ten units each in addition to the seasonal lessons. Printed copies are no longer available through the General Conference.

Several volumes of the Truth Seekers Adult Quarterly are also available at AbrahamFaith.org. A teacher's guide is also available.

The adult quarterly is in its 88th year of publication. It is available in print from the General Conference for \$4.75 per quarter. The teacher's guide is available for \$6.00 per quarter.

There are many booklets and tracts at AbrahamFaith.org on a variety of topics.



ABC Update

The annual ABC Invitational was held March 20-22 with many prospective students and sponsors present.

The winter/spring semester is coming to a close with the 71st graduation service on May 16. Pastor Rufus Meyers will deliver the commencement address. Three students will receive a Bachelor of Theology degree: Jack Kmiecik from the Jaynes Street Church in Omaha, NE; John Obi and Julius Ross, local students. Bethany Resise from Rhode Island will receive the Associates degree in Theology and Ministry. Jesse Allen, Morse Mill, MO; Stephanie Blanchard, Pine Grove Church, MN; Joel Fletcher, currently from the Blood River Church, LA; Nathan Massie and Jacob Rohrer of the Lawrenceville Church, OH will receive Foundation Certificates.

The Korean Extension graduation will be held July 7 while Steve An is in the states from South Korea.

The board of directors has approved free tuition for the next school year for students affiliated with Churches of God who belong to the General Conference. Students interested in applying should

contact Kim Raper at 678-833-1839 or kraper@abc-coggc.org.

Pastor Sean Finnegan was on campus April 7-11 to teach Principles of Evangelism and Church History I.



THE RESTITUTION HERALD & PROGRESS JOURNAL
VOLUME 103 NUMBER 2
May/June/July 2014 ©2014

Publishing Specialist: Ruth Finnegan
 Proofreader: Robert Jones
 Coordinators: Gary Burnham, David Krogh, and Joe Martin

Address editorial correspondence to: THE RESTITUTION HERALD, ATTN: Joe Martin, 2020 Avalon Parkway, Suite 400, McDonough, GA 30253.

I have been reading through Jeremiah, and I see that God is jealous for His worship. He does not tolerate idolatry, and compares it to adultery and harlotry! That is a serious charge! However, there are many supposedly “Christian” systems out there that are differing over the issue of the identity of the only true God. And they really don’t seem to even be slightly concerned with this issue!

But it troubles me. Jesus said that he was “the way, the truth, and the life,” and that no one comes to the Father but through Him. And so I am wondering to myself, if we don’t have the “right” Jesus, will we be led to the “right” Father, the only true God?

It seems to me, based on my understanding of the Bible and the historical beliefs of Judaism and Christianity, that often we have not been led to the true God. In many systems, Jesus has been exalted to the position of Almighty God. If he is the Almighty God, this is not a problem. But if he is not the Almighty God, this is idolatry and blasphemes the only true God.

I think that much of the confusion over this issue stems from a misunderstanding of the term “Son of God.” When applied to Jesus, this term is synonymous with other messianic titles such as Christ, Messiah, or Son of Man. All of these titles refer to the one who was appointed by God as the anointed king of the future kingdom of God. It does not mean that Jesus was God. This would violate the Jewish understanding of the Messiah.

The expected Messiah was to be a man, a prophet from among his brethren, the people of Israel (Deut 18:15-19). He would be a literal descendant of David and reign on the throne of David over the kingdom of God until the day when he hands it over to His Father.

This is made explicitly clear in Psalm 110, which is a purely messianic psalm and applied to Jesus in the New Testament, by himself and others, over twenty times. Psalm 110:1 says “The LORD says to my lord: “Sit at my right hand until I make your enemies a footstool for your feet.” This verse is



translated correctly by the NIV, for it denotes the second “lord” in all lowercase letters, which accurately reflects the Hebrew unlike the traditional translation “Lord.” This verse makes a distinction between two lords: the Lord God who is YHWH, and the lord Messiah who is Jesus. The Hebrew word that is translated “lord” is *adoni*, which means “my lord.” *Adoni* is never applied to the Lord God, although it is frequently applied to human lords, like King David, and even angelic beings in some cases.

Therefore, it can be seen that Messiah was understood to be man, and not God. However, it must be acknowledged that the Messiah was no ordinary man, for he was born of a virgin by the power of God. Thus, Jesus is the Messiah, God’s only begotten (uniquely born) son, the man appointed as the future king of the earthly kingdom of God. ■

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

July 2-4—94th Annual General Conference and 75th Anniversary of Atlanta Bible College Cornerstone Bible Church, McDonough, GA

July 20-25—FUEL Youth Program, Manchester University, Indiana

Sept. 18-20—Heritage Conference, North Hills Church, Springfield, OH

Dear Brothers and Sisters of the COGGC,

I want to personally thank you for your continued support for the Korean ministry. Most of you may already know about the recent addition to the Korean Extension. We are in the process of establishing classes in South Korea beginning in the fall, which will start August 2014.

Currently, there are three Korean Conference member churches in South Korea in Seoul, Dae-jeon city, and Chung-ju city, and they are providing support to our Korean Extension in numerous ways. All three church pastors, including the congregation, are assisting me by offering up their church facility, religiously advertising, and helping with recruitment. In addition, former Korean Extension students and graduates are also assisting in the efforts.

Initially, I will facilitate the classes at the three different locations rotating the schedule in order to meet the needs of the students. In this way, the students can choose a convenient location until we have established a firm location.

Presently we are holding Bible study classes at the churches (future campuses) on Wednesdays in Seoul, Saturdays in Dae-jeon City, and Sundays in Chung-ju City. I am facilitating the classes, not just as a means to present the Abrahamic Faith, but also for the purpose of advertising and recruiting in those areas.

It is somewhat ironic that Young and I immigrated to the United States 35 year ago, and we have returned with the truth to life and how to attain eternal life. It is quite difficult to put into words on how to express my excitement, joy, and happiness.

Most of Korean Christians are zealous for God. The issue has already been prophesied by God, "My people are destroyed from lack of knowledge" (NIV Hos. 4:6), and the idea has already been confirmed by the apostle Paul, "For I can testify about them that they are zealous for God, but their zeal is not based on knowledge" (NIV Rom. 10:2).

It is sad, but my family and I believed in the same faith similar to Paul when he practiced Judaism.

Paul met Jesus on the way to Damascus, and he was delivered from blind faith to the truth. After that, his heart was transformed into his own people, "For I could wish that I myself were cursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my brothers, those of my own race" (NIV Rom 9:3).

Please accept my appreciation for delivering me from blind faith to the light of truth and returning me to my people, so I can pass along the same lesson.

God bless!

Steve An

Update on Recertification

On April 22, the Department of Immigration and Naturalization finally approved the updates that Atlanta Bible College submitted in March 2013. This clears the way for us to submit the package of information required for recertification. We continue to have confidence that our certification will be renewed so that we can continue to admit international students who have secured an F-1 visa.

We also have been notified that INS has approved regional representatives who will assist colleges and universities with any issues connected with international students. We have been in contact with our representative and look forward to having a local person available to provide assistance.

We are thankful to all who have prayed during the past 15 months for our recertification.

Church Builders Appeal

Church Builders Appeal #112 (spring appeal) has been issued on behalf of the expenses connected with establishing an Atlanta Bible College campus in South Korea. Thanks to all who have already responded generously to this appeal. We look forward to hearing from many others.

The Go Serve Team left late Thursday evening, March 6. Jaymin Cheatwood valiantly drove our 15-passenger van through the night, safely delivering the nine-member Go Serve Team to their first destination: Oregon, Illinois. Upon arrival, the team was greeted by their gracious hosts: the Guthries, Talon's parents, and Kim's dad, who took them home, where (most of them) promptly fell asleep.



Go Serve Team in Oregon

The team rested on Friday after their long journey and spent time with their host families. In the evening, the team visited the famous Alfano's Pizza and enjoyed some delicious pizza and time with family and friends.

On Saturday, we visited the East Oregon Chapel. Some of us gained some new life skills and learned how to work together as we helped perform some building improvement projects for the church. Half of the team laid laminate flooring in a classroom with Jim Moyer, while the other half tackled the nursery, stripping old wallpaper to prep the room for painting. The team then painted the room a pale bluish-purple, giving the place a whole new look. Al Musch, Kimberly Raper, and April Foster all pitched in and worked diligently on the nursery as well, so that it was ready for Sunday morning. After a hard day's work, the team enjoyed a fantastic spaghetti dinner prepared by Al Musch and got to spend time and build relationships with the folks who attended the game night hosted by the East Oregon Chapel. A great time was had by all.



Go Serve Team raking leaves!

adopt the attitude of Christ, the humble servant who laid down his life out of love for us. (Note: The full sermon is available on YouTube, the first new video searching under Bethany Reise). On Sunday afternoon, the team was blessed with the opportunity to rest and play at Nash, an

On Sunday morning, part of the team went to the Oregon Church of God and the rest went to the East Oregon Church of God. Stephanie Blanchard gave her testimony at Oregon while Nathan Massie helped lead worship at East Oregon. Bethany Reise preached at East Oregon on John 13:34-35 and challenged hearers to

incredible community center with a huge workout room and a pool, for just a dollar each. In the evening, the team greatly appreciated the delicious chicken alfredo meal, skillfully prepared by Chris Foster.

Monday morning the team headed to Carpenter's Place to serve breakfast to the homeless. The team helped prepare and serve food to the guests. After serving, they were privileged to spend time with the guests and hear some of their stories. Much love was shared, and many fears and stereotypes were broken down as the students interacted with the homeless.

Afterwards, the team was given a tour of Carpenter's Place. The team then helped unload some supplies from the Salvation Army, organize and stock donated items. During this time the team had the opportunity to learn about how Carpenter's Place came to be and the incredible impact they have on the community. By chance (or design) we happened to meet a young man at a gas station who had benefited from the services of Carpenter's Place and got to see the effect of their work firsthand. I think that it is safe to say we were all inspired by the mission of the facility: "Carpenter's Place provides the tools necessary for rebuilding the lives of homeless adults. Inspired by Christ's compassion, Carpenter's Place offers direction with accountability to people with broken lives, helping them find peace with God, themselves and their communities."

Later, the team was blessed by John and Gayle Guthrie and the East Oregon Chapel who provided the opportunity to see the new movie "Son of God." The students enjoyed the time of fellowship and the opportunity to see and reflect on a film based on (albeit loosely at times) the life of our Savior. In the evening, we were graciously hosted by Joyce Noon, who with the help of her daughter, cooked a wonderful dinner for us.

(Continued on page 11)

(Continued from page 10)

On Tuesday, part of the team went to the Mt. Morris Nursing Home and the other half served at Oregon Senior Center. The team that served in Mt. Morris cleaned wheelchairs and helped with paperwork, while those serving at the Oregon Senior Center helped set-up, serve and then clean-up after the monthly birthday bash and bingo party. Both teams were blessed by the opportunity to serve the elderly and connect with the older generation. After this, a couple of students were able to visit some of the elderly women from the East Oregon Church of God. In the evening, the team share a time of fellowship and yet another delicious meal with the Cheatwood family. As always, Jaymin's pies were a hit.

Due to illness and inclement weather, the team opted to extend their stay in Oregon, Illinois for a day longer. The team was grateful for the continued hospitality of their hosts and spent the day working at the East Oregon Church, vacuuming the church and cleaning walls. In the evening, the team fellowshiped and participated in some of the Bible studies that were going on. Bethany Reise and Jesse Allen were able to serve as teachers in the absence of one of the regular children's teachers. They were excited to put some of their college training into action as they shared the good news of the kingdom of God with the 4th-6th graders, who soaked it right up and were curious to know more.

By Thursday morning, the weather and illness had cleared up sufficiently enough to allow the team to begin the trek to Lawrenceville, Ohio. The team arrived safely at the Abbey in the evening. The team was grateful for the kindness and hospitality of the Cain family, with whom they stayed. Later that evening, they enjoyed a wonderful Chipotle-style meal at the Abbey, graciously provided by Mark and Kay Seale.

On Friday morning, the team went off to work. They once again put their painting skills into action at Troy View Church, where they painted a large classroom and the nursery under the direction of Dan Cain. Instead of watching the paint dry, the team travelled to the home of a man whose



Spaghetti Dinner!

yard had been littered with debris from a recent flood and assisted in the clean-up process. Afterwards, the team appreciated lunch, which was provided by Harry and Diana Bashore. In the evening, the team was blessed by the hospitality of the Moore family, who invited the team over for fellowship and a delicious lasagna dinner. It was certainly a blessing. Afterward, the team enjoyed an evening at the Abbey with the

Cain family and watched a movie with them.

On Saturday, the team helped to set up a shed at the Lawrenceville Church of God. Though the wind was blowing hard and the walls were heavy, the team was able to help erect the shed. In the afternoon, Tink and Joyce Newnam hosted the team for lunch, before the team went to do more work at Troy View Church. Afterwards, the team spent time doing more yard work and putting a second coat of paint on the walls. In the evening, the team helped serve at Troy View's spaghetti dinner, which was to raise money for the 30 Hour Famine. After the dinner, Nathan Massie, Paige Montgomery, and Stephanie Blanchard helped lead worship during the short service afterwards.



Team at East Oregon Chapel with Pastor John Guthrie

On Sunday morning, Nathan Massie preached a challenging message about boldness at the Lawrenceville Church of God. One person came forward to accept Christ, as God worked through him. Stephanie Blanchard and Paige Montgomery helped to lead worship. At Troy View, Jonathan Foster preached a sermon from John 14, which reminded hearers that Jesus is our way to the Father and that we can have hope and comfort because he is coming back again. Bethany shared her testimony about how God led her to ABC, while Talon Paul and Jesse Allen shared more information about the opportunities that are available through ABC. Afterwards, the team packed up and headed home and arrived safely that same evening.

A big thank you goes out to all of you who supported the Go-Serve Team, through diligent prayers, financial support, and incredible hospitality. Thank you for the opportunities that you gave us to build relationships with you and your churches. Thank you for the privilege to speak God's word at your churches and to share times of fellowship with you.

Thank you also to Jaymin Cheatwood for driving and being a wonderful source of encouragement, love, and fun during the whole trip.

Thanks also go out to Amanda Jacinto, who was a huge help and oversaw much of the preparation and action in Oregon, Illinois.

A final thank you goes out to Kim Raper as well, who not only made all of the preparations for the trip, but also courageously traveled with the team with her beautiful five-month-old son, Malachi. (Malachi also deserves some thanks because he was an excellent traveler and didn't cry the entire time!)—Bethany Reise

Join us for
94th Annual Church of God General Conference
July 2-4, 2014
Cornerstone Bible Church, McDonough, GA

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 below that are close to the Cornerstone Church, but you may choose any hotel you desire in the area or make other arrangements. Please notice that rates listed are good only for a limited time.

1. Please fill out the following form. Rates are per person.
2. If today's date is June 23 or later, please add \$25.00 to your total.
3. Mail this form to: General Conference 2014, Box 2950, McDonough, GA 30253
4. Or register online at www.abc-coggc.org (or contact Kim Raper 678-833-1839)
5. Please tell us if you have any dietary restrictions for the meals

Name _____ Day Phone _____

Cell Phone _____ E-mail _____

Street _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Attending July 2 Cookout at Cornerstone at 5:00 p.m.? Y ___ or N ___ (Cost is \$6 if not registered for meals)

Pastor Discount? (10%) Y ___ or N ___ Home Church _____

Fees: Adults—\$99.00 per person
 Children 6 to 12—\$35.00 per child Age(s) _____
 Commuters: No Meals—\$35.00

Do you give COGGC permission to put your information in event directory? Y _____ or N _____

The program will begin July 2 with a late afternoon cookout and evening service. Thursday and Friday will include a complete schedule of workshops, worship services, meetings of the Ministers, Priscillas, Alumni Association, Ministers Retirement Association and delegate business sessions. The conference will conclude after the Friday evening service.

Hotel Information Please call the hotel directly and mention you are with Atlanta Bible College in order to secure these rates.

Best Western - 770-898-1006; 805 Industrial Blvd, McDonough Exit 218 off I-75; \$79 plus tax for king bed or two queens; full hot breakfast; price good until June 9. After that, subject to availability.

Holiday Inn Express - 678-782-1100; 1315 Highway 20 West, McDonough; Exit 218 off I-75; \$89 plus tax for king bed or two queens; full hot breakfast; price good until June 9. After that, subject to availability.

Fairfield Inn - 770-305-0180; 30 Mill Road; Exit 221 off I-75; \$92 plus tax for king bed or two queens; full breakfast; price good until June 9. After that, subject to availability.

Adults at \$99 per person	\$
Children ages 6 to 12 at \$35 per person	\$
Commuters, no meals at \$35 per person	\$
Subtotal	\$
Pastor Discount—subtract 10%	\$
non-refundable less \$25 deposit per person	\$ \$25.00
Registration on or after June 23, 2014 add \$25	
Total due at Conference	\$

Church Information: Cornerstone Church, 180 Nail Dr., McDonough, GA 30253 (Kim Raper 404-791-7662)

94th Annual Church of God General Conference
July 2-4, 2014 Cornerstone Bible Church of God
Theme: Celebrating 75 Years of Oregon/Atlanta Bible College

Wednesday – July 2

3:00 — 5:00 Chorale Practice; Visit ABC Building;
Visit old Morrow Campus
3:00 – Conference Registration
5:00 – Cook Out - Sponsored by Cornerstone
7:00 – Evening Worship Service – David Krogh,
speaker
8:30 – Reception; Meeting of Atlanta Bible College
Development Foundation Board

Thursday – July 3

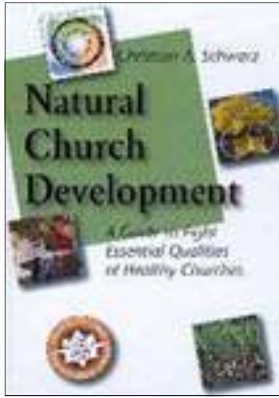
Breakfast on your own
8:00 – Chorale Practice
9:00 – Morning Worship – Warren Sorenson, speaker
10:15 – Workshops
1. Ministers Association Meeting
2. The Muslim Threat - Jack Kmiecik
3. Church for the Unchurched - Wally Winner
4. Why It Matters What We Believe - Kent
Ross
5. Hands - What Do You Do with Your
Hands and What Do We Do as His
Hands? - Bill Dunn
11:00 – Break
11:15 – Workshops
1. Ministers Association Meeting
2. The Blood Moons - Tom New
3. How to Balance Life, Family, Work, and
Church - Dan Cain
4. Priscilla Meeting
5. Conquerors in the Apocalypse of John -
Dustin Smith
6. Meeting of Atlanta Bible College Devel-
opment Foundation Board
12:15 – Lunch
1:30 – Chapel – Drama of Significant Events in the
Life of the College - Nola Jones
2:15 – Workshops
1. Ministers Association Meeting
2. The Path - Living Life on Purpose - Julie
Driskill
3. History of the Bible Training Class
(forerunner of OBC/ABC) - David Krogh
4. Purpose Driven Church: Six Models of the
Church - Graysen Pack
5. Passion in Ministry - Kyle Casey
3:00 — Break
3:15 – Business Session (ends at 5:15)
5:30 – Dinner
7:00 – Evening Worship - Jack Kmiecik, speaker
8:45 – Meeting of Alumni Association

Friday – July 4

Breakfast on your own
8:00 – Chorale Practice
9:00 – Morning Worship – Ministerial Recognition
Board and Ministers Association Leadership
Team Recognitions
10:15 – Workshops:
1. Ministers Association Meeting
2. Bible Study Methods - Bob Jones
3. Natural Church Development - Gary Burn-
ham
4. Balancing on a Toothpick (Youth Minis-
try) - Chris Lucas
5. The Sad News and Good News About the
Future in Israel and the Kingdom - An-
thony Buzzard
6. Ministry from Next Gen Perspective - Jake
Ballard
11:00 – Break
11:15 – Workshops:
1. Ministers Association
2. Women in Ministry - Rebekah Martin
3. Conflict Resolution - Greg Demmitt
4. Ministry in the Black Community - Rufus
Meyers
5. Introduction to Church of God Archives -
Jan Stilson
6. Open Forum with Board of Directors
12:15 – Lunch
1:30 – Chapel—Steve An, speaker; Communion
2:15 – Workshops
1. Ministers Association Meeting
2. Drama in Worship - Nola Jones
3. Prophecy Topic - Paul Moore
4. How to Package the Message of the King-
dom - Tom Fischhaber
5. Maintaining Joy in the Midst of Trials -
Merry Peterson
6. Chorale Practice
3:00 — Break
3:15 – Business Session (ends at 4:15)
4:30 – Board of Directors' meeting
5:30 – Dinner (Board meets over dinner in a separate
room)
7:00 – Evening Worship; Installation of Board of Di-
rectors; Joe Martin, speaker
8:30 — Meeting of Ministers Retirement Association

Saturday - July 5

Activities planned by the Alumni Association -
see separate schedule on page 5



Natural Church Development (NCD)

This feature in THE RESTITUTION HERALD & Progress Journal highlights concepts from NCD. Rather than focus on a church's growth statistics, NCD is a tool designed to help a church focus attention and effort on its health.

Is Your Evangelism Need-oriented?

This article is the seventh of eight articles offering an extended view into each of the eight quality characteristics of Natural Church Development. The seventh quality is Need-oriented Evangelism.

While it can be said that most churches make at least some attempt at evangelism, the primary point of concern in this article is whether or not those attempts to evangelize are need-oriented.

A review of Jesus' ministry shows that almost without exception Jesus first met the need of a person or group of persons. Only then did He communicate about who He was and about His call on their life. Bottom line? Need-meeting preceded the message-giving. Is that how it works for you personally and for your church? Or, do you typically lead with the message first, failing to address a need in the person's life?

Need-meeting paves the way for message-giving!

NCD measures four critical components for churches seeking to build and maintain need-oriented evangelism.

The first component measures the friendliness of your church. How well do your church folks meet and receive new folks with a high degree of openness and acceptance? As church events are developed, do they proactively include plans to welcome new folks and build relationships with them? When a new person comes to your church, how are they welcomed, how do they find their

way around, and how are they included? How does your church make it easy for new folks to build valuable relationships with others?

The second component evaluates your church's corporate evangelistic efforts. How do you help new believers establish a strong, growing faith? How does your church identify, equip, encourage and send out those with the gift of evangelism? In what ways does your church identify specific needs in the community around your building? What opportunities exist, and what avenues are built to help meet those identified needs?

The third component considers the level of personal evangelism in your church. How does your church encourage and assist folks to have contact with unchurched people in your community? What guidance do you provide to help folks discover and implement their personal evangelism style? In what way does your church help people identify the "pre-Christians" with whom they have contact? Then, how are people encouraged to regularly pray for and connect with those identified "pre-Christians"?

The fourth component addresses the degree to which your church is seeker-sensitive. Are church folks enthusiastic about inviting unchurched friends to various church activities? How does the church get feedback from church folks about the relevance of the church's evangelistic outreach? What innovative and successful outreach efforts has your church implemented? How has your worship team sought to make the worship experience less bewildering (language, activities, etc.) for unchurched folks?

My vision is to see churches of God all around the world evidencing the eight quality characteristics of NCD. I see healthy churches ministering well to members, friends, and entire communities, making an eternal difference in folks' lives.

If you would like to explore how the NCD tool can be used in your local church, please contact me for more information.

Gary Burnham
Ministry Services Network Director
gburnham@abc-coggc.org; 678-833-1839

Explanation of Accounts in the Budget

The budgets proposed include both a revision of the budget for the fiscal year July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015 adopted by the delegates at the 2013 summer conference and a budget for the fiscal year July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016.

Income

1. **General Contributions** – non-specific giving by individuals, churches, and conferences
 2. **G. C. – Devises & Bequests** – periodically the college/conference receives estate gifts in the General Fund
 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** – sales of class and non-class books
 6. **Sale of Assets** – income from the sale of unused assets
 7. **Tuition** – estimated income from ABC/ABCKE classes
 8. **Lodging/Apartment Rent** – rent received from students for apartments rented by the college
 9. **ABCDF Support** – transfer of investment income from the Atlanta Bible College Development Foundation
 10. **Interest and Late Fees** – finance charges on outstanding student accounts
 11. **Application/Miscellaneous Fees** – charges for specific services for college students, such as application fees
 12. **Conferences & Workshops** - net income is tracked separately for each event; together, all events provide a modest net income
 13. **Interest** – interest earned on checking account
 14. **Other Income** – miscellaneous income
 15. **Tenant Income** - income from tenants leasing space in the McDonough, GA office building
 16. **Transferred In** – amounts transferred in from Restricted Funds; from interest income and from funds designed to support General Fund expenses
- ### Expenses
1. **Salaries and Wages** – compensation for all full-time and part-time staff.
 2. **FICA Tax** – required payment of employer taxes
 3. **Employee Benefits** – tax coverage, health insurance premiums, workers compensation, as well as conference premiums for Ministers' Voluntary Retirement Association for some employees
 4. **Assistance to Churches** – grants to churches; Church Development Aid and Church Planting 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 TPYM's production of FUEL and other events
 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 HERALD / JOURNAL, 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. **Student/Staff Meals** – meal expenses for ABC and 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 is provided opportunities to enhance skills in areas associated with their responsibilities, including pursuit of advanced degrees
 16. **Travel** – for board members, advisory committees, special boards/committees, student groups, and staff
 17. **Office & Misc. Supplies & Expenses** – paper, printer cartridges, stationery, envelopes, printing supplies, and other office expenses
 18. **Professional Services** – costs of annual audit, as required by the constitution and annual fees to accrediting association
 19. **Telephone/Internet/Web/Data** – 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 and website fees
 20. **Office Machine/Software Lease & Maint.** – maintenance agreements and repairs for office equipment and software maintenance
 21. **Utilities** – costs of electricity, water, gas, etc. at ABCKE campus, and ABC and ABCKE apartments
 22. **Insurance – Property** – costs of insurance for facilities
 23. **Repairs/Maintenance – Plant** – costs for plant support and maintenance
 24. **Furniture and Equipment** – includes furniture, software, computers, and office machines
 25. **Supplies/Expenses – Plant** – cleaning supplies, restroom supplies, etc.
 26. **Reserve for Capital R/M** - funds set aside each month for future capital repair and maintenance at the McDonough, GA office building
 27. **Property Tax** - Property tax for McDonough, GA office building
 26. **Campus Leases** – monthly payments to lease our Duluth campus site
 27. **Apartment Leases** – payments to lease apartments for ABC and ABCKE students
 28. **Debt Repayment** – 5% of general contributions used to pay back General Fund outstanding loans
 29. **Allowance for Doubtful Accounts** - to “write-off” uncollectible A/R accounts
 29. **Other** – miscellaneous expenses
 30. **Contingency** – for unexpected expenses

Budget Proposals - Income

	FY 2014 - 2015	FY 2014 - 2015	FY 2015 - 2016
	Approved <u>@ GC - 2013</u>	Proposed <u>Revisions</u>	<u>Proposed</u>
CONTRIBUTIONS:			
General Contributions	369,000	375,000	385,000
G.C. - Devises & Bequests	0	0	0
ABC Boosters	18,000	10,000	11,000
Subtotal	387,000	385,000	396,000
SALES:			
Christian Education Materials	18,000	18,000	18,000
Books	20,000	15,000	16,000
Sale of Assets	0	0	
Subtotal	38,000	33,000	34,000
ABC:			
Tuition	420,000	230,000	244,000
Lodging/Apartment Rent	32,000	40,000	40,000
ABCDF Support	40,000	40,000	40,000
Interest and Late Fees	3,600	4,000	4,000
Application/Miscellaneous Fees	8,600	3,600	3,800
Subtotal	504,200	317,600	331,800
PROGRAM INCOME:			
Conferences & Workshops	2,500	2,500	2,500
Subtotal	2,500	2,500	2,500
MISCELLANEOUS:			
Interest	50	50	50
Other Income	5,000	2,000	2,000
Tenant Income	75,000	85,000	115,050
Transferred In	6,000	6,000	6,000
Subtotal	86,050	116,050	123,100
Income Total	1,017,750	854,150	887,400
Expense Total	1,017,750	854,150	887,400
GRAND TOTAL (Income less Expense)	0	0	0

Budget Proposals - Expense

	FY 2014 - 2015 Approved @ GC - 2013	FY 2014 - 2015 Proposed Revisions	FY 2015 - 2016 Proposed
STAFF:			
Salaries & Wages	434,000	365,000	380,000
F.I.C.A. Tax	6,000	3,750	4,000
Employee Benefits	90,000	65,000	65,000
Subtotal	530,000	433,750	449,000
SERVICES:			
Assistance to Churches	1,300	1,300	100
Ministerial Association	6,000	6,000	6,000
Youth Program	10,000	10,000	10,000
Subtotal	17,300	17,300	16,100
SALES EXPENSE:			
Printing & Binding	28,000	21,000	22,000
Postage & Shipping	11,000	9,000	9,500
Book Store	16,500	15,000	15,500
Subtotal	55,500	45,000	47,000
ABC:			
Advertising--Recruitment	6,000	4,000	5,000
Student/Staff Meals	16,500	7,000	7,500
Library Periodicals	1,000	1,000	1,000
Library Books	0	0	0
Staff Periodicals, Books, Dues	350	250	250
Staff Training	5,000	750	750
Subtotal	28,850	13,000	14,500
ADMINISTRATION:			
Travel	31,000	17,000	18,000
Office & Misc Supplies & Expense	12,000	10,000	11,000
Professional Services	12,000	14,000	14,500
Telephone/Internet/Web/Data	27,000	29,000	30,000
Office Machine/Software Lease/Maint	29,000	28,500	29,500
Subtotal	111,000	98,500	103,000
PLANT EXPENSES:			
Utilities	63,000	58,000	60,000
Insurance - Property	14,500	15,000	15,500
Repairs/Maintenance - Plant	22,000	34,000	35,000
Furniture & Equipment	2,000	1,000	1,000
Supplies/Expenses Plant	4,000	2,000	2,500
Reserve for Capital R/M	3,600	3,600	4,800
Property Tax	22,000	30,000	30,000
Subtotal	131,100	143,600	148,800
MISCELLANEOUS:			
Campus Leases	70,000	33,000	33,000
Apartment Leases	40,000	40,000	40,000
Debt Repayment	0	0	0
Allowance for Doubtful Accounts	20,000	10,000	15,000
Other	14,000	15,000	16,000
Contingency	0	5,000	5,000
Subtotal	144,000	103,000	109,000
Expense Total	1,017,750	854,150	887,400
Income Total	1,017,750	854,150	887,400
GRAND TOTAL (Income less Expense)	0	0	0

Church News

Baptisms

Ontario

Fonthill - Glad Tidings Church of God - Lisa Parfremment, Robert Currie, Michael Parfremment (3/16/14) Marty Dorst (3/23/14) by Pastor Michael Brown

Ottawa - Restoration Fellowship Assembly - Jean-Philippe Rivest, wife Josianne, and daughter Carriene (4/13/14) by Bruce Lyon

Welland - Freedom in Christ Church - Annette Huneault, Peter Tokar, Luke Bolhous, and Riley Bolhous (4/6/14) by Pastor Stephen Bolhous

Indiana

Kokomo - Rachel Smith (12/1/13) by Pastor Dale Bliss

Deaths

Ontario

Fonthill—Glad Tidings Church of God – Caroline Dila-marter (2/23/14) by Pastor Michael Brown. She was the oldest member of the church at 105 years of age. Caroline was baptized on May 3, 1936 by Pastor Clyde Randall at the Glad Tidings Church of God in Fonthill, Ontario, Canada. She was active in the church over the years having been a Sunday School teacher and singing in the church choir.

Illinois

Downers Grove - Kathy Lewis Krug, (12/28/13), daughter of deceased former Oregon Bible College President John (Ruth) Lewis.

Indiana

Kokomo - Ronald Bliss (1/15/14) by his son Pastor Dale Bliss.

Iowa

Ladora - Delbert Rankin, 64, (3/19/14). He graduated from Oregon Bible College in 1971. His wife Nancy (Foster) also attended the college. At the time of his death he was pastor of the Restitution Church of God in Belle Plaine, IA. He was planning his third trip to the Philippines to help spread the gospel. For over 30 consecutive years Delbert and Nancy traveled to the Central Washington Bible Camp, taking from 2 to 24 young people with them. Services by Ministers Ken Cronin, Paul Moore, Darrell Rankin, Russell Rankin, Dan Foster, Sam Foster, Arlen Rankin, Ron Rankin, Scott Ross, Ed Bender, Dale Swartz, and Scott Millard.

Missouri

Moscow Mills - Carl Jennings, 67, (1/31/14). Carl and his wife Pamela (Miese) graduated from Oregon Bible College in 1976. Carl pastored churches in Minnesota and Missouri.

Cadet - Wanda Westbrook Gerullis, 74, (2/22/14). Long time faithful member of Morse Mill Church.

North Carolina

Anderson Chapel Church of God – Bernice L. Pryor (11/21/14) by Pastor Scott Ross. She was a founding member and children’s Sunday school teacher

Ohio

Brush Creek Church of God – Paul Weaver (3/20/14). George Hoke, 95, (3/24/14), life-long member of Brush Creek. His father, A. J. Hoke, was a member of the General Conference Board of Directors in the 1940s.

Oregon

Central Point - Patricia Ann Piter, 86, (11/7/13), long-time member, originally from Golden Rule Church in Cleveland, OH

South Carolina

Bethel Church of God – Marvin Kay (1/18/2014) by Pastor Kyle Casey and Lanny McAlister; Reba Childs (2/20/2014) by Pastor Kyle Casey and Jon Lippert

Guthrie Grove - Dr.

Alva G. Huffer, 88, (3/19/14). Dr. Huffer was President of Oregon Bible College from 1968 to 1975. He pastored churches in IL, IN, TN, MO, VA, MI, and AZ. He was the author of *Systematic Theology* and the *Triumph of the Resurrection* as well as several college textbooks. He took thousands of people on tours of Europe and the Middle East over a period of 40 years. He produced and presented multimedia presentations based on his travels to Bible lands. They were presented in many churches as well as in a large number of retirement facilities in the Phoenix, AZ metropolitan area. It is estimated that nearly one half million people attended one or more of these presentations. He served as an adjunct instructor for Atlanta Bible College. Alva is pictured about 3 years ago in the Bible World Museum which he created and by which many people learned much about history, art, and archaeology. Dr. Huffer had a tremendous impact upon our college and students during his life-time. He is survived by his sons, David and Keith (Cynthia), daughters, Myra Lee Montgomery (Pastor Mike) and Lisa Huffer; grandchildren Troy Huffer (Diana), Kara Taylor (Justin), Paige and Jennie Montgomery; and sister Bonnie Davis (Kirby).



Funeral services were held at the Guthrie Grove Church of God in Pelzer, SC with David Krogh of Atlanta Bible College officiating. Burial was in the church cemetery.

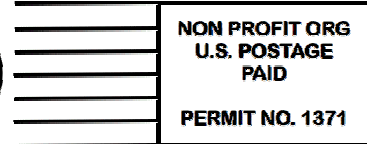
- 1 **Pray for God's blessing on your extended family.**
- 2 Pray for the ministry of the Open Bible Church, Bolivar, MO.
- 3 **Pray for the Midwest Family Camp to be held at Camp Mack later this month.**
- 4 Praise God for the beauty of His creation.
- 5 **Pray that God will speak deeply into your heart 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 the Forest Hills Church in Royal, Arkansas.
- 13 **Praise God for your family and circle of friends.**
- 14 Pray for the summer General Conference to be held next month at Cornerstone Bible Church in McDonough, GA.
- 15 **Praise God for your Father...your earthly father and your Heavenly Father.**
- 16 Pray for Pastor Rufus and Jerri Meyers and the Simple Teachings Bible Church, Lovejoy, Georgia.
- 17 **Pray for the ministry of the Flagg Center Community Church in Rochelle, Illinois.**
- 18 Pray for Pastor Christy Ross and her work at the Jaynes Street Church in Omaha, Nebraska.
- 19 **Pray for Anthony Buzzard and the Focus on the Kingdom Ministry.**
- 20 Pray for God's direction in future mission efforts.
- 21 **Praise God for your church family.**
- 22 Pray for believers in the Philippine 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 the Midwest Family Camp being held in Indiana this week.**
- 26 Pray for God's direction in the preparation for FUEL (Youth Program) next month.
- 27 **Pray for the believers in Lima, Peru as they minister under the leadership of Pastor Gaston Ucanay.**
- 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.

Prayer and Praise

July 2014

- 1 **Pray for Russia.**
- 2 Pray for those arriving at the General Conference.
- 3 **Pray for the Conference meetings at Cornerstone Bible Church in McDonough, GA**
- 4 Pray for God's blessing and direction on the delegates during General Conference business sessions.
- 5 **Pray that God might move the Church of God forward in new areas of ministry.**
- 6 Pray for Linda Limbe-Nkomba in Malawi as she recovers from her cancer surgery and chemotherapy treatments.
- 7 **Pray that many will hear God's call into full-time Christian service.**
- 8 Praise God for the abundant life you have in Christ.
- 9 **Praise God for the leadership of your church family.**
- 10 Pray for students considering enrollment at Atlanta Bible College.
- 11 **Pray for Pastor Seth Ross and the Youth Advisory Committee as they prepare for FUEL.**
- 12 Pray for Pastor James and Rebecca Ritch and the work at Lenoir, NC.
- 13 **Pray for God's blessing on your pastor's sermon today.**
- 12 Praise God for his wisdom.
- 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.
- 17 **Pray for the brethren in India.**
- 18 Pray that God will lead many of our young people into ministry at home and abroad.
- 19 **Pray for Pastor Dan and Rachel Cain and their work at the Troy View Church of God in Troy, Ohio.**
- 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 those who are studying the Systematic Bible Study Course over the internet.
- 23 **Pray for a great hunger and thirst for righteousness in your church.**
- 24 Pray for the staff of FUEL and the influence they are having on the young people this week.
- 25 **Pray for the safety for those traveling home from FUEL today.**
- 26 Pray for Pastor John and Alice Railton and the work of the Family Bible Church in Granger, Indiana.
- 27 **Praise God for the many people in our churches who have been baptized recently.**
- 28 Praise God for your family and friends.
- 29 **Pray for the Lupe Badillo and the work in Mexico.**
- 30 Pray for Freedom in Christ Ministries, Welland, Ontario and Pastor Stephen and Joyce Bolhaus.
- 31 **Praise God for efforts being made to plant new churches.**

Atlanta Bible College
Church of God General Conference
2020 Avalon Parkway, Suite 400
McDonough, GA 30253



Address Service Requested

THE RESTITUTION HERALD & PROGRESS JOURNAL is owned and published by Church of God General Conference, 2020 Avalon Parkway, Suite 400, McDonough, GA 30253. Published quarterly. Gary Burnham, David Krogh, and Joe Martin, Coordinators; Ruth Finnegan, Publishing Specialist; Robert Jones, Proofreader. Telephone 678-833-1839 or 800-347-4261; FAX 678-833-1853. E-mail Address: info@abc-coggc.org. Website: <http://www.abc-coggc.org>.

Prayer and Praise

August 2014

- 1 Pray for Pastor Andy and Kristy Cisneros and their ministry at Timberland Bible Church.
- 2 **Pray for David Krogh, Kim Raper and Rufus Meyers as they recruit new students for Atlanta Bible College.**
- 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 Tony and Angela Moore as they lead the Knightstown Family Fellowship in Knightstown, Indiana.
- 6 **Praise God for the beauty of His creation.**
- 7 Pray for new students as they prepare to attend Atlanta Bible College later this month.
- 8 **Praise God for the incredible gift of His Son!**
- 9 Pray for the board of directors as they lead the ministries of the college/conference.
- 10 **Pray for your pastor and your pastor's family.**
- 11 Pray for Pastor Mark and Terri Tschaenn and the New Covenant Bible Church in Indianapolis, Indiana.
- 12 **Pray for ABC instructors as they prepare to teach classes at Atlanta Bible College.**
- 13 Pray for the Focus on the Kingdom ministry.
- 14 **Pray that God will bless your community through your church.**
- 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 **Pray for Atlanta Bible College students and staff as classes begin today.**
- 19 Praise God for His love and faithfulness.
- 20 **Pray for the ABC Korean Extension in South Korea as classes begin soon for the fall semester.**
- 21 Pray for individuals who feel led by God to pursue mission careers.
- 22 **Pray for spiritual renewal for yourself and for your church.**
- 23 Praise God for His love and faithfulness.
- 24 **Pray for the leadership of your local church.**
- 25 Praise God that He is sufficient to meet every need.
- 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 Bible Church, Minnesota.

THE RESTITUTION HERALD

VOLUME 103, NUMBER 4 AUGUST/SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2014 & PROGRESS JOURNAL

Summer Conference Report By David Krogh

The 94th annual Summer General Conference was held at the Cornerstone Bible Church of God in McDonough, GA. This conference was a time of celebration of 75 years since the founding of Oregon/Atlanta Bible College. Throughout the Conference there were many reflections from those who have been a part of the history of our college. The first night, David Krogh presented a PowerPoint presentation which included photos of those who served as President, other staff members, facilities, and photos from the archives of groups of students over the years. Pastor Warren Sorenson spoke at the morning session on Thursday about his memories of the years that he and his wife Irene spent at the college in the late 1940s. On Thursday afternoon, Nola Jones led a session called “Inquiring Minds Want to Know” as she interviewed people who were involved in significant events at the college. Deceased individuals were represented by family members – Bob Jones for his uncle Delbert Jones who was among those who attended the first year in 1939;

Scott Ross for his father S. O. Ross who along with his wife Peg were house parents in the 1960s. Tim Pearson (class of 1947) and Ivan Magaw who attended in the early 1940s shared their memories. Dale Ramsey, Russ Magaw, and Dick and Carol Eldred reflected on the move to the Atlanta area in 1991 and the construction of the buildings on the Morrow campus. Dr. Joe Martin also made a PowerPoint presentation of photos from the past.

Following the first evening service, there was a birthday party for the college. The youngest graduate (Jack Kmiecik – class of 2014) and oldest graduate (Irene Sorenson – class of 1950) were invited to blow out the candles on the cakes. There was a photo booth sponsored by the Alumni association where attendees could dress up in graduation and party clothes to have their photos taken.

Ninety-four delegates consisting of 7 directors, 47 church/conference delegates, and 33 pastors conducted the business of the Conference. 170 were

registered for the conference and more than 30 others attended evening services and the cook out at the beginning of the Conference. In addition to evening speakers David Krogh and Joe Martin, May 2014 graduate Jack Kmiecik spoke, and Steve An



1950 OBC graduates
Warren and Irene Sorenson

spoke at the Friday afternoon service following with Communion led by Pastor Tim Pearson. Many workshops on a variety of topics were presented. Special music was provided by the Gospelettes - Rachel Carr, Cheryl Ross (substituting for Martha Mikl), and Jan Stilson, accompanied by Elaine Lapp Poole – a group who sang at the college in the early 1960s. Members from the chorale over the years, led by Dale Ramsey, presented several numbers during the Conference. Others also provided special music.

Pastor Scott Millard of the Jaynes Street Community Church in Omaha, NE was elected to a four year term on the Board of Directors. A plaque of appreciation was presented to retiring Board member Pastor Alan Cain by Dr. Martin. The new Board elected officers for the coming year. Greg Demmitt will served as chairperson; Bob Morrison, vice chairperson; Dan

(Continued on page 2)



OBC/ABC Chorale under the direction of Dale Ramsey



l to r: Nola Jones, Dale Ramsey, Russ Magaw, Dick and Carol Eldred



Students from the 1940s - l to r - Tim Pearson and Ivan Magaw



Jack Kmiecik and Irene Sorenson



Board at Installation Service

(Continued from page 1)

Knowlton, Secretary; Julie Driskill, Treasurer. Rick McClain and Chris James continue as Board members. The Board was installed at the evening service on Friday evening by Ministers Association Leadership Team Members Rufus Meyers and Darrell Cardwell.



Gospelettes - Rachel Carr, Cheryl Ross, and Jan Stilson

Pastor Andy Cisneros was elected by the delegates to the one year unexpired term of Seth Ross on the Youth Advisory Council. Seth was recently appointed by Dr. Joe Martin to serve as the Youth Coordinator for the General Conference.

Delegates approved a revised budget of \$854,150 for the 2014-2015 fiscal year. It calls for contributions of \$375,000. A proposed budget for the 2015-2016 fiscal year of \$887,400 was also approved by the delegates. The minutes of the meeting appear on pages 10-12.

The Board appointed Carrie Briggs and George Jordan to 3-year terms on the Foundation Board. Keith Williams was reappointed to a one-year term on the Foundation Board. Ben Mattison and Dan Siderius were reappointed to the Investment Committee. Chris James was appointed to the Academic Advisory Committee. Julie Driskill was reappointed as the representative of the Board to serve on the Youth Advisory Committee. David Krogh was reappointed to the Lords Harvest Board and Rick McClain was reappointed as the Board member who serves on this board. Charles Bottolfs was reappointed to the Ministerial Recognition Board.

We are very grateful for the hospitality of the Cornerstone Church that hosted the Conference. We also are thankful for all who served on the program and helped to make the Conference a great success. Thanks to all for the great food, great fellowship, and wonderful hospitality.

We are also grateful for the servanthood of the "Up Project" led by Andy Cisneros, Graysen Pack, and Julie Driskill. Fifteen young people gathered early to serve the General Conference and then headed to South Carolina on their project.

Next year's Conference will be held in South Bend, IN at the Timberland Bible Church July 8-10. Make plans now to attend. ■

**O give thanks to the LORD, for He is good;
for His steadfast love endures forever.
Let the redeemed of the LORD say so,
those He redeemed from trouble
and gathered in from the lands,
from the east and from the west,
from the north and from the south.
Psalm 107:1-3**

We gathered in McDonough, GA, earlier this month from the east, west, north and south. We gathered on the Fourth of July weekend, a time the United States celebrates those who made a Declaration of Independence in order to form a new country.

Many who signed the Declaration lost their lands and possessions. Just as the redeemed of the Lord say so, these patriots put their money where the mouth is.

The members of the Church of God General Conference stepped up this year as well, meeting a totally unexpected budget crisis.

As a board member, I remember lamenting several years ago that every time we lose a student we have to adjust our budget. This year, due to confusion over our status with U.S. Immigration, we lost three fourths of our projected enrollment, a financial hit of nearly a quarter of a million dollars, nearly one fourth of our budget.

One year later, however, we approach our summer conference in better financial shape than the year before. Not great, but better.

The members of the conference contributed \$50,000 more than was budgeted. That happened without any special appeals but simply an awareness of the need.

At the same time, our staff cut expenses at every opportunity. Thanks to the leadership of our CAO, Dr. Joe Martin for leading our staff in this challenge. And also thanks to our staff for their extra effort.

I definitely look back on this year with gratitude for all of God's faithful people who gave and served.

I think we can look forward to the future with hope as well.

Several years ago I spoke at conference about the Optimism/Pessimism study (The pursuit of happi-

ness, 2014) which demonstrated that an optimistic approach to life yields better results than a pessimistic approach. The study showed that pessimists had a more realistic appraisal of the challenges but that optimists were more successful in dealing with them.

As a group focused on the second coming of Christ, we almost welcome bad times as a sign of the Lord's return. We assume we are in the days of Laodicea, where everyone is lukewarm. We must remember the words to the church at Philadelphia,

"Look, I have set before you an open door, which no one is able to shut. I know that you have but little power, and yet you have kept my word and have not denied my name" (Rev. 3:8).

We might identify with a church that seems to have little power. Do we also have an open door set before us?

I believe that the challenges we are experiencing today in the General Conference are the challenges of growth and not the challenges of decline. Our giving increased last year. That's good. The problems with immigration spurred Steve and Young An to move to Korea to establish a new campus of Atlanta Bible College there. That's good. It will open in less than two months. Wow.

Having opportunities doesn't mean that life is easy. Steve and Young face many challenges in Korea. Their son Sam is rebuilding the Korean extension in Duluth.

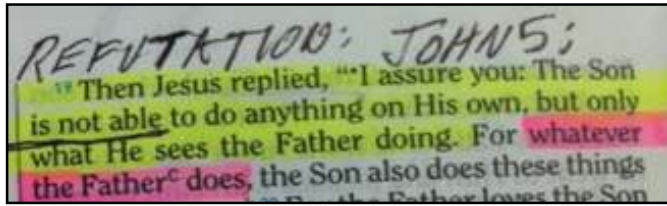
We are currently expanding the McDonough campus with a new room for student activities and another for our archives on the second floor of the 2020 building. That same construction effort is also creating more space for tenants and we already have a five-year commitment for the rest of the second floor.

I look forward to what God has in store for our conference in this coming year.

Reference:

The Pursuit of Happiness (2014). *Mindfulness and Positive Thinking*. Retrieved July 16, 2014 from <http://www.pursuit-of-happiness.org/science-of-happiness/positive-thinking/>. ■

(Continued from page 4)



I have been rereading the Psalms and its focus on the LORD God!

- “O LORD, our Lord, How majestic is Your name in all the earth!” 8:1
- “The LORD/YHWH is King forever and ever...” 10:16
- “You have been my God from my mother’s womb.” 22:10b
- “For the kingdom is the LORD’s” 22:28
- “The LORD/YHWH is my shepherd” 23:1
- “The LORD is my strength and my shield...” 28:7
- “Taste and see that the LORD is good...” 34:8
- “Delight in the LORD / YHWH and he will give you the desires of your heart.” 37:4
- “I waited patiently for the LORD...” 40:1
- “Cast your burden upon the LORD...” 55:22
- “I have made the LORD my refuge...” 73:28
- “He will cry to Me, ‘You are my Father...’ 89:26
- “The LORD/YHWH said to my Lord [Jesus]...” 110:1
- “My help comes from the LORD, Who made heaven and earth.” 121:2
- “O Israel [and Joe! And you!] hope in the LORD, from this time forth and forever.” 131:3

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sept. 18-20—Heritage Conference, North Hills Church, Springfield, OH

Oct. 13, 14—Fall Board Meeting in Kokomo, IN

April 12-17—42nd Annual Christian Workers Seminar, Pigeon Forge, TN

July 8-10—95th Annual Church of God General Conference at Timberland Bible Church, South Bend, IN

- “How blessed is he... whose hope is in the LORD his God.” 146:5

A Focus on the Father gives us a sure future! They will know that YHWH is God, because God said so!

Finally, I would say Jesus is the example of Servanthood as we focus on the future. Let’s live like Jesus! He didn’t act or talk without communication with the Father. Let us commune with the father and pray to the Father as Jesus did. Let us live in the Spirit that flows from the Father, through Jesus to us. (Acts 2:33) Hebrews 12:2 says “Fixing your eyes on Jesus... for the joy set before him, endured the cross... .” As we “fix our eyes” on Jesus’ example, and the joy of the Kingdom set before us we can go through anything in the future.

Many people and scholars are coming to the Biblical truth we hold dear. N.T. Wright’s “Surprised by Hope” speaks of the Hebrew concept of the future. James McGrath’s, “The Only True God” gets closer to a first century biblical notion of God and Jesus. As people come to the LORD God, His Son, and His Kingdom, we need to be about our Father’s business for tomorrow, bringing others into the household of faith.

We’ve come to Mt. Zion, we’ve come to God, we’ve come to Jesus mediator of the new covenant (Heb. 12:22 ff). At HIS word we will move into the future in persistent faith, focusing on the Father, and the example of our Lord Jesus Christ. God has a great future, and as we join HIM, so do we! Hallelujah!! ■

**THE RESTITUTION HERALD & PROGRESS JOURNAL
VOLUME 103 NUMBER 4
August/September/October 2014 ©2014**

Publishing Specialist: Ruth Finnegan
Proofreader: Dustin Smith (substitute for Bob Jones)
Coordinators: Gary Burnham, David Krogh, and Joe Martin

Address editorial correspondence to: THE RESTITUTION HERALD, ATTN: Joe Martin, 2020 Avalon Parkway, Suite 400, McDonough, GA 30253.

Good News

"Like cold water to a weary soul, so is good news from a distant land." Proverbs 25:25

Let's begin with congratulations for our COG graduates, shall we? From the **Hutchinson Church of God, Hutchinson, MN**, **Mitchell Moore** from college (Gustavus Adolphus College) and **Maddison Messner** from high school; from the **Troy View Church of God, Troy, OH**, **Cheyenne Via**, **Natali Green**, and **Rachel Moore** from high school; from the **Oregon Church of God, Oregon, IL**, **Sarah Corcoran** from college, **Evan Froehlich**, **Zachary Hall**, and **Mallorie Myers** from high school, and **Cheyenne Brooks**, **Julie Davis**, **Ashley Dial**, and **Ashley Harper** from eighth grade; from the **Lawrenceville Church of God, Springfield, OH**, **Sydney Barnhart**, **Mitchell Miller**, **Josiah Cain**, and **Rachel Pierce** from high school; from the **Ripley Church of God, Mt. Sterling, IL**, **Hallie Laning**, **Mira Thompson**, and **Sam Hetrick** from eighth grade; from the **Cool Spring Church of God, Browntown, VA**, **Kailyn Fletcher** and **Rachel Paulisch** from high school; from the **Bethel Church of God, Pelzer, SC**, **David Bender** from high school and **Tyler Moore** from college (Anderson University) and from **Cornerstone Bible Church, McDonough, GA**, **Dustin Smith** from college (PhD), **Jack Kmicik** from college (ABC), and **Brittany Officer**, **Giancarlo Malerba**, **Kyle Brooks**, and **Kaitlyn Brooks** from high school. Impressive list! No matter what your level, GNP congratulates you for your accomplishments and wishes you the very best in your futures. I'm sure there are lots more. If you know of others that we missed, send in their names, and we'll try to get them into the next issue.

From the **Bethel Church of God, Pelzer, SC** – While we're on the subject of congratulations, **Pastor Kyle Casey** and the rest of the church congratulate **Jim and Judy Turner** who celebrated their 50th anniversary on April 28. Best wishes as you work on that second fifty! Mother of the Year award went to **Faye McCullough**, and Father of the Year award went to **Lee Sisk**. Congratulations! **Codie Sloan** received the Military Order of the World Wars Citation Award for his outstanding performance of duty in the Wren High School NJROTC, and **Tyler Cunningham** was recently promoted to corporal in the USMC. Congratulations to all!

From the **Church of the Open Bible, Bedford, OH** – On April 6, the congregation voted in **Andrew Weaver** as the new pastor. Congratulations, Pastor Andrew!

From the **Troy View Church of God, Troy, OH** – On Saturday May 3 **Pastor Dan Cain** and many of the men and boys of the church gathered to watch the video "A Call to Courage" about biblical manhood and what it means to be a courageous man in today's world. It was a great time of fellowship, eating, and being challenged to discipleship and personal legacy. It was the first session in a series that should prove to be quite valuable.

From the **Hutchinson Church of God, Hutchinson, MN** – **Pastor V.E. Kirkpatrick II** and the whole church thank the following people for cleaning during the all-church cleaning day in April: **Amanda, Mindy, and Faith Forcier**; **Brad and Lisa McColley**; **Jason and Beth Becker**; **Lee and Melody Moore**; and **Paula Kirkpatrick**. Many hands make for light work.

From the **Lawrenceville Church of God, Springfield, OH** – **Pastor Alan Cain** has some thanks to hand out as well. Thanks to **John and Donna Lindner** for allowing the youth to have a refreshment booth at their annual pig sale at the fairgrounds. Thanks also to John and Donna for donating the ham for the booth. The youth made \$279.45. Thanks also to **Mary and John Kibler** for preparing the ham and preparing cookies to sell. Thanks to all who donated pop for the event.

From the **Oregon Church of God, Oregon, IL** – **Pastor Michael Hoffman** has a list of people to thank. For helping with the Betty Hall memorial service: **Tim and Mandi Callaway** (sound), **Beth Hall** (accompanist), **Matt Stormont** (special music), **Larry Bolhaus** (reading), and all who helped prepare food or donate money toward the food for the dinner (the list of names was far too long, but thanks to all). For their part in a special firefighter training session at the church: **Aaron Wells** (computer help/video) and **Steve Hammer** (donating refreshments).

From the **Cool Spring Church of God, Browntown, VA** – **Pastor Jeff Fletcher** and the church finished celebrating fifty days of praying for the Holy Spirit, asking God to fill each with His spirit and to equip for proclaiming the good news of the kingdom. At this writing, the church was preparing for a marriage

(continued on page 7)

ABC Graduation

The Atlanta Bible College graduation was held on May 16 at 7:30 p.m. Three students received the Bachelor of Theology degree – Jack Kmiecik, John Obi, and Julius Ross; one received the Associates in Theology and Ministry – Bethany Reise; and six received the Foundation Certificate – Jesse Allen, Stephanie Blanchard, Joel Fletcher, Eliud Kamau, Nathan Massie, and Jacob Rohrer. The graduation message was delivered by Pastor Rufus Meyers. Others taking part in the service were President Dr. Joe Martin, Gary Burnham, Anthony Buzzard, Bob Jones, David Krogh, and Dr. Dustin Smith.

Jack Kmiecik (pictured with David Krogh), received the Silver Disk award in recognition of his outstanding academic performance and his service and leadership at the college.

Two students received the Bachelors degree from the ABC Korean Extension - Chan Koon Im and Eun Ah Shim. Neither was able to attend the graduation ceremony, so none was held this year.



(Continued from page 6)

conference featuring Laugh Your Way to a Better Marriage. The church hopes to strengthen marriages in the church and in the community.

From the **Troy View Church of God, Troy, OH** – **Pastor Dan Cain** and the whole church send out a big thank you to the **Bedford Church of the Open Bible** for donating \$2500 toward paying off the mortgage. Thank you, Bedford Church, for showing us your love!

From the **Hutchinson Church of God, Hutchinson, MN** – **Pastor V.E. Kirkpatrick II** and the church thank **Amanda, Kaylee, Mindy, and Faith Forcier** for presenting the message on June 29, the fifth Sunday. Thanks also to the **Forciers (Amanda, Jacob, Kaylee, Mindy, and Faith)** and the **Messners (Amber, Becca, and Emily)** for pulling the church unit and walking in the Water Carnival parade June 15.

From the **Lawrenceville Church of God, Springfield, OH** – Youth leader **Jill Hedges** and the

church youth have been quite active. They performed a skit and presented special music at the Celebration of Life service at St. Bernard's Church in May. After the service, the youth went to the Ohio Caverns to explore. On May 10 the youth hosted their annual metal drive and served a made-to-order breakfast, all for donations for their mission trip to Florida, which took place in late-June/early-July.

From the **GNP desk** – Remember to send in the names of your milestone anniversary or birthday people. We want to celebrate the milestones along with them, and we want everyone in COG-Land to know about it. [**PLEASE** help us out! – GNP]

Hey, there COGLand! GNP wants to hear what YOUR good news is! We know there's good news everywhere, so send us e-mails, bulletins, phone calls, etc. to tell us your good news. PLEASE SEND YOUR GOOD NEWS, and we'll put you in print!

Robert L. Jones - GNP—Good News Page

I am unable to express into words my joy and excitement of starting a new Bible college operation where I will have the privilege to teach the Biblical truth in my home country of South Korea. In 1979, 35 years ago, I left my home with my family and Young and I have come back with what I believe to be the most precious truth, the Abrahamic Faith. I would like to believe that when we departed South Korea for the U.S. 35 years ago in search of the truth, the scenario is that of the same as Abraham leaving his home country with his family. Since then, we have assimilated well into the Western culture; however, I have come to the realization that my home country has changed dramatically. Now, Young and I find ourselves struggling to assimilate into a culture that we are unfamiliar with.

Since our arrival to South Korea, Young and I have been spending most of our time and effort to fulfill three requirements in establishing a new operation, recruiting students, securing a classroom facility, and training and teaching the administrative staff. In terms of recruitment, I continue to contact former KE students who were unable to complete the program in the U.S. and returned to South Korea encouraging them to continue their studies in South Korea. In addition, I am preaching on Sundays and leading Bible classes regularly at churches in Chung-ju and Daejeon city. The pastors are extremely hospitable. They have allowed me to advertise our new school operation and offered their church facilities for classroom use.

In light of the church facilities, it will be critical to have a classroom facility in Seoul (capital city) in order to accommodate more students who come from various regions of South Korea. More than half the population of South Korea congregates in the capital city. Currently, we are in the process of leasing a facility that is approximately 1800 square feet, which was previously used for church meetings. Moreover, the facility comes fully furnished with sound equipment and furniture as well. It will be the first church planted in South Korea by a KE graduate (Young Hee An) and the first campus abroad.

The teaching faculty of the new operation will be myself (Steve An), pastor Young Hee An, Moon Sik Kim (KE graduate), pastor Daegeun Song (former KE instructor), and Jinsuk Han (KE stu-



Classroom/Chapel facility which is being leased in Seoul, South Korea

dent) and my wife Young will provide support to the faculty.

The concept of having two Korean Extension campuses in two countries, South Korea and the U.S., will be advantageous to the operation. For instance, right now, I am in the process of advising two former KE students (Won Ki Kim and Sae Hyun Lee) regarding their continuation of their studies. Previously, the two individuals had no choice but to return to South Korea to fulfill their military duties, and both were discharged last spring. Now, since we will have two locations, they have choices on where to reenroll either in the U.S. or South Korea. Sae Hyun Lee has decided to remain in South Korea, so he will register at our South Korean location. Won Ki Kim has made the decision to return to the North campus in Duluth, GA.

In closing, the KE staff for both campuses and I continually work closely together ensuring to provide exceptional Christian education and leadership to our Christian students. In fact, since my departure from the U.S. in February, Sam An, Jae Yun Shim, and I have been communicating regularly through video conferencing, where we have collaborated on academic and administrative tasks. Another example is that KE classes from South Korea will be offered and viewed by the KE students in the U.S. and vice versa through the internet.

Please accept my wholehearted thanks for supporting the Korean mission. God bless!—Steve An

The spring 2014 semester for the Korean Extension closed with 20 Korean students this year. I am also happy to announce that almost all of the students will be returning for the following fall 2014 semester except two students who have communicated that they are facing some personal issues and must return to South Korea. Moreover, Steve has noted that he will make contact with the individuals and hope that they will be able to complete their studies at the KE campus in South Korea.

The KE is also proud and sad to announce that two Korean students, Chan Koon Im and Eun Ah Shim, have successfully completed their studies. Both students received a four year Bachelor of Theology degree and to celebrate the achievement, the KE scheduled a graduation ceremony for July 7th, 2014. Unfortunately, the ceremony was cancelled as both graduates notified our office that they would be unable to attend graduation that day.

As for the fall 2014 semester, we have already enrolled five new Korean students. The KE staff and I are working hard to continue to recruit for the upcoming semester. As most of you know, Steve and Young are now stationed in South Korea to establish a second KE campus, but they were able to take time out and fly back to the states to attend General Conference and also to facilitate a block

class at the KE campus in Duluth, GA and to collaborate with the KE staff in terms of preparing for the new semester. During his time at the campus, Steve has lead several meetings with the KE staff to discuss class scheduling and strategies on how to rally former students to return and to provide assistance during our registration process. In addition, we are also in the process of accepting six more new students who are interested in enrolling.

In terms of our situation with immigration, although approved to continue to accept students, we are still awaiting approval from immigration to be recertified. The decision by the government will determine whether we can continue to accept foreign students for enrollment. Please continue to pray for the Korean missions both here in the U.S. and in South Korea as we do need your assistance.

On behalf of the Korean Extension,

God bless all of you and thank you for continuing to support the Korean Extension ministry!

Sam An
Korean Extension Administrator

ATLANTA BIBLE COLLEGE HONORS

In order to be on the President's and Dean's lists, a student must be a full time student enrolled in 12 or more semester hours of classes. The grading system is based on a 4.0 scale. Congratulations to the following students for their academic accomplishments during the winter/spring 2014 semester.

President's List (3.5 and above)

Stephanie Blanchard
Hyeon Mi Jeong
You Na Kim
Yean Lee
Nathan Massie
John Obi
Bethany Reise
Jacob Rohrer
Eun Joo Yang

Dean's List (3.00 to 3.49)

Ji Su Choi
Eun Hee Eom
Bae Sik Kim
Dae Hwan Kim
Grace Mativo
Talon Paul
Ho Yong Shim
Shelby Upton

General Conference Delegate Business Meeting Minutes

July 3 and 4, 2014
Cornerstone Bible Church of God
McDonough, GA 30253

Thursday, July 3, 3:15 p.m.

Meeting called to order by Chairman
Greg Demmitt.

Bob Morrison opened the meeting
with prayer.

Greg Demmitt, chairman of the
board recognized Elaine Poole – first
delegate ever from the Isolated Mem-
bers Conference. First time dele-
gates: George Jordan new delegate
from Guthrie Grove; Robin Todd
from the Western Washington
Church of God; and Cheryl Kmiecik
from Omaha.

Chairman's message to the delegates:

“Let the redeemed of the Lord say
so...” was the beginning of his mes-
sage. Greg shared some stories of
those who signed the Declaration of
Independence and how they put it all
on the line for what they believed.

Our heritage is the same as we stand
for what we believe in and we ‘say
so’. We need to take an optimistic
approach even if we face difficult
issues, like the founders did as they
put their names on the line.

Adventist groups in general are usu-
ally pessimistic because they expect
things to get worse before Jesus
comes. “I have set before you an
open door that no man can
close...and I know that you have little
power, but you’ve kept my word and
not denied my name.”

We were living in a situation as a
college where if 2 students didn’t
come we had to make cuts then we

had 2/3 of our students gone due to
INS. We took a hit of \$250,000 hit
due to INS and yet we’re in a better
situation than we were last year. Be-
cause of faithful giving and sacrifi-
cial work of the staff. (applause was
given).

As we ‘hold things together’ it’s not
just to hang on but because we have
a huge mission to accomplish.



Greg Demmitt, Chairman of Board

With all of our financial troubles
who would have thought that we are
weeks away from a South Korean
College opening. God didn’t bring
Israel out of Egypt to die in the wil-
derness, neither did he bring us
through this financial struggle to wilt
in Georgia.

David reported that there are cur-
rently 41 church delegates, 7 Confer-
ence delegates, 7 directors and 33
pastors for a total of 88 delegates,
more than last year and we’re excited
about that.

Open nominations for the Board of
Directors. One individual will be
elected to a four-year term. The term
of Alan Cain expires. He may not be
renominated. Here are the 3 nomi-
nees listed in the PROGRESS JOUR-
NAL:

1. Charles Bottolfs – Louisiana Con-
ference
2. Rob Helenburg – Fair Oaks
Church
3. Scott Millard – Jaynes Street
Church of God, Omaha, Nebraska

Scott Ross nominated Scott Millard
to run for the Board of Directors on
behalf of the Jaynes Street Church.

James Richardson nominated Charles
Bottolfs for Board of Directors on
behalf of the Louisiana Conference.

Jeff Fletcher nominated Rob Hellen-
berg for the Board of Directors on
behalf of the Virginia Conference.

Joe James moved and Joe Myers sec-
onded that the nominations be
closed. Motion passed.

Joe Martin put the name of Andy
Cisneros as a nominee for the YAC.
Joe Martin also mentioned that Seth
Ross was appointed as Youth Coor-
dinator. Kent Ross moved that the
nomination be closed and a unani-
mous ballot be cast for Andy
Cisneros, Russ Magaw seconded.
Motion passed.

Gary Burnham discussed the budget
and financial reports. Gary shared
some highlights of the \$250,000 hit
in tuition income. Yet there was
large reductions in staff salaries and
benefits due to staff reductions and
some staff going off of insurance and
on to Medicare. Gary discussed the
battle over the tax value of our build-
ing.

Bottom line we had a net gain of
\$10,000 on the budget.

Presented the ABCGC Balance
Sheet. Two good things:

1. Credit line went down \$30,000

(Continued on page 11)

(Continued from page 10)

- 2. Accounts receivable went down \$66,000. One other good thing is that even after moving a lot of money out of the foundation due to the build out of the second floor the value of the ABCDF is higher!

Proposed budget income and expense sheets were looked at. Three things the board wants known:

- 1. General contributions line item of \$375,000 is conservative since \$396,000 was given last year
- 2. Tuition Income at \$220,000 is a best judgment guess
- 3. Tenant income at \$108,000 which it was \$95,000 last year without the new contract so we believe \$108,000 is reasonable

Robin Todd asked about budgeting money for US church planting... "Is there a plan to review that?"

"There is no specific plan, but the board does review it regularly."

Darrell Cardwell asked about how much money we're putting toward the Korean College. The current Church Builders Appeal is for Korea.



CAO/President Dr. Joe Martin addressing delegates

Dustin Smith asked if the budget is including foreign students? The answer is yes. We are still certified and are planning on remaining that way.

Joe Myers asked about the free tuition "is it still going on?" The answer is "yes. It's in its 4th year."

Questions about \$0 on Library line. We have so many donated books that we can't even process them yet.

Joe Myers suggested that if the investments produce like they did last year that the board consider ways to help the staff who have made many sacrifices.

Greg opened the meeting for new business.

Kent Ross moved that the structure of the General Conference include a new 'board' to be called Home Missions Board of Evangelism & Church Growth. Cheryl Ross seconded. Kent spoke to the issue sharing that we need to invest in home missions. Greg Demmitt, chairman of the board, declared as major motion so that the voting on this motion will be voted on next year. Greg encouraged people to talk to Kent and the board about this issue.

Seth Ross came forward to speak as the new Youth Coordinator and as webmaster.

Seth Ross addressed the fact that FUEL is coming quickly. Seth also shared that he is excited about reaching out to youth workers around the country. He shared 4 areas in which he will be working:

- 1. Support health of local church youth ministries
- 2. Want to create a 'leadership farm system'...a way to identify and grow new leaders
- 3. Regular communication with local ministries...connecting them together
- 4. Building bridges with non conference youth ministries who agree with us to look for shared ministries that we could do

The website is now a family of about 5 or 6 sites. We'll have a Bible College website, a Conference website, we have abrahamicfaith.org that might be a resource for materials about our beliefs, we have a youth ministry website typm.org and a Korean ext. website.

Norma Knapp shared a communication of greetings from James and Marlyn Fyfe.

LHI Report

David Krogh shared news about Africa and about the Russia work. David shared that "He is very excited about what's going on in Russia." We had a request for systematic theology course and he's from Russia. They've connected him to the current worker there. Haiti is receiving \$1500 a month. Also we had individuals provide money to adopt students there. We're sending \$300 a month to help Lupe with expenses after her husband's death. David asked that you sign up for the LHI e-newsletter (no cost).

(Continued on page 12)



The Ministerial Recognition Board (Jeff Fletcher, Gary Burnham, Wally Winner, Charles Bottolfs) presenting recently licensed ministerial candidates: 1 to r: Jack Kmiecik with fiancé Paige Montgomery; Robin Todd and wife Marissa; Bob Morrison and wife Marilyn; Rebekah Martin, LHI Board Member standing in for Maksim Rhyhikh of Omsk, Siberia, Russia who could not be at Conference

ABC Report

David shared the ABC report. Three graduates for the southern campus, 2 from the Korean extension. Three new students will be taking advantage of the free tuition offer. Rufus Meyers helps distribute flyers to businesses and we have received a lot of calls from those. ABC Invitational was successful. We are currently still not recertified but we continue to have authority to run our schools. Greg Demmitt explained how the free tuition benefits the college by using funds restricted for students.

Dr. Joe Martin shared that it's been a trying time with Rebekah's health issues. Joe shared some of the community students that have been a great blessing...as well as our Church of God students. We graduated a Pakistani, we have a Korean college, have a African American pastor...all exciting things.

Because of Rebekah's health issues there will not be an African trip this year. Joe is very sad about that. Joe shared that he believes that the building is miracle that has fallen into our hands...a huge blessing from God. Joe shared it has been a blessing being able to teach at the college for 22 years. Joe kept calling Julie Driskill, "Julie Vance" because you can't teach an old dog new tricks. Joe shared that the Verizon company is leasing the second floor of the college building and that is not just income but ministry money!

Charles Bottolfs was asked to close the meeting in prayer. The meeting adjourned for the day.

Thursday, July 4, 3:30 p.m.

Alan Cain opened the meeting with prayer.

The first order of business is the election of a Board of Director.



Newly licensed candidate Michael Medlock and MRB Member Wally Winner

Ministry Services Network Report – While ballots were being counted, Gary Burnham thanked everyone for their prayers over the past year for family struggles he's had. He spends time helping pastors and churches as they deal with issues. Church and pastor aid is part of his work. Gary's greatest joy is to work with NCD for church health issues. There are currently 8 churches using NCD. Gary coaches the pastor of those churches as well as the church itself as they work through that process.

With 60 delegates voting for a Board of Director, Scott Millard received a majority vote.

It was announced that General Conference will be at Timberland Bible Church in Indiana, July 8-10.

Joe Martin presented a plaque and thanked Alan Cain for his four years of service on the board of directors.

Greg thanked those who have signed up for electronic copy of the Herald.

Kent Ross moved and Rob Helenburg seconded that the proposed budget be approved as presented for the 2014-1015. Motion passed.

Rob Helenburg moved Charles Bottolfs seconded that we approve the budget for 2015-2016 as presented.

Discussion about raising the budget for advertising. Joe Martin shared that Rufus has been helping with that work and that a personal touch is better. Joe also reassured Rufus that he will not get the raise he desires. :)

Offering free classes to local church leaders has been effective. Also the sign on the building has been very helpful. Greg shared it would take an amendment to change the amount for advertising.

Joe Myers asked would it be possible to come to an amount that will be budgeted for the proposal that Kent offered on the national church planting effort. It's hard to say yet was the answer.

Motion Passed on the 2015-2016 budget.

Greg asked for any new business.

Kent Ross shared about the conference coming up November 6-8 at North Hills Church Springfield Ohio dealing with church growth. Kent also mentioned the Heritage conference in September.

Alan Cain read the minutes.

Kent Ross moved, Russ Magaw seconded that the minutes be approved as read and corrected. Motion passed.

David Krogh shared the credentials report. We have 43 Church delegates, 7 Conference delegates, 7 Board Members and 33 Pastors for a total of 90 delegates. This compares with 79 delegates last year. Greg Demmitt closed the meeting and Jim Ritch closed in prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Alan Cain, Secretary



Prophecy Page

By Wally Winner

THE KEYSTONE OF THE CONFLICT: HATRED

They "never miss an opportunity to miss an opportunity" said Israeli diplomat Abba Eban of the Palestinians. We probably can throw in here George Santayana's observation "those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it." You could do a piece today or a decade ago about a homicide bomber, or "peace talks" being broken off for some reason or other, or escalating violence.

So, here we go again...escalated fighting. Why? Is it difficult to understand just what the Palestinians want? Look at the history of negotiations.

Dennis Ross, the senior Middle East advisor to President Clinton, dispels once and for all the Palestinian propaganda regularly parroted as fact in the European and some parts of the U.S. media.

Here is what Arafat turned down according to Ross.

1. Yasser Arafat presented no ideas at Camp David.
2. The Taba talks would have happened in late September if not for the outbreak of violence. Arafat knew the US was ready to make a proposal and thus promised to control the violence, but didn't. (I think he was hoping that he could leverage the violence into political gain.)
3. All of Gaza and a net of 97% of the West Bank were offered at Taba.
4. The West Bank area offered was contiguous, not "cantons."
5. The Jordan valley would be under Israeli patrol for only 6 years.
6. The Palestinians were offered a capital in eastern Jerusalem.
7. There would be a "Right of Return" to the nascent Palestinian state.
8. A \$30 Billion fund to compensate refugees would be set up.
9. Taba was rushed due to Clinton's, not Barak's, end of term.
10. Members of the PA delegation thought Taba was the best they could hope to get and encouraged Arafat to accept it.
11. Arafat accepted everything he was given at Taba, but rejected everything he was supposed to give.
12. Arafat scuttled the Camp David offer. Arafat scut-

ted the Taba offer. Arafat scuttled the Mitchell plan. Arafat scuttled the Tenet plan. Arafat scuttled the Zinni plan.

This is what his successor, Mahoud Abbas, rejected. Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert presented Abbas on September 16, 2008, with a similar plan for a two-state solution: He offered to make Jerusalem the capital of two states—Israel in the western part and a Palestinian capital in the east. The Old City of Jerusalem would be administered by a committee made up of so-called wise people including Palestinians, Jordanians, Saudis, Americans and Israelis. Surprising to some but not to others, Abbas likewise turned it down.

This is not and never was a secular dispute.

The indoctrination of hate for the Jews is the underlining issue taught to generations of Palestinians, past, present and most likely future.

As moms and dads get ready to send their kids off to summer camp to participate in boating, camping, and sports, Palestinian parents are sending nearly 10,000 boys at a time to another type of camp in the Gaza Strip.

At this camp some of the crafts taught are how to kidnap an Israeli soldier. Children between the ages of 6–16 are enriched by learning the fine art of crawling under barbed wire. The final activity for the day is a game of jumping over burning tires and ducking for cover behind sandbags as counselors fire live rounds over their heads.

Why would a mother happily send her children to commit suicide for the sake of a cause?

At the funeral of Izz Al-Din Al-Masr, the homicide killer that blew up the Sbarro restaurant killing 15 people in 2001, his mother had this to say:

"By Allah, today is the best day of my life. I feel that our Lord is pleased with me, because I am offering something [my son] for Him. I wish to sacrifice more [sons] for Allah's forgiveness, and for the flag of Islam."

This is a thinking that is difficult for most of us to fathom. Yet, it's the reality of the Middle East conflict.

They are responding to the invocations of a moderator at a Fatah event in 2012 who proclaimed: "Our war with the descendants of the apes and pigs (i.e., Jews) is a war of religion and faith. Long Live Fatah!" At least he's honest. Lauding the "moderate" faction of the new "unity" government, the speaker was just echoing Article 7 of the Hamas Charter of 1988:

(Continued on page 18)

Who are we? Colossians 3:12a states “We are Gods chosen people, holy, dearly loved.” “How great is the love of the Father that we should be called the children of God!” (1 John 3:1). We are called citizens of the Kingdom (Eph. 2:19) and beloved (Deut. 33:12).

Since this is the way God sees us, how should we see others? Should we be critical or mean spirited? By no means! God expects us to see others and indeed ourselves as He sees us.

Lets read further in Col. 3:12b-13: “Cloth yourselves (or put on, in KJV) with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you.” God asks us to see others and ourselves as He sees us, with eyes of compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, patience and forgiveness. “And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity” (v. 14). Notice we have some defining attributes of love in the preceding verse, compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, patience and forgiveness. “Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as one body you were called to peace. And be thankful” (v. 15). Are peace and thankfulness more love definitions? “Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, and as you sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God. And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him” (vv. 16, 17).

Now we have just looked at the manner in which we are to deal with everyone we interact with, no matter who they may be. Starting with ourselves, in our own mind, remembering that the way God sees us will help us to see others as He sees them.

Sometimes evil thoughts and attitudes invade our mind and we become discontent with ourselves and then we become very discontent with everyone around us. This makes us treat others unkindly and then they would prefer we just went away! We

must not be arrogant or argumentative. We dare not misuse God’s grace in that manner lest we destroy the faith of another person.

The entire process of loving begins in our own mind. How we perceive ourselves rules how we perceive others. Remember that we act out exactly what is in our mind. One verse notes “As he thinketh in his heart, so is he” (KJV Prov. 23:7). So, how do we keep control of our thoughts? Brother Clell France has a saying about this one. “You can’t stop the birds from flying over your head but you don’t have to let them build a nest in your hair.” Philippians 4:8 has a bit to say on the matter of where to keep our minds. “Finally brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable -if anything is excellent or praiseworthy - think about such things” That’s a pretty tall expectation for us feeble humans! So how can we achieve this? Are we expected to do this all by ourselves? Let’s hear from Isa. 41:9 and 10: “I took you from the ends of the earth, from its farthest corners I called you. I said you are my servant; I have chosen you and have not rejected you. So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand!” God promises His power to uphold us, to help us and ultimately to guide us. We are not left alone and helpless. Through the ages God did not change His mind on this!

In James 1 we see several statements which verify our present day access to the power of God. It brings about the ability to see others and ourselves as He sees each individual and to put into our lives the appropriate thought process. Verse 5 says “If any of you lacks wisdom he should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault and it will be given to him.” The next verse states we must ask without doubt. That means asking with full confidence that God will empower us. Verse 17 tells us that all good gifts are from God, who does not change! That very power of God, referred to as the Holy Spirit is every bit as available to us today as it was in the times of old! So how do we

(Continued on page 15)

(Continued from page 14)

access that power from God? Recall verse 5: “ask without doubting the outcome.” And Col 3:15 and 16: be thankful, and have gratitude in your heart.

Let’s take a look at James 3:17 and 18, “But the wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure; then peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere. Peace makers who sow in peace raise a harvest of righteousness.”

How do we know if the guidance we receive is from God through the power of the Holy Spirit? Does it match with God’s word? Galatians 5:22-26 says: “But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self control. Against such things there is no law. Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the sinful nature with its passions and desires. Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit. Let us not become conceited, provoking and envying each other.” If these traits are not in evidence then our guidance wasn’t godly! Our lives, our words, our actions must evidence the indwelling of the Holy Spirit.

In 2 Peter 1:1-10 it says: “Simon Peter, a servant and apostle of Jesus Christ to those who through the righteousness of our God and our Savior Jesus Christ have received a faith as precious as ours; Grace and peace be yours in abundance through the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord. His divine power has given us everything we need for life and godliness through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness. Through these he has given us his very great and precious promises, so that through them you may participate in the divine nature and escape the corruption in the world caused by evil desires. For this very reason, make every effort to add to your faith goodness, and to goodness, knowledge, and to knowledge self-control, and to self-control perseverance, and to perseverance godliness, and to godliness brotherly kindness and to brotherly kindness, love. For if you possess these qualities in increasing measures, they will keep you from being ineffective and unproductive in your knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. But if anyone does not have them, he is nearsighted and blind, and has forgotten that he has been cleansed from his past sins. There-

fore, my brothers, be all the more eager to make your calling and election sure. For if you do these things, you will never fall, and you will receive a rich welcome into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.” Notice verse 5 starts out with “and add to.” Our skills are always a work in progress. Philippians 2:1 and 2 tells us, “If you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any fellowship with the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and purpose. Verse 4 says to look after the interests of others. 1 Thessalonians 5:11 and 14 ask us to be an encouragement to others and to lift them up, be joyful (v. 16) pray continually, (v 17) and give thanks in all things (v. 18).

One thought about all this. We don’t come to Christ as a whole being. We are not born with Christ in our nature but rather must recognize our need to be born into Christ through baptism. Then and only then can we ask for the growth and knowledge given through the Holy Spirit. We see in Heb. 5:14 that maturity in Christ comes by constant effort to distinguish good from evil. May we go forth in our lives giving God our best, continually practicing peace, living in harmony and encouraging each other in the manner of Christ our Lord and example. ■

**“Finally brothers,
whatever is true, whatever
is noble, whatever is right,
whatever is pure, whatever
is lovely, whatever is
Admirable—if anything is
excellent or praiseworthy—
think about such things”**

Philippians 4:8



The UP Project for this year served in the Greenville area of South Carolina from July 5 to 12. There were around forty participants from different parts of the country. The goal for UP this year was to see how our faith impacted the world and the community around us. We were involved in various service projects throughout the week.

Places that UP helped out with this year included the Dream Center of Pickens County, South Carolina; WT Patrick Center; Children for Change; as well as serving our local churches: Guthrie Grove, Bethel, Joy Fellowship, Journey Outreach; and local congregation members. Landscaping was done at Guthrie Grove, the Lipperts, and Mary Milne's house. UP relayed a patio and fixed a fence for the Martin family. The youth room bathroom at Guthrie Grove was also painted. Pastor Terry Ferrell had a few people travel to Edgefield, SC to help clean out an antique shop and move items to his house down the road and was gracious to provide lunch for the group.

The Dream Center of Pickens County, South Carolina, is a nonprofit faith-based organization ran by volunteers working to meet the needs in the community without giving handouts. They have many programs which include a mentoring program; Santa Shop Assistance program; Hello Gorgeous! Clothing boutique; Project Prevention; SHINE soup kitchen; REACH; and 5 Point Church food bank. These programs use a class and voucher system. UP participants painted classrooms, removed radiators from the entire building, detail cleaned the Soup Kitchen, cut out radiator piping, and dug footer for a refrigerator outside to help with building renovations.

The WT Patrick Center coordinates with Greenville County to give mentally handicapped individuals an opportunity to work and create relationships with other people. Some UP participants went to give the workers ice cream and talk with them. Others assisted at Children for Change, a nonprofit organization, that wants to build houses to represent levels of poverty in various cultures and third world countries. The group helped build three different houses each made with a different type of material: a bamboo house, a pallet house, and a house made with bottles filled with sand. They also helped dig a well.

During the week we learned about some of the great pillars of our faith- Alva Huffer, Jim Mattison, and Mary Milne. Julie Driskill taught on how our personality and birth order affects our ministry for Christ. Andy Cisneros taught on spiritual gifts and how it was important to reflect God's glory, focus on other people instead of ourselves, and live in the spirit. Graysen Pack taught a class on creating change in the local community. On top of everything, we did a lot of activities working with the local communities, met in prayer groups to discuss the day and pray for each other, and had a discussion on deep theological issues and questions (Elephant Room). Steve Partain and Andy Cisneros led team building exercises that involved nonverbal communication as well as teaching that it is important to listen to others.

Guthrie Grove was a great host and provided a space for the group to settle during down time. The group was split up by gender each night and stayed at a different house which helped build great relationships with each other and a better community. During the end of the week, the UP Project leaders surprised the participants at 4AM to watch the sun rise at Pretty Place, SC, as a reminder that God gave us another day to live. We had a laying on of hands service which was symbolic of lifting up our hands to God to pray for a commission for a specific reason and purpose; baptism; or to give God's blessing to be on people. We were blessed to have Aaron Winner lead us in evening worship most nights. Thank you to everyone who made this week a great experience!

Please check out our Facebook page for more pictures and updates. ■



The goal for UP this year was to see how our faith impacted the world and the community around us.

That goal was accomplished!



Church News

Baptisms

Arkansas

McGintytown - Charli Mariah, (4/6/14), Craig New, Mary Johnson, (4/27/14) by Pastor Tom New

Michigan

North Kent - Marissa Swanson (6/22/14), Maegan Swanson, (6/25/14), Makenna Cisler (6/29/14) by Michael Cisler

Missouri

Peculiar - Annie Glen Elkins, (4/13/14) by Scott Thibault

Ohio

Chapel Hill, Urbana - Julie Zizert (6/22/14) by Pastor Bruce Reye

Brush Creek - Fran Moody and son, Trevor Moody, (6/15/14) by Pastor Dave Hixon

Ontario, Canada

Ottawa, Odeola Onafuwa, (6/1/14) by Bruce Lyon

South Carolina

Bethel - Julie Brock, (5/4/14) and Shianne Moss, (5/18/14) by Pastor Kyle Casey

Virginia

Cool Spring, Jeff Baggarly, (6/8/14), by Elder RJ Cooper and Pastor Jeff Fletcher

Washington

Wenatchee - Starla Newto, (6/8/14) by Merry Peterson

Marriage

Virginia

Cool Spring - Randi LeHew and Jeff Baggarly, (5/3/14) by Pastor Jeff Fletcher

Deaths

Arizona

Eloy – Betty J. Hall, 75, (May/18/14), former employee of Oregon Bible College along with her husband, David; long time member by Pastor Steve Taylor of Lakeshore Bible Church.

Indiana

Williamsport – Kenneth Lundquist, 75, (4/19/14), member at Hedrick Church, by Pastor David Cheatwood.

Louisiana

Albany – Vernis Wolfe, 91, (5/11/14), long time pastor serving churches: St. Cloud, MN; Blood River, Springfield, LA; Baton Rouge, LA; Tempe, AZ; Oregon, IL; Happy Woods, Hammond, LA. He is survived by his sons Duain and David, grandchildren and great grandchildren. Services by Terry Dwyer, Duain Wolfe, Sam Voorhies, Cheryl Anthon Brothers, and Mary Louise Burke.

Ohio

Hiram – Daniel Koston, 79, (7/7/14), long time member of Church of the Open Bible in Bedford.

South Carolina

Pelzer – Mary Railton Milne, 88, (6/12/14), wife of deceased Pastor Kenneth Milne, graduate of Oregon Bible College in 1952; employed by the College/Conference as a secretary at one time. Service by Pastor Mike Montgomery.

Washington

Wenatchee – Kyle Davis, 91, (6/10/14), 1952 graduate of Oregon Bible College, life long member by Pastor Arlen Rankin.

(Continued from page 13)

“‘‘ Hamas has been looking forward to implementing Allah’s promise, whatever time it might take. The prophet [Muhammad] said: ‘The time (of Resurrection) will not come until Muslims will fight the Jews; until the Jews hide behind rocks and trees, which will cry: O Muslim! there is a Jew hiding behind me, come and kill him!’”

— Sahih Muslim, Book 41, Number 6985

This quote and countless others come from scriptures in the Koran and the words of the Prophet

Muhammad found in the Hadith.

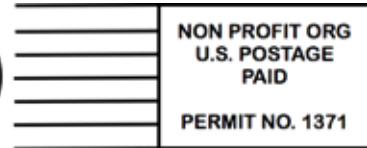
The expressed aims of Hamas, Hezbollah, and their offshoots isn’t just to banish Israelis from Israel, it’s to kill Jews—plain and simple.

“‘‘ They have said, ‘Come, and let us wipe them out as a nation, that the name of Israel be remembered no more’” (Ps. 83.4). ■

- | | | | |
|----|---|----|---|
| 1 | Pray that God might be praised through your worship today. | 15 | Praise God for the prayer partners and financial supporters of the General Conference. |
| 2 | Pray for Pastor John and Gayle Guthrie and their work at East Oregon, Illinois. | 16 | Pray for your church family and for spiritual growth. |
| 3 | Pray for Pastor Dale and Julie Bliss and the Maple Grove congregation in Kokomo, Indiana. | 17 | Praise God for the foreign mission opportunities He has provided to us. |
| 4 | Praise God for the faithful ministry of your local church pastor. | 18 | Pray for your own personal desire to love God more. |
| 5 | Pray for the youth of your local church and the General Conference. | 19 | Pray for mission work in the Philippine Islands. |
| 6 | Pray for Pastor Dale and Cheryl Swartz and the congregation at Litchfield, Minnesota. | 20 | Pray for your family and your friends. |
| 7 | Pray for healing for someone you know who is in need. | 21 | Pray for ABC teachers as they instruct our students. |
| 8 | Pray that God would continue to financially bless the work of the General Conference and Atlanta Bible College. | 22 | Pray for all the faithful pastors and workers in Malawi. |
| 9 | Praise God for the gift of His Son. | 23 | Pray for those who are seeking God's will for their lives. |
| 10 | Praise God for His daily mercies. | 24 | Pray for church workers in India. |
| 11 | Pray for the outreach of the church in Lima, Peru. | 25 | Pray for Pastor Scott and Michele Millard and the Jaynes Street Church in Omaha. |
| 12 | Praise God for the beauty of each season. | 26 | Pray for the Lord's Harvest Mission Board as they meet in McDonough today and tomorrow. |
| 13 | Pray for retired pastors and their spouses. | 27 | Pray that you will let your light shine for Christ. |
| 14 | Pray for spiritual renewal and growth for ABC students preparing for ministry. | 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. |

- | | | | |
|----|---|----|---|
| 1 | Praise God for your pastor during October's Clergy Appreciation Month. | 17 | Pray for the work that is being done in India to proclaim God's truth. |
| 2 | Praise God for the promise of a new heaven and a new earth in His coming Kingdom. | 18 | Pray for Atlanta Bible College students as they reach the half-way point of this fall semester. |
| 3 | Pray for a personal hunger to know God and Jesus better. | 19 | Pray for all of the college/conference staff as they serve us each day. |
| 4 | Pray for Pastor Brian Atra and the Restitution Church in Eldorado, Illinois. | 20 | Pray for Pastor John and Lila Wincapaw and the Blood River Church in Springfield, Louisiana. |
| 5 | Praise God for your church family and the strength that you receive through it. | 21 | Pray for God's blessing on your neighborhood. |
| 6 | Pray for the Open Bible Church of God in Springfield, Missouri. | 22 | Ask God to help you love Him and His Son more. |
| 7 | Pray for a church planting vision for Church of God members. | 23 | Pray for Pastor Steve and Jill Taylor and the Lakeshore Bible Church in Arizona. |
| 8 | Pray for Africa mission work. | 24 | Pray for the work of the Blanchard, Michigan church. |
| 9 | Pray for the youth of your local church. | 25 | Pray for the ministry of the ABC Korean Extension in reaching students in the Duluth, Georgia area and in South Korea. |
| 10 | Praise God for those who are preparing for ministry. | 26 | Pray for Pastor Dennis and Rachel Baldwin and the Grace Fellowship Church in Front Royal, Virginia. |
| 11 | Pray for Joe Martin, College President/Conference CAO. | 27 | Praise God for retired Pastor Billie Kennedy and his wife Irene. |
| 12 | Pray for Pastor Tom and Anne Fischhaber and the Eden Valley, Minnesota congregation. | 28 | Pray for the Fair Oaks Community Church in Herndon, VA. |
| 13 | Pray for the financial needs of the Church of God General Conference. | 29 | Pray for the Hedrick, Indiana Church, and Pastor Joe and Karla Astolfi. |
| 14 | Praise God for new contacts who are seeking the truth around the world. | 30 | Praise God for His constant care. |
| 15 | Pray for the ministry of the Pakistan churches affiliated with the Church of God General Conference. | 31 | Pray for God to send workers into the fields that are ready for harvest. |
| 16 | Pray for Pastor Chris and Jennifer Seiders and the Fort Valley, Virginia Church. | | |

Atlanta Bible College
Church of God General Conference
2020 Avalon Parkway, Suite 400
McDonough, GA 30253



Address Service Requested

THE RESTITUTION HERALD & PROGRESS JOURNAL is owned and published by Church of God General Conference, 2020 Avalon Parkway, Suite 400, McDonough, GA 30253. Published quarterly. Gary Burnham, David Krogh, and Joe Martin, Coordinators; Ruth Finnegan, Publishing Specialist; Robert Jones, Proofreader. Telephone 678-833-1839 or 800-347-4261; FAX 678-833-1853. E-mail Address: info@abc-coggc.org. Website: http://www.abc-coggc.org.

Prayer and Praise

November 2014

- | | | | |
|----|---|----|---|
| 1 | Pray for Pastor Jeff and Terri Moore and the St. Cloud, MN Church and House Light Ministries. | 17 | Pray for God to provide you with "thankful" eyes this month. |
| 2 | Pray for our Isolated Member Ministry (IMM). | 18 | Pray for the boldness you need to share Christ with an unbelieving friend. |
| 3 | Praise God for the board of directors who willingly serve the Church of God. | 19 | Pray for college/conference youth events being planned for 2015. |
| 4 | Pray for Pastor Kirby and Bonnie Davis and Pastor Merry Peterson and the Wenatchee, WA Church. | 20 | Pray for the outreach efforts of your local congregation. |
| 5 | Pray for Lupe Badillo as she continues to minister in Labor Vieja, Mexico. | 21 | Praise God for a blessing He provided in your life yesterday. |
| 6 | Pray for Ruth Finnegan in her duties as publishing specialist for the General Conference. | 22 | Praise God for His daily blessings of shelter, food, family, and friends. |
| 7 | Pray that God will raise up workers to serve in mission fields in other lands. | 23 | Pray for an individual you know who does not have hope of eternal life. |
| 8 | Pray for Pastor Andy and Kristy Cisneros and their ministry at Timberland Bible Church in South Bend, IN. | 24 | Pray for the churches within your state or regional conference. |
| 9 | Praise God for His holiness and truthfulness. | 25 | Pray for Pastor Bill and Lacey Dunn and the New Beginnings Church in Desloge, MO. |
| 10 | Pray for Judy Myers and the work of the Lord's Harvest International mission board. | 26 | Pray for God's greatest blessings on those recruiting new students for the Atlanta Bible College spring semester. |
| 11 | Pray for a spirit of unity throughout the Church of God. | 27 | Praise God on this Thanksgiving Day for His goodness in your life. |
| 12 | Praise God for baptisms in our churches this fall. | 28 | Pray for the opportunity to share Christ with someone this week. |
| 13 | Pray for Pastor Wade and Kim Tierney and the Morse Mill, MO Church. | 29 | Praise God for the leadership of your local congregation. |
| 14 | Pray for the Ministerial Recognition Board as they encourage our pastors. | 30 | Pray for new contacts through the distribution of literature and our website. |
| 15 | Pray for the pastors in Pakistan who minister under very difficult circumstances. | | |
| 16 | Pray for the Burr Oak, IN church. | | |