



CHURCH OF GOD PROGRESS JOURNAL



Atlanta
BIBLE COLLEGE

... when they believed Philip as he proclaimed the good news of the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women. Acts 8:12

Message from Seth Ross, President/Executive Director

A Recommendation



The Board of Directors met March 20-21 for its spring meeting. After discussing the issue of relocation on and off for the past eight years or more, they unanimously voted to recommend relocating the conference and college. Their recommendation, along with an explanation, is included in this Progress Journal.

This recommendation will be brought to the delegates for a vote at General Conference this summer. General Conference will meet on August 7-8, 2025, at Maple Grove Community Church in Kokomo, IN.

The General Conference constitution reads, *"Resolutions, major motions, or recommendations should be submitted to the Board of Directors no later than four months before the conference business session convenes. Resolutions, major motions, or recommendations may originate with individuals, churches, conferences, or the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors will receive and review the items for publication in the summer Progress Journal."* This year's business session convenes on August 7, 2025.

Many will ask how I feel personally about the recommendation. I am in favor of it. I feel this is the right move at the right time. In 1991, I moved with my family from Oregon, IL, to Morrow, GA, as we felt God's leading. In 1996, I moved from GA to OH to pastor a church where I felt God leading. I later got married, and we began our family there. In 2016, we felt God leading us to move again, and we moved to GA to work with the General Conference and the Bible college. Every step of the way, we've done our best to follow where we feel God has led us with the purpose of serving Him. It seems He is again leading us to make a move. The Church of God has long been a movement that was founded on truth, connected by relationships, and built on faithfulness and a willingness to follow wherever God leads.

It is certainly a complex issue with many pros and cons. If we relocate, we will lose some things, but we will gain other things. However, I feel we will gain more than we will lose. Yes, there will be challenges if we move, but we will face challenges even if we stay where we are. It is not a matter of whether we will face challenges, but rather what those challenges will be.

I feel that relocating is in the best interest of the college and conference as well as for our churches, both current and future. The world has undergone significant changes since we relocated to the Atlanta area in 1991. Some of the original reasons to move are no longer relevant today. For example, we desired to be adjacent to an accredited college or university, so our students could participate in dual enrollment. We built our campus adjacent to Clayton State for this reason. Now, with online courses available nearly everywhere, students can enroll in any school, regardless of where the Bible college is located. In fact, we already moved away from Clayton State in 2008. Not only are we no longer adjacent to another college, but we no longer have the type of campus that we envisioned and desired.

What hasn't changed is that Atlanta is far removed from the majority of our churches. One goal of relocating is to strengthen the relationship between the conference and our churches. We need each other. The conference only exists to support and serve the churches at large, coordinating efforts to help churches accomplish larger ministry efforts together. This is why Lord's Harvest International, the Bible college, and Turning Point Youth Ministries exist. We collectively work together.

At the spring meeting, the board met with a professional strategist to discuss the mission of the General Conference and to craft some goals. In full disclosure, that professional is my brother, Zachary Ross, who has worked for companies such as Amazon and Google. He is currently a Global OKR coach and consultant, helping firms write objectives and

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key results (OKRs). What makes his participation with us so helpful is not just his professional experience, but also his intimate knowledge of the Church of God General Conference. He offered his professional help free of charge, and we are grateful for it. The board's recommendation stems, in part, from the work they did with Zachary. His work extended beyond the issue of relocation, pointing toward the broader mission of the General Conference.

In addition to recommending relocation, we are developing new programs and initiatives to serve and strengthen our existing churches. We're exploring ways to reach new people, enabling us to establish and support new churches and congregations. The opportunities for growth are immeasurable, and to properly capitalize on them, we need deep roots and a firm foundation of existing churches. We make each other stronger, which in turn helps us nurture new people. We are developing a publishing department to create content that spreads biblical truth. We will market our materials, both in print and online, to reach people worldwide who are desperately seeking the truth. These efforts are not dependent on relocation, but they can happen simultaneously.

Nobody believes, or is proposing, that relocation alone will solve old problems or be the sole answer to new ones. But if we combine a well-located campus with strategic ministry efforts, great things can become a reality.

I encourage you to read the board's recommendation. I encourage you to ask questions. Many have prayed over this issue, and I trust God has communicated His heart. I encourage you to continue praying. Pray for a shared vision and unity of purpose among our churches. Pray for new opportunities and congregations. Pray for new contacts. Pray for our collective wisdom as a movement, that we might be good stewards of the resources and opportunities God will bring our way.

The board invites your questions and feedback. Their contact info is included in the recommendation. Additional information will be mailed out to address questions related to timing, staff, finances, and other important details connected to this recommendation.

The goal is to help churches and spread truth. This is one step toward that end.

Board Unanimously Recommends Relocation

The Board of Directors presents to the delegates of the Church of God General Conference, subject to a two-thirds approval of the delegates, the relocation of the Church of God General Conference and the Atlanta Bible College to the west-central Ohio region. The delegates give authority to the Board of Directors to identify and execute the necessary real estate transactions.

Explanation:

A discussion about the potential relocation of our current college and conference has been ongoing since 2018. The reasons have been numerous and varied, and interest has fluctuated. Occasional property options have been offered, and several exploratory site visits have been conducted to assess possibilities.

In 2022, the Board of Directors invited the entire Church of God to join together in a day of prayer and fasting to seek God's direction regarding relocation. The board followed up with as many churches as they could reach to ask what people felt God was communicating. The feedback the board received did not indicate a necessity to relocate at that time. "It was concluded that further work needed to be done on vision, planning, and strategy. As part of our recurring responsibilities, the board will periodically evaluate our location and operations in the context of our mission."

Our mission states, "The Church of God General Conference partners with churches and ministries in spreading biblical truth of the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ."

Over the past three years, work has been conducted on vision, planning, and strategy. That work led many to believe that relocation will best position us to fulfill our mission of partnering with churches and ministries more effectively. The objective is to relocate our main office and college more centrally within our Church of God footprint (the Midwest) in order to develop closer relationships with more of our churches, provide a better on-campus student experience, and offer a wider variety of student ministry engagement opportunities.

Reasons for recommending relocation revolve around three main ideas: a campus, centrality, and proximity.

A CAMPUS

In 1991, the delegates of the General Conference approved moving our conference operations and Bible college from Oregon, IL, to Morrow, GA, where a college campus was established. The intent of that move was to help revitalize the Church of God. The Progress Journal noted that "many members have expressed concern over the closing of churches, the loss of our young people, the plateaued and declining membership in many churches, and an insufficient number of graduates from Oregon Bible College." Reasons supporting that move included being physically located adjacent to an accredited college or university and being in a growing metropolitan area for planting churches. Other reasons were related to weather, economic realities, employment opportunities, and the ability to grant a college degree. The college and conference relocated to Morrow, GA, building a traditional campus.

In 2007, the board moved to "develop the ABC and GC campus in a new location, in keeping with the Vision State-

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ment.” Other decisions were made “concerning the future development of the ABC campus.” It was decided to sell the Morrow campus with the intent of building two new campuses – one to the south, and one on the north side of Atlanta for our Korean Extension. Many subsequent communications and decisions were made in pursuit of building a new campus. Due to various factors, the south campus never materialized as envisioned.

While we have done well with what we have, and, in many ways, the Church of God has made significant progress, we still lack a campus, which was initially a central focus. The General Conference is now in its best financial position in over two decades, and opportunities abound worldwide as the internet has fueled the spread of good theology.

In 2024, the board formed two study committees. One was tasked with recommending a model that best trains people for ministry. The other was tasked with recommending a location where the conference and college could best serve our churches and fulfill our mission.

The Ministry Training Model Committee concluded that the best model was a college model in a campus setting that offers online options and uses both classroom and hands-on experiences.

The Location Study Committee focused on determining a location that would allow the General Conference to best fulfill the mission God has given us. They were unable to reach a consensus, so they presented the pros and cons of several locations to the board for their consideration.

PROXIMITY

If we build a campus, the question arises: Where should it be located? To best serve our churches and foster closer relationships with them, it is wise to be located near as many churches as possible.

This is especially important for Bible college students to have the opportunity to experience ministry in multiple congregations. Observing and participating in more than one church provides broader exposure to the kinds of churches they may engage with after college. Being within an hour of multiple pastors provides a great opportunity for mentorship. Since not every church operates in the same way, being close to multiple churches gives students the opportunity to observe how churches can function with different leadership structures.

There are several areas around the country where we have clusters of churches, but only a few are in the Midwest. For this reason, the Board unanimously recommends west-central Ohio, targeting the Huber Heights – Tipp City – Troy region.

CENTRALITY

Being located near the center of the Church of God is important for fostering closer relationships with churches. Obviously, conference staff can visit churches from anywhere, but traveling from the Atlanta area makes most trips at least a day’s drive or requires a flight. Living closer allows for shorter drives and, therefore, makes more visits possible, which is the intention.

Using the intersection of Interstates 70 & 75 as a reference point, we would be:

- Within a 60-minute drive of 6 Churches of God representing 362 people
- Within a 4-hour drive of 13 Churches of God representing 560 people
- Within an 8-hour drive of 42 Churches of God representing 1618 people

For comparison, McDonough, GA is:

- Within a 60-minute drive of 4 Churches of God representing 89 people
- Within a 4-hour drive of 10 Churches of God representing 420 people
- Within an 8-hour drive of 12 Churches of God representing 518 people

SUMMARY

Benefits of the proposed relocation to west-central Ohio include:

1. We can develop closer relationships with more of our churches.
2. We can offer a more enriching on-campus student experience.
3. We can offer a wider variety of student ministry engagements.

Relocation alone won’t solve every problem faced by the Church of God. We face challenges that extend beyond the location of an office or college. Developing new initiatives and partnerships, planting new churches, and cultivating more leaders must all be ongoing.

You likely have more questions than are answered here. More information will be mailed soon to provide a comprehensive overview of the details involved in relocation. In that mailing, the board will attempt to address questions related to cost, timing, personnel, ministry programs, and long-range plans. This initial communication is to share the board’s recommendation to the delegates for a vote at General Conference, August 6-8, 2025, at Maple Grove Community Church in Kokomo, IN. We hope you will attend and participate in the process.

In the meantime, the Board welcomes your questions and thoughts. You may email them collectively or individually.

The entire Board:

board-members-only@googlegroups.com

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Shane Martin (Treasurer): smartin@elements.org

Bob Alcumbrack: robotalcumbrack@gmail.com

Alan Cain: thelcog@gmail.com

Talon Paul: kingdomgospel138@gmail.com

We are committed to helping churches and spreading truth. Together, we can accomplish much in the name of Jesus Christ and the coming kingdom of God.

Nominations for the Board of Directors

At the summer conference, two directors will be elected to the board of directors. The terms of J. J. Fletcher and Jon Welch expire. They may not be re-nominated. The board consists of seven directors elected by delegates. The term is for four years. Continuing board members are Robert Alcumbrock, Alan Cain, Shane Martin, Joe Myers, and Talon Paul. The following individuals have been nominated.

Mark Cain

Mark has a Bachelor of Theology degree from Atlanta Bible College and a BS in computer science from Cleveland State University. Mark has worked over 20 years in a medical imaging software company as a software developer, Chief Technical Officer, Chief Data Officer, and Privacy Officer.

Mark serves as a treasurer, moderator, elder, janitor, and musician at the Church of the Open Bible in Bedford, Ohio, where he attends with his wife, Karen. Mark has attended Bedford since 1993 when he moved to northeast Ohio to be near his parents, Rex and Sharon Cain. Rex was pastor of Bedford at that time. Mark serves as the president of the Northeast Conference, and has served on the board of directors once before (2019 to 2023).

Mark has extensive connections with biblical unitarians around the world. He served on the board of the first CONVERGE event in 2019, where around 300 biblical unitarians from various organizations gathered, en masse, for the first time, in northeast Ohio. At the same time, Mark joined the board of the Unitarian Christian Alliance (UCA) and has spent over five years helping to network unitarian Christians around the world, produce doctrinal resources, and coordinate multiple UCA conferences on three continents, which included teaching workshops and leading sessions. Mark is now on the board for the second CONVERGE event to be held in northeast Ohio the first weekend in August 2025.

Mark is host of the Unitarian Christian Alliance podcast, an audio resource that helps to introduce and connect people from various backgrounds who typically struggle with isolation. Mark is also the producer and one of the hosts for the Unitarian Christian Answers podcast, a new podcast in 2025 which focuses on specific questions for unitarian Christians, and which directly promotes other unitarian Christian podcasters, YouTubers, and writers.

Mark has a heart for isolated unitarian Christians. He specifically wants to help the Church of God General Conference expand its offerings to enable very small groups (i.e. Bible studies) and small unaffiliated fellowships to find a connection with the COG. His desire is to have potentially dozens of small gatherings of isolated people become connected with our generous and loving organization. Joining would instantly introduce these people into a wide community, thereby combatting the discouragement of isolation. Furthermore, it would make the church and ministry building efforts of our conference, as well as our ex-

cellent annual events (FUEL, CWS, YAG), part of their faith experience.

Mark believes that expansion like this, into a wider isolated network of people, would bolster our conference's size and capabilities and would generate a wave of encouragement among those in the COG who have watched the numbers shrink, year after year.

Marcia Railton

I am honored to have received nominations from Family Bible Church and the Indiana State Conference to potentially serve on the Church of God Board of Directors.

Born to two godly role models, Pastor Ray and Susan Hall, my three siblings and I grew up at Garden Park Church of God in Kentwood, Michigan, where we were baptized, learned to love the church, and where my dad would pastor for 41 years.

I attended Oregon Bible College for one year. I loved the learning, fellowship with faithful mentors and peers, and opportunities for service and growth. It was also a great blessing to be able to go on mission trips to Mexico and England. Next, I attended Calvin College for four years, along with my mom, and we both graduated in 1994 with degrees in education. During these years I was the youth leader at Garden Park. In addition to weekly lessons, we combined with the area church youth and formed Star Drama Team. We went on two tours to many COG churches.

Timberland (South Bend, IN) became my home church when I married Jason Railton, son of Pastor John and Alice Railton – and I was blessed with a second set of fabulous, godly, pastoring parents. For 14 years we were busy at Timberland with youth, Christian education and raising our family of three children in the Lord and in the church. Christian education has always been very important to me, both for my own growth and to help lead others to grow in the Lord and be kingdom citizens.

Also, at this time I was becoming more and more involved with Family Camp (held each June at Camp Mack) and the work of the Indiana State Conference. I could go on and on about the benefits, joys and lessons learned at Family Camp. I was assistant director for several years and became director in 2018, and continue – with much help from others, including our grown children and faithful workers: Moriah, Josiah and Makayla. There is no greater joy than hearing your children are walking in the faith – unless it is then working side-by-side with them advancing the gospel in various ways.

In 2009 it was a joy to join with several families to start Family Bible Church in Granger, IN. One of my passions is helping others become involved in ministry. On a weekly basis I secure nine volunteers to fill spots in Christian education and worship service elements such as prayers, scripture readings, children's devotion, and offering. So

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much is learned by doing, and a healthy church is made up of doers and learners.

I have been very active in FUEL (only missing about 3 years since I was first old enough to attend). At FUEL 2016 (with the theme of Grow) I began what would become SeekGrowLove.com, one of my favorite ways to serve thus far. In order to continue the growth encouraged at FUEL, we needed daily watering with the Word of God. With the help of many faithful Church of God men, women and youth, we send out daily email Bible-based devotions. I know reading and sharing (and sometimes writing) these daily nuggets of truth from the Bible (different from so many trinitarian devotions available) has been great for my own personal growth. A welcome bonus has been the number of daily visitors from around the world as the internet helps spread God's Word. Without a solid foundation and reliance on the scriptures, we cannot be the people, churches, or conferences God wants us to be.

In 2017 Jason and I saw a great need for working on healthy marriages (ours and others) and with the help and support of Family Bible Church and the Indiana State Conference, we began organizing and hosting what has become a yearly (sans COVID 2020) Married Couples Retreat. Our churches are only as strong (or weak) as the individuals, families and marriages they are composed of. So, we must invest in creating and maintaining healthy, God-honoring homes.

I am so blessed to have been able to be a stay-at-home mom, while also running a part-time home day-care, which has given me extra time during the week to pursue ministry opportunities of all kinds. I have also enjoyed volunteering at a women's care center, teaching at midweek classes for the combined area COG churches, directing Vacation Bible School and Backyard Bible Club, working on a few LHI projects, foster child mentoring for years, and foster child mothering for 6 months. One day in the not-too-distant future Jason (who now works from home, too) and I would love to take long camping journeys visiting Church of God churches along the way.

My passions are using and sharing the truth of God's Word, involving others in ministry, and supporting and encouraging individuals, marriages, families and churches to be prepared for the return of Christ. I feel some of my strengths are seeking and trusting God, wisdom, discernment, positivity, and creative thinking – seeing possibilities instead of problems. I am thankful for what the college and conference has provided for me, my family, and church, and I would love to be a part of continuing and even improving their ministry in the future.

Feel free to contact me at mjmjmrailton@gmail.com if you have any questions or want to discuss exciting possibilities. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Jim Shaull

My name is Jim Shaull, and I am honored to have been nominated by the Guthrie Grove Church of God to serve on the COG Board of Directors. I was born and raised in Oklahoma and grew up in the Advent Christian Church. Jan Stil-

son's *Biographical Encyclopedia* shows a good bit of history between the Adventist and the COG. A great, great, grandfather of mine lived in both Cowley Co, KS and Magazine, AR right up to the time COG people built churches in those places. Then he was licensed to preach for the Adventists in Indian Territory (before OK statehood) and was pictured there with a known COG minister. All of which is to say, the God of Abraham, mortality of man, resurrection, and the kingdom on earth are instilled in me.

When the Adventists held their general conference at Wheaton College in 1982, I was part of the contingency there to help prevent the conference from officially accepting the trinity as their view of God. We were successful then, but eventually it was a lost cause. I'm aware there will always be "causes" for which to take a stand.

In 1979 I graduated with a B.S. degree from East Central University, Ada, OK. I was attending Aurora College, Aurora, IL, when, on a mission-oriented trip to the Adventist retirement village in Dowling Park, FL, a nursing student named Cory, and I, saw something in each other! After her graduation, we married and moved to Shamrock, TX, where I became pastor of the A.C. church there. In 1986 we moved to Monroe, NC, where I became pastor of Hope Second Advent Christian Church that had, because of the trinity, pulled out of their conference. I pastored there for over 12 years and later was a deacon.

During this time I was introduced to the COG, and enjoyed our church being visited by the OBC Chorale. I taught in camps, and attended retreats, etc. In 2000, we, with our two daughters, moved to Springfield, LA where I pastored the Blood River Church of God for four years. This opened a much wider COG experience for us, with National Camp (then called RYOT) and CWS becoming regular events on our schedule, Cory as camp nurse for over 10 years, and me on staff. In 2008 I accepted the associate pastor position at Guthrie Grove, and worked and taught along with Pastor Mike Montgomery. In 2013 I went to work at the BMW plant, and retired from there in 2023.

We have six very young grandchildren. Our daughter, Jennifer, is married to Aaron Winner (who is an adjunct instructor at ABC), and our daughter, Jamie, is married to Kyle McClain, pastor of the North Hills Church in Ohio. I'm currently an elder and fill in as a teacher at Guthrie Grove Church. If elected, I would strive to maintain balance on the board of directors, as we continue to see how to better reach the fields that are "white unto harvest" (both local and foreign).

Christian Workers Seminar

(see page 15 for more information)

Cost:

Adult (age 12+) \$150
 Adult no meal (age 12+) \$50
 Child (age 3-11) \$30
 Child (age 0-2) Free



Church of God General Conference Schedule

105th Annual Summer Conference
Theme: Fix Our Eyes On Jesus
(Heb 12:1-2)

Cost:
 Adult: \$100 per adult
 Under 18: free

LOCATIONS:

Maple Grove
 3113 W Blvd
 Kokomo, IN 46902
 (765) 455-8866
 MapleGroveCC.org
 (meals, workshops, & meetings)



Cross America
 840 Daniel Dr
 Kokomo, IN 46901
 (765) 780-3090
 CrossAmerica.net
 (evening services)



Wednesday, Aug 6 – General Conference

3:00 Check-in Opens
 5:00 Welcome Dinner
 7:00 Worship Service – Speaker Alan Cain
 (off-site @Cross America Conference Center)
 8:30 Welcome Reception

Thursday, Aug 7 – General Conference

Breakfast on your own
 9:00 Devotions
 9:30 Break
 10:00 Workshops
 10:45 Break
 11:00 Workshops
 Ministers Association Meeting (foyer)
 Priscillas Meeting (library)
 11:45 Break
 Priscillas Photo (Thursday, sanctuary)
 12:00 Lunch
 1:30 Business Meeting
 5:00 Dinner
 7:00 Worship Service – Speaker Talon Paul
 (off-site @Cross America Conference Center)

Friday, Aug 8 – General Conference

Breakfast on your own
 9:00 Devotions
 9:30 Break
 10:00 Workshops
 OBC/ABC Alumni meeting (library)
 10:45 Break
 11:00 Workshops
 Ministers Association Meeting (foyer)
 11:45 Break
 12:00 Lunch
 1:30 Business Meeting
 4:00 Newly elected board organizational meeting (library)
 4:30 ABCDF meeting
 5:00 Dinner
 7:00 Worship Service – Speaker Seth Ross
 (off-site @Cross America Conference Center)

Workshop topics will be included in the summer issue of the Progress Journal.

Register at: generalconferenceevent.com

NATIONAL COG WOMEN OF THE TRUTH CONFERENCE

Oregon, IL Church of God
 Aug. 21-23, 2025

Theme ~ Daughters of the Royal Family Adorning the Gospel ~ Titus 2

Register by July 25
 Adults \$35
 Teen (13-19) \$25
 Household of 4+ \$100
 After July 25 add \$10
 Price includes: Supper Thurs., Lunch and Banquet Fri., and Lunch Sat.

Register at www.oregoncog.com and to watch for more info.

2024 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:

Lynn Berry
 Carol Eldred
 Charles and Joyce Knapp
 Harvey and Mary Krogh
 Bill and Mardy Lawrence
 Roger McClain
 Jim Mickey
 Kerry Pack
 Delilah Padgoff
 Paul Riley
 Petsy Holt Rudacille
 John Smead

Scholarships and Grants for Atlanta Bible College

Many grant and scholarship funds have been established in memory of family and friends over the years. Most of these are endowment funds where the principal is preserved and the interest earnings are used to provide assistance to Atlanta Bible College students through the reduced tuition program. During 2024 additional contributions were made to the following funds and/or interest earnings were disbursed to the college for the benefit of the students. Thanks to the many individuals, churches, conferences, and groups for advancing the education of men and women for ministry and honoring their friends and loved ones.

ABC/OBC Alumni Association
 Bob and Melody Ballard Memorial
 Burnham-Stadden Memorial
 Carol Brown Memorial
 Cecil Smead Memorial
 David Rector Memorial
 Delbert and Bernedene Jones Memorial
 Don and Marj Overmyer
 Francis and Lila VanFleet Memorial
 Fulton Ramsey Memorial
 Glen and Violet Booth Memorial
 Golden Rule Church Scholarship
 Harold J. Doan Memorial
 Harry and Emily Berry Memorial
 Harvey and Mary Krogh Memorial
 Hattie Bottolfs Memorial
 Iris Elton Memorial
 NE Conf - James A. Patrick Memorial
 Jean Elton Fortney Memorial
 J. O. and Mary Lou Pack Memorial
 John and Ruth Lewis Memorial

Kathryn Bailey and Mary Ludden Scholarship
 Kent Ross Memorial
 Lawrenceville Church in memory of Paul and Ruth 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
 North Kent Bible Church, Rockford, MI
 Oregon, IL Church of God
 Orine Richardson Robinson Memorial
 Paul Riley Scholarship
 Pine Grove Church, Brooklyn Park, MN
 Rex Cain Memorial
 Ritenour Trust Fund - In memory of Eliza Boyer Ritenour, Virginia Ritenour Kincheloe, and Seraphine Ritenour Cleek
 Southwest Members in memory of Norman McLeod, S. J. Lindsay, Harold J. Doan and C. E. Randall
 Stan Ross Memorial
 Treva Williams Memorial
 Troyview Church, OH – Demmitt/Overholser Scholarship
 Virginia Conference Scholarship
 William G. and Nina G. Hicks Memorial
 William and Rhoda Hanson Memorial
 Zelma Weaver Memorial

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LORD'S HARVEST
INTERNATIONAL

Annette Osborn, Coordinator
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The face of foreign missions has changed dramatically over the past 30 years. The use of technology has made communication much easier, and we regularly provide Bible lessons to the pastors to continue to develop their spiritual growth. We send files of translated materials for them to print locally to distribute to their congregations and conduct outreach in their area. We face the same challenges you do: to actively identify, recruit, train and mentor people to assume leadership and for ministries to become self-sustaining.

Our two biggest areas include Malawi and Mozambique, both doing well with the help of their overseer, Linda Limbe. They have truly established their own roots in faith and work towards independent ministries. In Peru, Pastor Edwin Mauricio Alza has done the same and continues to maintain contact with those in the US through Restoration Fellowship.

Unfortunately, several leaders and areas have not brought the same initiative and integrity to their ministries as others. Through ongoing research, conversations, and prayer-

ful consideration, LHI has made the decision to cut ties with multiple leaders throughout Haiti, Pakistan, and Uganda. LHI is dedicated to being good stewards of donations received, and maintaining biblical truth in our support of international ministries.

To best create a self-sustaining ministry, each region has been guided to organize a board and meet regularly and form plans for their area. Through this process, teaching, training, and unity are more consistent than ever before. We continually stress the need to ground members in the truths of scripture and to grow beyond the milk of the word. LHI is excited about the international ministries we support and their dedication to promoting biblical truth in their communities.

LHI feels confident in our ability to equip believers to spread the gospel and truth of one God through hands-on training with those interested in missions. There are current health and safety alerts issued by the CDC for all areas originally planned to visit, therefore, the 2025 trips will not be occurring. We ask that you all remain faithful in prayer, encouragement, and support for those interested in traveling to Africa so we may have a strong and excited team when the opportunity arises again.

The generosity of God's people and their faithfulness to the truth and prayer sustain us all. You can contact LHI chairperson, Annette Osborn, at any time.

lhiannette@gmail.com

Kim Johnson Mission Endowment Fund

Have you thought about serving on a foreign mission field? Has God been speaking to you about our foreign mission ministries? What country has God placed on your heart—Kenya, Malawi, Peru, the Philippines, or another mission field? Are there individuals in your church — young or old — who feel the pull to serve God on foreign soil?

What is the next step?

Consider a mission study path at Atlanta Bible College. Scholarship funds could be available to you through the Kim Johnson Mission Scholarship Endowment. The endowment fund is administered by the Minnesota Missionary Society, under the umbrella of the Minnesota Church of God Conference.

Please send a letter of interest to:
mn.missionary.society@gmail.com.

Why is it called the Kim Johnson Mission Endowment Fund?

Kimberly Sue Johnson, daughter of Larry and Kathy Johnson, was an active member of the Church of God in Hector, MN. In her teenage years, she taught Sunday School, presented special music, both vocally

and on her flute, and was a member of two state Bible quiz teams. During Kim's two-and-a-half year battle with cancer, she served as a counselor for Minnesota Youth Camp and became an active community volunteer in the local school system and public library.

Kim was the spark that ignited the short-term mission involvement for Minnesota Church of God youth. In 1987, she was the first young person from Minnesota to apply and be accepted for a summer mission trip to Mexico. (Many Minnesota youth later followed in her footsteps.) In 1988, she made a second mission trip to Mexico, just three weeks after she underwent surgery to remove a cancerous tumor.

Throughout her courageous struggle with cancer, Kim displayed a quiet trust and hope in her eternal God. This unspoken, yet final, mission effort of Kim's was an inspiration to all who came to know her, and everyone who cherished her. Kim died December 31, 1990 at the age of 20.

In 1993-94, the Minnesota Missionary Society established a Mission Endowment Fund for mission training in Kim Johnson's name as a memorial of her work in the mission field of Mexico.

ReFUEL North Recap

ReFUEL was amazing! Close to 100 people came from all over the country to meet in the snow of northern Indiana at Camp Mack. It was an incredible time of fellowship and diving into scripture. We talked about working as a COG, leading in love, and using the Holy Spirit.



For the Quizzers

This year's quizzing material will be Acts 1-5 from NASB (1995 version)

Quizzing memory verses are out! You can check out the full list on the TPYM website.

<http://tpym18wp.abc-coggc.org/quizzing/>

FUEL

Fuel is not that far out. The theme is set, classes and messages are being prepared. Start making your preparations to join us at Manchester University in North Manchester, Indiana the week of July 13-18. Keep an eye out, registrations will be out soon!



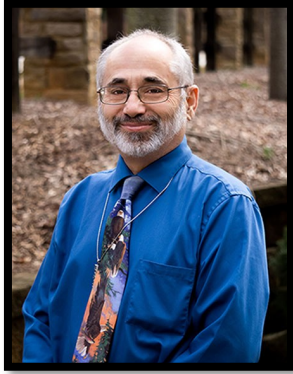
Minnesota Church of God Conference Campground

The Minnesota Church of God Conference owns a picturesque campground, Long Lake Bible Camp, located on an island near Eden Valley, MN. Buildings on the campground include a kitchen/dining hall, men's and women's dormitories, and a beautiful chapel. Two outdoor shelters, a campfire pit with benches, and a basketball court provide for additional recreational activities. There is also a dock for fishing and swimming in Long Lake.

Interested Church of God families who would like to rent this facility for a vacation or other gathering can contact camp caretaker Jon Lapp for available dates and reservation guidelines. Jon can be reached at 651-214-7357 or jonlapp23@gmail.com.



Good News from COG-Land



GOOD NEWS FROM COG-LAND

From the **Ripley Church of God in Mount Sterling, IL** – The congregation had Sharing Sunday on December 22. It all began with breakfast and fellowship. **Donna, Kristi, and Hallie** all shared poems. **Peggy Jo Dyer** read the story of Jesus' birth from Luke 2

just like her mother used to do. **David Dyer** played his guitar and sang three different songs, encouraging the congregation to sing along.

From the **Bethel Church of God in Pelzer, SC** – The children did a great job on the Christmas program, "Signs of Christmas," as they shared the meaning of who Christmas is all about. Following the program, there was a soup and sandwich lunch along with an Ugly Sweater Contest. Adult winners were **Christy Sisk, Joe Mabry, and Earlene Mabry**. Child winner was **Aiden Gregory**. The church participated in the "Deck the Halls" Christmas tree decorating event at Williamston Town Hall and won Best Religious Organization. Congratulations to **Jason Sisk** on his winnings in a bowling tournament, placing first, second, and third in multiple divisions. The church had an Everybody's Birthday Party with birthday months broken up into groups representing the four seasons. It was an enjoyable time with seasonal devotions, food, fellowship, and trivia.

From the **Lawrenceville Church of God in Springfield, OH** – On March 16 they church celebrated Marching for Missions month with their annual international carry-in dinner. International dishes were served to celebrate international missions work. Another missions project was filling reusable grocery bags with toiletries for the people at the Clifton food pantry.

From the **House Light Ministries in St. Cloud, MN** – **Terri Moore** has launched a website called Book of Life Bible Studies (bookoflifebiblestudies.com) where she has posted lessons, power points, devotions, and Bible reference guides.

From the **Pine Grove Bible Church in Brooklyn Park, MN** – The year-round outreach drive for Operation Christmas Child culminated in a packing party on November 22. With a goal of 275 boxes, the final total of boxes filled was 281. [PTL! – GNP] On Thankfulness Sunday November 24, the service revolved around giving thanks and a special offering. The wonderful blessing of \$18,200 was received, and the money was divided among the local church, Atlanta Bible College, and Feed My Starving Children fund.

From the **Birthday and Anniversary Department** – Happy birthday to **Ruth Fletcher** (89 years young on December 26), **Earlene Mabry** (83 years on January 2), **Faye Goodman** (80 on February 4), and **Joe Mabry** (83 on February 28). All of those folks come from the Bethel COG in Pelzer, SC. In the anniversary department, **Darrell and Lisa Hoemberg** celebrated their 40th anniversary (House Light Ministries in St. Cloud, MN). [I'm sure there have been other noteworthy birthdays and anniversaries, but they need to be sent in so they can be honored in the GNP. – GNP]

From the **Congratulations to Our Graduates Department** – **Madison Moore** (House Light Ministries) graduated from Minnesota State Mankato with her bachelor's degree in psychology in December. Pine Grove Bible Church has had three high school graduates: **Mary Prissel, Deborah Smead, and Anya Zhykovich**. [Congrats to all for achieving this important milestone in your life. – GNP]

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 COG-Land! 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 (rjones@atlantabiblecollege.com), and we'll put you in print!
Robert L. Jones

Marching for Missions

Many of our churches promoted missions during the month of March. Lord's Harvest International provided videos of five of our African pastors sharing their favorite Bible verses and a short devotional. Other videos were of singing and other activities on our fields. Some individuals participated in a Walk-A-Thon fundraiser. They found sponsors who agreed to pay a certain amount based on the steps or distance walked. Thanks to all who supported our mission efforts during the month.



Truth Seekers Curriculum



Truth Seekers Curriculum (TSC) is designed for individuals and small groups to gain a greater understanding of scripture and to deepen their relationship with God. Through thoughtfully crafted studies that provide a solid foundation for learning and discussion, individuals will follow a series of lessons that combine biblical teachings, discussion questions, and life application.

We are thrilled to announce some updates surrounding this curriculum, all tailored to continue to best serve you and your church!

1. Truth Seekers Curriculum is now available to purchase as a paperback or E-book on Amazon! From a

systematic theology study in *Foundations of Faith* to spiritual disciplines in *Sacred Practices*, these undated studies are available whenever you need them, which means churches can continue to benefit from the TSC for years to come. (The Teacher’s Guide and large print editions are still available through the COGGC office.) Search “Church of God General Conference” on Amazon to find the store!

2. There is now a Truth Seekers Curriculum exclusive email list for those who want to stay informed about new curriculum releases! Email “truthseekers@coggc.org” with your name to join!

3. We’re excited to announce the launch of a dedicated Facebook group for teachers using the TSC to connect, share ideas, and support one another. If you are currently leading or plan to lead a group through TSC, be sure to join the group or invite your fellow teachers to be part of this encouraging community. It’s a great opportunity to collaborate, learn, and grow together. Search for “Truth Seekers Curriculum Teachers” on Facebook!

We also want to extend a heartfelt thank you to the incredible volunteer writers who have contributed to the TSC. They have each poured their unique insights, knowledge, and passion into the lessons, ensuring that every student has an opportunity to engage with scripture in meaningful ways. Their voices are not only inspiring, but also filled with wisdom, making this resource truly exceptional.

Young Adult Getaway

June 7-10. The Young Adult Getaway is available for anyone in their 20s or 30s. The price is \$200/adult. To register and get more information, you can visit <http://www.yagetaway.com>.

The Big Oak Lodge, Gatlinburg, TN.





Atlanta Bible College Report
Michael Cisler, Academic Dean

Our fall semester President’s and Dean’s Lists are included below. Congratulations to those ABC and ABC Korean Extension students whose hard work and study allowed them to earn this honor. As I write this, our spring semester is

already half over. Many of our students attended re-FUEL in January. Sean Finnegan was on campus in March, teaching a block course, Solutions to Bible Texts. Our students will attend and serve at Christian Workers Seminar in late April. Our graduation ceremony will be Friday, May 16 with Jeffrey Seiders receiving his Bachelor of Theology degree and a few students earning the Associates in Ministry and Theology or the Foundation Certificate.

Speaking of Jeffrey Seiders, he is a couple of months into his internship with Pastor David Cheatwood at the Hedrick Church of God. Pastor Dave is dealing with some health issues which have required us to find a new placement for Jeffrey. Pastor Michael Hoffman and the Oregon Church of God have agreed to receive Jeffrey for the remainder of the year to complete his internship. We are so thankful for Pastors Dave and Michael and the Hedrick and Oregon church members and leadership in their support of Jeffrey and his training for ministry.

Thank you for supporting Atlanta Bible College with your prayers and giving. We are providing education and ministry preparation for our students, and they are learning both a firm foundation in the Bible and also the skills necessary to engage in ministry in many ways in our churches.

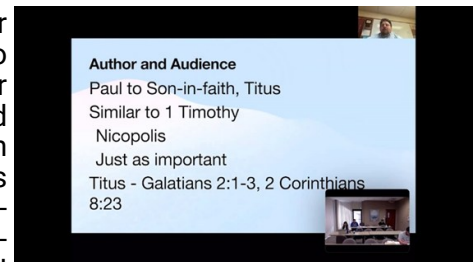


Meet John Evans. John is a senior at Atlanta Bible College this year with an anticipated completion of study in December of this year. John is from the McGintytown Bible Church in central Arkansas. John has served on his leadership team at McGintytown since he was 19 and has had a number of opportunities to preach there. He is the Arkansas State Youth Director, serving in that position for a second year. John, and his girlfriend, Shelby, both have a heart for ministry and have shown this through their service together at McGintytown and on staff at FUEL the

last few years. John has engaged in ministry while at ABC by preaching and serving on the leadership team at Cornerstone. He has served at reFUEL South, FUEL, Christian Workers Seminar, and Arkansas State Camp. In early March, John visited the Countryside Bible Church in Peculiar, Missouri and helped lead a preaching workshop, led Sunday School, and led communion while there. When asked about his time at ABC, John responded, “What I have appreciated most about ABC is the personalized education I have been able to receive, and the environment I have been a part of that has allowed me to study the word of God and prepare for pastoral ministry.”

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Adjunct Instructor Jake Ballard, who serves as pastor of the Timberland Church in South Bend, Indiana is seen here teaching our New Testament Survey II



course on Tuesday mornings by Zoom. Pastor Sean Finnegan of Living Hope Church in New York was on campus in early April, teaching a block class on Solutions to Bible Texts. We are grateful for these instructors who supplement the work of our campus instructors.

Fall 2024 Atlanta Bible College Honors

Listed are the President’s and Dean’s lists for the fall semester. These students were enrolled in 12 or more semester hours of classes.

President’s List (3.5 + GPA)

- Camden Bormes
- Eun Suk Kim
- Jayeong Kim
- Taehoon Kim
- Yunji Lee
- Jeffrey Seiders
- Siwon Woo
- Sungyeol Yoo

Dean’s List (3.0-3.49 GPA)

- Maurice Chahilu
- John Evans
- Juyeong Ha
- Hyunmin Park
- Coleton Stacey

Atlanta Bible College Korean Extension Report



Dear brothers and sisters in kingdom hope!

Wishing you a blessed and joyful new year, filled with God's grace and peace. May this year bring you closer to Him and His kingdom.

We kicked off the 2025 spring semester on January 13, welcoming four new and twenty-five returning students, bringing our total to twenty-nine. They have registered for three hundred forty-three credit hours, up from twenty-five students last semester. We're offering six Bible classes, two ministry classes, and two general subject classes, all taught by five dedicated instructors. Our focus is on teaching biblical truth and helping our students grow spiritually.

We would like to share the testimony of Siwon Woo, a student, regarding her experiences at our school.

I grew up with a Christian education from my father, a pastor at Ahavah Church in Busan, South Korea's second-largest city. "Ahavah" means "love" in He-

brew. In 2020, I enrolled in the Atlanta Bible College Korean Extension, led by a friend who was a former student. The theology I learned from the school, based on Abrahamic Faith, significantly differed from my previous understanding. It transformed abstract concepts into logical and precise truths, illuminating my spirit. I've also experienced genuine Christian love and fellowship from the staff and shared my spiritual experiences with friends in the US and South Korea, including my father. My father is eager to meet pastor Steve An at the earliest opportunity. I anticipate completing my Bachelor of Theology in December and plan to apply for an internship at Campus Bible Church of God. Ultimately, I desire to serve God by sharing the Abrahamic Faith and His love. I'm deeply grateful to God, my friend who referred me, and the dedicated instructors at the Atlanta Bible College Korean Extension.



In Kingdom Hope,
Steve An, Vice President of Korean Extension

Pastor/Spouse Retreat

Every three years, a pastor/spouse retreat is held. This year's event was held at the Blood River Church in Springfield, LA, March 7-10.

There were 32 in attendance at the retreat. The hospitality of Pastor John Wincapaw and the Blood River Church folks was absolutely wonderful. They went out of their way to give us all a great experience. The meals were very good. Many thanks to them. We enjoyed a crawfish boil at the beautiful home of Tab and Lynette Lobell. The accommodations at the Carter Plantation Villas were very nice. Everyone expressed having a very relaxing and refreshing time.

The theme of the retreat was based on Psalm 86:11 - *"Teach me your way, O LORD, and I will walk in your truth; give me an undivided heart, that I may fear your name."* Seth Ross absolutely hit a home run with his message on Friday evening. Jake Ballard had an incredibly powerful presentation on an undivided heart in marriage. I shared some thoughts on balance and perspective in marriage. Joe and Rebekah Martin shared with passion about

an undivided heart in ministry. Jacob Rohrer concluded the retreat with a wonderful message based on Psalm 86 and wrapped up the retreat very well.

There was a great time of sharing praises. Some of those shared included: Jeff Fletcher's strength and attitude of faith, David Cheatwood getting out of the hospital, July marks Jonathan Wincapaw's 20th year at Blood River, and Levi and Katelyn Salyers are expecting their first child in August.

Jesse Allen and Mark Tschaenn were elected to 3-year terms on the Ministerial Association Leadership Team. Jon Welch was elected as the Ministers representative on LHI.

Ministers Conference in 2026 will be held at the North Kent Bible Church in Rockford, Michigan, March 16-19.

—Michael Hoffman, Moderator of Leadership Team.



HERITAGE CONFERENCE

20th Annual Heritage Conference
Maple Grove Community Church
3113 West Boulevard
Kokomo, IN
August 5, 6, 2025

Tuesday, August 5

- 9:15 Coffee and Registration
- 9:45 Welcome – David Krogh, Chairperson of the History Committee
- 10:00 History of the work in Kokomo – Janet Snyder (great-granddaughter of the founder)
- 11:00 Break
- 11:15 History of the Indiana Conference – Kent Bolin
- 12:30 Lunch
- 1:30 Remembering History Committee Members Greg Demmitt, Arlen Rankin, Kent Ross, and John Smead – Jan Stilson
- 2:30 Family Connections with O. J. Parker and D.G. Harvey – John Bliss (great-great grandson)

- 3:30 Break
- 3:45 Update on G. E. Marsh Memorial Archives – Bobby Lee Partain
- 4:45 The Life and Ministry of D. E. Van Vactor – Kent Bolin
- 6:00 Dinner
- 7:00 Roll Church of God Presentation – David Spoonamore and Mark Drabenstot

Wednesday, August 6

Breakfast at Your Hotel

- 9:30 History of the Ministers Voluntary Retirement Association – David Krogh
- 10:15 Break
- 10:30 Learning About the Legacy of the Church of God Abraham Faith – Bobby Partain
- 11:15 Leaving A Legacy of the COGAF for the Next Generation – Bobby Partain
- 11:45 Lunch
- 1:15 Field trip to Jay St. church building in Kokomo and Country Chapel, Michigantown, IN
- 4:00 Registration for the 105th Annual General Conference
- 5:00 Dinner

Cost: \$50 per person - covers the meals and snacks. Register through the registration link for the summer General Conference at generalconferenceevent.com.

Electronic Version of the Progress Journal

For those who receive a print copy of the Progress Journal, if you would like to receive an electronic version instead, there are several great reasons to make the switch:

1. You will get your issue quicker.
2. You will be able to enjoy color photos and headings.
3. You will save the General Conference the cost of paper, printing, and postage.

Contact us at info@atlantabiblecollege.com to request this change.

CHURCH OF GOD ONLINE

Church of God General Conference coggc.org
Atlanta Bible College: atlantabiblecollege.com
Turning Point Youth Ministry: tpym.com
Lord's Harvest International: hlcog.com
ABC Korean Extension: abcke.org

OTHER SITES TO EXPLORE

scatteredbrethren.org (Robin Todd)
focusonthekingdom.org (Anthony Buzzard)
restitutio.org (Sean Finnegan)
21stcr.org (Dan Gill)
trinitities.org (Dr. Dale Tuggy)
thegodofjesus.com (Kegan Chandler)
KOGmissions.com (Tracy Zhykhovich)
UnitarianChristianAlliance.org (Dale Tuggy, Kegan Chandler, Mark Cain, and Sean Finnegan)

51st Annual Christian Workers Seminar - April 27–May 2, 2025

LeConte Hotel & Conference Center (a Choice Hotel)
410 Pine Mountain Road, Pigeon Forge, TN 37868

Inside Out - "A good man brings good things out of the good stored up in his heart, and an evil man brings evil things out of the evil stored up in his heart. For the mouth speaks what the heart is full of." – Luke 6:45

Register at ChristianWorkersSeminar.com

Sunday (April 27)

3:00-5:30 Check In near Mill Creek and Canes Creek conference rooms

6:00-7:00 Dinner (catered)

7:15-8:30 Evening Service

8:30-9:00 Check In for late arrivals

Monday – Thursday (April 28 - May 1)

8:00-9:00 Complimentary hotel breakfast

9:00-9:30 Morning Devotions

9:45-10:30 Workshop Session 1

10:30-10:45 Break

10:45-11:30 Workshop Session 2

11:30-11:45 Break

11:45-12:30 Workshop Session 3

12:30-12:45 Break

12:45-1:30 Lunch (catered)

1:30-6:00 Free Time

1:30-2:30 optional Tuesday Workshop & Thursday CWS 2026 Forum

6:00-7:00 Dinner (catered except Wednesday on your own)

7:15-8:30 Evening Service

8:30-9:30 Ice Cream Social (Thursday)

Friday (May 2)

Complimentary hotel breakfast and safe travel home

Daily Workshop Sessions 1, 2 & 3

Fruit of the Spirit – Kids' Workshops - With an emphasis on the fruit of the Spirit, kids ages 3-11 will discover that living a life focused on the goodness of God will help them lead lives that produce good fruit.

Raising Leaders – Michael Cisler - In this workshop we will consider the things we can do to support others as they grow into leadership within our churches. As we lead by example, we can discern, speak, and equip others to help them become the leaders of the future.

Developing Your Inner Spiritual Life – Darlene Rogers - During this workshop, we will examine our inner spiritual life, discuss ways to grow in the spirit, and deepen our relationships with God.

Leading Your Church Through Change – Levi Salyers Levi will share his personal experiences with implementing changes as the new pastor of a church. We

will explore the following topics: 1) Why "change" is often praised, but difficult to achieve; 2) How making changes is risky, but not making changes can be even riskier; 3) How to make change possible – and even exciting – in your church.

How to Disciple People Well – Richard Alcumbrack

The average church has seen attendance drop by 50% in 20 years! More and more churches have no pastor or a bi-vocational pastor. In this workshop, we'll share a few encouraging points focusing on biblical church leadership and disciple making.

Creating an Excellent Visitor Experience – Katelyn Salyers

For those of us who have been part of a congregation for a while, church is probably comfortable. But is it comfortable for the first-time visitor? This workshop will put you in the shoes of a first-time visitor as we walk through some of the more overlooked aspects of a guest experience at your church.

Effective Bible Study Methods – Alan Shaw - Have you been asked to teach a mid-week Bible study class or Sunday School or asked to fill the pulpit on short notice? If you are a seminary graduate, no problem. However, if you are a willing member, yet unexperienced in gleaned information from scripture and passing it on to your students and congregation, you may be asking yourself: "Where do I start?" This workshop will, hopefully, give you tools available to begin that journey in developing good study habits, finding available resources, and finding what works for you and potential students. You may be able to effectively share what you have learned.

Optional Afternoon Workshops

It's a SCAM! – Nola Jones (Monday only) - From a phone call or an email. From a friendly perspective to a threat. From my personal experience to others' horror stories. Don't think it won't happen to you. Find out ways to hopefully prevent scams from happening to you!

CWS 2026 Ideas – Seth Ross (Thursday only) - Join us for a quick review of this year, evaluating what we enjoyed, what might be improved, and what we can add for next year. We'll share ideas for CWS 2026 to get an early start on planning. We'd love to have you join us and share your input.



North American Missions (NAM) of the COGGC partners with churches and conferences to promote: 1) Church Planting, 2) Church Revitalization, and 3) Leadership Development. — Q2/2025

“A DISCIPLE IS NOT ABOVE HIS TEACHER, BUT A DISCIPLE WHEN HE IS ‘FULLY TAUGHT’, WILL BE LIKE HIS TEACHER.”—LUKE 6:40 (NASB).



To support the **Leadership Development** needs if the local church, as well as the regional and national conferences; the G. E. Marsh Archives and NAM have partnered to make additional Church of God material available to students in the ABC4U classes.

Systematic Theology II is offered this semester and focuses on Christology, Salvation, and eschatology.

A list of scanned theological, and doctrinal books from the **Archive Website** were compiled to support the leadership training goals for ministerial students as well as small group leaders, deacons, elders, church planting and church revitalization teams.

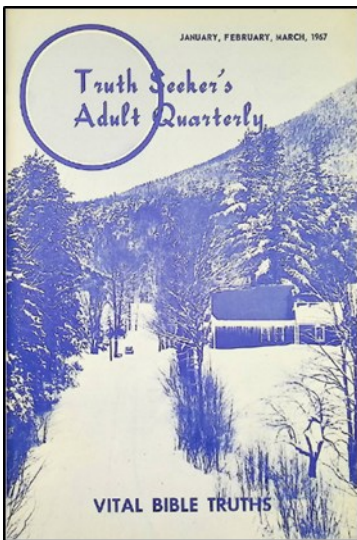
ADDITIONAL MATERIAL BEING SCANNED IN 2025 FOR OUR DIGITAL LIBRARY

COG MATERIAL FOR ST2 FROM THE GE MARSH ARCHIVES:
cogarchives.com

****All Archive material is in the Public Domain and can be downloaded and is searchable with copy /paste functionality.**

LINKS TO COG BOOKS FROM COGGC ARCHIVE WEBSITE

Aldridge, George_ Salvation: [Addresses on the Atonement](#)
 Boice, Harriett E_ Eschatology: [The Visitor](#)
 Booth, Lyman_ Salvation: [The Way of Life Eternal](#)
 Gifford, Ezra D_ Christology: [The Life of Jesus the Christ](#)
 Gifford, Ezra D_ Christology: [The True Jesus Christ](#)
 Gifford, Ezra D_ Salvation: [The Way of Truth Vol. 1: The Gospel](#)
 Gifford, Ezra D_ Doctrine: [The Way of Truth Vol. 2: Bible Doctrines](#)
 Gifford, Ezra D_ Eschatology: [The Way of Truth Vol. 3: Prophecy](#)
 Jones, Wiley_ Eschatology: [The Gospel of the Kingdom](#)
 Lyon, R. V._ Eschatology: [The Kingdom of God and Life Only in Jesus Christ](#)
 Malone, A_ Eschatology: [The Age to Come](#)
 Marsh, J_ Eschatology: [The Age to Come](#)
 Stephenson, J. M_ Salvation: [God's Plan of Salvation](#)
 Stephenson, J. M_ Eschatology: [The Herald of Messiah's Reign](#)
 Weethee, J. P_ Eschatology: [Armageddon](#)
 Weethee, J. P_ Eschatology: [The Coming Age](#)
 Williams, Carrie_ Christology: [The Heir of All Things](#)
 Wilson, W. H_ Eschatology: [The Book of Revelation Made Easy](#)
 Woodruff, J. O_ Salvation, Eschatology: [Hold Fast the Good](#)
 Woodruff, J. O_ Salvation, Eschatology: [The Words of Eternal Life](#)
 Woodruff, J. O_ Eschatology: [The Word of the Kingdom](#)



TRUTH SEEKERS ADULT QUARTERLIES: 18 vol. from 1967 -1986 are completed. This material provides resources from some of our greatest COGGC teachers and preachers on topics like: Vital Bible Truths, Prophecy, the Parables, etc.

THE RESTITUTION: 21 vol. from 1874-1903 are completed. This material provides theological insight of the COG movement as well as historical information about the early conferences and evangelists.



- PLANS FOR 2026**
1. Scan the remaining **Gospel Banners**, 1854-1859, edited by Benjamin Wilson.
 2. Create a searchable **AI Library** of 1000 scanned items from the G. E. Marsh Archives.
 3. Publish two (150+ page) books of topical writings from COG authors to augment the material used in the four foundational NAM Classes: Basic Bible Doctrine, the Kingdom of God as Gospel, Church of God History, and Systematic Theology.

Pastors Needed

Peculiar, MO – Countryside Bible Church

- Looking for a kingdom-minded shepherd passionate about promoting the gospel
- Solid biblical understanding based on COG General Conference principles and beliefs
- Servant leader
- Heart for people – interested in developing Christ-centered relationships with all ages
- Desire to feed and mentor God’s church in their Christian walk
- Ability to use discernment and wisdom when handling all aspects of worship, fellowship, administration

FULL-TIME or PART-TIME; Countryside Bible Church is located in Peculiar, Missouri (25 miles southeast of Kansas City, MO); contact: Wesley Riggs, WDriggs@gmail.com; 816-724-7020.

Hammond, LA – New Beginnings Christian Church of Hammond

New Beginnings is seeking a pastor to serve its congregation. Please contact the board chair, Eliska Fauntleroy 985-320-9067; or Carola Landry 225-275-9202, carola.r.landry@gmail.com.

Calendar of Events

- April 27 – May 2 – 51st annual Christian Workers Seminar – LeConte Hotel/ Convention Center, Pigeon Forge, TN
- May 16–82nd ABC Graduation, Cornerstone Bible Church, McDonough, GA
- June 15-20—Midwest Family Camp, Camp Mack, Milford, IN
- July 13-18—FUEL at Manchester University, North Manchester, IN
- August 1-3—CONVERGE – Hiram, OH
- August 5-6—20th annual Heritage Conference, Maple Grove Church, Kokomo, IN
- August 6-8—105th annual General Conference, Maple Grove Church, Kokomo, IN
- March 16-19, 2026—Ministers Conference, North Kent Bible Church, Rockford, MI

CONVERGE

CONVERGE is not a conference—it’s a weekend festival celebrating one God, the Father. Designed for families, it’s filled with food, fun, fellowship, and connection. While not a Church of God General Conference event, many of our members attended the first gathering in 2019.

The purpose of CONVERGE is to gather believers who worship one God, the Father, and recognize Jesus Christ as His son and human Messiah. Attendees come from diverse backgrounds, yet share this foundational faith—a faith worth celebrating together. It also provides encouragement for those who may feel isolated, standing firm in their faith despite opposition.

Join others to connect, encourage, and celebrate our shared belief in God and His Messiah—all in a joyful festival atmosphere.

Visit: convergefest.com for more information!

SAVE THE DATE!



CONVERGE

CONVERGEFEST.COM

August 1-3, 2025

📍 Hiram, Ohio




Sign up online for email updates



Pictured are attendees at the 2019 CONVERGE

Baptisms

Minnesota

Eden Valley – Kylie Pauls and Shane Pauls (11/26/23); Aaron Bernu (9/8/24); Maggie Czech (10/13/24) by Pastor Anne Fischhaber.

Deaths

Indiana

South Bend – Timberland – Bob Huddlestun, 92, (2/7/25), served on General Conference Board of Directors, long-time member by Pastor Jake Ballard.

Minnesota

Eden Valley – Gary Brossard, 86, (6/7/24), member and Walter Coulter, 66, (10/9/24), life-long member by Pastor Anne Fischhaber.

Missouri

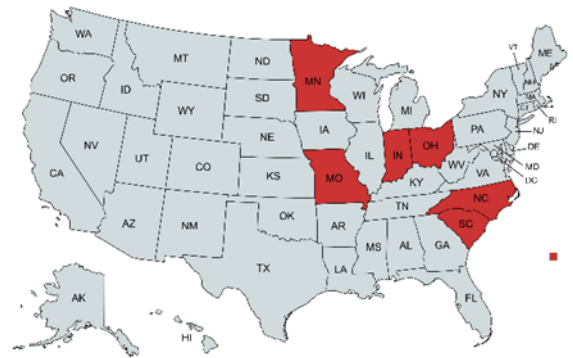
Springfield – Glenn Gilmore, 71, (12/30/24), long-time member by Scott Thibault.

North Carolina

Lenoir – Church of Resurrection Hope – Dewey Phillips, 75, (12/30/24), long-time active member by Pastor Michael Medlock.

Ohio

Tipp City – Brush Creek – Dean Swartz, 85, (11/22/24), brother of Pastor Dale Swartz; Jack Heffner, 91, (11/28/24); Dorothy Jean Smith, 96,



States where baptisms, deaths, and a wedding took place

(12/24/24), long-time member; Daniel “Dan” Davis, 54, (12/30/24), member by Pastor Dale Swartz.

South Carolina

Pelzer – Bethel Church – Peggy Rogers, 66, (12/29/24), by Pastor Wally Winner; Faye McCullough, 78, (2/2/25) by Pastor Wally Winner and family member Phillip Clardy; Colleen Shaw, 90, (2/18/25) by Pastors Wally Winner and Mike Montgomery.

Wedding

Minnesota

Hutchinson – Logan Karl and Katie Haines (9/1/24).

Income Taxes: Attention Non-Itemizers

People who are age 70½ or older can contribute up to \$100,000 from their IRA directly to their local church or Atlanta Bible College/Church of God General Conference and avoid paying income taxes on the distribution. This is known as a qualified charitable distribution (QCD).

This contribution can satisfy some or all of your required minimum distribution (RMD). It will reduce your taxable income without relying on an income tax deduction.

Some of our donors have already been using this method of giving which is a benefit to the college and conference and also provides a tax saving for the donor.

For more information, contact David Krogh at 678-833-1839 or dkrogh@atlantabiblecollege.com.

Prayer and Praise

April

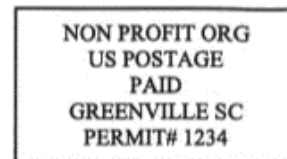
- 1 **Pray for your pastor and family.**
- 2 Pray for the Countryside Bible Church In Peculiar, MO.
- 3 **Pray for Maurice Chahilu from Kenya as he takes distance learning courses from Atlanta Bible College.**
- 4 Pray for Pastor Talon and Rebbecca Paul and the Maple Grove Church in Kokomo, IN.
- 5 **Praise God for the promise of Christ's soon return.**
- 6 Praise God for the incredible beauty of "new birth" we see every spring!
- 7 **Praise God for new life in Christ.**
- 8 Pray for those whose eyes are blinded to the gospel.
- 9 **Praise God for the promise of new heavens and earth in the kingdom age.**
- 10 Pray for the Macomb, Illinois Church of God.
- 11 **Pray for Sam An as he works with Atlanta Bible College Korean Extension.**
- 12 Pray for Pastor Seneca Harbin as he and his family serve on the south side of Indianapolis.
- 13 **Pray for Pastor Deb and Neil Bryant and 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 opportunities to witness to those without Jesus as their Savior.
- 17 **Pray for the New Hope Church in Little Rock, Arkansas.**
- 18 Praise God for dedicated Church of God ministers.
- 19 **Pray for Anthony Buzzard's correspondence with truth seekers around the world.**
- 20 Praise God for the resurrection of Jesus our Savior.
- 21 **Pray for Pastor Josiah and Amber Cain and the North Kent Bible Church in Rockford, Michigan.**
- 22 Praise God for His faithfulness.
- 23 **Pray for the Midwest Family Camp held each summer at Camp Mack in Milford, IN.**
- 24 Pray for volunteers to be short-term missionaries this summer.
- 25 **Pray for God's blessings on your next-door neighbors.**
- 26 Pray that God might use you to lead your family toward an even deeper relationship with Him.
- 27 **Pray for those attending Christian Workers Seminar this week.**
- 28 Pray for the soon return of Jesus.
- 29 **Praise God that His mercies are new every morning.**
- 30 Pray for Pastor Steve and Jill Taylor and TruthPoint Bible Church in Payson, AZ.

May

- 1 **Pray for Madison Cain as she serves as editor of the Truth Seekers Adult Curriculum.**
- 2 Pray for those traveling home from Christian Workers Seminar today.
- 3 **Pray for the ministry of Pastor Bill and Lacy Dunn and the Garden Park Church of God in Michigan.**
- 4 Pray for Pastor Steve and Young An and the Korean Extension in Johns Creek, GA.
- 5 **Pray for ABC intern Jeffrey Seiders in his work at the Oregon, IL Church of God.**
- 6 Pray for an opportunity to share the gospel message with someone today.
- 7 **Pray for God to raise up workers for our churches.**
- 8 Pray for Pastor Jacob and Andrea Rohrer and their work in Rhode Island.
- 9 **Praise God for new attendees at your local church.**
- 10 Pray for believers who are in nursing homes and hospitals.
- 11 **Thank God for our mothers.**
- 12 Pray for ABC and ABCKE students as they continue their studies.
- 13 **Praise God for the strength He provides each day.**
- 14 Pray for the ministry of Pastor Michael and Linda Hoffman and the Oregon, Illinois Church of God.
- 15 **Pray for Pastor Darrell and Laura Cardwell and the new work at The Well in Mankato, MN.**
- 16 Pray for healing for someone you know who is in need.
- 17 **Pray for Pastor John and Lila Wincapaw and the Blood River Church of God in Springfield, Louisiana.**
- 18 Pray for someone you know who doesn't yet know Jesus Christ as their Savior.
- 19 **Praise God for the faithful work done by our retired pastors and their wives.**
- 20 Pray for Pastor Mark and Becky Jones and the Higher Ground Church in White House, TN.
- 21 **Pray for Pastor David and Wanda Cheatwood and the church at Hedrick, Indiana.**
- 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 Michael Cisler in his work as Academic Dean at Atlanta Bible College.**
- 26 Pray for the international students attending Atlanta Bible College Korean Extension.
- 27 **Praise God for his amazing grace.**
- 28 Pray for Church of God members throughout the world as they minister to others.
- 29 **Pray for your family members who do not know Christ.**
- 30 Pray for Pastor Donna and Loyd Cooper at the Farmington, MO church.
- 31 **Praise God for all that He has done and is doing in your life.**

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Prayer and Praise Items (continued from page 19)

June

- 1 **Pray for God's blessing on your extended family.**
- 2 Pray for the pastors ministering in Malawi, Mozambique, and Kenya.
- 3 **Pray for generosity from donors for the current Church Builders Appeal.**
- 4 Pray that God will speak deeply into your heart today.
- 5 **Praise God for the beauty of His creation.**
- 6 Pray for boldness to share your faith.
- 7 **Pray for the work at Anderson Chapel in 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 **Pray for the events being held at the Minnesota Campground this summer.**
- 12 Pray for the Forest Hills Church in Royal, Arkansas.
- 13 **Praise God for your family and circle of friends.**
- 14 Pray for a shared spirit of unity across the General Conference.
- 15 **Praise God for your Father—your earthly father and your heavenly Father.**
- 16 Pray for Pastors Peter and Jeannie Anson and the work at Cornerstone Church in Gatesville, TX.
- 17 **Pray for Dan Foster, Rick Eldred, and Brian Froelich in their work at the Flagg Center Community Church in Rochelle, IL.**
- 18 Praise God for your church family.
- 19 **Pray for Pastor J. J. and Hope Fletcher and the work on Pine Grove Bible Church in Brooklyn Park, MN.**
- 20 Pray for God's direction in our mission efforts.
- 21 **Praise God for your pastor and his family and their dedication to ministry.**
- 22 Pray for Pastor Scott Ellison and the Rock Solid Church in Howard City, MI.
- 23 **Pray for Pastor Dan and Sharon Gill and their work with 21st Century Reformation Ministry.**
- 24 Praise God for those who write lessons for our adult Truth Seekers Sunday School curriculum.
- 25 **Pray for pastors who are considering changing pastorates this year.**
- 26 Pray for God's direction for the preparation of FUEL (our annual student conference) in July.
- 27 **Pray for the believers in Trujillo, Peru.**
- 28 Pray for children involved in Christian education ministries of our churches.
- 29 **Pray for the board of directors as they lead the college/conference.**
- 30 Praise God for the dedication of the college/conference staff.