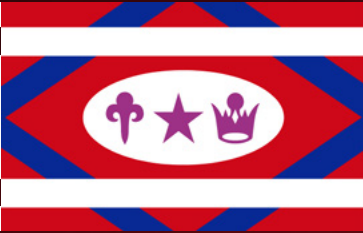


April 2025, Vol. 33 No. 6



THE EVENING LIGHT

A Publication of The Church of God



Easter is Sunday, April 20, this year. Someone once said that the best news the world ever heard came from a graveyard. Acts 2:22-24 says, "hear these words; Jesus of Nazareth, a man approved of God among you by miracles and wonders

and signs, which God did by him in the midst of you, as ye yourselves also know: Him, being delivered by the determinate counsel and foreknowledge of God, ye have taken, and by wicked hands have crucified and slain: Whom God hath raised up, having loosed the pains of death: because it was not possible that he should be holden of it." The sacrifice of the Son of God on the Cross was great, but our redemption would not have been complete without His resurrection. As Christ forewarned His disciples of His impending death, He made it clear that, "No man taketh it [My life] from me, but I lay it down of myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again" (John 10:18). He did just that only three days after being placed in the grave! The Lord took up His life again in complete victory over death, hell, and a musty tomb. We serve the Living God and the Risen Saviour!

Bible Training Institute in Cleveland is just around the corner. If you really mean business for God regarding the call to work for Christ and His Church, then you will find it profitable to attend the school this year, even if it means making some degree of sacrifice. The Cleveland school will be conducted May 18-31, 2025. We are very encouraged about the prospect of your attendance this year. We are praying that everyone eagerly looking forward to BTI will be able to make the necessary arrangements. We want to encourage all of you that are planning to attend to get signed up. Submit your application as soon as possible so we'll know how many to prepare for.

Editorials

Oscar Pimentel
General Overseer



Remembering Our Heritage.

We've been communicating with the CPMA Department and plans are being made to put forth a series of broadcasts commemorating our heritage during the week leading up to Friday, June 13, 2025. The 13th spe-

cifically has been set as our **Heritage Day** celebration. We want to encourage all pastors and local churches to do their best to hold a special service commemorating our heritage since the Arise, Shine of the Church this side of the Dark Ages on June 13, 1903. We look forward to receiving good things from the Lord and hearing a word about our history and the precious Word of God. We invite all to make plans now to join us for these broadcasts.

ADVICE TO YOUNG MINISTERS: "All desire for their ministry to be in demand. To increase this demand, a minister could exercise extreme care to always stick to the doctrine of the Church; refrain from any interference in internal affairs of states and local churches and stay in his place by always abiding in his own calling. He should never do anything which would require any state overseer to have to correct him. The best way to avoid differences is not to create any. Differences do not just happen; someone causes or makes them to happen. This committee is thoroughly convinced and unanimously agrees that if one properly governs himself, his ministry will be in demand and good results will follow. Let us not attempt to force our acceptance. Neither let us act in a manner that would force our rejection. Do not make it the conscientious duty of any overseer to disapprove of your ministry in order for him to carry out his clearly defined duty of preserving the unity of the Spirit and of the faith in his territory. Few overseers would reject one's ministry for personal reasons." (62nd AM, 1967, pp. 150-152, QSC, Sec. 12.)

The Church of God

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS

PHONE: (423) 339-8264

HEADQUARTERS PHONE EXTENSIONS:

General Overseer's Office...#201	Smith, Vicki.....#211
Anders, Christopher.....#261	Wright, Angela.....#234
Bañuelos, Luis.....#221	ABM Department.....#300
Campos, Shanna.....#231	Assistant Editor.....#335
Denard, Elizabeth.....#201	BTI Department.....#305
Hawkins, Robert.....#220	CPMA Department.....#310
Hill, Jason.....#230	Evangelism Department..#315
Hill, Jordan.....#262	Sunday School Dept.....#320
Horton, Paul.....#210	VLB Department.....#325
Kent, Grayson.....#260	WMB Department.....#330

e-mail: info@thechurchofgod.org

Visit us online at:
www.thechurchofgod.org

For The Evening Light subscriptions or change of address, contact Angela Wright at Headquarters: (423) 339-8264 ext. 234

For issues regarding Sunday School Literature or merchandise orders, contact General Headquarters: sales@onefoldbooks.com (423) 339-8264 ext. 232

The Evening Light is an official publication of The Church of God with Oscar Pimentel, *General Overseer, Editor & Publisher*; Colin Shuler, *Assistant Editor*. This paper is published monthly at General Headquarters, 197 Tillie Road, Cleveland, TN 37312. Those desiring information or wishing to submit articles or testimonies for publication may contact the Assistant Editor at the following address: P. O. Box 450, Charleston, TN 37310. E-mail: eveninglight@thechurchofgod.org. Subscription prices: \$23 per year, or \$33 First-Class Mail. Digital subscriptions are available for free at www.thechurchofgod.org/eveninglight.

SOUND, WIND, FIRE, & TONGUES

Oscar Pimentel, *General Overseer*
The Church of God

"And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance" (Acts 2:1-4).

One of the most common misconceptions about the Bible Church is that it had its official beginning on the day of Pentecost, however, the truth is this was only the official beginning of the mighty outpouring of the Holy Ghost. The scriptural account in the book of Acts does not indicate there was any organizational meeting or that any action was taken to set in order and establish the Bible Church on the day of Pentecost. Although the events of that day do not represent the beginning of the Church, we do not belittle or minimize its importance in the Church's history, because it was on this momentous occasion that the Holy Ghost came upon the apostles and the rest of the Church in the Upper Room which empowered them to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Elsewhere in the New Testament, we find evidence that the Son of God Himself came to earth to organize and establish His great Church. In Matthew 16:18, Jesus Christ states, "And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build **my church**; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it." In Mark 3:13-15 and Luke 6:13, we find that the Son of God conducted an organizational meeting in which He called all His disciples together. From among these, He chose twelve and "ordained [them], that they should be with him, and that he might send them forth to preach, And to have power to heal sicknesses, and to cast out devils" (Mark 3:14, 15). The calling of the twelve out of the multitude of disciples and their acceptance of the covenant relationship was the organizing or official beginning of the Bible Church known today as The Church of God.

The twelve disciples chosen by Jesus in the Gospels of Mark and Luke would be part of the foundation of the spiritual House that Jesus said He would build upon the "rock." The rock spoken of here is neither Jesus, nor Peter, but is the rock of divine revelation and mutual understanding that exists between Christ and His Church. What took place in the Gospels was in fulfillment of Old Testament prophecies (Isaiah 2:2; Micah 4:1; Psalm 72:16), concerning the establishing of God's Church or, as some

would say, the birthday of the Bible Church. The Church of God was destined to "shake like Lebanon" and "flourish like grass of the earth." The twelve were only the first of many lively stones that would later be added to the growing structure of God's spiritual but visible House.

The Church of God was already in existence since the calling and choosing of the twelve, however, before they could flourish and have incredible increase and become the group later referred to as "...These that have turned the world upside down" (Acts 17:6), and "Christians" (Acts 11:26), Jesus had proclaimed to them, "behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you," and immediately proceeded to instruct them, "but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high" (Luke 24:49). Luke later writes to Theophilus recounting the Lord's command and promise, "that they should not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the Father... the Holy Ghost" which was "power" for them to be witnesses unto Him "both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth" (Acts 1:4, 5, 8). Both in the Gospel according to Luke and in the Acts of the Apostles, the writer verifies that they returned to Jerusalem (Luke 14:52; Acts 1:12), and we are told the Church went into the Upper Room. The number of "names together" or members gathered "were about an hundred and twenty" (Acts 1:15).

It was upon this group in Acts, chapters 1 and 2 (already organized and functioning as an active living organism before the day of Pentecost), that the baptism of the Holy Ghost was poured out in fulfillment of Joel 2:28, 29 when he spoke in the spirit of prophecy saying, "And it shall come to pass... *that* I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh." Christ had already reassured His Church, "And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever; *Even* the Spirit of truth... I will not leave you comfortless... But the Comforter, *which is* the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you... I will send him unto you. And when he is come, he will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment... the Spirit of truth... will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, *that* shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come. He shall glorify me: for he shall receive of mine, and shall shew *it* unto you" (John 14:16-18, 26; 16:7, 8, 13, 14).

Jesus made a promise He meant to keep when He said, "I will not leave you comfortless." He never had plans to leave His Church abandoned or orphaned! When He arrived back where the Father was, we can see Him praying the Father to send the Church the Spirit of truth. We can almost hear Him asking the Father to unleash the power of the Holy Ghost upon the Bible Church to enable her with strength and wisdom to reach all nations and proclaim the good news of salvation through Jesus Christ. He was not disappointed and neither was the Church!

The initial evidence of the indwelling of the Holy Ghost was speaking in other tongues as the Spirit gave utterance, and this unusual occurrence attracted the attention of the multitudes gathered in Jerusalem. Jesus told the disciples that they would receive power after that the Holy Ghost was come upon them (Acts 1:8), and evidence of this power is seen in the courage Peter and the eleven demonstrated as they stood together while Peter delivered his message affirming Jesus as the promised Messiah, speaking of His life, death, and resurrection to the masses on the day of Pentecost. As a result of the outpouring of the Holy Ghost (this power for service) and Peter's message, many of the Jews were convicted and sought the Lord saying, "...Men and brethren, what shall we do?" (Acts 2:37). To this, Peter responded, "...Repent, and be baptized every one of you" (v. 38). According to the record, 3,000 souls were added to the Church on that day.

The Holy Ghost came on the day of Pentecost in a sound, to awaken them! He came in a wind, to move them! He came in fire, to enlighten them and warm them! He came in tongues, to make them speak! O, that He would do it all over again! How different we could be if we would collectively make it our goal to continue with one accord in prayer and supplication, tarrying in the presence of God as the early Church did.

Awaken us, Holy Ghost! It is probably no stretch of the imagination to say that too many of us today are sleeping on God, and all the while Jesus cries, "Watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation: the spirit indeed *is* willing, but the flesh *is* weak" (Matt. 26:41). Paul expresses his support for what Christ says when he writes, "And that, knowing the time, that now *it is* high time to awake out of sleep: for now *is* our salvation nearer than when we believed" (Rom. 13:11). "And what I say unto you I say unto all, Watch" (Mark 13:37).

Almost certainly it would serve the Church well for us to experience the sound and spiritual shock wave of a Holy Ghost sonic boom traveling throughout God's great Church. A sound from heaven that would wake people out of sleep and cause them to be conscious of the day and hour in which we are living. I believe we could stand to have that old-time Holy Ghost wind that comes from heaven to blow upon us, moving us *like* He wants, *wherever* He wants, and as *fast* as He wants. I wonder what wonderful and challenging things could be accomplished at this late hour with the Holy Ghost wind at our back.

Move us, Holy Ghost! We could benefit from this wind blowing upon the embers of our hearts to make every dying fire in every heart a flaming conflagration that would destroy all, if any, impurities found therein. Breathe on us, Lord! Breathe on us! We want, yea, we **need**, the flames of Holy Ghost revival to rise higher and higher in God's Church. If we take the time to pray, He will surely answer.

The Holy Ghost is the breath of God—the wind of heaven, that we need more than anything else. We are thankful to God for all the talent we have in the Church today—talented preachers, talented singers, talented musicians, talented teachers, talented leaders and organizers. However, talent can only get us so far. It is going to take more than talent to get God's work done. It is necessary for us to have Holy Ghost-anointed men and women, no matter how talented they are. Others may not be so talented, but if we have the Holy Ghost anointing, we have what we need to rescue the perishing and truly make a forward move of real significance in the world today.

Let's make it happen through prayer and faith, Church. By the grace of God and through prayer, let's get the atmosphere in The Church of God all over the world charged with Holy Ghost power. His power is transformative, stirring, and refreshing, and it will bring about greater change in every one of our lives. He is the difference maker who changes everything!

Warm us, Holy Ghost! While the world grows colder and colder due to abounding lawlessness, iniquity (Matthew 24:12), and their indifference toward their Creator, our love for God, love for each other, and love for souls must be on the increase. Only that Spirit that proceeds from the depths of God (which is the Holy Ghost) can make us red hot in the love of God. The world has the wrong kind of love about it. Men are lovers of their own selves and lovers of pleasure more than lovers of God (See 2 Timothy 3:2, 4). Self-willed humanity loves those that love it, but the Scriptures ask, "For if ye love them which love you, what thank have ye? for sinners also love those that love them" (Luke 6:32). But the love of God that warms the heart "is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us, Even when we were dead in sins" and His love "hath quickened us together with Christ" (Eph. 2:4, 5).

By now we should be alert to the fact that we are daily in need of the Holy Ghost to warm our hearts and fill us to overflowing with God's love so we can obey His Word to "...Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you" (Matt. 5:44), and to "do good, and lend, hoping for nothing again; and your reward shall be great, and ye shall be the children of the Highest: for he is kind unto the unthankful and to the evil" (Luke 6:35). In a world not at all conducive to revival, we must keep the fires stoked or else we will suffer the consequences of spiritual hypothermia. While we may be exposed to the extremely cold spiritual weather of the icy society we occupy, we can insulate ourselves with the Word of God and the radiant

heat of the Holy Ghost. The Word of God is "as a fire" (Jer. 23:29), and we ministers and members can be made by it a flame of fire for the glory of God!

If you begin to shiver and shake because of the cold, realize that spiritual hypothermia is setting in. Get in your prayer closet because communion with the Lord will make the spiritual fires glow. Get over to the prayer house because it is attending church services and having fellowship with the saints that will warm your heart. When you start feeling a bit cold and your spiritual temperature drops, get moving and work in the service of the Lord, and you will find that it will keep the fire burning. Regardless of the conditions about us, if we will gather the firewood (so to speak) upon the altars of our hearts, the Holy Ghost can rekindle the revival fires.

Make us speak, Holy Ghost! In these last days where there is an increase of hostility toward Jesus Christ, the Son of God, boldness will be necessary to live and share the gospel of Christ and tell some poor soul about their need for a Saviour.

As the conflict between the spirit of this world and the Spirit of God deepens, our boldness of speech, seasoned in prayer, must rise. We may not be refined in our manner of speech and some may consider us unlearned and ignorant, or we may have this personal perception about ourselves. We may not be eloquent evangelists, or we may think ourselves slow of speech and of a slow tongue, but God has made our mouths. If we have the Holy Ghost, Christ will be magnified in us and He will enable us to speak of the virtues of God, the love of God, the mercies of God, the cleansing power of God, the righteousness of God, and so on and so forth. He will guide us in our preaching and all other communication we have with souls. He can guide us in the pulpit, in personal evangelism, and in ministering to people in need. Christ prayed to the Father to send us the Holy Ghost and, by that selfsame Spirit, if we will yield ourselves over to Him, we will be enabled to present the whole gospel in a way that reproves the world of sin, righteousness, and judgment.

The Holy Ghost will not allow us to spend time speaking about ourselves or of ourselves, but to speak of those eternal things found in God's Word that prepare a man to live for all eternity in the presence of God, avoiding the eternal flames of hell.

God has called us and set us up as watchmen to earnestly contend for the faith once delivered unto the saints. The Holy Ghost is with us, causing us and making us speak and not hold our peace day or night and in all places. He compels us to make mention of the Lord and not be silent in a day and hour when even some who confess to love God are not willing to embrace or even endure sound doctrine.

Lord, make us speak the things which we have seen and heard!



From the desk of the GENERAL OVERSEER

Tabernacle Excitement! We are seeing and hearing of how God continues to move in our Tabernacle endeavors.

Sister Danielle Perkins Fearer writes, "I attend The Church of God in Reidsville, North Carolina, and LOVE it with all my heart! ...Many of you... have supported our local congregation in the fundraisers we have had for Missions... Many of you have seen posts I have made about our yearly General Assembly... for an entire week, we come together to conduct business and worship with our brothers and sisters in the Lord... There is definitely NOTHING like it! It is so wonderful to be with all our Church friends and family from everywhere around the world! We always rent a facility to do this. It costs us thousands of dollars every year to do this. Finding a place large enough for us to accommodate the number of people that attend has not been easy. This past year, God opened a door for us to purchase a piece of land in Cleveland, Tennessee, to build our own Tabernacle to worship! The best part is that it's PAID IN FULL!!!! The property is absolutely beautiful! After our General Assembly in August of 2024, I was able to attend a dedication service of the property. I was thrilled to be a part of something so amazing! ...My pastor's wife said, 'It has ignited a fire in us all.' We are so excited about this opportunity! Every member is striving to do all we can to see this happen. We have started many fundraising events! One is called 'Heritage Acres,' ...where you can sponsor an acre for \$10,000 in honor of a special individual or family and their name will be displayed on a wall when the Tabernacle is complete. Secondly, you can strive for 10 people to give \$100. This month, each member is paying \$1 for every year they have been a member ... I have been a member...34 years.... Last night, I paid \$34 toward this fundraiser. It was so exciting... You can help be the hands and feet of Jesus as we work for this wonderful cause, and you, too, will be blessed as you give! Will you agree to pray about it? The Bible says God loves a cheerful giver. There has never been a time that I gave to the Church and regretted it. God always brings it back to me in so many different ways! So, what do you think? Would you like to join us in this wonderful endeavor? One day you can look at the Tabernacle and say, 'I helped build that!' I don't know of a better place to put your money! Thank you in advance to everyone that gives of their heart to help make this possible!!! Love You All!"

The third President of the United States of America, Thomas Jefferson, said, "If you want something you've never had, you must be willing to do something you've never done."

We invite YOU, if you are a business owner, friend, or family member and would like to participate in this great cause, please go to www.thechurchofgod.org/give/online. Enter the amount of your donation, where it says "Fund," and be sure to select "Tabernacle."

Very soon, from May 2-4, young people from across our churches will gather for our HYPE (Helping Young People Everywhere) Rally. This is more than just a time of fellowship—it's an opportunity to strengthen our faith, encourage one another, and ensure we are surrounded by the right people.

The company we keep has a great influence on our walk with God. The Bible warns us, "Be not deceived: evil communications corrupt good manners" (1 Cor. 15:33). Whom we allow in our inner circle can either push us closer to God or pull us away. We see this truth clearly in the life of Job.

Job was a righteous man. When trials came upon him—losing his wealth, his family, and his health—Job's allegiance to God was steadfast. The Bible says, "In all this Job sinned not, nor charged God foolishly" (Job 1:22). Even when his wife told him to "curse God, and die" (Job 2:9), he rebuked her, remaining resolute in his faith. But then his friends arrived. At first, they simply sat with him in silence (Job 2:13), which was perhaps the best thing they did. But soon, they began to speak, and their words brought more harm than healing. Instead of encouraging Job, they accused him of sinning, implying that he must have done something to deserve his suffering. Job, who had once endured his trials with patience, began to waver. He started to question God, asking why he had even been born (Job 3:11); why God would try him (Job 7:18); and why he



Jacob Anders, *General Coordinator*

had become a burden to himself (Job 7:20). Job began to wrestle with deep questions—not because he lost faith, but because of the discouraging voices around him.

This is why it is critical for young people to surround themselves with godly influences. Proverbs 27:17 tells us, "Iron sharpeneth iron; so a man sharpeneth the countenance of his friend." The right friends will strengthen your walk with God, not weaken it. They will encourage you to pray, to trust God, and they will never push you away from Christ or His Church.

That is why the HYPE Rally is so important. This is not just another event—it is a gathering of young people who are seeking after God, who desire to be surrounded by those who will build them up in the faith. It is a time to form friendships that will strengthen you, not weaken you.

Ask yourself: Who is in my circle? Do my friends push me toward God, or do they cause me to doubt Him? Do they encourage me to live holy, or do they lead me toward compromise?

Job's story teaches us that even the strongest can be negatively impacted by the wrong voices. Let us be intentional about whom we allow to influence our lives. At the HYPE Rally, let's come together in unity of mind and doctrine, and make sure that we are surrounded by the right circle—brothers and sisters in Christ who will help us stand, no matter what trials may come.

As I write this article, I am at the conclusion of Bible Training Institute in Paraguay. What a time we have had during this blessed week! At this school, there were eight 1st Term students, four 2nd Term students, and five 3rd Term students. Praise the Lord for a wonderful and blessed time in Paraguay!

Plans are being finalized for the West Coast Bible Training Institute that will be held in Bakersfield, California. The dates for the West Coast school are March 28 - April 5, 2025. I would

Bible Training Institute



Paul Horton
General BTI Director

like to give a personal invitation to anyone and everyone to attend the West Coast school in California. I am confident this will be no less than all the previous schools, and a great blessing for all the students who will be attending. We are blessed and excited to have six Regional/National Overseers teaching (one for the first time from Central America, Brother Julio Cruz, National Overseer of Honduras).

For those desiring to attend the Bible Training Institute in Cleveland, Tennessee, the dates are May 18-31, 2025. We are also trying to finalize the plans for this school, and we need your applications so we can be prepared for your arrival. Applications can be filled out online or downloaded at <https://www.thechurchofgod.org/bti/enroll>.

Please continue to pray for all our upcoming BTI schools around the world. Upcoming BTIs include: Philippines, Panama, Costa Rica, Mexico South, and Chile South.



PARAGUAY—February 2025

Our Auxiliary Work

Bishop M. A. Tomlinson, *Former General Overseer*
(excerpted from the Annual Address to the 1982 General Assembly)

The term auxiliaries is one which we use so frequently that scarcely any member who has been in the Church for just a short while does not immediately recognize its meaning. Beginning with the Sunday School in 1906, the Watchers Over Ten in 1916, later to be renamed Assembly Band Movement in 1928, the Womens Missionary Band and the Victory Leaders Band in 1928, and finally the Church of Prophecy Marker Association in 1941—each of these five auxiliaries have been assigned General Secretaries for their promotion, who through the years have done a commendable job.

No one can deny that our Sunday Schools have had a tremendous influence for good upon thousands of lives since 1906. And only God knows how many souls have been kept from going astray, or the large number who have been brought back into the fellowship of our churches, through the efforts of the Assembly Band Movement and the spirit it has nurtured since its inception. In addition to keeping our young people spiritual, think of the millions of pieces of free literature our Victory Leaders Bands have been responsible for printing and distributing throughout the world.

The vast missionary endeavors of the Church just would not have been possible without the faithful labors of our dedicated women who are members of the Womens Missionary Band. The Church of Prophecy Marker Association, in promoting the vision of one Church for all, has kept this message before our people, and many can testify of the effect it has had upon their being settled and established in The Church of God. There have been some criticisms voiced concerning the auxiliaries in recent years, but surely no one can dispute the value they have been in our work. Perhaps the dissatisfaction stems from the tendency to settle into such routine ways of operating these helps which God has given us that they lose their vitality and fail to excite our people. I believe we must admit that this is a leadership problem rather than it being a problem with the auxiliaries themselves.

Some seem to feel that as long as a large offering is raised in a particular auxiliary fund that that auxiliary is doing well. While the raising of funds for the support of our work is very important, at the same time a church could conceivably be the champion fund-raising church in its particular state or nation and yet have auxiliaries that are failing to provide nourishment to the local church.

We need the auxiliaries operating in a manner which brings spiritual excitement and vitality to our churches. They were never intended to provide simply a routine and mechanical way for fund raising. They were accepted as a way of organizing our people for training and for service all right, but such organization does not have to operate routinely. All our efforts must be Spirit-filled if they are to have the effect God intended.

We certainly would not want to be childish in this matter. A child who is given a battery-operated toy, when the power is all gone from the battery, may decide just to discard the toy and desire something new which works. But the problem is not with the toy, but in its power source. Being energized with a new power source, it may operate just as well as it did when it was new. It seems unwise to attack the auxiliaries themselves when they appear powerless and dull. It would be better to diagnose the cause for their lack of power. There is a divine Source of power without which none of them can function as they should.

If our Sunday morning services become dull and lifeless, for example, the solution to this problem is not in discontinuing them, but to find the cause and take whatever action is necessary so that the Spirit of God can breathe new life and vigor into these services. And this is true also with our auxiliary services. Every local service in our churches should be a time that is eagerly looked forward to for spiritual nourishment and refreshing, and I believe it can be just that way.

For this to be, however, our leaders must make adequate preparation, the foremost of which is spiritual preparation. The work of The Church of God is spiritual in its nature, and though some social activity may be in order within our auxiliary gatherings, such activities are no substitute for spiritual services. Social activities do not feed the inner spiritual man.

I am afraid that in too many places the manner in which the auxiliaries are being operated has brought criticism that may be merited. But this can be overcome by spiritually inspired innovative leadership. It is true that this kind of leadership must begin at the General Headquarters level through an inspiration that is prayed down, and this same kind of inspired leadership must be found in the National and State offices. But this cannot replace that inspiration which is to be generated through the local church leaders.... 



Philippines

On January 18, 2025, my wife Marsha and I embarked on our first International Mission trip together. Although I have traveled regularly to the Philippines since 2019, this was the first time she could join me. It was a blessing to have her along for companionship and to work together for the Lord in the Philippines. Our trip lasted nine days, and we visited three local churches.



After taking one rest day in Manila, we were up at 3 AM to travel by air to the Aklan province, landing in the city of Kalibo, on an island about 320 miles to the south. Here we visited the congregation of Dongon East, Numancia. This was the first of our churches in the Philippines in the early 1960s. The building still has the original pews built at that time, and a beautiful hand-painted mural of Fields of the Wood is on the wall behind the old pulpit. It is a lovely place with lovely people. Pastor John Ballenas and his congregation treated us like family. Special care was taken to ensure



that our every need was met. Filipino hospitality is among the finest in the world! We were blessed to visit several homes and enjoy fellowship and wonderful food with our brothers and sisters. We held two Spirit-filled church services as well. A special thank you to Pastor John and the beautiful people of Dongon church!

From there, we returned to Manila for a short rest before traveling with Brother Gerson Sallo to Calamba City, Laguna, to visit the church there. The church at Calamba City is one of two churches we established on my visit to the Philippines in January/February 2024. We were welcomed by Pastor Nixon Gregorio and members of his beautiful family. After an afternoon of sweet fellowship and many big laughs, we enjoyed another excellent service with the local church family. Though it was Sister Estep's first trip, it was as if she was with old friends as she and the sisters talked and laughed. It was this way wherever we went. It was a wonderful day, and we hated to leave, but we still had much work to do, so we returned to Manila again.



On Friday, we spent part of the day visiting some places and friends I knew when I lived there with my family in the late 1980s while my father, Donald Estep, was the National Overseer. Old friendships were still sweet after many years, and it gave me joy to introduce my wife to such good old friends. God is good!



That evening, we attended a special prayer service with the members and friends of The Church of God in Montalban, Rizal, an area just outside Metro Manila. This congregation was established in January of 2024 on my trip to the area. Their work had begun sometime before that with only two families. Since then, it has grown into a thriving church with 35 families! To God be the glory! Pastor Melchor Itang and the congregation welcomed us into the time of worship and prayer, followed by snacks and more sweet fellowship. The Spirit of the Lord had moved mightily in the service, and everyone was so excited to spend some time together. Once again, there were shared testimonies, lots of questions, and many moments of laughter as we felt the deep bond of family. The following day, we visited two locations where the local church ministers to neighborhood children every weekend. Each group was at least 50 strong, with beautiful and happy children learning about the love of God. The young people in charge of this ministry are anointed and determined to win as many as



possible to Christ! We were welcomed by the kids and had a wonderful time hanging out with them.

On the final day of our trip, we attended the first anniversary service for the Montalban church, which was held one year and one day after I had stood in Brother Gerson's garage and organized the church. It was a beautiful service with nearly 100 people of all ages in attendance. God moved mightily in the service, and everyone left there inspired to continue the work.

We visited three churches, seven homes, and attended seven church services on this trip. I preached four sermons, Sister Estep shared testimonies, we presented five new Evangelist Licenses, three Lay Teacher Certificates, and three Lay Minister Certificates, and held a National Committee Meeting (Trustees). Sister Estep was a real trooper, staying by my side through hundreds of miles of airplanes, boat rides, Grab Cars (Filipino Uber), tricycles, vans and buses—smiling and loving every minute. She fell in love with the Filipino people, and they fell in love with her. We enjoyed many snacks and meals prepared with extraordinary hospitality and love. The people treated us like family, and we have missed them deeply since the moment we left. The handshakes, hugs, and smiles were deeply heartfelt and genuine. This was a life-changing trip, and hopefully the first of many for the two of us together. The Filipino people are vibrant and happy people who have a great zeal for serving the Lord! Please pray for our people there, and if you feel led to help in any way, don't hesitate to contact me. There are many needs, and I can help you to find a way to get involved. May God bless The Churches of God in the Philippines!

In Christ,

Donald and Marsha Estep



ABM Workshop Tennessee

On February 22, 2025, the ABM leaders and pastors of the state of Tennessee met for a *State ABM Workshop*. We were abundantly blessed with 34 in attendance despite the snow that was still in the area. It was an extremely informative meeting with lessons instructing us on *"The Importance and Layout of the Band Services,"* taught by Sister Deborah Perkins, and *"Flock Maintenance and Prevention,"* taught by Brother Steve Fox. The anointing was strong, and the Holy Ghost settled in among us with the spirit of the Church, as we were instructed how to rejuvenate the vision of the ABM and the importance of worship and sharing the Word of God in our band services. Truly, it was a wonderful time of learning band leader self-maintenance and how to help protect, maintain, and lead a healthy band.

Lunch was served by the Portland church, and it was a wonderful time of fellowship. The workshop continued after lunch with a class taught by Sister Leslie Moncrief, *"Knitting with Your Band Members,"* where we learned about being knit together in love and loving people back into the Fold. Such a powerful and sweet spirit of love swept through the building. Brother Harvey Anders, our State Overseer, spoke and sang the song, *"On the Wings of a Dove,"* as the congregation joined in. We closed after a special time of questions, answers, and testimonies. The workshop was livestreamed with over 800 views. **TO GOD BE THE GLORY!**

Annette Deitz
Tennessee State ABM Coordinator

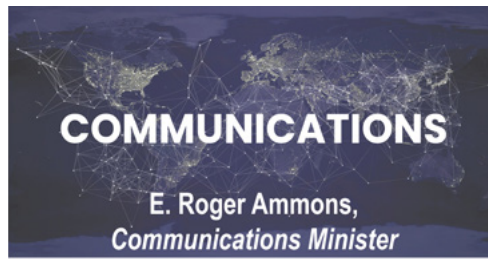


THE GLORIOUS CHURCH OF GOD THE RISING SON OF GOD'S GLORY

"...the glory of the LORD is
risen upon thee" (Isa. 60:1).

The previous article in this series on "The Glorious Church of God" was entitled, "The Rising SUN of God's Glory." This article is entitled, "The Rising SON of God's Glory." The first article showed by the Scriptures that, although the glory of God is immutable and does not change, there are various degrees of manifestations of His glory. This truth is brought out in John, chapter 1: "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God... And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth" (vv. 1, 14).

Isaiah prophesied, "Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of the LORD is risen upon thee. For, behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people: but the LORD shall arise upon thee, and his glory shall be seen upon thee" (Isa. 60:1, 2). This is a dual prophecy of the First Coming of Jesus after over



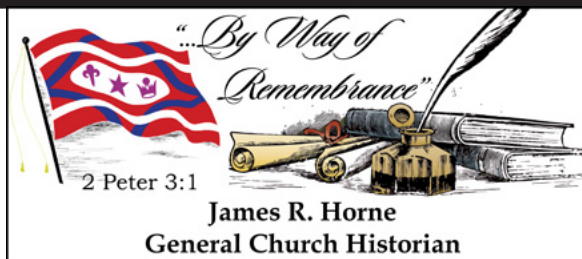
400 years of spiritual darkness between the Old and New Testaments, and also of the Arise, Shine of The Church of God out of the Dark Ages (A.D. 325 – A.D. 1903). The writer of Hebrews was aware that there had been various manifestations of the glory of God in the Old

Testament, but he knew that Jesus outshined them all. He wrote, "God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, Hath in these last days spoken unto us by *his* Son... Who being the brightness of *his* glory, and the express image of his person" (1:1-3). "But when the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman" (Gal. 4:4). How appropriate it was when the angel of the Lord announced the birth of Jesus to the shepherds that "the glory of the Lord shone round about them" (Luke 2:9). It is sad that "the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them" (2 Cor. 4:4). However, for those who have believed, thanks be to God, "who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to *give* the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ" (2 Cor. 4:6).

If the Church is not being preached and taught according to the divine revelation, somewhere along the line we will have to do much of our work over. It is much easier to be thorough as we go along. Jesus did this when He led the apostles to commit themselves as to whom He was. When Simon Peter spoke for the group, saying, "Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God," Jesus declared, "...Flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my father which is in heaven" (Matt. 16:17). Then He declared that His Church would be built upon the same divine revelation and mutual understanding.

It was a visible church that Jesus set in order when He called unto Him whom He would, ordained the ministry, gave them their commission, had a record made, and sent them forth. (Mark 3:13-19.) It was a visible church that walked with Him from then until His ascension. It was a visible church that was endued with power on the Day of Pentecost; and it was a visible church that "Went forth, and preached every where, the Lord working with them, and confirming the word with signs following" (Mark 16:20).

All the local churches spoken of, or written to, in the New Testament were visible,



functioning churches, subject to the central government at Jerusalem. Paul and the others set churches in order with flesh and blood members just as we do today. All the teachings concerning the Church's growth, operation, and perfection were

given to visible memberships, either in person or by letters addressed to them at their various locations. For instance, "Unto the church of God which is at Corinth" (1 Cor. 1:20).

History has left us a record of the visible Church of God...

I feel I must repeat that if the Church is not being preached and taught from the viewpoint of prophecy and the New Testament pattern, we will have more and more people who will not understand our reason for operating as we do. It is very important that the truth of one Church for all, functioning just as it did from the time of its establishment by Jesus until the time of the apostasy, be taught and preached without the slightest compromise or deviation. It is not a matter of being either like or different from the commonly accepted practices among Christian groups. Our concern is to follow the early Church pattern, which God set forth in the law and the prophets.

—Bishop M. A. Tomlinson,
excerpts from Annual Address, 1977



Greetings from the CPMA Department. A song that is fitting for this time of year is titled, *"Nothing but the Blood of Jesus."* Priceless things such as atonement for sins, healing, and righteousness are all mentioned in the song as covered by the blood of Jesus. The blood of Jesus Christ is so valuable and important to our faith, and we are eternally thankful for His sacrifice! If I could add another verse to that song, it would start with, *"What purchased The Church of God? Nothing but the blood of Jesus."*

Be reminded of the value of The Church of God! It was bought outright by the blood of Jesus and is not up for resale! This should never be overlooked or forgotten. And as we continue to work for Him in His Church, let's handle it all with the utmost care and respect it is due. **"Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood"** (Acts 20:28).



Stuart Brown
General Coordinator



SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT: I would like to share the plans we have in honor of our upcoming Heritage Month in June. We have been blessed over the years with wonderful heritage services and programs, so in keeping with this important tradition, by God's grace, we will be having a Heritage Week instead of a Heritage Day. This week will host three broadcasts that celebrate our heritage and our identity—past, present, and future. As well as your continued prayers, please create a buzz around this week. Tell everyone, share with everyone, and follow the Church news releases for more details as we approach June 9-13, 2025!



What do the following verses tell us about the Blood?

Ephesians 2:13; Colossians 1:20; Hebrews 9:12-14; 10:19; 13:20; 1 John 1:7; Revelation 1:5; 12:11

Churches 100% in CPMA:

Austin, AR	Lancaster, CA	Long Lane, England	Rice's Creek, SC
Phoenix Valley, AZ	Sacramento, CA	Perry, FL	Athens, TN
Colton, CA	London, England	Sellersburg, IN	Kenbridge, VA



Pennsylvania
Ladies Retreat

May 2-4, 2025

Mount Pleasant, PA

Guest Speaker:
Deborah Perkins

For an application or more information, please contact
Director Angie Pitts at
apittsheavenbound87@verizon.net

We hope that every local church had a successful month raising funds for World Missions. We also hope every local church and EVERY MEMBER has become familiar with the "10 for \$100" and "5 for \$5" fundraising campaigns. Our committee cannot stress enough how excited we are for every member to not only find donors for the Tabernacle, but to also make contacts for your local church or your State/Region to follow up with about future events or outreach opportunities. With just a little effort, we can grow Tabernacle funds AND we can grow the Church! Also, don't forget to offer every contact a free digital subscription (via email) to *The Evening Light*, whether they donate or not.

We want to thank each one who participated in the "I Love The Church of God" fundraiser. A total of \$7,724.30 was raised in the month of February, and we are confident a large portion of this amount came from members giving based on their years of Church membership.

Be on the lookout, in next month's issue, for a report on the Tabernacle Camp Meeting and Family Day, and don't forget to start planning now for Heritage Month!

TABERNACLE ADVANCEMENT COMMITTEE



“But Mary stood without at the sepulchre weeping: and as she wept, she stooped down, *and looked* into the sepulchre” (John 20:11).

Mary Magdalene is one of the women mentioned in Scripture who had a personal encounter with the Lord. We don’t know much about her other than what Luke 8:2 says: “out of whom went seven devils.” From this we understand that her encounter with Christ was radical and life-changing, to say the least. This was her point of reference as she witnessed the events leading up to Jesus’ crucifixion. The next time we read about her, she is peering into the tomb to discover that the body of the Lord is not there. Her response to this realization is worthy of our attention. Whether or not she fully understood that Jesus must rise again, according to the Scriptures; even if her arrival at the tomb was a final act of service to the Saviour she so dearly loved; instead of going home as the disciples had, she lingered at the tomb weeping and she took another look into it. She saw two angels this time, who asked, “...Woman, why weepest thou?” (John 20:13). After she answered them, they did not say anything else to her. Their purpose for this encounter was fulfilled.

Then she encountered someone she thought to be the gardener, who also asked her the same question, “...Woman, why weepest thou?” (John 20:15). She asks



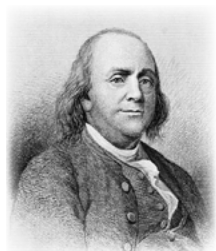
Shanna Campos
General Sunday School Coordinator

this unknown visitor to tell her where Jesus is, then suddenly she hears His tender, familiar voice say, “Mary.” The only thing that would convert her deep sorrow into everlasting joy would be that voice as of many waters (cf. Revelation 1:15) penetrating her heart as it had the first time she encountered Him. As she recognized Him, she received powerful consolation from a personal encounter one

last time on earth before He would ascend and be glorified in heaven. I’m sure she held onto that moment for the rest of her life.

That is how valuable our personal encounters are with the Lord. They should be experiences that keep us seeking for Him even while weeping, in uncertainty, fear, hardship, injustice, and while walking in the darkness of this world. Sooner or later, in each encounter, the tender voice of the Master will be audible, and our hearts will receive the strength and power needed to go on. God is a rewarder of them that diligently seek Him (Hebrews 11:6), and if we continue seeking Him until that final encounter when we meet Him face to face, it will be a wonderful time of rejoicing throughout the unending ages.

I pray that our reflection on the resurrection of Christ this season will renew our joy as never before until that day when He comes again in His glory. It will be worth it all!



The following epitaph, penned by a young Benajmin Franklin, is displayed at the cemetery where he is buried in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA:

The Body of B. Franklin, Printer,
Like the Cover of an old Book,
Its Contents torn out,
And Stript of its Lettering & Gilding,
Lies here. Food for Worms.

But the Work shall not be lost,
For it will as he believ’d, appear once more
In a new and more elegant Edition
Corrected and improved
By the Author.

Bishop Allen Anders of Reidsville, NC, passed on to his eternal reward on February 24, 2025. Our love and prayers are extended to his numerous family members and loved ones.

Certified Teacher Linda Barber of Wilmington, NC, left this world on February 25, 2025. May those she left behind received comfort and peace from the presence of the Lord.

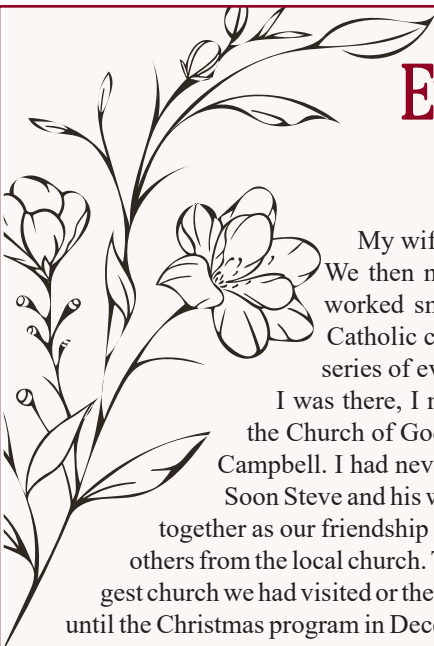
CORRECTION:

In last month’s death notice we mistakenly listed Sister Shirley Bock as being from Isabel, North Dakota, instead of **SOUTH DAKOTA**. We apologize for the blunder.

(vs)



WANTED—More parents who take their children to Sunday School and church instead of sending them.



Everyone Loves You, Just Keep Coming

Jeff Yohe
Salem, VA

My wife Laura and I were married on Long Island in 1981 after meeting at music school. We then moved to Nashville, Tennessee, for songwriting. During our first year there, we worked small jobs as we pursued our dreams. Even though we had been married in the Catholic church, we visited a number of different churches in the Nashville area. Through a series of events in the summer of 1982, I ended up working at a hardware store. The first day

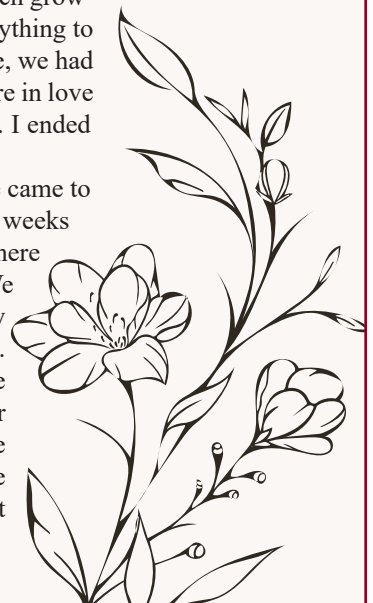
I was there, I met a coworker, Steve James. Within five minutes of meeting him, I heard about the Church of God and how great it was. Steve talked about his pastor, Ray Dupre, and about Jerry Campbell. I had never heard of the Church, but this man was excited about it.

Soon Steve and his wife Freida became good friends with Laura and me. We began to spend a lot of time together as our friendship grew. During this time, I met Jerry Campbell and Ray Dupre as well as a couple of others from the local church. The church was located in a south Nashville area called Woodbine. It wasn't the biggest church we had visited or the nicest building. Though we had met Steve in July, we didn't actually visit the church until the Christmas program in December. The program was typical, but (as many have heard about our first visit there) there was a spirit there we had not found anywhere else. I didn't know what I was looking for, but I knew it when I found it! We started attending, and, as we heard Brother Dupre's messages and became acquainted with other folks in the congregation, we started to really feel a connection with this church that we knew nothing about.

A couple of months later, we approached Brother Dupre after service and talked to him about joining. A few days later, he came over to talk and ask us questions concerning the doctrine of the Church. Realizing we were not saved or anywhere near ready to join the Church, this is what he told us: "Everyone loves you, just keep coming." He didn't say, "You don't understand what we believe, so you might as well go somewhere else," or "Let's get you in the Church and we will work on the doctrine part later." He said, "Everyone loves you, just keep coming." After that, every time we headed to the Catholic church we'd been attending on Thompson Lane, we would instead make a left turn onto Foster Avenue to the Church of God. No one there asked us who we voted for, they didn't tell us how to dress or what we should take off, they just loved us.

Just before Easter that year, Brother Dupre asked us to sing a special song for the sunrise service. What was he thinking? Here were two people who just started visiting, were not saved, did not understand any of the Church's teachings, were wearing wedding rings, and he asked them to sing on Easter. It wasn't like there was no other talent at the church. David and Rita Baroni attended there as well as others, but he asked us. We decided to sing a song Laura had written a couple of weeks earlier. A song that basically said, "Lord, I need you." So, at the Easter sunrise service, we got up to sing. All I remember is when we got to the part of the song that said, "I need you more than ever. I can see there's really nothing of this world for me," the Spirit moved in. Laura set down the guitar and we fell into the altar and cried out to the Lord. All of a sudden, we began to understand. I hardly went to church growing up, but now I wanted to be there every time the doors were opened. I never gave anything to the church growing up, but now I wanted to start paying tithes and giving more. You see, we had fallen in love with Jesus, and when you fall in love, you'll do anything for the one you are in love with. Shortly after getting saved, we were sanctified and baptized with the Holy Ghost. I ended up working with Brother Campbell and Brother Dupre pouring concrete.

That first summer, it was like attending BTI. By October of that year, Brother Dupre came to us after one service and asked, "So, when are you guys going to join the Church?" A few weeks later, we joined. That was 42 years ago. There have been good times and hard times. There have been people who have come and gone, and some who have been close friends. We have been disappointed by some people, but never by God. He has kept us and our family every step of the way. All because someone told us we were loved, so just keep coming. All because someone had the sensitivity to the Holy Ghost to ask two unqualified people to sing Easter Sunday. Pastors, my feeling is that if folks who are seeking come into your congregation, don't worry about the way they dress or what they might believe (trust me from my own experience), when God's Spirit is present, they will find what they have been looking for. Let Him lead them and you, and tell them, "Everyone loves you, just keep coming." I promise you God will take care of the rest.



THE GIFT OF DIVERS KINDS OF TONGUES

(An Unknown Tongue That Edifies the Church and the Interpretation of Tongues)

Included in the Spirit's gift of divers (diverse, different) kinds of tongues is an *unknown tongue that edifies the Church*. "I would that ye all spake with tongues, but rather that ye prophesied: for greater *is* he that prophesieth than he that speaketh with tongues, **except he interpret, that the church may receive edifying**" (1 Cor. 14:5). The apostle Paul teaches us that it's better to preach or teach the

Word of God to others so they can understand more about God and be edified than to speak in unknown tongues and the hearers learn nothing. However, Paul says if we speak in unknown tongues and the Holy Ghost uses us to interpret the message into a known language, this would be the equivalent of preaching, because the Church would understand what is said, learn, and be edified. There are times when the Holy Ghost will speak through some of us in unknown tongues so the Church will be edified. This results, or should result, in interpretation of the unknown tongues (message) from the Holy Ghost by either the one speaking in tongues or someone else. "Wherefore let him that speaketh in an *unknown tongue* pray that he may interpret" (1 Cor. 14:13).

The Scripture also gives the divine order of a message in unknown tongues and its interpretation. "If any man speak in an *unknown tongue*, *let it be* by two [in other words—it can be by two], or at the most *by three*, and *that by course* [in turn and in order]; and let one interpret"



(1 Cor. 14:27). If the Holy Ghost wants to share a message with us in a language we can understand, God's Word tells us there will be no more than three individuals to speak in an unknown tongue before the interpreted message, separately, and then one will interpret. This is per Holy Ghost message and not per Church service or meeting. If someone is disobedient and does not

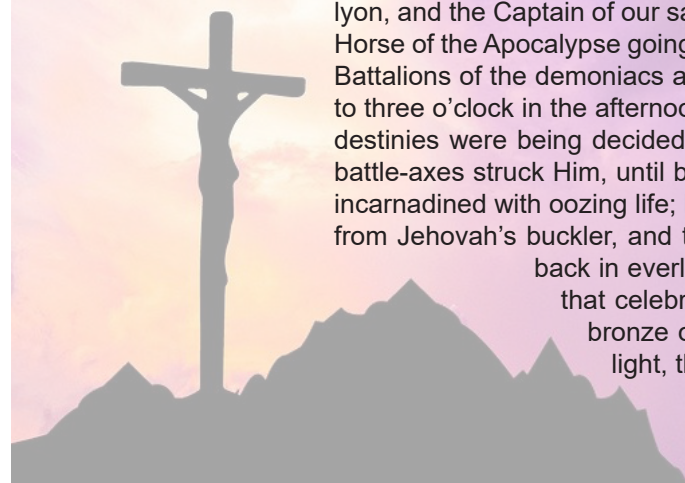
give out the interpretation for a particular message, there should be no more messages in unknown tongues for that particular message. "But if there be no interpreter, let him [the one that gave out the message in unknown tongues] keep silence in the church; and let him speak to himself, and to God" (1 Cor. 14:28). If the unknown tongues have exceeded the biblical maximum of three in number, the moderator of the meeting might point this out to the congregation, and should certainly call everyone to prayer to bring things back into order.

Proper teaching about the gifts of the Spirit will help our people to avoid error, emotionalism, and the manipulation of the enemy. "And the spirits of the prophets are subject to the prophets. For God is not *the author* of confusion, but of peace, as in all churches of the saints" (1 Cor. 14:32, 33). When we order our lives and our meetings according to the Word of God, the Spirit of God will be present, and everyone will be blessed!

"Christ gathered up all the sins of those to be redeemed under His one arm and all their sorrows under His other arm and said: 'I will atone for these under my right arm. Strike me with all thy glittering shafts, O eternal Justice! Roll over me with all thy scourges, ye oceans of sorrow!' And the thunderbolt struck Him from above, and the seas of trouble rolled up from beneath, hurricane after hurricane, and cyclone after cyclone, and then and there, in the presence of earth and heaven and hell, yea, all worlds witnessing, the price, the bitter price, the transcendent price, the awful price, the glorious price, the infinite price, the eternal price, was paid that sets us free... Our great Waterloo was in Palestine. There came a day when all of hell rode up, led by Apol-

lyon, and the Captain of our salvation confronted them alone, the Rider on the White Horse of the Apocalypse going out against the Black Horse Cavalry of Death and the Battalions of the demoniacs and myrmidons of darkness. From twelve o'clock noon to three o'clock in the afternoon, the greatest battle of the universe went on. Eternal destinies were being decided. All the arrows of hell pierced our Chieftain, and the battle-axes struck Him, until brow and cheek and shoulder and hand and foot were incarnadined with oozing life; but He fought until He gave a final stroke with a sword from Jehovah's buckler, and the Commander in Chief of hell and all his forces fell back in everlasting ruin, and the victory is ours! And on the mound that celebrates the triumph we plant this day two figures, not in bronze or ivory, or sculptured marble, but two figures of living light, the Lion of Judah's tribe and the Lamb that was slain."

(500 Selected Sermons, Vol. I & II,
T. De Witt Talmage, Intro., pp. 14, 15).



The Evening Light Subscription Form

Please Print Clearly

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

E-mail _____



Subscription Price:

- ☐ \$23/year (11 issues)
- ☐ \$33/year for 1st Class Mail, or Canada
- ☐ \$33/year for 1st Class Spanish (11 issues)
- ☐ \$8 Gift Subscription (4 issues)

Please send form and payment to:

THE CHURCH OF GOD

P. O. BOX 450

CHARLESTON, TN 37310

e-mail: eveninglight@thechurchofgod.org

For digital edition, go to:

www.thechurchofgod.org/eveninglight

“Two are better than one; because they have a good reward for their labour” (Ecc. 4:9).

Aloha Mission Crusade

Hosted by
The Womens Missionary Band
& Evangelism Department



The General Womens Missionary Band and Evangelism Department are joining efforts for the *goal of souls* in the Aloha Mission Crusade scheduled for November 1-9, 2025, in Oahu (Honolulu), Hawaii. How exciting it is for these two areas of ministry in the Church to come together in answer to the distinct call of God to **GO** into the unplowed field of Honolulu! And **YOU** are invited to join this first-time, Church history-making endeavor in Hawaii!

We will *gather* together in Oahu (meaning the “Gathering Place”) to plow the field of Honolulu with the good news of Jesus Christ (Honolulu means “Sheltered Harbor”)! Sign up now to help point the lost souls in the Pacific Paradise to the sheltered harbor of the Lord! For more detailed information, please refer to the WMB article on the back cover of this issue of *The Evening Light* or feel free to contact the General WMB Coordinator or the Evangelism Coordinator.

‘A ‘ohe hana nui ke alu ‘ia!

(Hawaiian phrase meaning “no task is too great when undertaken together”!)

The newly organized church in Sacramento, California, hosted a GO Rally February 8-9, 2025. The pastor and his family, along with other faithful saints of God throughout the state, were very instrumental in praying, planning, preparing, and promoting this evangelistic effort. Many drove as far as seven hours away to support the Rally. Almost every church in the state was represented. The State Evangelism Team was committed and diligent in street witnessing and canvassing before, during, and after the Rally, and their labors were not in vain! While distributing flyers, a precious soul was saved and another came to the Rally and found Jesus as his personal Saviour. The Lord honored all the prayers, sacrifices, and hard work, and His presence was powerful during the Rally. TO GOD BE THE GLORY—five were saved, two sanctified, and one accepted the call into the ministry. Before the General Evangelism Team returned home, a meeting was held in the home of a family looking toward the Church. Questions were asked and Bible answers were given. The Holy Ghost ministered wonderfully as prayer was had for the family—tears were shed and hugs exchanged. It was a God-ordained time of fellowship! May God continue to bless and grow The Church of God in California!



Jerry Campbell

General Evangelism Coordinator



California
Evangelism Team

The Church of God
P.O. Box 450
Charleston, TN 37310

Nonprofit Org.
U.S. Postage
Paid
CHARLESTON, TN
Permit No. 4

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

ADDRESS CHANGE? Please let us know! If you don't, the Post Office will not forward this magazine, but will destroy it and send us your new address, then charge us for this service.

Your **EXPIRATION DATE** is printed to the right of your name on the address label. To ensure you miss no issues, please try to renew two months prior to your expiration date. Thanks!

Womens Missionary Band



Sharon Griffin
General WMB Coordinator

THE ALOHA MISSION CRUSADE

The **WOMENS MISSIONARY BAND** and the **EVANGELISM DEPARTMENT** have joined together in the **Aloha Mission Crusade** endeavor! The mission call has gone forth from God, and we have heard His voice calling us to take the gospel to the Hawaiian Islands—the paradise of the Pacific! Oahu is referred to as the “Gathering Place,” and we believe God is gathering us there to spread the message that Jesus saves! A welcoming spirit has already been felt from the islanders in the planning stages of this crusade, and we believe God has something special in store! The isles are waiting for us, and we must GO! We are going to the Aloha State for the cause of Christ! Join us for this incredible missions endeavor!

“Surely the isles shall wait for me...” (Isa. 60:9)

DATES: November 1-9, 2025

WHERE: Oahu, Hawaii (Honolulu)

ACCOMMODATIONS: A block of rooms has been reserved for a total cost of \$230 per night at the Holiday Inn, Waikiki. This is an outstanding price that has been offered to us. To reserve your room, please call **808-748-7103 (using code CGM)** to book. Please note a 30-day notice is required to cancel your stay should it be necessary. A third or fourth person in a room is an additional \$35 per night per person.

PARKING AT THE HOTEL: The Holiday Inn has a parking garage and has given us 50% off the standard parking fee at a cost of \$12.00 per day.

AIRFARE: Each person is responsible for booking their own airfare and transportation around the island.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

Saturday, November 1st - Arrival and check-in

Sunday - Orientation

Monday through Wednesday – Canvassing/outreach

Thursday and Friday - Canvassing/outreach and evening service at the Holiday Inn conference room

Saturday - Canvassing/outreach and evening beach service

NOTE: Group canvassing and outreach will be conducted at various times of the day and in varied geographic areas of the island, including the Japanese community. There will also be free time for everyone to enjoy sightseeing at their leisure.



For more information, contact the General WMB Coordinator or the General Evangelism Coordinator.