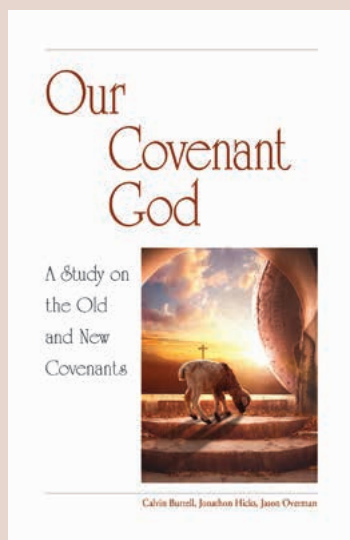


CHURCHRIGHT

Doing church right

CoG7 101



A book, *Our Covenant God*, was presented at the recent NAMC and is now available in the BA online store. Order your copy today!

store.cog7.org/products/our-covenant-god-nuestro-dios-del-pacto

If you are a member of the General Conference of the Church of God (Seventh Day) as it is organized within Canada and the United States, you probably are familiar with some of its basic components. To be a member of the GC, one must also be a member of a GC congregation and/or district. The GC also has three official and well-known Ministries (Artios Christian College, Publications, and Missions) and three additional departments (Communications, Information Technology, and Translation).

However, there is another key body within the GC that is not as well known: the North American Ministerial Council (NAMC).

Article X of the GC bylaws establishes the NAMC as follows: "Section 1. Identification. The ministers of the Conference shall be organized as the North American Ministerial Council. Section 2. Authorization. The Conference authorizes the Council to operate in accordance with its own bylaws. Section 3. Assignment. The Council exists to: A. Set forth the doctrinal teachings of the Conference; B. Interpret doctrine; C. Establish standards and qualifications for ministers of the Conference; D. Issue ministerial documents; E. Refer doctrinal studies to the International Ministerial Congress [now the International Federation]; F. Select delegates to the International Ministerial Congress [now the International Federation]; and G. Encourage, support and equip its members towards the fulfillment of the great commission (Matthew 28:18-20)."

The NAMC bylaws limit council membership to GC ministers with a ministerial license, a ministerial credential, or a local pastor certificate issued by the License and Credentials Committee. Those members holding a ministerial license or credential (active or retired) may participate in the discussions and vote during the NAMC's meetings. Those holding a local pastor certificate may participate in the discussions, but may not vote. Also, certain areas of service are available to credentialed ministers that are not available to licensed ministers or ministers holding a local pastor certificate.

Read the report of the NAMC's recent meeting on pages 6-7.

– Loren Stacy
GC President



District News

Central

Contributor: Ronald Rousseau, Superintendent



Men's retreat. Derick Jaramillo, his son, Daniel Jr., and his father, Francisco, shared the Word at our men's retreat held October 4-5 at King's Camp in Chana, IL. Having focused on the theme "Take Your Place," we all left with a sense of calling to take our place in the work of the Church. God bless all the men who attended!



Blessed in South Dakota

The Dakotas Family Camp was held August 16-18 at the Living Waters Retreat Center in Arlington, South Dakota. It brought together brothers and sisters from congregations in North Dakota, South Dakota, Minnesota, and Missouri. About 150 campers participated in this special time of hearing God's Word, worshipping, and enjoying deep fellowship.

We were blessed with inspiring sermons from Pastor Tim Steinhauser on the central theme "The Light of Our Path." A brother and sister from the St. Paul, Minnesota church were baptized by Pastor Ernesto Gómez from Guatemala – a special moment.

Pastor Oscar Mata, Central District representative, has testified about the abundant blessings God poured out during this camp.

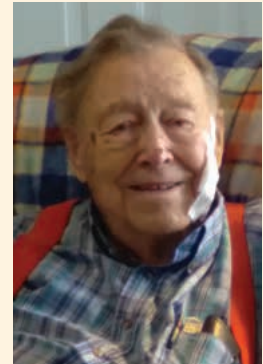
Southeast

Contributor: Zahida Hrenyk



Family, friends, and fun. The Hammondville church held its annual hayride on October 19 at Kenneth and Jimmie Pell's farm. They have hosted this event for more than 30 years! We all enjoyed visiting with our church family and members of the Chattanooga congregation. Superintendent Steve Krome and his wife, Allison, also attended. We enjoyed a delicious meal, and the children had fun with glow-in-the-dark sticks. We are so thankful to the Lord for granting us a beautiful evening with church family and friends.

Happy #100, Harold!
Family, friends, and neighbors visited Harold Wilhelm at his home in Campbellsville, KY, for his 100th birthday September 17. He is the eldest child of Fred Wilhelm, who was a CoG7 licensed minister, and was married to his wife, Thelma, for 71 years.



A conscientious objector, Harold served as a medical technician on Guadalcanal and Tinian. We appreciate his witness as he both stood for Christ and served our country. The Willhelms shared their home with families and students attending ministerial training classes, and they encouraged many in their walk of faith.

– Wayne Hrenyk and Karolyn Forbes

Southwest

Contributors: Maria Beard and Victoria (Tory) Capetillo,
SWD Media Ministry Director

SWD photos taken by SWD Media Ministry

Annual Hispanic Women's Retreat

The Truevine church in Austin, Texas, hosted the 2024 Annual Hispanic Women's Retreat, August 30 - September 2. Welcoming over 360 women from across the coun-



try, the retreat featured uplifting workshops led by speakers Araceli Robles, Eva Delgado, and Jocabed Martinez. It also featured beautiful worship sessions by the Truevine church's worship team.

The event was marked by a profound sense of community and spiritual connection, with attendees feeling the presence of God throughout the weekend. We invite you to join us in prayer, asking that the blessings and inspiration received during the retreat will continue to guide and empower us in the days ahead.



Super Sabbath. Joy filled the air as Area 6 brothers gathered in Albuquerque, NM, for an unforgettable Super Sabbath on September 28. Our district family met to worship and fellowship, with over 350 attendees celebrating God's goodness. We give thanks to our loving heavenly Father for His unwavering guidance and blessings.

Joyful gathering. On October 6, the Southwest District Seniors Ministry held a joyful gathering with the Fort Smith, AR congregation. Voices filled the air as we harmonized in song, and minds were stimulated with



enriching brain exercises. Our hearts overflow with gratitude for Thomas and Jaxel Childers, dedicated Senior Ministry directors, whose selfless service inspires us. This extraordinary ministry is a testament to love, community, and spiritual growth.



Uniting in Christ

The New Hope United Church held a youth camp October 11-13 for 6th-12th grades. Churches from San Antonio, Houston, Conroe, Corpus Cristi, and Porter, Texas, and Albuquerque, New Mexico, gathered for fellowship and worship. The weekend included music by the NHU worship team, sermons by Pastor Ruben Alonso, and several workshops facilitated by volunteers from Texas and New Mexico.

With the theme "United in Christ," youth learned the importance of seeking Jesus and following His example in how to treat others. When we imitate Christ, we can put away our differences and be truly unified with the brothers in our churches.

Please continue to pray for and support our youth. They are the future of our church. They need us!



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Church of God (Seventh Day) • P. O. Box 33677 • Denver, CO 80233 • Phone: (303) 452-7973 • Fax: (303) 452-0657
churchright@cog7.org • churchright.org

GC CONVENTION 2025

Engage

UTAH
SALT LAKE CITY

The Salt Lake Scramble

Convention 2025 is inching closer every day! What do you need to know as you make your plans to come?

- Registration will open in early January. Be ready to secure your spot, grab some meal tickets, reserve a hotel room, and more. New this year: You can edit your own online registrations!
- With each registrant purchasing just one meal, we will receive our meeting rooms for a few thousand dollars instead of a couple hundred thousand (no joke!). It may not be a Happy Meal, but it sure will be a meal that makes everyone happy!
- Book a stay in one of our two convention hotels (without using your points). It helps us meet our contract in getting hotel rooms at reduced prices for everyone.
- At convention, there's something for the whole family. Don't leave anyone home!
- Bring some names and birthdates of your ancestors and see how big of a family tree you can build at the Family Search Library, just down the street from the convention center. It's free!
- Flying in? Grab a cheap light rail ride right to your destination.
- Driving? Stay a few extra days and hit one or more of the five awesome national parks in Utah.
- Wanna float on the Great Salt Lake? You can't do that just anywhere!
- Ready for some family fun? Grab a Connect Pass that gives you discounts to eighteen different local attractions.
- Looking for ideas to use your gifts and talents in ministry? There won't be a shortage of those here!
- cog7.org/convention is the place to go for all things convention. Click on in!



Octoberfest

The Jasper, Arkansas congregation opened its arms to host a beautiful Octoberfest family retreat October 18-20. Under the guidance of Pastor Jason Overman and Superintendent Chip Hinds, 160 attendees from across the district immersed themselves in wonderful fellowship, joyful worship, and challenging messages around the theme "Casting Cares and Crowns." There was lots of good food and fun too, including a hayride.

But the highlight of the weekend was Brother Gustavo's joyful baptism in the creek Sabbath afternoon. Praise the Lord!



Pastor Appreciation. On October 19, the Central Church in El Paso, TX, celebrated Pastor Appreciation Month by recognizing Rubén and Susana Beard (pastors), Armando and Nora Aguirre (co-pastors), and Eduardo and Socorro Villalba. After the service, they enjoyed a dinner where they fellowshiped with the congregation. It was a night of great blessing, and we thank God for it!

Upcoming Events

December 6-8 – SWD Women's Retreat, Camp Buckner, Burnett, TX

December 13-15 – Super Sabbath, Tree of Life, El Paso, TX

December 27-29 – Marriage workshop and family groups, CoG7 Shalom, Brownsville, TX

December 26-29 – SWD Winter Youth Retreat, Jasper, AR

March 8-10, 2025 – SWD Pastors' Retreat, Camp Tejas, Giddings, TX

March 28-30, 2025 – Area 2 Women's Retreat, Dover Family Camp, Dover, OK



Faithful servants. Artios faculty and staff were present at NAMC in Dallas to answer questions at the Artios table, share news of upcoming projects, and collaborate on the work of equipping the saints for ministry. Thank you to all who stopped by to say hi, inquire about classes, or purchase a book. We are honored to serve the CoG7 alongside you!



Calendar Events

December 30 - Early winter registration closes
January 5 - Early winter classes begin

Early Winter classes

- BIS 201 Biblical Interpretation
- COM 121 Written Communication for Leadership
- LEA 211 The Leader's Emotional Health
- LEA 321 Leadership in the Church of God (Seventh Day)



Register at <https://my.artioscollege.org/en/courses>

Welcome, Mindy!

Meet our new employee at the General Conference office, Mindy Baumer. She is the friendly voice you hear on the phone when you call regarding orders and payment information.



Several months ago, Mindy was hired to work for the Bible Advocate Press. She fills orders, mailing everything from quarterlies to tracts to copies of the *Bible Advocate*, as well as making postage labels for *Churchright* and miscellaneous books. She also responds to emails and phone calls from Church members and pastors.

Mindy has been married to her husband, Tony, since 2000. They have one son, Evan, who's a high school senior this year.

This trio enjoys attending and volunteering at their church (North Metro Church in Denver), taking road trips, and watching football and baseball games in person or on television.

Mindy received her bachelor's degree in interior design from Colorado State University. Having attended CSU and having grown up in San Diego, she usually roots for the CSU Rams, San Diego Chargers, and San Diego Padres. Most of all, however, Mindy is a dedicated wife, mother, and follower of Jesus.

Welcome to the team, Mindy!

Congratulations!

On December 19, Nick and Dorothy Nimchuk will celebrate their 65th wedding anniversary. They are blessed to have four daughters (and their spouses),



nine grandchildren, and nine great-grandchildren. Nick, a CoG7 minister, has served in Canada and the Central District since 1968 as pastor and as district superintendent. Dorothy has written many articles for CoG7 publications. They currently reside in Medicine Hat, Alberta, Canada.



NAMC Gathers in Dallas



The North American Ministerial Council (NAMC) convened in Dallas, Texas, October 28 - November 2. The meeting was attended by licensed and credentialed ministers, local pastors, local leaders, pastors' spouses, observers, and delegates from Guatemala and the Church of God (Seventh Day) International Federation. We sincerely thank everyone who contributed to the success of this meeting, including the pastors from the Dallas area.

The 2024 meeting of our council took the following actions:

- Elected to a two-year term: Daniel Flores as president, Wayne Hrenyk as vice president, and Monico Muffley as secretary.
- Elected to a four-year term on the License and Credentials Committee: David Lozano, Jhabel Chagollan, and Eddie Villalba. The other four members are Steve Kyner, Noe Reyes, Andy Hassen, and Wayne Hrenyk.
- Elected to a two-year term on the Nominating Committee: Santiago Chavez, Ronald Rousseau, and Allo Sanchez.

The council received reports from the License and Credentials Committee, the Committee on Ministerial Ethics, and the Committee on Sexual Harassment and Abuse Policy. Additionally, they received presentations on the role of elders and the CoG7 International Federation. Various amendments to the NAMC bylaws were approved. New committees were established to conduct studies on three Bible topics, which will be presented at the next two council meetings.

A notable and heartfelt moment during the council meeting was the Pastoral Appreciation segment.



We extend our sincere gratitude to all the pastors' spouses who attended this council. They convened daily to listen to the Word of God and engage in collective prayer and activities. On Sabbath, thirty volunteers cared for seventy children. It was a fun-filled event full of Bible learning, and a play about Jesus captured their attention.



Approximately 950 attendees participated in the closing exercises on Sabbath, which included fellowship, worship, and sermons emphasizing Jesus Christ as "the Faithful Witness."

Church of God (Seventh Day), let us remain committed to fulfilling the mission and ministry entrusted to us by the Lord Jesus, bearing faithful witness to the gospel of God's grace.

God bless you.

Daniel Flores
NAMC President



Photo credits: Martin Ramirez, Gabriel Perez, Victoria Capetillo, Jamin Teran, and Karen Padrón



GC Missions . . . working for you

With your help, we can send evangelists (Cristo Viene), provide assistance through Disaster Relief (DRF), minister to orphans and widows, provide training through Bible schools, supply Bibles and gospel literature, mobilize short-term mission teams, and generate long-term income.

Learn more at gcmissions.cog7.org and on Facebook: "GC Missions" and "International Federation."

Help us spread the gospel
of Christ by giving your
financial support to
GC Ministries



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