

CHURCHRIGHT

Doing church right



Sex: Created, Fallen, and Redeemed

Have you bought a copy of this NAMC study? It covers homosexuality, singleness, and other topics. With all the talk about gender issues today, it's an ideal resource for personal reading or group studies.

Obtain a copy of the book for \$9.95 (beginning in October) through our online bookstore at cog7.org. Call us at (303) 452-7973 and ask about our bulk order pricing.



Don't miss the latest issue of *Missions News*, included with this issue of *Churchright*.

Go Make Disciples

Some of the best-attended workshops at our 2019 convention offered training in evangelism and discipleship. This is wonderful! Our members want to be trained to make disciples of Jesus!

I have good news! Training in evangelism and disciple-making is available to every member and congregation of our church.

GC Missions Ministries provides weekend training programs. **Elders Bryan Cleeton, Daniel Flores, and Ramon Ruiz** have been developing and testing this program throughout our Southwest District, in both English and Spanish. Contact Bryan Cleeton at gcmisions@cog7.org for more information.

Artios Christian College's Center for Vibrant Leadership offers instruction and coaching. **Elder Whaid Rose** serves as the center's dean. Contact him at (882) 462-1630, ext. 771.

Artios Christian College features individual online courses related to evangelism and disciple-making. Contact Artios at artioscollege.org.

Elders Michael Vlad and Larry Zaragoza provide their workshops and booklets: *Steps to Sharing Your Faith* and *Steps to Mentoring/Discipleship*. Contact them at outreachministries@yahoo.com.

Getting started is the thing, isn't it? In his book *The Divine Conspiracy*, Dallas Willard writes: "When you teach children or adults to ride a bicycle or swim, they actually do ride bikes and swim. . . . You don't just teach them that they ought to ride bicycles, or that it is good to ride bicycles, or that they should be ashamed if they don't."

When it comes to evangelism and making disciples of Jesus Christ, we can't be content with learning that we ought to share our faith, lead people to Christ, and teach them how to live as His disciples, or that it's good to do so. And we can't be content with feeling ashamed if we don't. We need to actually "ride bikes and swim" – to carry out the Great Commission. Let's get started!

– Loren Stacy



District News

Central

Contributor: Ken Lawson, Superintendent



Camp with a purpose. Over 50 campers gathered July 18-21 for the Area 1 Youth Camp, held at Inspiration Point Camp in Minnesota. The theme was “Love Your Selfie.” With the help of guest speaker Tim Steinhauser, this camp taught youth that we were made in God’s image and that we have a purpose. When camp was over, camp director Daniel Hopewell gave his analysis: “Lots of new kids, super new friendships to enjoy, outstanding fellowship and recreation, and the Holy Spirit was definitely among the campers and staff.” Several campers gave their hearts to the Lord!

Special baptism. With tears of joy, Superintendent Ken Lawson baptized his grandson Hogan on June 30 in Culver Lake, MN. Hogan will attend San Diego University on a full ride scholarship.



Northeast

Contributors: Esther Winchell and Rex Miller



Understanding the Times

Women represented the NED well at the New Jersey Women’s Retreat August 9-11, organized by the Ossining, New York women’s group. Visitors from California, El Salvador, and Calgary, Canada, attended – a grand total of 120.

The weekend’s theme, “Women Understanding the Times,” was carried through in worship, messages, workshops, activities, and prayer stations. A 39-woman choir from the Jamaica, New York congregation blessed everyone with special music. All in all, the messages conveyed the work to be done in order to become a vibrant 21st century church.



Blessed Super Sabbath

An all-day Super Sabbath on August 24 drew CoG7 congregations to Springfield, Virginia, from Lanham, Maryland; Alexandria, Richmond, and Winchester, Virginia. Also attending were a non-affiliated group from Beltsville, Maryland; a delegation from another non-affiliated group in Takoma Park, Maryland; a delegation from Edison, New Jersey; guests from Trenton, New Jersey, and Reading, Pennsylvania; and a delegation from the Northeast District board.

Around 500 people, standing together, recited the Ten-Point Vision of a Vibrant 21st Century Church – in unison and by heart. Priceless!



'Cleaning' Campers

Youth camp (August 4-8) was a wonderful time, with good weather, learning, and fun. Twenty young people and eight staff gave their time, attention, and talents to our gathering.



Focusing on the theme "The Cleaning Standard," teachers and visiting pastors delivered great messages during worship times. They explained the sin standard in our lives and how, through Christ, we can adhere to the standard He set, living free from sin and sharing the gospel of Christ with others.

Besides Bible classes, everyone loved crafts and drama. Our craft teacher provided activities that kept everyone's attention and time. Drama was fantastic as well. Young people were given a choice of themes and created their own dramas to enact that theme in front of the whole camp. I was so blessed to see their creative talents used in this way.

Children also enjoyed fun activities at the camp, like kayaking, swimming, and rock-wall climbing. We watched them on the high-rope obstacle course, cheered on by their fellow campers.

God blessed the camp time tremendously. We give thanks to our Father and the Son for letting us share those few days together.

— Rex Miller
NED Youth Director



CALENDAR 2019

- October 12** - Super Sabbath, Mitchell, SD
- October 12-13** - SoCal SWORD Marriage Workshop, Ontario, CA
- October 18-20** - Octoberfest Family Camp, Jasper, AR
- October 26** - Super Sabbath, Claremore, OK
- October 26** - Super Sabbath, Dallas, TX
- October 26** - SWD Women's Conference, San Antonio, TX
- October 26** - Super Sabbath for Areas 2 and 3, Elgin, IL
- December 6-8** - SoCal and NorCal Retreat, Oakhurst, CA
- December 27-28** - Super Sabbath Quarterly for Area 6, Midland, TX

Artios Events

- September 22 - October 27** - Early fall classes in session
- October 28** - Late fall course registration ends
- November 3 - December 8** - Late fall classes in session

For a complete listing of events, please visit churchright.org.



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Southeast

Contributors: Steve Krome, Superintendent, and Al Haynes



Leaders Conference

The district held its annual Leaders Conference on August 10-11 at the Ramada Conference Center in Jacksonville, Florida, with 110 church leaders and spouses attending. Pastor Ezra Modeste led in song worship on Sabbath morning, followed by Pastor Whaid Rose with a sermon entitled “For Those Who Fear.”

Presentations were made by Pastor Rose, Pastor Walter Apen, and District Superintendent Steve Krome, all on the theme of evangelism. The superintendent gave the annual State of the District financial report, and Pastor Al Haynes anointed recent graduates from Artios.

In spite of all the work accomplished, we still had time for fellowship. We are looking forward to next year’s event!



Reaching the Homeless

CareBag Inc., a ministry of the Treasure Coast church, is dedicated to transforming the lives of homeless citizens on the Treasure Coast beaches and Palm Beach. We started out serving sandwiches, bottled water, and snack bars to the homeless. Every Sunday, members of the church went into the woods, where we encountered people of all ages living in dilapidated tents and unsanitary conditions. We quickly expanded our services to include blan-

kets, toiletries, tents, clothing, and other necessities.

On January 16, 2019, just one day shy of CareBag’s second anniversary, this ministry was blessed with the only mobile shower unit on the Treasure Coast. We presented it at a ribbon-cutting and dedication ceremony on February 28, 2019, at the Treasure Coast church.

CareBag is the brainchild of Sister Rosanne Brown, who continues to give much of her time and resources to the cause. Thanks to her exceptional communication and marketing skills, CareBag has caught the attention of public officials, businesses, and the general public. While it remains a viable and visible ministry of the local church, 100 percent of its funding is generated from local businesses and the public. CareBag currently provides food and hygiene packs to homeless and at-risk families. Partnering with the Florida Community Health Centers, we can offer clients free health screenings.

We thank the Lord for His favor in giving meaning and great success to this work. By His grace and divine provision, we expect the delivery of a second mobile shower unit by the end of the year – completely donated by our sponsors. All praise to His glorious name through our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ!

– Al Haynes

Southwest

Contributor: Jamin Teran

SWD photos taken by SWD Media Ministry



Learning about God. Vacation Bible School took place during June, July, and August in several churches in the district. Children enjoyed activities and games and learned about the importance of God in their lives. We praise the Lord for this blessing!



Special guests. IMC President Ramon Ruiz (left), Robert Onsando (Kenya), Tluang Kung (Myanmar), and Missions Director Bryan Cleeton (right) visited the Dallas area July 12-13. They shared about their ministries and needs, as well as how the Church can unify efforts to take the gospel to the ends of the earth. Sabbath services were held at North Dallas and Dallas Central.



Summer getaway. On August 1-4, SWD students gathered in Conroe, TX, for their Summer Getaway 2019. They learned about God's love and its characteristics and were involved in service projects, workshops, fellowship, and other activities. God's love filled this getaway, blessing everyone.



Refreshing others. For a couple of years, our sister church in Laredo, TX-Yireh, has been providing water to others. This summer they delivered water bottles downtown when the temperatures rose to more than 110 degrees. Fresh, cold water showcased God's mercy and compassion. The Laredo-Yireh church delivered a total of 1,300 water bottles this year.



School outreach. Our sister church, New Hope United (San Antonio, TX), held its annual Neighborhood Party and School Supply Giveaway on August 10. The church worked as a team, providing visitors with games, food, and school supplies. We pray that each visitor feels welcomed and encouraged to know what Jesus can do in their lives.



Ministry in action. Marriage ministry directors Benjamin and Priscilla Sanchez are working with couples in the district, visiting and sharing their vision. Representatives from different areas are being selected to help address the needs of couples. Little by little, the team is being developed for the honor and glory of God.



Baptisms. On August 13, the San Antonio, TX-Willard church celebrated a number of baptisms. We praise God for those who confessed Him as their Lord and Savior!



Celebration. Our sister church in Austin, TX-Adonai celebrated its eighth anniversary on August 24. Superintendent Chip Hinds (right) was the guest speaker, and brethren from around the area attended the event.

Western Canada

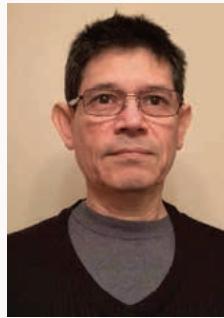
Contributor: Orville Rose



Baptisms. On August 10, two people made the trek to the Bow River in Calgary to publicly declare their allegiance to Jesus Christ. Souls are still being won to the kingdom of God!

Service Spotlight: Raul Gonzalez

Brother Gonzalez has a long history of service in CoG7. He was hired as a translator in El Salvador in 1982. There he worked on full books and all materials for the Church's seminars. In 2002 then-BA editor



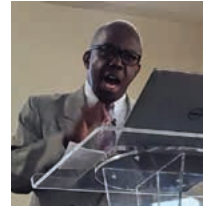
Calvin Burrell invited him to help translate and assist with corrections in the BA, *This We Believe*, and other books and materials.

Working with translating Church materials isn't all that Raul has done. For the past 38 years he preached at different churches in El Salvador; Los Angeles, California; Calgary, Alberta (Hispanic — former pastor); and Acme, Alberta (English).

Now retired, Raul currently works as a member of CoG7's new translation team. Thank you, Raul, for your service!

Do you know someone in CoG7 who should be honored for their volunteer work or ministry? Submit their name, and they could appear in Service Spotlight as space allows. Please include the name of the church where they attend, the capacities they serve in, and how long they have served. Send photo and information to Sherri Langton, associate editor (sherri@cog7.org).

Super Sabbath. "A Vibrant Church Conference" was the theme for the Calgary Super Sabbath on August 17. Pastor Whaid Rose guided us through the Word of God, encouraging district members and friends to let go of their "shadow mission" and join God on His mission. He followed up on Sunday morning with a special presentation to the district's leadership. The time is ripe for us to invest in training and mentoring for the next generation of GC leaders. We can set the tone by getting involved and being trained ourselves.



District camp. We converged on the Silver Meadows grounds July 18-21 for a camp hosted by the Parkland congregation and the district. Young folks had opportunity to practice their newly acquired skills as evangelists and Sabbath school teachers. We saw the best turnout at camp ever, with over 100 brethren participating in fellowship throughout the long weekend.

New Sabbath School Series

The Ministry of Reconciliation, a four-part series focusing on 2 Corinthians 5:14 — 6:2, is coming in 2020. Lessons explore what God has done in Christ to reconcile the world to Himself and how He has committed that ministry to us as ambassadors for Christ.

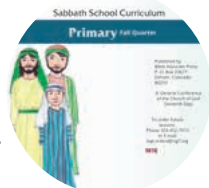
Let's study this important topic together. Order the newly designed adult quarterly series at <https://cog7.org/online-store/>.

Children's Curriculum (Fall 2019)

Intermediate. In *The Promise of a Savior* students will learn that because of Adam and Eve's disobedience in the Garden of Eden, all people have a sinful nature and need a Savior. God promised One who would pay the penalty of sin and provide forgiveness and salvation. These lessons begin with the promise of a Savior, recount Jesus' birth and childhood, and end with His baptism and temptation in the wilderness.



Primary. *The Shepherd King* teaches students that God chose leaders to bless His people, the Israelites, and that God chooses leaders today to bless His church. God wants His leaders to have shepherds' hearts that are caring and sacrificial. Though God is the ultimate King of kings, He rules as a shepherd does, tenderly caring for all under Him. These lessons focus on the stories in 1 Samuel, continuing where last quarter left off — from Hannah asking God for a son to David becoming the king of Israel.



Preschool. The lessons in *God – Eternal Ruler, Awesome Creator, Loving Savior* introduce students to God as the Eternal One who always existed and created all things. They will learn that God created Adam and Eve and that they were given the choice to obey or disobey God. Students will also understand that when Adam and Eve chose to sin, God shared with them His eternal plan of salvation. By Jesus' death, they could be set free from sin and eternal death — and so can we.



The screenshot shows the BA Online website interface. At the top, there's a navigation bar with links for ABOUT, MAGAZINE, SECTIONS, SUBSCRIBE, DONATE, and ESPAÑOL. The main content area features a large article titled "A LIFE WELL LIVED: AN INTERVIEW WITH MARTHA KEIM" with a photo of an elderly woman. Below this, there are several sections: "LEADERSHIP" with a green mug image and text about Christian leaders; "MEDIA4U" with a "NOAH" movie poster and a photo of two women; and "ONLINE EXCLUSIVES" with a photo of a person. A "POPULAR TOPICS" sidebar lists various subjects like APOLOGETICS, BIBLE STUDY, and CHRISTIANITY. The website has a clean, modern design with a dark blue header and footer.

An Online Facelift

For years you have enjoyed the convenience of the BA Online – accessing the archive, reading “extras,” and exploring other content. Now the all-new BA Online features not just the current and past issues but new sections as well: **Lead Up** (articles from Artios), **Now What?** (stories on life's problems), and **Media4U** (the latest in Christian media and events). With one click of a button, the whole website can convert to Spanish.

We're still working on the site, but feel free to visit. You'll like what you see!

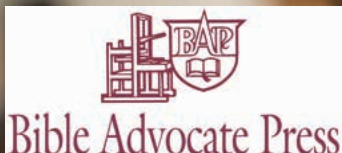
baonline.org

GC Ministries

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Thank you!



IMC Annual Sabbath November 2, 2019

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