

CHURCHRIGHT

DOING CHURCH RIGHT



General Conference
Church of God (Seventh Day)

January 2012

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2012 Emphases

January - NAWM

February - SWORD

March - Publications

April - LifeSpring

May - Missions

June - Youth

July - World Missions
(Change for
Your World)

August - Spring Vale

September -
Publications

October - LifeSpring

November - Missions

December - G. C.
Ministries

A People of the Spirit

The Church of God (Seventh Day) may well be called “a people of the Book.” The statement “The Bible and the Bible alone”; the name of our flagship publication, *Bible Advocate*; and our church’s historic emphasis on biblical accuracy and correct doctrine support this assertion. In our day of biblical illiteracy and the increasing compromise of the call to preach and teach God’s unadulterated Word, this historic emphasis of our church finds much appreciation and relevance.

But among the keys to a healthy church is finding balance. We extol the virtues of a balanced lifestyle, a balanced diet, and balanced check-books, and we hope for the ideal of the government balancing the budget. Balance is also important in doing church, and particularly as it relates to being “a people of the Book.”

What, then, should be on the other side of that scale of our Bible emphasis? Being “a people of the Spirit.” We are to not only “live by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God” (Matthew 4:4, NKJV) but also be led by the Spirit — the real proof that we are the people of God (Romans 8:14).

This balance has always been part of God’s design. CoG7’s historic emphasis has resulted in a focus on Sinai, law, and the importance of obedience. But Sinai isn’t only about giving the law. It is also about revealing the pattern for the tabernacle (symbolizing worship), God’s presence, and anticipating the coming of the Spirit. To see only law at Sinai misses much of what God did there.

A closer look shows that Sinai correlates with Pentecost. At Sinai, God ratified the covenant with Israel, establishing the terms of its relationship and revealing the plan for a place where His presence would dwell. There, the Israelites were terrified at the Lord’s presence; three thousand died (Exodus 32:28). At Pentecost, God inaugurated the church, establishing a people in which His Holy Spirit would dwell. There, they were filled with awe; three thousand were saved (Acts 2:41).

This commitment to balancing Sinai and Pentecost, law and tabernacle, Word and Spirit, is at the heart of our Conference theme for 2012. It targets “Spirit-Formed” in our big-picture vision, a reminder that more than just being “a people of the Book,” we are also “a people of the Spirit.” Be part of this effort. Enter into the deeper life of the Spirit.

— Whaid G. Rose
Denver office

CULTURE OF EXCELLENCE

This Is a Test!

What is the General Conference?

For some, the *General Conference* refers to the physical operation in Denver, Colorado.

Others use the term in reference to biennial conventions: "I plan to attend General Conference next year."

Still, there are those for whom the General Conference is the organizational structure that provides corporate identity for its districts and affiliated congregations.

There's only one correct answer to the question.

What's your answer? Submit it in a brief essay (200 words or less) by January 31, 2012, to offices@cog7.org. Selected essays will be featured in future issues of *Churchright*.



Conference President Whaid Rose poses with the 2011 Pastor of the Year Award recipient, Jose Antonio Vega. He is pictured here with his wife, Alba, at the Lanham, MD, church on Sabbath, October 29. Northeast District Interim Superintendent, Samuel Holland, was also present.

Whaid Rose conducted renewal services on the campus of Spring Vale Academy/Owosso Church of God (Seventh Day) November 10-12, and spoke at the Owosso church's annual Harvest of Thanks Dinner on Sunday, November 13. Marjolene Rose ministered in music. Pictured are Pastor Rose delivering the Sabbath message and Bruce Noble reading from the Commemorative Bible to mark the "Year of the Bible" emphasis.



LifeSpring

Because of LifeSpring's much greater accessibility now, anybody can be an observer in a LifeSpring course for free! Observers can enjoy the course lectures in real time or watch the video stream. This is a great educational opportunity for those wishing to become more effective in their service to the cause of Christ.

Our new technology gives us the ability to offer a much better classroom experience for students and teachers.

And we are getting lots of positive feedback about the wonderful quality of both the delivery and the instruction. LifeSpring offers quality courses that are very well taught and extremely accessible.

Many more local churches are becoming simulcast sites because the members communicated their desire to their pastors. If you want to be an observer or if you want to actually take LifeSpring courses for credit, talk to your pastor about it and visit our site (www.lifespring.school.org) for more information. Prepare to be blessed!

— Richard Jensen, Director

Publications

Established some years ago, the Publications Recycling Program sends good used and extra copies of the *Bible Advocate* and quarterlies to Church leaders in other countries for distribution. Participation in this program is expensive but practical.

A special flat-rate box available from the post office can be mailed to third-world countries for \$45.50, at whatever amount of weight can be packed into it, up to 20 pounds. A variety of publica-

tions, literature, Bibles, and books can be combined in the same box.

The postage rate for any kind of box other than the flat-rate box is considerably higher.

If you are interested in mailing your excess publications to other countries, contact LeRoy Dais (LeRoy@cog7.org) for instructions and names/addresses of Church leaders.

Bibles and Books

You may request a list of Bibles and books available from the Bible Advocate Press. The list can be sent to you either as an e-mail attachment or by regular mail. Prices are reduced to make it practical to have your order sent by mail.

Contact BAP: P. O. Box 33677, Denver, CO 80233; 303-452-7973; bap.orders@cog7.org.

CALENDAR 2012

January 7-28 – Annual Prayer Initiative: “A Passion for Holy Spirit Fullness”

February 19-22 - Annual Board of Directors meeting (Denver)

February 26-28 - Annual License and Credentials Committee meeting (Denver)

March 10 - Pacific Northwest Super Sabbath at Jefferson Baptist Church, Jefferson, OR

March 30 – April 9 - SHINE Missions trip to El Salvador

March 30 – April 1 - National Women’s Retreat at the Red Lion Hotel on the Columbia River, Portland, OR

April 5 (Thursday evening) - Annual Lord’s Supper Service observed in every congregation, with washing of feet

April 20-22 - Florida Ladies Retreat, “Woman of Wonder,” at Canterbury Conference Center, Oviedo, FL; call/text Alorna Largie (352-638-1416; alorna00008@yahoo.com) or Sharon Henry (407-719-0173; macanoc1@aol.com)

May 25-27 - Graduation weekend at Spring Vale Academy, Owosso, MI; 989-725-2391

May 25-28 - Southwestern SWORD Retreat at Brookhaven Retreat Center, Hawkins, TX; contact Danny and Jacqui Melgoza (210-900-9889)

June 10-16 - Dover Family Camp at Camp Cimarron, near Kingfisher, OK; contact Jared Ullrich (jared.ullrich@yahoo.com or 918-864-5589)

TAKE NOTE

North American
Ministerial Council
Portland, Oregon
October 29-November 4

National Men’s Retreat
Spirit-Formed Men
Portland, Oregon
November 2-3

Pastor needed for the
Parkland church (Alberta,
Canada). Accepting résumés.
Please contact Orville Rose
(403-293-6778, church;
403-650-9965, cell;
olhrose@gmail.com).

RESTING IN JESUS

Former General Conference treasurer Charles Malon Carr passed away October 7, 2011. A funeral service was held at Cashner Colonial Chapel on October 9, and interment was at Garden Park Cemetery, Conroe, Texas, October 10. Whaid Rose, Calvin Burrell, Chip Hinds, and Nathan Lawson officiated.



Annual Prayer Initiative

A Passion for Spirit Fullness

January 7-28, 2012

21 Days to Fast and Pray!

Does prayer make a difference? Why should God listen to the request of any one person? Since God knows our needs, is it necessary to share them with Him?

Prayer is our means of communication with God, whereby we express our thoughts and emotions to Him. It isn't overcoming His reluctance but laying hold of His willingness to bless us.

These 21 days in January are set aside for fasting and prayer, an annual exercise intended to set our spiritual sails for the remainder of the year. The entire denomination is invited to seek the Lord in "A Passion for Spirit Fullness," complementing the year-long Conference theme "A People of the Spirit."

Watch for more information on our Web site (cog7.org) and in our various Church publications.

The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective (James 5:16, NIV).

