

CHURCHRIGHT

DOING CHURCH RIGHT



General Conference
Church of God (Seventh Day)

February-March 2012

Volume 4 • Number 2

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

Filled With the Spirit

In an early scene of the classic *The Wizard of Oz*, the rushing winds of a Kansas tornado lift young Dorothy's house off the ground and send it whirling into the air. Houses, farm equipment, and even people are carried away by the violent storm.

The description of the Holy Spirit's arrival in Acts 2 sounds like the violence of an approaching storm: "And suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting" (v. 2, NIV throughout). But the violence of Pentecost had a very different effect. It overcame the waiting band of believers in a life-transforming way: "And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit . . ." (v. 4). This underscores the supernatural capacity of these new believers who would eventually turn the world upside down.

Being "filled with the Spirit" describes these early believers and serves as a command for believers in every era of the church: "And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit" (Ephesians 5:18). Differences abound among Christians as to the meaning of this verse. Paul is not speaking of the Spirit's indwelling: If the Spirit doesn't dwell in us, we do not belong to Jesus (Romans 8:9), nor to the Spirit's baptism. All believers have been baptized by the Spirit into Christ's body (1 Corinthians 12:13). Rather, Paul is speaking of the state believers live in, under the Spirit's complete control. The sign or evidence of the filling is bearing the Spirit's fruits and exercising the Spirit's gifts.

Paul illustrates this by using the analogy of drunkenness, as if to say, "Be drunk with the Spirit, not with wine." Those drunk (filled) with the Spirit are under the Spirit's control in the same way those drunk with wine are under its influence. Therefore, the Spirit's filling happens when the Spirit takes full possession of our lives, imparting to us fully the grace and power of Christ. When this happens, one writer notes, "The weak become strong, the timid become bold, and the carnal become spiritual." It happened in the first century church; it can happen in ours as well.

This year's Conference theme focuses on the ministry of the Holy Spirit. The General Conference has just emerged from twenty-one days of prayer and fasting for Spirit fullness. May our quest never end. May we be filled to overflowing!

— Whaid G. Rose
Denver office

CULTURE OF EXCELLENCE



Fiscal Responsibility

How the funds you give are handled by the General Conference

In a culture of excellence, careful attention is given to the matter of fiscal responsibility. Part of facilitating the Church's mission of proclaiming the gospel of Jesus Christ is the responsible stewardship of the funds (tithes and offerings) received by the Conference. In guarding the trust placed upon it for the stewardship of these funds, the Conference has committed itself to the following:

- Keeping administrative costs to a minimum, thus increasing money available for ministry
- Preserving the integrity of designated offerings
- Making careful purchases or commitments for services
- Keeping a good name in the business community

In addition, because of its fiduciary responsibility, the board of directors has adopted the following policy that must be followed by the president and executive staff:

- A proposed budget must contain no more than a 3 percent deficit.
- Net unrestricted reserves shall not be less than \$250,000.
- No single purchase or commitment over \$10,000 can be made without the consent of the board of directors.
- Estate funds principal shall not be expended.
- Twenty-five percent of estate funds interest will be reinvested in permanently restricted funds.

For daily operations, the G. C. and its ministries operate on 15 percent of tithes received from churches, offerings to G. C. Ministries and its agencies, sales of publication material, tuition from ministerial training, and district grants to the ministries.

Grateful for the opportunity to serve,
Conference Leadership

Your Generosity . . . Please and Thank You

Due to the recession and other factors, the General Conference finds itself in an intensified fundraising effort. Thanks to those congregations and individuals who've responded in the affirmative to written appeals. For those who have not, consider how your generosity can help the G. C. close the books in the black. Fiscal year ends March 31.

Copyright © 2012 General Conference
of the Church of God
(Seventh Day)

Churchright is a bimonthly newsletter published by the General Conference of the Church of God (Seventh Day). It is dedicated to communicating relevant Church news and cultivating a "culture of excellence."

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

Scripture quotations marked NIV are taken from the *Holy Bible, New International Version*.
Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984 International Bible Society. Used by permission of Zondervan. All rights reserved.

Campmeeting in Nigeria

Whaid Rose recently returned from his second trip to the African continent — this time to Nigeria. The occasion was the dedication of the new state-of-the-art (“ultra-modern”) church facility in Omoku and the annual campmeeting of the Rivers State Conference, attended by some 4,000 members. The combined membership of several state conferences number more than 100,000.

Upon his return, Elder Rose described his visit to Nigeria in a letter to Conference leaders: “Words are inadequate to fully describe my experience. The warmth, love, and graciousness of the Nigerian church; its highly organized infrastructure; and its contagious culture of giving — these are elements of my visit I will not soon forget.”

There exist so many opportunities to support the church in Nigeria through G. C. Missions. On the heart of Elder Rose when he returned were providing a giant-sized generator for the campground, financial support for the construction of a college facility, and various other ways to bless brethren in this beloved church.

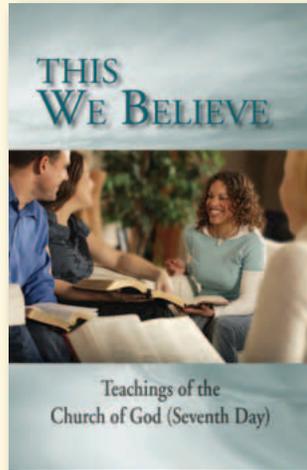
Consider attending the African National Convention (bringing together members from the entire continent) in Nigeria in December of 2013. Pray for Pastor Robert Crawford of the UK who, as the Zone 5 Missions representative, serves the churches of Africa. And pray for the Church of God (Seventh Day) around the world.



1. Crowd gathers for church dedication. 2. Ribbon-cutting ceremony. 3. Whaid Rose delivers dedication message. 4. Church leaders pose for picture following dedication. 5. Whaid Rose and Robert Crawford (from UK — Zone 5 rep) pose with Prince Felix Obuah (center), member of the Nigerian church; donor of the new facility. 6. Pageantry and ceremony, regular features of campmeeting. 7. Whaid Rose officially “received” (inducted). 8. Nigerian church ladies in their colorful attire.

NAMC Book on Doctrines

The 2006 NAMC Council session in Overland Park, Kansas, adopted the current *Statement of Faith* of the Church of God (Seventh Day), and commissioned the authorship of a full-length book that explains in detail, with supporting scriptures, the articles in the *Statement of Faith*. After several years of diligent work, the book is scheduled to roll off the press by mid-February and will be available to the membership. Contact the Bible Advocate Press, P. O. Box 33677, Denver, CO 80233; 303-452-7973; or baporders@cog7.org. Plans are to make this volume available in e-book format as well.



Southwest District Winter Youth Retreat, held in Midlothian, TX, December 29 - January 1.

A group of 300 learned how to live as one, from Ephesians 4:2-6. Guest speaker: Israel Steinmetz.



LITES

The LITES team has been involved in fixing up a house, owned by the Stanberry Church of God, for a local family whose house burned down a few months ago. The team also helped put up shelves and rails in the local ministry center, a place that sells food and clothing for 25¢. Pastor Tim Steinhauser has also been presenting a class on CoG7 doctrines.

Job openings

- Principal
- Bible Teacher
- Dean of Girls
- Assistant Dean of Girls
- Math Teacher
- Assistant Dean of Boys

Qualifications are posted at www.springvale.us. All communication should be directed to Mark Caswell, whose contact info is also on the site.



Don't forget!
Alumni Weekend
March 16-18

National Youth Ministry

2012 theme. "Not a Fan" is NYM's theme for this year, based on the book of the same name by Kyle Idleman. What does it mean to completely follow Jesus? Fans sit on the sidelines; followers invest in the game. Jesus says in Luke 9:23, "If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me" (NIV). This is possible only with the Holy Spirit's help.

Logo contest. Calling all graphic artists! The National Youth Ministry needs a new logo, and we need YOU to design it! Whether it's just a cool rendering of the "NYM" initials or a design that captures the heart of the ministry, we're looking for your submissions.

For contest rules, visit youth.cog7.org. Entries must be submitted to Director Kurt Lang (kurt@cog7.org) by **March 31, 2012**. The winner will be chosen by the





National Youth Ministry board no later than April 15, 2012. We reserve the right to offer clarification on the final design.

Lessons for Second Quarter 2012

Adult lessons. *Thessalonians: Encouraging Letters* is a careful study of the two letters Paul wrote to the church in Thessalonica soon after it was established. These lessons offer valuable insights for establishing new churches today. Cost: adult student book, \$3.25; teacher's guide, \$5.

Senior high youth lessons. In *Witnessing*, students will learn to be dedicated to the Lord and how to have a close relationship with God and Christ. When the joy of Christian living bubbles over, the enthusiasm will catch the attention of those who are looking for more in life.

Junior high youth lessons. *The Greatest Life Ever Lived (Part 2)* reveals that Jesus was no ordinary man. He taught with authority, and His answers to questions baffled the learned men. Cost: Junior high and senior youth student books, \$3; teacher's guide, \$4.

Intermediate lessons (grades 3, 5, and 6). The first four lessons of *Paul's Missionary Journeys* deal with reviews of some prophecies of Jesus, His ministry, the Lord's Supper, and His crucifixion and resurrection. The majority of the lessons are about the three missionary journeys of Paul and his companions, and their determination to share the gospel message under trying circumstances. The last two lessons are

CALENDAR 2012

February 2-4 - SVA winter revivals

February 17-19 - Toppenish WinterFest, Toppenish, WA; contact: Nick and Heather Fulton (hful-ton83@gmail.com)

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

February 20 - deadline for LifeSpring registration for BIS 104 History and Literature of the New Testament and THE 201 Systematic Theology (both offered in English and Spanish); courses begin March 4

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

March 10 - NW Super Sabbath, Jefferson, OR; contact: Greg Haffner, NYC (haffnerg@earthlink.net)

March 15-18 - Northeast District Pastors/Leaders Retreat, Laurellville Mennonite Church Center, Mt. Pleasant, PA; register by February 15

March 16-18 - SVA Alumni Weekend

March 29-31 - SVA spring revivals

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 14 - Acme, Alberta Super Sabbath; at Acme church hall

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)

April-June anytime - National Youth Week/Hunger Lock-In; local church events; contact: Kurt Lang, National Youth Director (kurt@cog7.org)

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)

September 14-16 - SW District Seniors Retreat; theme: "Are You Ready?"





Contributions to Endowment Fund

Some have inquired about how they might word a statement in their will to designate a portion of their assets to go to the Pooled Endowment Fund of the General Conference of the Church of God (Seventh Day). A statement in one's will may be worded something like the following:

"I want to give [a specific amount, a specific asset, or a percentage] of my assets to the Pooled Endowment Fund of the General Conference of the Church of God (Seventh Day), address: P. O. Box 33677, Denver, Colorado 80233; (physical address 330 W. 152nd Avenue, Broomfield, Colorado 80023); phone 303-452-7973; tax I.D. [this number will be provided by the office]."

You can leave it undesignated, or you can add:

"Further, I want to specify that this amount should be designated for the _____ account within the Pooled Endowment Fund."

Or:

"Further, I want to specify that this amount be divided equally between the _____ and _____ accounts within the Pooled Endowment Fund."

You can specify the General Conference or any of the G. C. Ministries. It is well to notify the General Conference office when you include it or any of its ministries in your will, so that confidential information can be kept on file.

devoted to Paul's arrest in Jerusalem, imprisonment, and trials. Provided as e-mail attachments for \$15 (or a disk for \$19); \$2 additional for each student. The set includes the teacher's overview, weekly teacher's guides, student handouts, activity worksheets, and resource pages.

Primary lessons for grades 1, 2, and 3. Lessons in *The Last Days of Jesus* help students experience some of the events leading up to Jesus' death and resurrection and help them understand how the disciples played an important role in what happened. The lesson set includes the teacher's overview with the scope and sequence, weekly teacher's guides, student handouts, and resource pages. Provided as e-mail attachments for \$15 for the set or on a disk for \$19.

Order from Bible Advocate Press, P.O. Box 33677, Denver, CO 80233; 303-452-7973; or bap.orders@cog7.org.

TAKE NOTE ✓

Annual Prayer Initiative

Thanks for your participation in this year's Prayer Initiative. As suggested, the Prayer Guide will remain posted on the G. C. Web site for those who may want to use it at other times throughout the year.



Jeff Endecott

After several years of service as Southeast district superintendent, Pastor Jeff Endecott has tendered his resignation, effective December 31, 2011. Pastor Jeff's good service is hereby acknowledged with appreciation.



Women's Ministry Day

In Pursuit of Holiness

1 Peter 1:16

On any Sabbath in March 2012 with the blessing of local leadership, honoring women in their vital and diversified roles within Christ's body.



December 16-17, the El Paso Central congregation (El Paso, TX) celebrated 15 years at its present location, enjoying a joyous celebration of thanksgiving, an evangelistic service, and baptisms. The Lord spoke powerfully through guest speaker Heber Vega of San Diego, and His presence was felt through the Word and various worship services. The local church has been blessed with the Lord's favor and is anticipating what God will bring in the coming years.

San Jose Super Sabbath

"A Church With a Heart for Service" was the theme of the Super Sabbath sponsored by three churches in San Jose, California (Monte Del Rey, San Jose Mc-Creery, and Oakland), November 25-26, 2011. With a peak attendance of 300+, attendees heard uplifting messages encouraging them to serve God's people. We thank God for those visiting from Missouri, Texas, and especially the youth from Southern California and other areas. We invite all to join us in future Super Sabbaths.

Triple Tree Ministries

The Triple Tree Church of God (San Antonio) has found great joy through involvement in two special ministries. The first partners with World Vision in supplying health kits to caregivers in third world countries, at a cost of \$28 each. In the spring of 2010 the church, along with two other churches, began this ministry. Visit www.worldvision.org/wvcarekits for more information.

The second ministry involves making prayer quilts. In the fall of 2010 a number of ladies desired to be more active in the prayer concerns of others. This ministry challenges the body of Christ to take prayer to a deeper level interceding for others.

Fundraisers support the prayer quilt ministry. So far, the ladies have given away 30 quilts to people in various areas of the US and Canada.

Save the date . . .
Wednesday, May 16, 2012
6:00 p.m. EST

One-hour
Conference-wide Webcast
with
Conference President
Whaid Rose

Answering your questions
Addressing your concerns
Advocating our collective cause
Registration details in the
next Churchright.

Your place at the
table is reserved . . .

Annual Lord's Supper
Celebration

Thursday, April 5, 2012

TWO EVENTS . . . ONE PASSION



2010 North American Ministerial Council at Glen Eyrie, Colorado Springs, CO

North American Ministerial Council

October 29 - November 3, 2012

National Men's Retreat

November 2-3, 2012

“Spirit-Formed Men”



Presenting every man
complete in Christ
(Colossians 1:28)

Red Lion Hotel
Portland, Oregon
Cost and registration
information in upcoming
issues of *Churchright*.