

# CHURCHRIGHT

DOING CHURCH RIGHT



General Conference  
Church of God (Seventh Day)

April - May 2012

Volume 4 • Number 3

## 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

## Wide and Deep

“Today’s evangelical church is a mile wide, but only an inch deep,” says Howard Hendricks. In other words, much of what goes on in today’s churches reflects more fluff than substance. Determined to be relevant, churches succumb to the trendy and trite. Commitment to attract a certain cultural demographic has resulted in the selling out of the gospel: Information is exchanged for inspiration; entertainment for spiritual engagement; and a warm, fuzzy feeling for the manifest presence of God.

Don’t misunderstand. When it comes to ministry, the church must think outside the box, be willing to create new wineskins to accommodate the new wine of the Spirit, and be radically committed to soul-winning.

The account of the early church in Acts illustrates that such ministry ideals are possible without selling out the gospel. Consider the early church. It was unlike anything the religious crowd had ever witnessed. The religious regulations that stemmed from the Mosaic law necessitated new wineskins. Souls were added to this church at a rate unsurpassed since. This was not the average in decline. It was the most exciting phenomenon in town:

And through the hands of the apostles many signs and wonders were done among the people. And they were all with one accord in Solomon’s Porch. Yet none of the rest dared join them, but the people esteemed them highly. And believers were increasingly added to the Lord, multitudes of both men and women (Acts 5:12-14, NKJV).

The observations “none of the rest dared join them” and “the people esteemed them highly” indicate that the curious and uncommitted didn’t enjoy a comfortable coexistence in the congregation. No catering to the culture or making church comfortable for the unchurched. Yet the surrounding culture took the church seriously and held it in high regard. Witnessing the power of God at work in the church, the surrounding culture was both afraid of it and attracted to it.

The character traits of the church in Acts describe a church that is formed by the Spirit, and they should describe the church in our day as well. As CoG7 strives to be Spirit-formed, may it find itself being cutting-edge, turning the world upside down, and as deep as it is wide.

— Whaid Guscott Rose  
Denver office

# Annual Board of Directors Meeting

February 2012

*This report was released on March 13 via the electronic version of Culture of Excellence. An updated report follows.*

The General Conference board of directors gathered for its annual meeting at the Crowne Plaza Hotel (DIA) February 19-22. The current board consists of the following twelve spiritual elders, each trusted and respected enough by the membership of the General Conference to have been formally elected to fulfill this responsibility: Mark Caswell, Erik Dunn, Jose Hernandez, Chip Hinds, Samuel Holland, Wayne Hrenyk, Ruben Marquez, Carl Palmer, Raul Romo, Loren Stacy, John Tivald, and Larry Zaragoza. All members were present, and the meeting was led by Chairman Loren Stacy.

The board spent the first full day of the meeting in executive session reviewing its governance policies, addressing matters re-



lated to its executive staff (including the resignation of Dr. Richard Jensen), and preparing for its annual evaluation of the General Conference president.

Joined by the Conference president in regular session, the board heard various reports concerning the state of the Church, plans for the current Conference year, Denver office Human Resources compliance, joint district manual, ongoing discussions regarding the relationship between Spring Vale Academy and the General Conference, and the Endowment Committee. The board expressed appreciation to the Planned Giving Team for its work, and approved plans for the reconfiguration of this team.

Much attention was given to the appointment/reappointment of district superintendents and G. C. Ministries directors. Reappointments of current district superintendents included Sam Holland (Eastern Canada), Orville Rose (Western Canada), Chip Hinds (Southwest), Tim Endecott (Central), and Larry Zaragoza (West Coast). Heber Vega (currently serving in San Diego, California) was appointed to a two-year term as superintendent of the Northeast District. The board affirmed its appreciation for the role of Steve Krome as interim superintendent of the Southeast District, deferring to make a permanent appointment until a later time.

Ministries directors were reap-

pointed as follows: Kurt Lang (NYM), Christy Lang (SWORD), Grace Sanchez (NAWM), and Keith Michalak (Publications). The board discussed the good progress of LifeSpring School of Ministry and committed itself to the appointment of a director as soon as a suitable candidate is identified. Regarding G. C. Missions, the board, without a dissenting vote, voted to not appoint a Missions Ministries director. A search for a new director of G. C. Missions is underway.

For the past two years, the board's effort to more effectively protect General Conference congregations from those who would lay claim to their assets in secular courts (which centered around the attempt to combine all of the General Conference's governing documents into a single unified document to be presented to the membership of the Church for its consideration) was laid aside in order to address misinformation spread concerning this effort and the questions and concerns that resulted from that misinformation. During its February meeting, the board, having been assured that little if any further financial expenses will be required, instructed its committee (Elders Whaid Rose, Sam Holland, and Loren Stacy) to continue its work. The committee plans to have a document ready for discussion and feedback by members of the North American Ministerial Council during their meeting this coming October and by General Conference members as a whole during our 2013 convention. This document cannot take effect without being adopted by the General Conference membership meeting in a formal business

session, and no effort to bring the document to a vote between now and our 2015 convention is being contemplated. The board is dedicating the next three years to providing information and receiving feedback concerning this project to and from the G. C. membership.

Omaha, Nebraska, was approved as the location for our 2013 biennial convention, and Nugget and Sue Gold were appointed co-chairs of the Convention Planning Committee. Israel Steinmetz and Jon Harvey were appointed to the Nominating Committee for our 2013 convention, with Israel Steinmetz as chairman. (Art Roche and Bruce Noble were elected to this committee during our 2011 convention.) The board took action in response to appeals from the Denver local church board and information provided by the Conference's executive staff regarding the intent of a donor.

After an extensive review of the Conference's overall assets and accounting procedures, and after careful consideration of the General Conference's current financial performance, the board approved the budget for the 2012-13 fiscal year. Due to financial constraints, however, requests for additional funds in support of the International Ministerial Congress were not granted.

The board enjoyed rich devotional times in the Word and in prayer throughout its meetings, and a spirit of unity and love surrounded its deliberations and decisions.

Respectfully submitted,  
Loren Stacy, Chairman

**Register Now . . .  
and Spread the Word!**

## **Conference-wide Webcast**

**Conducted by Whaid Rose,  
Conference President**

**Wednesday, May 16, 2012**

**6:00 p.m. EST**

**Register at [www.cog7.org](http://www.cog7.org)**

### **L & C Committee**

The following were approved for license (L) and credentials (C) at the recent meeting of the License and Credentials Committee:

**Santiago Chávez** (L), Germantown, MD

**Joe Corrales** (C), San Antonio, TX

**Elisandro (Alex) Del Toro** (L), San Antonio, TX

**Andrew Fernandez** (L), Stanberry, MO

**Martin Luevano** (L), El Paso TX

**Rogelio Luevano** (L), San Elizario, TX

**Oscar Mata** (C), Sioux Falls, SD



*Committee members (top, L to R): Dale Lawson, Don Rodgers, Steve Kyner, Max Morrow. Bottom: Heber Vega, Ken Lawson, Raul Lopez*

## In Appreciation: Richard Jensen

The recent announcement of the resignation of Executive Director Richard Jensen came as a surprise to many. That is understandable, since it had been only nineteen months since he joined the Conference's leadership team. Various circumstances, however, made it necessary for Richard's role to end on February 29, making his tenure much shorter than anticipated.

We therefore celebrate this short journey together, grateful for the contributions Richard made during this brief time and prayerful for his adjustment to this change. For those who had not yet made their acquaintance with the Jensens, see the extensive interview with Richard in the January-February 2012 *Bible Advocate* magazine.

—Whaid G. Rose  
General Conference President



## SVA job openings

Director of Development  
Director of Admissions  
Dean of Girls  
Assistant Dean of Girls  
Math Teacher  
Assistant Dean of Boys

Qualifications are listed at [www.springvale.us](http://www.springvale.us). All employment communication should be directed to Mark Caswell, 4150 S M-52, Owosso, MI 48867; [mcaswell@springvale.us](mailto:mcaswell@springvale.us).

## SWORD Contest

SWORD's Launch Your Summer Service Project contest begins in April. Present your ideas for projects and win up to \$500. Check out our Facebook page for more details.

## LifeSpring

**Graduates.** Congratulations to the following on their recent graduation from LifeSpring: Manny Adame (CBS and DPM), Martin Cicero (DPM), and Alex Del Toro (DPM).

### Dates

**April 16** - BIS 201 and THE 202 registration closes

**April 29** - BIS 201 and THE 202 courses begin

**June 1 - July 23** - Fall CBS and DCM applications

**July 2 - August 2** - Fall Scholarship applications

**July 2 - September 4** - fall term course registration

**August 1 - September 4** - fall late CBS and DCM application (no scholarships)

*CBS: Certificate of Biblical Studies program*

*DCM: Diploma of Christian Ministry program*

*DPM: Diploma of Pastoral Ministry program*

## Lessons for Third Quarter 2012

**Adult.** *Revive Us Again: Studies in Spiritual Renewal* clearly teaches that renewal comes from God, not from some church program. It involves a deliberate seeking after God, earnest prayer, and concentrated study of God's Word for guidance and inspiration. Cost: \$3.25; teacher's guide, \$5.

**Senior youth.** In *The Kings of Israel and Judah*, students will study about the era of the kings, both the united and the divided kingdoms. Through these lessons, students can learn how to establish a better relationship with God. Cost: \$3; teacher's guide, \$4.



## Spring Vale Academy

**Homecoming.** Spring Vale announces its first annual homecoming event in October 2012, with programs, fellowship, and sports. Weather permitting, we'll have an alumni vs. students soccer game and volleyball games. Make plans now to be there!

**Junior high youth.** *The Greatest Book Ever Written* is about the world's most unusual Bestseller. Students will learn how meaningful the Bible is to their present and future well-being. Cost: \$3; teacher's guide, \$4.

**Intermediate (grades 4, 5, and 6).** *The Sermon on the Mount* is about the longest recorded discourse by Jesus. The lessons start with the Beatitudes and continue to highlight several important topics that Jesus covered. These important principles help build sound foundations for young lives. Cost of e-mail attachments: \$20 for a set or \$24 for a disk.

**Primary (grades 1, 2, and 3).** *Parables of Jesus* focuses on some well-known and lesser-known parables. Students will see how each parable contains a hidden gem of truth about God and His kingdom. Lesson sets include the teacher's overview with the scope and sequence, weekly teacher's guides, student handouts, and resource pages. Cost of e-mail attachments: \$15 for a set or \$19 for a disk.

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

## National Youth News

**Registration for 2012.** It's not too late to register! Registration helps us better communicate with each group so we can know best how to serve you. Youth workers can register their group online at <http://youth.cog7.org/register>, or use the form located in the Gimme Five materials.

**National Youth Week / Hunger Lock-In.** All local youth groups are encouraged to participate in this weekend of service and spiritual growth. Suggested dates are April 13-15, but local groups can partici-

### TAKE NOTE ✓

**National Day of Prayer  
May 3, 2012**

**Theme: One Nation Under God**

Visit <http://nationaldayofprayer.org>

## CULTURE OF EXCELLENCE



### Above-Average Church

Cultivating a culture of excellence is a big part of the CoG7 vision, one that has an aversion to being average. Why would anyone or any church want to be average anyway? Think about it. Average is being neither the best nor the worst — just comfortably in between. It's being ordinary — nothing outstanding or excellent about it. It's putting minimal effort into life and work, achieving average results.

An average investment into ministry yields an average harvest. An average church subscribes to an average vision or no vision at all, and produces average Christians. And average Christians make little or no impact on the world for Christ.

But there's nothing average about the gospel, nothing average about the church Jesus promised to build. Jesus is no ordinary Savior, the Bible is no ordinary book. And the church is called to no ordinary mission in the world.

Yes, we're cultivating a culture of excellence in CoG7, one that has an aversion to being average. Join the movement. Be an above-average Christian in an above-average church, investing in an above-average vision. And the God who is able to do exceedingly above and beyond average will reward us in extraordinary ways — for His own glory!

— Adapted for Churchright  
by Whaid Rose

## RESTING IN JESUS

### Jim Kuryluk

1934 - 2012

Walter James Kuryluk was born May 16, 1934, to Peter and Mary Kuryluk of Mannville, Alberta, Canada. He entered into rest February 1, 2012, in Nampa, Idaho.



Jim married Pauline Chudyk in Vernon, British Columbia, on June 24, 1954. They were blessed with two children, Gordon and Jayne.

Jim and Pauline moved to the United States in 1959 so Jim could attend Midwest Bible College in Stanberry, Missouri. Loving to preach the good news about Jesus, Jim pastored the Church of God (Seventh Day) churches in Marion, Iowa; Jingo, Kansas; Stanberry, Missouri; and Nampa, Idaho.

After Jim retired from local pastorates, he formed Sunshine Ministries, an outreach to prisons and nursing homes. He served there until his death.

Jim's wife, Pauline, passed away after 54 years of marriage in 2008. Jim was recently engaged to marry Peggy Jean Hanway on February 14, 2012.

Jim is survived by his son, Gordon (Junction City, Oregon); daughter, Jayne Kuryluk (Denver, Colorado); one brother, Johnny Curlock; three sisters — Helen Zawalski, Irene Regoto, and Kathleen Sangster; and grandchildren, Stacy and Wendy Kuryluk.

Services were held February 8 at the Meridian church, with Pastor Monico Muffley officiating.

pate anytime through June 30. All donations must be sent in before this date. The foreign emphasis for 2012 is the Orphans and Widows Ministry (a ministry of G. C. Missions). A team will be going over from the U.S. to support these ministries in July 2012. Money raised will go toward helping fund work projects while they are there.

National Youth Week is an excellent opportunity for youth to gain leadership experience in designing and implementing a Sabbath worship service. It is also a challenge to participate in a 24-hour "famine" to remove the focus from God's blessing for us and put it on how we can bless others. In the Hunger



### Revive Us Again!

February 26 - March 3, the eight San Antonio churches combined, through the Spirit of God, to bring revival to our congregations. Six months prior, we fasted, prayed, and held regular meetings in which pastors sought God's grace to help our churches experience more of God's presence and power. The theme was based on Psalm 85:6: "Will You not revive us again, that Your people may rejoice in You?" (NKJV).

With Chip Hinds as guest speaker, the week's meetings were well attended, averaging 200 every night and culminating with a Super Sabbath at which 500 attended. Representatives from at least fifteen churches from south Texas rejoiced together in the Lord. One hour before the main service, there was a special time of anointing and prayer.

May God continue this path we have begun to walk toward a holier life with a holy Savior.

— Wayne Hrenyk, pastor  
Artesia Wells CoG7

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Lock-In, all churches can support a foreign missions project. Meet the challenge! If all youth groups send in at least \$50, we can provide a huge blessing for a worthy cause.

**Mission Possible.** Our National Youth Ministry camp is back June 17-24 for ages 13-22. You'll join other youth from the Pacific Northwest in implementing an outreach program to the Yakama Indians. Plans include a Vacation Bible School, community outreach nights, feeding the homeless, and light work projects. Learn practical skills on how you can design a project for your home community. Registration: \$200. Contact Kurt Lang, NYM director, at [youth@cog7.org](mailto:youth@cog7.org) for more details and to receive an application. Application deadline: May 15. Information packets will be available online at <http://youth.cog7.org>.

## Doctrines Book

Have you ordered your copy of *This We Believe: Teachings of the Church of God (Seventh Day)*? Hundreds of copies have been purchased, and supplies are still available.

Don't be left out! Contact Bible Advocate Press, P.O. Box 33677, Denver, CO 80233; 303-452-7973; or [baporders@cog7.org](mailto:baporders@cog7.org).

## Oneness . . .

**Marriage Retreat**  
**May 26-28, 2012**  
**The Ranch of Lonesome Dove**  
**Southlake, Texas**

*Accommodations at Residence Inn/Marriott*

- Marriage workshops
- Financial workshop
- Dude ranch
- Team building
- Two-night hotel stay
- Fun and memorable

\$375 per couple • \$75 by April 15

Contact Joe or Claudia Acosta

871-300-8312 or [cjacosta@att.net](mailto:cjacosta@att.net)

"A cord of three strands is not quickly broken"  
 (Ecclesiastes 4:12, NIV).



## CALENDAR 2012

**April 5** - Annual Lord's Supper Service

**April 6-8** - Central Youth and Young Adult Retreat, Camp IODISECA near Solon, IA; contact Abe Endecott ([abe.endecott@gmail.com](mailto:abe.endecott@gmail.com))

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

**April 14** - Homecoming Sabbath, Fort Smith CoG7; special guests include former pastors Calvin Burrell and Wesley Walker

**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](mailto:alorna00008@yahoo.com)) or Sharon Henry (407-719-0173; [macanoc1@aol.com](mailto:macanoc1@aol.com))

**April 27-29** - Youth-Young Adults Weekend (ages 11-30), Alfred CoG7, Alfred ND; contact: Amber Schlenker ([AmberMarie92@hotmail.com](mailto:AmberMarie92@hotmail.com)); no cost

**May 4-6** - Bloomsday Youth/Young Adult Retreat, Spokane, WA; contact: Kurt Stranberg ([kurtstranberg@comcast.net](mailto:kurtstranberg@comcast.net))

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

**May 25-27** - Family Retreat, Jasper CoG7, Jasper, AR; contact Jason or Stephanie Overman (870-446-5736; [jasonoverman@hotmail.com](mailto:jasonoverman@hotmail.com))

**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](mailto:jared.ullrich@yahoo.com) or 918-864-5589)

**June 27 - July 1** - Refuge in the Rockies, Colorado; sponsored by Colorado Springs CoG7; contact: Troy Gedack ([office@cscog7.org](mailto:office@cscog7.org))

**July 27-29** - Eastern Canada District Conference, Kingston Banquet and Conference Centre, Kingston, Ontario; contact: Samuel Holland ([samuel.holland@cog7.org](mailto:samuel.holland@cog7.org))

**August 9-12** - Dakota Youth Retreat, Crystal Springs, ND; contact: Jesse-Wanda Hopewell (701-428-3667) or David-Jamie Nienhuis (701-655-3532)

**August 31 - September 3** - XXV Annual Hispanic Ladies Retreat, LA area; contact: Blanca Orduño (714-478-3803) or Sylvia Corral (209-869-0777)

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



## Check us out.

LifeSpring has opened a door to a great opportunity for men and women to be equipped for ministry — vital to the life of our church and to our personal ministries. LifeSpring is building up our denomination by bringing new hope, because men and women are being trained to do the work God called them to do.

— Martha Molina-Muffley  
LifeSpring Translator

[www.LifeSpringSchool.org](http://www.LifeSpringSchool.org)

*This year's*

## ***"Change for Your World" offering***

*will support the quadrennial meeting of the*

**International Ministerial Congress**

**Church of God (Seventh Day)**

**August 25-29, 2012**

**Near London, England**

**Theme: "Unity and Diversity"**

**Change the world with your spare change.**

