

# CHURCHRIGHT

*Doing church right*

## Annual Board of Directors Meeting

The General Conference's board of directors held its annual winter meeting in Dallas, Texas, February 18-21. Board members are Dennis O'Banion (chairman), Kirk Grant (vice-chairman), Wayne Hrenyk (secretary), Greg Lincoln (treasurer), Ruben Beard, Narciso Betances, Ron Cummings, Tim Endcott, Daniel Flores Jr., Neftali Hernandez, Raul Romo, and Reuben Zaragoza.

General Conference President Loren Stacy and Executive Director Jody McCoy also attended the entirety of this meeting. Accountant Dawn Wayman and Communications Director Jamin Teran attended portions of the meeting to make presentations to the board.

Our board of directors wields all of the authority of the membership when the membership itself is not gathered to conduct the business of our church, with one exception: The board may not amend the General Conference bylaws. During its annual winter meeting, the board receives reports, requests, and recommendations from the president and the staff he leads. It also considers the state of the General Conference as a whole and evaluates the president's performance during the previous year. The president is accountable to the board for everything that takes place in the districts, GC Ministries, and departments. The membership delegates responsibility and authority to the board of directors, and the board delegates responsibility and authority to the president and directs him by



means of board policies. Additionally, the board perfects and adopts a budget for the GC and its Ministries for the upcoming fiscal year (April 1 - March 31).

In even-numbered years, the board also considers the president's appointments of Ministries directors and district superintendents. During its February meeting, the board confirmed the appointments of Makayla Ross and Loren Gjesdal as co-directors of Artios Christian College, Keith Michalak and Jason Overman as co-directors of Publications, and Bryan Cleeton as director of Missions Ministries. It also approved all of the current district superintendents: Orville Rose (Western Canada), Larry Zaragoza (West Coast), Ronald Rousseau (Central), Chip Hinds (Southwest), Aubrey (Bill) Williams (Eastern Canada), Heber Vega (Northeast), and Steve Krome (Southeast).

Board of directors meetings always include daily time for prayer and the ministry of the Word of God. With God's guidance and blessings, 2024 is bound to be another good year.

*– Loren Stacy  
GC President*



## Robert Coulter Visits Board

A highlight of this February’s meeting of the GC board of directors was a visit by former board chairman and president of the General Conference, Robert Coulter. Now 93 years old, Elder Coulter briefly met with the board during the final minutes of its Sunday session. Current GC President Loren Stacy led the board in prayer, thanking God for Elder Coulter’s long life and service to our church.

Elder Coulter and his son, William, then accompanied most of the board meeting participants to a cordial dinner at a nearby restaurant. Though using a walker to help him get around, Elder Coulter remains mentally sharp and interested in the General Conference’s progress.

The L&C Committee has a great responsibility in deciding who is ready, or not, for the level of ministry they are applying for. On one hand, some decisions are difficult. On the other hand, the committee enjoys hearing the enthusiasm and love of the Lord expressed by these applicants.

The fellowship of working with the guys on the committee is such a privilege and joy. These meetings take a lot of prayer and, in some ways, endurance. We trust God for wisdom, insight, and strength.

While we would love to give a ministerial document to every man who comes to us, to do so when a person is not qualified or ready would be harmful to all involved, including the candidate. A bad experience at the beginning of a ministerial tenure is not good for a person wanting to be in the ministry. It could discourage him to the point that he may never recover and may discontinue the ministry. Having someone too inexperienced in the pulpit or the parsonage can badly damage, or even destroy, a local church.

It is important for the ministry candidate to realize that a setback now, like not getting a ministerial document, can make for a wonderful, fruitful, and fulfilling ministry in the future – if he takes it the right way.

“The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest” (Matthew 9:37, 38, ESV).

– Steven Kyner  
Chairman



## License and Credentials Committee

This year the License and Credentials Committee met in Houston, Texas. With two members of the committee living in Texas and the board meeting in Texas the following week, this arrangement worked well.

We talked to ten candidates, some of whom were looking for ministerial recognition and others who were seeking elevation.

## License and Credentials Committee

Stephen Kyner, Chairman  
Wayne Hrenyk, Vice President of NAMC  
Andy Hassen                      John Lemley  
David Lozano                      Noe Reyes  
Jhabel Chagollan

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# District News

## West Coast

Contributors: Aaron Carbajal and Melva Smith



### Celebrating Marriage

The marriage retreat organized by Jorge and Brenda Martinez, with the participation of the Las Vegas church, attracted more than 60 couples from four states: California, Arizona, New Mexico, and Utah. The event took place January 12-14 in Las Vegas, Nevada, and turned out to be a blessing-filled experience.

During the retreat, the couples enjoyed moments of fellowship and communion. They also participated in workshops and heard inspiring testimonies. The workshops, led by Daniel and Kerenha Flores, were especially edifying for the couples. They left the event with a deep desire to place Christ Jesus at the center of their married lives.

The experience left all participants with a sense of joy and renewed determination. Many expressed interest in returning next year to continue strengthening their marriages.

### Growth in Eugene

God's church is growing, and the Eugene church is experiencing growth as well! New families and individuals are joining us in Sabbath worship and Bible study. Children and babies are being raised to be godly men and women. And sons and daughters are returning to their faith in Christ.



On Sabbath, February 24, we had the privilege of celebrating together in the baptism of Robert Watkins. Robert was baptized as a young person, served the Lord awhile, and then followed his own path for many years. We praise the Lord with his family that Robert has rededicated his life to Christ and wanted to be baptized again to confirm his rededication.

We are blessed to have Robert and his family fellowshipping here in Eugene. May the Lord bless him as he lives for Christ: "As for me and my house, we will serve the LORD" (Joshua 24:15, NKJV).

## Southwest

Contributors: Victoria (Tory) Capetillo and Maria Beard

SWD photos taken by SWD Media Ministry



**Welcoming Churches.** On January 20, more than 200 brethren gathered at New Hope church in San Antonio for a Welcoming Churches workshop, presented by Moises and Pete Capetillo of Albuquerque, NM. This workshop is one of three General Conference Initiatives.

We are thankful to Pastor Michael Mancha and his congregation for organizing this event. It brought the Area 1 churches together to honor God, worship His holy name, and learn about becoming the kind of church God wants us to be. The entire Sabbath was Spirit filled and

*enriched with strong, sweet fellowship. It's easy to book a Welcoming Churches workshop at your local church. See page 7 for more information.*



**Celebration.** The Central church in El Paso celebrated its 27th anniversary on December 30, 2023. The members thank God for all the time He has been by their side and for allowing them to continue worshipping in their building. The congregation also celebrated their brothers and sisters over the age of 65, concluding with a celebratory dinner hosted in their honor. It was a blessed night of fellowship!



**Baptisms.** Fellow “newborn” brethren in the El Paso church were baptized January 6: Francisco Sandoval, Abel Hernandez, Mary Anne Pinon, and Luis Meras. They all said goodbye to the old man and hello to their new creation in Christ. The congregation was truly blessed to witness these baptisms and is incredibly happy to see them join the body of Christ.

### Upcoming Events

**April 21** - Lord's Supper

**May 4** - SWD young adults event - Immersion 24: Sound Mind

**May 17-19** - Area 6 marriage retreat in Ruidoso, NM

## Northeast

*Contributor: Esther Winchell*

“Declutter Your Heart” was the 2024 theme for the women’s groups in our district. Wanting to serve in Spirit and truth makes us search our hearts to rid them of clutter. Many groups had their services planned through March.

It is awesome to see each group’s impression on how the theme should be presented. Ladies from these congregations have participated or will participate: Saginaw, Owosso, and Fort Wayne-Bowser, Michigan; Ossining, New York; Lanham, Maryland; Fort Wayne-Lafayette; Bridgeport, Connecticut; and United CoG7.



*Ft. Wayne-Bowser*



*Saginaw: Gathering materials for Outreach Giving Tree*

## ASLEEP IN JESUS

### Jerry Morgan

1944 - 2024

Jerry Phillip Morgan died unexpectedly on February 12. He was 79.

Jerry was born in California to Gwyned and Jewel (George) Morgan in April 1944. He became a pastor in the Church of God (Seventh Day), serving in South Dakota, North Dakota, Oklahoma, and Arizona. He achieved certificates in evangelism and extensively studied Hebrew to enhance his understanding of the Holy Scriptures.



*Please visit our Memorials page (churchright.org) for more on Jerry's life.*



**Remember:  
Lord's Supper  
Sunday,  
April 21, after  
sunset**



Have you thought about a directory for your local church, like the one pictured here? Because we're not bound by the need to produce high-volume quantities to be cost effective, the Bible Advocate Press can print any number of directories you need at a price per piece. And you can have a colorful record of your members and attendees!

Interested? Start here: <https://baonline.org/directory-information/>.



## Get Ready for Salt Lake City!

While there's no GC Convention coming up this summer, you can help us plan for a big 2025 reunion!

Join your friends from the US and Canada as we congregate in Salt Lake City, Utah, June 30 - July 5, 2025.

Assist us in conducting Church business.

See some new sights! You can float in the great Salt Lake, check out Park City ([www.visitparkcity.com](http://www.visitparkcity.com)), where the winter Olympics were held in 2002, and take in the many national parks in Utah, including Zion and Bryce Canyon.

Enjoy the unity of the Holy Spirit as we worship our Lord together.

Start saving your quarters now! (Yes, it used to be pennies, but you know how inflation goes!) Watch for updates in this publication and on our Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/COG7.org>).

— GC Convention Committee



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### Artios Center Hosts Virtual Winter Session: Equip 24

On February 4, the Artios Center for Vibrant Leadership hosted its virtual winter session, *Equip 24 Strategies for Getting Through 2024*.

The session was designed to equip leaders to guide their people through another difficult election year. Over 40 participants, in English and Spanish, came away from this event feeling supported and knowing they do not walk alone. They benefited from a rich menu of practical presentations, participated in discussion, and received helpful resources for further learning and growth.

If you missed the session, don't worry! It was recorded. Register to watch the recording at <https://my.artioscollege.org/en/resources>.



### Calendar Events

- April 1 - Early Spring registration closes
- April 7 - Early Spring classes begin
- May 13 - Late Spring registration closes
- May 19 - Late Spring classes begin

### Early Spring classes

- COM 121 Written Communication for Leadership
- BIS 104 History & Literature of the New Testament
- LEA 331 Church Administration
- WOA 311 Prayer Ministry

### Late Spring classes

- COM 121 Written Communication for Leadership
- LEA 111 Essentials of Vibrant Leadership
- CHE 301 Christian Education
- PSY 311 The Church and Mental Health

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

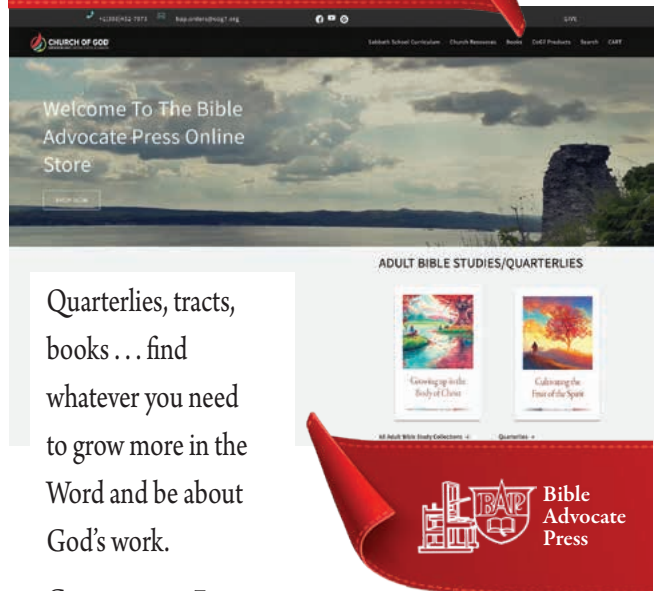


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Spring courses

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## Living by the Commands of Jesus

Coming Quarter 3 and Quarter 4, 2024



Last year, Elder Whaid Rose introduced us to Jesus' Sermon on the Mount in his study of the Beatitudes. Later this year, he picks up from there in a two-part study that finishes this famous sermon (Matthew 5-7). Join us as we learn what it means to be disciples who seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and who hear the words of Jesus and do them.



# COME AND SEE

EVANGELISTIC WORKSHOPS

PERSONAL EVANGELISM  
SMALL GROUPS STUDIES  
WELCOMING CHURCHES



PROMOTIONAL  
VIDEOS

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

To prepare for your next workshop, here are some questions congregations have asked in the past that could serve your purpose and prepare for our next visit to your church, area, or district. Our mission is to proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ, introduce others to the Lord, teach them to obey His Word, and nurture spiritual growth in all believers.

## WAYS YOU CAN HELP US

### Recording Workshops

Because these workshops are being presented in different churches around the Conference, we ask everyone to refrain from recording or live-streaming them.

Speakers might change examples or scenarios according to the needs of the district or area they are presenting in. Live-streaming our presentations will not help us continue to edify the Church in the different areas.

### After the Workshops

You can help each team with the following information:

1. Recordkeeping: Please inform your superintendent of the number of attendees, for accountability purposes.
2. The members in attendance will be strongly encouraged to read the manual as a church, stopping to work through the questions and analyze areas of growth at the end of each chapter.



SMALL GROUPS  
STUDIES



WELCOMING  
CHURCHES

## WHAT IS THE FORMAT OF THE WORKSHOPS?

- Each workshop has its own format, but it is given in two or three sessions over one or two days. The teams are flexible to the needs of each church, area, or district, but will always maximize their time for the edification of the Church.
- The Welcoming Churches team provides additional workshops for youth and young adults and hands-on practical guidance for pastors and ministry leaders.
- The Small Groups Studies team provides a Pastoral Support session for pastors, elders, deacons, local leaders, and their wives.

## WHAT IS THE COST?

There is no cost. However, we ask the local church, area, or district to cover the travel and lodging expenses of the speakers.

## WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

The best approach is to include all ages. Youth (13 years old and up), SWORD (19 years old and up), and adults are strongly encouraged to attend and be ready to participate.

## WORKSHOP MATERIALS

- Please order in ample time to have your manuals on the day of presentation.
- Manuals should be given to every attendee over the age of 13. They are available in English and Spanish.
- Manuals can be found by clicking the links provided at left. The manual for Personal Evangelism can be ordered only through the speakers who provide the workshop.

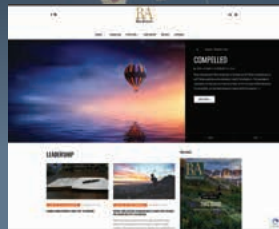
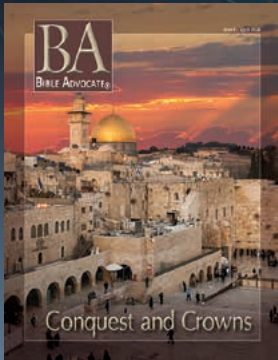


## HOW TO SCHEDULE AN EVANGELISTIC WORKSHOP

Contact your superintendent to schedule any of these workshops today.

For more information:  
<https://cog7.org/evangelism/>  
[cog7media@cog7.org](mailto:cog7media@cog7.org)

April - May 2024 • 7



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