

HEART *to* Heart

2015

WINTER

Issue #8

Look What's Happening!

The Word Church (Word of Life Church of God, Stockton, CA) received some wonderful updates including landscaping, carpet cleaning, a water irrigation system and a painted, welcoming foyer. It's wonderful to have a church that matches on the outside the warmth of the people inside. We are very grateful to Pastor Tobey Montgomery and Christian Cathedral in Oakland for their generous support. These changes may seem small, but they have brought new life into our congregation. We are excited for what God has planned for our community and how he wants to use us.

"The Word {Jesus Christ} became flesh and blood and moved into the neighborhood." John 1:14



Sunday, September 7, 2014 was the first service for church plant, Rock of Life Fellowship pastored by Alfred Romero. Praise the Lord for 68 people in attendance for their very first service!



Charles E. Fischer
Administrative Bishop

From My Heart

The Handoff

Football season is in full swing. Sounds of joy and frustration can be heard in High School stadiums on Friday nights, College venues on Saturdays, and across the NFL on Sunday, Monday and Thursday.

One thing that most successful teams have in common is a positive turnover ratio. In other words, they recover more fumbles and make more interceptions than their opponents. Teams that can successfully transfer the ball on offense from a center, to a quarterback, and then to a running back or receiver, can move the ball and ultimately score. These are the teams with winning records.

The Church of God in California/Nevada must work hard to make sure that we don't "muff the handoff" to the next generation. One of the most tragic passages of Scripture is found in Judges 2:7-12a :

7So the people served the Lord all the days of Joshua, and all the days of the elders who outlived Joshua, who had seen all the great works of the Lord which He had done for Israel. 8Now Joshua the son of Nun, the servant of the Lord, died *when he was* one hundred and ten years old. 9And they buried him within the border of his inheritance at Timnath Heres, in the mountains of Ephraim, on the north side of Mount Gaash. 10When all that generation

had been gathered to their fathers, another generation arose after them who did not know the Lord nor the work which He had done for Israel.¹¹Then the children of Israel did evil in the sight of the Lord, and served the Baals; ¹²and they forsook the Lord God of their fathers, who had brought them out of the land of Egypt;

We are now ministering to at least four generations simultaneously. The like precious faith that we cherish must be intentionally transmitted to subsequent generations. It will not happen by accident. We want succeeding generations to know and embrace the faith of their forefathers. They may package it and communicate it differently, but it will still be the authentic faith "once for all delivered to the saints" (Jude 3). This issue must shape our youth and discipleship and ministerial training ministries. It must inform and impact our conversations, mentoring and decision making processes. Let us approach this challenge with confidence and make sure we don't fumble the ball. California/Nevada Church of God is a winning team!



Minister's Meeting Overview

November 20-21, 2014

HOUSING, SCHEDULE AND CHRISTMAS BANQUET

A limited number of rooms are available in the dorm. Call the State Office to reserve a dorm room. Enclosed with this edition of Heart to Heart is registration information for the Christmas Banquet and a schedule for the Minister's Meeting.

REPORTING AND ELECTION PROCEDURES

Listed below is an important General Assembly ruling to keep in mind as we approach the Minister's Meeting:

“In order for any minister to be considered eligible for election or appointment by the International Executive Committee, General Council or General Assembly, the minister must be current on both personal ministerial reports and the local church reports with required finances from the church he/she pastors (if applicable). Any exceptions must be approved by the International Executive Committee. Further, this same measure applies to state/regional positions and boards. Any exception at the state/regional level must be approved by the state/regional overseer in writing.”

As Administrative Bishop, I am asking all ministers who are delinquent on any personal ministerial reports to catch them up by no later than November 5, 2014. You can do this online at www.churchofgod.org or with the traditional paper reports. Please keep your reports current. This is important for us to keep up-to-date contact information on each minister. We want to stay connected with you. Those ministers who are not current with their personal reports by November 5, 2014 will not be eligible for election or appointment to any CA/NV boards.

With regard to church reports, I want to approach each situation with as much pastoral concern and understanding as I can. Some situations were inherited and some are due to other issues. I will consider granting exceptions for pastors with delinquent church reports with one condition. I must receive an explanation or plan, in writing or via-e-mail, by no later than November 5, 2014. The pastor should provide information regarding how this problem developed and a plan to catch up the back reports with appropriate funds. I will do everything I can to help each pastor with these issues be eligible for election/appointment to CA/NV boards.

ELECTRONIC VOTING

We are moving forward. For the first time in history, we will be doing electronic voting using iPod devices. This will speed up business and allow us more time for important ministry presentations.

LEGAL MATTERS

Dennis Watkins, in house Legal Counsel for the Church of God, will present five of the top legal issues that local churches must give attention to in today's culture. These will be scattered throughout our agenda.

AGENDA SUMMARY

- Two year Financial and Ministry Reports for CA/NV will be presented. Time for questions and interaction will be provided.
- Updates on Women's Ministries, Youth and Discipleship, Antioch Connection, Ministerial Development and the Nepal: Scaling the Heights Together Project will be shared.
- Updated website will be unveiled.
- A new motion regarding the possible sale of the five acres at the southern end of the ministry center campus will be presented. This will update/refine actions approved at a called Minister's Meeting in 2009.
- Other substantive motions to streamline and improve our State Minutes will be presented.

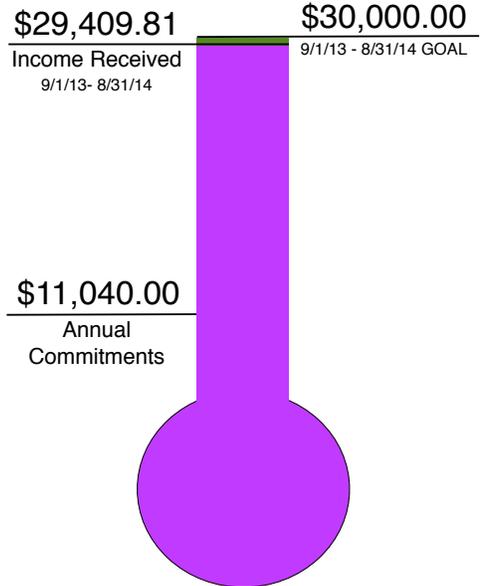
YOU ARE IMPORTANT!

We have 400+ credentialed ministers in CA/NV. We want you to be a part of helping us all move forward together. Please make every effort to gather with your partners in ministry for this important time of selecting leaders, celebrating the past two years accomplishments and charting our future course. Remember, we are One!

ANTIOCH CONNECTION



Antioch Connection Report



Through August 31, 2014, we have dispensed \$7,498.95 in emergency assistance to ministers, \$12,277.86 in helping strengthen churches, \$2,058.09 in equipping leaders and \$7,954.32 in planting churches. In the coming fiscal year we hope to have funds to continue these kinds of assistance. Our goal for this fiscal year is \$30,000.00.

California/Nevada World Missions

Project # 102-9281

Nepal: Scaling The Heights Together



This report reflects totals through October 9, 2014.

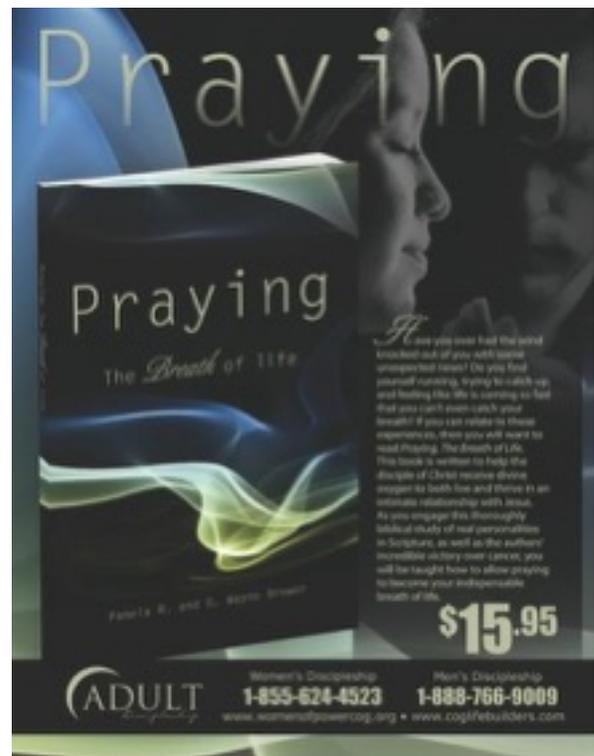
Praise the Lord! The boy's orphanage has been completed and the land for the Bible School has been secured!



Be sure to attend the Minister's Wives session at our upcoming Ministers Meeting!

We have lots of information to share, so please make plans to be here! We will be meeting in the Chapel at the Fresno Ministry Center from 9am to Noon.

Refreshments will be provided!



2015 California/Nevada Women's Conference

His Grace is Sufficient



Special Guest Speaker
Jamie Massey

March 5-7, 2015
Fresno Ministry Campus

Thursday, March 5
Worship Service with Jamie Massey (7pm)

Friday, March 6
Breakout Sessions
WWAM **Color** Run/Walk
Worship Service with Jamie Massey

Saturday, March 7
Brunch
Closing Service with Jamie Massey

Multiple
Breakout
Sessions to
choose
from

Special sessions and
activities for young
women!



"Grace Under Fire"

Special Guest **Diane Morgan**
Women's Discipleship Director, Arkansas

These sessions are geared specifically to
minister's wives and women in ministry.



**WWAM
Color
Run/Walk**

Ministerial Development

Once again this September students from all over CA/NV have come to our ministry campus in Fresno to study in the CAMS/MIP ministry training program. We are blessed to have 32 CAMS and 12 MIP students join us on orientation weekend. Our Instructors included Dr. Dale Ackley, Pastors Mike & Debbie Christian, Pastor Johnny Taylor and Lisa Palumbo. This year, our students will be able to stay in daily contact with one another, as well as State and National leadership, through a private Facebook group. Already we have seen a great response through this media. Joann and I are looking forward to seeing all our new students and ministers this November at the Minister's Meeting.



Phil Patterson
Director of Ministerial
Development



YOUTH & DISCIPLESHIP



David White
Youth & Discipleship
Director

Two disillusioned disciples walking the dusted road to Emmaus. Ten terrified disciples huddled up in a room. One doubting disciple skipping out on church, and another gone back to his ever-empty fishing nets.

Jesus' closest followers and friends were scattered. They were as rudderless as they were leaderless. They were powerless as could be ... until "the day of Pentecost was fully come, (and) they were all with one accord in one place."

They became One again, and the results reshaped the history of mankind. As One, they saw God pour out His Holy Spirit as promised long ago – not just on them, but upon their sons and daughters who prophesied and young men who saw visions.

So much has changed since that day of Pentecost, and yet our desire remains the same. We're hungry for a new generation to experience the power and presence of the Holy Spirit. We're looking for prophets to arise from among our youth. We long for young visionaries to emerge in this movement of God.

It starts when we become One.

One faith. One Lord. One mission. One generation rising up after the next, with our shared Father making us all One. This, Jesus said, is how the world will know that God sent His Son to reach our world with his relentless love and overwhelming mercy.

As the new State Youth and Discipleship Director, this is my heart: to lead our students into life-transforming encounters with the Spirit of God, so that God raises up a new generation of believers to carry the flame of His Spirit.

We will do this on multi-state ministry platforms by ministering to students at Winterfest, Summer Camp, Teen Talent and One Youth Rallies. We will do this on hyperlocal platforms by equipping leaders to lead their church's youth group.

We will do this as One, just as Jesus prayed in John 17, that we may see a new generation empowered with the Holy Spirit to reach this world with Christ!

You can contact the author at canvcogyouth@yahoo.com and on Twitter @bydavidwhite.



enliven

Encountering God through His Word

Inductive Bible Study Training Conference

January 10, 2015

Jubilee on the Ridge COG

6280 Clark Rd.

Paradise, CA 95969

Steven Grandy, Host Pastor

January 17, 2015

Life Cathedral Church of God

6865 N. Maple Ave.

Fresno, CA 93710

William Helmstetter, Host Pastor

9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Learn to . . .

- ▶ Find eternal treasures in God's Word
- ▶ Teach others how to study the Bible
- ▶ Lead small group Bible studies
- ▶ Encounter God in His Word
- ▶ Grow and mature as a disciple
- ▶ Study the Bible inductively



Lorna V. Gosnell
Women's Discipleship
Coordinator

David H. Gosnell
Men's Discipleship
Coordinator



*Enliven Conferences will be coming
to the Bay Area, Las Vegas & SoCal
in the fall of 2015*

ADULT
Discipleship

\$35 per person (\$40 at the door)

Register online or call:

888.766.9009 * www.coglifebuilders.com

Sponsored by the CA/NV State Executive Offices



Registration @ www.gowest.cc

Plenary Session Speakers

Thursday PM



Ps. Tony Stewart
CityLife Church
Tampa, FL

Friday AM



Dr. Lamar Vest
President of PTS
Cleveland, TN

Friday PM



Dr. Erwin McManus
Pastor of Mosaic Church
Los Angeles, CA
Artist, entrepreneur, and
cultural thought leader

Saturday AM



Dr. Mark L. Williams
General Overseer
Cleveland, TN

Breakout Sessions

"GROWING IN THE SHADOW OF THE GIANTS"



Ps. Randy Wills
Father's House
Church of God
Bend, OR



Ps. David Smith
Family Worship Center
Church of God
Pueblo, CO

"WOMEN REACHING WOMEN"



Yvette Santana
Women's Discipleship Director
Southwest Hispanic Region



MINISTRY AT MARS HILL AGAIN
Ps. Eliezer Bonilla
Abundant Life
San Antonio, TX

"REAL PASTOR'S WIVES OF THE WEST"
Panel of Pastor's Wives

Church Planter's Training

ONE | CHURCH MISSION PLANT | **A** | **C** | **T** | **S**
Assessment | Coaching | Training | Serving



NEXT GENERATION - PASSING THE BATON
Ps. Dan & Finn Moore, Kevin & Deena Querry,
& Daniel Querry
Living Waters Christian Fellowship
Church of God Fountain Valley, CA



Church of God

APRIL | 16-18 | 2015
Free Chapel Church of God
Irvine CA

GLAD TO BE BACK!

Alice and I want to thank the ministers in CA/NV for an overwhelming vote of support in the State Overseer Evaluation/Preference Ballot earlier this year. We are very grateful for the confidence of the Executive Committee in reappointing us to serve CA/NV in 2014-2016.

We are honored and humbled to continue to work side by side in the harvest with each of you!



New Appointments

Stockton Word of Life, Pastor Sergio Acedo

August 17, 2014

Henderson, Open Arms, Pastor Ralph Garcia

August 19, 2014

Upcoming Events

November

- 20-21 Minister's Meeting, Fresno Ministry Center
- 21 Minister's/Spouses Christmas Banquet (University Square Hotel), 6:00 PM
- 22 CAMS/MIP 2014-2015 Seminar II Fresno Ministry Center
- 25-28 State Office Closed - Thanksgiving

December

- 19-1/2/15 State Office Closed

January 2015

- 5 State Office Reopens
- 10 EnLiven Conference, Jubilee On The Ridge, Paradise, CA
- 17 EnLiven Conference, Life Cathedral, Fresno, CA
- 31 CAMS/MIP 2014-2015 Seminar III (CAMS last seminar)

February

- 6-8 SoCal Winterfest, Ventura Beach Marriott
- 7 SoCal Teen Talent, Ventura Beach Marriott
- 27- 3/1 NorCal Winterfest, Paradise Jubilee on the Ridge
- 28 NorCal Teen Talent, Paradise Jubilee on the Ridge

March

- 5-7 Women's Conference, Fresno Ministry Center

April

- 1 Deadline for all paperwork for upcoming ministerial testing date
- 16-18 GO WEST CONFERENCE - Free Chapel, Irvine
- 24 Ministerial Testing, Fresno Ministry Center, 8:30 AM
- 25 MIP 2014-2015 Seminar IV (MIP last seminar)

May

- 2 CA/NV Northern Ministerial Testing, 9:00 AM, Woodland Family Worship Center
- CA/NV Southern Ministerial Testing 9:00 AM, Fountain Valley-Living Waters

June

- 16-19 Refreshing 2015, Evening Speaker - Tim Hill, Heart to Heart Sessions (Wednesday-Friday morning) Mike Chapman and son, Shannon Chapman.

July

- 13-16 Kids Camp, Fresno Ministry Center
- 20-23 Teen Camp, Camp Oakhurst

November

- Early November Israel/Rome Trip



THE Journey ^{TO} Nationals
Begins With a **DOWNLOAD**

Competition Manual	Bible Manual
\$15.50	\$10.50

ONLY AVAILABLE
by Download at
www.cogyouth.org

CALIFORNIA-NEVADA TEEN TALENT COMPETITION

SOUTHERN REGIONALS

Sat. Feb. 7, 2015

Ventura Beach Marriott

STATE FINALS

Fri. June 19, 2015

Life Cathedral-Fresno

NORTHERN REGIONALS

Sat. Feb. 28, 2015

Jubilee on the Ridge-Paradise

INTERNATIONAL FINALS

Aug. 3-7, 2015

Lee University-Cleveland, Tenn.

Questions? Contact David White at (559) 789-3282 or email canvcogyouth@yahoo.com.