



The QUARTERLY

Volume 6 No. 2

A Publication of The Church of God Ministries International



SPECIAL EDITION FEATURING

The Churches of God
HARVEST OF THE FIRSTFRUITS



The Church of God
Ministries International



Serving the Church of God

focus

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE CHURCH OF GOD
MINISTRIES INTERNATIONAL
VOLUME 6 NUMBER 2

Is There a Church in My Area?

As Ministries International continues in it's sixth year, we are receiving more and more requests from those whom God has been directing our way, asking if we have a church in their home town. Unfortunately in most cases I'm sad to say "we don't."

In many cases we don't have representatives. Hopefully, prayerfully, and with your help, this year we can begin to change all of that.

There is a saying the Marines use, "We are looking for a few good men," or for our purposes, "ladies too."

We are in the process of updating and adding to our list of local contacts to serve as representatives of the church. The mailing list has been steadily growing and people are asking about attending services. Many of you who are receiving this newsletter live in a town that doesn't have a congregation; yet you attend Holy Day services many miles away from home, and even attend the Feast of Taberna-

cles at one of the church's Feast sites, but don't have a place to worship near where you live.

Others receiving this letter live too far to attend nearly any service with anyone or would like to attend with brethren of like mind. If the thought of having a church in your local area interest you, we'd like to talk.

It all starts with stepping up to the plate and having a little faith. We know not everyone can do it, but how do you know if you can't until you've tried. Give us a call, we can help.

Sincerely
Tom Kerry

Special Issue: Activities of the church

We've departed from the areas we normally cover to focus on the growth of the churches. There are many other stories to cover that cannot be covered here. Our plans are to begin listing and including the various groups and contacts in each edition along side the news and stories that are normally covered. If you would like to have your congregation added, please let us know.

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Editorial

Have the Churches of God created doctrines of man that override the Commandments of God, and not know it?

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It is an extremely important question. The doctrines of men in many cases in Jesus' day, over ride the commandments. Could that have happened again in our time? Is it possible that the Churches of God today, striving to do God's will have set up doctrines of man that actually override the commandments of God and hinder the work we strive to accomplish like in Jesus day?

"Then came to Jesus scribes and Pharisees, which were of Jerusalem, saying, why do thy disciples transgress the tradition of the elders?" (Matt. 15:1-2) Jesus rebutted them with His own question; "But He answered and said unto them, Why do ye also transgress the commandment of God by your tradition?" (vs3)

Without realizing it, from the beginning of the scattering of the power of the Holy People, the churches of God began establishing doctrines of men that in many cases do exactly what Jesus questioned, "transgress the commandments of God." The biggest of which is the transgression of crossing organizational boundary lines. The other "biggie" is the organized church versus the independent, and neither shall the twain meet.

It seems to be an unwritten law, that the organized church, (those with a centralized outreach), have nothing to do with those who choose to be independent. While the independent says "I'll not be a part of organized religion." One of the larger Churches of God actually has a written policy that expressly forbids their members to associate with other COG members not in their organization. Did you know one of the root meanings of the word Pharisee means separatist.

I often get letters, emails, or calls from individuals who have found themselves with similar dilemmas; having to chose who to meet with, versus whom they may offend, or what laws will they break if they associated with someone else or another group. I know of ministers who have been relieved of their position for simply visiting another organization and delivering a sermon. On the reverse side I've invited gifted speakers who serve the independent congregations to speak to our church only to be turned down because they don't want anything to do with an organized church. I've asked ministers of other national works to speak to our members but have been turned down because our church wasn't with them and their HQ wouldn't approve. I could go on, but I'm sure you see my point. All of these problems exist because of the unwritten and in some cases, the written doctrines of men that now govern the policies of the Churches of God.

What is Biblical?

What is Biblical? That should be the question we should be asking. After all, haven't we always preached, "don't believe me, believe the Bible." Does that only apply to what we teach, not how we operate? Or in our zeal to right the wrongs of some in the past, we have created similar conditions to those in Jesus' day? If Jesus came today, would He ask the Churches of God; *"Why do ye also transgress the commandment of God by your tradition?"*

Does scripture gives us examples of how to operate? Yes, and no! When you search the New Testament for church operations you will find most of what exist today. Independent local congregations, national works tied together, organized churches. What you don't find is specifics of the nuts and bolts of day to day. I find that most interesting, because in similar fashion, it is the spiritual principle expressed in the fourth commandment; "remember the Sabbath Day

Cont. on p.4

Have the Churches of God created doctrines of

Cont. from p.3 to keep it Holy.” Ask ten people how you “keep it Holy,” and you are likely to get ten different answers. Church operations are similar in application.

Let me share with you just a few of the examples of N.T. application of church operation. Jesus began with the original Apostles, yet there were at least two more that were with the original twelve, from the beginning. Acts 1, shows there were at least two others. In modern terms, they had gone through the same training as the original twelve, and had the approval of HQ. All were trained by God’s Apostle. As time went by, Jesus brought in another Apostle-Paul; or in terms of today, he wasn’t trained at HQ, or the college. Or another way of stating it, he hasn’t been approved or trained by those in authority.

Notice what Paul wrote; *“But I certify you, brethren, that the gospel which was preached of me is not after man. For I neither received it of man, neither was I taught it, but by the revelation of Jesus Christ. Paul never attended the “college of the day,” nor did those whom he taught and ordained.*

Paul goes on to say; *“But when it pleased God, who separated me from my mother’s womb, and called me by His grace, to reveal His Son in me, that I might preach Him among the heathen; immediately I conferred not with flesh and blood: Neither went I up to Jerusalem to them which were apostles before me.”* (Gal 1:11-17) Paul never needed the approval of the other group to preach. This goes on today in God’s churches.

However, there is one major difference today, that most don’t do as they did in the N.T.

We find that even though they worked “independently” of each

other, when they found that Paul preaching the same thing, what was their reaction? *“But they had heard only, that he which persecuted us in times past now preaches the faith which once he destroyed. And they glorified God in me.”* (Gal 1:23-24) In the above example, we find an independent working side by side a national work and God was praised, and they didn’t run each other down.

The next example shows the importance of teamwork. Continuing in Gal. chapter two; *“Then fourteen years after I went up again to Jerusalem with Barnabas, and took Titus with me also. And I went up by revelation, and communicated unto them that gospel which I preach among the Gentiles, but privately to them which were of reputation, lest by any means I should run, or had run, in vain.”* (Gal 2:1-2) God showed that it was imperative that the two should work in concert with one another. It was revealed to Paul by divine revelation that the two learn to accept work side by side, or as Paul said, *“his work would be in vain!”* This is extremely important for the churches to understand today.

God showed them they each had a specific work and they were to respect each others work. God showed them by revelation a way to work together and accomplish the commission. Neither controlled the work of the other, and the church grew. Each had a specific responsibility, we find this principle spelled out in the two parts of the commission.

The Two Part Commission

Why would Paul’s work have been in vain? There are several reasons, but primarily because it would have eventually violated the commission given by Jesus Christ. *“Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father,*

and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.” (Matt 28:16) We understand the commission more clearly today than ever before. A combined national effort can effectively do an outreach better than a local congregation, and a local work can handle the needs of a local congregation better than a national work.

The problems arise when the local congregation and the national work strive to control one another. You don’t find that in the New Testament examples of church operation. The New Testament shows us that the two worked together in mutual respect to one another.

When Conflict Rises

The New Testament also gives us an example, when the national work (Jerusalem), ran into a conflict with the independent. (Paul) It is found in Acts 15, the Jerusalem conference. *“And certain men which came down from Judaea taught the brethren, and said, “except ye be circumcised after the manner of Moses, ye cannot be saved. When therefore Paul and Barnabas had no small dissension and disputation with them, they determined that Paul and Barnabas, and certain other of them, should go up to Jerusalem unto the apostles and elders about this question.”* (Acts 15:1-2) Throughout this same chapter, God has left us an example of how all worked together in a team effort. Try to imagine one of the independent churches running into a conflict with one of the larger national churches of today. Imagine, calling for a conference to work together to resolve the matter. Wouldn’t that be unique? That is what they did in the New Testament.

Church Funding

Today some will say, “I’m not sending any of my tithes to

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Cont. from p.4

the national work, they only want our money, while others will say, all tithes must go to HQ. The N.T. actually shows both, local and national tithing.

And the Apostle Paul's work continued to grow; he served many churches and many locations. Paul's work grew into what would be considered in today's terms, "a national outreach." On one occasion we find one church funding Paul to go to other churches, outreach. The Apostle Paul was explaining to the Corinthians that the other churches of God from Macedonia was supplying his need for what they lacked to provide. (II Cor 11:7-9) In that example we find local churches financially supporting the national work of Paul thereby spreading the word. It is a prime example of the two parts of the commission at work. An important understanding left here is, Paul, never told the Corinthians, they had to send him their tithes.

Another example of churches teaming up and working in association with a national work is found in I Cor. 16. There was a famine in the land and the Apostle Paul was instructing the churches in the region to gather for the saints who were in distress in Jerusalem. *"Now concerning the collection for the saints, as I have given order to the churches of Galatia, even so do ye. Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store, as God hath prospered him, that there be no gatherings when I come. And when I come, whomsoever ye shall approve by your letters, them will I send to bring your liberality unto Jerusalem."* (I Cor. 16:1-3)

Man Power

Later in the same chapter, Paul explains how the brethren were helping the churches in Corinth by

sending servants in the ministry of the saints. *"I beseech you, brethren, (ye know the house of Stephanas, that it is the firstfruits of Achaia, and that they have addicted themselves to the ministry of the saints,) That ye submit yourselves unto such, and to everyone that helps with us, and labors. I am glad of the coming of Stephanas and Fortunatus and Achaicus: for that which was lacking on your part they have supplied. For they have refreshed my spirit and yours: therefore acknowledge ye them that are such."* (I Cor. 16:15-18)

As the churches were being established, Paul would send ministers to help the newer congregations until someone from that church grew to fulfill the responsibilities of an elder, (minister)

Notice what Paul wrote to Titus: "For this cause left I thee in Crete, that thou should set in order the things that are wanting, and ordain elders in every city, as I had appointed thee." Here we find the local churches working in agreement with Paul and those trained by Paul and as they grew, Paul would ordain elders in those churches over the course of time.

Conclusion

The examples God left for us in the New Testament shows us that they operated in various differences of administrations, but the same Lord." (I Cor. 12:5) In similar fashion, considering all of the examples left for us to consider, it appears due to the scattering of the power of the Holy people, God has brought us back to that of the New Testament. We are actually witnessing what the Work of God would become at the end of days. One question comes to mind; Is it possible that God is seeing to it that we return to what He originally intended? I can't answer that for cer-

tain, but it sure looks that way.

It isn't possible to go into all of the pros and cons of all the arguments, or the spiritual rights and wrongs of any of the sides of the churches here, yet the Bible does give us a clear and concise path of understanding upon which we should operate.

There are two basic principles upon which every Church of God "MUST OPERATE" if they are to be considered as a Church of God. First; "By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another." (John 13:35)

The second principle is found in the closing words of the Old Testament, it is found in the book of Malachi. *"Then they that feared the LORD spoke often one to another: and the LORD hearkened, and heard it, and a book of remembrance was written before Him for them that feared the LORD, and that thought upon His name. And they shall be Mine, says the LORD of hosts, in that day when I make up My jewels; and I will spare them, as a man spares his own son that serves him."* (Mal 3:16-17)

I began with the question, have the Churches of God, created doctrines of man that over ride the commandments of God? It comes down to this, "BOUNDRY LINES." If a church has established a policy, a rule, or a doctrine that prevents the brethren from freely speaking to, or visiting with another, whether it is an individual, group, or organization, then that church has crossed the line. It has created doctrines of men, no different than what was done in the N.T. The person, or organization's own policy supersedes the law of God.

Scripture shows us in the N.T. that there are national works and independent works. We see they work in association with each other, neither control the other, and in each work, the commission is

The Greatest of Gifts

The Greatest of Gifts

By Steve Councill

What is the greatest gift you could receive? Or better yet that you could give to someone else? The scriptures reveal gifts that God gives to His people.

1 Corinthians 13

"Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I have become sounding brass or a clanging cymbal. And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, but have not love, it profits me nothing." vs. 1-3

"Love suffers long and is kind; love does not envy; love does not parade itself, is not puffed up; does not behave rudely, does not seek its own, is not provoked, thinks no evil; does not rejoice in iniquity, but rejoices in the truth; bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things." Vs.4-7

"Love never fails. But whether there are prophecies, they will fail; whether there are tongues, they will cease; whether there is knowledge, it will vanish away. For we know in part and we prophesy in part. But when that which is perfect has come, then that which is in part will be done away. Vs. 8-10

"When I was a child, I spoke as a child; I understood as a child, I thought as a child; but when I became a man, I put away childish things. For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part, but then I shall know just as I also am known. And now abide faith, hope, love, these three; but the greatest of these is love." Vs. 11-13

The greatest gift according to the scriptures is love. The gifts of faith and hope are certainly important however love is the greatest of all.

Love: G26 Agape' - affection,



good will, love, benevolence, brotherly love Jesus defined exactly what love is as well.

John 15:13

13 "Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends."

Jesus Christ is the perfect example of love. His love was revealed in living a perfect life to qualify as our redeemer; a life of love toward His Father in heaven and of all mankind.

John 3:16-17

16 "For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. 17 For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved."

Love is action, not mere words. Love is putting others before ourselves oftentimes.

Paul wrote in his epistle to the Church in Ephesus how husbands are to love their wives.

Ephesians 5:25

"Husbands, love your wives, even

as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it."

In various relationships Paul admonished with following words.

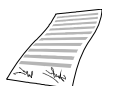
Colossians 3:17-25

"And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him. Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as it is fit in the Lord. Husbands, love your wives, and be not bitter against them. Children, obey your parents in all things: for this is well pleasing unto the Lord. Fathers, provoke not your children to anger, lest they be discouraged. Servants, obey in all things your masters according to the flesh; not with eye service, as men pleasers; but in singleness of heart, fearing God: And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men; 24 Knowing that of the Lord ye shall receive the reward of the inheritance: for ye serve the Lord Christ. 25 But he that doeth wrong shall receive for the wrong which he hath done: and there is no respect of persons."

We also need to remember that we reap as we sow, it's automatic whether we believe or not."

God's people have the opportunity to reflect Christ in all of our relationships; to follow His example of His love toward others, which was shown in His life, His Ministry, and ultimately in His death.

There are so many references to love in the scriptures, so many examples. Let's each pray and ask God to help us be a reflection of His love; to love others as He has loved us. The greatest of gifts is love!



HARVEST OF THE FIRSTFRUITS



THE HOUSE OF GOD OF DAYTONA BEACH BECOMES AN AFFILIATE WITH COGMI

By Jean Dionne

The House of God of Daytona Beach, Florida is pastored by Manuel Rojas. Tom Kerry of The Church of God Ministries, International, was invited to visit and speak to that congregation on the Sabbath of March 5, 2011. There was a very good turnout; brethren came from near and far for the



services. The church catered a wonderful meal for the brethren after the services.

Mr. Kerry spoke on nurturing and strengthening the congregation. The sermon was well received and very inspiring. The brethren of Daytona Beach are looking forward to their new affiliation with COGMI. As you know, COGMI is always outreaching with the gospel. Now COGMI and the House of God of Daytona Beach together, are going to be affiliated to preach the gospel.



Above From Left: Jerry Hunnicutt-local Deacon, Pastor Manny Rojas, and visiting Pastor Tom Kerry

The House of God of Daytona Beach has owned their building for over 20 years. This small independent group of God's people has been keeping God's Sabbath and Holy Days for over 30 years. Pastor Rojas has written numerous booklets on various biblical subjects. Some of these booklets are also in Spanish, and have been distributed in many countries of the world.

The COGMI and the House of God of Daytona Beach feels that through their combined efforts there will be a better opportunity to serve the brethren, and preach the gospel to more people. The

following Sabbath after Mr. Kerry's visit with us, Bruce Chapman, one of the ministers of COGMI of Michigan, paid a visit to the House of God of Daytona Beach while on vacation, and gave a sermon for us.

We are looking forward to the possibility of a time when Daytona Beach will be able to have a feast site. Daytona has beautiful beaches that you can drive on, as well as fantastic resorts and numerous attractions.

We are looking forward to return visits

The House of God, of Daytona Beach, FL

Meets every Sabbath at Time 1:30 PM EST

Location: 138 Madison Ave.
Daytona Beach, FL. 32114

Contact: Manny Rojas
386-506-7234
386-252-7270

Email: mvpastorrojas@aol.com

from Tom Kerry to see the results of the seeds that have been planted, and for updates on God's work.

We welcome all who travel and vacation here or those who live in nearby areas, to join us for services. Sabbath services are held each Saturday at 1:30 PM at 138 Madison Avenue in Daytona Beach, Florida. For more information call Pastor Rojas at 386-506-8324. May God bless our efforts.

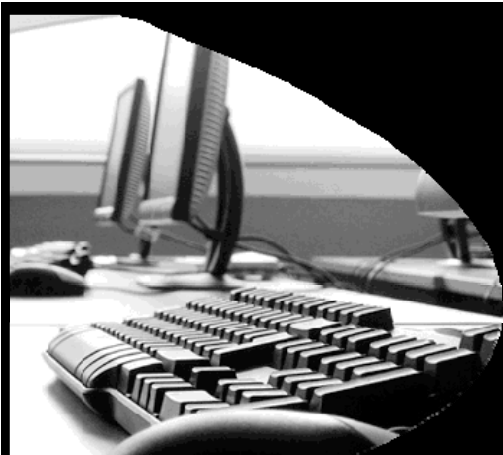


Live Church Services Every Sabbath - Online

111 Viewers Tuned in Last Month:
70-US, 36-Canada, 5-Trinidad

The Church of God, Ministries International now has services online for those who are shut-ins, or where services are too far to attend on a regular basis.

www.thecogmihalifax.org or
www.cogfgomi.org



Israel Will Never Again Be Divided

Prime Minister, Benjamin Netanyahu Historic Speech before the U.S. Congress

"I stood before my people and said that I will accept a Palestinian state; it's time for President Abbas to stand up before his people and say, 'I will accept a Jewish state,' " Mr. Netanyahu said to cheers from a hugely friendly crowd of Democratic and Republican lawmakers gathered in the House chamber of the Capitol.

"Those six words will change history," Mr. Netanyahu said. "With those six words, the Israeli people will be prepared to make a far-reaching compromise. I will be prepared to make a far-reaching compromise."

"And when ye shall see Jerusalem compassed with armies, then know that the desolation thereof is nigh.."
Luke 21:20

Beyond that, as Mr. Netanyahu himself indicated a few minutes later, it would take more than the Palestinians' acceptance of the Jewish state for Israel to sign a peace agreement. He also said that "Jerusalem will never again be divided," and added that Israel's 1967 borders were not defensible. He said new boundaries would need to incorporate large blocs of Jewish settlements in the West Bank and that any peace deal would have to include an Israeli Army presence along the Jordan River.

Editors note: If you haven't seen the entire speech, please take a look.



1967 Israeli Borders Cannot be Defended

Sitting at President Obama's side in the Oval Office, leaning toward him and at times looking him directly in the eye, the Israeli leader bluntly rejected compromises of the sort Mr. Obama had outlined the day before in hopes of reviving a moribund peace process. Mr. Obama, who had sought to emphasize Israel's concerns in his re-



Hamas Moving HQ from Syria to Egypt, Warns Netanyahu

Hamas is moving its headquarters from Damascus to Egypt, and the terror group is strengthening itself in the Sinai, Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu told the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Security Committee Monday.

He also noted that the Muslim Brotherhood, from which Hamas sprung, also has become a more powerful force in Egypt since the ouster of Hosni Mubarak. The Prime Minister stated his concern about the inability of the provisional military regime in Egypt to exercise sovereignty in the Sinai, which borders Israel and from where Bedouin and Hamas terrorists smuggle weapons from Iran, Sudan, Syria and elsewhere into Gaza.

Al-Qaeda also has brought 400 terrorists into the area, according to an

Egyptian official quoted by an Arab news agency. The Prime Minister confirmed previous reports that Hamas supreme leader Khaled Mashaal has pulled out of Damascus, where his presence and welcome by Syrian President Bashar Assad is an additional worry for him in the face of the continuing uprising.

The vacuum of power in the Sinai has been illustrated by "the two gas explosions that occurred there" this year, Prime Minister Netanyahu told the Knesset committee. "Global terrorist organizations are interfering there, and their presence is increasing because of the geographic connection between Sinai and Gaza."

The Sharon government agreed to pull out of Gaza following the 2005 expulsion of nearly 10,000 Jews in the area. Agreements with Egypt on security in the Sinai began fal-

marks moments earlier, stared back.

In his public remarks, delivered after a meeting that lasted more than two hours, Mr. Netanyahu warned against "a peace based on illusions," seemingly leaving the prospect for new talks as remote as they have been since the last significant American push for peace collapsed last fall. Officials said that the meeting was productive, but that there were no plans for formal negotiations or any mechanisms in place to push the two sides forward.

Most significant among his public objections, Mr. Netanyahu said that Israel would not accept a return to the boundaries that existed before the war in 1967 gave it control of the West Bank and Gaza, calling them indefensible.



HARVEST OF THE FIRSTFRUITS



Three Baptisms for the COG Flemington, NJ.

By Charles Gray

Pentecost was a powerful day, not “quite” the three thousand baptized on the original Pentecost, but, we are on the way. We had about 25 people in attendance for services.

Following services everyone went out for a lovely day at the Ralph Stover State Park in Bucks County, Pa. Mike Gladden assisted by Charles Gray bap-



Above: Mark Rusinko, and Jane Mocknick. Below from Left: Ludmila Gromiko baptised, Center: Mikhail Kononchuk, Right: all Baptism Candidates, Mike Gladden and Charles Gray.

tized 3 people in the cool water of the Tohickon Creek.

A picnic, with all the trimmings, grilling, and fellowship followed with plenty of good food and camaraderie. We were happy to welcome into the family of believers Roger Pollack, Mikhail Kononchuk and his wife Ludmila Gromiko.



Pentecost Week-End in Kalamazoo, Michigan 2011

By Kathy Zemaitias

What an awesome Spirit filled, love filled double Sabbath week-end. We were not the largest of groups, but the love of the brethren filled the meeting room. We were blessed to be able to have Mr. Tom Kerry join us for the entire week-end and he, Mr. Steve Councell and Mr. Bruce Chapman each did a segment of the “Leadership Workshop”.

On Sabbath morning Steve Councell presented the 1st session with Tom Kerry doing the 2nd session. Tom was totally amazed that Steve left off where he was starting out, and neither one knew what the other was speaking on. I’d say that’s proof positive that God was directing the course of the day. Bob Marshall and



Steve Councell provided split sermons for us. There was a wonderful pot-luck following services, with lots and lots of food and fellowship. We didn’t break away from the meeting room and food until around 6:30 PM.

On the High Sabbath of Pentecost, Mr. Bruce Chapman did the 3rd session of the workshop, and then we had a short break before services. Mr. Josh Hunt provided the sermonette with Mr. Tom Kerry providing the main message, and what a message it was. It centered on the power struggle of good and evil. It went hand in hand with Josh’s message of “Be Patient and Never Give Up”



HARVEST OF THE FIRST FRUITS



Savannah and Dublin, GA

Sister congregations that meet together monthly

By Marsha Key

The Savannah congregation started meeting at the 101 Key Road location around 1994. At that time we were receiving DVD's from GTA's association. November of 1998, Tom Kerry signed the charter for the ICG association. The later part of 2009, we became affiliated with the COGMI. Even though we have been listed under different organizations, we have all been



PM. We have potluck once a month, usually the 1st Sabbath in the month. We also have a potluck dinner served after the sermon when the Dublin Church comes down to visit every other month.



**Savannah Group Meets at:
101 Key Road
Bloomington, GA 31302**

12:00 PM each Sabbath
Pot Luck Meal follows most Sabbaths

Once a month the group meets for combined services with the Dublin Congregation

Contacts: Eddie Fountain
(912) 728-3254 - Home or

Marsha Key (912) 210-6352 – Cell
annabellkey@aol.com



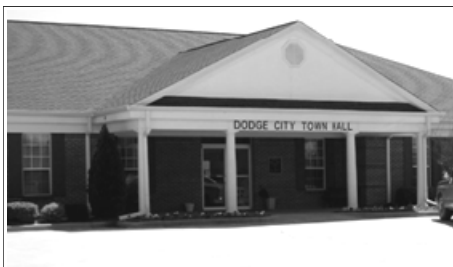
the members of the body of Christ.

We have an open policy and alternate visiting with our sister church in Dublin. So, every month we are with them either in Dublin or Savannah, with Mr. Elwood Woodcock giving us the main message. We also have a few ministers from other organizations that come and visit with us. Our attendance varies from 8 to 13 people every week with Sabbath services starting at 12:00

New Group - Cullman Alabama

The Cullman Alabama group meets in the small town of Dodge City AL. It is just on the outskirts of Cullman, AL. That name may be familiar to many around the country, because it is one of the locations that was nearly destroyed by one of the massive tornados that swept through MS, AL, and GA. In late April, killing hundreds.

On April 30th. Our fledgling group came together. Many with homes damaged, and without home services just days after the killer tornadoes to meet in a dark room where electricity was not yet reestablished. Everyone pulled together, pulled back the blinds and held church, without the electricity, and we had a great service.



A week later, with electricity restored at the meeting hall, about twenty people were present to hear Tom Kerry spoke at our May 7th Sabbath Service about the Feast of Weeks and the beginning of the church at Pentecost.

Since we have several people in our congregation that are new to God's Truths, and keeping the Holy Days, they were very enlightened. Everyone was very interested, and they were following along in their bibles taking notes.

There were lots of questions the next Sabbath. They all have asked "when will Tom come back?"

We would like to thank Jeff and Georgann Kerry for their work who were able to travel and serve our congregation. After services we had pot luck and fellowship.



**Cullman, AL.
A New COGMI Church Group
Dodge City Town Hall
130 Howard Circle,
Hanceville, AL 35077**

Services begin at 10:00 AM each Sabbath
Pot Luck after services.

Contact information: Mr. Gary Waldrep
(256) 747-6506
gwsr098@aol.com



HARVEST OF THE FIRSTFRUITS



Dublin and Savannah, GA Sister congregations that meet together monthly

By Elwood Woodcock

On March 19, 2011 The Dublin and Savannah Georgia congregations combined services for one of the most inspiring Sabbaths the two groups have ever had. The day began with two one hour combined Workshops.



The Theme of The Workshop was "Growing and Strengthening the church." It is the theme that has been the focus of all of the workshops this year. Tom Kerry's session was on "Godly Leadership." Elwood Wood-

cock's Session was on "Building and Growing a Warm, Friendly, and Positive Church." Each session ran approximately fifty minutes, with breaks in between each session, and snacks and refreshments were served.

At the beginning of Sabbath services we performed a 'Special Work' For Jesus Christ. Ray Hutcheson who has been serving the Church and assisting me for many years was ordained a Deacon in the COGMI. The original plaque was also presented to Tom Kerry from the Savannah Church where he had signed the original Charter for their church on November 7, 1998.

The main message was delivered by Tom Kerry. It was a powerful message entitled, "Preparing for the Fall." That sermon is currently being offered to the main tape list. It was delivered as an evangelistic outreach for new prospective church members. After services we

all met at The Golden Coral for a meal. If you have ever eaten at one of these buffets you probably know that we all ate too much.

The final joyous occasion; we ended the day with three baptism's; Mr. Kenny Cottons, Mrs. Cindie Cottros and Tony Hutcheson, son of our new deacon. Over all we had a joyful and blessed day. Over all, it was a very blessed and inspiring and joyous Godly filled day.



Dublin, GA Congregation

Location: World Harvest Church
Administration Bldg.
2772 Hwy 257
Dublin, GA.

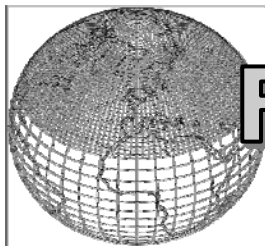
Services 1:00 PM

Contact: Elwood Woodcock
478-923-6103
elwoodcock@aol.com

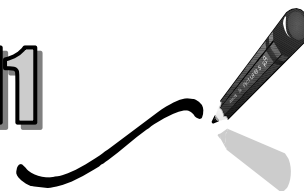


The Savannah, and Dublin, GA congregations came together for a one day workshop for the church. It was a powerful day, with the ordination of Mr. Ray Hutcheson to Deacon. After services all gathered to be a part of three Baptisms.





Feast of Tabernacles 2011 Auburn, IN



Northern Feast Site Back For Third Year

Establishing Feast Sites is one of the most challenging responsibilities of the church in servicing the needs of its members. Distance, expense, the economy, what the area has to offer, motel availability, restaurants, and the list goes on.

Two years ago we added the northern site offering a more central location for the north and east. Unfortunately the price of gas continues to rise and to help the

members in the northern states, it has become necessary to have a northern site again this year.

What began as a need has become a stable loving site for many of God's people.

For questions about the Feast Site, please contact: **Bruce Chapman** - 616-636-9209, or **Steve Councill** - (269) 663 - 7914

La Quinta Inn

306 Touring Dr, Auburn, IN 46706

(260) 920-1900

Special Price: \$71.00

for king or queen,

www.cogmimi.org



Ft Walton Beach, FL

It's back to Ft Walton Beach Florida

ISLANDER BEACH RESORT

This is the same location we had when we were in Ft.

Walton Beach a couple of years ago.

They are offering 20% off the fall rates to us.

For more information contact:

Tom Kerry: 504-367-2005

tomk122@cox.net or

Manis Samons: 352-472-2730

samonsm123@bellsouth.net

We can use your help: we are looking for fresh ideas for the activities this year for the Feast in Ft. Walton Beach site.

If you have any ideas, or if you would like to help, please let us know



**790 Santa Rosa Blvd,
Fort Walton Beach, FL,
32548
866-538-0187**

Branson, MO

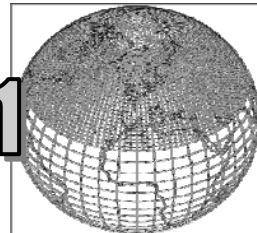
Location to Be Announced

At the time of this printing, brethren from the Missouri area plan to be in Branson on the weekend of June 25-26 to look at several locations that might be suitable for a Feast Site.

Please remember them in your prayers that God will bless us with a location that will be within our means to be able to serve the brethren in a Spirit Filled Uplifting way.



Feast of Tabernacles 2011



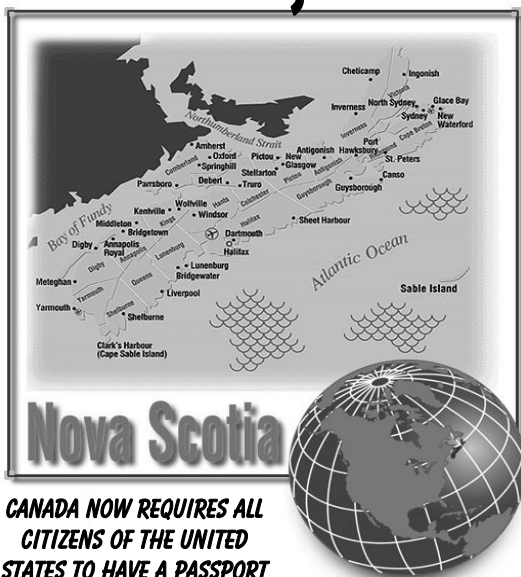
Trinidad - Tobago



For Information on the Feast in Trinidad—Tobago

Contact: Newton James
No. 9 Mandarin Circle, Santa Rosa Circle
Arima Trinidad and Tobago
868-667-3964

Halifax Nova Scotia, Canada



**CANADA NOW REQUIRES ALL
CITIZENS OF THE UNITED
STATES TO HAVE A PASSPORT**

For Information on the Feast in Nova Scotia Canada

Contact: Yanick Sigouin
30 Spring Hill Dr Apt #403
Halifax, N.S., Canada B3A 4H5
<http://www.thecognihalifax.org>

Myrtle Beach, SC

Horizon Ocean Resort

201 77th Ave N. Myrtle Beach, SC 29572
843-692-2397 877-798-4074

The Grand Shores facility has everything you could possibly want to choose from. Whether you are looking for a simple motel room or a three bedroom condominium, or anything, in between you will find it here.



Hotel room, kitchen, Queen (Ocean view)	\$50.00 per night
Hotel room, kitchen, Queen (Ocean front)	\$55.00 per night
One Bedroom Condo	\$60.00 per night
Two Bedroom Condo	\$80.00 per night
Three Bedroom Condo (ocean view)	\$100.00 per night
Three Bedroom Condo (ocean front)	\$105.00 per night

For More Information Contact :

Mike Gladden

20 Buckingham Dr.
Red Lion, PA 17356
717-246-2053

mgladden20@comcast.net

Building blocks to growing your church

Then they that feared the LORD spoke often one to another: and the LORD hearkened, and heard it, and a book of remembrance was written before him for them that feared the LORD, and that thought upon his name. Mal 3:16

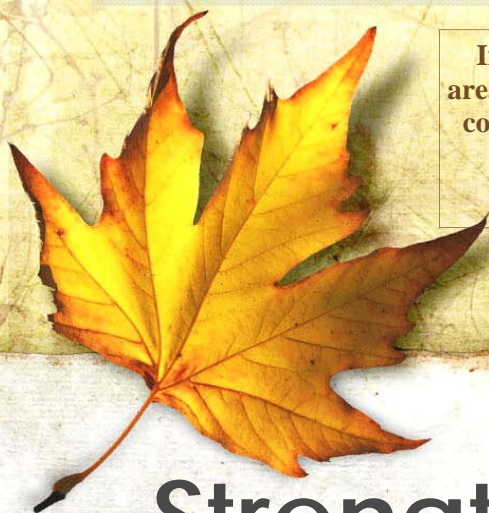
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LOCAL

Church Workshops

If you would like to schedule a workshop in your area please contact: Any of our ministers, your local contact or representative, for planning a workshop for a future event in your area.
Home Office - 504-367-2005



Strengthen your congregation

Subjects To be Covered

- Building a Team
- Godly Leadership
- Speed Bumps
- Everyone's a leader
- And much more

Teamwork

Future Workshops Planned

Kalamazoo, MI

Pentecost Weekend
June 11 & 12th

Tom Kerry, Bruce Chapman, and Steve Councell will be conducting the next local church workshop to be held in Kalamazoo, MI during the Pentecost weekend.

The local congregations have planned an exciting weekend with services, local church workshops and lots of food and fellowship.

For specifics on times of classes and services please contact:

**Bruce Chapman 616-636-9209 or
Steve Councell 269-663-7917**

Best Western Suites
2575 S. 11th St. Kalamazoo, MI
Call (269) 350-5522

Mention the Church when making reservations

Flemington, NJ

July 30, 2011
One Day Workshop

The brethren are planning a special day of worship, fellowship, and a one day workshop to grow and inspire the church at the Ramada Inn in Flemington, NJ. There will be snacks, and a pot luck to follow services.

Presenters will be: Tom Kerry Mike Gladden, and Charles Gray,

For more information Please Contact:

**Charles Gray - 215-592-6264 or
Mike Gladden - 717-246-2053**

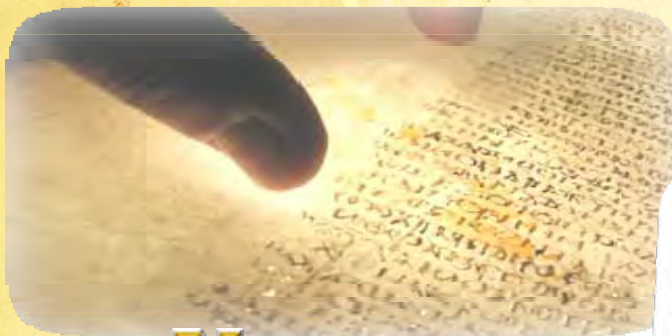
Ramada Inn
250 Highway 202 & 31
Flemington, NJ 08822
(908)782-7472

Mention the church when making reservations

BIBLE STUDY
LEARNING THE BIBLE WITH AUDIO AND VIDEO SUPPORT

SERMON SERIES
The foundation of all Truth and Knowledge

PENTECOST
Or The
FEAST OF WEEKS

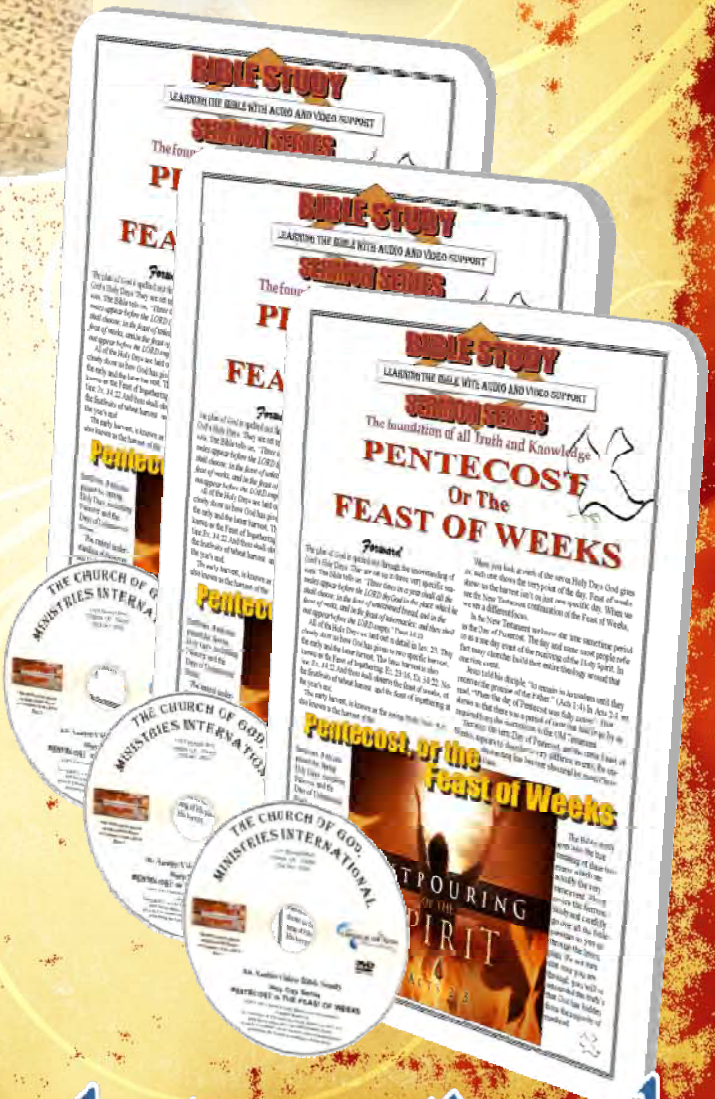


New
Bible Study
Sermon

Most Churches recognize the Day of Pentecost., and the receiving of the Holy Spirit.
But few outside of the Churches of God ever heard of the Feast of Weeks. The truth is, the two events culminate on the exact same day, and they both point to an event that has yet to take place.
In this sermon Tom Kerry goes into detail to explain the two and what they represent in the plan of God.



The CHURCH OF GOD
Ministries
1767 Stumpf Blvd.
Gretna, LA. 70056-3922



Ministries International

What does the Bible say about Baptism ?

"Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit." Acts 2:38

Be Baptized

By Steve

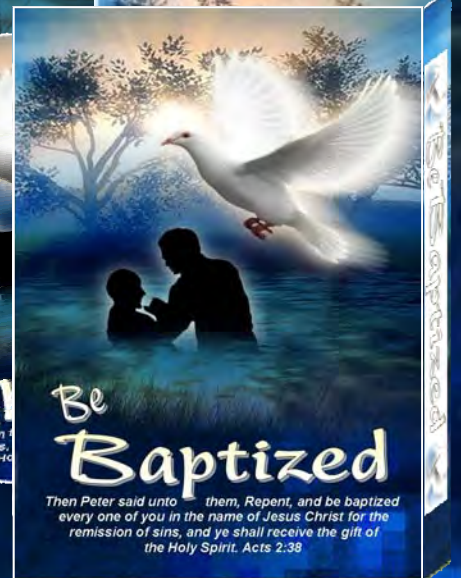
Considering Baptism ?

Send for this
Special three part message ...

Repent

Be Baptized

Receive the Holy Spirit



The Church of God
Ministries International