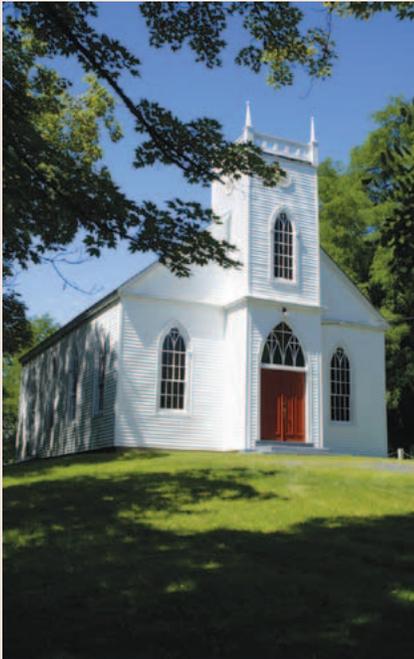


CHURCHRIGHT



Striving to do church right.

July-August 2010

Volume 2 • Number 4

In This Issue

Bible-Based	1
Culture of Excellence	2
Points of Light	3
Church News	4
Calendar, July Emphasis: Change for Your World . . .	5
August Emphasis: Spring Vale, Graduation	6
Culture Watch	7
Convention 2011	8

Bible-Based

The Bible is God's inspired Word. It is the written revelation of His existence and of the nature, creation, origin of man, and plan of salvation. It is sufficient for the practice of faith and formulation of doctrine. All believers are called to be students of it. Any worthwhile preaching and teaching is anchored in Scripture.

These convictions about the Bible are foundational to Church of God (Seventh Day) history and teaching. This comes as no surprise because it was Gilbert Cranmer's declaration ("My Bible and my Bible alone") that spawned the movement in the mid-1800's. This explains why belief about the Bible is the very first item in our church's Statement of Faith and why the phrase *Bible-based* is included in the General Conference's vision statement.

Therefore, having been tagged "Bible-based" by our own history, we must frequently ask, "What should such a church look like?" I suggest the following. First, the church believes what the Bible says about itself. Second, it develops core values that reflect what it believes about the Bible. And third, it speaks up for the Bible in an age of pluralism and biblical illiteracy.

What does the Bible say about itself? It is "God-breathed" (2 Timothy 3:16, NIV), meaning that God divinely superintended its human authors so that, using their personal backgrounds, personalities, and writing styles, they recorded, without error, God's Word to us — the Bible (2 Peter 1:19-21). The Bible is a living book and has saving power: "For the word of God is living and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart" (Hebrews 4:12, NIV). Inspired by a holy God, breathed by the Holy Spirit, and recorded by holy men, the Bible is holy and set apart from other writings. It is trustworthy (Psalm 19:7) and contains all we need for living out our faith (2 Timothy 3:17). This is not an exhaustive list of descriptions, but it is sufficient to underscore that the Bible is no ordinary book; it is divine writ with supernatural properties.

These beliefs about the Bible should be backed up with core values — principles and standards that form the very essence of who we are and what we believe. Consider these:

- Biblical teaching and preaching glorifies God and edifies believers (adapted from Willowcreek Community Church core values).
- We will handle the Scriptures with accuracy and integrity.
- Training in hermeneutics (the art of biblical interpretation) is a standard requirement in preparing for leadership and ministry.
- The teaching and application of God's Word is central to worship.



General Conference
Church of God (Seventh Day)

TAKE NOTE ✓

Simple, straightforward, and action-packed: That's how Mark's Gospel has been described.

Learn what Mark says about Jesus in his Gospel

Jesus According to Mark

Summer quarter lessons for adults



The General Conference . . .

promoting Bible study churchwide in 2010.

Copyright © 2010 General Conference of the Church of God (Seventh Day)

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

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

Scripture quotations marked NIV are taken from the HOLY BIBLE, NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION®. Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984 International Bible Society. Used by permission of Zondervan. All rights reserved.

- We invest in the Church's future by equipping the next generation with a biblical worldview.
- Commitment to Christian education will be reflected in the Church's annual expenditure.
- The Church is called to be not only faithful but also fruitful, which results from its delight in God's Word, as illustrated in the first psalm.

The Roman church's mishandling of Scripture readied Germany and the world for Luther's *sola scriptura*. Post-Millerite confusion became fertile ground for Cranmer's passion for a church that holds only to the Bible. And today's post-modern culture, marked by biblical illiteracy and pluralism, is ripe soil for a Bible-based denomination. Its churches dare to believe what the Bible says about itself. It defends the biblical account of creation — that God spoke the world into existence in six twenty-four hour days. It proclaims the gospel, the good news about the Galilean Carpenter who lived a sinless life, died for sinners, was buried, and rose bodily from the grave after three days. It believes that Jonah was literally swallowed by a whale and lived to tell about it.

A Bible-based denomination seeks to become a beacon of light in a culture of darkness, a "broker of truth" in a world that has lost its way. The reading and memorization of the Scriptures, their careful study, accurate exposition, and relevant application, are hallmarks of its corporate culture. A Bible-based denomination views Scripture as all-encompassing, said so succinctly in this anonymous quote (paraphrased): "The Bible is the traveler's map, the pilgrim's staff, the pilot's compass, the soldier's sword, and the Christian's charter. Therefore, we read it to be wise, we believe it to be safe, and we practice it to be holy."

That is Bible-based.

— *Whaid G. Rose*
Denver Office



CULTURE OF EXCELLENCE

The General Conference salutes Krystal Walters (18), daughter of Darrel and Kathy Walters, of Fort Meyers, Florida, who recently performed live at the American Cancer Society's Relay-for-Life event. She sang "Give," written and produced for the American Cancer Society. Proceeds from the sale of the CD, yet to be released, will help fund cancer research. See Krystal's performance of this song on YouTube.





Finding New Treasures

May 1 and 2 were historic, auspicious days for the Treasure Coast Church of God (Seventh Day), Port St. Lucie, Florida: The church dedicated its brand new facility.

Sabbath celebration began with worship and testimonies of God's faithfulness to the congregation. Visiting ministers from numerous East Coast congregations brought greetings, including Southeast District Superintendent Jeff Endecott. The official worship service followed with guest speaker Pastor Henry Harley, president of the General Conference in Jamaica.

After a delicious Jamaican-style lunch, the worship and praise continued, led by the praise team from the Brazilian CoG7 congregation in

Ft. Lauderdale and interspersed with skits and other presentations. The official dedication service, with ribbon cutting and other ceremonies, was conducted on Sunday afternoon. Conference President Whaid Rose brought the message and led the act of dedication.

The relative brevity of this congregation's history makes its accomplishment remarkable. It was only in the mid-1990's that a small band of CoG7 brethren who had migrated from New York City began meeting in a home there. To accommodate its rapid growth, the group rented space in a school building, and Lawrence (Al) Haynes was chosen to serve as pastor, along with Ralph Brown and wife Pam as associate pastor. Under their leadership the group incorporat-

ed, established Conference affiliation, developed a vision and purpose statement, and cast vision for the building of its own facility.

In 1996, after only two years of existence, Treasure Coast purchased three-and-a-half acres of land to build its own facility. Through the combined efforts of its leadership and members, the Port St. Lucie congregation now lives its dream in a beautiful, spacious, and well-constructed facility.

On the western coast of Florida, this congregation is a "treasure" for immigrant brethren from Caribbean islands (predominantly Jamaica) who have accomplished their goals in the big cities, such as New York, and have retired in the Sunshine State. Its gifted Pastor Haynes (originally from the island of St. Lucia) is a public school teacher and member of the Southeast District board. He is involved with numerous church and community projects and finds time to nurture his wife, Grace (daughter of Elder Gershon Wallen, former president of the Jamaica Conference), their children, and grandchildren. Pastor Haynes and his congregation are Conference loyal and promote the unity of the body among many independent CoG7 congregations in the area.

Thanks, Treasure Coast, for being a point of light!

*Center photo:
Henry Harley,
Jeff Endecott,
Al Haynes,
Whaid Rose*

*Right photo:
Al and Grace
Haynes*



CHURCH NEWS

Conference's Children's Curriculum Ready to Go!

The Christian Education Committee is pleased to announce that the new Intermediate Sabbath School curriculum for grades 4, 5, and 6, prepared by members of the Church of God (Seventh Day), may be ordered for the fall quarter of 2010.

The theme is "The Promise of a Savior." These lessons teach about the prophecies of Jesus' first coming, His birth and childhood, and His early ministry.

These copyrighted lessons will be provided as e-mail attachments for downloading and printing locally, rather than in printed form.



Printing Update

Publishing literature has been part of the fabric of CoG7 since its inception. Two new pieces of equipment were recently purchased to bring the Publications print shop closer to standard in light of technological advancements in the printing industry. Publications personnel are shown gathered around the digital plate burner and digital printer. *Pictured below:* Conference President Whaid Rose dedicates new equipment in prayer.



Two copies of detailed information about the lessons and ordering information are enclosed with each *Churchright* package — one for the local director of the children's Sabbath school program and one for the teacher of grades 4, 5, and 6.

Contact LeRoy Dais at the Publications office (leroy@cog7.org) with any questions you may have.

New SWORD Logo

Thanks to all who submitted entries for the SWORD logo contest. And the winner is . . . Jessica Severance from Albany, Oregon. Congratulations, Jessica!

Matriarchs Remembered

The General Conference acknowledges the recent passing of women considered "matriarchs of the faith," and extends condolences to their families and local congregations:

Barbara Fischer, well-known member of the Alberta, Canada, church, died on April 25. Please visit www.cog7.org for more information.

Esther Dailey Sheffield (Harrisburg, Oregon), widow of former BA editor Roy Dailey, passed on May 20, at age 101.

Lottie Burrell (Fairview, Oklahoma) died June 4, at age 99. She is the mother of former Conference president, current NAMC president, and BA editor Calvin Burrell.

Pastors Needed

The **Harrisburg** church seeks a qualified person for senior pastor, due to Pastor Glen Palmer retiring to a lesser role. Send a letter of interest and/or résumé to Church of God (Seventh Day), P. O. Box 33, Harrisburg, OR 97446. If you have questions, contact Leo Lebitty at lebittylk@gmail.com.

The **Marion** church is looking for an associate pastor, 20 hours per week, to be mentored by Senior Pastor Dale Lawson. The associate pastor will have a significant role in ministering to youth, young adults, and young families.

The church hopes to fill the position in three months, and the candidate does not need to be done with all class work to apply. Send résumé to Craig Hawkins, 13424 Elkview Lane SE, Turner OR 97392; cdmhawkins@hotmail.com or 503-743-2407.

The **Redmond**, Oregon, church is looking for a full-time senior pastor. Please send résumé and cover letter to Redmond CoG7, 205 NW 4th Street, Redmond, OR 97756.

Calendar 2010

July 3-4 Eastern Canada Joint Fellowship Weekend, Montreal, Quebec; theme: "One Family, One Faith"; Whaid Rose, guest speaker

July 18-25 Michigan youth camp (junior and senior campers), Hopkins, MI; contact Rex Miller (*kingmerex@aol.com*)

July 21-25 SWORD retreat at Sis-Q Meadows, Cave Junction, OR

July 23-25 Dakotas youth retreat, Devils Lake, ND (Lakewood Bible Camp); contact Steve Kyner (*tohiswork1@msn.com*)

July 25-August 1 FYC camp at Sis-Q Meadows, Cave Junction, OR; contact Vona Ogren (*hogren@msn.com*)

July 26-August 1 Junior youth camp and FYC camp at Capital Mountain in north CA; contact Jorge Perez (*nazaritemex@hotmail.com*)

July-August Spring Vale enrolling for the 2010-2011 school year

August 1-8 Seekers at Sis-Q Meadows, Cave Junction, OR

August 1-8 Southeast District youth camp, Raleigh,

NC; contact Sandy Jones (*june.bug810@gmail.com*)

August 18 Spring Vale dorms open

August 19 First day of classes at Spring Vale

August 27-29 NED Men's Retreat, Laurelville, PA; contact Bruce Noble (*bruce.noble@cog7.org*)

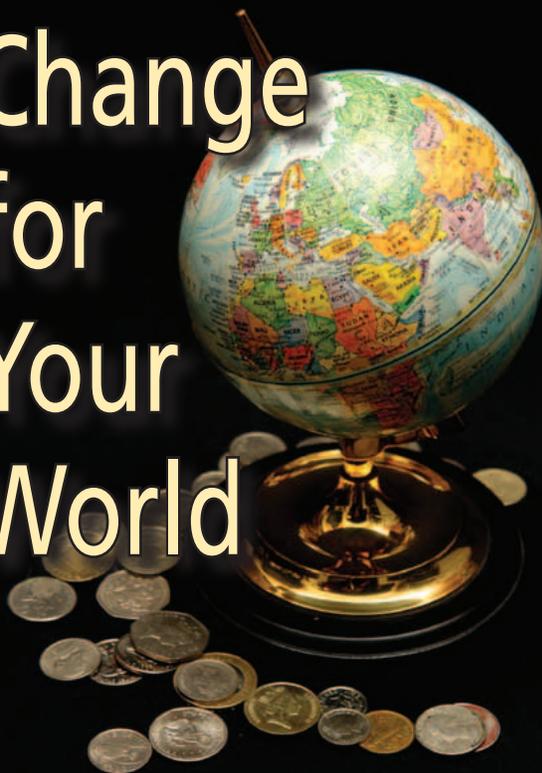
August 27-September 1 Seniors at Sis-Q Meadows, Cave Junction, OR

September 3-5 Southwest District Ladies Retreat, "Heart to Heart," CoG7, Jasper, AR; contact Stephanie Overman (870-446-5736 or *overmans@hotmail.com*)

September 3-6 Southwest District Sword Retreat, Dover campgrounds, OK; theme: "Y Ministry"; contact Ruben and Tatiana Marquez (405-371-5447) or Danny and Jacqui Melgoza (405-473-7227); register online at <http://bit.ly/yministry>

September 3-6 Hispanic Women's Retreat, NorthBay Retreat Center, Maryland, near historic Washington D.C.; contact Edyth Valle (410-808-9240) or Roxana Murillo (301-498-1850)

Change for Your World



What happens when you give change for your world?

You help the International Ministerial Congress . . .

- develop the administration of our global church
- open up CoG7 missions work on every inhabited continent
- help missions personnel establish new contacts

July is Change for Your World Emphasis. Please remember to give your spare change for missions.

**Bill Hicks, Director
Missions Ministries**



- Now enrolling for the 2010-2011 school year
- Dorms open August 18
- First day of school August 19

Mark Caswell,
Director



August is Spring Vale Academy Emphasis. Thanks for your offerings.

SVA GRADUATION

Congratulations to Alex Rincker and Brendon Noble, class of 2010, who tied for the Academic Excellence award. Alex also received the Spiritual Leadership and Student of the Year awards. Both young men were honored at SVA's graduation the weekend of May 29.



Alex Rincker



Brendon Noble

TAKE NOTE ✓

SVA Employment

English Teacher - requires four-year degree; preferable English concentration; teacher certification

Assistant Girls Dean - experience in youth work preferred

Assistant Boys Dean - experience in youth work preferred

Contact Christie Camero for more information (ccamero@springvale.us).

Ready for the New Century — Team Ministry

“Team ministry in the 21st century” by Brad Smith, *Next*, Feb. 1996 (Vol 2, No 1, Pages 1-4)

In the last 25 years, at least four major movements have changed the face of the American church.

- The *church growth movement* focused on cultural relevance, church planting, and marketing. User-friendly facilities and assimilation of new visitors were high priority items.
- The *seeker movement* added specially designed “seeker” events, evangelism training, and discipleship training for new believers.
- The *contemporary worship movement* brought fresh forms of praise music to corporate worship. Worship and teaming began to be integrated.
- With the *small group* movement, pastoring and discipleship were carried out in small, lay-led groups. Leadership training was prominent, and the expansion of ministry occurred through decentralized leadership.

Innovative churches trying to ride the wave of several movements in quick succession have often found themselves overworked, overprogrammed, and burned out. These churches are seeing the need not to attract bigger crowds, but to build the crowds they have into viable communities. Churches in the 1990s are working to keep the “front door” open, but they’re also trying to close the “back door.” Assimilation programs designed to move visitors toward membership commitment have been one effort in that direction. Yet the efforts to help new members discover their gifts and find places of service have often been less intense than the programs that drew them in to begin with. Some churches *have* succeeded, but others have become so focused on the means (e.g., small groups, seeker services) that they’ve lost sign of the goal.

Healthy churches in each of the four movements share some traits worth examining. All have a *clearly stated purpose* or mission, and all ministries and programs are tailored accordingly. They’re *outward focused* — concerned with evangelism, community impact, or equipping leaders in other cultures. Healthy churches aim toward a *result beyond the specific movement* of which they’re a part.

These churches are not asking, “How can we do church

growth, seeker events, contemporary worship, and small groups better?” Rather, they’re asking how these emphases contribute to equipping people to grow and serve. While the term “equipping” is familiar and widely used, this new phase of lay equipping is significantly different from past expressions.

The 1950s brought the “theology of the laity” as a topic of discussion. In the 1960s we had Lay Renewal Weekends and Lay Bible conferences. In the 1970s key prophets (e.g., Ray Stedman and Peter Wagner) proclaimed the importance of the lay movement. Then in the 1980s a second generation of prophets defined ministry in the marketplace and “whole-life ministry.”

Today “equipping” is more than a spiritual gifts seminar or a volunteer-management program. It’s not a program at all, but a whole paradigm shift in church leadership. New terms include team-based leadership, equipping-centered church, permission-giving leadership, and purpose-driven church. The principles distinguishing the “equipping” movement cannot be copied in form without the underlying paradigm shift.

Implementation is a key principle; it’s the series of “next steps” beyond, for example, discovering one’s spiritual gifts. Resources are being committed to equipping, and there’s a decentralization of leadership. Facilities and programs are taking a back seat to people and ministry. There’s a healthy skepticism about “plug-in” programs and an understanding that there’s no “one right way” or a quick fix. The goal is a changed paradigm of leadership, even though a new program *may* be the entry point to that changed paradigm. The church of the 21st century will be one that returns to the Ephesians 4 emphasis on equipping lay believers “in a fresh way that has not been seen in the United States for decades.”

Written by **Dr. Brad Smith**, president, Bakke Graduate University — Developing Leaders to Become Global Urban Change-Agents for Christ. (www.bgu.edu). This summary-article originally appeared in *Current Thoughts & Trends* (NavPress). Used by permission.

2011 General Conference Convention

July 18-23, 2011

Pheasant Run Resort and Spa
St. Charles (Chicago), Illinois

Be an active part of the Church!

Mark your calendar and plan to join us for a time of fellowship, renewal, challenge, and fun. An exciting week is in store as we fellowship together and serve the work of the Church.

Room Rate: \$85 + tax

Meals: \$37 per day + tax and service

Resort facilities include golf course, fitness center, day spa, driving range, tennis courts, basketball courts, three swimming pools, and more.

The hotel's Bourbon Street features Ben & Jerry's Ice Cream Shop, Thieves Market & Gift Shop, Swamp Arcade, multiple restaurants, Zanies Comedy Club, Main Stage Theater, and artwork gallery.

Nearby shopping, restaurants, and recreation are along the Fox River Valley in downtown St. Charles.

Activities for all ages and fun for the whole family!

Keep up with news and information: www.cog7.org/convention.

