

CHURCHRIGHT



Striving to do church right.

November-December 2010

Volume 2 • Number 6

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Note: "Spirit-Formed," the last installment in the series on Vision, was featured in the previous issue of Churchright. At Whaid Rose's invitation, Israel Steinmetz offers additional thoughts on this topic. Be inspired!

What Does a Spirit-Formed Church Look Like?

by Israel Steinmetz

A Spirit-formed church is a body of Spirit-formed people living in community. It is made alive by the Spirit and formed by the life of the Spirit into the image of Christ. The Spirit forms the church in various ways that are fully integrated and work in concert.

For our purposes, the Spirit's work in forming the church can be classified into four categories: identification, sanctification, empowerment by the Holy Spirit, and teaching by the Holy Spirit. Let's consider each of these in order.

By **identification**, we mean that believers are born again by the Spirit and baptized by the Spirit into Christ's body. The Spirit seals them and unites them as one. This identifying work of the Spirit gives life to the church, gives her members genuine spiritual unity with one another, and assures them of final redemption after death.

By **sanctification**, we mean the ongoing process of conveying the holiness of Christ into the lives of believers so that they are empowered to overcome sin and walk in true righteousness. Thus the Spirit-formed church is growing in righteousness, being transformed into the moral character of Christ.

By **empowerment**, we mean the supernatural strength and gifts of the Spirit that allow the Spirit-formed church to serve and thereby edify one another and to bear conclusive witness of the loving power of God to the world. In the Spirit-formed church, all the gifts of the Spirit function in harmony and order to the glory of God at the Spirit's discretion.

When we speak of the Spirit **teaching**, we think of His ability to convict, to lead into truth, to call to remembrance Jesus' teaching, and to enable meaningful communication with God. The Spirit-formed church has the eyes of her understanding enlightened by the revelation of God so that she grows in wisdom.

Clearly these various aspects of the Spirit's activity are designed to work in concert. The same Spirit that convicts believers
continued on page 3



General Conference
Church of God (Seventh Day)

West Coast District

Training the Teachers

Forty current and potential Sabbath school teachers attended the teacher training in Lodi, California, on September 26, 2010. The presenter was Karen



Edwards, a CoG7 member in Spokane, Washington, and a public school teacher/coach. She provided a full-day

event, packed with excellent information. Karen is passionate about her subject matter and about her vision to carry God's Word to the next generation in a meaningful way.

The agenda for this "How to Revitalize Your Sabbath School" training was divided into four sections: 1) The Need for Teacher Training; 2) Doing the Heart Work and the Hard Work; 3) Teaching Activities and Ways to Promote Sabbath School; and 4) Teacher's Meetings. The training is highly recommended for all teachers, pastors, and Sabbath school superintendents.

Each student received the *Initial Teacher Training Manual for Sabbath School Teachers*, authored by Karen Edwards and published by Bible Advocate Press (in English and Spanish). Karen also recommends that students use Gospel Light's *Teacher Training Smart Pages*, made available at the

seminar. Both these valuable tools are full of useful and easy-to-use information for our churches.

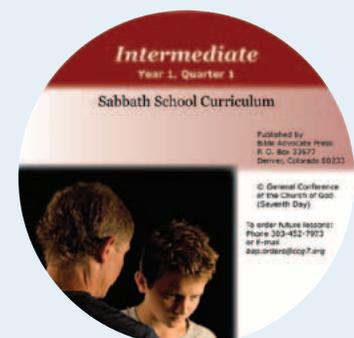
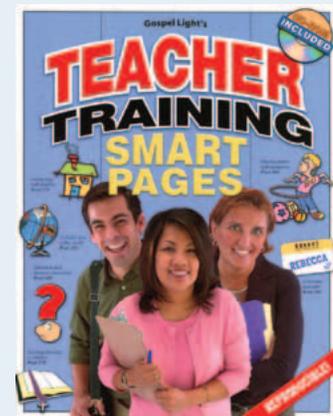
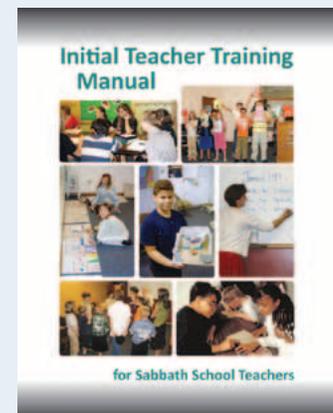
As a long-time schoolteacher, Karen freely shares her hard-learned concepts, tips, and ideas for not only teaching but also instilling the love of learning in students that will make them want to rush to Sabbath school each week.

Even former teachers who felt burned out were revitalized by this inspirational training. Three other training sessions are scheduled for the West Coast District: Phoenix, Arizona (December 19); Marion, Oregon (March 6, 2011); Southern California (to be announced). Teachers are admonished to attend this valuable classroom opportunity when it comes to your area.

— Larry Zaragoza
WCD Superintendent

Note: The training manuals mentioned above are available from Bible Advocate Press: *Initial Teacher Training Manual* (\$10 donation, English or Spanish) and Gospel Light's *Teacher Training Smart Pages* (\$39.99, but available from BAP for \$30, postpaid, in the U.S). Every teacher should have a copy of the *Initial Teaching Training Manual*, but a Sabbath school needs only one of the *Smart Pages* because the purchaser may copy needed pages for staff members.

Visit Churchright Online for attendees' comments on teacher training.



For information on intermediate curriculum, see page 8.



CULTURE OF EXCELLENCE

This piece by John Stackhouse in his book *Making the Best of It* caught my attention in *Leadership Journal* (Summer 2010):

In a wide-ranging study of a number of major American denominations, the Search Institute of Minneapolis determined that the most important factor in producing a mature, well-balanced, and well-integrated Christian faith was not excellent preaching, worship, small-group fellowship, or anything else but adult Christian education. And yet I daresay there is no element in contemporary church life that is more poorly undertaken in most churches. A sermon and home Bible study each week cannot possibly suffice (p. 315).

Reading this, I was gratified to note the Teacher Training event conducted at the Lodi, California, church in late September. It was a district-sponsored event, featuring Karen Edwards of Spokane, Washington, as principal presenter. I am told it was well attended and very resourceful. This training will be conducted at other locations throughout the West Coast District, and beyond.

If Christian education is the single most important factor in producing mature believers, then the work of the Conference's Christian Education Committee is well worth our attention, support (prayers and finances) and applause. This small band of ladies (Gina Tolbert, Daisna Gibson, and Janice Orr), along with contributing writers who include Dorothy Nimchuk, Jeddie Larry, and Shirley Lindsey, under the direction of G. C. Curriculum Editor LeRoy Dais, have been at their task for quite a while. Working from a distance and being volunteers with many other responsibilities have presented a challenge, but their passion to produce Bible-based curriculum for children keeps them going. The first installment for intermediates was recently released and is finding positive reception in the field.

Stackhouse's observation, that this all-important element is perhaps the most poorly handled aspect of church life, is sobering. And it fortifies my response to those who've asked why the Conference is investing time and money in developing children's curriculum. No need to reinvent the wheel; just use materials already out there, they imply. My answer: If any aspect of the life of the Church deserves our most ardent attention and investment of resources, it is our children.

This has implications beyond children's curriculum: Bible study for adults, teens, training ministers (LifeSpring), and even the value of Spring Vale Academy.

So thanks for your support of this effort. Thanks to those who give to the Issachar Forum through which this is funded. And praise the Lord for the progress being made in this vital aspect of the life of the Church.

— *Whaid G. Rose*
Denver, CO

Spirit-Formed Church

continued from page 1

regarding the true nature of righteousness also empowers them to live in righteousness. Often this convicting ministry of the Spirit is carried out through a believer through whom a spiritual gift is manifest. This ministry edifies the believer and affirms to him his sure salvation as one sealed by the Spirit. Thus the Spirit's various activities work together. If any is missing, the Spirit's work is incomplete.

The church that does not experience the work of the Spirit in one or more of these areas is likely quenching, grieving, or resisting the Spirit in some way. Therefore the Spirit-formed church is committed to submitting to and cooperating with the *entire* work of the Spirit. The church recognizes the Spirit as her *paraklete*, receives Him as the promised gift and Helper that He is, and honors Him as God's Spirit within her. The church listens to His teaching, responds to His conviction, manifests His power, and walks in His holiness.

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POINTS OF LIGHT



Lodi Comes Alive

The Church of God (Seventh Day) has a long and rich history in Lodi, California, springing from two major roots: Lodi Seventh Day Church of God and Lodi Church of God (Seventh Day).

Lodi Seventh Day Church of God was established in 1908, with Elder Henry Baumbach serving as pastor. The church met in the homes of its members until 1912, when a building was purchased. Pastors who most recently served this congregation include Elders Glen Palmer, Larry Childers, Claude Ellis, and Melvin Reuscher.

Lodi Church of God (Seventh Day) was organized in 1938; Elder E. A. Straub served as pastor. A building was constructed in 1939-40 that served as home for almost 50 years. Beginning in 1941, a large tent was pitched in the parking lot for annual campmeetings. During these meetings, services were conducted in the tent, and the church building

served as kitchen, dining hall, and dormitory. Pastors who most recently served the Lodi CoG7 include Elders Wesley Walker, Fred Walter, Nathan Lawson, Ray Straub, Kenneth Lawson, Michael Vlad, Loren Stacy, and Melvin Reuscher (co-pastor with Loren Stacy for several years). Chris Henderson and Sean Stacy have served as youth pastors and Scott Fischer as associate pastor.

June 18, 1988, these two congregations became one as they met together for Sabbath worship in a rented facility large enough to hold the united church; Elders Melvin Reuscher and Loren Stacy served as co-pastors. March 2, 2002, after almost 14 years of meeting in rented churches, raising funds, and building its own new facility, the CoG7 of Lodi was finally home. A formal Dedication Sabbath was enjoyed on April 27, 2002. Many former pastors, as well as members of other area CoG7 congregations, attended.

Church of God (Seventh Day) in Lodi continues to prosper as God blesses. In addition to ongoing ministries to its members, it is part of a community-churches ministry to the poor and homeless. Currently the Lodi church is planning to offer after-school tutoring for neighborhood children and expand its ministries through the Internet. Members are learning new ways to share the gospel and pray that God's kingdom will be increased as Christ lives in and through them.



The most solemn event on CoG7's calendar year?

The Annual Lord's Supper Celebration

Save the 2011 date:

Sunday, April 17

CHURCH NEWS



Congratulations, L. L.!

A special salute to L. L. Christenson, who turns 100 on November 12. Born in Wisconsin in 1910, Elder Christenson is the oldest living minister in the CoG7. More than 70 years ago, he entered ministry and has served in pastoral and publications work in Wisconsin, Iowa, Missouri, North Carolina, Oklahoma, New Mexico, and Texas.

'Gimme Five' Journals

It's time for local youth groups to start wrapping up their Gimme Five journal. After you fill it with memoirs of youth group activities over the past year, submit a copy of your journal to the NFYC office. If you submit it by February 15, 2011, you will receive the Gimme Five Participation Award for 2010. You can also win other great awards from National Youth Ministries. Please send submissions to NFYC Office, Attn: Kurt Lang, 920 LaSalle, Harrisburg, OR 97446; nfyc@cog7.org.

Hybrid Course Delivery System

LifeSpring School of Ministry will implement a new course delivery system next fall. This hybrid approach will utilize live classroom simulcasts, online interaction, and two sessions at a central location each year. LifeSpring will pilot this approach in

winter/spring 2011, with two courses taught in Spanish by Ausencio Arroyo. For more information, visit www.lifespringschool.org.

LifeSpring Registration Deadlines

January 3 - Course LEA 201 Church Administration (online-English)

January 10-May 8 - Course LEA 201 Church Administration (online-English)

February 7 - Courses BIS 201 Biblical Interpretation and COM 341 Expository Preaching (regional classroom/online-Spanish)

February 13-April 10 - Course BIS 201 Biblical Interpretation (regional classroom/online-Spanish)

April 10-June 5 - Course COM 341 Expository Preaching (regional classroom/online-Spanish)

Notice: The deadline for submitting applications for ministerial license is December 15.

Calendar 2010

November 12-14 - NW SWORD Retreat (ages 18-35), Brooks Retreat Center- Goldendale, WA; contact: Kurt Stranberg, Kurtstranberg@comcast.net

November 19-21 - Youth and Young Adult Retreat, Camp YMCA Abe Lincoln; contact: Abe Endecott, abe@cog7.org

December 16-19 - Winter Youth Retreat (ages 13-22), Capital Mountain Camp, near Sacramento, CA; contact: Jorge Perez, 408-250-9985 or nazaritemex@hotmail.com

December 18 - Arizona Super Sabbath, 6750 N. 7th Ave., Phoenix, AZ; special speaker: Dr. Richard Jensen

December 30-January 2, 2011 - SW District Winter Retreat (ages 13-25), Camp Hoblitzelle, Midlothian, TX; contact: Jason and Rose Rodriguez, 832-797-9916 or swdstudentministries@gmail.com

Resting in Jesus

Long-time minister and servant of CoG7 Ivan Lee Burrell of Coweta, Oklahoma, died September 7, 2010. He would have been 61 on September 15.

Ivan graduated from Spring Vale Academy in 1967. He went on to attend Southwestern Oklahoma State University and later graduated from Midwest Bible College in 1972. Ivan married Linda Salmons at the Fairview, Oklahoma, CoG7. The Burrells went on to pastor congregations in Detroit, Michigan; Brighton, Ohio; and Fairview and Claremore, Oklahoma.

Conference President Whaid Rose said the following about Ivan Burrell: "His strength of character, sweetness of soul, boundless store of humor, love for the Lord's church, and dedicated service to it are legacies of Ivan Burrell we will treasure for a long time."





NAMC

Recharged at Glen

The 2010 session of the North American Ministerial Council (the General Conference's ministerial arm) convened at the Glen Eyrie Conference Center, Colorado Springs, Colorado, October 18-23, under the theme "Recharging the Church With Grace and Truth."

Licensed and credentialed ministers were joined by lay pastors. With an unusually high number of wives, attendance peaked at approximately 170. The natural beauty of the Glen Eyrie campus and a well-planned program, coupled with the spirit of love and unity exhibited by attendees, made a busy week of Council business seem less arduous. Each day began with *Corum Deo*, a small group prayer and worship time, followed

by breakfast in the castle dining hall and then business session in the Great Hall.

Each evening ended with worship and the spoken Word, given by members of the Council: Jhabel Chagollan, Jeff Endecott, and Ruben Marquez. These services were marked by heartfelt worship. Thursday ended with a Western-style dinner and entertainment at the Flying W Ranch, compliments of the General Conference, marking Pastor Appreciation Month.

Council business included a report of the License and Credentials Committee; discussion of the Church's attitude toward brethren who celebrate the Feast Days; reports from New Covenant Study Committee, Doctrinal Book Writing Committee, and LifeSpring



Pastor of the Year Award 2010

“Honoring Those Who Labor Among Us”
(1 Thessalonians 5:12)

n Eyrie

School of Ministry; the election of Council officers and members of the License and Credentials Committee; amendments of the Council bylaws and standing rules; amendments clarifying the Statement of Faith, Articles 3 and 6; and an amendment to the Ministerial Documentation Manual regarding requirements for the lay pastor's certificate. The Council heard a report and challenge from Whaid Rose regarding the Conference vision, particularly as it relates to the future development of the professional ministry, and nine hours of training in church revitalization was conducted by Dr. Tom Cheyney, North American Missions Board, Southern Baptist Convention.

The Council joined brethren from Thornton, Aurora, and Colo-

The General Conference is pleased to announce the first annual Pastor of the Year Award, created to highlight the importance of the pastoral ministry and to encourage those who serve the church at this grassroots level. This year's winner: **Chip and Mary Hinds**, who have served the **Wister, Oklahoma**, congregation for fourteen years. First runner up: Wayne and Zahida Hrenyk of San Antonio, Texas; second runner up: Jeff and Rita Endecott of Farmville, North Carolina. The selections were made based on a carefully constructed rubric of information provided by local churches of the nominees. Thanks to Becky Robinson (Denver office) for supervising this project, and to the ten judges who scored the materials. This project was initiated and funded by the Issachar Forum, and the award includes an all-expense-paid vacation for the pastor and his wife. Watch for announcements of the 2011 round-up of pastors.

Pictured above: Whaid Rose presents Pastor of the Year Award to Chip and Mary Hinds during the closing service of the North American Ministerial Council in Colorado Springs on October 23, highlighting Clergy Appreciation Month.

rado Springs for Colorado Super Sabbath (at the Colorado Springs church), then returned to Glen Eyrie for closing exercises: sharing memories of the Council week, a special tribute and prayer by the wives present, ordination of newly licensed ministers, presentation

of Pastor of the Year Award, and Council adjournment.

This was a memorable Council. The ministers of the Church went home re-charged. May the entire body of the General Conference “keep the charge”!

Pioneer Missionary Training

Pioneer Missionary Training (PMT), a short-term mission trip, will take place December 19-29. The team will travel to Jalisco, Mexico. The cost, not including airfare to Guadalajara, is \$455 USD and includes housing, food, insurance, and transportation within Mexico.

PMT is an introductory course in foreign missions work. To be considered for future CoG7 mission trips, persons will need to have completed PMT Level 1.

If interested, contact one of these for an application and details:

- Kurt Lang (NFYC): 541-517-1079 or kurt.lang@cog7.org
- Christy Lang (SWORD): sword@cog7.org
- Bill Hicks (G. C. Missions): carlylehix@aol.com

Monico Muffley (team leader): pastormonico@juno.com

Applications must be postmarked by **November 15**.

Travel notice. The Department of State has issued a warning about security in Mexico. Please visit http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis_pa_tw/tw/tw_mexico.html for more information.

Scholarship notice. A scholarship for the trip is available for one CoG7 young adult (age 18-35), in the

U.S. or Canada. To apply, visit <http://sword.cog7.org>.

First Quarter Lessons

Adult. Bible Studies for Adults kicks off the new year with *The Family: God's Design for Every Generation*. Lessons cover such topics as Marriage, True Love, Family Stewardship, Family Recreation, Discipline, Family Instruction, Moral Issues, and Facing Crises. These lessons clearly explain the importance of the family unit as the foundational structure for any level of society.

Senior high youth. *Fearfully and Wonderfully Made* is what senior youth will study during the first quarter. These studies explore the origin of humanity and focus on problem areas encountered by teenagers.

Junior high youth. In *God's Plan in History* students will learn how God selected Israel as His special people and about His plan of salvation through Jesus Christ.

Note: Starting with the winter quarter lessons, the junior high and senior youth quarterlies will be revised, updated, and given a new look. If your church has not been using these lessons recently, we encourage you to use them again.

Teacher's guides are available for these studies. Adult student book:

\$3.25; teacher's guide: \$5. Junior high and senior youth student books: \$3 each; teacher's guide: \$4.

Intermediate curriculum (grades 4, 5, and 6) is *Jesus' Ministry* for the first quarter. Lesson titles include "Choosing the Disciples," "The Sermon on the Mount," "The Beatitudes," and "Jesus Teaches How to Pray." These lessons can be sent as e-mail attachments or on disk. The basic set includes the Teacher's Overview, weekly Teacher's Guides, Student Handouts, Activity Worksheets, and Resource pages for \$20; the disk costs \$4. The student set is \$3 per student.

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

Creation DVD's

Illustra Media has produced three powerful films that speak against Darwinism, coming from three directions: biochemistry (*Unlocking the Mystery of Life*), astronomy (*The Privileged Planet*), and paleontology (*Darwin's Dilemma*). A fourth film, *God of Wonders*, explores the wonders of creation, conscience, and the glory of God.

These films would be excellent to show at an evening church event. Offered by Randolph Productions, Inc. (a subsidiary of Campus Crusade for Christ), they cost \$19.95 each. Check out their Web site at www.go2rpi.com.



Looking Back . . .

A Memorable Summer Bible Conference

Good thoughts of West Coast District Conference still linger. Location: Salem, Oregon. Dates: July 6-10. Theme: "Fearless." Featured speakers: Loren Stacy ("Why Are You Afraid?"), Bill Hicks ("Fear of Insignificance"), Brian Larson ("Fear of Life's Challenges"), Heber Vega ("End-Time and Global Fears"), and Whaid Rose ("The Healthy Fear"). Conference ended with presentations by Sheri Rose Shepherd and the African gospel group Acapella.

TAKE NOTE ✓

Annual Prayer Initiative 2011

21 Days of Conference-Wide
Prayer and Fasting

March 26 – April 16

A Corporate
Spiritual Exercise

Mark your calendar, and watch
for more details.

Join in the harvest

Missions Ministries

- Pioneer Missionary Training (PMT) to Mexico, December 19-29 (applications due November 15)
- Medical-Dental Mission to Quito, Ecuador
- PMT to Kenya, December 2011
- Outreaches at home through Disaster Relief, Home Missions, and other ministries

See all that Missions Ministries has to offer at www.cog7missions.org.

November is Missions Ministries Emphasis. Your offerings are vital.



Bill Hicks, Director

Reaching Ever Higher

General Conference Ministries . . .

- Sharing the good news through print and online publications
- Training and education for ministry and service
- Uplifting youth, young adults, and women in their daily walk
- Going into all the earth preaching the gospel

Your support of G. C. Ministries matters.
Let us strive together to reach ever higher.

Executive Director Richard Jensen on the first ascent of Ring of Fire, El Capitan, Yosemite (1996)

How About Good?

by Richard Jensen,
Executive Director

After the few months I've been in the General Conference office, I can say without hesitation that we have a good operation going here. We have dedicated and efficient staff with a passion for Jesus and the upbuilding of His kingdom. We have a broad spectrum of ministries and services that further the mission of the denomination. We have excellent leadership in our president, Whaid Rose. We're doing amazingly well, given the resources we have to work with. God is definitely multiplying the few loaves and fishes.

As I survey our current operations and priorities from a newcomer's perspective, however, I have mixed feelings. We *are* doing *good*, but being "good" in the twenty-first century really means "also ran." It means that you didn't win in the race; you didn't even place. It means that your efforts ended up being irrelevant.

In many ways, "good" is worse than "bad" because people can be very satisfied with good and thereby ignore the profound dangers of being *merely* good. While they think, "We're doing fine . . . not great, but just fine," they necessarily ignore the youth leaving the church in droves, the aging ministers, the creeping compromises, the slowly failing infrastructure, the complacency, and the cross-less religion that are all hallmarks of a blinded "goodness" that has given up the idea of *great*!

So, what is doing *great* in the twenty-first century? Well, the so-

called "new atheism" is doing great. Wicca (white magic, otherwise known as witchcraft) is doing great. The "New Age" is doing great. All are growing by leaps and bounds!

In reaction to these forces, ecumenicism is the new "good" in Christianity, as even Christians lay down their crosses and adopt an antinomian, social-gospel, theistic-evolutionary, virtually universalist religion that they hope will remain relevant and appealing to the masses. By compromising with the world on topics ranging from homosexuality to the claims of science, mainstream Christianity attempts to avoid being relegated to that status of *quaint* and *backward* in the "marketplace of ideas."

Yet, despite Christianity's "best" efforts, in the developed world the ground occupied by Christianity is steadily and rapidly shrinking. The United States and Canada are quickly going the way of Europe, where all flavors of Christianity combined now form only a tiny minority. Is the Church of God (Seventh Day) doing better?

Our membership and leaders are aging, and we are not replacing them. Our youth are outright leaving, and even the ones who stay have deep and unanswered questions that tug at them. We are so fraught with an independent spirit that even talk of a "denomination" causes ire in many. We make some progress in the third world, but at home our membership dwindles and ages. We are not "winning," and we are not "placing"; we are losing. The Great Commission is a distant abstraction to many of us. Such is the nature of "good" in the



twenty-first century. The question is pressing: Can the gospel preached by the Church of God (Seventh Day) compete in the modern marketplace of ideas?

It will not do to respond by saying/praying, "Lord, come quickly." He responds, "Satisfy the Great Commission. Teach the peoples of the *world* the *truth*!" And if we can respond to such a challenge by thinking or, God forbid, saying out loud, "The Lord will return at the appointed time, so whatever we do or don't do toward the Great Commission is irrelevant," then we are indeed a Laodicean church that had better worry about being spewed out of His mouth! We exist in a marketplace of ideas, and we must do much better than "good" in order to win.

The Lord has appointed us a job, and it is indeed our privilege to do it. He could raise up stones in our place, but He honors us with participating in His saving work. Will we be satisfied with doing "good" in that work, or will we strive for *greatness* in that work?

What, exactly, does greatness mean? What does greatness take? President Rose and I will say much more about those questions in up-

coming issues of *Churchright*. But I can start now by saying that we have hired new staff as a first step toward greatness. These people have been strategically placed to address pressing needs as we seek greatness in our essential services to the Church.

We have hired two new information technologies (IT) staff: Rick Frye and Rocky Cardwell. They have already worked wonders in completely revamping our digital presence. The marketplace of ideas is largely electronic in the twenty-first century, and our previous investment there was woefully inadequate. Rick and Rocky are continually upgrading our appearance and involvement in the digital world.

As the complexity of administering our denomination has increased, Elder Rose has been increasingly pulled away from visioning, preaching, and writing just to manage the everyday details of our operations. Abe Endecott, executive assistant, and I, executive director, were hired to relieve much of this burden and thereby enable Elder Rose to be more effective in casting the vision for the future. I now manage the operations of the denomination, and both Elder Rose and I enjoy Abe's help with the operational details.

Becky Robinson is not a "new hire," as she has been with us in a front-desk capacity for almost two years, but she has taken on a number of new responsibilities keeping our membership records current and readily accessible. Many of you have enjoyed her pleasant voice on the phone and have worked with her to keep our contact information up-to-date. Effective communication is one of my top priorities, so Becky's help with keeping our data current is extremely important.

All of these strategic hires are necessary conditions for greatness; they are first steps toward a broader vision. However, they are far from sufficient.

We can make our plans and throw resources at those plans, but only the Lord can grant success. We pray constantly for His guidance, power, and Spirit as we plan and work. We pray that you will pray with us and support the vision that President Rose casts. Greatness is within our grasp, and, if the Lord is pleased with us, we shall have it! We are poised to make a dramatic difference in the world. Let us pull together, seek the Lord

together, and work together toward a common plan. It can be our privilege to see the Lord accomplish great things among us and through us, as we seek to satisfy the Great Commission.

Want to comment on this article? You can, through the CoG7 Community, now at www.cog7.org.

CoG7 Social Networking Center

CoG7 Community Forum

- Ask questions
- Share ideas
- Clarify issues

Join the conversation! Follow the link to CoG7 Community at www.cog7.org.



Facebook

- Enter discussions on the CoG7, *Bible Advocate*, and LifeSpring sites
- Keep up-to-date on Church news, articles, and ministry training



BA Online

- View the latest issue in Page-Flip
- Download past issues

CoG7 Media

- View YouTube videos, such as *The Sabbath Experience*



General Conference Convention

July 18-23, 2011

“How great is the love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God!” (1 John 3:1, NIV). His love calls us, surrounds us, moves us. We invite you to share a week with us in St. Charles, Illinois, as we celebrate this **Amazing Love**.

The 2011 General Conference Convention will be held at the beautiful Pheasant Run Resort, a family-friendly facility with something for everyone. Plan on coming early or staying after and enjoying all the many sights in nearby Chicago!

Future issues of *Churchright* will highlight the many exciting things planned for this convention.

— *Elroy Jr. (Nugget) and Sue Gold*
2011 Convention Co-Directors
convention.cog7.org

