

CHURCHRIGHT

DOING CHURCH RIGHT



General Conference
Church of God (Seventh Day)

February-March 2013

Volume 5 • Number 2

2013 Emphases

January - NAWM

February - **SWORD**

March - **Publications**

April - LifeSpring

May - Missions

June - Youth

July - World Missions
(Change for
Your World)

August - Spring Vale

September -
Publications

October - LifeSpring

November - Missions

December - G. C.
Ministries

The Strongest Link

Welcome to the February-March Churchright. Much will happen over the next two months. Conference Tour resumes full throttle. Board of Directors and License and Credentials Committee meet. Annual Prayer Initiative, Lord's Supper, and SHINE's Haiti mission happen back to back. Convention planning and promotion are in full momentum.

Through these we see the presence of Conference leaders in the field, Conference business conducted while members aren't in session, documenting men called to ministry, corporate prayer, communion of saints, sharing hope abroad, and preparation for convention.

And there's more. District and ministries events, including NAWM's Ladies Day and spring quarter curriculum for all ages. Publications' Heidelberg press keeps turning. Tracks and other free literature are printed and distributed globally; hymnbooks are shipped; the BA is edited, proofed, and translated. Inquiries (doctrinal, personal, salvation, etc.) come by phone, fax, e-mail, and website. The phone rings. Membership applications are processed. There are accounting services, foreign missions wire transfers, administration of employee benefits, committee meetings, and lots more.

My point? There's a lot going on, there are costs involved, and you're privileged to partner with others in support of our joint efforts as a General Conference — doing together what no one member or congregation can do alone.

Our bylaws allow congregations to “manage their own financial affairs locally,” remitting a portion (of the tithe) to fund district and Conference operations. Additionally, emphasis offerings for causes deemed worthy of your support are given. Failure to support your local church financially, or failure of your local church treasurer to remit funds to the district, creates shortfalls at the Conference level.

Do you support your local church financially? Does your local treasurer regularly and punctually remit funds as designated? Don't know? You should ask. The answer is important to our joint efforts.

In essence, the currency of your donation can be transformed into hope and life for many (locally, nationally, and globally) if all the links in our partnership chain are strong. So let us examine our link and commit to being a strong one — in fact, the strongest — as we take the gospel to the ends of the earth!

— *Whaid G. Rose, Denver Office*

Conference Tour 2012-2013

Unity in the Spirit

Conference Tour Coming Your Way

- February 2 San Antonio, Texas
- February 23 Orlando, Florida
- March 9 Jefferson, Oregon
- April 6 Acme, Alberta
- April 13 Dallas, Texas
- May 4 Kansas City, Missouri
- June 1 Alfred, North Dakota
- June 8 Los Angeles, California



Comments from the participants

I am pleased that the meeting was non-confrontational and informational. It was very enjoyable as well. God Bless you all.

— Leslie Pell
Chattanooga, TN CoG7

Thank you for this eye-opening visit to Chattanooga. My husband had never heard of CoG7 until he met me. Our congregation “loved him” into waiting to join, but he still had many questions that your Tour has helped answer. You confirmed to him that he is where he needs to be: a new Sabbath-keeper, a new member with CoG7, and a heart to witness to others now. Thank you so-o much for your Tour stop here.

— Katelyn Hartwell Lightle

Thank you for visiting the Texas Rio Grande Valley. It was truly an honor to have dedicated men do their time and effort in this way. I believe the goal was achieved. It is very clear what is expected from us as a church and as part of the General Conference. Thank you for your gracious visit.

— Pastor Noe Reyes





2012 PMT

Pioneer Missionary Training (Level One, or PMT1) completed its thirteenth mission in December. The 16-member US team, led by Martha Muffley, as well as participants and leaders from the Mexican Conference, ministered in Guadalajara and made quite an impact on the community. We rejoice in this good effort. See full report with gallery of pictures at cog7.org/churchright/.



SHINE in Haiti

March 25 – April 1, 2013
SHINE Medical and Dental Missions will minister in Haiti in the spring of 2013. Please visit the SHINE website for more information: shinecog7.org.

Lord, Make Us One



Annual Prayer Initiative

March 16-23, 2013

Eight Days to Pray for Spiritual Unity!

Welcome to this year's Prayer Initiative. It's become a tradition — a worthy one, I might add — designed to bring the whole church together in corporate prayer for fresh anointing and new blessings.

The duration of this year's initiative is intentionally brief and includes a Conference-wide Day of Fasting. We hope the shortened duration will make it more doable for more participants, and we pray that many will seek the Lord in fasting for our beloved church.

Also, in keeping with our Conference theme, the focus of this initiative is our spiritual unity. An outline of the daily prayer emphases appears beside this letter, but a more detailed Prayer Guide (with notes on fasting) may be downloaded at the G. C. website (cog7.org).

Finally, this year's initiative is uniquely timed to prepare the Church for its annual Lord's Supper celebration — the day after the initiative ends. May our lives, our church, and our communion be enriched by this time of prayer. Thanks for your participation.

Praying,
Whaid Rose

Sabbath – March 16

The Reality of Our Oneness

Sunday – March 17

Demonstrating Our Oneness

Monday – March 18

The Deeds of the Flesh:
Destroying Our Oneness

Tuesday – March 19

The Fruit of the Spirit:
Enhancing Our Oneness

Wednesday – March 20

Day of Fasting. Please read notes on fasting in Prayer Guide.

Exploring the Depths of the Spirit: Becoming Deep People

Thursday – March 21

Praying with Jesus About Oneness

Friday – March 22

Praying for Discernment

Sabbath – March 23

Affirming Our Spiritual Oneness

Convention 2013



CALL TO CONVENTION



This is my official invitation to all members (and friends) of the General Conference to attend the 2013 Biennial Convention, July 1-6, at the Hilton Hotel and CenturyLink Center, Omaha, Nebraska.

I look forward to issuing this invitation (call to convention) every two years because of the images conventions evoke: gathering of old friends (it seems like an unending family reunion), exciting fellowship, rich worship featuring some of our best preachers and teachers, general sessions, Bible studies, meal functions, ministry highlights, business sessions, and more. The Biennial Convention has been called “a cherished tradition,” and it truly is.

This time we’ll meet in Omaha, not one of our nation’s most popular cities but one on the rise in twenty-first century business enterprises. Omaha has a combined big city-small town feel and is great for family-friendly (and frugal) travel. There’s a lot to see and do there: museums, the Omaha zoo (recently named by TripAdvisor as the number one zoo in the US and Omaha’s biggest attraction, which features America’s largest aquarium in a zoo), and nearby Boys Town. The modern and beautiful Hilton facility and the state-of-the-art CenturyLink Center, accessible via a convenient skywalk, provide good vantage points from which to see the city and the July 4 fireworks!

This convention will be the culmination of the year-long Conference Tour, themed “Unity in the Spirit.” We’ll unpack it, combining the two tour sermons (“Living in the Spirit” and “Walking in the Spirit”) with four other dynamic messages: “The Attitude that Unites,” “The Doctrines that Unite,” “The Gifts that Unite,” and “The Lifestyle that Unites.” In addition to the General Sessions, a “Body Building” track will be featured — morning Bible studies designed to strengthen the body and give attendees practical tools to take back to your local churches.

I could go on, but then I’d give away all the surprises. So please check out the rest on this page and the next: hotel information, room rates, and notes from Loren Stacy (board chairman) on convention business.

You won’t regret attending, so see you soon in Omaha!

Whaid G. Rose
Conference President

FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD



2013 Amendments Committee

The Amendments Committee (John Schott, chairman; Ken Knoll; and Tim Steinhauer) stands ready to receive any proposed amendments to our General Conference bylaws that our members may wish to propose for consideration during our 2013 General Conference Convention business sessions. Per our current bylaws, proposed amendments must be submitted to the Amendments Committee “at least 120 days before the convention.” This year, that deadline is **March 3**. Proposed amendments must be submitted with the recommendation of one or more of the following: a district board, a state conference, the board of directors, the North American Ministerial Council, the Amendments Committee, and/or a petition of 50 members of the Conference. The Amendments Committee will distribute proposals to the membership at least 30 days before the beginning of our 2013 convention, scheduled July 1-6, in Omaha, Nebraska.

Board of Directors Promise

Following our 2011 convention, during which a board of directors project that may have led to a proposal to combine all General Conference governing documents into one “constitution” received much discussion, the board announced that it planned to return to that project that had been put on hold since early 2010. However, late last summer before any further work was done by the board’s committee, the board received a request from the License and Credentials Committee of the North American Ministerial Council to leave that project on hold a while longer in the interest of peace and unity within our church. The board immediately agreed that it would not initiate any discussion of the project during the 2012 meetings of the North American Ministerial Council or the 2013 General Conference Convention. No further work has been done, and none is scheduled.

— Loren Stacy
Board of Directors Chairman



Center Omaha Convention Center via enclosed sky bridge.

Relax in a guest room with comfortable and contemporary furnishings, enhanced high-speed Internet and HDTV. Enjoy regional specialties and all-American favorites in the Liberty Tavern Restaurant and Lounge. The lobby Coffee and Gift shop offers quick food selections and sundries, and proudly serves Starbucks® coffees. Relax in the Health Club and Spa with a 6,000 sq. ft. fitness center, spa services, saltwater pool, whirlpool, and sauna.



Once again, Elroy (Nugget) and Sue Gold have graciously consented to co-chair the 2013 Convention Planning Committee, and were appointed by the board of directors. Their dedication to the Church, leadership skills, creativity, and capacity for details and administration make them a delight to work with. This is

no small task for these two business professionals, but they do it gladly in service to the Lord and His church. Support them with your prayers and convention attendance.

— Whaid Rose



Room Reservations

Room rate: \$89 + tax

To make room reservations, visit <http://cog7.org/convention/hotel> or call 402-998-4215.

Be sure to mention your Group Name: General Conference Church of God (Seventh Day)

Pricing

Early Bird Registration

(For registrations received on or before April 30, 2013)

Adults:	\$60
Youth (13-18):	\$45
Children (4-12):	\$25

Regular Registration

Adults:	\$90
Youth (13-18):	\$65
Children: (4-12):	\$25

(Children 3 and under are free)

HOTEL

Hilton Omaha
1001 Cass Street
Omaha, NE 68102
402-998-3400
www.omaha.hilton.com

The Hilton Omaha Hotel is a world-class convention and leisure destination, joined to the CenturyLink



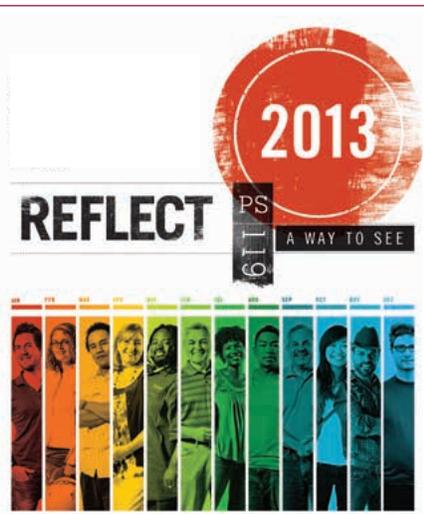
National Youth Ministry

2013 NYM Registration. The National Youth Ministry requests that all youth groups register at the beginning of each calendar year. Registration helps us better communicate with each group so we can know how to serve you in ministry. Those who register will receive a registration card, drawstring sportpack (with our new logo!), subscriptions to *Youth Flash* e-newsletter and text communications, and event discounts. Youth workers can register their group online at <http://youth.cog7.org/register>, or use the form located in the Gimme Five materials.

Gimme Five. This resource gives local youth groups an excellent way to grow and maintain a balanced youth ministry that meets the purposes of the Church. Loaded with information, Gimme Five will assist and encourage local youth workers in building spiritual growth and meaningful relationships within their ministry.

Check out Reflect PS 119, a one-year journey through the Bible promoted by the General Conference, with amazing free support resources from Tyndale House Publishers.

It's never too late to get started. For details go to <http://www.reflectps119.com>.



Groups can also receive prizes from the National Youth Ministry. Recognition, such as the High Five for the Top Five and Jacob Solis Community Service Award, is given to qualifying groups each year. To participate, local youth groups need to send in a copy of their Journal packet by **February 15**.

National Youth Week / Hunger Lock-In. All local youth groups are encouraged to participate in this awesome weekend of service and spiritual growth! **April 12-14, 2013**, are the suggested dates, but local groups can participate anytime through June 30. All donations must be sent in before this date.

The National Youth Week event is an excellent opportunity for youth to gain leadership experience in designing and implementing a Sabbath worship service. It is also a challenge to participate in a 24-hour famine to take the focus off God's blessing for us and onto how we can bless others.

The Hunger Lock-In is an opportunity for all churches to get involved in supporting a foreign missions project. If all youth groups send at least \$50, we can provide a huge blessing for a worthy cause!

Questions? Contact Kurt Lang, National Youth Director, at youth@cog7.org. Information packets, calendar of events, and more about the NYM will be available online at <http://youth.cog7.org>.

Spring Vale Academy

Job openings for 2013-2014: principal, teachers (math and foreign language), dean of boys, assistant dean (boys and girls), director of development, VIS-TOCS (for dorms, kitchen, maintenance).

Congratulations to the following for being honored as Student of the Month: Josiah Carbajal (August-September), Kayla Silvestain (October), and Amanda Miller (November).

North American Women's Ministries

The NAWM board is seeking Church of God (Seventh Day) women entrepreneurs who may be interested in presenting their business journey and experience at the NAWM luncheon at Convention 2013. If interested, contact Grace Sanchez at 651-646-3108 or 651-399-0028; e-mail gilnegrace@aol.com.

Crafters, crocheters, knitters, jewelry makers, quilters, and creative women: Please help NAWM with your talents and donations for our upcoming Women's Bazaar to be held at convention! We encourage you to bring or send items that will assist the North American Women's Ministries.

The theme the NAWM board has chosen for the 2013

Women's Ministry Day celebration is "Abundance in the Spirit." Women are encouraged to plan a day of sharing their unique heart for ministry with their local church families.

SWORD Camp

The Northern California SWORD held its annual winter camp in the beautiful mountains of Northern California, December 27-30, 2012.

This year we saw an increase in the number of participants, some arriving from as far away as Las Vegas and Southern California. The theme of the camp was based on Deuteronomy 20:8: "What man is there who is fearful and fainthearted?" (NKJV).

We were blessed with three awe-inspiring speakers: Dan Davila (Chicago, Illinois), Ruben Alonzo (Houston, Texas), and Gabriel Vergera (Tijuana, Mexico). Besides blessing the group with sermons, they also conducted workshops that dealt with young people and all the attendant characteristics and changes in our lives.

— Terri Adame

College Scholarship Opportunity

Are you a graduating senior or currently enrolled in college and a member of the Church of God (Seventh Day), with a minimum GPA of 2.5? If yes, then you may be eligible for the Patricia Keith-Meyers Scholarship. The Denver church is offering three merit-based \$1,000 scholarships for qualifying students. Scholarship submission deadline is April 1, 2013. For details, submission requirements, and an application, contact cog7.denver@cog7.org.

TAKE NOTE ✓

If your church is live-streaming your Sabbath services, let us know so we can have that information available when we receive inquiries.

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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."

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Lessons for Second Quarter 2013

Adults. *Jesus, Our Example* invites us to learn from the most perfect life ever lived on this earth.

Senior youth. The 13 lessons in *Genuine Christianity* are based on the power-packed letters written by James, Peter, John, and Jude.

Junior high youth. *The Church Begins* provides challenging studies about the origin and expansion of the Christian church.

Intermediate (grades 4, 5, and 6). *The Armor of God* is the title for this quarter.

Primary (grades 1, 2, and 3). *Blessing – God Blessing Us and Using Us to Bless Others* focuses on the stories in Genesis and Exodus.

For more information go to cog7.org/churchright/.

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



CALENDAR 2013

March 28-31 - Pastors' Spring Retreat, sponsored by the Northeast District; Laurelville Center, Mt. Pleasant, PA (www.laurelville.org/). Contact: Bruce Chesney (bchesney@paonline.com).

April 6 - Western Canadian District Super Sabbath, hosted by Acme local church. Featuring the General Conference Tour.

April 13 - Regional Super Sabbath, hosted by CoG7 in Lanham, MD. Contact: Heber Vega (301-351-5057; hebervega@gmail.com).

LifeSpring Dates

February 1 - Spring Certificate of Biblical Studies applications due

February 20 - Spring/Summer scholarship applications due

March 25 - Spring course registration closes

April 7 - Spring classes begin

July 4 - Graduation ceremony at convention, Omaha, NE

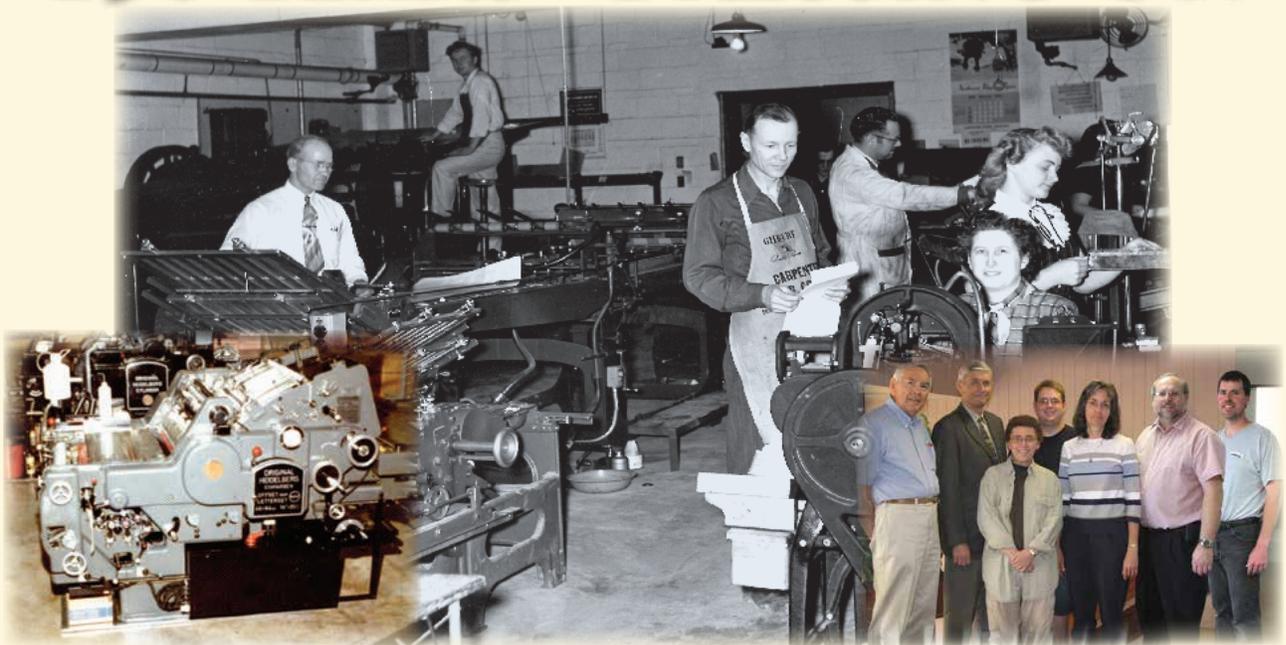
SWORD



- Connecting CoG7 young adults, single or married, ages 18-35
- Developing leadership skills
- Providing opportunities to serve

*Check out the SWORD website for upcoming events and more:
sword.cog7.org.*

150 YEARS - PRESSING ON



March is Publications Emphasis. Your offerings are appreciated.