

OneAccord

August 2017



Foundation Institute Continuing Education

Journeys and Reflections: | Tributes: Manuel Quijano
Kingsley and Janice Mather | and Todd O'Brien Carey

personal from the president

Building Update

I have exciting news to pass on to everyone! After two years of looking for property on which to construct a headquarters office building, we are pleased to announce that the Church is now the owner of 7.4 acres of land located in south McKinney, Texas! This is approximately 10 minutes north of our current location in Allen. We officially closed on the property July 14.

This was a long time in coming and certainly tested our patience. Once our offer for the property was accepted by the owner, we went through a 90-day inspection period. We hired a civil engineer and a geotechnical engineer to evaluate the property to make sure nothing was wrong—no buried oil drums or hidden toxic waste. The property passed with flying colors.

During the inspection period, the civil engineer we hired drew up a site plan with the building footprint situated on the property, along with parking and drainage plans. This was submitted to the city of McKinney for approval the first week of July. We are happy to report that the city approved our site plan on our first effort.

Of course, this is only the beginning of a long process. We still need a permit from the city to start excavating the property, and then we will need our building plans approved. We anticipate that we won't have all the approvals and permits until late September or early October. At that time we can actually begin construction. The builder we have selected informs us that he can complete the project by May of 2018—just in time for our current lease to expire.

I am sure there will be challenges over the next 10 months that will need addressing, but we are excited to see progress! This is a major undertaking for us and easily the largest transaction we have been involved with since our beginning in December of 2010. I don't think any of us could have imagined at that time being in a position to construct our own office building six and a half years later.

Our current financial position allows us to construct this building with minimal impact on the daily work of the Church. How can we do that, you might ask? Each year since our beginning we have seen a steady increase in our income. And each year we have budgeted for the next year based on that year's income. By doing this, we have added to our cash reserves each year.

Those reserves have now reached a level such that we can pay cash for the property, take out a mortgage for the cost of the building and still maintain adequate reserves for any future emergency.

Once we complete the building, the monthly mortgage payment will be only slightly more than what we are currently paying for rent—but we will have twice the space! In the new building there will be an expanded classroom for up to 50 students, a much larger studio, a much larger mailroom and room to expand. And with 7.4 acres of land, we also have room for future buildings—an education center or an auditorium or a combination of the two.

With this project finally underway, Psalm 127:1 takes on added meaning: "Unless the LORD builds the house, they labor in vain who build it." We are not building a temple or an elaborate structure. It will be a simple office building, one which we hope will serve the needs of the Church for many years to come. As always, thank you for your support and your prayers!



Jim Franks

President
Church of God, a Worldwide Association
@jimfranks



CHURCH of GOD
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Summer Seminars Dig Into Scripture

"Written for Our Learning"

The fifth year of Foundation Institute Continuing Education seminars served 50 members from 12 states and four countries.

By David Johnson

Paul told the Christians in first-century Rome that the Scriptures are preserved for our learning (Romans 15:4). Learning about the truths contained in the Bible has always been an important part of the Church of God in our day. The Church recognizes that offering biblical education for the membership is an important part of our commission, and we are always eager to provide a variety of learning opportunities for all who are interested.

Continuing Education

One of our popular educational programs has been the one-week summer Continuing Education seminars at the Foundation Institute classroom in Allen, Texas. We have just completed our fifth year of hosting these seminars, and once again eager participants filled the classroom.

The doors opened each morning at 8, and those attending often showed up early to enjoy coffee and fellowship before the classes began at 8:30. We had three one-hour classes in the morning, followed by a break for a group lunch. Then three more classes were held in the afternoon, finishing each day around 4:30.

Subjects

The subject matter changes each year, but many of the presentations have their origins in the regular Foundation Institute classes. Jim Franks, Doug Horchak, Clyde Kilough and Erik Jones joined the regular FI instructors, Ralph Levy and David Johnson, in providing a varied array of subjects and approaches.



This year's curriculum included the following classes: the Hebrew calendar; Voting, Politics and the Christian; Fundamental Beliefs for Media; U.S., Britain and the Commonwealth in Prophecy; the Book of Genesis; and the Epistle to the Ephesians.

The participants spent 29 hours in class and an additional nine or 10 hours in lunches and fellowship. Many also enjoyed getting together for the traditional group dinner at a local Mediterranean buffet restaurant.

Returnees

Most participants find it to be a very intense week but, at the same time, a very

rewarding week. One way this shows is that nearly two-thirds of those who attended this year (33 out of 50) have also attended in previous years. Several plan to come every year because they find the program so helpful.

This year we had participants from 12 states, along with three international students.

Next summer

With the planned move of the headquarters office and Foundation Institute early next summer, our plans for next year will need to be flexible. We are hoping to conduct a single weeklong session in the new FI classroom, but since

the classroom will be much larger, we could accommodate up to 50 participants.

We are hoping to schedule it around the middle of July, but we will not be able to announce specific dates until we see how the construction of our new facility proceeds. We plan to make an announcement around the end of the calendar year and begin taking reservations a month or two later. Be sure to listen for the announcement if you'd like to attend.

Also, we hope many will plan to attend the shorter Continuing Education classes held free of charge at the Winter Family Weekends in Louisville, Kentucky, and the Northwest. ☺☺



Life, Hope & Truth Website: Five Years of Growth

The exponential growth since the launch of the website in 2012 positions us to preach the gospel even more effectively.

By Clyde Kilough

June 11 we passed a major milestone—the five-year anniversary of the Life, Hope & Truth website. Here are some of the cumulative key statistics that we’ve compiled for the entire five-year period from June 11, 2012, through June 10, 2017.

Unique visitors

- 25,182,193 – total number of unique visitors.
- 14,855 –average number of visitors per day. (Note: The lower number of visitors in the first two years pulls down the five-year average. Over the last year we have had around 25,000 unique visitors to LHT each day, or around 690,000 each month.)
- 242 – number of countries from which visitors have come. (We have visitors from every continent, including Antarctica!)

Page views

- 50,883,235 – total number of page views.
- 8 – number of pages with more than 1 million views.
- 50 – number of pages with over 100,000 views.
- 503 – number of pages with over 10,000 views.
- 1,287 – number of pages with over 1,000 views.
- 27,850 – average number of page views per day. (Again, the average is somewhat skewed because of the low numbers in the first year and a half—an average of almost 2,500 per day

during our first year and just under 5,500 per day for our second year. In each of the last two years we have averaged almost 48,000 page views per day.)

- 77,178 – highest number of page views on one day (April 5, 2015, which was an Easter Sunday).

Some personal demographics over this five-year span, according to Google analytics, are also quite interesting.

Gender breakdown

- 56.9 percent of our visitors are female.
- 43.1 percent are male.

Age breakdown

- 23 percent are aged 18-24.
- 22.3 percent are 25-34.
- 19.2 percent are 35-44.
- 16.3 percent are 45-54.
- 12.7 percent are 55-64.
- 6.5 percent are 65 and over.

We are excited about the growth over the last five years, but we aren’t stopping there. We continue to add new targeted material. I would like to feature a couple of new items below.

New Sabbath video series

If you haven’t seen the earlier announcements, I want to call your attention to the latest video addition to the Learning Center page of Life, Hope & Truth



(lifehopeandtruth.com/learning-center/). It is a seven-part series about the Sabbath, written by Jeremy Lallier and presented by David Johnson.

A longtime member wrote this to us: “The Sabbath videos are outstanding, a true work of art. I’ve watched them twice

and want to watch them again. Every second, every word is jam-packed with truth and gems of godly wisdom.”

These Sabbath videos are a great example of the principle, “There are always new ways to see old things.” This excellent material is prepared for preaching the gospel to the world, but it is also for the refreshing edification of veteran members.

Journeys: a fourth series to be added soon

It’s the same principle with the three (soon to be four) Journey series. What may appear to be simple concepts may hold some very new elements of understanding. So I would also encourage you not to overlook the spiritual value of keeping up with all the new material that comes online.

To access the Journey series, just go to the Learning Center page, look for this



graphic and click on the “Get Started” button to subscribe. After completing the first seven-day series, you will be directed to Journey 2, “The Problem on Evil,” and after that, Journey 3, “The Plan of God.” Journey 4: “The People of God” will be added soon.

So, in retrospect, we’ve come a long way over five years. Looking forward, we have so much yet that can be done. One thing we know for sure: time is flying by quickly, but with God’s guidance and help, we can make the most of our job to preach the gospel to the world and care for those God calls. ©&

Q

What are the true duties of husbands and wives? Are they supposed to follow those duties even when their mate is not?

Through this column, we want to provide you with a window on the work of the Personal Correspondence Department. Because we interact mostly with people new to God's truth, some topics might not seem directly applicable to you. But think how you would answer the question if someone asked it of you! And many answers will contain spiritual principles that you can apply in your life, even if the question isn't one you would ask.

A



PERSONAL CONTACT

with CECIL MARANVILLE

We would be happy to provide you with a description of the roles God ordained for a husband and wife. They are explained in these articles, “[Role of Men](#)” and “[Role of Women](#),” on [lifehopeandtruth.com](#). Each article shows the way God intended for men and women to live, beginning with the first marriage between Adam and Eve. They explain how a believer can apply these guidelines in today's world. Here is an excerpt from the first one:

“Society has many different ideas about what the role of men should be. But what did our great and loving Creator intend? ...

“After [Adam] was done naming all the animals, God then created a very special blessing for him—a woman fashioned from Adam's own rib. The connection between them was undeniable. Together they ... formed a family, a complete unit ([Genesis 2] verse 24).”

Whether one is supposed to follow the God-ordained role even when his or her spouse is not is a potentially complex question. In general, yes, we should always live the role God designed us to live. Yet it takes the commitment of both husband and wife to make a marriage relationship succeed. If one spouse refuses to live as God intended, the marriage might not survive, regardless of how godly the other spouse may be.

Of course, no human being is perfect, and everyone will fall short of the ideal. We need to make adjustments for our mates and to forgive, as we also need to be forgiven. But there can be actions—beyond just reasonable shortcomings—on the part of one spouse that can destroy the potential for a successful marriage.

I don't know the specific issues that you are facing in your marriage, but I suspect that our article “[Four Lethal Marriage](#)

[Problems](#)” would be helpful to you at this point. You might want to print it for future reference. As it explains, working through difficulties takes time and effort, as well as a close relationship with God. It's through Him that we can receive the ability to do what we need to do.

Because communication is both an essential part of a healthy marriage and a common problem area, I suggest that you also visit “[The Joys and Challenges of Communication](#)” and the 14 articles in that section. Our website breaks large topics into smaller segments and amplifies each segment to give our readers a full picture. No article is overly long, but rather, each one gets to the heart of the topic it addresses.

Are you dealing with issues involving parenting, health, finances, aging or family? We offer advice on each of these in articles you will find in our “[Relationships](#)” library.

I see that you are not yet a subscriber to our unique magazine, *Discern*. May we give you a subscription? The magazine often features articles on marriage, such as the three in our current issue, “[Who's Looking Up to You?](#)” “[Three Big Threats to Families](#)” and “[Four Keys to Building a Strong Blended Family](#).”

To find still more information, use the search box at the top left of the Life, Hope & Truth website. This searches the thousands of articles, blog posts and videos in our online library. After you have the opportunity to dig into these resources, let me know if I can help with additional questions. ☺

Note: Members of the Church of God can also counsel with their local pastor about marriage problems and other issues.

Kingsley and Janice Mather



In a Church of God, a Worldwide Association member letter dated June 7, 2012, President Jim Franks wrote the following:

“Dear Brethren,

“As I write this letter, I am preparing to leave for Nassau, the Bahamas, for the funeral of Kingsley Mather. Mr. Mather was a loyal and faithful minister of God, serving congregations for more than 40 years, mostly in the Caribbean. He showed great strength of character through the many trials and difficulties the Church has experienced over the years and will be greatly missed.”

Thus a dedicated ministry drew to a close, but Kingsley Mather’s example still serves the Church today. In an interview with his wife, Janice, she shared the journey of their lives together.

Beginnings

Janice Mather (née Kelly) began attending the Worldwide Church of God in 1957 in London, England. Her father, Ronald Kelly, had listened to *The World Tomorrow* broadcast on Radio Luxembourg and requested a visit from a minister. As a result, the London congregation gained a family of four that year.

In the early 1960s Kingsley Mather

listened to *The World Tomorrow* broadcast in his homeland of the Bahamas. Convicted by its message, he asked to meet with a minister from the Worldwide Church of God who would be passing through his area on a baptizing tour. When that didn’t materialize, he made contact with the Church in 1964 in Miami, Florida. He was baptized that same year during the Feast of Tabernacles.

As things happen, Kingsley and Janice met, and in 1968 they were married on the Ambassador College campus in Bricket Wood, England. And so their lifetime of service began.

Home base

“My husband spent his entire ministry working in the Caribbean,” Mrs. Mather recalled. Kingsley started out in Barbados as a ministerial trainee for the Worldwide Church of God and later returned to the Bahamas, assisting Clarence Bass. That move allowed the small group of members in Nassau to go from a monthly Bible study to weekly Sabbath services.

“In 1973, at the Feast of Tabernacles in St. Petersburg, Florida, Kingsley was ordained by Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong, and during the next 10 or 11 years, we served congregations in the Bahamas,

Bermuda and Jamaica,” she continued. “We had scattered members on a number of other Caribbean islands who ... very much appreciated it when we were able to visit them.” It was a busy time.

Eventually, Mr. Mather began working with Arnold Hampton, increasing the scope of his service to Guyana in South America and to new congregations in Jamaica, St. Kitts and Trinidad.

Joy of service

When asked what the two of them enjoyed about serving God’s people, Janice responded that, among other things, they enjoyed “working with families, and watching the growth and development of the children to adulthood. To have blessed them as infants, counseled and perhaps baptized some, performed weddings, and blessed *their babies* was in itself a blessing.”

Inspiring experiences

Mrs. Mather recalled inspiring experiences. One was of witnessing the examples of some members who had unconverted and sometimes antagonistic mates and seeing the positive changes brought about as a result of their dedication to their high calling. Another was being able to give comfort and encouragement when someone seemed

to have reached the lowest point of their life, and then seeing them change and become active, serving Church members.

Family matters

Regarding the ministry and its effects on her family, Janice recounted benefits. "Our son and three daughters cannot remember a time when their father was not a minister, and it did have an impact on their lives." She explained the challenges of achieving and maintaining a balance between family and congregational needs. They worked hard at it, and the family bond remains strong to this day.

Their children had enriching educational opportunities to travel to other countries, "a positive joy for them," she added.

Meeting the guests whom their parents entertained over the years helped their children gain confidence, equipping them with the ability to interact with people in general. "Having Mr. Gerald Waterhouse, Mr. Harold Jackson, Mr. Raymond McNair, Mr. Leon Walker and numerous others sit at our table and share a meal" and "having pleasant conversation is something they still remember."

Legacy

Mrs. Mather ended with an observation concerning their lifetime in the ministry: "One of the biggest lessons we learned while shepherding God's people is that whatever we do for people, and with people, it all has to be done for God. Our reward will come from God. We cannot expect or look for appreciation or even thanks from people. It may or may not come, but if we give God our best efforts in service to His people, that is what really counts." ©©



On the Road Again

The following are the congregations that the Mathers served between 1971 and 2012:

1971 Barbados
1972-1974 Bahamas, Bermuda
1974-1983 Bahamas (Nassau, Freeport),
Jamaica (Kingston)
1983-1995 Bahamas (Nassau, Freeport)

1995-2012 Bahamas (Nassau, Freeport), Jamaica,
St. Kitts, Trinidad, Guyana; also
served as Festival coordinator for the
Bahamas and Jamaica

CHURCH POTLUCK

What's cooking in your congregation?



GREENSBORO SAYS FAREWELL TO FRIEND

It was with mixed emotions that the Greensboro, North Carolina, congregation said good-bye to longtime member Lois Rice on the Sabbath of June 10, 2017. She and her husband have moved to Richmond, Virginia, to be near her family. Needless to say, our faithful sister will be greatly missed. We said good-bye with a special card and a delicious homemade cake.

Ron Kelley

MORGANTOWN CONGREGATION HONORS OLIVER AND GWENDOLYN METZNER

On June 10, 2017 the Morgantown, West Virginia, congregation honored Oliver and Gwendolyn Metzner, who at the ripe old age of 92 and 90, have decided to retire from their weekly church duties. This very special couple has faithfully served God's people for many years.

They began attending in 1964 on the outskirts of Detroit, Michigan, and were both baptized on March 9, 1966. Oliver was ordained a deacon in 1991, and Gwendolyn played hymns and special music for the congregations. She also played for holy days and at the Feast.

Their devotion to service is appreciated not only by the God family but also by the congregations they have served. They were presented with a special cake and gifts. Even though they are retired, they will still always be a great example to everyone they meet.

Sherry Beilstein



EAST TEXAS CONGREGATION HONORS COUPLE'S SERVICE

The East Texas congregation held a reception on June 24, 2017, to honor Ed and Ardith Weiss, who are relocating to Round Rock, Texas, after serving in the area for 48 years. They leave behind a legacy of service! Ed and Ardith married in 1969 and have two children—Kristie (husband Tom Rocheleau), who resides in Round Rock, and Mark (wife Amanda), who resides in Quitman—and five grandchildren.

Ed was ordained a deacon in 1979 and has served in many capacities, including organizing Passover services, work parties, assisting the handicapped, choir director, as well as speaking and leading songs in Sabbath services.

"We really hate to leave the area but are looking forward to our new adventure. We've made lifelong friends. I guess we've been a fixture in this congregation!" commented Ed. He was employed by Ambassador College for 27 years as the golf course supervisor and by Vital Earth as plant manager for 20 years before his recent retirement.

Ardith has served the church area in various ways—as pianist and special music coordinator, as well as conducting seminars on personal relationships and effective public speaking.

"After 48 years in the same church area, it will be hard to leave. The East Texas congregation is extremely dear to us," she said. Ardith received her master's degree in career counseling in 1991. She served as director of Career Services at Ambassador, the University of Texas at Tyler, and Texas College before becoming a professor of speech communication at Jarvis Christian College in 2009 until her retirement in May.

During the hors d'oeuvres reception, brethren had the chance to snap some photos, express appreciation, reminisce together, and bid the Weisses farewell. Ah, yes, the Bard said it best: "Parting is such sweet sorrow."

Dee Trotter



FATHER'S DAY POTLUCK ENJOYED IN AUSTIN

On June 17, 2017, the Austin, Texas, congregation enjoyed a wonderful potluck in celebration of Father's Day weekend. Members brought an abundance of "A-game" snack foods (so many that

there were plenty left over), which were enjoyed along with lively conversation and fellowship.

A great touch to the event were the candy-filled gift bags in the shape of shirts with ties made for each dad by Isabella and Sabrina Slaughter. Pictured is Mr. Slaughter displaying his daughters' handiwork.

Michaela McMillin



GRADUATE: PARKER ANDERSON

Parents' names: Brian and Laura Anderson

Congregation: Fort Worth, Texas

High school accomplishments: Parker graduated from Narrow Gate Christian Academy.

Church activities/hobbies/interests: Parker is the youngest in a family with three sisters. His aptitude for technology and mechanics manifested itself at an early age with the insatiable desire to build things, take things apart, modify them and put them back together again—often times better than they were; other times, not so much. A grease monkey at heart, he enjoys working on cars and has done several different engine swaps, transmission swaps and suspension upgrades for multiple vehicles. He also enjoys building, configuring, upgrading and running servers and desktop computers.

From an early age he has been serving in his congregation and at the Feast on the audiovisual crews. He has attended multiple years of Texas preteen and teen camps, and enjoyed serving on staff for preteen Camp Lone Star. He was an active participant in church volleyball and has successfully fulfilled the requirements to graduate from Teen Speech Club.

Plans after graduation: Parker currently holds a job as an information technology specialist at Payix. He plans to make a career of combining technology with performance cars.



GRADUATE: DESTINY HAYES

Parent's name: Lana Leonard

Congregation: Cleveland, Ohio

High school accomplishments: Destiny completed three years of early college. She served

as scorekeeper and first aid responder for the boys' basketball team. She also received the kindness award.

Church activities/hobbies/interests: Destiny loves to sew and work with computers. Currently, she is a youth supervisor for a digital and graphic design group for St. Clair Superior Development Corporation. She has a desire to travel around the world to meet Church members and learn about their cultures.

Plans after graduation: Destiny wants to become a computer engineer and hopes to travel for work.



BUFFALO HONORS GRADUATES

On June 10, 2017, the Buffalo congregation honored its two graduates that are in the Buffalo, New York, and Toronto, Ontario, congregations.

Justin Archer recently graduated with a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering from Toronto University. His plans are to continue into his field and work in energy generation.

Anne Koenig is a recent graduate of Harbor Creek High School and will be attending Mercyhurst University in Erie, Pennsylvania, in the fall to pursue a history and teaching degree.

Both graduates were presented with presents and a cake from the congregation for their achievements.

Stephan M. Koenig



ST. LOUIS HOLDS SABBATH SCHOOL GRADUATION

On the Sabbath of June 10, 2017, the St. Louis, Missouri, congregation held its annual Sabbath school graduation. A grand total of 21 students happily marched one by one to receive their certificates for a job well done and have their pictures taken with the instructors and staff. This was followed by special music from the children's choir (which included many of the students). They sang with unparalleled enthusiasm—a specialty of the children's choir.

After services, there was a celebratory pizza picnic held in a nearby park. Parents and members sat around and talked, while Bible games and activities were arranged for the children.

Amy Foster

FORT SMITH BRETHREN TAKE HISTORY TOUR

On July 16, 2017, a history tour of Fort Smith, Arkansas, provided a unique opportunity for fellowship and learning for members of three western Arkansas congregations served by Tom Clark. The group also included Sue Schulgin from Birmingham, Alabama, who was visiting members in the area.

The first stop was the Fort Smith Museum of History, where local volunteers portrayed historical local characters of the past.

After the museum tour, some in the group took advantage of the 1940s ice cream parlor and soda fountain located within the museum.

Next, the group boarded an early 20th-century electric streetcar, which took them through the old downtown area, and were treated to a narrated history of the town. They also watched a Western-style shootout between lawmen and outlaws on the streets of a mock-up frontier town.

All had a good time. One individual commented, "To see and hear about the history of the area is a wonderful educational opportunity, and the ability to share the experience with brethren made it even more wonderful."

Aurora Gossett



COLUMBUS-CAMBRIDGE CONGREGATION RECOGNIZES YOUTH

On Sabbath, July 8, 2017, the teens and youths in the Columbus-Cambridge, Ohio, church area were presented with certificates of recognition for participating in the Bible classes and studies. Four teens, aged 13 to 15, and 10 youths, aged 3 to 12, participated this past year. The congregation is proud of the dedication shown to God's Word by both groups.

Denise Hadley

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We encourage members to send announcements to be featured in *One Accord*. We feature events in members' lives, including baptisms, births, engagements, weddings, significant anniversaries (25, 40, 50, 60, etc.), and obituaries. Typically they run between 50 and 100 words; however, we ask that all submissions stay under 250 words. Please submit a high-resolution color photo along with the written copy to your congregation's reporter.

BAPTISMS



Monica Danielle Cameron

Monica Danielle Cameron was baptized on June 17, 2017. It was a very special occasion. The baptism was conducted immediately after services. Everyone was asked to be seated after the final hymn, at which time Ron Kelley came back up and announced that we were going to have a baptism. We did the prayer for the service, read Romans 6, and then went outside on the patio for the actual baptism. The entire Raleigh, North Carolina, congregation was able to witness and be a part of this celebration.

Steve Villaescusa, an elder in the Raleigh congregation, assisted Ron Kelley with the baptism and the laying on of hands.

Ron Kelley

BIRTHS



Madison Grace Dohrmann

Forrest and Karissa Dohrmann of the Dallas, Texas, congregation are proud to announce the birth of their first child. Madison Grace Dohrmann was born July 20, 2017,

at 1:26 a.m. She weighed 6 pounds 13 ounces and was 20 inches long. Both grandmas, Tracy Carter and Robin Dohrmann, are so thankful to have been at the birth of their first grandchild. Both mom and baby girl are healthy and doing well.



Violet Faith Harring

Violet Faith Harring was born July 8, 2017, to Tommy and Zandra Harring. She was 8 pounds 14 ounces and measured 19½ inches long. Tommy and Zandra attend the Columbia, South Carolina, congregation. Violet's maternal grandparents, Jack and Vicki Willoughby, are of Bella Vista, Arkansas, and attend the Bentonville, Arkansas, congregation. Her paternal grandparents are Tom and Marsha Harring of Lexington, South Carolina.



Josué Torres Contreras

Alejandro Torres and Yolanda Contreras, from the San Luis Potosí, Mexico, congregation, are pleased to announce the birth of their second son, Josué Torres Contreras, who was born on Sept. 18, 2016, at 3:15 p.m., weighing 3.5 kilograms. The family and their congregation are

very pleased with the arrival of this new member, who makes his parents and his elder brother Saul very happy.

WEDDINGS



Julius and Isabella Min

Julius Rowe Min and Isabella Sein were united in marriage at a family gathering in Louisville, Kentucky, on Sunday, July 16, 2017. The ceremony was performed by their pastor, Ron Kelley. The happy couple resides in Chapel Hill, North Carolina.

Ron Kelley



Linda and John Wilcox

On May 7, 2017, John Wilcox of the Columbus-Cambridge, Ohio, congregation and Linda Rosier of the Clarksville, Maryland, congregation were united in marriage. Lyle Welty performed the ceremony at the home of Janice Noel. After nearly three years of a long-distance relationship, John and Linda determined it was time to spend the remainder of their lives together. John and Linda will be relocating to Bedford, Virginia, and will be attending the Roanoke, Virginia, congregation.

Denise Hadley

Tribute



Manuel Quijano

ordained minister in Peru and the newly appointed pastor.

Manuel came in contact with the Church of God when he was 13. Up to that time, Manuel's parents were attending a Pentecostal church. One of the members there began to receive *The Plain Truth* and shared it with others. Several members of that congregation, including Manuel and his parents, understood the truth of God and began attending the Worldwide Church of God.

Manuel was well-respected by all of his family. He was always "different" from the rest in a positive way. Even with those outside the Church, Manuel had a very good reputation. The day of the funeral many neighbors came to say good-bye to someone they saw as an excellent person.

Manuel went to Ambassador College in Pasadena, California, for two years and graduated in May 1990. After graduation Manuel went back to Peru to assist in the Church office and to help the pastor. Manuel

Manuel Quijano was born Sept. 5, 1963, the first child of Juan Quijano Guzman and Zoraida de la Cruz Perez.

In addition to his parents, he is also survived by four brothers and a sister. His brothers are Roberto, Juan, Ever and José. His sister, Maribel, is married to Carlos Saavedra, the other

married Clara Ramirez Pezo on Oct. 17, 1992. Manuel and Clara have a son who is also a member of the Church: Alec Quijano. Clara and Alec are very active in the Church and plan to be that way for life, continuing the legacy and great example of Manuel.

Manuel was ordained to the ministry of Jesus Christ on May 6, 1995. He served the congregations in Peru as pastor for 22 years.

"Manuel was a faithful and dedicated servant," said Leon Walker, regional director for the Spanish-speaking areas. "He loved his family and provided for them. He loved the Church and was deeply committed to serving the members. He stood strong and resolute during the two major crises in the Church—in 1995 and in 2010. The congregations in Peru remained faithful to God during these and other crises under the humble but strong leadership that Manuel provided. ... He will be greatly missed."

Manuel was a very converted person and a true minister of God. He was loyal to his friends, humble to everyone and strong in his convictions about the truth of God.

Manuel had been fighting liver cancer for several months, but succumbed to a powerful infection June 16, 2017.

Before his death, Manuel wrote:

"When I think about this—the sickness—I want to run this race with even more guts. I want to make sure I will finish well. I want to be in that great reunion that will take place at the seventh trumpet. I want to see there all of my brothers and sisters who ran with me side by side and now they are waiting for the first resurrection. If I have to die, I also want to see all of you at the end. ...

"Never stop in this walk of life which will take us to that great and wonderful reunion."

Saul Langarica

OBITUARIES



Wanda Rand

Wanda Rand, 98, of the Miami, Florida, congregation died on June 11, 2017. She was born on March 19, 1919, the third of three children of Frank and Josie Zasucha. Frank and Josie emigrated from Poland in the early 1900s and settled in Aberdeen, Washington. She married Charles Preston Rand

in September of 1939, and they were married for 42 years.

She started attending church in 1962 and was baptized in the Wishkah River in Aberdeen. She attended church there, and then the Ocala, Florida, church for several years. She moved to South Florida in 2002 and attended the Miami, West Palm Beach and Fort Myers churches when able.

Wanda was active in her retirement community of Century Village. She was in the chorale and bridge club, and she studied piano and painting. She loved to dance and regularly attended the Saturday night dances until about a year ago.

Survivors include sons Richard (Judy) of Coconut Creek, Florida, and Roger (Jackie) of Hickory, North Carolina; daughters Janis (Vince) Gallagher of Sun City West, Arizona, and Barbara (Dan) Rogers, of Henderson, Nevada; and many friends. She leaves 10 grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

A graveside service was held on June

19 in Deerfield Beach and was officiated by Jim Haeffele, pastor of the Miami, West Palm Beach and Fort Myers congregations.

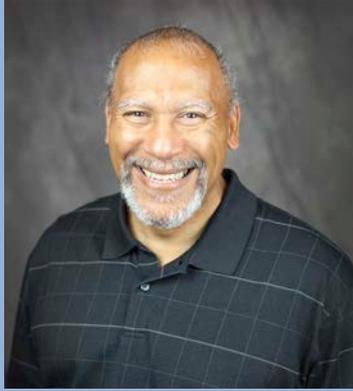
Linda Bacheller



Albert Andrusky

Albert Andrusky, 94, a member of the Meadville, Pennsylvania, congregation, died May 10, 2017, after a period of declining health. Mr. Andrusky and his

Tribute



Todd O'Brien Carey

wide receiver and was inducted into the Clark County Hall of Fame in 2006.

He attended Frostburg State University where he played football and graduated in 1981 with a bachelor of science degree in speech communication and history. Todd was later employed as a counselor working with exceptional children.

Todd came into the Church in Winchester, Virginia, in the early 1980s.

On May 24, 1987, Todd married Gloria Jean Simmons. They shared 30 beautiful years of marriage and were blessed with two sons, Justin and Bronson.

In 1988 Todd and Gloria moved to Pasadena, California, where Todd attended Ambassador College. Upon graduation in 1991, Todd was sent into the field ministry in the Detroit area. He was ordained on April 18, 1992—serving 25 years in the ministry.

He served in Detroit and Ann Arbor, Michigan, and Indianapolis, Indiana. Then in 1996, they moved to Virginia, where Todd served as pastor of the Williamsburg, Virginia, and Salisbury, Maryland, congregations for the past 21 years.

When he was diagnosed with ALS earlier this year, he

Todd O'Brien Carey was born Nov. 2, 1958, in Berryville, Virginia, to Irma Jackson Carey and the late Charles Alexander Carey Sr.

Todd graduated from Clarke County High School in Berryville, where he excelled in football, basketball and track. He was a star

was expected to live a few years with this condition before it became life-threatening. But he died without warning May 15.

Jim Franks, president of COGWA, said, "It is hard to describe the value and contribution of someone like Todd Carey. Todd was a genuine Christian, filled with love and joy for the work and the people of God. You could always count on a big smile, a hug and a word of encouragement. In all my years, I don't believe I have ever known anyone who could do more to light up a room and make everyone feel loved.

"The Church will miss Todd as a pastor; members will miss him as a true shepherd and his friends will miss him as a real brother.

"On a personal level I will miss Todd's encouraging emails and phone calls. He was an exceptional camp director and Church pastor."

Mark Winner, a close friend in the ministry, said, "When I think about Todd and his example, I can't help but think about the fruit of the Spirit.

"Todd was an encourager. He was patient, kind and what I believe is one of the most beautiful traits to be found in a man of God—gentle."

Dempsey Bruton, an elder in the congregations he served, said, "Mr. Carey worked tirelessly to strengthen us as Christians, and as congregations, to endure difficult times such as these. For that and for his shining personal example as a leader and fellow worker who lived what he preached, we are very thankful.

"Mr. Carey's deep love for the brethren, which came from a pure heart and a sincere faith, gave him the strength, desire and love to set an example that we can follow. We knew Mr. Carey loved us, which helped everything else fall into place."

His wife, Gloria, and sons said, "We will always remember him as a fun-loving father and husband. He lived like he died, full of zeal for God's work."

Doug Horchak

wife, Jessie (known to friends and family as "Mickie"), were baptized as members of God's Church in 1971. After over 50 years of marriage, Mrs. Andrusky died in January 2005.

Mr. Andrusky is survived by his daughter, Holly, and her husband, Bruce Courtney (a deacon in the Meadville congregation); his son, Roger and his wife, Carolyne (also members in Meadville); four grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; and other extended family members.

Albert Andrusky was known for his easy laugh and affable personality, not to mention his harmonica playing at many a relaxed church country music "jam" session! He took pleasure in spending time with his physical and Church families and will be much missed.

Funeral services were conducted

in Mercer, Pennsylvania, on May 16 by pastor Doug Johnson, with family eulogies given by Bruce Courtney and Roger Andrusky.

Doug Johnson



Marie Dolinar

Marie Dolinar, 74, of the Buffalo, New York, congregation, died of a massive stroke on June 23, 2017. She

was the devoted mother of Cathy (Donald) Zanelotti and Tad (Kristina) Dolinar, grandmother of Christopher Roy, sister of Tommy, and aunt of many nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by her son-in-law, Donald Roy, and siblings, Clara and Martin.

Marie came to know God's Church through a friend who invited her to a local open Bible study in the mid-1970s. From then on, she served her congregations with humility and love throughout the years and even into the days before her death. Often she would resemble the example of Tabitha in Acts in her devotion to serving God's people.

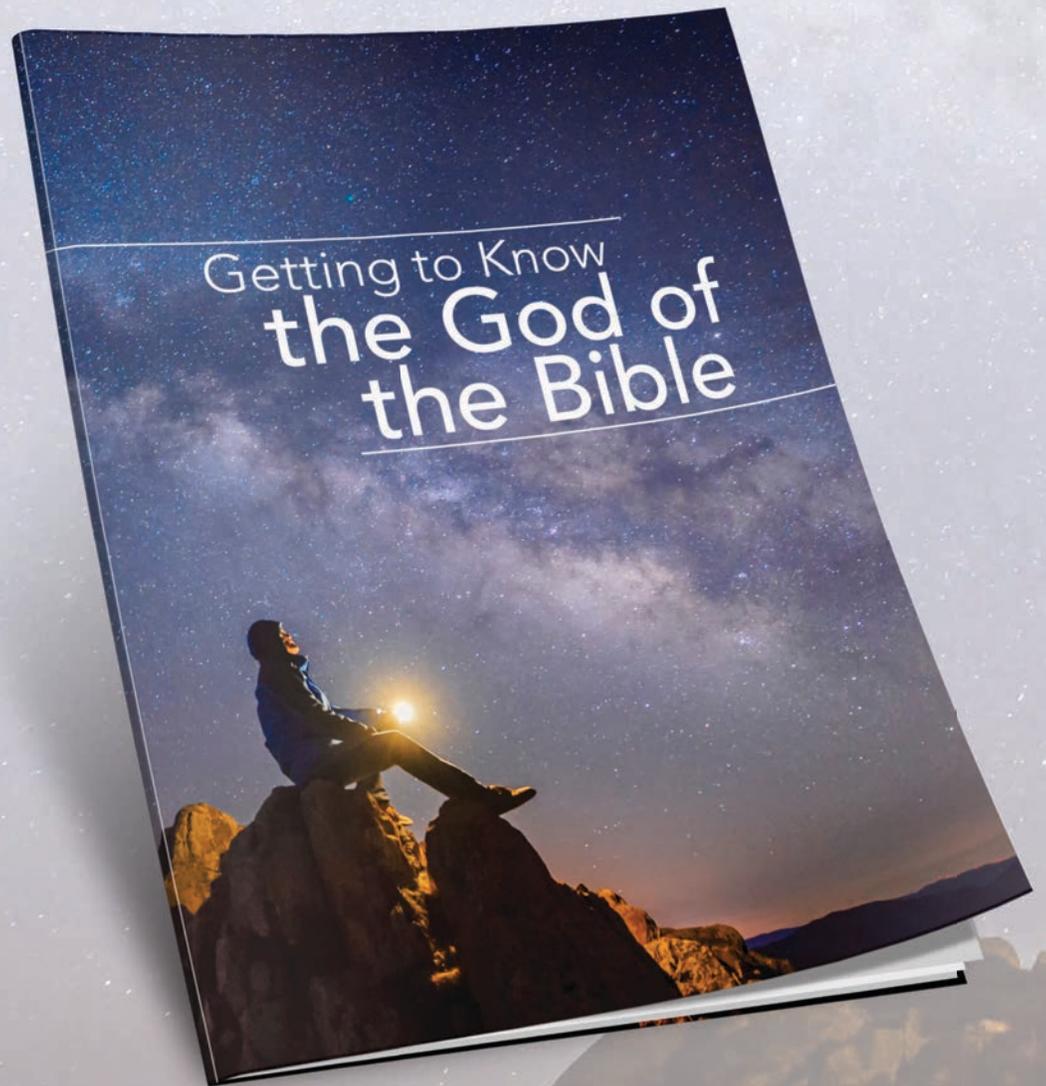
Stephan M. Koenig

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