

# OneAccord

May 2018

## BRANSON PRESIDENTS' DAY FAMILY WEEKEND

Foundation Outreach International | New Zealand Campers Enjoy  
Advancing a World of Good | Fellowship and More



# personal from the president

## The Sabbath, an Island in Time

I cannot remember when I began keeping the Sabbath. In fact, I cannot remember when I *did not* keep the Sabbath. I was 2 years of age when my mother came into the knowledge of the Sabbath, which she embraced immediately. That was more than 65 years ago. The Sabbath has been a very important part of my life, and my understanding of its meaning has deepened over the years based on age and life experience.

When I was a child, we observed the Sabbath very strictly. We really had little that we could do on that day, since there was no church to attend. The closest congregation to our home in Arkansas was either Gladewater, Texas (400 miles away) or Chicago, Illinois (more than 500 miles away).

We kept the Sabbath at home. We had our meals together, my mother read to us from the Church's literature, and we would take a walk around the farm as the sun set. Even though I was a little boy with a tremendous amount of energy, it was easy to honor and respect the Sabbath because of the way my mother presented it to us.

As a teenager, I was able to attend services, which really took over our Sabbaths. No longer were they as restful and peaceful, but they were exciting and full of happiness. We had friends and other families in the Church to spend time with. We had afternoon services in Memphis, but we always arrived early, at least one hour before services. We left home around noon and normally did not return until 9 or 10 in the evening. Travel in the 1960s was different from what it's like today. We had few freeways, and even though the trip to Memphis was only 35 miles, it took more than an hour over busy two-lane highways.

After leaving Ambassador College as a young ministerial trainee (only 22 years of age), I married my wife, and we began a family. Our first daughter was born in 1975. My Sabbaths were now filled with Church work. While our children were growing up, I was a pastor in Georgia and New England. For many years, we traveled a circuit between two congregations every Sabbath. Our goal was always to have a Friday night family dinner to usher in the Sabbath.

For some time we took our three girls to both services each Sabbath, but soon we realized this wasn't really giving them the best Sabbath experience. The Sabbath was becoming more of a burden than a delight, so we started a practice of having them attend only one service. Since we lived between the two

congregations, we took them to the morning service and dropped them off at home for the afternoon. Or we left them at home in the morning and then picked them up for the second service. This also gave them an opportunity to spend quality time on the Sabbath with their mother.

Today our children are gone from the home, leaving my wife and me to celebrate the Sabbath by ourselves. We still try to get together with our family on Friday nights whenever we are in town. Sometimes I can attend services in Dallas without a speaking assignment, making for an especially restful Sabbath.

Years ago, I read a book titled *To Be a Jew* by Rabbi Hayim Halevy Donin. I have never forgotten the chapter he wrote on the Sabbath. He referred to the Sabbath as an "island in time." While he did not quote the New Testament, he really echoed the words of Jesus Christ: "The Sabbath was made for man and not man for the Sabbath" (Mark 2:27). God doesn't need a day of rest, but it is important for man.

As members of God's Church, we must never neglect the Sabbath (Exodus 20:8). Whether the Sabbath has been part of your life for many decades or you are fairly new to its observance, I encourage you to embrace it. And I hope that as you go through the various stages of life your appreciation for the Sabbath will grow only deeper. And as society gets more complex, we must constantly examine our conduct and how we observe this holy day that was established from creation. It is indeed like an island in time, an island of peace in the midst of a chaotic world.



**Jim Franks**

President

Church of God, a Worldwide Association



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## CHURCH of GOD

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# Branson Presidents' Day Family Weekend

By Mike Blackwell



Over 400 excited Church members descended on Branson the weekend of Feb. 16-18 for our annual Presidents' Day Family Weekend. In attendance were people from 15 states, who gathered to have fun, fellowship, learn, and worship the Creator together. The theme for this year's weekend was taken from 2 Peter 1:5-8: "If these things be in you, and abound" (King James Version).

New friends were made and old friendships were renewed, beginning with the opening evening reception that was enjoyed by over 300. The fellowship continued at the delicious catered barbecue dinner after Sabbath services and then at the pizza party on Sunday evening. Enthusiastic fellowship occurred during every window of opportunity. It was truly a time of rejoicing together.

The nine seminars presented by area ministers were heavily attended. And a total of 399 worshipped together at Sabbath services at the White House Theatre. Saturday night was full of fun with the family dance and the kids' carnival. And on Sunday there were more seminars and more fun at Branson's Wild World attraction and at the







game night that accompanied the pizza party.

This year all events, with the exception of the events that occurred at the White House Theatre on Sabbath afternoon and Saturday evening, took place at our new home, the Branson Grand Plaza Hotel. This made it much easier and more convenient to fellowship with everyone at the same hotel.

About 15 percent of those attending were “first-timers” for the Branson Family Weekend, while about 8 percent said they attended the very first one, held in December 1995. About 420 people participated in the weekend, but we had eight to 10 families who had to cancel at the last minute because of sickness.

Judging by comments made by those who attended the weekend, it was a huge success! Comments overheard frequently included, “This is a great midwinter pick-me-up between the festivals,” and “This is like a miniature Feast of Tabernacles.”

Plans for the 2019 Presidents’ Day Family Weekend are already underway. It will be held Feb. 15-18 at the Grand Plaza Hotel in Branson. We hope it will be the biggest and best yet, and we hope you will join us! ☺☺





# Upper Midwest Family Weekend Focuses on Honor



Attendees at this year's annual Families Glorifying God Weekend enjoyed fun, fellowship and a focus on honor.

**By Barbara Lee**



**H**ow often do we think about honor? The Fifth Commandment comes to mind immediately for most of us.

At the annual Families Glorifying God Weekend, held March 16-18 in the Twin Cities, Minnesota, we learned a lot more about the subject of honor through the weekend's theme "Honoring One Another." The theme was based on 1 Peter 2:17: "Honor all people. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honor the king."

The weekend began with a Friday evening Bible study presented by Dave Myers, our guest speaker for the weekend. Mr. Myers presented the subject "Honor, the Forgotten Virtue." Honor is a word that is rarely used in our contemporary culture. In the Bible study Mr. Myers examined what honor means and why it is expected in the life of a Christian.

Our 50-degree warmth on the Sabbath was welcome, so we didn't even have a snowstorm to share with our guests!

Sabbath services began at 1 p.m., with our instrumental ensemble accompanying the song service. Two pieces of special music were presented—a flute duet and a vocal duet. Then Mr. Myers continued the discussion of honor with his sermon, titled "Honor, a Christian Responsibility." God requests that we show the virtue of honor to others. Who must we give honor to, and how do we do so?

After services, snacks were served. Once everyone had eaten, the young children participated in Sabbath school activities, while the teens and adults attended the seminars.

For the first seminar, the men and women met separately. Cory Erickson presented the men's seminar: "Honor in Our Manifest Roles." As Christian leaders, men should honor God,



first and foremost, but also the many diverse groups of people in the Body of Christ.

Pam Myers presented the women's seminar: "Building a Godly Reputation."

Everyone came back together for the second seminar, which included some interaction. It was presented by Gary Black and titled "The First Commandment With Promise." Showing honor to fathers and mothers is fundamental for any stable society. It is also vital in God's Church. We discussed how we can better honor our parents, whether we are young or old.

Following the seminars, a catered chicken dinner was served. For dessert, there were two cakes decorated with 1 Peter 2:17, our theme for the weekend.

Following sunset, we began with games for the children: a bouncy house, Ping-Pong and cornhole. At the same time, there was a themed family dance. Brethren were invited to dress according to their favorite era of music. The '50s seemed to be the most famous decade, with many sporting the "Elvis look" or poodle skirts. Many teens and young adults celebrated their own decade with dress from Pink or Bruno Mars.

Sunday morning we met at a local community center. About 48 participants enjoyed swimming, volleyball, basketball, cards and fellowship. They also enjoyed a tasty Philly cheesesteak sandwich lunch.

George and Kara Pelesikoti organized the weekend, with assistance from many in the congregation. Thanks to all who made the weekend a great success! @ @





# Foundation Outreach International

## Advancing a World of Good

By David Register



According to the National Center for Charitable Statistics (NCCS), there are more than 1½ million nonprofit organizations in the United States. This number includes churches, public charities, private foundations, universities and other types of registered nonprofit organizations.

NCCS reports that Americans are the most generous people in the world. According to [givingusa.org](http://givingusa.org), Americans contribute almost \$400 billion a year to charitable causes. They also volunteer in great numbers. Approximately 25 percent of those over the age of 16 volunteered through or for a charitable organization between 2010 and 2014.

Interestingly enough, religious organizations received the largest share of those donations and volunteer help. Approximately 32 percent of all donations go to churches. Educational institutions are a distant second with 15 percent, and human service organizations come in third with 12 percent.

I recall the day I learned about volunteerism and how important it is. Our family was asked to help clean and paint a widow's house. I was only 12, but I remember the joy our collective effort brought to that widow and the fun we had working together! Since then, I have volunteered for many service projects, charitable fund-raisers, and efforts to serve the needy. I know many of you also serve others in these ways. We are Christians. We follow the example and commands of God and Jesus Christ. He served and even paid the ultimate price for all of mankind in that spirit of service (John 15:13).

But some, when asked to volunteer for a service project or contribute to a charitable cause, will say, "I tithe. Isn't that enough?"

Is it? In Luke 17:10 we read what Christ said: "So you also, when you have done all that you were commanded, say, 'We are unworthy servants; we have only done what was our duty'" (English Standard Version).

Have you ever found yourself wanting to do more—to go beyond what is commanded? Haven't we all seen the pictures of starving children, people displaced by natural disasters and war, or needy individuals who need help? Let's face it; anyone who has a heart wants to help. But too often the solution to those problems seems beyond what one person can do to make a difference. So, we often just try to put it out of our minds and go about our regular routine.

Of course, many of us do volunteer and support charities and service projects. We go above and beyond what is required of us. And, yes, we all still want to do more (Matthew 5:16; 1 Peter 2:11-12).





## The vision for a charity

Decades ago, the Church of God saw the need to create a charitable organization that could do good works with contributions and volunteers from our membership and donors. The vision for this charity was to assist the members of the Church in helping other members and the world receive financial and humanitarian aid, without taking tithe funds that finance the primary work of the Church—preaching the gospel and caring for congregational needs. Donors would have confidence the money raised would not be spent on high administrative costs—salaries of highly paid CEOs, board members and employees.

The Church of God, a Worldwide Association, supports the charity we call Foundation Outreach International (FOI). The foundation is a separate and legal 501(c)(3) charity registered with the IRS. All the board members are unpaid volunteers, and contributions made to FOI are used for our projects. All of our volunteers freely give of their time and energy to support the foundation's projects.

FOI's international projects range from teaching children and members at camps to a 10-month teaching opportunity in schools in Amman, Jordan. These international projects provide opportunities for volunteers to not only assist and gain experience, but also give them exposure to international travel in developing countries. Some of the countries where we currently sponsor projects are Zimbabwe, Zambia, Malawi, Ghana, Nigeria, Kenya, Philippines, Jordan and Rwanda.

Our scholarship program assists needy students in attending vocational schools, colleges and universities all over the world. We recognize that education is an important key to lifelong success for deserving young people, especially in emerging economies.

We also sponsor programs like Hilltop Outreach and Embark, which involve hundreds of volunteers in service projects, charity fund-raisers and mentoring programs. (See [foundationoutreachintl.org](http://foundationoutreachintl.org) for more detailed information and applications.)

## How can you help?

"How can I help?" several have asked. There are a number of ways you can help and be involved in FOI's projects. First, you can pray for the success of our projects and God's protection for our volunteers. Conditions can change quickly anywhere in the world, and we all know the best safeguard against unexpected and dangerous situations is God's protection. You can also pray for more donors for our programs.

Second, you can volunteer. Go to our website and see the many opportunities available. You can volunteer as an organizer or participant of a service project or fund-raiser with Hilltop Outreach. You can volunteer to be a mentor (guide) for a high school student with Embark. Or you can volunteer for one of our international projects. Frankly, there is no age restriction for any of our projects, although we recognize that young adults often have more discretionary time during school breaks to help out with our international projects.

Third, you can contribute financially. Your donations are always welcome and are tax-deductible. Some of you may work for companies that match charitable giving. Check with your employer to see if your donations to FOI could be matched. In this way you can double what you give to our worthwhile projects!

In summary, we need your prayers, help and support. Our goal is to assist our Church members and donors and help in creating "a world of good" for others. Go to [foundationoutreachintl.org/get-involved](http://foundationoutreachintl.org/get-involved). Join us in reaching out to our brethren and the world with good works! @@







# New Zealand Campers Enjoy Fellowship and More

**T**his year the New Zealand youth camp was held at the peaceful and relaxing Moirs Point Christian Centre in Mangawhai Heads. Throughout the four-day camp, we were given the opportunity to discuss and practice the camp's main theme of sincere fellowship. We learned, for instance, that gossiping or using "fellowship" to advertise products or such isn't fellowship at all.

We engaged in various activities, such as:

- Being split up into three groups and assigned a story on David. We were able to share lessons we learned through either a song or a group speech.
- Individual impromptu speeches explaining a fruit of the Spirit. This activity reminded us of the importance of these qualities in our daily life.
- Interactive Bible studies on such topics as the importance of keeping God's Commandments, the meanings of names, honoring and dishonoring God, and true fellowship.

- A fun game called Bible baseball. We were split into two opposing teams, each eager to answer enough questions to hit the most home runs!
- Songleading, where we all had a chance to select and lead a hymn.
- Kayaking in a calm area of the water. It was relaxing and beautiful to see the blue water with the trees and mountains in the background.
- Heading down a long, slippery, soapy waterslide.

The fourth day quickly came around the corner, and we were not ready to head home just yet.

We are so thankful that we were given a wonderful place to fellowship together and are even more grateful that a few of our older members joined us and helped out by preparing delightful lunches and dinners, as well as organizing the awesome activities. We really look forward to another camp!

**Nikita Mahe, Erika Mahe, Loraine Pelesikoti, Athena Nonoy and Timothy Siopan**





## ATLANTA HONORS GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY COUPLE

Roger and Lindy McKinney celebrated 50 years of marriage on June 17, 2017. The Atlanta congregation served cake and presented flowers with well-wishes and congratulations for such a milestone.

The McKinneys were married in 1967 in the small town of Maurepas, Louisiana. They started attending God's Church in July 1968 in New Orleans and were ordained a deacon and deaconess on the Feast of Trumpets in 1991. They have a daughter, Laurie Sutton; a granddaughter, Ashlei Jarrette; and a great-grandson, Anderson Scott Jarrette.

**Chant'a Collier**



## COLUMBIA HOSTS FUN SHOW TO REMEMBER

The annual Columbia, Missouri, church fun show on Jan. 13 contained 10 acts, starting with an original song called "Welcome to the Fun Show." It was performed by a family of five to a musical duet of a guitar and a glockenspiel.

After that, the fun continued as our master of ceremonies, Ray Harris, not only introduced the acts but also kept us laughing. He even joined in, singing a song for the seventh act. The "town gossip" appeared between skits and songs, telling the MC about little incidents that had the audience laughing.

We also had jazz music on the piano and then "views on aging" that were as funny as they were true. All of it came together in a fun show that was touching, thought-provoking, and lighthearted. Despite the small size, the members were able to create a fun show to remember.

**Shalynn Mellerup**



## LILLIE MAHONE TURNS 91

On April 1, 2018, Lillie Mahone, a longtime member of God's Church, turned 91. Last year on the Sabbath afternoon of April 1, 2017, the Indianapolis, Indiana, congregation honored Mrs. Mahone on her 90th birthday.

After services she was presented with a cake, a card signed by the congregation and a beautiful wooden music box that plays her favorite piece of classical music, "Clair de Lune."

Mrs. Mahone has served for many years as a deaconess in the Indianapolis congregation. She is known by most of the congregation as "Mom" or "Grandma Lillie." Her wonderful sense of humor and love and concern for everyone is a hallmark of her personality. She is active in a card ministry, making sure those who are suffering from illness or who have lost a loved one receive cards of encouragement through their personal trials.

**Jada A. Howell**





## DALLAS HOSTS 16 FOR FMP WEEKEND

Couples from eight different church areas around the U.S. traveled to the Church office in Allen for two days of training with the Focused Mentoring Program on March 16-18. The following couples participated (pictured from left):

- Tom and Molly May, Tulsa, Oklahoma.
- Chris and Rebekah Leyden, Kalamazoo, Michigan.
- Jeff and Nancy Baker, Asheville, North Carolina.
- Dustin and Jana Ellison, Minneapolis/St. Paul, Minnesota.
- Dennis and Lyndi Fultz, Bentonville, Arkansas.
- Larry and Shirlene Solomon, Gladewater, Texas.
- Joel and Patricia Waterhouse, Tallahassee, Florida.
- Marty and Ashley Miller, Akron, Ohio.

Pastors selected couples based on their current experience in serving the congregation. All of the couples chosen for the Focused Mentoring Program understand that the goal is for

them to become familiar with the pastoral side of the ministry and gain knowledge that would benefit them in their service to the Church in the years ahead.

During this training weekend, couples had various classes, such as “The Heart of a Servant,” “Learning From Our Mistakes” and “The Importance of Character and Integrity.”

In addition to spending time with the pastors and wives during this period, Ministerial Services conducts live webinars for the FMP couples once a month on Sunday mornings.

We believe this yearlong experience will have a positive impact on all of the couples as they continue to engage in service to God’s people. In addition, we believe and hope that it will be from these couples that God will call men who can serve as future pastors in the Church of God, a Worldwide Association.

**Doug Horchak**

## NORTH CAROLINA SUPER SOCIAL DRAWS CROWD

Every year the North Carolina congregations hold a “Super Social,” where members from Asheville, Greensboro, Hickory and Raleigh all come together in High Point, North Carolina. Often visitors also travel from the neighboring states of Virginia and South Carolina.

The 2018 Super Social took place during the weekend of Feb. 23-25. About 100 people enjoyed the Friday night dinner at the Holiday Inn, and 211 members attended services on the Sabbath.

Sabbath morning, David Baker presented his travels in Asia and introduced the Church members in that part of the world. The sermon was given by Ron Kelley, the pastor for Raleigh, Greensboro and Hickory. Dinner and a variety of activities, including basketball and volleyball, followed services. The last members trickled out at 10 p.m., gratified by the full day of fellowship. Another seminar followed on Sunday morning to conclude the beautiful weekend.

**Haven Swanson**







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.

## Ordinations



**Nathan Jines**

The Henderson, Kentucky, congregation is excited to announce that on Jan. 27, 2018, Nathan Jines was ordained a deacon. Nathan first started attending the Church in 2005 and later married Holly (Haley) Jines. Both were baptized in 2010. The Jines have two little girls (Addie and Kylie). Nathan and Holly have been an integral part of the Henderson congregation with their generosity and unceasing willingness to help.

**Angela Onstott**



**Wayne and Elsie Sanders**

The New Orleans, Louisiana, congregation was pleased to witness the ordinations of Wayne and Elsie Sanders as deacon and deaconess respectively. The ceremony was conducted at weekly Sabbath services on June 17, 2017. Pastor Phillip Sandilands and elder Rick Avent laid hands on and prayed for each individually.

Wayne and Elsie were married June 13, 1976—back in the days of the Worldwide Church of God. Wayne was baptized in December 1976, and Elsie was baptized in June 1977. They have since served in multiple ways under several pastors.

The Sanders have six children and 12 grandchildren scattered over the U.S., all of whom attend with COGWA. Three of their sons give sermonettes. Wayne Sanders nervously gave his first sermonette on Dec. 16, 2017.

**Buford Louque**

## Baptisms



**Lynette Baker**

Lynette Baker of the Beloit, Wisconsin, congregation was baptized Dec. 2, 2017. The baptism was conducted by the Beloit pastor, Michael Hanisko, after Sabbath services.

The congregation was invited to attend the baptism at the church hall. After the baptism, a delicious spaghetti dinner was served with a variety of desserts. There were also beautiful table decorations that included different fruit of the Spirit and an Ephesians 4:16 banner that hung in the dining area. Everyone enjoyed the food and fellowship as they welcomed Lynette into the family of God.

**Kristen Mazza**



**Andrea Saraí Juárez Alvarado**

On Saturday night, March 17, the young Andrea Saraí Juárez Alvarado was baptized into the Body of Christ, surrounded by her family and friends from the congregation of San Luis Potosí, Mexico. The baptism and the laying on of hands were performed by her pastor, Adán Langerica. After the ceremony, those present congratulated Andrea Juárez for such an important decision, exchanging hugs with tears of joy.

Her parents, members of the Church of God for many years, did not hide their joy about the decision made by the second of their three children. On behalf of all her brethren in the faith, we welcome her to the family of the Church of God!

**Jorge Iván Garduño**



**Darren and Becky Waukau with their daughters**

On Thursday, Feb. 8, 2018, both Darren and Becky Waukau were baptized



at the Radisson Hotel in Chelmsford, Massachusetts. They currently live in Tyngsboro and attend the Lowell congregation with their four children: Audrey, Adele, Hazel and Penelope.

Paul Suckling, pastor of the Leicester and Lowell congregations, performed the ceremony along with the laying on of hands, assisted by Dan Boulanger (Becky's father) and George Serpa. It was a very special occasion for the whole family.

**Lorraine Daudelin**

## Births



**Jacob William Pavlik**

Matt and Erica Pavlik from the Cleveland, Ohio, congregation are happy to announce the birth of their son, Jacob William. Jacob was born on Dec. 20, 2017, at 8:07 p.m. He weighed 9 pounds and was 21 inches long.

Jacob is the fifth grandchild on each side of the family, but he is the first grandson of Dave and Terry Pavlik of the Akron/Canton, Ohio, congregation.

Jacob is adored by his whole family, especially by new big sister Hailey!

**Erica Pavlik**



**Jeremy Clark Davis**

Kyle and Amy Davis of the Twin Cities, Minnesota, congregation are pleased to announce the birth of their fourth child, Jeremy Clark Davis. Jeremy was born on Jan. 19, 2018, at 6:15 a.m. He weighed 8 pounds 14 ounces and was 21 inches long. He was born so

quickly that his dad delivered him while the midwives were still on their way! His big brother and two big sisters are excited about their new little brother!

**Barbara Lee**



**Jared Antoine Johnson Sturup**

Jasmin and Antoine Sturup of the Nassau, Bahamas, congregation are pleased to announce the birth of their first child, Jared Antoine Johnson Sturup. Jared was born July 4, 2017, weighing 4 pounds 15 ounces.

Jared attended his first Feast at Lake Harmony, Pennsylvania. On the second Sabbath after the Feast (Oct. 21, 2017) proud family members, including great-grandmothers and grandparents, crowded the little hall of the Nassau, Bahamas, congregation to witness the blessing of Jared by Arnold Hampton, pastor of the Bahamas congregation.

The little Nassau, Bahamas, congregation is happy to have this newest addition to our family.

**Sharlene Johnson**



**Obadiah Zander Delaney**

Obadiah Zander Delaney, 7 pounds 10 ounces and 20 inches long, was born Feb. 24, to Noah and Briere Delaney. Obadiah is the couple's third boy, joining Elijah and Zebediah Delaney. Briere has been a longtime attendee of the Buffalo, New York, congregation and is part of the Kester family.

**Stephan Koenig**

## Weddings



**Daniel and Myrlande Vernaud**

Sunday, May 28, 2017, was a picture-perfect afternoon, and the gardens of the British Colonial Hilton Hotel in Nassau, Bahamas, were a beautiful setting for the wedding of Myrlande Pierre and Daniel Vernaud.

The ceremony was conducted in both English and French by Arnold Hampton, regional director for the Caribbean, and Joel Meeker, regional director for the French-speaking work. Myrlande is a member of the Nassau congregation, and Daniel is a member of the congregation in Switzerland.

After the ceremony, the 90-plus guests (including friends and family members from Switzerland, the United States and the Caribbean) assembled inside the hotel for a delicious four-course meal. During the reception, guests were able to view a slide presentation of Myrlande and Daniel, put together by Jean-Marc Vernaud, Daniel's brother.

The bridal party included Elaine Vilsaint (sister of the bride and matron of honor), Scarlet Ellis (friend of the bride from Texas), Sandra Leblanche (sister of the groom) and Michelle Lubin (friend of the bride). Groomsmen were Jean-Marc Vernaud, Andrew Joseph (brother of the bride) and Sebastian Leblanche (brother-in-law of the groom).

Myrlande is the daughter of Marie Pierre, and Daniel is the son of Jean-Pierre and Marguerite Vernaud of Trèlex, Switzerland.

The couple honeymooned in Canada and the U.S.A. and now reside in Bière, Switzerland.

We here in the Bahamas are sad



to lose Myrlande from our small congregation, but wish her and Daniel all the best as they begin their new lives together as one.

**Sharlene Johnson**



**Reggie and Danielle Sinon**

Fluffy clouds, a blue sky and a gentle breeze enhanced the festivities as Danielle Caudle, daughter of Jeff Caudle and Lisa Roe Brown, and Reggie Sinon, son of Chuck and Deneen Sinon, were married on Feb. 11. Seated on the bank of the saltwater lagoon at the home of the groom's parents in New Port Richey, Florida, approximately 140 family members and friends attended the outdoor ceremony, with Andy Burnett, pastor of the Dallas, Texas, congregation, officiating.

Danielle's sister Gabi was maid of honor. Reggie's sister Miriam, Tammy Cartwright and Kayla Beltran attended Danielle as bridesmaids. Reggie's younger brother Mitchel was best man. Other groomsmen were Glade Pennington, Jake Stoner and Donald Stoner. Isabelle, daughter of Bill and Melissa Hudson, was the flower girl.

Danielle and Reggie first met at Winter Camp in 2012, and both are now baptized members of the Church.

The reception, which included a catered meal, was held under a large tent. Gabi ended her toast to the happy couple by playing the ukulele while singing "Turned to Stone," the song Reggie and Danielle first danced to. Mitchel also toasted them, highlighting some of the more humorous events of their friendship over the years. The

bride's father and the groom's father concluded with heartfelt remarks.

Following a brief honeymoon, the couple resides in Gainesville, Florida, where Reggie is employed by PHOS Creative.

**Charles Haughee**

## Obituaries



**Bernard Ronald Walls**

Bernard Ronald Walls, 74, passed away on May 22, 2017, at St. Mary's Hospice House in Athens, Georgia. Bernie (Ron) was born on May 23, 1942, in Grantsville, Maryland, to Bernard and Grace Walls. He grew up with three sisters in Waynesburg, Ohio.

He graduated from high school in 1960 and then began his 45-year career with the Barry-Wehmiller Pneumatic Scale in Akron, Ohio.

Bernie began attending church in 1959 with his parents, who had been listening to Herbert Armstrong on the radio. He married Betty Carol Cayton in March 1961, and they were baptized at the same time in 1962. He was a devoted Christian, serving God and others.

Family was Bernie's top priority in life, and he became the proud father of five. One of his greatest joys was spending time with family and friends and arriving early to church to fellowship. He was an avid fisherman who loved the outdoors, photography and gardening.

He will be greatly missed by his wife, Betty; children, Rhonda (James) Holmes, Donna (Rodney) Kalessa, Nicole (Chris) Ollila, and Shane Walls (Morgan Smith); five grandchildren, Brionna (Kory) Johnson, Dylan, Lyndsey, Brady Kalessa, and Wyatt

Walls; one great-grandchild, Brennan Johnson; two sisters, Julie Swarey and Roberta (Benny) Rose; and a large extended family.

He was preceded in death by his son, Ronald Aaron Walls; parents, Bernard and Grace; and sibling, Joyce (Walls) Manning.

**Brian Hawk**



**June Dillow**

June Dillow, age 86, a widow and shut-in from the Asheville, North Carolina, congregation, passed away Saturday, Sept. 30, 2017, at the Johnson City Medical Center in Tennessee.

June was born in West Virginia and was preceded in death by her parents, Rufus Norman and Nancy Wade Norman; her husband, Freddie Zane Dillow; a son-in-law, Bryant Darnell; and five brothers and one sister.

She is survived by her children, Donald (Mary) Dillow of Martinsburg, West Virginia; Marica (Mickey) Atwell of Chilhowie, Virginia; Sharon Darnell of Chilhowie, Virginia; and Crystal (Bo) Vanhoy of Marion, Virginia; four grandchildren, eight great-grandchildren, one great-great-grandchild, and several nieces and nephews.

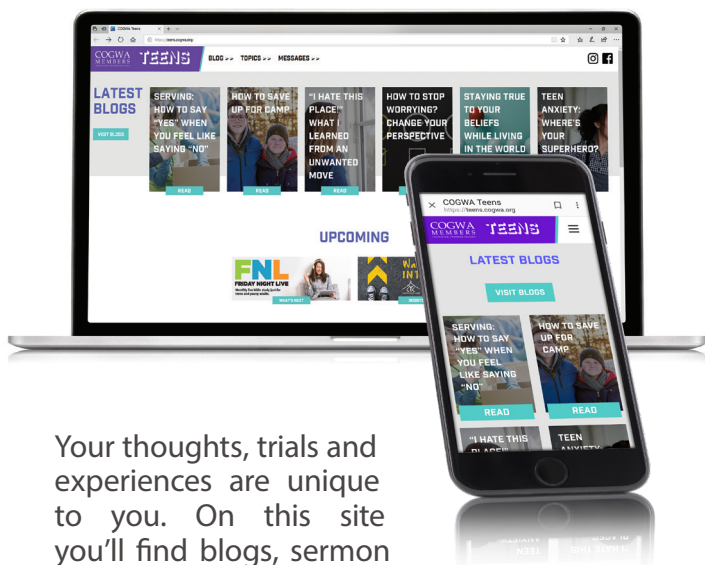
Before June retired, she worked in the cafeteria at the Marion Senior High School, and she loved to quilt.

June was a beautiful lady and a strong example of a Christian not only to her beloved family but also to the brethren. Her radiant smile is missed by all who knew her. Funeral services were held at 11 a.m. Tuesday, Oct. 3, 2017, at the Bradley's Funeral Home in Marion with Eric Evans, pastor of the Asheville congregation, officiating.

**Judith Swanson**



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# GRADUATING HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS WE NEED YOUR BIOS

Attention class of 2018! We would like to feature all of our high school graduates in the July *One Accord*. Please provide the following information for your bio plus a quality, high-resolution photo by June 15.

1. Graduate's name.
2. Parents' or guardians' names.
3. Congregation and pastor's name.
4. High school accomplishments.
5. Church activities/hobbies/interests.
6. Plans after graduation.

Also include a phone number and email address we may use to confirm spellings, etc. Please give your bio and photo (conforming to biblical standards of dress and hair length) to your congregation's reporter. We do reserve the right to edit for clarity and a 200-word maximum length.

## Thank you!