



tm Tennessee News

Tennessee News is published bi-monthly by the
Tennessee Ministries of the Church of God
L. Dwayne Pierce, State Minister

Vol. 45, issue 3

May/June 2010

How Will The Church Pay For Itself?

Having served as State Pastor now for two and a half years, I have three observations of the church that cause me concern.

Age — The age mix of the congregations I have visited is as diverse as the personalities of the seventy two congregations that make up the Church of God in Tennessee. In some of our congregations the majority are “boomers” (my generation) and older with one or two, or no younger families. Others are predominantly younger. These “older” congregations must find an effective way of reaching the younger generation in their communities with the life-transforming message of the gospel, or face the consequences of a diminishing congregation. The congregations that are predominantly younger are not empty-nesters, they have not paid off their mortgages, and they have yet to reach their peak earning years. If these gen-X’ers tithe, they are most likely not making as much as their boomer parents from which to tithe with. The church typically receives eighty-percent of its funds from twenty-percent of its constituency. And, as many pastors know all too well, the twenty-percent are often among the oldest people in the pews. There must be a deliberate effort in stewardship training to keep all of us reminded of our responsibilities and opportunities to be channels of God’s blessings. It is a bad assumption that higher incomes translate into more generous givers. Without training in good stewardship practices, the fact is, higher incomes really just translate into more expensive lifestyles while the church budget struggles.

Mission — A concept that seems to be less clearly defined in some of our churches is that of being missional as it relates to the budget. Jesus told us to be His disciples and to go into all the world and make disciples. It seems to me that in some of our churches today we have changed the “go and be” command to a “come and see” appeal. Certainly the church is to be attractive to the lost out in the harvest field, but I have a concern that we may become attached to buildings, programs, staff and a wide variety of goods and services designed to attract and entertain people and lose sight of the fact that the transformation of lives through the grace of God is what should be attracting people to the church. And rather than appealing to folks to give of their resources of time, talent and treasure to accomplish our Christ-given mission, it’s the buildings, programs, and staff that make the case for support.

Passive Stewardship — We must get over our fear of talking about money in the church. Isn’t it Biblical (what Jesus did) to confront consumerism and greed, and address our responsibility to manage faithfully what God has entrusted us with; *storing up treasures in heaven?* Isn’t it part of what we each will stand accountable before God for, *what we did with what He gave us?* We cannot be silent on the subject of money and possessions. I believe that in these tough and uncertain economic times, the church has the greatest opportunity to break some habits and inspire a new generation of generous givers. We must approach giving as an act of worship recognized as essential to our spiritual growth and obedience to God’s Word. And, finally, we must be pro-active, willing to assist those who struggle in this area and able to encourage those who want to do better.

-Financial problems are the no. 1 contributor to marital stress and divorce.

-70% of credit card holders carry \$6,000 to \$7,000 in unpaid balances. Interest dollars need to be freed up so they may be invested in Kingdom ministry.

As Paul instructed the Corinthians, as we strive towards greater faith, speech, and knowledge we must also see to it that we strive towards excellence in giving.

In Him, by Him and through Him,



Leadership • Personality Types • Children’s Ministry Training Workshop

Cookeville Friendship CHoG
Saturday, August 14 • 10:00am - 3:00pm

Cost is only \$25 per church for up to 5 people per church,
each additional person \$5 each for lunch & materials only.

Register by calling the State Office at 615-893-4987 or email tnchog@bellsouth.net

Tennessee Summer Camp Schedules

Camp Greene

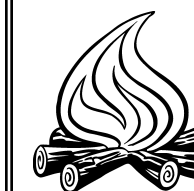
Junior Camp
May 31-June 4, 2010
Ages 7-11 years old
Registration Cost
Early Bird-\$85.00, May 1, 2010
Regular-\$95.00, May 15, 2010
Late-\$105.00, after May 15, 2010
Speaker-Bobby Morrison
Worship Leader-Shannon Brewer

Teen Camp
June 7-June 11, 2010
Ages 12-18 years old
Registration Cost
Early Bird-\$95.00, May 15, 2010
Regular-\$105.00, May 31, 2010
Late-\$115.00, after May 31, 2010
Speaker-Kristy Carlisle
Worship Leader-Ben Foulks

Camp Meeting
July 25-August 1
Speaker-Mark Jackson



West TN Camp Meeting
@ Big Rock
July 25-30
Speaker Jeannette Flynn



CAMP NEWS from Overton

Teen Camp
June 7-12
Ages: 13-18

Theme: Disciple of Jesus
More than a label...more than you know!
Speaker: Gator Harrison
Worship: MACU Camp Team
Directors: Zach Dickson

Jr Camp
June 14-17
Ages: 8-12

Theme: Who’s Your Daddy?
Speaker: Kathy Tack
Worship: Chronicle
Directors: Derek Herren/Pam Withers

Camp Meeting
July 8-11

Speaker: Rev. Tommy Walker
Worship Leader: Rich & Sherry Tiner

www.campoverton.com



Please pray for all
involved in camps this
summer.

Englewood Indoor Camp Meeting
August 1-6,
Speaker: Rev. Gary Ausbun
Worship: Rev. Will Hughes

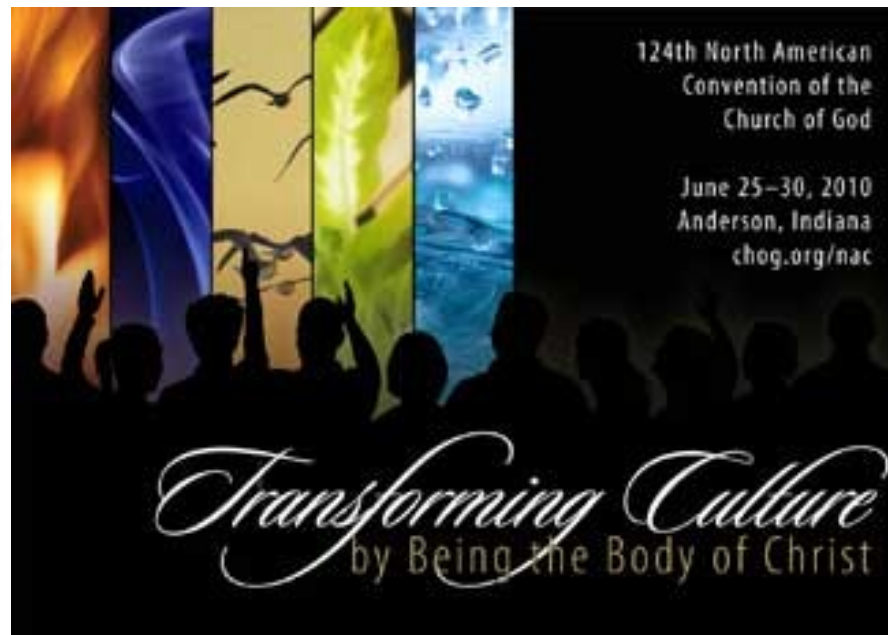


**Church to Celebrate Through
Global Communion Service**

We invite you to join with congregations from Africa, Asia, Australia, Europe, North and South America, for a global Communion service on Sunday June 27, 2010, during the evening service (7:00-9:00 PM EDT) of North American Convention. Congregations from around the world will simultaneously break the bread and share the cup in a time of worship and celebration.

We encourage congregations to host a Communion service for their members on the evening of June 27. Individuals and congregations can join the service in Anderson via the Internet. Efforts are underway to connect congregations from locations around the world with the service in Anderson through a streaming media simulcast over the web. We look forward to your congregation joining together with others from around the world as we worship through songs, prayer, and sharing of the sacraments.

Our goal is to have 100,000 Church of God members participate in this time of worship. For more information and to sign up for this event go to www.chog.org.



2010 North American Convention

Saturday, June 26, 2010

8:00 am - 4:30 pm

Equipping Leaders for Today's Children

Practical, Fun, and Affordable training for the Children's Leaders

This is an all day conference that is designed to train and equip

Children's Pastors, teachers, aides, assistants and parents

who work with children ages nursery to 5th-6th grade.

13 workshops and 6 opportunities to choose throughout the day.

REGISTER ON LINE AT WWW.CHOG.ORG



HOLD THIS DATE: November 2-3, 2010

Church Builders Plus invites you to join us at the '24' conference – designed for church leaders interested in learning valuable leadership lessons. This event is a unique conference, which allows you to sit down with innovative and visionary church leaders. You will be stretched and challenged as you navigate your church into the future. As a courtesy to you, we are offering an 'early bird' registration until October 1 – only \$69. The

'24' conference will be held at Madison Park Church (6607 Providence Dr., Anderson, IN 46013). Contact Kathy Whalen (kwhalen@cbplus.org) to make your reservation today. Seating is limited. Speakers: Miles McPherson, Reggie McNeal, Robbie & Robin Davis.

Shirley Kelly, wife of Pastor Don Kelly of Johnson City, went home to be with the Lord Friday, May 14. Shirley loved being a pastor's wife. She loved teaching children and she had a passion for encouraging young people. She was a lifetime member of the WCG, enjoyed music and was a great Sunday school teacher. Shirley was a kind and loving woman who will be missed by everyone who knew her. Survivors include her husband of 45 years, Don Kelly, son David Kelly (Sandy) of Mt. Orab, daughter Angela Bishop (Troy) of Lexington, grandchildren; Miranda Kelly, Ryan Kelly, and Michael Bishop.



A WORD ABOUT S.H.A.P.E. (Sustaining Health And Pastoral Excellence)

What? You've got to be kidding! Add one more responsibility, one more meeting to my schedule? Surely, not! But, my sister in the Lord was bubbling with enthusiasm and insisted that I at least come to the orientation. So, I did, and immediately I knew...this is what I need. S.H.A.P.E. is no mere meeting or group, certainly not just another responsibility for my already packed calendar. It is an oasis in the midst of my busy month, a place of refreshment and encouragement. I found it isn't about one more thing that I have to do, but something that God wants to do for me. Praise Him.

Since our first official meeting in September 2009, we have experienced many wonderful things in our S.H.A.P.E. cluster. Through the prayers and encouragement of our special sisterhood, there has been healing of past hurt, renewed sense of purpose, increased strength for our work, and more joy in the journey as we've read, prayed, shared, laughed, and cried together. What we have learned from these first few months in S.H.A.P.E. is that we need each other. We were designed for relationship – with God and one another. It is a glorious concept and, as we engage in it, a life-giving reality. S.H.A.P.E. stands for "Sustaining Health and Pastoral Excellence." It is that to which the pastoral community is called, personally and ministerially, to the glory of God. S.H.A.P.E. has made a difference in all our lives. We want to thank Paul Dreger, Dwayne Pierce, and all those responsible for bringing S.H.A.P.E. to Tennessee. We hope that more pastors will come together and find what we have found.

Maybrey G'fellers, Lynda Smith, Linda Parton, Dorothy Hall

S.H.A.P.E. Rally for all Coaches and Participants October 24-25 @ Camp Overton



***** NEW EVENT! *****

COP SUNDAY

September 19, 2010

Children of Promise Sunday is scheduled for September 19, 2010 - the third Sunday in September. Just think, churches all over the U.S. and other countries will be celebrating and raising awareness and passion for helping children. We would encourage you to consider making the entire month of September an emphasis on God's call upon us to minister to the poor, the orphaned, and those without hope, with your main thrust on September 19. (If another Sunday fits your needs better, go for it.) For complete information and resources go to www.echildrenofpromise.org/sunday.

The 2010 State Men's Retreat was a great success this year as over 100 men from around the state gathered at Camp Overton for a weekend of worship and fellowship. This year's theme, "As for Me and My House" turned out to be exactly what the men needed to focus on as Pastor David Kitchen of Hermitage, Tennessee brought 2 powerful, Spirit filled messages that spoke to the hearts of the men challenging them to deal with the "Me" problem. Jim Toothman and the worship team from The Grace Place ushered in the Spirit of God with some awesome times of worship; the Golf and Fishing fellowship was a great success, and the food as always, was outstanding! I would like to extend a special thank you to Duane & Libby for all of the hard work in making the 2010 State Men's Retreat a success.

I look forward to next year and hope to see you there!
Pastor Rocky,
State Men's Director



The Congregational Ministries Team is accepting resumes for individuals interested in and sensing a call to the **position of State Youth Director**. The office will be available in 2012 but the Team would like for the selected individual to work alongside our present directors for one year for training purposes. The CMT will begin interviewing those who submit resumes in the Fall of 2010. For information or to send a letter of application contact Tommy Dove, Team Captain. 4316 Central Pike, Hermitage, TN. 37076 Email-TbirdJDove@aol.com.

mark your calendar
State Assembly
Knoxville Sept. 9-10
Speaker: Alan Hutchinson

Pastoral Changes

Shankey Branch of Celina has called **Jason Smith** as their new pastor. Jason has been instructor at Kentucky Mountain Bible College for the past four years teaching Christian Education, Discipleship and a wide variety of Bible subjects.

Madisonville **New Bethel** welcomes **Kent Sellers** as their pastor. Kent is married to Tammie and they have two daughters.

Watauga Flats calls **Jerry Carver** as pastor. This is Jerry's second time to serve this congregation. Tennessee welcomes Jerry back to the state.

May 16th, **Eastside CHoG** of Bartlett voted **Kathryn Broyles** as interim pastor. They are in the process of updating their website www.eastsidefamily.org and can be followed on facebook.

Searching for a New Pastor

Greenville Camp Ground/Worship
Murfreesboro
Rockvale
Scott Memorial/Youth
Tacoma
Union City

Please keep these churches in your prayers.



Tennessee Ministries
of the Church of God
PO Box 1464
Murfreesboro, TN 37133-1464

Return Service Requested

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Permit No. 393

Dwayne's Travel Schedule

June

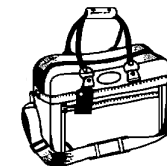
- 1-4 SHAPE Regional/Colorado Springs
- 6 Mid TN/Murfreesboro
- 8-9 Teen Camp/Overton
- 10 SHAPE/Boma
- 12 Ministries Council/Knoxville
- 22-30 NAC/Anderson, IN

July

- 4 Bunker Hill Homecoming
- 10-11 Camp Overton Camp Meeting
- 13 PMT/Greeneville
- 14-18 IYC/Florida
- 19-28 Vacation
- 31 Greeneville Camp Meeting

August

- 1 Englewood Camp Meeting
- 14 Leadership Training/Cookeville Friendship
- 23-26 Credentials Congress/Indianapolis



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of the Church of God

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