FI Welcomes Class of 2019

Why Will You Be There? | 2018 CYC Summer Review
In Romans 13 Paul addresses the role of a Christian in society. "Render therefore to all their due: taxes to whom taxes are due, customs to whom customs, fear to whom fear, honor to whom honor" (Romans 13:7). As Christians, we pay taxes to the civil authorities, we pay customs (according to Thayer's Greek-English Lexicon, the revenue that is collected on merchandise), we show respect to the authorities, and we render “honor to whom honor.”

The Greek word for honor in this verse is timé. The word is defined as “deference, reverence” (Thayer’s). This word is connected to the concept of value. "A value, i.e. money paid; or … valuables; by analogy, esteem (especially of the highest degree), or the dignity itself: —honor, precious, price” (Strong’s Concordance).

We are all familiar with the Fifth Commandment to “honor your father and mother” (Ephesians 6:2). We are told in 1 Timothy 5:3 to “honor widows.” Peter instructs us to honor all people (1 Peter 2:17). He also instructs every husband to give “honor to the wife” (1 Peter 3:7).

These are just a few of the examples where Scripture speaks of showing honor or deference to individuals. In 1 Timothy 5:17 Paul states that elders “who rule well” are counted worthy of double honor, “especially those who labor in the word and doctrine.” The word “rule” in this verse is described in Thayer’s as “to care for, give attention to.”

Last month Doug and Tanya Horchak and Sharron and I had the privilege of attending a combined service of the Atlanta and Jefferson, Georgia, congregations for the purpose of showing “honor” to a longtime elder, Bruce Gore. Mr. Gore and his wife, Phyllis, have served in the ministry for more than 50 years. This was the occasion of his retirement. He will continue as an elder, but will no longer have the responsibilities of the pastoral ministry.

In more than 50 years of ministry, I know that Mr. Gore experienced firsthand the highs and the lows that go along with serving a congregation of God’s people. There are the many wonderful occasions—births, baptisms, weddings, graduations and other happy moments. Then there are the sad moments—times of illness, trials and death. Each one of our pastors is on call 24 hours a day, seven days a week. There are many postponed dinners and family outings because of the needs of the brethren.

It is easy as a pastor to become so enmeshed in the problems and trials of a congregation that you sometimes neglect your own family.

As a Church, we don’t encourage our pastors to neglect their families, but we understand how it happens. I pastored congregations for more than 40 years in different parts of the United States. I loved every area where we lived, not always because of the geographical location, but because of the brethren. I understand why Paul said an elder who takes care of and gives attention to the brethren would be worthy of double honor. It is truly a calling that requires personal sacrifice.

In its purest form, honor is giving recognition to others for their value, or their worth. We know that God values each one of us, but we often forget to show that same regard for others. As we approach another Feast of Tabernacles, I want to encourage all of us to show deference or honor to the brethren from around the world.

Paul’s advice to render honor to whom honor is due goes beyond society. As Christians, we should do this for everyone—for those in positions of authority, to the ministers who serve us daily and to the brethren we meet with each Sabbath. It is the fulfillment of the Golden Rule (Matthew 7:12), and it is what God expects!

Jim Franks
President
Church of God, a Worldwide Association
One Accord is published monthly, except April and October, online at members.cogwa.org by the Church of God, a Worldwide Association, Inc.

All scripture quotations, unless otherwise indicated, are taken from the New King James Version (© 1982 by Thomas Nelson, Inc.). Used by permission. All rights reserved.

By submitting photographs or articles to the Church of God, a Worldwide Association, Inc. ("Church") or to One Accord, a contributor gives the Church permission and a nonexclusive license to use or publish any such submissions without any compensation to the contributor. The contributor further agrees that any such submission will be construed in the broadest possible terms, including, but not limited to, the right to edit, crop or otherwise manipulate the submission.

This publication is not to be sold. Free educational material.

Why Will You Be There?
There are lots of reasons we enjoy the Feast, but we must never lose sight of the purpose and meaning of God’s command to keep the Feast.

FL Welcomes Class of 2019

2018 CYC Summer Review

Church Potluck

Announcements
WHY WILL YOU BE THERE?

There are lots of reasons we enjoy the Feast, but we must never lose sight of the purpose and meaning of God’s command to keep the Feast.

By Paul Carter

It's time for the Feast of Tabernacles again! Earlier in the year you had the opportunity to choose the Festival site you are planning to attend. You made your housing reservations later in the spring, and now you are ready to go.

But why will you be there?

There's a lot to that question. Maybe you are going to Italy because it has always been a lifelong goal. Maybe you are going to Orange Beach because it is one of the largest Feast sites and you want to be around a lot of people. Maybe you are going to San Diego or Victoria because you want to see the Pacific Ocean, or maybe to Rapid City to see the mountains.

Maybe you are looking forward to the fine dining and side trips you will enjoy. Maybe you want to get together with family or friends in a condominium, sharing an evening of fine wine and reminiscing.

All of these are good reasons for attending the Feast, but do they answer the question “Why will you be there?” If you couldn’t attend the site that you had applied for, would you still be at the Feast? I hope the answer is a resounding Yes!

There is a much deeper reason for being at the Feast of Tabernacles than where we are going or who we are going to see. In fact, there are several very clear reasons why we should be there! Herbert W. Armstrong would many times start off the Feast of Tabernacles by asking that question: “Why are you here?” We need to know.

Clear reasons

There are clear reasons why we will be there to keep the Feast. God laid out not only the command to keep the Feast, but also gave instruction in why and how!

“Speak to the children of Israel, and say to them: ‘The feasts of the Lord, which you shall proclaim to be holy convocations, these are My feasts’” (Leviticus 23:2). God tells us that the feasts that He gives us are His! They are not something the Church came up with or something we do simply as a tradition. They are God’s feasts! We are privileged above all people on earth at this time to participate in them!

The Feast is a holy convocation

God calls His holy days (including the weekly Sabbath) “holy convocations.” The word holy means “sacred” or “set apart.” The word convocation means “a calling out,” a gathering or a meeting. So God says His holy days are holy meetings. They are a
gathering of His called-out ones for a sacred meeting. That puts great emphasis on why we should be there. There is great benefit to being there for the entire Feast, including the final messages of the Last Great Day.

I once heard someone compare the Feast of Tabernacles to the Millennium by looking at the number of days. If a day is as a thousand years to God (Psalm 90:4), then each day of the Feast is like 142 years. “If we skip a day of the Feast,” this individual stated, “it’s like missing 142 years of the Millennium.” He then asked the question, “What part of the Millennium are you willing to miss?” It is a holy convocation. We are commanded to be there, and for very good reason.

To learn to fear the Lord

“And you shall eat before the Lord your God, in the place where He chooses to make His name abide, the tithe of your grain and your new wine and your oil, of the firstborn of your herds and your flocks, that you may learn to fear the Lord your God always” (Deuteronomy 14:23).

Notice the word that. This small word holds another reason why we should be at the Feast. The word implies purpose! Strong’s Exhaustive Concordance defines it as “in order that” or “to the intent” that we might “learn to fear the Lord your God always.” God wants us to learn to fear Him. To have a reverent and respectful view of Him. To hold Him in high esteem for what He is doing and the plan that He is fulfilling. He specifically wants you and me there!

According to Strong’s, part of the root word in the command for a holy gathering means to address by name or to bid as guests! What a privilege! What an honor it is not only to be called out of the world, but also to be bid to a special feast by God Himself. He chose to place His name there and called us to be a part of it. He is the One who has prepared a feast! We are there for a purpose: to develop a deeper relationship with our Father God as His children.

To rejoice!

“You shall observe the Feast of Tabernacles seven days, when you have gathered from your threshing floor and from your winepress. And you shall rejoice in your feast, you and your son and your daughter, your male servant and your female servant and the Levite, the stranger and the fatherless and the widow, who are within your gates. Seven days you shall keep a sacred feast to the Lord your God in the place which the Lord chooses, because the Lord your God will bless you in all your produce and in all the work of your hands, so that you surely rejoice” (Deuteronomy 16:13-15).

God commands not only you to be there, but your immediate family, and anyone within your gates. God clearly tells us, you shall surely rejoice in the Feast! I don’t think there is anyone who has kept the Feast for very long at all that hasn’t heard that. The Feast is a time to rejoice!

Sadly, over the years, some have looked at the Feast as a vacation rather than a commanded assembly! They “rejoice,” but not in the same way that God is commanding here. He says to rejoice in the Feast—not simply to be happy and enjoy the time away from work. That can be done at any other time of the year, but to “rejoice in your feast” is to be joyous again of the benefits that are provided for us specifically on these days that are set apart. There is to be a special joy in them when we keep them in a right way. There is a clear purpose for why we are to rejoice.

The Feast paints a picture of a future time

When we go to the Feast of Tabernacles, I don’t think there is one of us who doesn’t enjoy the physical benefits of what the Feast pictures. We rejoice with the people we are with. We rejoice in the fine dining and ordering the steak and the dessert that we might not be able to order during the year. We rejoice in the wine and strong drink. We rejoice in getting some new clothing or in giving something special to our family and friends. The tithe is to be used for whatever your heart desires! These are all part of the tithe command that makes the Feast even possible. It is not so we can simply get away, but so we can rejoice and picture something as we do so (Deuteronomy 14:22-27).

The Feast of Tabernacles pictures a time of plenty. Not just for seven days plus the Last Great Day, but it pictures what these seven days represent.

It pictures a time of prosperity and abundance! “Behold, the days are coming,” says the Lord, “when the plowman shall overtake the reaper, and the treader of grapes him who sows seed; the mountains shall drip with sweet wine, and all the hills shall flow with it” (Amos 9:13).

It pictures a time of living and reigning with Christ as kings and priests for 1,000 years (Revelation 20:4-6).

So, when we think about the question “Why will you be there?” we see that there are numerous reasons, both physical and spiritual. There is a deep-seated purpose and meaning to the Feast that we are about to keep. We will gather as God’s elect, by His invitation, in the place which He chooses, and we will be filled with a greater understanding and purpose of what the soon-coming Kingdom of God will be like! We will learn what our role is going to be in a time when the earth will be restored to a Garden of Eden–like setting. We will hear of our purpose in the government of God and why we are called now to play a significant role in that Kingdom.

This is why you will be there! ☺️
One Accord

FI Welcomes Class of 2019

This year promises to be exciting for 13 students who will take part in nearly 800 hours of biblical and Christian Living classes and also make the move to the new classroom in midyear.

By David Johnson

The seventh year of Foundation Institute began on Sunday morning, Aug. 12, with a 90-minute orientation meeting in the FI classroom. Thirteen students—seven men and six ladies, including 12 students from nine states, and one from Lima, Peru—compose this year’s class. Students will meet for the first semester in our current facility, and the second semester at our facility in the new headquarters office currently under construction.

The orientation is to help students get a better picture of what life at FI will involve. After an opening prayer by Fort Worth pastor and instructor Ken Giese and a few initial comments, COGWA president Jim Franks gave a welcoming address noting the value FI can have in their lives. Ralph Levy, Clyde Kilough, Erik Jones and David Johnson covered various aspects of the FI program, and Dallas pastor Andy Burnett welcomed the students to the congregation, inviting them to be active participants while at FI.

After the meeting, the students and faculty enjoyed sharing a lunch prepared by Cecilia Iturra and then had a brief meeting with housing officer Erik Jones.

Classes began at 8:30 Monday morning with adjunct instructor Dave Myers beginning a three-week module of Survey of the Gospels. The day continued with five more 50-minute classes, ending at about 4:30. During the full nine-month program, students receive nearly
600 class hours of direct Bible instruction along with nearly 200 hours of classes such as Comparative Religion, Service in the Church, and Practical Christianity. Those who choose to come to Foundation Institute are making a serious commitment of time and energy to gain this special information, available nowhere else in this kind of concentrated format.

But Foundation Institute is not just about classes. The field trips, social activities, Friday night Bible studies, time spent together and unique learning environment of the classroom all contribute to building lifelong relationships.

If this sounds good to you, we hope you will begin making plans to become a part of this unique program. ☺️
The reports from all of the camps have been extremely positive, with accounts of how eager campers have been to learn about integrity. While the word is not used that much in the Bible, counselors and instructors found a treasure trove of examples to explore the topic that is so closely related to godly character. Doing the right thing all the time is a foundational principle of living God’s way of life, and the Bible is full of examples and instruction.

As CYC has progressed over the years, it has been encouraging to see the number of former campers who have found ways to come back and serve on staff. “Growing” our future staffers is the ideal way to ensure the continuation of the millennial atmosphere we work to develop for campers. Being immersed in God’s way of life for a week at camp greatly helps them see the positive results it brings.

As the summer school break ends here in the northern hemisphere, Winter Camp remains on the horizon, but we’ve finished our COGWA Youth Camps for the summer. We have had 268 teen campers served by 165 staff members and 264 preteens cared for by 301 staff members for a grand total of 998 attendees so far.

The reports from all of the camps have been extremely positive, with accounts of how eager campers have been to learn about integrity. While the word is not used that much in the Bible, counselors and instructors found a treasure trove of examples to explore the topic that is so closely related to godly character. Doing the right thing all the time is a foundational principle of living God’s way of life, and the Bible is full of examples and instruction.

As CYC has progressed over the years, it has been encouraging to see the number of former campers who have found ways to come back and serve on staff. “Growing” our future staffers is the ideal way to ensure the continuation of the millennial atmosphere we work to develop for campers. Being immersed in God’s way of life for a week at camp greatly helps them see the positive results it brings.

As the summer school break ends here in the northern hemisphere, Winter Camp remains on the horizon, but we’ve finished our COGWA Youth Camps for the summer. We have had 268 teen campers served by 165 staff members and 264 preteens cared for by 301 staff members for a grand total of 998 attendees so far.
Camp Fort Bluff

Camp Heritage

September/October 2018
Camp Lone Star

Camp Sequoia
(Preteen)
Camp Sequoia
(Teen)

Camp Sequoia
(Extended Session)
CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF SERVICE

The Houston South church was thrilled to join Larry and Judy Salyer in celebrating their 50 years of service on the Sabbath of June 9, 2018. Mr. Salyer began by recounting the history of the Church in our era, overlaid with his and Judy’s timeline beginning in 1963. He began attending Ambassador College Big Sandy in 1965 as one of the first married students with a child.

He graduated on June 7, 1968, was ordained the next day and was then sent to his first assignment in Houston, giving his first sermon (impromptu) on June 15. In 1969 the Salyers were sent to Odessa and Abilene for 2½ years and then returned to Houston in 1971. These were just two of the many moves they’ve made— they are currently in their 25th house since ordination.

From there, the Salyers moved from coast to coast, even overseeing the foreign work for a period of time. Mr. Salyer was also involved in administrative jobs at both the Pasadena and Big Sandy campuses.

Through all the ups and downs of the Church, the messages he came away with and emphasized to us were these: Don’t let any man take your crown (Revelation 3:11). Speak the truth in love (Ephesians 4:15). And all things work together for good to those who love God and are the called according to His purpose (Romans 8:28).

The Houston South congregation is thankful to have the Salyers back for their third assignment here. The service was followed by a reception with cake and punch, punctuated by a table of Church and Salyer family memorabilia.

Susan Scott Smith
**SOUTHWEST MICHIGAN RECOGNIZES SENIORS**

On the Sabbath of Aug. 4, 2018, the Grand Rapids and Kalamazoo, Michigan, congregations hosted a recognition luncheon for members 60 years old and above. The delicious fare was mainly served by the youth of the area: Liam Chapman, Camden Chapman, Isaac Leyden and Matthias Leyden.

The guests of honor—Chris Moen, Bruce and Melissa Rivers, Helen Farnsworth, Sharon Bailey and Dorothy Quisenberry—enjoyed a plated meal of chicken salad on croissants, fresh fruit medley, raw veggies, deviled eggs and a variety of cheese samplings, along with wedding cookies for dessert.

Mr. Moen offered some comments to the seniors and asked each of the honorees how many children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren they have. This intergenerational occasion was enjoyed by all and will be one of the bright highlights of this summer.

Rebekah Leyden

---

**ARKANSAS CONGREGATION VISITS THE BIG APPLE AND NYC BRETHREN**

After a year of planning and anticipation, a small group from the Bentonville, Arkansas, congregation traveled to New York City to experience Manhattan together on July 13-16, 2018.

Ten members from four different families were able to experience firsthand the rich history of the Statue of Liberty, the bird’s-eye view from the Empire State Building, a sobering visit to the 9/11 Memorial and beautiful Central Park. They navigated subways, attended an entertaining Broadway play and immersed themselves in the cultural sites, sounds and foods of the city.

The highlight of the trip was the opportunity to attend services with the brethren in Queens, who demonstrated incredible hospitality and friendliness. Everyone agreed that the Sabbath was the best part of the entire adventure.

Vicki Willoughby

---

**BENTONVILLE HOLDS FAMILY FISHING DAY**

Brethren from the Bentonville, Arkansas, congregation hosted their first Family Fishing Day on Sunday, July 1, 2018. The early morning weather was perfectly overcast, resulting in a combined total of 25 fish caught.

The event was well attended by the congregation and included visiting brethren from the neighboring congregations of Van Buren, Arkansas, and Joplin, Missouri. Everyone enjoyed the day, which emphasized quality time together in fellowship.

Vicki Willoughby
On Thursday, April 5, 2018, Jim Franks, president of the Church of God, a Worldwide Association, and his wife, Sharron, arrived in the city of San Luis Potosí to spend the last day of Unleavened Bread and the weekly Sabbath with the members of this beautiful region of Mexico. This is the first time that Mr. and Mrs. Franks have visited this congregation, making the trip even more special.

Larry Roybal, the regional pastor of Mexico, and his wife, Blanca, and Alberto González, an elder in Tepic congregation, and his wife, Yulum, also traveled to San Luis Potosí with the purpose of fellowshipping with the Franks and the rest of the members gathered there. This was another reason for the Church members’ joy.

The members were also encouraged by the uplifting messages that were given. Each one recalled the importance of staying on the path of God, an objective that we will only achieve with the help of our Creator and His Son Jesus Christ.

During both days, at the end of the services, attendees shared the delicious food that the ladies of the Church had meticulously prepared. The meeting hall was full of smiles, conversation and good physical food.

At the conclusion of the weekly Sabbath, there was a performance of a group of talented children, youth, men and women. It was much like the talent show nights that are enjoyed in different places during the Feast of Tabernacles.

The Franks’ visit to this beautiful city came to an end with an exquisite dinner that consisted of American-style burgers. Afterwards, Mr. Franks thanked the brethren for all the care and hospitality shown to him and his wife. He said that he would not hesitate to return to San Luis Potosí on some other occasion.

On Sunday, April 8, Mr. and Mrs. Franks returned to their home in the state of Texas.

Jorge Iván Garduño

---

On June 24, 2018, brethren from the Birmingham, Alabama, and Trenton, Georgia, congregations gathered to enjoy the First Annual June Bug Jamboree. What a day it was!

It was obvious early that morning that God had blessed us with good weather, and then throughout the day it became apparent He was blessing everything we did! He answered our prayers.

As brethren arrived at the June Bug Jamboree, they were greeted by two smiling, friendly parking attendants showing them where to park.

Several talented karaoke singers provided entertainment for all to enjoy, and the June Bugs Band made its first appearance, performing three songs.

Throughout the day, players enjoyed cornhole toss. Kids with happy faces filled the swimming pool, and cowboys and cowgirls rode high on horses in the afternoon.

The sack races had wonderful participation by the children. Being able to go that fast in a sack—and not fall down—is quite a talent!

The winner of the children’s pie-eating contest was Andrew Wilhelm. The winner of the adult pie-eating contest was Billy Hicks. (Really, all were winners—they all got to enjoy a wonderful piece of pie!)

Just one word cannot describe the theme for the June Bug Jamboree that day. It would have to be several—fun, family, fellowship, love of the brethren, smiles, laughter, great food and serving others.

We truly made memories to last a lifetime.

Chuck Nichols
Anniversaries

Karen and Jim Blount

Jim and Karen Blount were honored by the Ocala, Florida, congregation on the Sabbath of July 7, 2018, in celebration of their 50th wedding anniversary. They were presented with a beautiful cake and a sparkling apple cider toast.

The Blounts were married in Sarasota, Florida, on July 8, 1968. They have four children, eight grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Jim serves as a deacon in the Ocala congregation, and Karen serves in many aspects of the congregation as well. Congratulations on 50 years of a successful marriage.  

Susan Brunner

Baptisms

Sarah Hanson

The Roanoke, Virginia, congregation is very happy to have a new sister in God’s spiritual family. On Sunday, April 15, 2018, Sarah Hanson was baptized by her pastor Larry Lambert. Sarah’s parents, Van and Polly Hanson, and her brother Sam were in attendance at this very special occasion. Mr. Hanson, a local elder in Roanoke, assisted with the baptism and laying on of hands ceremony. After the baptism, the Hansons and Lamberts enjoyed a special meal together.

Sarah completed her master’s degree in electrical engineering at Virginia Tech this spring. She’s now attending Foundation Institute.

Larry Lambert

Mayra Castañeda

On Thursday, April 12, 2018, Mayra Lizeth Castañeda Velásquez was baptized at the Republican Guard Club in the San Isidro district of Lima, Peru. The ceremony and the laying on of hands were performed by Carlos Saavedra, pastor of the congregations in Peru. Her parents and friends were present.

The baptism was very special for Mayra, considering that she has attended services with her mother since she was 3 years old.

Carlos Saavedra

Hunter Swanson

An exciting event took place on March 25, 2018, when Hunter Swanson, son of Will and Sharon Swanson of the Hickory, North Carolina, congregation, was baptized by his uncle, Eric Evans, who pastors congregations in London, Kentucky; Knoxville, Tennessee; and Asheville, North Carolina. The baptism took place in a pool at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Bill Onisick of Fort Mill, South Carolina.

Hunter grew up in the Church of God in Indiana and moved with his parents to the Charlotte, North Carolina, area in 2013. He attended Mitchell College in Mooresville, North Carolina, and now works for Acosta Heating and Cooling as a service technician. Hunter is the fifth grandchild of this author and her husband, Bill, to become a baptized member of God’s Church!

Welcome into God’s Church, Hunter!  

Judy Swanson
Births

Jafet Aarón Nain Camacho

Jafet Aarón Nain Camacho was born on May 5, 2018, at 10:30 a.m. He weighed 6.8 pounds and measured 19.5 inches.

His parents, Franko Nain and Varinia Camacho of the Santiago, Chile, congregation, are happy for the arrival of their first child, whom they had been anticipating a long time. His arrival was a blessing for the whole family. Jafet Aarón’s grandparents are also extremely happy because the baby is the first male grandchild on both sides.

We thank God for this amazing blessing.

Franco and Varinia Nain

Matías Andrés Alarcón Martínez

The Alarcón Martínez family of the Concepción, Chile, congregation is very happy to announce the birth of their second son. Matías Andrés Alarcón Martínez was born on May 11, 2018, at 9 p.m. He weighed 7.14 pounds and measured 20.4 inches. The nine months of waiting passed very quickly. Our God was responsible for forming each part of his body with great delicacy, and today he is in perfect condition here with us.

His older brother Elias, who turned 5 the week before, was so happy that he jumped for joy when he saw him. We can only thank our Father in heaven for giving us the opportunity to raise and care for our children in such a beautiful and blessed way. We also thank all our brethren in the faith for being with us during this beautiful moment of our lives. Thank God for the miracle of life!

Alarcón Martínez family

Darío Emanuel Mundo Sepúlveda

Ariel and Astrid Mundo of the Bentonville, Arkansas, congregation are happy to announce the birth of their son Darío Emanuel Mundo Sepúlveda. He was born on Friday, April 27, at 2:46 a.m. He weighed 6.12 pounds and measured 18 inches.

Darío came into the world through a natural birth, fairly quickly and without complications. This made it possible for both Darío and his mother to be discharged the next day, so that they could spend the rest of the Sabbath together as a family.

We thank all those who were hoping and praying that God would guide things in the best way possible. We are certain that this was the case.

Once again, we see that God is great, full of mercy and abundant in love. We hope that He will guide and help us in the instruction, education and upbringing of our children, for His glory and honor.

Mundo Sepúlveda family

Lilly Grace Leimback

Aaron and Angela Leimback of the Grand Rapids and Kalamazoo, Michigan, congregations have welcomed a new addition to their family! Lilly Grace Leimback arrived on June 18, 2018, at 8:13 a.m. Big brother Carson affectionately calls her “Baby Sis.” All family members are doing well.

Rebekah Leyden

Meredith Campos Guardado

On Friday, April 27, Meredith Campos Guardado was born. Meredith is the baby girl of José Campos and Dalia Guardado of the Ciudad Juárez congregation in Chihuahua, México. Meredith measured almost 20 inches and weighed just under 8 pounds. Mom and baby are fine. Congratulations to the Campos Guardado family.

Pablo Dimakis
Weddings

Gad and Amanda Zainos

The wedding of Amanda Ugarte and Gad Zainos took place on March 18, 2018, in Santiago, Chile. This marriage was one of those events that unite distant nationalities, in this case, Chilean and Mexican. The wedding brought together around 210 people, including family members and friends from various places in Chile and Mexico. Joy and brotherhood were felt everywhere in the Church of God, a Worldwide Association, meeting hall in Santiago.

The parents of both the bride and the groom, although of different nationalities, showed their exuberant joy in the same language of laughter, music and feeling of belonging to the same family of God.

The wedding was Mexican style—very colorful and bright, which was reflected in the decorations, as well as the drinks and desserts that were served.

The pastor in Chile, Saúl Langarica, officiated the ceremony.

Saúl Langarica

Obituaries

Jon Erickson

Jon Erickson of Houston, Texas, died suddenly on March 18, 2018, after complications from COPD. Jon was born Oct. 13, 1937, and was 80 at the time of his death.

He met his wife, Mary, while attending Eastern Michigan University in the early 1960s. They married in 1963 and have three children, Paul (a physical therapist in the Dallas/Fort Worth area), Christa (a former professor and artist in Long Island), and Matthew (a professor in Tennessee).

Jon and Mary moved to Texas in the mid-1970s, when Jon began working for NASA. He worked for NASA for about 25 years before retiring. Mary has fond memories of their travels to Europe and several cruises with family members. She refers to Jon as her best friend.

Jon became a baptized member in the fall of 1974 and was ordained as a deacon on April 15, 2014. He is deeply missed by family and the Houston South congregation, where he contributed sermonettes, maintained our website, recorded sermons and helped with the sound system and many other duties. Jon served God’s people faithfully.

Susan Scott Smith

Herman Bailey

Herman Dixon Bailey, 84, died April 27, 2018, in Chattanooga, Tennessee. He was born on Feb. 2, 1934, to the late Zenus and Lizzie Bailey.

He grew up and lived in Union Grove, Alabama, before moving to Cleveland, Tennessee, with his wife and son in 1971. During his years of employment, Herman worked as a heavy equipment operator in Alabama and Tennessee.

Herman periodically attended Sabbath services with his wife, Ruth, in the 1960s and ’70s before he began attending full-time in 1974. Herman was baptized in the summer of 1975 and served in many ways over the years. In recent years he attended COGWA Sabbath services regularly until his health prevented it.

He was preceded in death by his parents and his siblings, Alvin, Gilbert, G.W., Ernest, Radford, Frank and Tempie Bailey.

He is survived by his loving wife of almost 58 years, Ruth Artis Bailey; son, William (Caryl) Bailey; grandsons, Joseph and Austin Bailey; sister, Nellie Pauline Green; as well as numerous extended family members and friends.

Herman was a member of the Trenton, Georgia, congregation. A celebration of life service was conducted by Eric Evans in Cleveland, Tennessee, on April 29. A graveside service in Union Grove, Alabama, was officiated by Tom Kirkpatrick on April 30.

Annette Epperson

Owen Codrington

Owen Winston Codrington, a member of the Bridgetown, Barbados, congregation, died on July 9, 2018, after a short but intense battle with illness. He is survived by his son, Anthony Gittens. Other survivors are a sister and brothers.

Owen was a quiet servant who simply found what needed to be done and did it. He was a member of God’s Church for over half a century and was one of several recognized at the Barbados congregation’s 50th anniversary celebration earlier this year.

His jovial laugh and enthusiastic fellowship will be missed. It was a pleasure for those entering through the door on the Sabbath to be graced with Owen’s smile and witness him in his immaculate suit and matching hat. He believed in coming before the Eternal in his best.

Owen energetically pursued God’s way of life. There was never a question about his passion for seeing God’s plan come to fruition. He set a worthy example for all who knew him, and he now awaits the resurrection.

A service of thanksgiving for his life was conducted on July 23 by Osmonde Douglas.

Arnold Hampton

Weddings

Gad and Amanda Zainos

The wedding of Amanda Ugarte and Gad Zainos took place on March 18, 2018, in Santiago, Chile. This marriage was one of those events that unite distant nationalities, in this case, Chilean and Mexican. The wedding brought together around 210 people, including family members and friends from various places in Chile and Mexico. Joy and brotherhood were felt everywhere in the Church of God, a Worldwide Association, meeting hall in Santiago.

The parents of both the bride and the groom, although of different nationalities, showed their exuberant joy in the same language of laughter, music and feeling of belonging to the same family of God.

The wedding was Mexican style—very colorful and bright, which was reflected in the decorations, as well as the drinks and desserts that were served.

The pastor in Chile, Saúl Langarica, officiated the ceremony.

Saúl Langarica

Obituaries

Jon Erickson

Jon Erickson of Houston, Texas, died suddenly on March 18, 2018, after complications from COPD. Jon was born Oct. 13, 1937, and was 80 at the time of his death.

He met his wife, Mary, while attending Eastern Michigan University in the early 1960s. They married in 1963 and have three children, Paul (a physical therapist in the Dallas/Fort Worth area), Christa (a former professor and artist in Long Island), and Matthew (a professor in Tennessee).

Jon and Mary moved to Texas in the mid-1970s, when Jon began working for NASA. He worked for NASA for about 25 years before retiring. Mary has fond memories of their travels to Europe and several cruises with family members. She refers to Jon as her best friend.

Jon became a baptized member in the fall of 1974 and was ordained as a deacon on April 15, 2014. He is deeply missed by family and the Houston South congregation, where he contributed sermonettes, maintained our website, recorded sermons and helped with the sound system and many other duties. Jon served God’s people faithfully.

Susan Scott Smith

Herman Bailey

Herman Dixon Bailey, 84, died April 27, 2018, in Chattanooga, Tennessee. He was born on Feb. 2, 1934, to the late Zenus and Lizzie Bailey.

He grew up and lived in Union Grove, Alabama, before moving to Cleveland, Tennessee, with his wife and son in 1971. During his years of employment, Herman worked as a heavy equipment operator in Alabama and Tennessee.

Herman periodically attended Sabbath services with his wife, Ruth, in the 1960s and ’70s before he began attending full-time in 1974. Herman was baptized in the summer of 1975 and served in many ways over the years. In recent years he attended COGWA Sabbath services regularly until his health prevented it.

He was preceded in death by his parents and his siblings, Alvin, Gilbert, G.W., Ernest, Radford, Frank and Tempie Bailey.

He is survived by his loving wife of almost 58 years, Ruth Artis Bailey; son, William (Caryl) Bailey; grandsons, Joseph and Austin Bailey; sister, Nellie Pauline Green; as well as numerous extended family members and friends.

Herman was a member of the Trenton, Georgia, congregation. A celebration of life service was conducted by Eric Evans in Cleveland, Tennessee, on April 29. A graveside service in Union Grove, Alabama, was officiated by Tom Kirkpatrick on April 30.

Annette Epperson

Owen Codrington

Owen Winston Codrington, a member of the Bridgetown, Barbados, congregation, died on July 9, 2018, after a short but intense battle with illness. He is survived by his son, Anthony Gittens. Other survivors are a sister and brothers.

Owen was a quiet servant who simply found what needed to be done and did it. He was a member of God’s Church for over half a century and was one of several recognized at the Barbados congregation’s 50th anniversary celebration earlier this year.

His jovial laugh and enthusiastic fellowship will be missed. It was a pleasure for those entering through the door on the Sabbath to be graced with Owen’s smile and witness him in his immaculate suit and matching hat. He believed in coming before the Eternal in his best.

Owen energetically pursued God’s way of life. There was never a question about his passion for seeing God’s plan come to fruition. He set a worthy example for all who knew him, and he now awaits the resurrection.

A service of thanksgiving for his life was conducted on July 23 by Osmonde Douglas.

Arnold Hampton

September/October 2018
Want to find a way to stay connected to God’s truth during busy days of running around town, on those cross-country drives or even when you’re relaxing at home?

Now you can!

Visit LifeHopeandTruth.com/Discern from any device, find the article you want to hear and click on Listen.

It’s that simple!