

DEPARTMENT of CHRISTIAN EDUCATION WORKSHOPS HIGHLIGHTS

George W. Ward, National Director of Christian Education
Greetings & Overviews of 2011 – 82nd General Assembly Workshops

Our theme for this 82nd General Assembly of the church of the Living God is “UNITY – Why Unity Matters and How to Pursue it.”

I am indeed honored to have the opportunity to serve our great church as your National Director of Christian Education. I congratulate Rev. Dr. Shelia Y. Smalley for her outstanding service in a spirit of excellence during her tenure. Thank you Board of Bishops and all my brothers and sisters of the Church of the Living God for your prayers, support, confidence and trust in me as I’ve purposed to keep you informed and expose you to the best training available. I pray that you enjoyed each monthly Newsletter this past fiscal year.

The first thing we need to do is to look at the question: What do we mean by “unity” in the Body of Christ. It is imperative today that we define our terms to those we witness to. And we obviously can’t do this if we are not sure what these things mean in the first place. Sadly, this is now the case with the average person today who would see themselves as an evangelical Protestant. In order to discover what is meant by unity in the Church of our Lord, we will first need to find out the kind of unity Jesus was praying for in the Upper Room? For the root of all the confusion over this issue of unity comes from a fundamental misunderstanding about just what the Master meant by unity in His High Priestly prayer in chapter 17 of the Gospel of John.

As we examine this passage of Holy Scripture we will see Jesus praying for all those who would come to know God through the witness of His Apostles who were there in that Upper Room with Him:

“My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in Me through their message, that all of them may be one, Father, just as You are in Me and I am in You. May they also be in Us so that the world may believe that You have sent Me. I have given them the glory that You gave Me, that they may be one as We are one: I in them and You in Me. May they be brought to complete unity to let the world know that You sent Me and have loved them even as You have loved Me.” (John 17:20–23)

Here is Christ Jesus praying that all those who would surrender their lives to Him as Lord and Savior would then be one—that they would be united. This brings up another issue that we don’t have space to deal with in depth here. What does it mean to “believe” in Jesus as Lord and Savior? Briefly, it means to totally commit oneself to Him alone. This is what the historic orthodox Christian Church has always meant when we say we believe in Christ.

I draw your attention back to verse 20—the middle of the verse. *I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message.* The Greek word here for “believe” is **pisteuo**. The key to understanding what someone “born again” must do is this word *pisteuo*, which is most always translated “believe” when it appears in the New Testament.

To the western mind to “believe” means to acknowledge something intellectually. As in “I believe in my heart that such and such is true.” It’s kind of a thought that you feel strongly about. But the word—*pisteuo*—in the vernacular of its culture actually means to **totally** trust in—and to “place confidence in” (*Thayer’s Greek-English Lexicon*, 511). So you can see that it’s really much more of a commitment than we in the West would normally associate with our believing something.

Now let’s look at verse 20 one more time for a different focus. “My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in Me through their message.” The footnote in the famous *Geneva Bible* used by the Pilgrims who played a part in the founding of this nation is helpful at this point:

Secondly, Jesus offers to God the Father all of his, that is, all those who will believe in him by the doctrine of the apostles: That as he cleaves unto the Father, receiving from him all fullness [sic], so they being joined with him may receive life from him.

As we are gathered this week, I encourage and challenge each of you our delegates to avail yourself of the expertise and training material that each of our well prepared facilitators will be presenting to you. As it is one of the goals of our great leaders of this church to move the Church of the Living God forward, it is through education and training that we can all add value to this goal. Enjoy your week, take advantage of every opportunity to attend the workshops and worship experience.

Tuesday, October 25, 2011 9:00AM – 12-Noon – ALL AUXILIARIES

The Orange Theater Ballroom

1:30PM – 4:00PM – Outreach Service – National Evangelist Elder Danny Ransey –

The Orange Theater Ballroom

Workshops, Wednesday, October 26, 2011 – 9:00AM – 12-Noon

1) Church Finances – for Bishops Only

Facilitators: Vanlow, Pelzer, Barber & Greer (Cape Canaveral/Volusia Rooms)

2) Effective Witnessing & Evangelism – Open to ALL

Facilitator: Elder Danny Ransey (Lake Beak-out Room)

3) You & Your Health – Open to ALL

Facilitator: Rev. Dr. Brunilda B. Hopkins (Duval/St. Johns Breakout Room)

4) Challenges Facing the Church – OPEN to ALL

Facilitator: Rev. Dr. Geraldine Crystal - (Osceola Break-out Room)

Workshops, Wednesday, October 26, 2011 – 1:30PM – 4:00PM

5) 21st Century Managing Your Finances - OPEN

Facilitator: Rev. Dr. Charmaine Coulter - (Lake Breakout Room)

6) **Biblical Teaching for Deacons & Deaconess**

Facilitator: Deacon John J. Barber - (Osceola Break-out Room)

7) **Church Finances – For Bishops Only**

Facilitators: Vanlow, Pelzer, Greer - (Cape Canaveral/Volusia Rooms)

- Rev. Dr. Geraldine Crystal will meet with the Board of Chaplaincy for update training.
- Rev. Dr. Brunilda B. Hopkins will meet with Allied Health Team for training.

Workshops, Thursday, October 27, 2011 – 9:00AM – 12-Noon

8) **You & Your Health – OPEN TO ALL**

Facilitator: Rev. Dr. Brunilda B. Hopkins - (Duval/St. Johns Break-out Rooms)

9) **Web-site Development & Maintenance – OPEN**

Facilitator: Presiding Elder Anthony M. Graham
(Sarasota/Hillsborough Breakout Room)

10) **For Presidents & Vice Presidents of Auxiliaries with Conventions and/or Conferences**

Facilitators: Vanlow, Pelzer, Barber & Greer - (Orange Grand Ballroom)

Workshops, Thursday, October 27, 2011 – 1:30PM – 4:00PM

11) **“Spiritual Protocol”**

Facilitator: Bishop Carlton Williams - OPEN TO ALL – (Orange Grand Ballroom)

WORKSHOPS! EDUCATION & TRAINING SEMINARS SUMMARY’S

Challenges Facing the 21st Century Church



OVERVIEW OF:
Rev. Dr. Geraldine Crystal
General Assembly Workshop

The church in America is stagnating and in decline. The data is compelling...Leadership magazine states that 85 percent of American churches have reached a plateau or experienced declining attendance. The Barna Group states that no more than 10 percent of American churches can be described as highly effective; and two-thirds of pastors strongly agree that spiritual revival is the most pressing issue facing the church today. World magazine has recently highlighted the high number of churches closing or about to close their doors. One author states that more than 3500 churches die each year in this country.

The challenges facing individual congregations are often multi-dimensional, entangled, and daunting: no sense of direction, ineffective ministries, division and discord within the body, disunity among leadership, and others. Yet these struggles are only symptoms of deeper root causes. We have abandoned our purpose and forgotten the war that is before us. The truth is that we are in a very real war: a spiritual struggle against a committed, formidable, zealous enemy. This war has real casualties with eternal ramifications. The effects of it are churches struggling with conflict, stagnation and immorality. Our enemy, the evil one, is wholehearted in his efforts to distract, deceive and destroy. But too many of our leaders have forgotten that they are the generals in this war of wars; and they have failed to develop a vision and plan for victory. (Ephesians 6:12; Pr. 29:18; Ps 33:11).

What are the most pressing challenges impacting the local church? More than 1,300 ministry leaders

from Europe, North America, and elsewhere provided input into their most important issues.

Analysis of approximately 3,700 issues revealed 20 of the most frequently submitted challenges.

The

original survey participants then ranked from among those 20, the 10 most critical to them: prayer, discipleship, leadership, evangelism, doctrine/worldview, apathy, marriage, relevance, homosexuality, and abortion. Too long, churches have been silent on some of these issues. Many churches have compromised their values in order to maintain or increase their numbers.

In this workshop, we will bring these issues to the forefront. We welcome your attendance and input!!!

Building and Maintaining a Compelling Church Website



Overview of:
Presiding Elder
Anthony M. Graham
General Assembly
Workshop

This workshop will focus on how to build, organize, and maintain your church ministry website. Maintaining a website is just as important as building it in the first place! Unfortunately, most designers put much more effort into the initial design and launch of a site than they do in keeping the content fresh and keeping the site growing to best serve all visitors.

What You Need to Build a Website

1) Domain Name

The domain name creates the address of your site. So, mywebsite.com would be an example of a domain name. Domain names are paid for yearly and you must register them

2) Web Host

A website cannot exist without a web host. This is the company that houses your files and provides the environment for you to create and save pages to the Internet.

Web hosts are usually paid for monthly (some are yearly). Learn the importance of choosing the right website host.

3) Web Building Software (Optional)

If you're going to create a blog then you don't need software. However, please read the blog vs website page before making a quick decision on this.

If you don't use any software, then you will need to learn how to code HTML from scratch.

Outsource The Programming

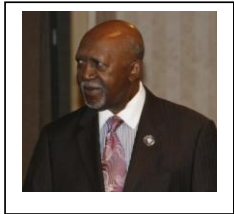
PayPal.com

Keep your content fresh

It is imperative that you maintain a commitment to posting accurate, timely information online. If people who visit your site find that the information never changes, they will stop accessing it. Maintaining a website is never done: new information will always be waiting to be uploaded, old information will need to be updated, users will provide suggestions that need to be incorporated, etc.

Presiding Elder Anthony M. Graham is both very knowledgeable and proficient in building and maintaining an interactive web-site. I personally encourage all pastors, CLG Churches and Department Auxiliary Presidents to attend this workshop for current trends and training in web-site maintenance.

Biblical Training for Deacons & Deaconesses



Overview of:
Trustee Deacon John
Barber
General Assembly
Workshop

The story in Acts 6:1-8 is generally alluded to as the first election of deacons. Indeed it must be looked upon as the origin of the office even though the men were not called deacons nor conceived to be such at this time. In I Timothy 3:8-13 speaks about the qualifications or characteristics of deacons who are elected. It is needful to expound on these scriptures.

Thus we will learn that the deacons (diakonos, servant) carry both the name of Christ and the name of servant. (Phil. 1:1) When we explore the responsibilities and duties as deacons/deaconesses, it is important that we include serving during Ordination Service and all official occasions. Introducing the “Deacons collar or Brothers collar” and proper attire will be an appropriate procedure at this session.

Effective Evangelism & Witnessing



Overview of:
Diocesan Elder
Danny Ransey
General Assembly
Workshop

Elder Danny Ransey, Diocesan Elder of Trinity Central West and pastor of Upper Room Tabernacle CLG – Toledo Ohio, is an anointed, prolific and west sought after Evangelist, Lecturer, Teacher, Preacher and Pastor. You certainly don't want to miss this interactive workshop that will assist those in Ecclesiastical Leadership in developing an effective purpose-driven Evangelism Explosion & Witnessing Ministry in your local assembly and diocese. This workshop will include such topics as: Training Laymen for Evangelism; How to present the Gospel; the proper use of Testimony; Handling Objections, Do's and Don'ts; Witnessing As a Way of Life; Follow-up; Revivals, Outreach Ministry; Nurturing New Believers; Questions & Answers; Becoming Life-style Witnesses; Bearing Abundant Fruit; Making Reproducing Disciples; etc.

WOW! You don't want to miss this Workshop.

Taking Control of Your Financial Life with Wisdom



Overview of:

Rev. Dr. Charmaine Coulter
General Assembly Workshop

- Mt.6:24; Mk. 10 17-22; Pv.14:24
- What is Wisdom?
- What does it mean to be wise?
- A Truth Shared Through Solomon
- Application

Different Mind Set

- What is Consumerism?
- How do you think people at age 65 are doing financially?
- Money and it's Power
- Finding Your Passion and Purpose
- What is Your Dream?

Reduce and Eliminate Your Debt

- Approaches You Can Take
- Compound Interest Can Be Devastating
- Go For Lower Interest Rates and No Annual Fees
- Establishing Credit
- Paying With Cash Has Benefits
- Strategies for Eliminating Your Debt
- Example of Eliminating the smallest debt first
- Increase Your Income
- Set Up and Live by a Budget
- Frequently Asked Questions About Debt Settlement (Q&A)
- Sample Complaint Letter

Credit Reports and Credit Scores

- How long items can stay in a Credit Report

- Who Can Look at your Credit Report
- How Credit Applications are Evaluated
- Your Credit Score & How it is created and more
- Factors that affect the Score

What to do if You become a Victim of Identity Theft

- Call the Credit Bureaus
- How to start an investigation request Program at Trans union
- File a complaint
- Call the Social Security Administration

Applying Your Money Where Your Faith Is

- What steps can you take to face & overcome your fears?
- A Debt of Gratefulness
- Honoring the Lord with Your Income & Wealth
- If every Church Member would Tithe
- Should I tithe on my gross income? (before taxes) or should I tithe on my Net Income (take home pay)?
- Summary Action Plan
- Self-Evaluation
- Giving Varies
- Sacrificial Giving
- Living the Plain Life
- Pretending to Have

Sample Spending Guide

Essential Principles to Follow

We Plan the way we want to live, Only God makes us Able to live it (Proverbs 16:9)

- Answer the following Questions
- **Seven Rules for Building Wisdom and Wealth**
 - 1). Put Off Marriage
 - 2). Debt is a Disease
 - 3). If You Don't Like Where your Parents Were at Your Age - Do Things Differently
 - 4). When you Begin a Job, Look at the Pay of the Highest Employee.
 - 5). Do Something You Love and Get Paid for It
 - 6). Understand the Money Myth
 - 7). Your New Commodity is Not Your Labor, It's Your Ideas

“You and Your Health”



Overview of
 Rev. Dr. Brunilda
 Bultron-Hopkins
 General Assembly
 Workshop

The Department of Allied Health believes that education in health is a continuous lifelong process. With the cooperation of educated health care professionals, we aim to present to the church community health education experiences, and information enabling them to identify their personal needs and the needs of the community surrounding them.

This year the seminars will feature information and demonstration of various health issues. Major topics to be discussed include:

- a. Diabetes
- b. Fitness
- c. Nutrition (Food and Cooking)
- d. Stress Management (Lifestyle Management)
- e. Men's Health Issues
- f. Women's Health Issues
- g. Weight Management
- h. Mental Health

It is our goal that each individual becomes a well informed person making holistic and healthy choices.

Spiritual Protocol

Overview of:

Bishop Carlton Williams
General Assembly Workshop

In the place of
Bishop T. N. Brown
Workshop



A. What is Spiritual Protocol?

Protocol is defined in part as “a code of ceremonial forms and courtesies of procedures accepted as proper and correct in official dealing.” There are many subtopics that fall under Spiritual Protocol.

1. The Law of Subjection (Romans 13:1-7)
 - a. Why is Spiritual Protocol important?
 - b. It is important that we know the limits God has set for us.
2. God and Delegated Authority (Luke 7:2-10)
 - a. The centurion was a man of great faith and he understood delegated authority.
3. The Planting of the Lord (Isaiah 61:3)
 - a. Every Christian is to be “a tree of righteousness, the planting of the Lord” placed in the Church where we can best grow and be a blessing.
4. The Cup of The Will (1 Samuel 15:1-14,22)
5. Redemptive Revelation (Proverbs 29:18)
 - a. Without a revelation of the Father, we have no revelation of the delegation of authority.
6. Covering and Uncovering Authority (Genesis 9:20-27); compare with Leviticus 18:6-8

7. The Law of the House (1 Corinthians 12:12-21)
 8. The Manifestations of Man's Rebellion (2 Corinthians 10:4-6)
 9. The Authority of the Body (Matthew 6:22)
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Auxiliary & Conference Leaders



Overview of
Elder Ralph Vanlow &
Trustee(s): Greer, Barber
& Pelzer
Finance Team Workshop

Purpose

- What is your purpose?
- Develop a Mission Statement
- To identify the role of your auxiliary in the overall mission of CLG
- To identify and evaluate initiatives and strategies that are currently in place.

Goals and Objectives

- Theme
- Establish expectations, rules and standards
- Establish what is important?
- Develop an environment that fosters collaboration

Planning

- Understand needs and challenges of attendees
- Consider cross-auxiliary work teams
- Best tools to communicate information
- Identify the best resources to execute the plan
- Schedule check-in sessions to evaluate progress

Budget & Finance

- Why is a budget important?
- Maximize profits to better support purpose
- Is your current conference model effective?
- Strategies to increase revenue
- Fundraising events before convention

Review

- Develop best practices for improvement
 - Identify challenges and obstacles
 - Timeline to implement agreed upon changes
 - Develop a method for feedback and updates
-