

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Today

GA2010

73rd CHURCH OF GOD
INTERNATIONAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY
JULY 27-30, 2010 • ORLANDO, FLORIDA

FRIDAY • JULY 30, 2010

FRIDAY'S Events at the General Assembly

Prayer Opportunity
7:00 a.m.; OCCC, S310F

International General Council Session
8:30am-12:00pm; OCCC

General Assembly and Commissioning
1:30pm-4:30pm; OCCC

Music Ministries Celebration Choir Rehearsal
5:00pm-8:00pm; OCCC stage

Memorial Service Reception (invitation only)
6:00pm; OCCC, S230AB

Worship Service 7:00-9:30pm; OCCC
Speaker: Raymond Culpepper

General Assembly and Commissioning Service Highlight Friday Events

This afternoon at 1:30 p.m. is the formal "General Assembly," the meeting at which this week's nominations of leaders, discussion and debate on the agenda is further debated and ultimately approved. The 1:30 start time is a change from the original time of 2:00 p.m.

This afternoon's session is open to any registered delegate ages 16 years and above. The General Council, composed of registered ordained bishops, is scheduled to complete this morning the agenda of items presented to them in the final meeting of the Council from 8:30 a.m. until noon.

The General Assembly allows for the voice of church members to be heard and is ultimately the deciding body for church polity and doctrine. What is decided on today will become church policy. The General Assembly also elects the leaders that were nominated Tuesday morning by the General Council. Those leaders include Raymond Culpepper, general overseer; Tim Hill, first assistant general overseer; Mark Williams, second assistant; David

—continued on page 3

MAKE PLANS TO ATTEND!

**74th Church of God
International General Assembly**

July 24-27, 2012

Orange County Convention Center, Orlando, Florida.

The Youth Missions Choir ministers in song during the Thursday night service.



Thursday Service Celebrates 'Missionary Heroes'

Thursday night of the General Assembly has been traditionally reserved to tell the great story of Church of God World Missions. Thursday, July 29, 2010 was no exception as over 300 missionaries from around the globe paraded into the Orange County Convention Center, many in native dress.

Opening videos shared the story with over 12,000 delegates who were updated on the progress in Haiti following last January's earthquake and the organizations who assist there and in other areas of the world. Moderator David Griffis proclaimed to the audience that, "we are firmly committed to the Great Commission and the Lord of the Great Commission."

World Missions Director Douglas LeRoy shared that the Church of God has presence in more than 181 countries and 5,000 missionaries. A tribute video highlighted the rich history of Church of God World Missions since its beginning 100 years ago.

An appeal for Children of the World went out as the primary financial focus of the evening. Benefactor John Gregory has pledged to match up to \$1 million toward the effort.

Speaker for the evening was Tim Hill, assistant general overseer, who shared personal stories and brought a powerful message of hope and encouragement to the congregation and a house full of "missionary heroes."

Rookie Bishops Reflect on First Voting Experience

By Jeremy Isaacs

I remember the first time I graduated from the kid's table and got to sit at the adult table for Thanksgiving dinner. I don't remember how old I was but I remember the feeling of acceptance and anticipation about being a part of the adult conversations.

I, along with many others, had that same feeling Tuesday morning as we stepped onto the floor of the General Council for the first time as ordained bishops. I had the opportunity to sit with credentialed members of my actual family while sitting among spiritual fathers and brothers. Some of these men have had a personal influence on my life while others have done so symbolically by digging wells that my young colleagues and I are allowed to now to drink from. Kyle Morrow, a pastor from Alabama, stated, "it has been a privilege to sit with

this esteemed body. The camaraderie felt on the floor has been unbelievable."

The thrill of being part of deliberation on a number of topics that will set the doctrine and polity of

—continued on page 5



Matthew Propes, Kevin Wallace, Jeremy Isaacs, Kyle Morrow



GA2010

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Some restrictions may apply.

Council Addresses Ineligibility, Affiliation

Thursday afternoon's business session was one of great fruit and closed with much uncertainty. The afternoon began by resuming business from the morning session on Item 12 regarding the eligibility of ministers who are late on their ministerial reports and church reports for election or appointment. After much debate including proposed, adopted and rejected amendments, the item was approved making these ministers ineligible both at the state/regional and international levels of our church.

Items 13, 14 and 15 were approved by house vote. These items dealt with ineligibility of ministers to serve on the Executive Council who present budgets to a divisional leader, the deletion of the state overseer commissioning service, and allowing up to two weeks for appointments to be announced.

Item 16 also passed, which prioritizes the net gain of disbanded church property sales for church planting.

Finally, Item 17 regarding the opportunities for churches outside of our denomination to become affiliated with the Church of God was discussed at great length. This debate will be resumed on Friday morning after the time ran out for debate in the afternoon session.

Just before business came to a close, a motion for reconsideration was made on the issue of women in ministry. This issue, which provided some of the most engaging debate of the week from both sides of the issue, will be reopened in the Friday morning business session.



Israel Houghton brings his unique praise and worship style.

Music and Message Attract Nearly 15,000

The first worship service of the 73rd General Assembly was one of the most energetic in recent memory. Nearly 15,000 people joined together to worship with Israel Houghton & New Breed, a mass youth choir and to be challenged from scripture by evangelist Franklin Graham.

The time of worship was intense and exciting. Israel Houghton masterfully interplayed songs of our past with

brand new songs, including a song entitled "Hosanna," that helped create a powerful moment of worship among those in the service.

The message from Dr Graham was direct and to the point as he challenged us with a call to the Great Commission. He spoke of his mandate from the Lord "to take the Gospel." He challenged us to keep the gospel "at the center of evangelism." He drew both laughs and calls of "amen" as he stated, "I love to preach the Gospel because I like a good fight, and Jesus always wins."

He closed with a challenge to "take the life you have left and take the Gospel to the end of the earth." He exited as our General Overseer called us to the altar to pray and declare our lives for the lost. The sounds of prayer were accompanied by the sounds of worship as we declared God to be "Mighty to Save."—*Jeremy Isaacs*



Franklin Graham challenges the opening night crowd.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY Today

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Friday Events

Continued from page 1

Griffis, third assistant and Wallace Sibley, secretary general. Also to be voted upon will be the department and ministry leaders Thomas Madden and Gary Lewis for Youth and Christian Education; Jimmy Smith and Larry Timmerman in Evangelism and Home Missions; and Douglas LeRoy and Victor Pagan in World Missions.

Agenda items dealing with the change of name of the Youth and C.E. and Evangelism and Home Missions departments were part of the agenda and will also be presented to the General Assembly as well.

In a change from previous Assemblies, the Commissioning of the General Overseer and Executive Committee will now take place tonight during the worship service instead of Saturday morning. Following the formality which involves prayer and a setting forth of the Church of God leaders, the newly-commissioned General will deliver an address which will cast the vision for the next two years in the Church of God and beyond.

The final event of the 73rd International General Assembly will be when the gavel falls as moved by the general overseer at the close of tonight's service.

125th Anniversary of the Church of God

On August 19, 2011, the 125th anniversary of the Church of God will be observed. This will be a glorious event to celebrate the marvelous love and guidance of our heavenly Father.

This will be a time to review the journey of the Church of God with the gospel of Jesus Christ into all the world. It will also be a time to review the history of the local church.

The 125th anniversary will be a time to emphasize our doctrinal distinctives and to respond to outreach possibilities for the future.

The 125th anniversary of the Church of God offers a great opportunity to review history, record the history of the local church, respond to Great Commission challenge and to rejoice in the mighty hand of God on our denomination. Let us begin now to prepare for this historical event.

Celebration opportunities will be set forth in the winter issue of the *Engage* journal.

—*Floyd D. Carey, chairman of the Historical Commission*



By Doug Small

In September, General Overseer Raymond Culpepper is calling the Church of God to 30 Days of Prayer. The initiative is being touted as “Days of Awakening-Days of Action.”

The Church of God started as a prayer movement—three men bound themselves to unrelenting prayer, and then eight formed a union of prayer aimed at spiritual awakening. They persisted until the great Shearer Creek Schoolhouse revival launched what we call the Church of God.

Four years after the first General Assembly, itself largely a prayer meeting, the first missionaries were on foreign soil. Prayer and evangelism were the two legs that advanced the humble band. It wasn't an attempt to create another denomination, but a movement within and among denominations—one that longed to return to New Testament patterns.

Sometimes, to find our way, we have go back to get to the future! From the embryonic stage to the full and mature form, the DNA of any entity remains the same. It is stamped into every cell. Our DNA defines our purpose, our mission, the reason God raised us up as a movement.

If we were born as a prayer and missional organization in the fires of revival 100 years ago, it seems certain that our destiny is not to morph into the form of other organizations, but to re-center ourselves in the trajectory of God's determined purpose for us—a holy and yet loving, Spirit-filled people, whose lives are marked by daily prayer, and whose hearts burn for the lost!

The September prayer event will be held on Wednesday evenings, beginning September 1 and continue on the 8th, 15th, 22nd and 29th. On each day, the themes will be:

- September 1: The **Priority** of Brokenness (Personal Repentance)
- September 8: The **Place** of the Solemn Assembly—The Church (Corporate Repentance)
- September 15: The **Prerogative** of Servants—They

Can Go Anywhere! The Servant Heart—Access to Power.

- September 22: The **Privilege** of Sharing God's Love—Witness!
 - September 29: The **Power** of Living by God's Principles—Discipleship!
- Each Sunday will have a special corollary theme with support materials:
- September 5—**Seeing His Face**. A call to holiness, humility, brokenness and transparency.
 - September 12—**Sensing His Heart for the World**. A call to see the harvest, to consider the area around us our mission field.
 - September 19—**Serving by Demonstrating His Love**. A call to care. A call to make a difference in neighbors. A call to be missional.



- September 26—**Sharing by Declaring His Truth** (the Gospel). A call to evangelize, to share our faith, to witness to friends, to talk openly about faith in ways that solicit search hearts to enquire of His goodness.

DAYS OF AWAKENING—DAYS OF ACTION

September 5-12 will be called DAYS OF AWAKENING. These 8 Days are days of prayer and repentance. They embrace Rosh Hashanah, the Jewish New Year. On Saturday, September 11, Christians of

all denominations are challenged to pray at Noon, at their Courthouse for a national Great Awakening. Go to www.awakeningamerica.us for information.

September 19-26 will be a special focus within the Church of God called DAYS OF ACTION. These 8 Days will be loaded with suggestions for community impact. Dwight L. Moody reminds us, “Every work of God can be traced to some kneeling form.”

Bathe every initiative in prayer. S. D. Gordon believed, “Prayer is partnership with God in His planet-sized purposes.”

SATURDAY IDEAS

On September 4, prayer-walk your church facility and campus. Gather intercessors. On September 11, join believers of other denominations in a national day of

prayer walking. Prayer-walk your city. Then join in the Noon “Cry Out America!” rallies on courthouse steps. On September 18, conduct a “We Care!” campaign with special care projects. On September 25, give the gift of prayer! Look for open hearts with whom to share the gospel! Do target evangelism efforts focused on those who are relationally close (friends and family), geographically near (neighbors), or scripturally assigned (the widow and orphan; the rejected and abused; the sick and displaced; the broken-hearted and those in prison). Consider those who are also assigned by the Spirit (their felt needs are drawing the church; there is an open door, an invitation, a connection).

Immediately after the Assembly, resource materials will be on-line at the Church of God Prayer Ministries site—www.praycog.org.

The late Armin Gesswein, an apostle of prayer, once said, “When Christ ascended into heaven all He left behind was a prayer meeting. The early Church didn't have a prayer meeting; the early Church was the prayer meeting. In fact, in the early church every Christian was a prayer-meeting Christian.” Edward Payson noted, “Prayer is the first thing, the second thing, the third thing necessary to a minister. Pray, then, my dear brother; pray, pray, pray.” Someone said that every Christian organization should be scraped every one-hundred years, and started over with only the prayer circle!

In September, let's begin anew—in prayer!

Praying Church Movement Announced

Following the 30 Days of Prayer in September, announced by Dr. Culpepper, Doug Small, Liaison for Prayer Ministries plans the launch of “The Praying Church Movement!” The idea is to identify congregations that want to focus specifically on the development of prayer ministries. There are seven critical markers that can be viewed the Web site www.praycog.org.

A number of states have created a State Prayer Leadership team and those teams are connecting monthly on prayer calls with the denominational prayer office. More states we hope will join that process. In addition, after the September initiative, Small has announced plans for a monthly local church prayer leadership information and coaching call. The call would be open to any member of a local church prayer leadership team – and they are free. Experts on prayer ministry will be joining the call, new resources and national prayer efforts will be consistently featured.

A directory sign-up to be a part of the Praying Church Network can be accessed at the Web site www.praycog.org.

Alford Honored For Life of Music Ministry

Dr. Delton L. Alford was honored during the Music Ministries Advisory Council luncheon held Thursday at a local restaurant. Alford was awarded a plaque from the advisory group for his 26 years of service in the Department of Music Ministries for the Church of God. Alford's contributions span 50 years in music ministry.

As part of the presentation, a resolution on the life and ministry of Dr. Alford was presented and read as follows:

"Whereas Dr. Delton Alford has served as the Director of Music Ministries and Spiritsound Music Group of the Church of God (1992-2010);

Whereas Dr. Alford was the founder of the Music Advisory Council;

Whereas Dr. Alford has maintained a high



level of involvement in the events and activities of the Music Advisory Council since its inception and;

Whereas Dr. Alford has been a main figure in Evangelical/Pentecostal/Church of God music for over five decades as a full-time minister of music, music executive, music educator, music publisher, arranger, writer, speaker, preacher, and friend to all who love music and ministry;

May it be resolved that the executive officers and members and of the Music Advisory Council of the Church of God hereby grant life time membership to Dr. Delton Alford."

Also recognized at the meeting was Steve Allen of Cleveland, Tennessee, for his effective leadership of the Music Advisory Council for the past six years. Replacing Allen in the role will be Mark Blankenship of Atlanta.

Rookie Bishops

Continued from page 1

our church was very fulfilling. Matthew Propes from Omaha, Neb. described the experience as humbling to sit and deliberate on issues that "directly impact the future of our Church as we move forward together." Kevin Wallace from Ooltewah, Tenn. said, "It was an incredible experience to witness and participate in the debate

and vigorous discussion that happened at this Assembly."

Every minister sitting on the floor of our General Council sat there for the first time at some point in the past. One gentleman that I sat beside noted that he had participated in the General Council for 56 years. The beauty of our church was clearly seen as a man with nearly six decades of experience and one with 2 days experience on the Council floor voted together on issues of great importance for our future...and it happened all over the room!



Tweet-Worthy

Posted on Twitter: @cogga2010

- Overheard after 3 days of Roberts Rules of Order at GA business session, "I think I'm getting 'motion' sickness"
- I admire the stength of @rculpepper and the EC. Five 20 hour days. You have my prayers.
- "Can I make an amendment to an amendment... to an amendment?" Please tell me that was for comedic relief.
- Pretty sure when the GO ASKS you to come to the front that he is being polite...he's really not asking
- "Too many Christians want to quit preaching the gospel. We can't quit or else they will go to hell."—Franklin Graham
- There's never been this much liberty to worship unfettered at #COGga in my lifetime! Awesome!
- It is a beautiful thing to experience worship with your family (with over 14,000 people in it!)
- "I love to preach the gospel cause I like a good fight. And Jesus wins.—Franklin Graham
- WHOA!!! Could there be another recount in Florida? Start looking for pregnant chads.

Joining Hands Around the World to Fulfill

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UN MILAGRO DE SANIDAD GESTÓ UNA GRAN IGLESIA

70 Aniversario de la Iglesia de Dios en Argentina

Con actos alusivos al Septuagésimo Aniversario de la Iglesia de Dios en Argentina, se celebró y recordó la fecha cuando se estableció oficialmente la IGLESIA DE DIOS en el país.

En un acto presidido por el **Rev. Demetrio Robeff**, Supervisor Nacional, se descubrió una placa conmemorativa. Luego se realizó una celebración especial, en el templo ubicado en Isla Maciel, Buenos Aires, Argentina, en el mismo lugar donde hace 70 años se instituyó la IGLESIA DE DIOS en el país.

El acto central, contó con la presencia de algunos Supervisores Regionales, miembros del Consejo Directivo Nacional, pastores y líderes, varios miembros y amigos de varias iglesias y la visita del **Dr. Osvaldo Pupillo**, quien presentó un mensaje histórico relatando algunas anécdotas del inicio de la obra y manifestaciones maravillosas del poder de Dios. Todo comenzó en el año 1928, en el barrio de Isla Maciel, precisamente en la casa donde vivía don **Marcos Mazzucco**, junto con su esposa Honorina y su hijo Mario. Marcos Mazzucco había contraído una enfermedad por la cual ya había sido desahuciado por los médicos. Invitado por un compañero de trabajo, don Marcos concurrió con su familia a una iglesia evangélica pentecostal y Dios hizo el milagro. Transformado por el poder de Dios, en agradecimiento por su sanidad, la familia Mazzucco ofreció las habitaciones de su vivienda para hacer reuniones de predicación del evangelio y el poder de Dios se siguió manifestando.

En 1936 se inauguró el primer templo en ese lugar. Alrededor de los años 1939 y 1940, Dios ya había revelado por distintas maneras



que vendría un misionero. El **Rev. J. H. Ingram**, misionero itinerante de la Iglesia de Dios, había planeado su tercer viaje alrededor del mundo. Al no poder viajar para el oriente por motivos de la guerra mundial, vino a Argentina y después de varios contactos llegó a Isla Maciel. Ingram quedó impresionado con la organización de la iglesia que contaba con 11 iglesias y anexos en Buenos Aires y alrededores. El 30 de Junio de 1940, en el templo pequeño colmado de creyentes, se llevó a cabo la unión con la Iglesia de Dios.

En el invierno de 1940, ambos pastores visitaron varios lugares y por recomendación del Rev. Ingram, en la Asamblea General Internacional el Pastor Mazzucco fue nombrado Supervisor de la Iglesia de Dios en Argentina. Lo que siguió fue el trabajo fecundo

del Pastor Mazzucco y los líderes que lo acompañaban para extender la obra. Hoy la Iglesia de Dios en Argentina cuenta con cinco regiones administrativas, iglesias en casi todas las provincias del país, distintos ministerios, un Seminario Nacional y un programa nacional de educación para la formación ministerial de los que están dispuestos a servir en la obra del Señor.

Osvaldo Pupillo

CHILE TIENE UN NUEVO OBISPO NACIONAL



En reciente elección celebrada por los ministros de la Iglesia de Dios en Chile, el **Rev. Patricio Ramírez** fue elegido como nuevo obispo nacional. Ramírez es un pastor y líder de larga trayectoria en la iglesia trasandina. Se ha destacado por su labor en los medios de comunicación y en proyectos de obra social. También ha sido educador e integrante de diversos comités y juntas a lo largo de su ministerio en la nación sudamericana.

Hija y esposa de dos pioneros de la Iglesia de Dios

Persis Lugo de Collazo cumplió 90 años



El día 11 de Abril en la ciudad de St. Petersburg, Florida, la hermana **Persis Lugo**, viuda de Collazo celebró 90 años de vida.

Alrededor de una 150 personas, incluyendo sus cuatro hijas, un hijo, 2 yernos, 6 nietos, 7 biznietos, 1 hermano, 2 hermanas, 1 cuñado, 1 cuñada, algunos primos y sobrinos estuvieron junto a la hermana Persis en ese día tan especial.

Asistieron personas que llegaron desde Puerto Rico, California, New York y Tennessee; entre ellos amistades y hermanos en la fe, que la conocieron hace cincuenta y sesenta años.

La hermana Persis es hija del pionero de pentecostés en la isla de Puerto Rico, **Juan L. Lugo**, y viuda del reverendo **Antonio Collazo**, quien fue un líder pionero de la iglesia de Dios en Puerto Rico y los Estados Unidos.

Crick Retires From Chaplains Commission

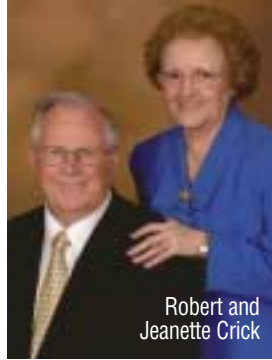
by Wayne Roberson

The Church of God Chaplains Commission was established in 1978 when one person brought a unique combination of pastoral ministry experience, professional clinical skills and training, a career in military chaplaincy, and a heart to go “outside the gates” of the traditional Church of God and reach a hurting world for Christ. That person was Dr. Robert D. Crick, along with his wife and life-long partner in ministry, Jeanette. Together, they founded, nurtured, and over a period of 32 years, developed what is now a world-wide ministry that touches the lives of thousands with the ministry of chaplaincy.

On Sunday evening, Robert and Jeanette Crick were honored and celebrated for a lifetime of selfless and dedicated service through the Chaplains Commission. With over 300 attending the Commission’s traditional pre-assembly Honors Dinner, the Crick’s world-wide chaplaincy family, church and ministry colleagues, and friends joyfully expressed appreciation and gratitude for their 32 years of care, mentoring, professional guidance and devoted leadership. It was a time to appreciatively reflect upon a ministry that began with eleven Church of God chaplains to the point now with almost 100 military Active Duty, National Guard, and Reserve chaplains, and some 250 full-time institutional chaplains and over 3,000 part-time and volunteer chaplains serving in hospitals, state and federal correctional systems, mental health clinics, professional counseling centers, nursing homes, hospice associations, rehabilitation centers, business and industry, and countless other settings.

Dr. Crick received his undergraduate degree from Trinity University, the Master of Divinity degree from Vanderbilt University, and his Doctor of Ministry degree from Emory University. He is a Certified Supervisor with the Association of Clinical Pastoral Education and a Board Certified Chaplain with the Association of Professional Chaplains.

In 1958, Dr. Crick launched his ministry as an evangelist while serving with the US Air Force in Germany.



Robert and Jeanette Crick

Upon return to the states, he pastored in Tennessee for three years and in 1961, was commissioned as an Army chaplain. During his military career and ministry, he served in the US, Europe, and Vietnam. As an Army chaplain with combat service in Vietnam, Dr. Crick was awarded the

Legion of Merit, two Bronze Stars for Valor, and other notable commendations and decorations.

While in the military, he set up one of the first Clinical Pastor Education Training and Counseling Centers and he set up one of the first alcohol and drug rehabilitation centers for the Army. After retiring from the Army, the Cricks moved to Cleveland and he began work in the General Department of Education. That same year, 1978, the Chaplains Commission was formally established with Dr. Crick appointed as the director. In 1980, Dr. Crick was appointed to the faculty of the Church of God seminary, now known as the Pentecostal Theological Seminary. Since then, the

Chaplains Commission and the Seminary have been full partners in ministry, education and training.

The Church of God, under Dr. Crick’s leadership of the Chaplains Commission, is affiliated with many different chaplaincy, professional and governmental departments and organizations, to include: the Department of Defense, the Department of Veterans Affairs, the Association of Professional Chaplains, the Association of Clinical Pastoral Education, the Federal Bureau of Prisons, various state correctional departments, the National Conference on Ministry to the Armed Forces, and many others. These affiliations underscore Dr. Crick’s lifelong commitment for the Church of God to be an equal partner with all denominations and faith groups in every area of chaplaincy service.

Earlier this year, Dr. Crick and the Chaplains Commission completed an 8-year project to build a \$1.5 million Chaplaincy and Care Center in Oradea, Romania. This state-of-the-art building was formally dedicated in May. It is a 5-story facility that will serve Eastern Europe far into the future ... medical care, benevolent care, a counseling center, chaplaincy training, pastoral conferences and numerous other caregiving ministries.

Dr. Crick’s long-awaited and now-published book, *Outside the Gates: Theology, History and Practice of Chaplaincy Ministry*, will bring together his lifelong experiences, wisdom, and biblical and practical insights into the special ministry of chaplaincy ... to be shared with the next generation of chaplains. This all-inclusive book will no doubt become the training manual and resource guide for men and women in chaplaincy service.

Dr. Crick will continue his ministries as Professor of the Chair of Benevolence, Compassion and Care with the Pentecostal Theological Seminary and as consultant to the Outside the Gates Ministries, Inc.

MICHIGAN CONGRATULATES NEWLY ELECTED EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND OTHER OFFICIALS AT THE 73RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

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AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY

People for Care and Learning, Lee Partner on Business Projects

Lee University business students recently traveled to Cambodia with four business plans developed by the students with a goal of creating a sustainable model in a village in the country. The Lee Department of Business and People for Care and Learning (peopleforcare.org), a non-profit humanitarian organization with ties to the Church of God, joined hands to make a difference in the country's dire social scene.

This project began to take shape when the Chair of the Department of Business Dr. Dewayne Thompson and Assistant Professor of Business Mr. Guy DeLoach visited Cambodia with PCL last December with the intent of investigating a partnership. PCL has been offering classes to village children and is a major presence in Cambodia.

The trip included a visit to the Tonle Sap Lake, a floating village of about 1 million ostracized Vietnamese people. The people living on the lake share a common story of suffering—they have been banished from the mainland and forced to live in abject poverty.

Seeing the problems from a close range, Thompson and DeLoach decided that something had to be done to break the cycle of poverty, and the idea of a sustainable village model entered a period of incubation and hope.

"When we returned, we decided to offer a course consistent with our experiential learning model but with a purpose to alleviate the suffering of a few," said Thompson. "While our efforts are modest, we have 13 students involved in developing four business plans that we hope can be implemented to break the cycle and create the sustainable village."

The students traveled to Cambodia earlier this summer and implemented the first stages of their projects. Katie Rowcliffe, Blake Kernea, and Jacob Brown worked on a soy production project which they hope will allow them to provide a nutritional meal for the Tonle Sap children. These students also have concrete plans of Soymilk production and including "okara," a soymilk byproduct, in some of the local food to provide an effective source of protein for children.

Kayla Smith, Ginny Stewart, and Justin McComber are developing a business plan to produce solar energy to power refrigeration for the barge and to create other revenue-producing enterprises.

Integrated farming is the project being developed by Morgan Adams, Andrea Mouser, and Jared Houghton. This is a green initiative that includes building fisheries, pig farms, and other agricultural plans designed to provide a source of income for families.

Cait Kooistra, Kristine Tuck, Lauren Thompson, and Alan Ponce are working on a microenterprise and microfinance project. They hope to loan money for personal needs and to create business opportunities.

"A Lee alumna, Bilguun Boldbaatar, is an advisor to the teams," said Thompson. "BB, as she is better known by, is from Mongolia and has tacit insight."

The project has a clear vision in incorporating locals and tapping into the local resources and partners, as the goal is to make life better for Cambodians' families, including those on the Tonle Sap Lake.

"Students have individuals who serve as advisors to help navigate through the more difficult and technical aspects of each project," Thompson said, further adding that the students have also presented their projects before technical advisors and to potential donors.

As the students, with support from the Department of Business, embark on an eventful journey to change lives in Cambodia one family at a time, their project seeks to enact St. Francis of Assisi's compelling charge to all Christians: "Preach the gospel at all times, and when necessary, use words."



Lee students and faculty members display solar panels to be installed on the Tonle Sap barge.



Church of God Haitian Overseer Dies in Haiti Earthquake

(Faith News—January 15, 2010) Church of God Haitian Overseer Elysee Joseph and three from a Canadian delegation have died as a result the devastating earthquake in Haiti on January 12.

According to Rev. Douglas LeRoy, Church of God general director of World Missions, the death of overseer Joseph occurred when a 20-foot wall collapsed on the vehicle in which Joseph was a passenger. Joseph was returning from the Port-au-Prince airport with former Haitian missionary Lloyd Frazier and former General Director of World Missions Lovell Cary and his wife, Ginny. The group had just arrived in the country and were on their way to a hotel in anticipation of the Haitian National Convention which would have been held this week. Frazier and Lovell Cary were bruised, while Ginny Cary was hurt when a portion of the wall fell on their car. Her injuries are not life-threatening and as of Friday morning, the three had been transported to the neighboring country of Dominican Republic by the U.S. Coast Guard where Mrs. Cary was receiving treatment and arrangements were being made to return the group back to the United States.

Dr. Joseph was a leading pastor and had served the church as national overseer on two occasions. He is survived by his wife and children.

Other groups associated with the Church of God were also in the country when the quake hit. Among them was a delegation from Canada and Southern New England, and a short-term missions team from



Elysee Joseph

Potter's House in Columbus, Ohio. According to Rev. Jacques Houle, administrative bishop for the Church of God in Quebec/Maritimes, three from the Canadian group have died. Traveling with that group was administrative bishop of Southern New England Jonathan Ramsey and Boston area pastor Othon Noel. Ramsey and Noel, as well as the Ohio group are safe, but remain in the country awaiting transportation back to North America. Details on how the three from the delegation were killed is still unclear.

"As you can imagine, communications with these and others in the country is very limited and sometimes third party," LeRoy stated.

Since 1933, the Church of God has had a presence in Haiti. Jacques Vital-Herne wrote on March 17, 1933, to S. W. Latimer, the third overseer of Church of God, to affiliate with the Church in Cleveland. At that time, there were eight local churches and by 1936, Haiti had 30 churches. Presently there are 741 local churches, 327 missions and more than 250,000 members. The Church of God is among the largest Christian movements in Haiti and also includes schools, such as the Seminaire Biblique. It is one of four bachelor's-degree granting schools in Haiti and

one of three in the country that is approved to train public school teachers. The Church of God has more than 100 schools (including elementary), several clinics, hospitals According to LeRoy, due to strained communication a full assessment of the casualties among church members and damage to buildings and homes will not be possible for some time. LeRoy did confirm that some of the national buildings were damaged, but the national office and missionary home are intact.

"Please consider giving compassionately to aid and comfort the people who were so greatly devastated by this earthquake," LeRoy stated. "If we all do what we can, God will supply the needs of His people in Haiti."

Church of God relief agencies, including Operation Compassion, are already on-site in the country with supplies that were delivered two months ago. More relief is on stand-by waiting for clearance. A Haiti Earthquake Relief Fund has been established through Church of God World Missions. Please indicate Project Number 7650042 when designating your donations either through the Web site www.cogwm.org or through the mail P.O. Box 8016, Cleveland, TN, 37320-8016.

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