

# Getting Connected

A monthly newsletter highlighting the ministry of the Churches of God in  
Maryland, Delaware, Washington, D.C. and the Virginia Peninsula

**Church of God  
Delmarva-DC Region  
Resource and Training  
Center**

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Administrative Bishop

**Marsha Rice**

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USA Missions Administrative  
Assistant

**Angie Sharpe**

Youth & Discipleship  
Administrative Assistant

How often do you have to change your plans? How many times have you counted on something that seemed sure to happen, but then didn't? How about those situations when you prayed, waited on God, gained an inner witness that He would be working to bring everything about, and then everything was switched?

It's that last issue, I think, that is most troubling: *I just don't understand it. The Lord seemed to have it all together, and then - bam!* When that happens, and disappointment begins to clutch at your emotions, what can you do?

This is what helps me:

1. **Don't decide "everything's over!"** Neither a simple glitch in my plans nor an absolute barricade means my life is ended. Circumstances never - **NEVER** - change the fundamental absolute undergirding the believer's life: **My life is in God's hands.** No matter what.

2. **Let God's peace take command.** The only thing that ever hinders peace is that someone doesn't surrender. So when upset, dismay, frustration-with-things, or deep disappointments come, *"Let the peace of God rule in your hearts"* (Colossians 3:15). To surrender to God is never the same as surrendering to the situation. It is an act of *choice* that overrules whatever *chance* seems to be trying your soul, stretching your faith, or overthrowing your confidence.

3. **Commit to hope.** There's reason to! For the believer, hope is *divinely assured things that aren't here yet!* While I may misunderstand God's timing, God's ways, and even wonder about God's presence, He doesn't change and is always faithful (Hebrews 6:17, 19).

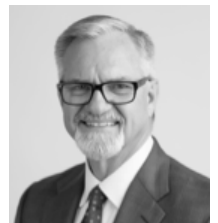
4. **Let go of any need to "look good."** Much of our disappointment is rooted in our fears, and among the greatest of those is the fear that our change in plans or our apparent setback will embarrass us before other people. Don't allow the need to appear in "perfect control" of your life and circumstances put you in the position of trying to justify everything. Don't mind saying, "Maybe I was wrong," even if you're sure you weren't - but just don't understand it all yet.

5. **Praise the Lord - quietly.** Give yourself over to the spirit of faith - that's the Holy Spirit. We may not see the way God is going to work where we are right now, but be sure, *He will* (Isa 54:1).

Disappointment is changed by altering only one letter-the first one-to "H." Turn **dis**appointment into **His** appointment. Then, stand still and watch Him keep His appointment with your destiny.

P. S. And read Romans 8:31-39.

- Pastor Darrell Rice



## UPDATES

### Regional Council

James R. Izzard, Jr.  
Aaron Renard Jones  
Billy Raye Humphrey  
Chris Lockemy  
Hugh Bair  
Dennis Warren Foster  
Tim Shawyer  
Harold R. Bowman  
Jon Stephen Lowery  
Carlton Cannon, Jr.

### Youth and Discipleship Board

J. C. Worley  
Mark Sparks  
Lorieann Julie Lockemy  
Ryan Christian Shawyer  
David Bowyer, Jr.  
Jordan Ackerman  
Tiffany Izzard

### Ministerial Development Board

Greg Copley (MIP), Chair  
Tim Shawyer (CAMS)  
Keith Maxwell (Interview Bd)  
Greg Morris (Examining Bd)  
Josè Torres

### SpiritCare Coordinator

Harold R. Bowman

### Hispanic Ministries Coordinator

Josè Torres

### Feed Delmarva-DC Network Director

Billy Humphrey

### Church Revitalization

J. C. Worley

### Our deepest sympathies to . . .

. . . **John Flick** (Grasonville, MD) and family upon the death of his mother, Deborah Jean Flick, of Cumberland, MD, on Thursday, January 5, 2017.

. . . **Nancey Cannon** (Seaford, DE) - Pastor Carlton Cannon, Jr.'s wife - and family upon the passing of her father, Lamont Coker of Philadelphia, PA, on January 19, 2017

### Please pray for . . .

. . . **Philip Morris** (Salisbury, MD), retired minister, is recovering from open-heart surgery on January 11, 2017 in Salisbury.

. . . **Robert Clagg** (Seaford, DE), retired minister, had a pacemaker implanted on January 19, 2017.

. . . **Billy Balderson** (Wilmington, DE) underwent back surgery on January 30, 2017, and is still hospitalized.

. . . **Ralph Massie** (North East, MD) continues in need of prayer following November 30, 2016 surgery for bladder malignancy.

. . . **Terry Lewis** (Pasdena, MD), youth pastor at Chesapeake Christian Center is scheduled for open-heart surgery on February 2, 2017.

### Transitions . . .

. . . **John Thorne** (Crisfield, MD), after serving as interim pastor for 3 months, accepted the appointment as pastor of the Crisfield Church of God on January 22, 2017.

. . . **Todd Rigney** (Smithsburg, MD) resigned the pastorate of the Mount Pleasant Church of God on January 18, 2017, and accepted the appointment as Associate Pastor of the International Community Church of God in Frederick, MD.

### MEN'S BREAKFAST - SATURDAY, MARCH 4, 2017

Dr. Raymond Culpepper, First Assistant General Overseer of the Church of God, will be the featured speaker for the 2017 Men's Breakfast on Saturday, March 4, at the Heritage Community Church of God, 8146 Quarterfield Road, Severn, MD. Program includes breakfast at 8:00 a.m., special music, a dynamic message and door prizes. Begin NOW to recruit your men. Informational packet enclosed.

### CHURCH PLANTERS GATHERING/LAUNCH - SATURDAY, March 11, 2017

**GO Church** - Clarksburg Campus, 23900 Clarksburg Road, Clarksburg, MD 20875 - and **Pastor J. C. Worley** will host the next Church Planters Gathering/Launch Day on Saturday, March 11, 2017. This day is designed for all church planters, prospective church planters and anyone interested in church planting. Pastor J. C. and his staff will share various aspects of planting a church, promoting a church and positioning for health and growth. The day includes sessions from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. with lunch provided FREE OF CHARGE. There is no registration fee but you **must register** by calling 410.531.5351 or email [bmoore@cogdelmarva-dc.org](mailto:bmoore@cogdelmarva-dc.org).

### MINISTERS' RETREAT/CONFERENCE - FEBRUARY 27 - MARCH 1, 2017

Information is enclosed for the upcoming ministers' retreat featuring special guest speaker, Dr. Mark L. Walker - pastor of the Mount Paran North Church of God in Marietta, GA. The theme is:

**LO-GOS: The Power of God's ONE Word**

**One** – the power of **FOCUS** ... **Yet** – the power of **DECISION** ... **Test** – the power of **CHARACTER**

### JOIN PASTOR RICE FOR THE GUYANA NATIONAL CONVENTION

Upon the adoption of Georgetown, Guyana by Delmarva-DC ministers as the 2016 - 18 world missions project to establish a church planting center impacting the Caribbean, Pastor Rice is hosting a team to minister in the national convention, April 19 - 23, 2017. The cost is approximately \$1,600 (airfare, lodging, 2 meals a day Wednesday - Sunday). If interested please email Pastor Rice at [mdr2020@msn.com](mailto:mdr2020@msn.com). A meeting will be held at the ministers' conference.



# DELMARVA/DC WOMEN'S CONFERENCE MARCH 31-APRIL 1, 2017

HERITAGE COMMUNITY CHURCH  
8146 QUARTERFIELD ROAD  
SEVERN, MD 21144



**\$30**

**\$35 after 3/17**

CONFERENCE FEE  
COVERS CONFERENCE EXPENSES  
INCLUDING HANDOUTS  
AND CHICK-FIL-A BISCUIT AND COFFEE  
SATURDAY AM

**FRIDAY, 7 PM**  
**SATURDAY, 9 AM**

ART  
BIBLE  
MUSIC  
DRAMA  
CREATIVE  
WRITING  
MULTI-MEDIA

EASTON  
CHURCH OF GOD

DISCOVER

DEVELOP

DEDICATE



PRESENTED BY DELMARVA DC YOUTH DEPARTMENT

TEEN TALENT  
Delmarva DC

1009 N. WASHINGTON ST  
EASTON, MD 20601

SATURDAY, MARCH 18  
REGISTRATION @ 8 AM

WWW.COGDELMARVA-DC.ORG  
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REGIONAL OFFICE: 410.531.5351

