

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 Assistant

A few years ago a couple of minister friends decided to take up flying and enrolled in flight school. After getting their pilots license they insisted that I go up in a small plane with them. After they logged a few more hours I finally got up the nerve to risk it with one of them. One of the things that captivated me was watching my friend prepare for takeoff. After accounting for a list of about two dozen items, he calmly pulled back the stick, and we were airborne. It was a secure feeling to know that everything had been checked out!

Could it be that God is calling you to new heights of possibility in His purpose for you this day . . . this week . . . this season? Are you cleared for takeoff? If you're not sure, I recommend the following checklist to help you determine that you are "cleared" on these fundamental factors.

Checkpoint #1: Relationships

- Is all clutter of doubt, condemnation, or guilt between Jesus and myself cleared out? Is there a regular flow of one-to-one relationship with Him in prayer, communion, praise, and worship?
- Am I giving adequate attention to all family relationships? Am I faithfully giving myself to each member of the family? Allowing special time to be with each? Am I forgiving their shortcomings—and seeking their forgiveness for mine?
- Concerning those with whom I work or study: Am I sensitive as an available channel for ministry? What fresh flow of God's love might be released through me? Am I free of all resentment . . . lovelessness?

Checkpoint #2: Maturity

- Am I gaining new points of balance in my understanding? Am I giving God's Spirit opportunity to enlarge my awareness and perspective?
- How do I score in God's mind when it comes to such seemingly diverse principles as "Spirit-filled prayer life" and "fidelity with God's tithe"?
- Where have I been in my private reading and study of God's eternal Word? What points of truth have been opened or deepened in my mind?

Checkpoint #3: My church family

- Am I "in touch" with those things the Holy Spirit is saying to my congregation? Am I hearing Him? Responding? Am I simply part of the crowd, or am I a contributing part of the family?
- When have I last sought a new acquaintance at more than a surface level of involvement? Am I stagnating within a closing circle of fellowship, or open to and cultivating an expanding circle?

This list, of course, could expand considerably. In any case, take time with these. Only He knows what possibilities will open up for you as you climb to new altitudes in His purpose for your life.

Let's respond!

- Pastor Darrell Rice



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UPDATES

Our deepest sympathies to . . .

. . . the family of **Reverend Peggy Lou Outten** (Salisbury, MD) upon her passing, September 7, 2017, at the Wicomico Nursing Home in Cambridge, MD
. . . **Donovan Jenkins** (Bridgeville, DE) and family upon the passing of his sister, Christine Jenkins-Carter, on September 30, 2017.
. . . **Joseph Pierre** (Silver Spring, MD) and family upon the passing of his brother, Renold Pierre, of Port-au-Prince, Haiti, on October 1, 2017.

Transitions . . .

. . . **Adam Filbert** (Fruitland, MD) accepted the appointment as Crossroads Church of God Youth Pastor by Pastor John Kalfayan, and ratified by Bishop Darrell Rice, on 9/24/17.

GENERAL OVERSEER TIM HILL DISASTER RELIEF APPEALS

With storms ravaging southeast Texas, the eastern shore of the U.S. and the Caribbean, and the devastating earthquakes in Mexico, Dr. Tim Hill, General Overseer of the Church of God, calls on the church for prayer and support in a September 19, 2017 email:

"Our church family, facing the dual attack from Hurricanes Maria and Jose, needs our prayers today. Many who have already suffered from the devastating blow of a hurricane this season find themselves in the path of another storm in the next few hours. Like never before, they need our prayers.

"Our friends and family in the Caribbean, especially those in Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, and Dominica, find themselves today in the eye of Hurricane Maria, with extremely dangerous winds and rain hitting those island nations. Already in recovery mode from the impact of Hurricane Irma just over a week ago, the storm surges predicted could be catastrophic, along with the wind gusts from the hurricane that now is classified as a Category 5 storm."

Dr. Hill's message regarding Mexico: "With hundreds feared dead and countless others injured, along with massive property damage, I am asking our church family to seek mercy and grace for those affected by the massive earthquake that hit Mexico City on Tuesday."

You may make donations directly to Church of God agencies at the forefront of the relief efforts:

Operation Compassion - operationcompassion.org

Church of God World Missions - cogwm.org

GO CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

The Delmarva-DC Regional Office is partnering with GO Church (Pastor J.C. Worley) and the USA Missions Church Planting Office (Bishop Mitch Maloney) to sponsor GO Conference (11/6/17) focusing on church planting and church revitalization. Space is limited. Conference features respected leaders in church planting and revitalization.

Here are the steps to register for the conference and receive the comped ticket:

1. Visit www.goconference.church
2. Then Click "Register Now"

DISTRICT OVERSEERS' FELLOWSHIP AND TRAINING - OCTOBER 17, 2017

Dr. John D. Childers (Secretary-General for the Church of God) and Bishop Bill Isaacs (Church of God Center for Pastoral Excellence) will join Bishop Rice in a training session for all Delmarva-DC District Overseers on Tuesday, October 17, 2017, 9:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m., at the regional office, focusing on connection, covenant, personal growth, collaboration, care and celebration for pastors and district overseers.

Concert of Prayer

Saturday, January 20, 2018 - 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Life Source International Church - 7000 Rossville Blvd, Rosedale, MD

MINISTERS AND SPOUSES CHRISTMAS BANQUET - MONDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2017

The 2017 Delmarva-DC FAMILY Christmas gathering is set for Monday evening, December 4, 2017, 6:00 p.m., at the Heritage Community Church in Severn, MD. The banquet is FREE to all retired ministers, spouses and widows. In addition to the incredible fellowship and delicious food, the program includes music from Reverend Niyi Adams, saxophonist extraordinaire, and carols lead by Reverend Thom Dawson. Registration form enclosed.

JOB OPENING - DELMARVA-DC REGIONAL OFFICE EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

Evelyn Myers, Treasurer and Administrative Assistant, announced her retirement to the May 2, 2017 meeting of the Regional Council, effective at the end of the year. Bishop Darrell Rice is accepting applications and resumé. If interested, please contact him at mdr2020@msn.com. The Regional Council plans retirement recognition for Evelyn's 38 years of service at the Christmas banquet.

FEED DELMARVA-DC THANKSGIVING MEALS

The annual Feed Delmarva-DC Thanksgiving Outreach - providing opportunities for churches throughout the region to minister to their communities - is funded through designated REACH donations. The goal is to provide Thanksgiving dinner for 1000 families. By networking with a variety of agencies the cost of providing a family meal is \$10. Prayerfully consider making a contribution to REACH Ministries. A gift of \$100 feeds 10 families.

PASTOR OLIVER SUBRYAN RECEIVES CONGRESSIONAL LEADERSHIP AWARD

PRESS RELEASE: "US-based Guyanese and senior pastor of the Ebenezer Church of God, Bishop Oliver Subryan, is the first Guyanese to receive the International Distinguished Leadership Award at the United States Congressional Black Caucus (CBC) and Caribbean & African Leadership Awards Ceremony. The award will be presented by the United States Congress at the Caribbean & African Faith Based Leadership Conference (CAFBLC) on Saturday, September 23 in Washington D.C.

"CAFBLC has recognized Subryan's commitment and drive in promoting suicide prevention in Guyana, and his outstanding spiritual leadership, civic engagement and humanitarian services in the United States, Africa and the Caribbean region.

Subryan founded a non-profit NGO called HOPE, that is aimed at minimizing suicide in his home country. This followed the 2014 World Health Organization's findings that Guyana is among the top 10 most suicidal countries in the world, and has the highest suicide rate in the Caribbean."

EARLY BIRD RATE
\$39

REGISTER:
goconference.church

go
CONFERENCE

DINO RIZZO

MATT KELLER

DALE O'SHIELDS

JIMMY ROLLINS

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NOVEMBER 6 | REGAL CINEMAS | GERMANTOWN, MD.

arc
ASSOCIATION OF RELATED CHURCHES

GOCHURCH

Premier

WINTERFEST | FEBRUARY 2-4
OCEAN CITY, MD // OCEAN CITY CONVENTION CENTER



Robert Madu



Chris Purso



Eddie James



Kevin McGlamery



The Katinas



Mike Miller



Kaylee & Erica Tuttle

Registration Info

MYWINTERFEST.COM | \$135 PER PERSON
COGYOUTH@CHURCHOFGOD.ORG
423.478.7220

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