

Stan Holder
Administrative
Bishop



GETTING CONNECTED



Highlighting Churches of God ministries in Maryland, Delaware, DC and the Virginia Peninsula

March - April 2020

Church of God Delmarva-DC Region

7127 Long View Road
Columbia, MD 21044
410.531.5351

cogdelmarvadc.com

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The Sigmoid Curve

20/20 visionaries are always looking and leading toward new horizons. The necessity of being a forward thinker is critical to those invested in continued church health.

Recently, I heard reference to something called the sigmoid curve. Further curiosity led me to discover that the *sigmoid curve* teaches the importance of anticipation. It's a mathematical function that demonstrates that every growth curve will eventually plateau unless you interrupt its cycle. The optimal time to interrupt a growth curve is before it reaches its peak. I'm talking about prolonged, sustained momentum, not a temporary seasonal drop that happens to all of us.

Inactivity will leave your church behind. When we fail to recognize a shift, inactivity in addressing generational and societal needs can make you irrelevant. You can continue to preach, sing, fellowship and assemble, but all momentum is gone. Sometimes, a community leaves a church because there are no jobs or no potential growth for industry to sustain itself. As in life, death can be natural. But other times, a church leaves its community.

My concern is church health, not church growth. My thesis is that a church, once healthy, will be a growing church. Health starts with the minister and his/her team. Healthy ministers grow healthy churches. Growth is an automatic byproduct of health. And to be clear, growth will manifest in a variety of ways, not just in numbers. A church can be healthy, yet their numbers remain static for a season. People die, people move, people don't get on board the vision train, people do not resolve their conflicts, etc. Numbers do not always reflect the health of a church. But in time, there will be growth there too. When weeds are removed, the plant is no longer choked to death and the plant automatically bears fruit in its season.

The most effective leaders have a unique ability to see the curve coming and act before a plateau ensues. They can anticipate a shift that needs addressing before it actually arrives. It's been my observation that we tend to do more reacting than acting. It's better to be reactive than non-active, but to be proactive is far better. But how is this possible? How can a person responsible for leadership oversight know when to alter the course before the plateau occurs?

Dr. Paul Yonggi Cho of Yoido Full Gospel Church in Seoul, South Korea gives us insight to this question. He was asked, "what is your secret to the phenomenal church growth you've experienced"? Dr. Cho paused, then replied "*I pray and I obey*". He was again asked, "is there anything else"?, waiting for a great church growth truth to be spoken. Dr. Cho said again, "*I pray and I obey*".



Church Statistics can be found at:
www.cogdelmarvadc.com
Click on the RESOURCES Tab

GETTING CONNECTED

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Now, I certainly don't believe that every church needs to be like Dr. Cho's. It's the largest church in the world. But his primary driving principle speaks to all of us. To me, this is the key. I'm for training, education, conferences, podcast, webinars and the like. I've read more books on leadership than I can count. But nothing, absolutely nothing can replace His voice, His leading, His impressions, His directives and His Word(s) that come to me when I pray. This is the only way those of us who are in a position of leadership can anticipate the plateau.

Most churches close or must deal with problematic issues disrupting the momentum of the church more times than not, because somebody, somewhere was too late in anticipating the curve. Whether it be an Overseer, Pastor, Board member(s) or some other church entity, they failed to "interrupt the cycle", see the danger signs, and be proactive in addressing the issues at hand.

My two greatest ministry heartaches and heartbreaks are revoking a credential and closing a church. Both of them still keep me awake at night. With the exception of a few churches that died naturally, in every other case, casualty could have been avoided. Looking back, the common thread that ran through each of them can be summed up in one word, obedience!

It is not enough to simply say "I believe". James tells us that even the devils in hell "believe". Dr. Cho has it right; "I pray and I obey". What's our issue with obedience? Are we afraid we will be wrong? Afraid we will look foolish? Afraid we will be mocked, laughed at or ridiculed? Afraid we will be viewed a fanatic? Afraid of being criticized? One of two things happen. Either the discipline of prayer is absent or we fail to obey what He says when we pray.

I know this because He will not lead us astray. It's "in Him we live, and move, and have our being". He gives life "more abundantly". The "righteous are never forsaken" and "His seed never beg for bread". "Every good and perfect gift" come from Him.

"I pray AND I obey"! That capsulizes the greatest leadership principle in Christendom. To hear His voice you must know His voice. Take time to listen when you pray and when He speaks, trust and obey, for there's no other way.



GO FINISH
TWENTY TWENTY
//// A Global Evangelism Challenge

ONE MONTH – MAY 2020
ONE WORLD – 185 NATIONS
ONE MESSAGE – JESUS SAVES!

Pick a day in May that works for your Church to participate.
We will Celebrate this global effort on Saturday, May 23rd.

Go FINISH 2020 is an opportunity for the whole church to go and witness to a lost world! Individuals and small groups from Church of God congregations world-wide can band together to share the Gospel with at least one person in this month.

You reach ONE – together we reach MILLIONS.

Join the movement today! For details and resources visit: www.churchofgod.org/gofinish2020
Share your testimonies on social media using the hashtag: #GoFINISH2020

DR. TIM HILL
CHURCH OF GOD
GENERAL OVERSEER



**Delmarva-DC
Women's
Ministries**
Teresa Holder, Director

FIGHT LIKE A GIRL
DELMARVA/DC WOMEN'S CONFERENCE 2020
March 27-28 || \$30
National Church of God

Teresa **HOLDER** CONFERENCE HOST
Rae **OROZCO** SPEAKER
Curtis & Charmaine **BRIDGEMAN** WORSHIP LEADERS
Heather **SEALS** GIRLS CLUB COORDINATOR
Betty **MOORE** SPEAKER
Gina **TIRADO** SPEAKER
Pat **FELTON** SPEAKER
Becki **MCDERMOTT** SPEAKER
Tiffany **IZZARD** SPEAKER
Cindy **ACKERMAN** SPEAKER

For more information and to register COGDELMARVADC.COM tcholder1214@gmail.com

Your **\$30 registration fee** is non-refundable and is due by **March 2, 2020**. The registration fee will increase to \$35 after March 2, 2020.

You must register online at www.cogdelmarvadc.com or call Andrea at (410) 531-5351 to register.

Hotels are not included in the registration fee. However, the following hotels have offered a special event rate to us:

Harborside Hotel

6300 Oxon Hill Road
Oxon Hill, MD 20745
301-749-9400

Room rate \$159 plus taxes
Rate is good until February 27, 2020
Rate includes continental breakfast for up to four people per room

Parking is Complimentary

The Westin

171 Waterfront St.
National Harbor, MD 20745
800-937-8461

Room rate \$189 plus taxes
(Good through February 28, 2020)

Breakfast is not included

Parking is Additional



DELMARVA-DC
Youth & Discipleship Department

Bishop Brett & Heather Seals
Regional Youth & Discipleship Directors



This year at Premier Winterfest and Kidfest 2020, Delmarva-DC experienced an incredible outpouring of the Holy Spirit. From start to finish it was a remarkable weekend. In both events, the altars were full of students hungry for more of God. In Kidfest, Tricia Mayer and her team did a wonderful job of ministering; her passion for Christ was both evident and contagious. Brad Brown was also an amazing addition, using object lessons and the art of illusion to convey the message of Christ. And of course, the "GOD SQUAD" was unforgettable as they were challenged by the antics of the Funky Green Monkey! Meanwhile, downstairs at Winterfest, students from throughout the eastern seaboard gathered for four unforgettable services. Pastor Mark Evans and the Influencers brought a powerful word as hundreds answered the call for salvation and rededication. On Saturday morning Pastor Sharon Ramkhelawan brought the house down with a mighty message as Curtis and Charmaine Bridgeman led the altar call. Coming back on Saturday night, Winterfest was again led into the presence of God with the Bridgemans as Pastor Chris Estrada delivered a profound word that resonated with everyone present. Pastor Brian Bullock rounded out Winterfest with a challenging message as nearly every student responded in the altars. The weekend was truly a blessing for all who came. We thank everyone who showed up and all the support from the church of God throughout our region. Most importantly, we thank God for all He accomplished! We are certainly grateful for all that took place, and with great anticipation, we are expecting even greater things at Premier Winterfest and Kidfest 2021!



DYC COG

THIS IS THE WAY



Jesus said, "I am the Way and the Truth and the Life.

No one can go to the Father except by Me.

John 14:6

JULY 6-10 | 2020

YOUTH FELLOWSHIP



Delmarva-DC Youth & Discipleship Department
7127 Long View Road | Columbia, Maryland, 21044
410.531.5351 | cogdelmarvadc.com | brett.seals@cogdelmarva-dc.org

Delmarva-DC Empowering Godly Men ...breakfast...

MARCH 14, 2020
REGISTRATION @ 8:00 AM
BREAKFAST @ 8:30 AM

HERITAGE COMMUNITY CHURCH
8146 QUARTERFIELD ROAD
SEVERN, MD. 21144

*\$25 before
March 2
\$30 after
March 2*

Guest Speaker...



Dr. Paul Conn
President, Lee University
Cleveland, TN

Be sure to sign up to attend the Empowering Godly Men's Breakfast on Saturday, **March 14, 2020** at the Heritage Community Church of God, 8146 Quarterfield Road, Severn, MD.

Dr. Paul Conn, President of Lee University, will be the guest speaker. Paul Conn is an outstanding minister, author and administrator. He is a husband, father and grandfather. He will pour into the men of Delmarva-DC! Join us and **REGISTER TODAY!**

After March 2nd, prices go up!



Would you like to show these flyers to your church or simply share online? Now you can! To download, please visit www.cogdelmarvadc.com Click on **MEDIA**



A SMOKY MOUNTAIN GATHERING

REACHING A JUBILEE GENERATION

WITH SPECIAL GUESTS:

DOYLE DYKES

ERNIE HAASE AND SIGNATURE SOUND

DENNIS SWANBERG



APRIL 28-30, 2020

30 YEAR
ANNIVERSARY

GATLINBURG CONVENTION CENTER

EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION NOW - AUGUST 31ST \$70
BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 1ST REGISTRATION \$75
WALK-ON REGISTRATION \$85

SPECIAL EVENTS:

SPIRIT CARE BANQUET WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29 AT 4:30 P.M.
(RETIRED MINISTERS AND WIDOWS - FREE, IF REGISTERED)
VETERANS BREAKFAST, APRIL 30 AT 7:30 A.M.

FEATURES:

DOLLYWOOD AMUSEMENT PARK \$70
OPTIONAL: INCLUDES ONE MEAL, CONCERT & AFTERNOON IN THE PARK.
DOLLYWOOD COST NOT INCLUDED IN REGISTRATION

ACTIVITIES:

TALENT SHOWCASE, GAMES, COMPETITIONS,
ART CLASSES, PRIZES, GIVEAWAYS AND MUCH MORE.

FOR REGISTRATION INFORMATION VISIT:
WWW.SMOKYMOUNTAINGATHERING.COM

MAY MISSIONS MONTH
DELMARVA/DC

SEND THE LIGHT
TOKYO
JAPAN

PROJECT #102-5012



DELMARVA/DC IS COMMITTED TO...

-Building and establishing a **HUB church** in Tokyo, Japan. This church will be the campus church with a church planting emphasis accompanied by an outreach to at-risk widows and children. **The window of opportunity is now.**

-**Training local ministers** to plant churches. Your donations will help us train men and women who have been selected to start new works in nearby locations. Church of God World Missions is the strongest in the areas of the world where we have disciplined and trained the national workers. This is where we win the most people to God.

*We are asking for 100%
participation.
Together ... we can!*

"I am asking each Delmarva/DC pastor to promote 'May Missions Month' this year. Please choose one weekend during the month of May to receive a special missions offering to either send in or bring with you to our Camp Meeting. I'm counting on your support."

- Bishop Stan Holder

ADMINISTRATIVE BISHOP OF DELMARVA/DC



WWW.COGWM.ORG | @COGWM
1-800-345-7492



Alabaster House

Exclusive Equipping Event (EEE) on Capitol Hill

Tuesday, June 2, 2020
9:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

The EEE is an immersive one-day workshop held in the halls of Congress designed to equip and instruct those interested to pray practically for our government and our leaders. Participants will receive an insider perspective directly from elected leaders

EXPERIENCE THE BEHIND THE SCENES REALITY OF THE EXTRAORDINARY WAYS GOD IS MOVING ON CAPITOL HILL.

- Participants will visit key historic and a few undisclosed places non-accessible to the general public to gain insight, pray with/for, and hear from Members of Congress and congressional spouses.
- Featuring Congressional Panel - Keynote, Members of Congress and congressional spouses.

Pastors and leaders will receive a new perspective of Washington and have the opportunity to honor those in government by partnering with the ministry of Alabaster House.

Register online at Alabasterhouse.org

Registration: \$125.00

Further inquiries can be emailed to Kimberly Genau, Executive Director, at info@alabasterhouse.org. Light morning fare and luncheon reception included.

This is not a historical Christian tour nor a legislative issued-based event, but a hands-on exclusive workshop that will change your perspective of our nation's capital.

Alabaster House Advisory Board and/or Committee:

Pastor Che Ahn of Harvest International Ministry, Pastor Guy C. Carey, Rev. Pat Chen, COG Administrative Bishop Stan & Teresa Holder, and Pastors Ronnie & Krystal Stewart of LifeChurch.

Eastern Shore Awaken CONFERENCE

September 24 – 26, 2020
Easton Church of God

www.cogdelmarvadc.com



WEPRAYCOG

THE CHURCH OF GOD UNITED IN PRAYER

WWW.WEPRAYCOG.COM

Awaken

CONFERENCE

APRIL 17-18 International Community Church
123 Byte Drive, Frederick, MD 21702

FRI. 2pm-4pm Leadership Essentials
7pm Worship Service

SAT. 8am-9am Registration
9am-4pm Workshops



REGISTER ONLINE AT:
www.cogdelmarvadc.com
Before March 1 - FREE
After March 1 - \$10.00 per person

