

Stan Holder
Administrative
Bishop



GETTING CONNECTED



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

November - December 2020

Church of God Delmarva-DC Region

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cogdelmarvadc.com

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Sugarcoating

Bishop Stan Holder

Did you know that there is no real nutritious value in sugar? If there were, I can assure you that my wife's husband would be in and stay in the best shape of his life.

In the culinary world, sugarcoating is a process where sweetener is applied to certain products in order to make them more desirable for consumption. To sugarcoat anything is to make it seem more acceptable and more appealing than it really should be. A classic phrase often used is, "you don't have to sugarcoat the truth".

When Paul wrote about end-time events in his 2 Timothy, he forecasted a series of societal changes that would manifest at the very end of the age. Among these changes would be a spiritual defection taking place inside the Church. This is certainly not a new tactic by Satan. As Solomon so famously said, "What has been will be again, what has been done will be done again; there is nothing new under the sun" (Ecclesiastes 1:9). Even the Apostles dealt with Gnostics and Sophists in their day. But as we enter the last of the last days, this demonic strategy will increase with great intensity.

In many pulpits today, a gospel is being presented that marginalizes sin, no longer recognizes the need to repent, and suggests that the real problem with human beings is psychological or medical. We are further told that this can be treated by applying acceptance and inclusion, and further, it may even be treated with medication. The need to be washed in the blood of Jesus and transformed by the power of the Holy Spirit is becoming foreign to a listener's ear. "Satan's goal is to make sin less offensive, heaven less appealing, hell less horrific and the Gospel less urgent" (John MacArthur).

The trend toward pluralistic thinking is increasing so rapidly among the "churched", many are wavering on the most basic tenets of the Christian faith. Foundational beliefs such as the virgin birth, the sinlessness of Christ, the need for repentance, moral rights and wrongs, a literal heaven and hell are all on the table.

The belief in absolute truth has already regressed to such a point that the majority of younger Christians see no need to convert acquaintances or friends of a different faith to Christ. Instead of sharing the lifesaving message of the Gospel, many find ways to rationalize their indecision by using phrases such as:

"If what they believe is working for them, why should I bother them with my beliefs?"

"Who is to say that Christians are right and those people are wrong?"

"Isn't it possible that there are alternative ways to God and that Christianity is just our particular way of believing?"

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GETTING CONNECTED

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The truth is being sugarcoated to accommodate the values of a changing culture. A major shift is now occurring before our very eyes. Pure, sound, Orthodox doctrine is being replaced by “ear-tickling” messages. Consequently, many who sit in church today are ignorant of even the most elementary tenets of the faith.

Liberal progressive thinkers are negatively affecting the way many practice their faith. One example among many I could cite is that today, some churches and denominations now condone and celebrate same-sex weddings at their altars.

This doctrinal delusion is a slap in the face of a Holy God and His Holy Word. To be absolutely clear, everyone has the freedom to choose their path in this life. We are all free moral agents. I also believe that everyone should be loved and respected, regardless of his or her lifestyle choices. As well, I also believe everyone must be seen as a precious soul for whom Jesus died and who can be changed by the power of God. Every true born again Christian has the responsibility to love and respect a person, but that does not mean we are required to endorse everything that person does. You can reject the sin and love the sinner at the same time.

The Nicolaitans preached a doctrine of compromise. The word “Nicolaitan” is a compound word comprised of the words nikao, meaning “victory” or “to conquer”, and laos, meaning “laity” or “people”. When these two words are compounded into one, the new word means “those who conquer the people or those who have victory over the people”. The Nicolaitans were teaching the believers to sugarcoat their righteous convictions in order to co-exist peacefully with the world. The attitude of, “we just need to tone it down and stop being so scripturally black and white; sometimes you have to ‘go along to get along’ with the world” is not the stance to take if you are a true Bible-believing Christian.

A departure of this magnitude takes place slowly over a period of time and can often go unnoticed until the departure has swung far from the foundations of Scripture. Seducing spirits and doctrines of demons have gradually lured believers away from a sound position on Scripture in order to accommodate the moral mess we now have in the world. As Pastor Jim Cymbala said, “the world is now evangelizing the church”.

It is a fact that sugarcoating has no nutritional value. It has no spiritual value either. As pressure mounts on you and I to dilute the faith and be more accommodating to a lost world, we must never allow that pressure to accomplish what the enemy has designed it to do. I am more than willing to add the ingredients of love, grace, and forgiveness into any message I preach, but I refuse to sugarcoat truth that has in it the power to change a persons eternal destiny. It is not my faith; it's Gods. You nor I have the right to adapt or alter this faith. Our job is to keep it, protect it, guard it, and hold tight to it, even if it brings with it great personal sacrifice. I urge every Christian to serve the truth in love, just as the Holy Spirit prepared it. If we stand on this wall united together, the truth will bring freedom, repentance, and revival to our land.



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

Intercultural Advisory Committee

Message from the Chairman



An Intercultural Church is a Church that represents the Kingdom of God. The Apostle Paul says in Galatians 3:28. *“There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus.”* There is no line between ethnic groups or cultures in the Intercultural Church. Paul emphasizes that our identity is 100% in Jesus Christ. What makes us one is our faith in the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. The foundation of the Intercultural Church is the work on the cross. We are living in pivotal times for the Church and our nation. The social unrest in our nation has caused the Church to look at its systems and structures. If we want to grow as an Intercultural Church, we must be willing to have conversations about race and equality. The Church should be the safest place to have such conversations. The Church must be the catalyst to bridge the gaps and division in our nation. The Church has an obligation to see the importance of setting the example as we engage in these conversations. The goal of the conversations is awareness, acknowledgment, adjustment, but more importantly, alignment in the Body of Christ. The Church of God Delmarva-DC Region is moving forward.

Let me introduce you to our Intercultural Advisory Committee:



Bishop James Izzard
Co-Chairman



Bishop Stanley Murray
Baltimore Central



Rev. Cynthia Porter
Refuge Temple



Bishop Rick Felton
Life Builders



Bishop Chris Music
Lansdowne Worship



Bishop Todd Rigney
Frederick ICC



Bishop Ricardo Cachedon
Shepard’s House



Rev. LaJuana Caldwell
Veirs Mill Church



Bishop Jose Torres
Heritage Hispanic



Bishop Mariano Gabor
Blessed Hope



Delmarva-DC
Women's
Ministries
Teresa Holder, Director

2020-2022 WOMEN'S MINISTRIES MISSION PROJECTS

PROJECT #1 - Smoky Mountain Home For Children

Our goal is to raise \$100,000 during this General Assembly period for Chesapeake Cottage. With God's help, we can do this! We are asking that each church consider giving the amount listed below. A video has been developed for you to show your church which explains this project in detail. A link to the video is available on our website. Go to www.cogdelmarvadcd.com, select ministries, then select Women's Ministries. If we all do our part, this goal can be reached and these young men can have a nice place to call "home."

If your church takes in:

- | | | |
|--------------------------------------|-------|------------------------------------|
| •Less than \$4000 monthly tithes | | commit to \$500 by June 30, 2022 |
| •\$4001 to \$10,000 monthly tithes | | commit to \$1,000 by June 30, 2022 |
| •\$10,001 to \$30,000 monthly tithes | | commit to \$2,000 by June 30, 2022 |
| •More than \$30,000 monthly tithes | | commit to \$4,000 by June 30, 2022 |

Please send all monies raised to the Delmarva-DC Regional Office. Also, it will help us greatly if you will send the money in as it is raised. In addition to raising the money, we need volunteers to go down and donate the labor. We will need painters, carpenters, plumbers, cabinetry experts, flooring experts, etc. Please consider putting together a team or joining with another team to go to Sevierville and give of yourself for these boys.

**Thank you to the following who have already sent in funds in
 September and October
 for the Smoky Mountain Home For Children:**

- | | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Tonya Banks - \$150.00 | Kent Island - \$25.00 |
| Chester COG - \$65.00 | Life Community - \$35.00 |
| Easton COG - \$544.17 | Living Hope Ministries - \$20.00 |
| Hancock COG - \$500.00 | Loch Lynn COG - \$200.00 |
| Stan & Teresa Holder - \$150.00 | Souls Harbor - \$75.00 |
| Jennings COG - \$119.42 | Victory Praise - \$250.00 |

PROJECT #2 – City of Refuge, Baltimore

Our goal is to raise \$100,000 during this General Assembly period. Many of you will know this as the WWAM Project. Use the scale above to establish a goal for your church to give during this General Assembly period. This money will go to the City of Refuge, Baltimore to assist them with the work they are doing to get women and children off the streets and free from sex trafficking. Some of these funds will also assist in renovations of a building that is being purchased by CORB that will house many of these women and offer them extensive job skills and training.

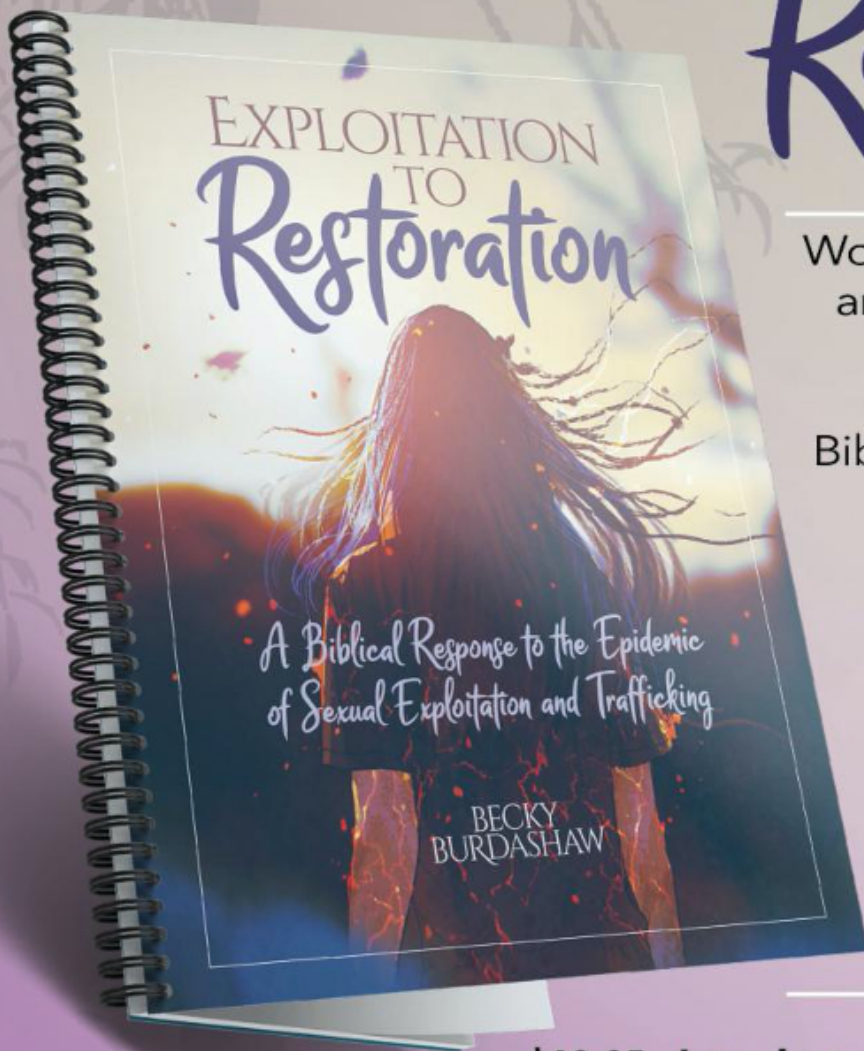
WOMENS DISCIPLESHIP

Church of God

FREE CALL: 888.766.9009

adultdiscipleshipcog.com

EXPLOITATION TO Restoration



Women's Discipleship is excited to announce the third LifeRenewers resource by, Becky Burdshaw. "Exploitation to Restoration: A Biblical Response to the Epidemic of Sexual Exploitation and Trafficking" which will help us identify people being sex trafficked and what to do if we see these victims. This resource gives national resource contacts and is an excellent study guide to use in ministering to people who have been sexually abused.

\$19.95 Introductory price \$15.95

LifeRENEWERS
Women Empowered by the Spirit

WOMENS DISCIPLESHIP
KNOWING • BEING • DOING

PAMELA R. BREWER
Womens Discipleship
Director

FREE CALL: 888.766.9009

ORDER AT adultdiscipleshipcog.com





DELMARVA-DC Youth & Discipleship Department

Bishop Brett & Heather Seals
Regional Youth & Discipleship Directors



TUESDAY NIGHT LIVE
community | resources | encouragement
The First Tuesday of each month @7PM

CHURCH OF GOD
DELMARVA-DC CHURCH OF GOD
YOUTH & DISCIPLESHIP DEPARTMENT
Youth Leaders | Children's Leaders | Aspiring Leaders
zoom

DMU FALL TRAINING

Children's Ministries
Saturday, September 26
9AM - 12PM

Student Ministries
Saturday, October 24
9AM - 12PM

Aspiring Leaders
Saturday, November 21
9AM - 12PM

HOSTED LIVE BY
Brett & Heather Seals

f LIVE

CHURCH OF GOD
DELMARVA-DC CHURCH OF GOD
YOUTH & DISCIPLESHIP DEPARTMENT

PREMIER KIDFEST 2021

TO THE FUTURE AND BEYOND

"For I know the plans I have for you," says the Lord. "They are plans for good and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope."
JEREMIAH 29:11

Tricia Mayer
NCKids Ministries

Matt Hogg
Remix Education

January 29-31 ☆ 2021
Ocean City, Maryland | Ocean City Convention Center
Call 410.531.5351 For More Information
www.cogdelmarvadc.com

YWEA 2021
PIERCING THE DARKNESS WITH THE LIGHT OF THE GOSPEL

YWEA 2021
REBUILDING GREEN TURTLE CAY WITH THE LIGHT OF THE GOSPEL

premier WINTERFEST 2021

JANUARY 29-31 | OCEAN CITY, MD



REGGIE DABBS



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KEVIN MCGLAMERY

mywinterfest.com



DELMARVA-DC YUNITED



CITY OF REFUGE, BALTIMORE
"BRINGING HOPE TO LIFE"
#102-9341-005



NICARAGUA WATER WELLS
"LIVING WATER FOR THIRSTY SOULS"
#102-9554

God has opened up a beautiful door for us here in Delmarva-DC. Our regional projects are both ministries that we are already heavily involved in. City of Refuge, Baltimore, and Nicaraguan Clean Water Wells are in our regional DNA. We are building a ministry center in Baltimore that will touch our region for decades. As well, clean water of the beautiful people of Nicaragua will provide a foundation for communities that will open up many doors for evangelism. To succeed, we must be YOUnted! I am asking every church in the region to make these two projects a priority in your mission emphasis. Pastor, please begin immediate promotion of these projects. Go to our website and show the video by Dr. David Griffis to your congregation. When you send your monthly reports, use the two mission project numbers above with your contributions. We can do this!

2020-2022 GOAL: \$350,000

VIRTUAL CONCERT OF PRAYER

to inspire prayer and healing for our nation and world

"AND HAS MADE OF
ONE BLOOD
ALL NATIONS OF MEN" —ACTS 17:26



Pastor Rae
OROZCO
Tucson, AZ



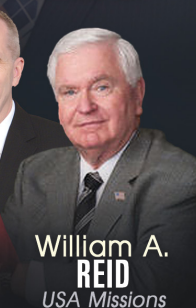
Bishop William
LEE
Cleveland, TN



Stan & Teresa
HOLDER
Administrative Bishop



Brett & Heather
SEALS
Youth & Discipleship



William A.
REID
USA Missions

January 9
2021
AIR TIME **9AM**
Jan. 10 - 31
2021

To Join Us Go to
Facebook: www.facebook.com/delmarvadc/
Website: www.cogdelmarvadc.com

Regional call to 21 days
of prayer and fasting

www.cogdelmarvadc.com ||

