

Church Of God In Christ, Inc.

Summary Minutes of the General Assembly
April 2019 Session



Convened

April 8-12, 2019

Historic Mason Temple

Memphis, Tennessee

Bishop Lemuel T. Thuston
Chairman - General Assembly

Bishop Charles E. Blake, Sr.
Presiding Bishop

Bishop Joel H. Lyles, Jr.
General Secretary

The Presidium and General Officers of the Church Of God In Christ
(as of April 11, 2019)

The Most Reverend Charles Edward Blake, *Presiding Bishop*

Bishop P. A. Brooks
First Assistant Presiding Bishop
Bishop Sedgwick Daniels
Board Secretary
Bishop G. D. McKinney
Bishop N. W. Wells
Bishop J. Drew Sheard

Bishop J. W. Macklin
Second Assistant Presiding Bishop
Bishop Lawrence M. Wooten
Assistant Board Secretary
Bishop Brandon B. Porter
Bishop Ted G. Thomas, Sr.
Bishop Darrell L. Hines, Sr.

Bishop Matthew Williams

Emeritus: Bishop W. W. Hamilton

Emeritus: Bishop R. L. H. Winbush

The General Assembly
Bishop Lemuel F. Thuston, *Chairman*
Bishop Jerry L. Maynard, *Vice Chairman*

The General Officers

Bishop Joel Harley Lyles, Jr.
General Secretary

Bishop C. H. Mason Patterson, Sr.
General Treasurer

Bishop Frank Anthon White
Financial Secretary

The Board of Trustees

Bishop Dwight E. Walls, Sr., *Chairman*

Supervisor Mildred L. Linzy
First Vice Chair
Superintendent Melton Timmons
Board Secretary
Bishop Joseph A. Chase, Jr.
Missionary Cari V. Barnes
Elder Darin Burns
Elder David A. Hall, Jr.
Mother Georgia Macklin Lowe

Missionary Sylvia Hamlett Law
Second Vice Chair
Elder Amos Smith, Esq.
Budget Committee Chair
Missionary Sandra Smith Jones
Elder Christopher Martin
Elder Josephus Shepherd
Missionary T. Lynn Smith
Dr. Ailean R. Stingley

Emeritus: Bishop Charles M. Ford

The Judiciary Board

Bishop Martin Luther Johnson – *Chief Justice*

Bishop E. Charles Connor
Bishop Enoch Perry, III
Dr. Diana C. Banks
Elder Peter Johnson Davis

Dr. Carl E. King, Sr.
Judge Cassandra Lewis
Elder Jonathan Saffold, Jr.
Missionary Valda Slack

Bishop John H. Sheard
Chairman, Board of Bishops
Mother Barbara McCoo Lewis
General Supervisor, Department of Women

Elder Uleses C. Henderson, Jr.
General Counsel
Elder Michael Eaddy
Chairman, Pastors and Elders Council

Bishop Edwin Bass
Chief Operating Officer

The General Assembly Executive Committee and Officers
(as of April 11, 2019)

Bishop Lemuel F. Thuston – Chairman
Bishop Jerry L. Maynard – Vice Chairman

Bishop George W. Davis - Sergeant At Arms	Elder Eugene Ferrell - Chaplain
Elder Eric Slack – Parliamentarian	Mother Francis Harris - Time Keeper
Attorney Andrew Smith – Asst. Parliamentarian	Chaplain Audrey Moore – Asst. Time Keeper
Missionary Jennifer Patterson Hill – Executive Asst.	

Standing Committees:

The Budget Review & Finance Committee	-	Bishop Jerry Maynard Elder Andrew Perpener
The Constitution Committee	-	Bishop David A. Hall, Sr., Chair
The Credentials Committee	-	Elder Gerald Johnson, Chair
The Election Committee	-	Mother Myra Banks, Chair
The Job Description & Remuneration Committee	-	
The Judicial Council Committee	-	Judge Paula D. Ellis
The Nominating Committee	-	Elder Jonathan Saffold, Chair
The Resolution Committee	-	
The Rules Committee	-	Attorney Melvin Smith, Chair
The Screening Committee	-	Bishop David Screven, Chair
The Special Recognition Committee	-	Supervisor Wilma Smith-Beauford, Chair
The Standards & Extensions Committee	-	Bishop Malcolm Coby, Chair

Ad Hoc Committees:

The Advisory Committee	-	Bishop Phillip Porter
The Codifying Committee	-	
The Joshua Generation	-	Elder Eric Bogan, Co-Chair Elder Paul Gatlin, Co-Chair
The Manual Review Committee	-	
The Ordination Committee	-	Bishop George D. McKinney, Chair
The Spiritual Fitness Committee	-	Mother Gwendolyn Washington
The Strategic Planning Committee	-	Pastor Matthew Brown, Chair

THE SUMMARY MINUTES OF THE
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

APRIL SESSION -- 2019

GENERAL ASSEMBLY SUMMARY MINUTES**April 8 – 11, 2019****Opening Session****Tuesday, April 9, 2019, 11:00 a.m.**

The April session of the General Assembly commenced at 11:00 AM with devotion conducted by Elder Eugene Ferrell (CA), General Assembly Chaplain. He was assisted by Mother Lee Van Zandt (MD) and Superintendent Larry Miles (VA), who led the delegates in songs of praise. The invocation was offered by Pastor Phillip Jackson. The Old Testament Scripture (Isiah 53:1-12) was read by Pastor Larry Newkirk (MD) and the New Testament Scripture (St. John 1:1-3) was recited by Missionary Jeanette Paige (MS). Elder Ferrell presented General Assembly Vice Chairman, Bishop Jerry Maynard.

Bishop Maynard gave brief remarks and called for certification of the House. Elder Gerald Johnson, Credentials Committee Chairman, announced Certification of the House at **11:24 AM with 1,684 delegates present.**

Vice Chairman Maynard called for the Rules Committee to present the Rules. Bishop Melvin Smith, Chairman, introduced the committee. Members of the Rules Committee read the rules that would govern the Assembly (*See Attachment A*). Bishop Smith moved for adoption of the Rules. After a proper second, **the MOTION PREVAILED.**

Vice Chairman Maynard called for General Secretary, Bishop Joel Lyles, Jr., for the adoption of the Minutes and the Agenda. Bishop Lyles noted that the November 2018 Minutes had been submitted electronically to each jurisdictional bishop, supervisor of women, and secretary. He then moved for adoption of the Minutes. After a second by Bishop Talbert Swan, Assistant General Secretary, there was some unreadiness.

Elder Charles Morgan (MO) requested clarification on statements he made before the Assembly during the November 2018 session specifically a correction in language to read that Vice Chairman “refused to allow him to make a motion.” Elder Ronald Kimbrew (AR) requested a name correction for Bishop Joe Baylor Mason, the late prelate of Arkansas 3rd jurisdiction. Required corrections were duly noted, **the MOTION PREVAILED and Minutes were adopted.** Bishop Lyles noted that the Agenda (*See Attachment B*) was included in the delegate packets and moved for its adoption. After a proper second, **the MOTION PREVAILED and the Agenda was adopted.** Bishop Maynard presented General Assembly Chairman, Bishop Lemuel F. Thuston.

Bishop Thuston greeted the delegates as they joined in the Lord’s Prayer and affirmed that the God we serve hears and answers the prayers of the righteous. Chairman Thuston began his address thanking God for The Church Of God In Christ, noting that it is a blessed church, a covenant church, a God-called church, and a mighty church that is hated by the devil. He stated

that our church is the most intimidating force on the face of the globe to the powers of evil. While the church is not perfect, it is being perfected by the sanctifying power of God, which empowers the saints, through the Holy Ghost, against evil. Bishop Thuston noted that the devil would take joy in the Church remaining a relic of history especially during a time when the world needs us. He reminded the saints that over 110 years our Church has thrived and endured oppositions, therefore, we should be with one accord offering a witness of salvation and holiness to the world.

Bishop Thuston honored the Presiding Bishop, the General Board, and the presidium of the church. He also acknowledged the delegates to the General Assembly and his wife, Lady Marion Thuston. He asked for prayer for the families of Dr. Leonard Lovett and Mother Gloria White after their transitions. He also solicited prayers for Bishop Phillip Porter who was suffering illness.

Chairman Thuston apologized for the time delay in starting the session and noted adjustments were made to accommodate traveling delegates who were impacted due to unforeseen weather conditions. He appreciated the delegates for their support and cooperation in this matter. He also expressed his appreciation to the delegates for their love, support, cooperation and vote of confidence in reelecting him in November 2018.

Bishop Thuston highlighted the following during his “Now Agenda...One Accord” address: Financial Assessment, COGIC Structure, Auxiliary Bishops, Doctrinal Expression, Sanctity of Life, Committee Participation, and Spirituality.

Chairman Thuston expressed his desire for the Church to remain strong and not drift from its foundations or lose its spiritual heritage. He emphasized that the world needs a Church Of God In Christ that is spiritually alive and not so pre-occupied with the natural. Bishop Thuston led the delegates in a moment of prayer, praise and deliverance.

Bishop Thuston called for expressions from General Supervisor, Mother Barbara McCoo-Lewis. Mother Lewis greeted the saints and thanked God for the power of the Holy Ghost being present. She acknowledged the leadership of the Church and reminded the delegates of the upcoming 69th International Women’s Convention which would begin May 27th in Baltimore, Maryland. She encouraged the saints to continue in prayer for those who experienced recent family losses and admonished the delegates to believe God for whatever was needed in their lives.

Chairman Thuston informed the delegates of the projected schedule anticipating the reports of the Presiding Bishop and General Board and the Trustee Board before the break. He also noted that the General Secretary would present all credentials of the Church. He further noted that the constitution states an election should be held for our officers; however, it did not state when nominations or the election cycle would begin. Requests had been made to begin nominations, but there would be no nominations or applications for national office during this session. Chairman Thuston noted the Nominations and Screening Committees would provide their standards and after November, the campaigning would begin. He called for the report of the Presiding Bishop and General Board.

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Presiding Bishop Blake acknowledged the General Assembly Chairman, members of the General Board, and national elected and appointed officers. He addressed the delegates and noted the climate of racial hatred in the country. Bishop Blake noted that we serve a God of power and might that is able to take care of us. He expressed that the Church will be alright because God allowed it to be established and founded it on a Rock and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. Bishop Blake reiterated that God will take care of us and we can expect miracles, when we trust and rely in Him. He noted this is a time of miracles and encouraged the saints to get ready for their miracle.

Bishop Blake presented his State of the Church Address, accompanied by video highlights (*See Attachment C-excepts*). The video noted accomplishments of his administration, including: expansion to more than 100 nations; providing assistance and aid to the less fortunate; the IAM 2018 Conference; preparing the saints through educational initiatives; and sharing the Word of God to local and international communities. Bishop Blake also noted his 62 years in ministry and cited the 2019 theme, “God’s Unlimited Power Makes Unlimited Accomplishments Possible.” He continued highlighting ministries and updates of the International Department of Evangelism; the Chaplaincy; C.H. Mason Theological Seminary; AIM 2018; the impact of technology and social media across the world; updates of the International Sunday School Department, Music Department; and Youth Department. Updates continued regarding the new Publishing House facility; The Whole Truth; disaster response/humanitarian relief by COGIC Charities; the Adjutancy; Urban Initiatives; implementation of an expunging program; the Operation Hope small business training; Men’s Conference; Mason Homes on 4th; Pontotoc Housing Project; Scholastic Motivation Ministries; and All Saints Bible College.

Bishop Blake presented Pastor Matthew Brown to give an update on strategic planning. Pastor Brown noted the Church has been guided by strategic thinkers initiating with our founder, Bishop C. H. Mason. Presiding Bishop Blake and other leaders of the church have now moved from strategic thinking to strategic planning. He noted Bishop Blake’s navigation of a 10-year strategic plan in five specific phases; 1) assessment, 2) collaboration, 3) formation, 4) elevation, and 5) implementation. He noted that all stakeholders are being consulted in the process of collaboration (the current phase) with the Presiding Bishop and General Board.

Bishop Blake called for an update by Bishop Vincent Mathews, International Missions President. Bishop Mathews reported the following:

- The Church Of God In Christ has now expanded into 102 countries;
- Saints Adventure Camp, held on our Lexington Campus, served 200 children in 2018 and will have two sessions in 2019;
- A new partnership with World Vision, opening warehouses initiating in Memphis, Tennessee, expanding to Michigan and Los Angeles;
- Participation in a 26.2 mile marathon to provide clean water systems around the world;
- A partnership with Convoy of Hope to assist in providing international and national disaster relief;

Historic Mason Temple

Memphis, Tennessee

- A partnership with Elmo Realty providing funding to build a 5,000 square foot women’s clinic, 180 affordable housing units in Memphis, TN, 50 affordable senior housing units in Lexington, MS, respite apartments for crisis pregnancies, and transitional dormitories for foster teens.

Bishop Mathews also noted kingdom investors will be needed to sustain our qualitative growth, through support of the COGIC World Missions Stewardship Study Bible. He noted the goal of raising twenty million dollars by the year 2022 for establishing a church in every country where we have a witness.

The Assembly recessed at 1:20 pm.

Evening Session

Tuesday, April 9, 2019 – 5:45 p.m.

Elder Eugene Ferrell commenced the devotional period at 5:45 pm. Superintendent Larry Miles led the delegates in songs of worship and praise. The invocation was offered by Bishop O. L. Meadows (AL). The Old Testament Scripture (Psalm 34:1-3) was read by Superintendent Rufus Lee (AL) and the New Testament Scripture (I Cor. 2:9-13) was read by Dr. Mary Portis-Hall (TN). Elder Ferrell presented Vice Chairman, Bishop Jerry Maynard, who called for certification of the House.

Elder Gerald Johnson, Chair of the Credentials Committee announced certification of the House at 6:23 pm with 595 delegates present. Vice Chairman Maynard presented the Chairman, Bishop Lemuel Thuston.

Bishop Thuston greeted the delegates and outlined the scheduled for the evening session. Bishop Thuston called for the report of the Special Recognition Committee. Mother Deborah Kitchen, Vice Chairman, noted the honorees 90 years old and above who were recognized November 2018 to present (***See Attachment D***). Mother Burton read the list of honorees.

Nonagenarian Recipients (90-99 years of age)

Mother Katherine Bell (NY)

Mother Marguerite Binham (PA)

Mother Mayo Bowen (GA)

Mother Rosa Lee Coons (NY)

Mother Patience Cooper (NC)

Mother Geraldine Dean (IL)

Deacon W. A. Flowers (PA)

Missionary Dorothy Ford (GA)

Mother Gussie Freeman (TN)

Elder Arthur Jones (NH)

Supt. Robert James Lewis (CA)

Mother Eva Mae Lloyd (NH)

Bishop Jerome Norman (NY), *Prelate Emeritus*

Mother Annie Mae Beard Patterson (IL)

Mother Josephine Reeves (NC)

Elder Douglas Rollins, Jr. (IN)

Mother Beatrice Scales (TN)

Mother Lucille Simmons (TN)

Historic Mason Temple

Memphis, Tennessee

Nonagenarian Recipients (90-99 years of age)

Mother Lessie Mae Gray (TX)

Mother Ernestine Spruill (NC)

Mother Anna L. Jefferson (NC)

Deacon Anderson Wade (NC)

Mother Gladyce Ruffin Johnson (NC)

Mother Antoinette Woods (IL)

Centenarian Recipients (100+ years of age)

Mother Jennie Parker Allen (CA)

Mother Mary F. Looney (IL)

Mother Kitchen also informed the delegates that an application was included in their packet for those persons interested in submitted names. Chairman Thuston appreciated the committed and called for the Trustee Board report.

Bishop Dwight Walls, Chairman of the Board, introduced the board members and called for Superintendent Melton Timmons, board secretary, who gave a brief summation of actions taken by the Board of Trustees from November 2018 – April 2019 and Elder Amos Smith, who gave an overview of the budgetary process (*See Attachment E*).

At the conclusion of their report, Bishop Walls moved for its approval. After a proper second, there was unreadiness. Bishop Thuston asked about the involvement of the Financial Secretary in the budgetary process. He noted that the Constitution states the budget should be submitted to the Financial Secretary. Elder Smith responded that the Financial Secretary is involved from beginning to end, and would also amend the graphic within their report to reflect the same.

Delegates raised the following concerns: oversight and management of properties, the provision of actual numbers, the role of the Trustee Board after the budget is approved, monitoring of the budget, and overspending.

Chairman Thuston noted there was some ambiguity on how the budget is monitored and suggested the Trustees provide, by November 2019, clarity on their role, budget controls, and procedure after budget approval. After unreadiness was addressed, Bishop Thuston called for the question to approve the report of the Board of Trustees, **the MOTION PREVAILED**.

Bishop Juan O. Lawson offered a motion to restrict the elected officials/officers from incurring any debt on behalf of the General Church without prior approval of the General Assembly through its budget review committee. There was a proper second, however, Bishop Thuston asked Bishop Lawson to withdraw his motion to receive clarity from the remainder of the General Board report. Bishop Lawson complied and the motion was withdrawn, with the privilege of returning to it.

Chairman Thuston called for an update of credential holder revenue from Financial Secretary, Bishop Frank A. White. Bishop White noted that the fiscal year began April 1, 2019 and reported the following to date:

Historic Mason Temple

Memphis, Tennessee

Male Credential Reports	– \$2,372,534.02
Female Credential Reports	– 778,983.64
Laity Reports	– 65,869.00
Total (as of 4-9-2019)	– \$3,217,386.66

Bishop White further informed the delegates that the revenue goal for this week was 5.5 million dollars. Bishop Thuston allowed a few jurisdictional credential holders contributions.

- California Nor Cal Metropolitan-Bishop Jerry W. Macklin – \$63,000.00
- Maryland Central-Bishop Carl Pierce, Sr. – 35,710.00
- Maryland Greater 1st-Bishop Joel H. Lyles, Jr. – 35,850.00
- Delaware-Bishop Thomas Holsey – 12,750.00
- Illinois Northern-Bishop Designee E.M. Walker (*male report*) – 25,825.00
- Barbados 1st-Bishop C.E. Blake, Interim – 3,907.50
- Texas Southwest-Bishop S. E. Iglehart – 80,475.00
- North Carolina 3rd-Bishop Patrick Wooden – 40,975.00

Chairman Thuston called for continuation of the report from the Presiding Bishop and General Board. Bishop Blake presented Bishop Sedgwick Daniels, Board Secretary. Bishop Daniels, thanked the delegates for their kindness, prayers, love and testified of God’s blessings in the area of health and wellness. He noted the report was available by texting COGIC to 901-203-4223 or www.gbscogic.com and gave a summation of the actions of the General Board from November 2018 through April 2019 (*See Attachment F*). Bishop Daniels reported:

The General Board saluted Presiding Bishop Charles E. Blake for serving as pastor of West Angeles Church Of God In Christ for 50 years;

Posthumous Recognition of the transition of: Bishop Alva C. Nelson, Bishop James E. Hicks, Sr., Bishop Cody V. Marshall, Bishop Carlis L. Moody, Sr., and Bishop Isaac King, Jr.; Mother Virginia Dezon, the Kelley/Patterson/Dowdy Family in the loss of their sister, Mrs. Gloria White, Dr. Leonard Lovett;

Special Recognition and Commendations of: former General Board secretaries and Emeritus General Board members, Bishop W.W. Hamilton and Bishop Roy L.H. Winbush; Bishop Talbert W. Swan, II, prelate, Nova Scotia Jurisdiction, for his award winning lecture series, and Bishop Timothy T. Scott, prelate, Northern Mississippi Jurisdiction, for being the longest serving jurisdictional bishop;

Episcopal Designations & Jurisdictional Considerations:

- Bishop William Harper appointed as prelate of Eastern Missouri 1st
- Elder Clyde Jones appointed as prelate of Michigan Southwest Agape

Bishop Daniels moved for approval of items covered in this partial version of the General Board Report. After a proper second, the **MOTION PREVAILED.**

Chairman Thuston called forward Bishop William Harper and Bishop Designate Clyde Jones, who were congratulated by the delegates on their approved appointments. Bishop Daniels continued the General Board Report as follows:

International Bishop Appointments:

- Philippines North - Superintendent Joel Balidan
- Korea- Superintendent Chad Carlton
- Columbia 2nd- Superintendent Edermin Cortes
- Nigeria- Superintendent Lucky Chukwuyenum Donuwe
- Philippines 2nd- Auxiliary Bishop Avel Forto, Jr.
- Democratic Republic of Congo - Superintendent Muhangenu HichikaGhilain
- Antigua-Barbuda - Superintendent Kevin Griffin
- Peru - Superintendent Morris Jenkins
- Columbia 1st- Superintendent Lester Johnson
- Chile - Superintendent Gabriel McCurtis
- Israel - Superintendent Glen Plummer
- South Africa 3rd- Superintendent Dennis Chetty (Auxiliary)
- Philippines 1st- Superintendent Israel Forto (Auxiliary)
- Kenya Cornerstone 1st– Superintendent Solomon Iyoboa OmoOsagie II (Auxiliary)

Episcopal Designation - Auxiliary Bishop Appointments:

- Tennessee HQ (Bishop David Hall) - Superintendent Kendall Anderson, Sr.
- NY Central (Bishop Ronald Hoston) - Pastor James H. Bowman, Sr.
- Eastern NY 1st (Bishop James Gaylord) - Elder Caesar R. Cabiness
- Iowa (Bishop Leroy F. Johnson) - Superintendent Marion David Eppright
- Virginia 2nd (Bishop Wilbert Daniels) - Pastor Phillip X. Green, Sr.
- Northwest Michigan (Bishop P.A. Brooks) - Superintendent Robert Harris
- Illinois 1st (Bishop Ocie Booker) - Administrative Assistant Napoleon Harris, Sr.
- Tennessee Central (Bishop Brandon Porter) - Superintendent L. C. Hayslett
- Michigan Southwest (Bishop John Sheard) - Administrative Assistant Philip R. Jackson
- South Carolina (Bishop Johnie Johnson) - Superintendent Keith Kershaw
- Southern California 2nd (Bishop George D. McKinney) - Superintendent Lonnie Lynch
- Virginia 1st (Bishop Ted Thomas) - Administrative Assistant Ronald Sewell, Jr.
- Arkansas 1st (Bishop Jewel Withers) - Superintendent Alex J. Smith
- Maryland Greater 1st (Bishop Joel Lyles, Jr.) - Dr. Tony William Torain, I
- Michigan Southwest 5th (Bishop Don Shelby) - Pastor Jerry Givens

Bishop Daniels moved for approval of Episcopal Designations of International and Auxiliary Bishops. After a proper second, Chairman Thuston called for the Job Descriptions and Remuneration Committee. Bishop Thuston noted that last November, this Committee presented draft criteria, process, job description and qualifications of an Auxiliary Bishop. That draft included collaborations and recommendations of both the General Board and the Judiciary

Board. He then asked the General Secretary to read the General Board statement regarding criteria of Auxiliary Bishops. Bishop Lyles read:

“The candidate must meet the following requirements: 1) he must be in good standing on both the national and jurisdictional levels; 2) his elevation may be requested by the jurisdictional bishop or if selected by the Presiding Bishop, to perform duties unrelated to the jurisdictional business, the Presiding Bishop may seek to have the concurrence of the jurisdictional bishop; 3) he must pass the national background screening and the sexual misconduct course; 4) he must also have a good reputation throughout the brotherhood.”

Chairman Thuston acknowledged Bishop William Watson, III, board secretary to the Board of Bishops, who presented a memorandum from that Board regarding the criteria of Auxiliary Bishops (*See Attachment G*). Bishop Watson read the following:

*The Board of Bishops Memorandum
To Bishop Lemuel F. Thuston, General Assembly Chairman
Auxiliary Bishop Criteria*

The Board of Bishops supports the development of criteria for the appointment of Auxiliary Bishops. Any criteria should include the following items.

- 1) Any elder currently in the Church Of God In Christ being recommended for auxiliary bishop must have a written endorsement from his jurisdictional bishop prior to being selected and notified.*
- 2) Any elder being recommended for auxiliary bishop must serve in the endorsing jurisdiction for a minimum of three (3) years before he is eligible for elevation.*
- 3) The biblical criteria for qualifying auxiliary bishops shall include the following; 1 Timothy 3:2-7 (Kings James version): A bishop then must be blameless, the husband of one wife, vigilant, sober, of good behaviour, given to hospitality, apt to teach; Not given to wine, no striker, not greedy of filthy lucre; but patient, not a brawler, not covetous; One that ruleth well his own house, having his children in subjection with all gravity; For if a man know not how to rule his own house, how shall he take care of the church of God? Not a novice, lest being lifted up with pride, he fall into the condemnation of the devil. Moreover, he must have a good report of them which are without, lest he fall within reproach and the snare of the devil. Said criteria shall embrace all standards of holiness associated with the doctrine of sanctification in the Church Of God In Christ.*
- 4) The aforementioned criteria should be effective immediately.*

Bishop Thuston recalled those jurisdictional bishops who had recommended elders, named by the General Board, for auxiliary bishop status. Each jurisdictional bishop verbally agreed for their recommended candidate to become an auxiliary bishop in their respective jurisdictions. Each recommended auxiliary bishop was asked to stand with his jurisdictional bishop. Chairman Thuston heard concerns regarding clarity on the husband of one wife, future written recommendations, and the functions and financial responsibility related to the elevation to Auxiliary Bishop. Bishop Thuston called for the question on approval of international and auxiliary bishops, **the MOTION PREVAILED.**

Bishop Daniels reported an additional episcopal recommendation and made a motion to approve the appointment of Superintendent Edwin Walker as prelate of Northern Illinois Jurisdiction.

After a proper second, the **MOTION PREVAILED**. Chairman Thuston noted the proper term for the recommended candidates would be “bishop designate” as they would be preparing for consecration. Bishop Daniels continued the General Board Report as follows:

Administrative Directives, Fiduciary Considerations, Supervisory Compliance

A. The National Board of Trustees: The Board received a summation of the actions of the National Board of Trustees and updates on national properties since November 2018. The Board was updated on the proposed budget modification to cover outstanding obligations from the previous fiscal year and authorized a 10% modification to the 2019/20 budget.

B. The Office of Conferences, Events and Travel: Received a status report from the Director of Conferences, Events and Travel on travel policies and recommendations for centralizing convention planning across departments.

C. The Financial Secretary and the Chief Financial Officer: Received updates on unaudited preliminary balances, cash balance, investments, and loans and obligations, Budget vs. Actuals, year-to-date updates of revenue, cash balance report, investment and portfolio balance, loans and lease obligations, donations, sales and convention services and other revenue.

D. Chief Operating Officer: Received reports from the Chief Operating Officer detailing updates on: Human Resources, unbudgeted items, unforeseen cost overruns, and outstanding projected revenue. The Board Authorized execution of a \$1.9 million line of credit to cover expenditures through the remainder of the 2018/19 fiscal year, the implementation of a performance management system, and modification of policies regarding the distribution of bereavement gifts to employees.

E. General Counsel: Received a summation of the actions of the Office of General Counsel, including active cases, settled cases, and status updates.

F. Church Repository and Archival Catalog: Received a summation of the operations of the Repository and Archives Committee and the continuation of the cataloguing and archiving process.

G. World Missions: Updated on the accomplishment of the Missions Department, potential partnerships, and potential revenue. Received reports on Saints Adventure Camp, the Awakening Project, Youth on a Mission, and Church Growth projects.

H. Office of the General Secretary: Updated on the activities of the office, credentialing process, and the ARC system.

I. All Saints Bible College: Updated on the efforts of the All Saints Bible College toward accreditation, the awarding of applicant status and what was necessary to achieve full accreditation. Authorized the General Counsel to draft documents to set autonomy regarding oversight of the budget and personnel for the college.

J. Strategic Plan: Received a report on the actions of the Strategic Planning Committee.

K. Other Board Actions: Received update on the status of Roberts Temple COGIC in Chicago, Illinois and Elmwood COGIC in St. Louis, Missouri, toured Mason Village and the new Publishing House, updated on the status of the Publishing House move and received a \$75,000 installment of a \$150,000 commitment to the General Church.

Bishop Daniels called for the CFO and his committee and after their report he would move to receive the General Board report in its entirety. Chairman Thuston requested Bishop Daniels make a motion to approve the presented portion of the General Board Report and extract the financial portion as pertinent financial documents had not yet been distributed to delegates for their perusal. Bishop Daniels complied with the request and modified the motion to approve the presented portion of the General Board Report with the exception of financial matters and a report of the Standards and Extensions Committee. After a proper second, there was unreadiness. After unreadiness was heard, **the MOTION PREVAILED.**

Chairman Thuston presented Presiding Bishop Blake to offer clarity to the concern raised by Bishop LaDell Thomas, Jr. regarding the limited appointment of five (5) bishops per year. Bishop Blake noted that the Constitution authorizes the Presiding Bishop to make bishops, with the approval of the General Assembly. He further noted he did not state he would only appoint five (5) bishops each year, but rather five (5) for that specific year.

Chairman Thuston called for the report of the Standards and Extensions Committee, Bishop Malcolm Coby, Chairman. Bishop Colby greeted the delegates, presented the committee members and called for Mother Mildred Coby, secretary, to present the report as follows:

Old Business:

New York Eastern 4th Jurisdiction (Bishop John P. Lee, Sr., Emeritus)
Recommendation pending further investigation

New Business-New Formation:

Kansas City Jurisdiction (Bishop Jack Vaughn)
Recommendation pending further investigation

New Business-Continuance of Jurisdictions:

Connecticut 1st Jurisdiction (Bishop C.H. Brewer, Jr., Deceased)
Recommendation pending further investigation

Washington Northwest Jurisdiction (Bishop James E. Hicks, Deceased)
Recommendation to approve continuation of the Jurisdiction

Oregon Northwest Jurisdiction (Bishop Harvey Daniels, Sr., Emeritus)
Recommendation to dissolve the Jurisdiction

Bishop Coby made a motion to approve the report. After a proper second, there was unreadiness.

Elder Alton Barnes (CT) expressed concern with the criteria the committee used to examine those desiring to become jurisdictional bishop. Bishop Coby noted that selection of a prelate was not a

Historic Mason Temple**Memphis, Tennessee**

function of the committee but of the Presiding Bishop and General Board. Chairman Thuston offered further explanation to Elder Barnes regarding selection of a prelate as well as the process of the committee. He also noted the committee would continue its investigation of the jurisdiction and return in November with their final findings regarding continuance of the jurisdiction.

Bishop Tyrone Butler (NY) raised a question regarding the timeframe of the work of the committee and the effect of long delays on the life and work of a jurisdiction. Bishop Coby noted various circumstances that potentially affect the timeframe of their work. Bishop Thuston noted there were timeframes delineated in committee policies and procedures. He stated there were extenuating circumstances where requests for additional time to make other considerations were granted, thus delaying a final disposition. Bishop Butler also requested the policies and procedures of the committee. Chairman Thuston responded the updated policies and procedures could possibly be presented during this session. After unreadiness was heard, Chairman Thuston called for the question, **the MOTION PREVAILED**.

Bishop Thuston recognized Supt. Booker from Connecticut who wished to express concern regarding the status of the Connecticut 1st Jurisdiction. Bishop Thuston noted that action had already been taken on the matter and he would have opportunity to address the matter in November, upon completion of the committee investigation.

Bishop Daniels reported the following General Board actions and moved for approval of the appointment of Elder Reggie Witherspoon as prelate of the Washington Northwest Jurisdiction. After a proper second, **the MOTION PREVAILED**. Bishop Daniels also noted that in light of the dissolution of Oregon Northwest, Bishop Jerry Macklin would return to that area to ensure the proper transition of the jurisdiction.

Bishop Thuston acknowledged Bishop Jerry Macklin who stated that he and a committee would return to work with the Oregon Northwest Jurisdiction in the process of dissolution to ensure that churches were properly transitioned, and closure was met.

Bishop Thuston called for Bishop Designate Keith Kershaw, Director, Office of Conventions, Events, and Travel, to give a report on securing a site for the 2021-23 International Holy Convocations. Bishop Designate Kershaw reported that contract negotiations were ongoing for hotels, convention centers and concessions with the city of Memphis. He reported agreements for monetary concessions with the city, the execution of contracts for hotels, airlines, car rentals, and concessions. Bishop Designate Kershaw reported a continued process of negotiating lower price points on all travel related expenses. He also noted that some travel discounts would be available as early as this year's International Women's Convention. Bishop Thuston acknowledged delegates with questions for Bishop Designate Kershaw and appreciated the update.

Bishop Jerry Macklin announced a meeting for 8:30 a.m., Wednesday, in the Lee Building, with the saints from Oregon Northwest and a committee of the General Board. Chairman Thuston

Historic Mason Temple**Memphis, Tennessee**

acknowledged the saints from Oregon Northwest (Supv. Betty Green, Supt. Paul Green, and Supt. Percy Mullin) and commended them for the work the jurisdiction had done for the Lord and on behalf of the Church Of God In Christ. Noting those present, Bishop Macklin returned stating he and the committee would be willing to meet with the group later that evening. Chairman Thuston called on Bishop Nathaniel Wells to offer prayer on behalf of the delegates from the jurisdiction and for God's blessings as they move through their transition period.

Chairman Thuston called for the report of the Judiciary Board. Chief Justice Martin Luther Johnson introduced the newly elected Judiciary Board members, Supv. Diana Banks, Dr. Carl King, Sr., and Attorney Jonathan Saffold, Jr. Bishop Johnson announced the new Board officers, Bishop Enoch Perry, III, Vice Chair; Elder Peter Davis, Secretary, and Justice Valda Slack, Chief Administrative Officer and acknowledged the remaining board members. Elder Peter Davis, secretary, reported in addition to electing new officers, the Board was reviewing internal policies and procedures and engaging in discussions for a Judicial Conference. He also reported that Chairman Thuston visited the Board offering congratulations and words of encouragement.

Chairman Thuston requested an update regarding two areas of concern, the functions of an auxiliary bishop and the internal guidelines and procedures of the Judiciary Board. Bishop Johnson noted that the Board was collaborating on any input they would contribute regarding the criteria of auxiliary bishops. He further stated that the Board did not wish to infringe on the authority of other branches of the Church and would thus, tread carefully in these matters. Chairman Thuston also noted the internal guidelines and procedures of the Board were to be presented in November 2018. Bishop Johnson committed to accomplishing these tasks with a presentation for November 2019. Chairman Thuston received the report of the Judiciary Board.

Supt. William Gaylord (FL) requested a point of information and noted that he appealed a ruling of the General Assembly Judicial Committee to the Judiciary Board and has yet to receive a response or an acknowledgment of receipt. He questioned whether his appeal was received and the expected timeframe to render a decision. Bishop Johnson called Bishop Connor, former board secretary, to respond. Bishop Connor stated that he needed additional information from the petitioner. Bishop Thuston requested that the parties hold a sidebar to discuss the matter.

Chairman Thuston announced an invitation to the delegates from Bishop Brandon Porter to join him in the renaming of the 267 S. Main Street Building in honor of his father, Bishop W. L. Porter, 3:00 pm at that location.

Chairman Thuston called for recess at 8:45 pm, and noted the session would begin the next morning at 9:30 a.m. Bishop Blake solicited prayer for Sister Jean Anderson; daughter of the late Bishop O.T. Jones, Sr., and Bishop Don Nobles offered a benedictory prayer.

Morning Session**Wednesday, April 10, 2019, 9:30 a.m.**

Elder Eugene Ferrell opened the Assembly with devotional at 9:30 am. Words of exaltation and songs of praise were offered by Elder Anthony Gilyard. Pastor Ronald Britt offered the invocation. The Old Testament Scripture (Psalm 103:1-5) was read by Supt. John Greathouse, III and the New Testament Scripture (Roman 8:24-28) was read by Supervisor Maddaline Norfleet. Elder Ferrell presented Vice Chairman, Bishop Jerry Maynard.

Bishop Maynard gave brief remarks and called for certification of the House. Elder Gerald Johnson, Chair of the Credentials Committee announced certification of the House with 700 delegates present at 10:15 am. Vice Chairman Maynard presented Chairman, Bishop Lemuel Thuston.

Chairman Thuston led the saints in a few moments of praise and exhortation and spoke on the upper room experience and being with one accord. He then called for the report of the Joshua Generation.

Elder Eric Bogan reminded the Assembly that the committee was tasked with investigating the decline of participation and attendance for Church Of God In Christ members ages 20-40. The committee put forth an online survey for the targeted group and reported results in November 2018. He further reported the committee was asked to revise and repost the survey, which was still online and data was yet being collected. Elder Bogan also noted discussions with the Publishing House as a means of disseminating monthly distribution and using social media and other avenues for collecting data. Some survey categories were national conventions and conferences and input regarding the overall sentiment of the Church. The Committee requested a year for collecting data with additional findings to be reported in November 2019. Chairman Thuston suggested the committee solicit the assistance of the International Youth Department leaders. He also appreciated the efforts of the "late night group," young adults who displayed their love and concern for the church through deliberations and discussions regarding the future of the organization. The committee report was received.

Chairman Thuston called for the acknowledgment of newly appointed international bishops. They were officially presented by Bishop Sedgwick Daniels and Bishop Vincent Mathews, Jr. to the Assembly. Chairman Thuston noted that the bishops in the international work remain in communication with the President of the International Missions Department, however, they are appointed by the Presiding Bishop and General Board.

Bishop Thuston called for a report regarding the nation of Israel. Bishop Designate Glen Plummer acknowledged the presidium and reported that in 2014 a delegation led by Bishop Carlis Moody and Bishop J. Drew Sheard established a Church Of God In Christ presence in Israel resulting in five (5) Israeli Churches consisting of Ethiopian Jews becoming a part of the General Church.

Historic Mason Temple

Memphis, Tennessee

He noted the similarities between the people of Israel and their mantra, “we were slaves” and the African American population, thus the significance of the Church Of God In Christ being the first denomination outside of the Catholic Church to establish a presence and appoint a bishop over their churches in Israel. He reported a plan to establish a headquarters, offices, districts, and additional church communities in Israel. Bishop Designate Plummer noted the historicity and significance of “Watch Night” services in America and the emancipation of slaves and that in December 2019, the first Watch Night Service in history of Israel will be held by the Church Of God In Christ.

Bishop Thuston allowed space for jurisdictional credential holder reports and called for Bishop Frank A. White.

- Barbados & Caribbean-Bishop Paul Fortson – \$ 5,770.00
- Georgia South Central -Bishop Norman Harper – 72,715.00
- Mexico-Bishop Maurice Green, Jr. – 2,000.00
- New York Eastern 4th-Bishop Rothel Highsmith – 15,700.00
- Greater North Carolina-Bishop L. J. Woolard – 85,405.00
- Colorado-Bishop Roosevelt Dunn – 37,975.00
- Illinois Southeast-Bishop Otis Eanes, Sr. – 33,625.00
- Illinois 1st-Bishop Ocie Booker – 66,550.00
- Tennessee 5th-Bishop Jerry Taylor – 59,800.00
- Louisiana Eastern 1st-Bishop Alphonso Denson, Sr. – 36,000.00
- Tennessee Metropolitan-Bishop Linwood Dillard – 21,775.00
- Arizona-Bishop Harvey Young, Sr. – 41,175.00
- Alabama 1st-Bishop O. L. Meadows – \$83,225.00
- Oklahoma Southeast-Bishop Malcolm Coby – 23,090.00
- North Carolina 2nd-Bishop Stenneth Powell – 62,400.00
- Texas Southeast 3rd-Bishop T. T. Terry – 30,645.00
- Oklahoma Northwest-Bishop L. V. Broom – 21,525.00
- Nevada 1st-Bishop Leon Smith – 35,750.00
- Michigan Western-Bishop Nathaniel Wells – 28,625.00
- Rhode Island-Bishop Harvey Lewis – 8,375.00
- Greater Jamaica-Bishop Joseph Chase – 3,825.00

Bishop White gave an update on the receipt of credential holder reports as follows.

Male Credential Reports	– \$3,072,262.00
Female Credential Reports	– 1,226,244.00
Laity Reports	– 69,717.00
Total (as of 4-10-2019)	– \$4,368,223.00

Bishop White thanked the General Secretary and the beta testing group that utilized the digital platform to pay reports online through the ARC system. He noted that it would be rolled out in a larger platform in the coming months.

Historic Mason Temple**Memphis, Tennessee**

Bishop Thuston requested clarity and the status regarding the memorandum from the Board of Bishops presented on yesterday. Bishop William Watson, III, board secretary, read the memorandum again (*See Attachment G*) and made a motion that all future auxiliary bishops meet the following criteria: must have a written endorsement from his jurisdictional bishop prior to being selected and notified; must serve in the endorsing jurisdiction for a minimum of three (3) years before he is eligible for elevation; must meet the biblical criteria for qualifying auxiliary bishops found in 1 Timothy 3:2-7; and the criteria must be effective immediately. After a second, there was unreadiness.

- Bishop David Hall (TN) asked that language from the Blue Ribbon Commission document be included to the criteria which reads, “The Auxiliary Bishops responsibilities and duties are assigned by the General Board.”
- Bishop Dupree (NV) asked for an amendment to the three year tenure criteria to include a clause for extenuating circumstances.
- Pastor Dennis Williams (NC) asked whether the biblical criteria would also apply to jurisdictional prelates. Chairman Thuston noted that the biblical criteria was applicable for all bishops.
- Bishop J. O. Lawson (TX) requested clarity on the criteria regarding written endorsement.
- Elder Albert Watson (UT) asked whether a specific number of years in ministry were required, prior to the three year criteria. Bishop Watson replied there was not a requirement, and the recommendation would be at the bishop’s prerogative.

Bishop Thuston noted there would not be a limit for considering future additional criteria for auxiliary bishops. He also clarified that the criteria offered by the Board of Bishops did not diminish the authority of the Presiding Bishop and General Board. The jurisdictional bishop would only have the authority to recommend, not appoint, the auxiliary bishop. Chairman Thuston further noted the memorandum did not present any constitutional conflict. After further unreadiness was heard, Chairman Thuston called for the question and the **MOTION PREVAILED**.

Bishop Roy Dixon (CA) asked whether there was an existing injunction regarding the matter of Auxiliary Bishops. Bishop Thuston explained there had been a previous injunction, issued by the Judiciary Board in 2017, pertaining to consecration of bishops prior to ratification by the General Assembly. The injunction was lifted due to the General Board’s agreement to follow the General Assembly process. He also noted, if the agreement was violated, the injunction would immediately be reactivated. Chairman Thuston finally noted there was no current injunction at this time.

Bishop Thuston called for the continuation of the Report of the Presiding Bishop and General Board specific to the financial and budgetary matters. Bishop Frank A. White, Financial Secretary, was joined by Bishop C. H. Mason Patterson, General Treasurer; Bishop Dwight Walls, Chairman, Trustee Board; Bishop Edwin Bass, Chief Operating Officer; and Elder McKinley Johnson, Interim Director of Finance who collaborated on giving the report. Bishop White noted that the fiscal year budget for 2018-19 was \$10,035,000. He reported at the close of the fiscal year, which

Historic Mason Temple**Memphis, Tennessee**

ended March 31, 2019, expenditures of \$9.8 million and revenue of \$9.8 million. He noted the cash balance of \$250,000 was higher than the previous fiscal year and the investment portfolio was 4.5% higher. Bishop White provided delegates with a year to date revenue and expenditure report and reviewed the revenue portion of that report. *(See Attachment H)*.

Bishop Bass introduced Elder McKinley Johnson who presented the cash balance, investment portfolio, loans and lease obligations. Elder Johnson noted that the Church has more than enough resources to service our debt. He also reported we were under budget and noted an overall efficiency in the Church's spending. Bishop Bass reported that a line of credit was initiated due to unbudgeted items; including a loan taken out in the 2017-2018 fiscal year, which was paid out of revenue for the 2018-2019 fiscal year, and a cash flow shortage of \$645,263. Bishop Bass reported that the General Board was proposing a 10% reduction in expenditures and would be looking at each line item to determine where reductions would be made. Bishop Bass reported that the Church had a good year and made a motion to approve the financial report. Bishop Thuston noted that the motion died for lack of a second, but would allow it to be presented later.

Bishop Thuston called for the Budget Review and Finance Committee, Bishop Jerry Maynard, Chairman. Bishop Maynard stated while the Committee agreed with most of the report, there was concern regarding the irregularity in meeting and the need for a balance sheet and ledger. He also noted the committee's interest in helping to reduce expenditures.

Bishop Maynard asked who approved all travel, reimbursements, and answers regarding excessive bank fees and charges and who was in charge of credit card purchases. Bishop Bass noted that questions being lodged on the floor could have been answered in a different setting. He also noted that his office was responsible for approving travel in accordance with set policies and procedures. Elder McKinley Johnson answered the question regarding bank fees and charges and Bishop F. A. White noted the responsibility of credit cards was under the purview of his office.

The Budget Review and Finance Committee engaged in additional dialogue with the Finance Team regarding matters of process and procedure. Elder Andrew Perpener noted a lack of response to the committee regarding requested information. He recommended establishing an annual fiscal inquiry. Bishop Charles Patterson noted he was unaware of any requested meetings from the Budget Review and Finance Committee that the finance team was unwilling to participate in. He also noted that he initiated the request to hold a financial summit to discuss policies and procedures concerning the finances of the Church. Bishop Patterson suggested all parties meet to discuss any concerns. He also made an inquiry as to the constitutional role of the General Assembly Budget Review and Finance Committee. Bishop Thuston noted the committee was established many years ago and the job description had been in place for over forty years.

Bishop Maynard noted other areas of concern that could be addressed in a closed session namely; reducing the budget in needed areas, persons employed in positions that may not be necessary, remunerations, salary structures, property matters and budget vs. non budget items.

Historic Mason Temple**Memphis, Tennessee**

Elder Perpener presented the following recommended action steps for adoption:

- Establish an annual fiscal inquiry in February 2020, convened by the Budget Review and Finance Committee consisting of all financial entities.
- Three standard meetings beginning in the month of March.

Bishop Patterson requested an amendment to the motion stating the financial officers of the Church would be requesting a financial summit which would include all the financial entities. Bishop Thuston noted there was no motion on the floor pertaining to a financial summit. Bishop Thuston called for Bishop Bass to re-present his motion. Bishop Bass moved that the report of the Finance Team be accepted. After a proper second, there was unreadiness.

- Bishop Lawson (TX) noted his concern of securing indebtedness for the Church without the approval of the Budget Review and Finance Committee. He moved that the elected officers of the General Assembly, to conduct business for the corporation, may not secure indebtedness by way of loans, promissory notes, etc. for the Church Of God In Christ, Inc. without the approval of the General Assembly, through its Budget Review and Finance Committee. Bishop Thuston reminded Bishop Lawson there was an existing motion on the floor and he could return to present his motion, if so desired.
- Missionary Myra Banks (TX) requested reconsideration regarding the Election budget, which had already been set, due to bids which had been secured a year in advance in preparing for the 2020 election. The Financial Team accepted as a friendly amendment.
- Elder Aaron Tolbert (IL) questioned changes to the budget and who authorizes those changes.
- Supt. Larry Franklin, Jr. (GA) questioned over budgeted line items and whose monitoring travel. Bishop Bass noted there was a misprint and a response would be given at a later time. Supt. Franklin also asked about the interest rate on the line of credit, collateral, and the housing allowance. Elder McKinley Johnson responded the loan was short term and the investment portfolio served as collateral.
- Elder William Harris (MI) asked about the investment portfolio. Bishop White responded.
- Bishop J. M. Richardson (CA) questioned a donation from Toyota to the Church and where it was included in the financial report. He requested the corporation be named in the report. Chairman Thuston requested Bishop White detail significant sponsorship to the Church in the future. Bishop White agreed.
- Dr. Charles Hill (TX) noted our financial reports are not presented in industry standard and requested using the appropriate terminology for a nonprofit religious organization. He noted that our financial audit should be done by an independent CPA. He also asked whether the Trustee Board had examined all expenditures. Elder Amos Smith noted that the Trustee Board reviews each department's revenue and expenses in the budget process. Dr. Hill also questioned the rationale for cutting the budget of the C. H. Mason Seminary. Chairman Thuston asked Dr. Hill to address the matter off line to the Trustee Board.
- Bishop Linwood Dillard (TN) asked for clarity regarding the Budget Committee and the Budget Review Committee and their relationship to the Trustee Board. Chairman Thuston explained that the budget committees were subcommittees of specific departments,

managed internally. He further explained the Budget Review and Finance Committee is a Standing Committee of the General Assembly tasked with giving observations, raising questions and giving input regarding budget matters on behalf of the General Assembly.

- Bishop LaDell Thomas, Jr. (TX) questioned travel expenses and the process and procedure for approving over expenditures in that line item. Elder Amos Smith referred the matter to Bishop Bass who oversees the travel process. Bishop Bass explained there are numerous factors that impact the travel budget and the travel policy is being revisited to avoid such overages.
- Elder Josephus Shepherd (IL) noted from a numbers perspective, a full financial picture is not given to the General Assembly. He also noted the Church did not benefit from the line of credit. Chairman Thuston noted that these matters of concern would be revisited. Elder Shepherd requested a balance sheet, revenue and expense summary, and a statement of cash flow. Bishop White responded and a balance sheet would be presented in November for the current year and a balance sheet for the previous years would be available sooner.
- Supt. Clarence Cranford, Jr. (IL) asked for an overall financial picture regarding the Holy Convocation while in St. Louis and a projection for returning to Memphis. Chairman Thuston requested of Bishop White an update by November.
- Sister Anita Newkirk (MD) asked for the cash flow method. Elder McKinley Johnson responded that the method used helped to determine the cash flow need. He also responded that the Accounting Department reconciles all accounts monthly. Sister Newkirk also noted percentage errors.

Chairman Thuston called for the question, **the MOTION PREVAILED to approve the financial report.** Chairman Thuston suggested that the Finance Committee and Board of Trustees meet during the Assembly to announce scheduled periodic meetings. The Assembly recessed at 2:15 pm, and the session would resume at 5:00 pm.

Evening Session

Wednesday, April 10, 2019 – 5:00 p.m.

Elder Eugene Ferrell opened the Assembly at 5:00 pm with devotion. He was assisted by Mother Lee Van Zandt. Prayer was offered by Bishop Johnny Tate. The Old Testament (Psalm 133:14) was read by Supt. James Gamble, Sr., (Psalm 91:1-6) was by Pastor James Polk (CA), and the New Testament Scripture (Romans 8:3-35) was read by Supervisor Argatha Gilmore (FL). Elder Ferrell presented Bishop Jerry Maynard, Vice Chairman.

Vice Chairman Maynard called for certification of the House. Elder Gerald Johnson announced certification of the House with 611 delegates present at 5:37 pm. Bishop Maynard presented Bishop Lemuel Thuston, Chairman.

Bishop Thuston greeted the delegates and noted it was not only a duty, but an honor and blessing to do the work of the Lord. He acknowledged Dr. Joseph Connor of Philadelphia who was honored to serve as the third Church Of God In Christ member to be elected President of the Hampton University Ministers’ Conference, the largest Ministers’ Conference in America. Dr. Connor noted that the Conference would convene Monday, June 3, 2019 in Hampton, Virginia and solicited the support of the Church to attend in large numbers as a show of solidarity with Dr. Connor, who was scheduled to speak on Monday.

Bishop Thuston called for the Report of the Strategic Planning Committee. Pastor Matthew Brown, Chairman, introduced members of the committee and gave an update on the work of his committee (*See Attachment 1*). He noted their focus area was around ministry training, education, and convention planning. He reported that the committee had been in its collaboration phase with the Presiding Bishop and General Board. The committee presented an analysis, during the General Board Retreat, around the focus area of education. He noted some strengths in this area as: established educational institutions offering certifications; global accessibility to members of the organization; and a tremendous brand name and cultural identity. Pastor Brown noted some weaknesses as: unsystematic; lack of awareness; service duplication; funding challenges and a disconnect in the organizational structure. He noted the opportunity to create a seamless educational system within the organization and commended Dr. David Daniels for securing and identifying a multi-language online platform containing our educational content with global availability. Some organizational threats were identified as: operating as silos, the need for organizational realignment; and the continued overlapping and duplication of programs. He briefly noted the committee’s framework for convention and planning and recommended centralizing the process and protocols. Bishop Designate Keith Kershaw reported the focus to centralize our conferences and conventions. He noted some challenges as organizational priority, inconsistent standard among our conventions, and operating in silos. Bishop Designate Kershaw noted a recent directive from the Presiding Bishop for all conventions to provide their budgets for the last three years for review with the ultimate hope of providing one template for financing those meetings. The committee plans, with continued access to administration, to submit in November a framework of the 10-Year Strategic Plan. Chairman Thuston appreciated the committee for their diligent work.

Chairman Thuston called Chairman Michael Eaddy for an announcement regarding the General Council of Pastors and Elders Conference. He noted the Constitution provides for an Annual Conference of the General Council of Pastors and Elders. Chairman Eaddy announced that the Conference was scheduled for August 26-29, 2019 in Kansas City, Missouri. He provided a brief conference overview and extended an invitation to all bishops, pastors, elders and their wives.

Bishop Thuston allowed for additional jurisdictional credential holders reports.

- Kansas East-Bishop L. F. Thuston – \$35,125.00
- Guatemala -Bishop C.H. M. Patterson, Sr. – 10,150.00
- Texas Northeast 2nd-Bishop David R. Houston – 34,500.00
- Washington State-Bishop Leo C. Brown, Jr. – 42,300.00

Historic Mason Temple

Memphis, Tennessee

- Arkansas 2nd-Bishop Frank Anderson, Jr. – 70,825.00
- Michigan Southwest 4th-Bishop Aaron Milton – 24,175.00
- Illinois Southern-Bishop E.R. Patterson, Jr. – 27,375.00
- New York Western 2nd-Bishop Glenwood Young – 41,175.00
- Connecticut 1st-Bishop Nathaniel Wells, Interim – 21,975.00
- Germany-Bishop Paul Watson – 5,875.00
- South Carolina-Bishop Johnie Johnson – 60,500.00
- New Jersey 3rd-Bishop Kevin Knight – 15,700.00
- Missouri Gateway-Bishop Melvin Smith – 20,025.00
- Georgia Northern 2nd-Bishop Mark Walden – 44,875.00
- Washington Northwest-Bishop Designate Reggie Witherspoon – 12,050.00
- Arkansas 3rd-Bishop R.G. Rudolph, Jr., Interim – 28,735.00
- Illinois 6th-Bishop Clowdell Williams – 31,900.00
- Arkansas 1st-Bishop Jewel Withers, Jr. – 90,775.00
- California Southern 3rd-Bishop Roger Thomas – 16,225.00
- Tennessee Headquarters-Bishop David A. Hall – 45,475.00
- Minnesota-Bishop Fred Washington – 17,900.00
- California Southern 1st-Bishop Joe Ealy – 138,450.00

Bishop Thuston acknowledged Bishop Juan O. Lawson who offered a motion that Church Of God In Christ elected officials, from among the General Assembly, may not secure any indebtedness by way of loans, promissory notes, etc., for the Church Of God In Christ, Inc. without the approval of the General Assembly through its standing Budget Review and Finance Committee. After a proper second, Chairman Thuston called for the question. Bishop Lawson requested division of the House. The motion was repeated by the maker. Chairman Thuston called for the question and requested those in favor of the motion to stand. The voting was ceased by Chairman Thuston, with an explanation. He noted that after Bishop Lawson made the motion and it was properly seconded, the Chair waited five (5) seconds, and no one rose with an unreadiness. He noted that he then called for the question, after which, persons expressed unreadiness. Bishop Thuston noted that when a motion is made and seconded, the Chair is not required to request unreadiness. Chairman Thuston allowed Presiding Bishop Blake to speak to the motion.

Presiding Bishop Blake thanked the constituency for their contributions to the work of the Lord. Bishop Blake noted that he waited for Chairman Thuston to ask the delegates if they were ready for the question in order to express his unreadiness. He noted that the General Board was the highest board in the Church and as its board of directors, they are authorized to operate the Church in the absence of the General Assembly, which cannot act without being in session. The General Board, however, could act at all times. He noted that the General Board supports and defends the well-being of the General Church and acts with honesty and integrity to safeguard the Church. Bishop Blake further noted that the Presiding Bishop could not borrow funds without the authorization of the General Board. He urged the Assembly not to add restrictions to the authority of the General Board and make it subject to the will of a committee of the General

Historic Mason Temple**Memphis, Tennessee**

Assembly to carry out its constitutional authority. He requested that the delegates vote against the motion.

Bishop Thuston exercised a moment of personal privilege and expressed it was proper to give honor to whom honor was due. And, since the Presiding Bishop stated he was not given an opportunity to express his unreadiness, the Chairman made an exception to respect the Office of the Presiding Bishop. He thanked the Presiding Bishop for his insight and response and allowed other delegates to express their unreadiness. Additional unreadiness dealt with the following concerns: proper parliamentary procedure; clarity regarding motions, resolutions and amendments; transparency regarding financial matters; our history of securing similar loans; the timetable in responding to a motion; assurances of unrepeated spending practices should the motion fail; clarity of the motion itself; and the constitutionality of the motion. After all unreadiness was heard, Bishop Lawson presented the motion again. Bishop Thuston called for the question. Bishop Lawson called for division of the House. Bishop Thuston asked all in favor of the motion to stand for the count. Bishop Thuston clarified that each delegate should only vote one time. He called for those who opposed the motion to stand for the count.

Chairman Thuston reported that the vote was not legitimate because he neglected to call for recertification of the House prior to the vote. He expressed his apologies for the oversight and called for recertification of the House.

Bishop Thuston acknowledged Bishop Lawson who withdrew his motion. Chairman Thuston noted it was unnecessary to vote on a motion that had been withdrawn, and with the motion being withdrawn, there would be no change in the procedure of securing loans. Chairman Thuston noted that at the lunch break, a meeting was called by the financial officers of the Church to determine regularly scheduled meetings of the group. He called for Bishop Maynard to give an update regarding that meeting. Bishop Maynard identified the following persons: Presiding Bishop Blake, Bishop Daniels, Bishop Frank A. White, Bishop C.H.M. Patterson, Bishop Edwin Bass, Bishop Dwight Walls, Supt. Melton Timmons, Bishop Joseph Chase, Elder Amos Smith, Pastor Andrew Peperner, and noted they met briefly and concluded that Bishop Frank White and Bishop Maynard would meet to determine a proposed quarterly meeting schedule, then share that schedule with the group. Bishops Maynard and White agreed to meet in May and October of 2019 and proposed three (3) meetings for 2020. Bishop Maynard personally noted that the meeting was a collaborative effort of all involved parties to rectify a situation. At the request of the Chairman, Bishops White and Maynard would also provide exact dates of the scheduled meetings later in the session.

Chairman Thuston recognized Presiding Bishop Blake, who expressed concerns regarding the vote on the previous motion. Bishop Blake opined that the Assembly legitimately rejected the previous motion according to due process and the Chairman's rescinding of the vote was not in order. He noted that the Minutes should reflect that the motion was properly defeated. Bishop Blake stated that the Chairman was not the CEO of the General Assembly and should facilitate matters in a manner commensurate with the authority vested in the Chairman.

Historic Mason Temple

Memphis, Tennessee

Bishop Thuston noted to some unruly delegates that decorum was in order. He stated that while he did not agree with the Presiding Bishop’s assessment, he respected his right to express it and urged delegates who did not agree, not to disrespect his office. Chairman Thuston reiterated the financial team was carrying out an assignment which was agreed upon two years ago when they met at the lunch break.

Chairman Thuston called for General Secretary Lyles to read the names and present certificates to the members appointed to the Senior Advisory Board. The recipients were as follows:

- | | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Bishop Hester Bordeaux | Bishop Phillip Porter |
| Bishop George Davis, Jr. | Bishop Norman Prescott |
| Bishop Johnnie Johnson | Bishop Howard C. Quillen |
| Bishop Harvey Lewis, Sr. | Mother Willie Mae Rivers |
| Bishop Donne L. Lindsey, Sr. | Bishop T. T. Scott, Sr. |
| Bishop Ernest C. Morris | Bishop William Scott |
| Bishop Emmit Nevels, Sr. | Bishop George Williams |

Pastor Charles Morgan was allowed a point of information. He requested clarity on Rule 5, items d and g, regarding when to respond to a motion with unreadiness. Chairman Thuston noted that a motion is a question, so the motion itself is the question. Therefore, when the motion is made, with a proper second, a person may call for the question immediately. There is no rule that states you must invite discussion. He further stated it is not improper for the question to be called after a second nor is it improper for the question to be requested any time after the motion.

Bishop Thuston called for the report of the Manual Review and Codifying Committees. He noted no committee chairs had been reassigned to these committees since the passing of Dr. Leonard Lovett and the election of Dr. Carl King to the Judiciary Board. Superintendent Vincent Allen reported on behalf of the committees who were working collaboratively and were in the process of reviewing a draft of the revised Manual. He noted the committee’s original goal for a completed draft of Volume I was in November 2018. He stated a first draft had been submitted to the Constitution Committee and a second draft was recently submitted which identified 105 references from resolutions with constitutional implications including amendments and documents from the Blue Ribbon Commission. Supt. Allen stated their goal is to have a draft of Volume I, consisting of the history and constitution, ready to submit for review to specific entities, then presentation to the Assembly by November 2019.

Chairman Thuston explained that the Manual would be produced in three volumes and noted a draft of Volume III, our book of worship, may also be available by November 2019, engaging the assistance of Church Of God In Christ liturgist working in collaboration with the committees in this effort. Bishop Thuston recognized Bishop Jerry Macklin, who requested the involvement of the General Board in the deliberations of the committees. Bishop Thuston noted that the committee referred to the Board of Bishops earlier, but actually meant the General Board, who would be included in the process. Bishop Thuston recognized Supervisor Maritza Knight of Rhode Island, who noted that she had a letter of recommendation from her prelate, Bishop

Historic Mason Temple**Memphis, Tennessee**

Harvey Lewis, offering her bilingual services to assist the committee in translating documents into Spanish, which was her native language. Bishop Thuston thanked Supervisor Knight for offering her services and requested her letter be given to the General Secretary. Chairman Thuston requested an update from the committees by May for submission to the General Board and appreciated the committee.

Bishop Thuston called for the Resolutions Committee. Superintendent Willie Bonner introduced members of the committee. The Committee presented **Resolution #042019-04-Local Church Property Trust Clause Amendments (See attachment J)**. It was moved and seconded to approve the motion as presented. There was unreadiness.

Bishop Talbert Swan (Nova Scotia) asked if the General Council of Pastors and Elders was consulted on the drafting of the resolution. Elder Uleses Henderson, General Counsel noted ambiguity in the language and requested to be consulted in drafting clearer language. Pastor Matthew Brown suggested forwarding the resolution to the Constitution Committee for validation, clarity and an assessment of the impact to the local church. After unreadiness by the delegates was heard, Chairman Thuston requested tabling the resolution pending a further comprehensive report. The committee withdrew the motion to approve and a new motion was offered to table until further clarifications. After a proper second, there was unreadiness.

Supervisor Diana Banks (MD) noted that the resolution had already gone to the Constitution Committee and was more than three years old. She noted the trust clause was intended to insure that the local church property was clearly defined as belonging to the local church. She also noted that if the motion was tabled, it would in essence “die.” Bishop Thuston clarified that tabling a motion meant the suspension of action until the next session. Bishop Thuston called for the question; the **MOTION PREVAILED to table the Resolution until November 2019.**

The Committee presented **Resolution #042019-01-Requirements for General Board Candidates (See Attachment J)**. It was also noted that this resolution was presented in April 2017. Dr. Hazel Shepherd read the resolution. It was moved and seconded to approve the Resolution as presented. There was unreadiness.

- Bishop Talbert Swan (Nova Scotia) noted that the resolution intimated a “five (5) year tenure” that was assumed to mean experience as a jurisdictional bishop but was not clearly delineated. He also noted that a proposed five (5) year tenure was somewhat arbitrary and too restrictive. He suggested a combination of commensurate experience both as a jurisdictional bishop and in national office should also be considered.
- Bishop J. O. Lawson (TX) offered a friendly amendment that the language should clearly note “five (5) year tenure as a Church Of God In Christ bishop.” The committee accepted the friendly amendment.
- Bishop Tyrone Butler (NY) noted the language was broad and vague. He opined that many bishops bring requisite experience outside of their role as a jurisdictional bishop that should be considered. He suggested specific language taking in account multiple areas of service and leadership in determining qualifications for the General Board.

Historic Mason Temple**Memphis, Tennessee**

- Elder Keith Ford (TX) asked how “good health” would be evaluated and assessed. Elder Tolbert explained the candidate must be able to serve under the demands of the office.
- Bishop David Hall (TN) noted the ambiguity of language in the resolution and suggested the committee rework the language. He also referenced the Ross document in relation to arbitrary language.
- Elder Prince Bryant, II (TX) offered a friendly amendment to change the language regarding the five (5) year tenure qualification to: “five (5) year tenure as a jurisdictional bishop, appointed national officer, or elected national officer for service to the General Board.” The committee rejected the amendment.

After unreadiness was heard, Bishop Thuston called the question. A division of the House was requested. It was not sufficient in the judgment of the Chairman to determine the voice vote. Because of the lateness, Chairman Thuston did not proceed with a recertification and division of the House. Bishop Thuston noted that the motion would be presented again in the next session.

Bishop Thuston called for a recess at 9:20 pm, with the session resuming at 9:30 am. Elder Bush offered a benedictory prayer.

Morning Session**Thursday, April 11, 2019 – 9:30 a.m.**

Chaplain Elder Eugene Ferrell opened the Assembly with devotion at 9:30 am. He was assisted by Mother Lee Van Zandt. Prayer was offered by Evangelist Ella White. The Old Testament Scripture (Psalm 46:1-6) was read by Pastor Hezekiah Lampley (PA) and the New Testament Scripture (Roman 8:1-5) was read by Lady Lille Burris (IL). Elder Ferrell presented Bishop Jerry Maynard, Vice Chairman.

Vice Chairman Maynard called for the certification of the House. Elder Gerald Johnson announced certification of the House with 419 delegates at 10:10 am. Bishop Maynard gave brief remarks and presented General Assembly Chairman, Bishop Lemuel Thuston.

Chairman Thuston noted that the Resolution regarding requirements for General Board candidates had been tabled and not brought to a voice vote in the last session because the House had not been recertified. Bishop Thuston restated the motion and called the question. The Chair determined that the motion prevailed, however, there was a call for a division of the House. After standing votes were counted, **the MOTION PREVAILED**. Chairman Thuston noted that the requirements would be effective for the upcoming 2020 election.

Bishop Thuston shared a past testimony and noted the need for the saints to always display the love of God. He noted we should not forget the rock from which we were hewn and that everybody should be respected, shown honor, as well as reciprocate the same. Bishop Thuston

Historic Mason Temple**Memphis, Tennessee**

noted his love and respect for the Presiding Bishop and leadership of the Church and though they have constitutional assignments, there is no animosity. He further noted that they both operate out of a love for the Church with their whole body and soul, and love God who is the head of the Church.

Bishop Thuston acknowledged Bishop Blake, who praised God for the leadership of Bishop Thuston and noted that he was one of the most brilliant minds in the Church. Bishop Blake expressed his reciprocal love and respect for Bishop Thuston. Bishop Blake commented on parliamentary procedure. He noted that the Chairman forgot to call for the question in the session on last evening and no opportunity for unreadiness. He stated he reminded the Chairman there was no discussion and insisted he and others would be allowed the opportunity to have expressions on the matter. Bishop Blake stated the motion was defeated, and the General Assembly was guided into other matters, and felt the matter should be reflected in the Minutes. He recalled a childhood experience where a Caucasian boy took his American flag, which remained embedded in his heart, and since that time he has a reaction when he feels someone is trying to take his flag. Bishop Blake affirmed his love for Chairman Thuston and noted they would both seek the well-being and progress of the Church and each delegate in the Assembly would be respected regardless of status. Presiding Bishop Blake stated we would have disagreements but in the end the right pathway would be taken for the Church and we would continue to love one another to the glory of God.

Bishop Thuston returned and explained the actions that occurred last evening. He noted there was a duly carried motion and a call came for the division of the House. He noted it is the job of the Chair to hear and make a ruling. He explained the division of the House means the vote must be counted to confirm what would have been confirmed by a voice response. He noted that the vote was not defeated because there was no record of the vote and it was brought to the Chair's attention that the House had not been certified. And, there cannot be a division of the House vote when the House has not been certified in advance. He noted it wasn't that the vote failed, rather it was necessary that the House be recertified for a recount. Bishop Thuston further noted since it was so late, it would not have been feasible to take those actions, and admitted his error.

Chairman Thuston remarked on the 2020 election. He noted nominations would not be opened in this session and in November provisions would be made regarding the nominations and standards would be presented regarding the screening process. Bishop Thuston noted there would be policies for campaigning. He then called for the Election Committee. Bishop Carl Pierce, vice chair of that committee, presented proposed policies for campaigning for national office. He read the following:

- An individual is not a candidate until the screening process has been successfully completed and passed;
- Recommended official campaigning shall begin not earlier than the culmination of the November General Assembly;
- Campaign paraphernalia shall be in good taste and in compliance with Church Of God In Christ culture;

Historic Mason Temple

Memphis, Tennessee

- Defamation or demeaning of another’s character shall not be tolerated and shall be considered reasons for disqualification of candidacy;
- The campaign process, including literature, paraphernalia, gatherings, rallies, etc., during the 112th Holy Convocation shall not impede on the activities and/or worship experience of the Holy Convocation;
- All campaign materials shall be placed in predetermined areas away from the worship experience, but not placed throughout the Convocation site;
- No campaign materials may be placed in the seats or in the worship facility.

Chairman Thuston noted this was only a portion of the policy and a completed report would be submitted in November 2019. General Secretary Lyles suggested an addition to the policy to include no campaign materials may be situated in the General Assembly registration area to disrupt that process. Bishop Designate Kershaw also noted two concerns for possible inclusion in the policy update dealing with 1) materials submitted for inclusion in the registration bags and 2) signage regulations regarding the Americas Center. Chairman Thuston noted campaign materials would not be included in the registration bags because that was not its purpose.

Bishop Kenneth Obi of Nigeria commented on the unfair treatment of the foreign bishops by the Assembly. Chairman Thuston asked if there was a specific point needing clarity or change and noted that his topic of concern would be included in the November 2019 Agenda.

Bishop Thuston allowed additional jurisdictional credential holders reports.

- Tennessee 4th-Bishop Jerry Maynard – \$ 39,625.00
- District of Columbia -Bishop Neavelle Coles – 27,920.00
- Michigan Southwest 1st-Bishop John H. Sheard – 37,625.00
- Texas Gulf Coast-Bishop Destry Bell, Sr. – 21,625.00
- Illinois 5th West-Bishop James Washington – 30,550.00
- Bahamas-Bishop Tony Hanna – 10,740.00
- Wisconsin Northwest-Bishop C.H. McClelland – 32,425.00
- Georgia Southern 1st-Bishop Larry Shaw – 13,000.00
- Oregon Northwest-Bishop Jerry Macklin, Interim – 9,600.00
- Texas Central Metropolitan-Bishop Frank Fanniel, Sr. – 32,680.00
- Illinois 5th East-Bishop James Austin – 26,125.00
- New York Eastern 4th-Bishop Clarence Sexton, Interim – 22,000.00
- Texas Northeast 4th-Bishop Nathiel Wells – 57,400.00
- California Western -Bishop Leo Smith – 15,725.00

Chairman Thuston called for the Committee on Standards and Extensions. Bishop Malcolm Coby appreciated his committee and presented the current policies and procedures of the committee noting their efforts began in 2016. Bishop Thuston noted what was presented was not new but an update for the benefit of the delegates. Bishop Coby made a motion that the committee’s report be received. After a proper second, Bishop Thuston allowed questions from the delegates. At the completion of dialogue, the **MOTION PREVAILED**.

Historic Mason Temple

Memphis, Tennessee

Bishop Thuston called for General Secretary Lyles who presented the remaining calendar dates **(See Attachment K)** and motion to adjourn. Bishop Lyles presented the motion to adjourn. After a second by Bishop Talbert Swan, II, Chairman Thuston acknowledged Bishop George McKinney. Bishop McKinney thanked God for His healing touch and expressed his joy to be in the Assembly.

Chairman Thuston presented Presiding Bishop Blake for closing remarks and a benedictory prayer. Bishop Blake requested prayer for the bereaved and hurting families and prayed a prayer of thanksgiving, peace, healing, and traveling mercies until we meet again. At the conclusion of the prayer, Bishop Thuston called the question. **The MOTION PREVAILED** and the Assembly adjourned at 12:05pm CST.

Church Of God In Christ, Inc.

INTERNATIONAL HEADQUARTERS
Office of the General Secretary



MOTION TO ADJOURN

BISHOP JOEL HARLEY LYLES, JR.
General Secretary

Whereas, the General Assembly of the Church Of God In Christ was duly assembled on Tuesday, April 9; Wednesday, April 10; and Thursday, April 11, 2019 and the delegates to the April 2019 session were issued Certificates of Election, duly registered and properly seated; and

Whereas, with the noted corrections, the Minutes of the November 2018 meeting were adopted and the Agenda for the 2019 session was approved; and

Whereas, directives, greetings and a powerful address were given by the Chairman of the General Assembly; and

Whereas, a State of the Church Address was given by the Presiding Bishop; and

Whereas, reports from the Presiding Bishop, the General Board, the Board of Trustees, the Judiciary Board, the Financial Secretary, the Joshua Generation, and various Standing General Assembly Committees were received, adopted, ratified and where possible will be included in the official Minutes of this session; and

Whereas, Resolution #042019-01 was presented and ratified requiring candidates for the General Board to have at least a five (5) year tenure as jurisdictional bishops, which will be included in the Minutes; and

Whereas, the delegates of this session have given of their time and attention to make this General Assembly session a success;

Now Therefore Be It Resolved: that the General Assembly of the Church Of God In Christ does hereby express, ratify, confirm, and approve all actions and proceedings done during the calling of this April 2019 General Assembly session; and

Be It Further Resolved: that this General Assembly does hereby express its gratitude and appreciation to all delegates who have contributed to its success, and

Be It Finally Resolved: that this session of the General Assembly be adjourned on Thursday, April 11, 2019 at 12:05 p.m.

Done this 11th day of April, 2019
in the city of Memphis, Tennessee

Bishop Joel Harley Lyles, Jr.
General Secretary
CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST, INC.

ATTACHMENT A

Church Of God In Christ, Inc.
WORLD HEADQUARTERS
938 Mason Street
Memphis, Tennessee 38126

GENERAL ASSEMBLY



April 9, 2019

RULES AND PROCEDURES

Bishop Lemuel Thuston, Chairman

Bishop Jerry Maynard, Vice Chairman

Bishop Melvin Smith, Attorney at Law

Chairman, Rules and Procedures Committee

Bishop John Mark Johnson

Vice Chairman, Rules and Procedures Committee

Evangelist Deborah Braxton, Secretary

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST, INC.
WORLD HEADQUARTERS
938 Mason Street
Memphis, Tennessee 38126

RULES AND PROCEDURES
FOR
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY'S AUTHORITY:

WHEREAS

In accordance with the provisions of the Charter of the Church Of God In Christ filed in the state of Tennessee and the Constitution as outlined in the Church Of God In Christ Official Manual, The General Assembly is the supreme legislative authority of the Church Of God In Christ. And

WHEREAS

The General Assembly is the only tribunal which has power and authority to express doctrines and creeds for the Church of God In Christ. And

WHEREAS

The General Assembly's decisions shall be binding on all members of the Church Of God In Christ. And

WHEREAS

The General Assembly shall adopt such rules, policies, procedures and regulations governing the conduct of its business and its organization, as it may deem necessary, proper and/or expedient. And

WHEREAS

There can be no appeal of the decisions and determinations of the General Assembly.

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED

The following Rules and Procedures shall govern the General Assembly of the Church Of God In Christ, Inc.:

RULES AND PROCEDURES FOR THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

RULE 1. The General Assembly Operation

The General Assembly shall be governed by the Charter, Constitution, Bylaws, Policies, Rules and Procedures of the Church Of God In Christ, Inc. as they now are or may be amended from time to time. Where the Constitution and General Assembly Rules are silent, at the discretion of the Chair, Robert's Rules of Order may be followed. The General Assembly shall hear and consider the business and matters of the Church Of God In Christ, Inc. as reported to it by the entities of the Church Of God In Christ, Inc. making recommendations where required or needed for clarity and vote its conscience.

RULE 2. Powers and Restrictions of the General Assembly

The power and authority of the General Assembly to legislate for the church, to make such rules and regulations over all the departments as it may deem best, is limited by the following restrictions:

- a.) It shall not set aside or change any of our articles of faith, nor shall it establish any new doctrines contrary to the doctrines that now exist in the Church.
- b.) The General Assembly shall not abolish our representative form of government nor the General Superintendency, nor deprive it of any of the authority given it by this Constitution.
- c.) No person should be seated in the General Assembly who has not been duly elected as a delegate or an alternate by a recognized Jurisdictional Assembly of the Church Of God In Christ, Inc.

The General Assembly shall not deprive our ministers or members of a fair orderly trial or appeal in case of conviction.

RULE 3. General Assembly Composition

The General Assembly shall be comprised of delegates from each Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction both Foreign and Domestic and certified by the General Secretary's Office. These delegates shall include:

- (a) **Bishops:** (General Board, Jurisdictional, Domestic, Foreign and Auxiliary).
 - (b) **Jurisdictional Bishop's Wife.**
 - (c) **Jurisdictional Supervisors,** Supervisors without charge (in good standing), Former Jurisdictional Supervisors (in good standing),
 - (d) **Emeritized Elected Officials** and their spouse.
 - (e) **Jurisdictional Secretaries**
- (The followings delegates must be elected in their Ecclesiastical Jurisdictions).
- (f) **Pastors/Ordained Elders:** (Administrative Assistants, District Superintendents, Pastors and Elders without Charge).
 - (g) **District Missionaries:** 4 per Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction (or their alternate).

- (h) **Lay Delegates:** 6 per Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction (or their alternate).
- (i) **Wives:** (Of current and former General Board Members, and Jurisdictional Bishops and Elected Emeritized Officials' Wives and Widows).
- (j) **Specials:** Bishop Charles Harrison Mason's Direct Descendants Permanent Delegates to the General Assembly (See the Attached Resolution).

Note: All elected and voting delegates are to be in good standing in their Ecclesiastical Jurisdictions.

RULE 4. Seating of Officials and Delegates

In keeping with the General Assembly custom and in order to facilitate the orderly flow of business, seating on the platform shall be as follows:

- a. **General Assembly Chairman, Vice Chairman, and Parliamentarian.**
- b. **Presiding Bishop and the General Board.**
- c. **General Secretary and General Assembly Secretarial Staff.**
- d. **The Judiciary Board, 9 members.**
- e. **Board of Bishops, 15-20 members of their Executive Committee**
- f. **Women's Department – General Mother and Fifteen (15) staff members.**
- g. **Wife Of the Presiding Bishop, Wives of Present and former General Board members and the Wife of General Assembly Chair, Wife of General Assembly Vice Chair, and former General Assembly Chair Wives and Widows.**
- h. **National Trustee Board- Chairman, Vice Chairmen, and Secretary.**
- i. **General Council of Pastors and Elders – 10 members**
- j. **General Financial Secretary**
- k. **General Treasurer**
- l. **Trustee Board- and all other elected and appointed National Officials not previously mentioned shall be seated in the area behind the main platform**
- m. **The lower right platform – The Rules Committee 3 members, Sergeant at Arms 3 members.**
- n. **The lower left platform - The Support staff to the Chairman and Presiding Bishop.**
- o. **Special Sections** on the floor is reserved in the following manner: the first eight (8) rows center for the remaining members of the General Assembly Advisory/Executive Staff, and all other elected and appointed officers, to the immediate left the first ten (10) rows are for Supervisors, Bishops Wives and Supervisors without charge, to the immediate right the first ten (10) rows for the remaining members of the Board of Bishops, the section to the immediate lower floor right reserved for the Physically Challenge.
- p. All other Delegates shall be seated on the lower floor.
- q. **Non delegates will be permitted in the designated non delegate area in the role of observers only, Non delegates will not be permitted into the Assembly during any Quadrennial Election.**
- r. **ONLY DELEGATES WITH PROPER CURRENT YEAR CREDENTIALS WILL BE PERMITTED INTO AND ON THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FLOOR.**

(Seating arrangements in the General Assembly are subject to the discretion of the Chair.)

RULE 5. The Chairman

The Chairman shall conduct the meeting as outlined on a printed agenda and in the following manner:

- a. The Chairman shall open the assembly by calling the meeting to order.
- b. The Chairman shall announce the business of the assembly by presenting an agenda to the assembly.
- c. The Chairman shall decide all questions of order.
- d. The Chairman shall put all questions before the assembly.
- e. The Chairman shall maintain the order of and in the assembly.
- f. The Chairman shall discuss and allow discussion of the items on the agenda for the session.
- g. The Chairman will recognize all Delegates, and shall conduct the meeting without partiality.
- h. The Chairman shall be permitted to change the order of the agenda items.
- i. The Chairman shall have the authority to set time limits for discussion of agenda items.
- j. When deemed necessary, the Chairman shall have the authority to assign agenda items to the appropriate committee or committees for further studies and/or refinement.

RULE 6. The Quorum

“A quorum shall only be required when dealing with the Charter, Constitution and Bylaws.”

All other business where the delegates have been properly notified concerning the meeting/business of the General Assembly which includes elections, resolutions, appointments and all other necessary business of the National Church shall be with those delegates present and voting.

RULE 7. Quadrennial Election

- a. Candidates for National Office will be nominated and/or declare their intention to run for National Office, the Nominating and Screening Committee will conduct the necessary interview and background check to insure their qualification. Upon completion of the necessary interview and background check the Nomination and Screening Committee will submit the names of all qualified candidates to the Chairman of the General Assembly to have their names placed on the ballot.
- b. The Election Commission under the direction of the Chair or his designee will conduct all elections for National Office.
- c. Voting in all elections for National Officers shall be by ballot vote only. To be declared the winner, a candidate must receive at least 50%+ 1 of the votes cast. In the event that no candidate gets 50%+1 of the votes cast, there will be a run off between the two candidates with the highest number of votes. In the case of the General Board the twelve (12) candidates with the highest number of votes will be declared the winners; this is true as well for the National Trustee Board the fifteen (15) candidates with the highest number of votes will be declared the winners.

- d. Delegates once in the General Assembly Chamber may only leave at the discretion of the Chair; any delegate leaving the General Assembly Chamber after the house has been certified without leave of the Chair will not be permitted back into the Chamber.

RULE 8. The Method of Voting

- a. The method of voting on motions shall be at the discretion of the Chairman. However, a “**Division of the House**” shall be honored when the vote is inconclusive.
- b. Any proposed Amendment to the Charter (Constitution) of the Church Of God In Christ shall require the following:
 1. All proposed Amendments are to be submitted in written form.
 2. The proposed Amendments shall become the property of the General Assembly for consideration and action.
 3. No such Amendments shall be voted upon in the same session presented.
 4. Proposed Amendments to the Charter (Constitution) of the Church Of God In Christ shall have three (3) readings before the General Assembly:
First reading is the document in its present form,
Second reading is the proposed revisions, and
Third reading is for ratification.
Passage is required at each reading to move forward (not in the same session presented).
 5. Proposed Amendments to the Charter (Constitution) of the Church Of God In Christ Must Pass by a **Two Third 2/3** majority vote of the Registered Delegates to the General Assembly Session in which presented for a vote.
 6. All such Amendments upon passage in the General Assembly are in full force and effect, and are to be filed within twenty one (21) days from the date of passage with the Secretary of State of the State of Tennessee by the General Secretary of the Church Of God In Christ, Inc.
 7. Proposed Amendments to Policy and Procedural items of the Church Of God In Christ may be presented and become the property of the General Assembly and acted (voted) upon in the same session presented. Passage and/or adoption of these items requiring only a majority vote of those Registered Delegates present and voting, the items voted on become effective immediately upon passage in the General Assembly.

RULE 9. Addressing the General Assembly

- I. Members, who wish to speak, shall address the Chair and be recognized by the Chair,
- II. Upon being recognized by the Chair, members shall stand; give their Names, their Jurisdiction and their Jurisdictional Bishop’s name.
- III. When addressing the General Assembly, members shall limit their remarks to the discussion at hand and avoid negative, personal comments.

RULE 10. Disturbances

Disturbances that hinder the orderly transaction of business shall be deemed a violation of order in such case the Chair may:

- a. Prohibit the disorderly Delegate from further participation in any discussion during the remainder of the General Assembly session or any part thereof.
- b. If the disorderly Delegate continues to disturb the order of the General Assembly, the Chair may eject the Delegate from the Assembly Session.
- c. Non-Delegate who causes disturbances may be ejected from the auditorium.
- d. **NO** recording or monitoring devices are permitted in or on the General Assembly floor or in the gallery without the expressed permission of the Chairman of the General Assembly.
- e. **NO** outside media coverage or reporters are permitted in the General Assembly session or in the gallery without the expressed permission of the Chairman of the General Assembly.
- f. **All Cell phones MUST be turned OFF or put on VIBRATE mode during the General Assembly Sessions.**
- g. In the event anyone is discovered recording and disseminating live information without proper authorization via any form of social media (i.e. Twitter, Facebook, Periscope, Instagram, Snapchat, etc.) their device(s) will be confiscated and those persons will be immediately expelled from the General Assembly floor by the Sergeant-At-Arms
- h. **There will be no distribution of literature in the General Assembly except by the Sergeant At Arms and his staff.**

RULE 11. Sergeant-At-Arms

- a. The Sergeant-At-Arms shall be charged with, verifying that all Delegate on the General Assembly floor are Registered for the current General Assembly Session, gathering the count of Registered Delegate in the General Assembly session, maintaining order in the General Assembly session, distributing materials to Registered Delegates, the counting of votes (in the event of a Division of the House); and any other duties the Chairman may deem necessary to the orderly flow of business during the General Assembly session.
- b. The Sergeant-At-Arms shall also be charged with the responsibility of monitoring (surveying) the General Assembly floor to insure that no one is in violation of recording and disseminating live information via social media from the Assembly floor without proper authorization. If anyone is found doing so, the Sergeant-At-Arms is authorized to confiscate the recording device(s) and expel those persons from the General Assembly floor.

MEMBERS OF THE RULES COMMITTEE:

Bishop Melvin Smith, Attorney at Law, Chairman

Bishop John Mark Johnson, Vice Chairman

Evangelist Deborah Braxton, Secretary

Bishop Harvey Lewis

Bishop Bobby Allen

Bishop Milton Jackson, Jr.

Bishop Phillip Porter

Bishop Jewel Withers

Bishop William L. Harper

Bishop Leo Smith

Bishop Johnathan D. Logan Sr.

Bishop Tyrone W. McCombs

Pastor Andrew Smith, Attorney at Law

Superintendent Walter Scott

Supervisor Dr. Lena McClain

Supervisor Peggy Lee

Missionary Sheila R. Stuart, Attorney at Law

District Missionary Gail Nelson

Elder Kenneth Williams

Elder Rex Anglin

**Resolution Committee
General Assembly 2011**

**RESOLUTION: BISHOP CHARLES HARRISON MASON'S DIRECT DESCENDANTS
PERMANENT DELEGATES TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

Whereas, Bishop Charles Harrison Mason is the revered and Founding Father of the Church of God in Christ, and

Whereas, he has led this great Church during his lifetime, and

Whereas, he has left an immortal legacy to millions of followers of the largest black Pentecostal organization in the world, and

Whereas, many sacrifices were made by Bishop Mason and his family:

Whereas, his Grandson, Bishop James Oglethorpe Patterson, Jr., who served the Church Of God In Christ, Inc., faithfully as Chairman of the General Assembly for over eleven (11) years, and

Therefore, in honor of our deceased Chairman, Bishop James Oglethorpe Patterson, Jr., and our Founding Father, Bishop Charles Harrison Mason, and

Therefore, be it resolved, that because of the many sacrifices made by the Founding Father and in respect to the same, that it would be only proper and fitting that all direct descendants of Bishop C. H. Mason who are members of the Church Of God In Christ, Inc., in good standing shall be granted the privilege of being permanent delegates to the General Assembly, as long as their life style is in keeping with the doctrines and policies of the Church Of God In Christ, Inc.. Their credentials shall come directly from the General Secretary's office once their information is verified.

Resolution Committee Members

Chairlady - Dr. Diana Banks

Elder Willie Bonner, Sr.

Elder Darin Burns

Supervisor Lenora Early

Elder Marcus Fenner

Elder Myrick Fondren

Elder Gilbert Ginyard

Elder Percy Henderson

Elder Phillip Jackson

Elder Kevin Knight

Elder Herman Platt

Dr. Hazel Sheperd

Elder Donnell Smith

Supervisor Romanetha Stallworth

Elder David Taylor

Elder Aaron Tolbert

Elder Jerry Walker

Dr. Angela Wilson

Elder Reggie Witherspoon

ATTACHMENT B

**Church Of God In Christ, Inc.
General Assembly**

**Bishop L. F. Thuston - Chairman
Bishop Jerry Maynard - Vice Chairman**

**April 2019 Session
Mason Temple - Memphis, Tennessee**

1. The Call to Order Bishop Jerry L. Maynard, *Vice Chairman*
2. The Opening Prayer & Scripture *Chaplain*
3. The Certification of the House Elder Gerald Johnson, *Chairman
Credentials Committee*
4. The Presentation of the Rules Bishop Melvin Smith, *Chairman
Rules Committee*
5. The Adoption of the Minutes (November 2018 Session) Bishop Joel Harley Lyles, Jr.
General Secretary
6. The Presentation and Adoption of the Agenda General Secretary Lyles

AGENDA

- I. The Presentation of the Chairman Vice Chairman Maynard
- II. The Chairman's Address Bishop L. F. Thuston, *Chairman*
- III. The Report from the Presiding Bishop and The General Board
Bishop Charles E. Blake, Sr., *Presiding Bishop*
Bishop Sedgwick Daniels, *Secretary, General Board*
- IV. The Report from the Board of Trustees The Board of Trustees
Bishop Dwight Walls, *Chairman*
- V. The Judiciary Board Update The Judiciary Board
Bishop Martin Luther Johnson, *Chief Justice*
- VI. The Report of Convocation 2020 Site Elder Keith Kershaw, *Director Convention Planning*
- VII. The Reports from Standing Committees
1. Standards and Extensions Bishop Malcom Coby, *Chairman*
2. Budget Review and Finance Bishop Jerry L. Maynard
Elder Andrew Perpener
3. Resolutions
4. Screening Bishop David Screvens, *Chairman*
5. Manual Review and Codifying
6. Constitution Bishop David Allen Hall, Sr., *Chairman*
7. Judicial Investigating Judge Paula Ellis, *Chair*
8. Special Recognition Dr. Wilma Smith Beauford, *Chair*
9. Nominating Elder Jonathan Saffold, *Chairman*
10. Job Description & Remuneration
11. The Election Committee Evangelist Myra Banks, *Chair*
Bishop Carl Pierce, *Vice Chairman*

VIII. The Reports for Ad Hoc Committees

1. Strategic Planning
2. Spiritual Fitness
3. "Joshua Generation"

Elder Matthew Brown, *Chairman*
Mother Gwendolyn Washington, *Chair*
Elder Eric C. Bogan, *Chairman*
Elder Paul Gatlin, *Chairman*

IX. The Remaining 2019 Calendar & Motion to Adjourn

Secretary Lyles

X. The Closing Directives

Chairman Thuston

XI. The Closing Remarks & Benediction

Bishop Blake

XII. The Statement to Adjourn

Chairman Thuston

ATTACHMENT C



Welcome to the

2019

APRIL CALL

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE

BISHOP CHARLES E. BLAKE, SR. - PRESIDING BISHOP

BISHOP LEMUEL F. THUSTON - GENERAL ASSEMBLY CHAIRMAN





**THE PRESIDING BISHOP'S
State Of The Church Address**

April 9, 2019

HISTORIC MASON TEMPLE | MEMPHIS, TN



BISHOP CHARLES E. BLAKE, SR.
PRESIDING BISHOP & CHIEF APOSTLE

The Church of God in Christ is the largest Pentecostal denomination in the country with over 10,000 churches, nearly 6.5 million adherents now in more than 100 countries. Countries with flags represented right here in historic Mason Temple.





During the past 12 months, the Church of God in Christ was blessed to provide basic necessities such as food, clothing, shelter, and building materials...as well as Bibles and scholarships.





I AM

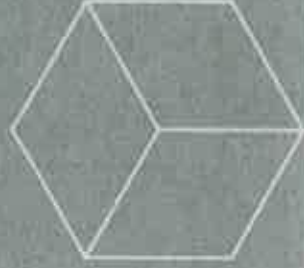
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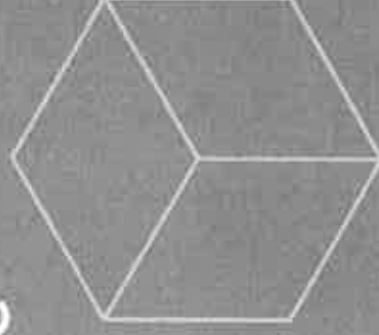
The Church of God in Christ and the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME) sponsored the IAM 2018 Conference. Thousands came through those doors to honor the 50th Anniversary of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Mountaintop Speech delivered right here in our Mason Temple.



**We have also
prepared people
to live
successfully
through
educational and
training
opportunities.**



Most importantly, we have been blessed to share the life-sustaining Word of God to those whom we serve in both local and international communities, within the U.S. and abroad.



SORRY
WE...

MISSED
YOU!



CHURCH OF GOD BY CHRIST, INC.
111th HOLY

CONVOCAATION



HIGHLIGHTS:

Daily & Nightly
Worship Services
Holy Communion
Nightly Gospel Musicals
Banquets
Health Fair
FREE Law Day



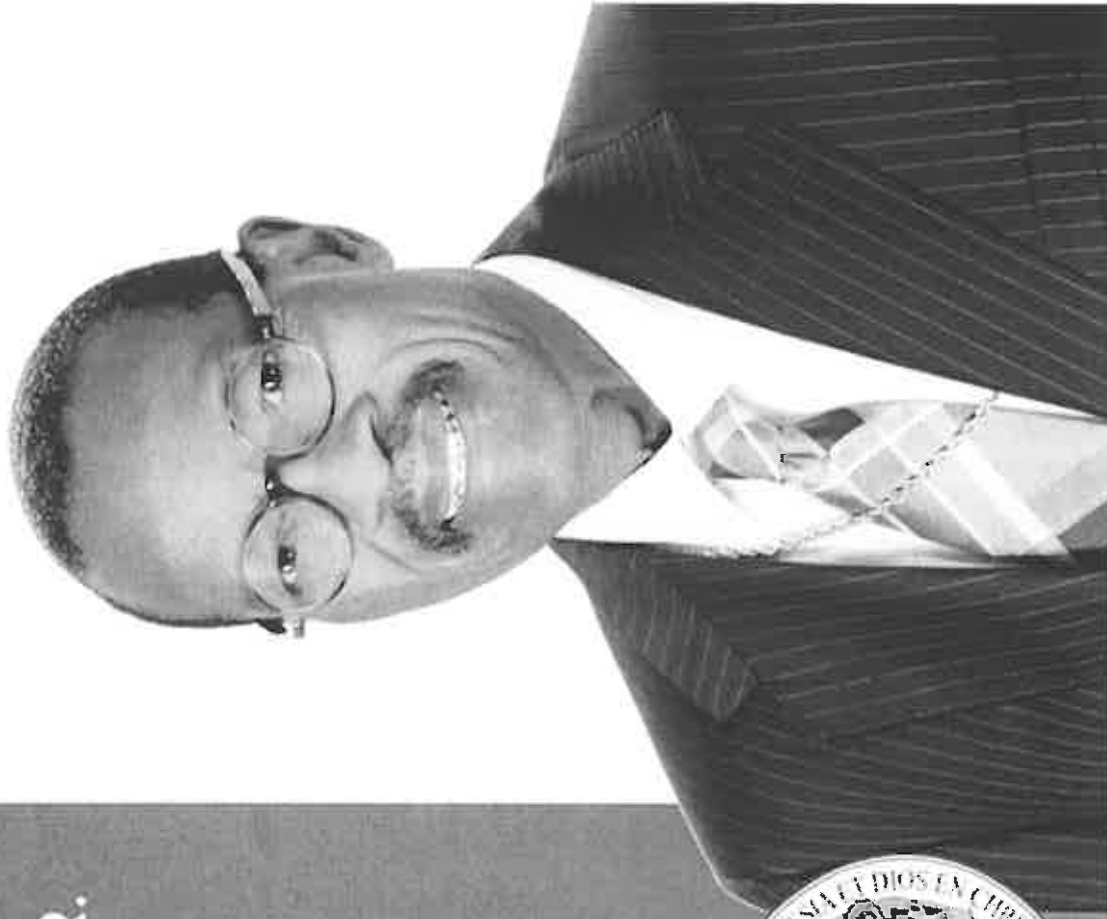
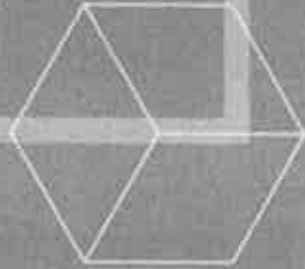
THE AMERICA'S CENTER
ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI | NOVEMBER 5-13, 2018

FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC!

BISHOP CHARLES E. BLAKE, SR.

PRESDING BISHOP & CHIEF APOSTLE

- 62 years in ministry
- 12 years as Presiding Bishop and
- 50 years as pastor of the West Angeles Church of God in Christ.



THE CHARLES HARRISON MASON
Theological Seminary

DR. HAROLD BENNETT
Dean



The C H. Mason Theological Seminary is the only fully accredited, African-American Pentecostal Seminary in the world.



The CH Mason Theological Seminary has graduated forty-six classes. Alumni, of the Seminary are Bishops, Pastors, and Superintendents in our church along with administrators and faculty at Colleges, Universities, and Graduate Schools across the United States, along with Chaplains in Hospitals and Prisons.



COGIC Publishing House Annual Report for 2018

of the
CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST
ELDER ULESES HENDERSON, JR.



CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST
PUBLISHING HOUSE

HIGHLIGHTS:

- Increased Total Annual Revenue by 5%.
- 2% revenue increase for Sunday School Curriculum
- Launched new Interpretative Commentary with COGIC Sunday School Department
- Relocated our headquarters to new state of the art facility on 806 E. Brooks Road
- Partnered with Salem Communications/Xulon Press to provide support for writers who want to self publish. These books will be distributed through our publishing imprint, Harrison Mason Press.



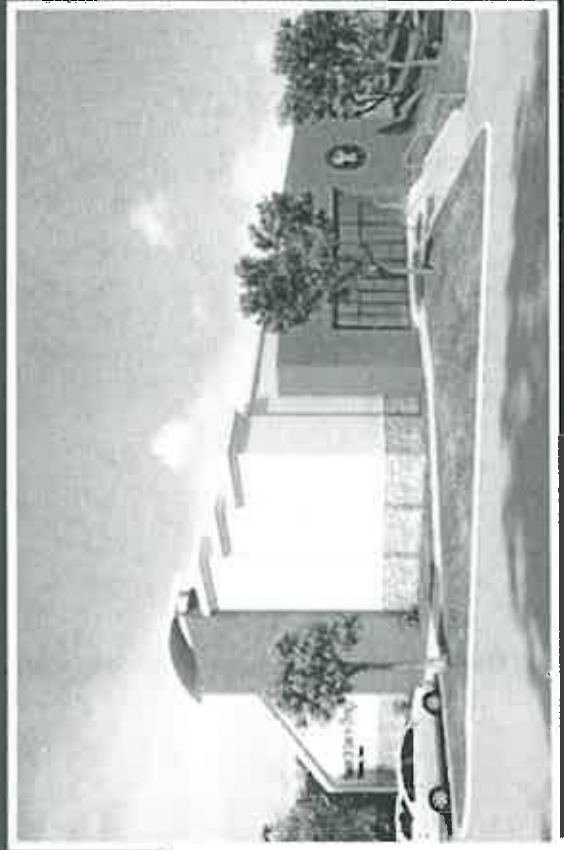
CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST
PUBLISHING HOUSE

The Interpretative Commentary

- The interpretative commentary includes an additional 212 pages of expository materials written by some of the brightest theologians in the Church of God In Christ
- The Commentary sold-out



New Offices on 806 E Brooks Rd.



CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST
PUBLISHING HOUSE

Partnership with Xulon Press

- We have entered into a partnership with Xulon Press to provide ghostwriting and copyediting services to writers Christ who wish to self publish.
- Selected books will be published through our new publishing imprint, Harrison Mason Press.
- Program launches in April 2019.



HARRISON MASON PRESS



CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST
PUBLISHING HOUSE

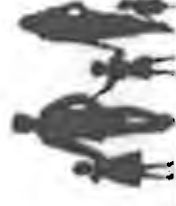
Urban Initiatives

CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST

Bishop Edwin Bass
President



Urban Initiatives has implemented the C.E. Blake Expungement Program to assist those caught up in the criminal justice system in clearing their records.

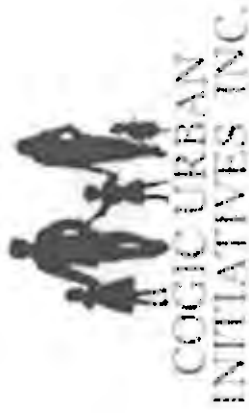


**COGIC URBAN
INITIATIVES INC.**

Our offering of programs continues to expand as well as the number of programs being offered through local churches which we estimate to be at 10,500.



**90 Memphis entrepreneurs
have successfully completed
the Urban Initiatives/Operation
Hope Small Business Training
Program held on the Mason
Temple Campus. Take a look at
this program.**



**PONTOTOC BOARD MARKET
RATE HOUSING & AFFORDABLE
HOUSING PROJECT
FOR COGIC PROPERTY**

IN MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE



The Pontotoc Board is coordinating and leading three housing developments in downtown Memphis, Tennessee. All projects have required no funds from the Church of God in Christ.





In Remembrance of...

BISHOP CARLIS L. MOODY, SR.

DECEMBER 16, 1934 - JANUARY 12, 2019



THE STATE OF THE
Church Of God In Christ
IS *Strong!*



BISHOP CHARLES E. BLAKE, SR.
PRESIDING BISHOP & CHIEF APOSTLE

ATTACHMENT D

Thanking God For Your Many Years Of Service In The Church Of God In Christ



The Special Recognition Committee General Assembly

April 2019

Bishop Lemuel F. Thuston
Chairman, General Assembly

Bishop Jerry L. Maynard
Vice Chair, General Assembly

Bishop Charles Edward Blake
Presiding Bishop

Mother Barbara McCoo Lewis
General Supervisor



LONGEVITY

Supervisor Dr. Wilma Beauford
Committee Chairperson

Mother Sharon Gans, Administrative Assistant

Mother Rodell Burton, Region 1 Coordinator

Mother Deborah Kitchen

Mother Katie Allen

24 NONAGENARIANS 90 – 99 years old

2 CENTENARIANS 100 + years

Proverbs 9:11

“For by me thy days shall be multiplied,
and the years of thy life shall be increased.”

NONAGENARIAN RECIPIENT	JURISDICTION	BISHOP	SUPERVISOR
Elder Arthur Jones	Greater New Hampshire	Bishop Robert Webbs, Sr.	Supervisor Clara Allen
Mother Patience Cooper	Greater North Carolina	Bishop Leroy Woolard	Supervisor Harrizene Keyes
Mother Anna Jefferson	Greater North Carolina	Bishop Leroy Woolard	Supervisor Harrizene Keyes
Mother Gladyce Ruffin Johnson	Greater North Carolina	Bishop Leroy Woolard	Supervisor Harrizene Keyes
Mother Eva Mae Lloyd	Greater North Carolina	Bishop Leroy Woolard	Supervisor Harrizene Keyes
Mother Josephine Reeves	Greater North Carolina	Bishop Leroy Woolard	Supervisor Harrizene Keyes
Mother Ernestine Spruill	Greater North Carolina	Bishop Leroy Woolard	Supervisor Harrizene Keyes
Deacon Anderson Wade	Greater North Carolina	Bishop Leroy Woolard	Supervisor Harrizene Keyes
Elder Douglas Rollins, Jr.	Historic Indiana First	Bishop Mark Henry Blade	Supervisor Darlene Stone
Mother Katherine Bell	New York Western First	Bishop James Wright, Sr.	Supervisor Althea Chaplin
Superintendent Robert Lewis	Northern California First	Bishop Albert Galbraith	Supervisor Geraldine Campbell
Deacon W. A. Flowers	Pennsylvania Koinonia	Bishop Ernest Morris, Sr.	Mother Emily Myrick
Mother Mayo Bowen	Southern Georgia Second	Bishop J. Wayne Leggett	Mother Amy Engram
Missionary Dorothy Ford	Southern Georgia Second	Bishop J. Wayne Leggett	Mother Amy Engram
Mother Rosa Lee Coons	Second of Eastern New York	Bishop Rothel Highsmith	Mother Gail Smith

NONAGENARIAN RECIPIENT	JURISDICTION	BISHOP	SUPERVISOR
Mother Gussie Freeman	Tennessee Fifth	Bishop Jerry W. Taylor	Mother Mardest VanHook
Mother Beatrice Scales	Tennessee Fifth	Bishop Jerry W. Taylor	Mother Mardest VanHook
Mother Lucille Randolph Simmons	Tennessee Fifth	Bishop Jerry W. Taylor	Mother Mardest VanHook
Bishop Emeritus Jerome Norman	Barbados West Indies	Bishop Paul Fortson	
Mother Lessie Mae Gray	Texas Northeast First	Bishop James Hornsby	Mother Pia Haynes Williams
Mother Marguerite Bingham	Pennsylvania Koinonia	Bishop Ernest Morris, Sr.	Mother Emily Myrick
Mother Antoinette Woods	Illinois Midwest	Bishop Darrell Hines, Sr.	Mother LuVonia Whittley
Mother Geraldine Dean	Sixth Jur. Of Illinois	Bishop Clowdell Williams	Mother Angie Cullins
Mother Annie Mae Beard-Patterson	Sixth Jur. Of Illinois	Bishop Clowdell Williams	Mother Angie Cullins

CENTENARIAN RECIPIENT	JURISDICTION	BISHOP	SUPERVISOR
MOTHER JENNIE PARKER-ALLEN	California Valley	Bishop Samuel Doyle	
MOTHER MARY F. LOONEY	Sixth Jur. Of Illinois	Bishop Clowdell Williams	Mother Angie Cullins

CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST, INC.

General Assembly

Bishop Lemuel F. Thuston, Chairman



SPECIAL RECOGNITION COMMITTEE

Dr. Wilma Beauford, Chairlady

**SPECIAL RECOGNITION
FOR MEMBERS ATTAINING THE AGE OF
90 YEARS AND ABOVE {NONAGENARIAN} AND
100 YEARS AND ABOVE {CENTENARIAN}**

INDIVIDUAL RECOGNITION FORM

Name of Individual _____

Title/Role _____ *First* _____ *Middle* _____ *Last (please print)* _____
Date of Birth _____ Age _____

Individual's Address _____ City _____ State _____

Individual's Church _____

Church Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Name of Pastor _____

Jurisdiction _____

Bishop _____ Supervisor _____

~~~~~  
Individual's Church Of God In Christ Involvement (50 words or less)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Name of Person completing the Recognition Form \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Person to receive Individual's Certificate

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to Individual \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

The SPECIAL RECOGNITION COMMITTEE OF  
THE CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST, INC.

*This Committee of the General Assembly, is set up to recognize every individual in the Church of God In Christ who has reached the age of 90-99 [Nonagenarian] and 100 and above [Centenarian] with this special Certificate.*

Procedure:

Individuals will be selected for Recognition by their Pastor; or in the case of a Pastor as nominee, by the Bishop; or in the case of a Bishop, by an Administrative Assistant, or Supervisor. Family members may notify the Pastor of the relative's eligibility and assist, if needed, in the completion of the Recognition Form.

All individuals currently in membership of The Church Of God In Christ are eligible for Recognition. One Certificate is given to an individual in the Nonagenarian category, and one Certificate is given to an individual in the Centenarian.

To make the occasion special, Certificates will be sent to the Pastor or other Nominating individual for presentation to the person, or family member, if the individual is unable to attend. This presentation is to be done locally in order to be appreciated by those who know the individual best.

Names of Individuals will be recognized at a future General Assembly.

Please include a clear photograph of the individual, if available, to be used in publications of this award.

Supervisor Dr. Wilma Beauford, Recognition Committee Chair  
Mother Sharon Gans, Administrative Assistant  
Supervisor Deborah Kitchen, Assistant Chairperson  
Supervisor Mother Katie Allen  
Mother Rodell Burton, Regional Office, [rmburton@verizon.net](mailto:rmburton@verizon.net); 215-884-7682

Completed forms may be faxed: 412-661-4206

Or emailed to: [wsmithbeauford@gmail.com](mailto:wsmithbeauford@gmail.com). [ssgans@aol.com](mailto:ssgans@aol.com)

**Direct inquiries to:**

Supervisor Dr. Wilma Beauford  
412/661-1034

Mother Sharon Gans  
412/231-5389

# ATTACHMENT E

# CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST, INC.

## SUMMATION OF ACTIONS

### THE NATIONAL BOARD OF TRUSTEES

November 2018 – April 2019



## **BISHOP CHARLES E. BLAKE**

*Presiding Bishop*

### **National Board of Trustees**

**Bishop Dwight E. Walls, Sr.**

*Chairman*

Supervisor Mildred Linzy  
Administrative Assistant Melton R. Timmons  
Bishop Joseph Chase  
Elder Josephus Shepherd  
Elder David A. Hall, Jr.  
Mother Sandra Smith-Jones  
Administrative Assistant Christopher Martin

Missionary Sylvia Law  
Elder Amos Smith  
Dr. T. Lynn Smith  
Missionary Georgia Macklin-Lowe  
Missionary Cari V. Barnes  
Superintendent Darin Burns  
Dr. Ailean Stingley

April 9, 2019

To: Presiding Bishop Charles E. Blake  
Bishop Lemuel Thuston, Chairman of the General Assembly  
The Delegates of the General Assembly of the Church Of God In Christ, Inc.

The following actions, services and tasks have been performed:

The National Board of Trustees participated in several meeting with the Financial Secretary, Treasurer, Chief Operating Officer and General Assembly Finance Committee to discuss the operating Budget of the church.

The National Board of Trustees did direct and oversee the Office of National Properties in the completion and current operation of the following:

#### **MEMPHIS**

- ✓ Mason Temple Sanctuary Lighting was repaired by Memphis Audio. Cost \$6,750.
- ✓ Retainer Walls along McEwen Avenue, Willoughby St. and Mason St. were repaired and painted by Bradshaw Enterprises. Cost \$9,960
- ✓ Stairs on the rear of Saints Haven (west and north sides) were replaced and the landing underpin was repaired by Bradshaw Enterprises. Cost \$12,850
- ✓ Downtown properties at 300, 304, and 306 S. Main were refurbished by Garrett Remodeling & Home Repair in preparation for rental. Total Cost \$18,058
- ✓ A use agreement between the Church Of God In Christ, Inc and Patton-Taylor Enterprises was signed on December 5, 2018 for use of the McEwen lot for storage of three trailers as they complete the Mason Village Project.

#### **LEXINGTON**

- ✓ The Holmes County Board of Supervisors and Corp of Engineers conducted maintenance surrounding the lake according to the Black Creek Watershed Operation and Maintenance Plan which was established in 1995. This included excavating undergrowth of the lake.
- ✓ A new lease agreement was signed between the Church Of God In Christ, Inc. and Family Resource of North Mississippi for office space in the B. S. Lyles auditorium on the Lexington Campus. Monthly lease payment is \$1,000.

Submitted by

Administrative Assistant Melton R. Timmons  
Secretary, National Board of Trustees

# NATIONAL BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR THE CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST, INC. OPERATIONAL BUDGETARY PROCESS

January 2019 through November 2019

## NATIONAL BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Bishop Dwight E. Walls, Chairman

Supervisor Mildred Linzy  
*1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chairperson*

Superintendent Melton Timmons  
*Secretary*

Elder Josephus Shepherd  
Missionary Cari Barnes  
Elder David Hall  
Missionary Aileen Stingley  
Evangelist T. Lynn Smith

Missionary Sylvia Law  
*2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chairperson*

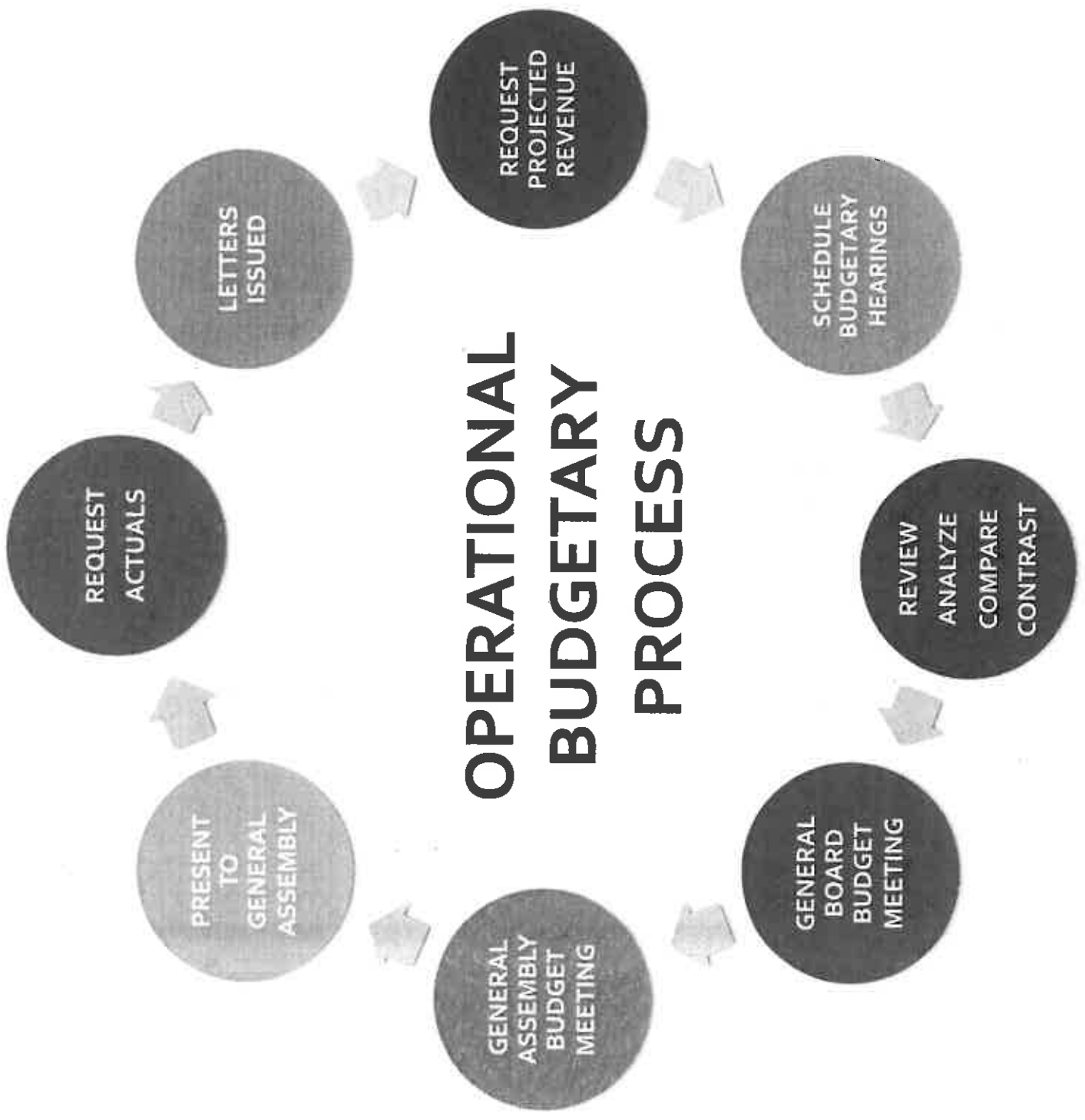
Elder Amos Smith  
*Budget Chair*

Missionary Georgia Macklin-Lowe  
Superintendent Joseph Chase  
Missionary Sandra Smith-Jones  
Superintendent Darin Burns  
Superintendent Christopher Martin





# OPERATIONAL BUDGETARY PROCESS



**Budget** - an estimate of revenues and expenses for an account for a fiscal year.

The term "*budget*" does not mean that you actually have the money to spend. It means your department has planned the budget for your accounts and has estimated that an account will collect "x" number of dollars and spend "x" number of dollars for a fiscal year.

Thus, a **budget** is only an estimate of the revenues and expenses that you project for the fiscal year. It is not cash, but instead only an **estimate** of what is expected to happen based on previous year history.

# Request Actuals

Trustee Board makes a request from the Office of Financial Affairs (the Accounting Department) to provide the expense actuals for the period beginning April 1, 2018 through March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2019.

*Actuals reflect how much revenue a department has actually generated or how much money an account has paid out in expenditures at a given point in time during a fiscal year.*

# Issue Budgetary Letters

On or about March 30th, 2019, a letter was emailed to all departments, units, operations and auxiliaries explaining the budgetary process.

In addition, Excel templates were tendered to each department, unit, operation and auxiliary detailing the format for completing a **Budget Request** and forwarding via electronic transmittal to the Trustee Board in a streamlined and uniformed manner.

# Issue Budgetary Letters

Deadline to Submit Departmental Budgetary Request:

**May 3, 2019**

Departments to return Budgetary Template to the Trustee Board – via electronic transmittal.

Courtesy Contact from Trustee Board's Budget Committee to Department Leader with Review of Your Initial Submission.

**May 10, 2019**

# Request Projected Revenue

**On or about March 30<sup>th</sup>, 2019**  
Trustee Board requested projected revenue  
from the Office of the Financial Secretary

The Financial Secretary provides anticipated income from  
various streams of revenue, generated from reports,  
conventions, departments and church operations from

**April 1, 2020 – March 31, 2021**

# Schedule Budgetary Hearing

Between the dates of April 1<sup>st</sup> to April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2019 the Trustee Board will contact each department, unit, operation and auxiliary to schedule budget hearings.

## BUDGETARY HEARING DATES

**WOMENS CONVENTION**

**May 27<sup>th</sup>, 2019**  
through  
**May 31<sup>st</sup> 2019**

**AIM CONVENTION**

**July 1<sup>st</sup> 2019**  
through  
**July 5<sup>th</sup>, 2019**

# **Review/Analyze/Compare/Contrast**

Once the Trustee Board has received all budget requests and completed all in person hearings, it will then begin the process of evaluating the financial information received in order to prepare a

**Draft Operational Budget**  
for April 1, 2020 – March 31, 2021.



# Review/Analyze/Compare/Contrast

- From **July 8<sup>th</sup> – September 7, 2019**, the Trustee Board will convene a series of meetings both in person and conference calls to review and analyze each proposed budget.
- The Trustees will compare and contrast financial data from the previous year's actuals (**from the Office of Financial Affairs/Accounting**) to determine whether the current budget request is justified.
- The Trustee Board will use the revenue projections (**from the Office of the Financial Secretary**) to determine the income funding level for each department.
- The Trustee Board will use the minutes and notes from all In person Budgetary Hearings to assist in its decision making process.

# General Board Budget Meeting

In September, the Trustee Board will meet with the Presiding Bishop & General Board for their review of the **Proposed 2020-2021 Operational Budget**

# General Assembly Budget Review Meeting

In October, the Trustee Board will meet with the  
General Assembly to share the  
**Proposed 2020-2021 Operational Budget**

# **Courtesy Notification With Departments Leaders Proposed Budgetary Award**

In October, the Trustee Board will contact each Department Leader with notification as to their Proposed Budgetary Award.

# **Presentation to General Assembly**

In November 2019, the Trustee Board will present the  
**Proposed 2020-2021 Operational Budget**  
to the  
Delegates of the General Assembly for its approval.

The Approved 2020-2021 Operational Budget is to be  
signed off by the Secretaries of the  
National Board of Trustees and  
General Board.

# ATTACHMENT F

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CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST  
GENERAL BOARD SECRETARY

## APRIL 2019 REPORT



Church Of God In Christ  
General Board Activity  
Summation

November 2016 - April 2017

### 1. Denominational Posthumous Recognition

\*Bishop Alva Chester Nelson, Jr.

Auxiliary Bishop, Texas South Central Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction

Bishop Prince Bryant, Jurisdictional Prelate

Date of Transition: November 19, 2018

Date of Service: November 26, 2018

Location: Houston, Texas

Bishop James Edward Hicks, Sr.

Prelate Washington Northwest Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction

Date of Transition: December 7, 2018

Date of Service: December 18, 2018

Location: Seattle, Washington



Location: Chicago, Illinois

Bishop Carlis Lee Moody, Sr.

Prelate Emeritus, Germany Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction

Bishop Ocie Booker Illinois First Ecclesiastical Jurisdictional Prelate

Date of Transition: January 12, 2019

Date of Service: January 18, 2019

Location: Evanston, Illinois

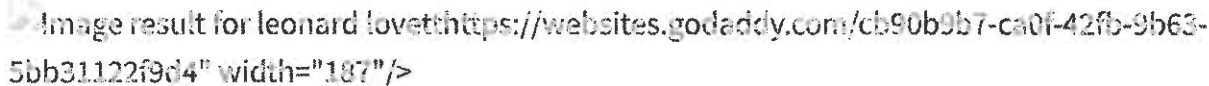
Bishop Isaac King, Jr.

Prelate, Southwest Michigan Agape Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction

Date of Transition: January 25, 2019

Date of Service: February 1, 2019

Location: Westland, Michigan

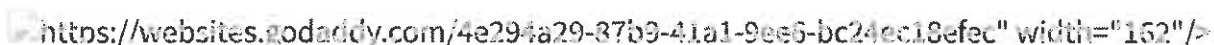
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Dr. Leonard Lovett

Former Dean

C.H. Mason Theological Seminary

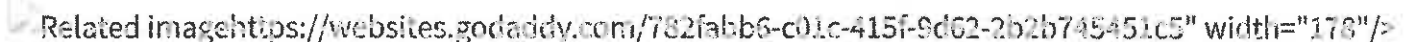
## 2. Special Recognitions & Commendations

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Bishop W. W. Hamilton

General Board Member Emeritus

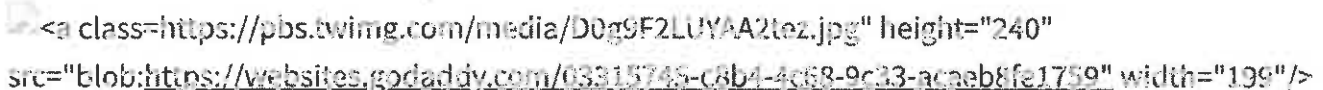
Former Secretary, General Board

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Bishop Roy L.H. Winbush

General Board Member Emeritus

Former General Board Secretary

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Bishop Talbert W. Swan, II

Assistant General Secretary/Prelate, Nova Scotia Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction Annual Lecture Series was





Longest Serving Jurisdictional Bishop

### 3. Episcopal Designations & Jurisdictional Considerations

#### ***Eastern Missouri 1st***

Presiding Bishop Charles Blake with the approval of the General Board appointed Bishop William Harper as prelate

The Presiding Bishop with the approval of the General Board made the following appointments pending review of the Committee on Standards and Extensions

#### ***Michigan Southwest Agape***

The continuation of the jurisdiction and the appointment of Elder Clyde Jones as prelate

#### ***Northern Georgia***

The continuation of the jurisdiction.

#### ***Eastern New York 4th***

The continuation of the jurisdiction and the appointment of Bishop Clarence Sexton as Interim Jurisdictional Prelate.

#### ***International Bishop Appointments***

Philippines North - Superintendent Joel Balidan

Korea- Superintendent Chad Carlton

Columbia 2nd- Superintendent Edermin Cortes

Nigeria- Superintendent Lucky ChukwuyenumDonuwe

Philippines 2nd- Auxiliary Bishop Avel Forto, Jr.

Democratic Republic of Congo - Superintendent Muhangenu HichikaGhilain

Antigua-Barbuda - Superintendent Kevin Griffin

Peru - Superintendent Morris Jenkins

Columbia 1st- Superintendent Lester Johnson

Chile - Superintendent Gabriel McCurtis

Israel - Superintendent Glen Plummer

South Africa 3rd- Superintendent Dennis Chetty (Auxiliary)

Philippines 1st- Superintendent Israel Forto (Auxiliary)

Kenya Cornerstone 1st- Superintendent Solomon Iyoboa OmoOsagie III (Auxiliary)

### 4. Episcopal Designation Auxiliary Bishop Appointments

Tennessee HQ (Bishop David Hall) -Superintendent Kendall Anderson, Sr.



Illinois 1st (Bishop Ocie Booker) - Administrative Assistant Napoleon Harris, Sr. Tennessee Central (Bishop Brandon Porter) - Superintendent L.C. Hayslett  
 Michigan Southwest (Bishop John Sheard) - Administrative Assistant Philip R. Jackson South Carolina (Bishop Johnny Johnson) - Superintendent Keith Kershaw  
 Southern California 2nd (Bishop George D. McKinney) - Superintendent Lonnie Lynch Virginia 1st (Bishop Ted Thomas) - Administrative Assistant Ronald Sewell, Jr.  
 Arkansas 1st (Bishop Jewel Withers) - Superintendent Alex J. Smith  
 Maryland Greater 1st (Bishop Joel Lyles, Jr.) - Dr. Tony William Torain, I

## 5. Administrative Directives, Fiduciary Considerations, Supervisory Compliance

### A. The National Board of Trustees

The General Board received a summation of the actions of the National Board of Trustees and updates on national properties since November 2018. The Board was updated on a proposed budget modification to cover outstanding obligations from the previous fiscal year. The Board authorized a 10% modification to the 2019/20 budget.

### B. The Office of Conferences, Events and Travel

The General Board received a status report from the director of Conferences, Events and Travel Issues regarding travel policies and recommendations for centralizing convention planning across departments.

### C. The Financial Secretary and the Chief Financial Officer

The Board received updates on the unaudited preliminary balances, including: cash balance, investments, and loans and obligations. The Board was updated on the Budget vs Actuals, year-to-date updates of revenue, a cash balance report, investment and portfolio balance, and loans and lease obligations. The Board was also updated on donations, sales and convention services and other revenue.

### D. Chief Operating Officer

The Board received reports from the Chief Operating Officer detailing updates on the following matters: Human Resources matters, unbudgeted items, unforeseen cost overruns, and outstanding projected revenue. The Board authorized execution of a \$1.9 million line of credit to cover expenditures through the remainder of the 2018/19 fiscal year. The Board authorized the implementation of a performance management system. The Board authorized modifications to policies regarding the distribution of bereavement gifts to employees.

### E. General Counsel

The Board was given a summation of the actions of the Office of General Counsel, including active cases, settled cases, and status updates.

### F. Church Repository and Archival Catalog



Mission, and Church Growth projects.

#### **H. Office of the General Secretary**

The Board was updated on the activities of the office, the credentialing process, and the ARC system, including system parameters, use authorization, capabilities, and purpose.

#### **I. All Saints Bible College**

The Board was updated on the efforts of the All Saints Bible College toward accreditation, the awarding of applicant status and what was necessary to achieve full accreditation. The Board authorized the General Counsel to draft documents to set autonomy regarding oversight of the budget and personnel to All Saints Bible College.

#### **J. Strategic Plan**

The Board received a report on the actions of the Strategic Planning Committee regarding performed assessments, the collaboration phase of the project, proposed processes, strategic steps, proposed questions for department leaders, operational guidelines for jurisdictional institutes, and a SWOT analysis.

#### **K. Other Board Actions**

The Board was updated on the status of Roberts Temple COGIC in Illinois.

The Board toured the newly constructed Mason Village and the new Publishing House facilities.

The Board was updated on the status of the Publishing House move and received a \$75,000 installment of a \$150,000 commitment to the General Church.

ARCHIVAL REPOSITORY

# ATTACHMENT G

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# Board of Bishops

Church of God in Christ

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## Memorandum

To: Bishop Lemuel F. Thuston, General Assembly Chairman

### Auxiliary Bishop Criteria

The Board of Bishops supports the development of criteria for the appointment of Auxiliary Bishops. Any criteria should include the following items:

1. Any elder currently in the Church of God in Christ being recommended for auxiliary bishop must have a written endorsement from his jurisdictional bishop prior to being selected and notified.
2. Any elder being recommended for auxiliary bishop must serve in the endorsing jurisdiction for a minimum of three (3) years before he is eligible for elevation.
3. The Biblical criteria for qualifying auxiliary Bishops shall include the following :  
**1 Timothy 3:2-7 King James Version (KJV)**  
*<sup>2</sup> A bishop then must be blameless, the husband of one wife, vigilant, sober, of good behaviour, given to hospitality, apt to teach;*  
*<sup>3</sup> Not given to wine, no striker, not greedy of filthy lucre; but patient, not a brawler, not covetous;*  
*<sup>4</sup> One that ruleth well his own house, having his children in subjection with all gravity;*  
*<sup>5</sup> (For if a man know not how to rule his own house, how shall he take care of the church of God?)*  
*<sup>6</sup> Not a novice, lest being lifted up with pride he fall into the condemnation of the devil.*  
*<sup>7</sup> Moreover he must have a good report of them which are without; lest he fall into reproach and the snare of the devil.*  
*Said criteria shall embrace all standards of holiness associated with the doctrine of sanctification in the Church of God in Christ, Inc.*
4. The aforementioned criteria should be effective immediately.

# ATTACHMENT H

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**CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST, INC.**



**2018-2019  
YEAR-TO-DATE  
REVENUE REPORT**

**APRIL 1, 2018 – MARCH 31, 2019**

**BISHOP FRANK A. WHITE, FINANCIAL SECRETARY**

**BISHOP CHARLES HARRISON MASON PATTERSON, TREASURER**

**MCKINLEY JOHNSON, INTERIM DIRECTOR OF FINANCE**

**CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST, INC.**  
**STATEMENT OF REVENUE ACTIVITY**  
**APRIL 1, 2018 - MARCH 31, 2019**

Presented by: Bishop Frank A. White

**NATIONAL REPORTS:**

|                         |              |
|-------------------------|--------------|
| 2017-2018 Add On's      | 11,022.00    |
| National Report - Laity | 867,179.00   |
| National Report - Men   | 4,147,787.79 |
| National Report - Women | 1,568,267.72 |

**TOTAL NATIONAL REPORTS**

**\$6,594,256.51**

**OFFERINGS**

|                                                                   |            |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| Consecration Service Offering (All Night Prayer)                  | 2,158.01   |
| General Public Offerings                                          | 297,723.76 |
| Heritage Conference Offerings                                     | 34,339.61  |
| Morning Gems with Lady Mae                                        | 20,020.00  |
| Men's Day                                                         | 36,228.00  |
| Morning Manna                                                     | 13,048.75  |
| Music Department                                                  | 20,806.33  |
| The Lord's Day Service Offerings                                  | 146,803.71 |
| O.T. Jones Jurisdictional Institute                               | 34,747.66  |
| Online Contributions                                              | 113,167.84 |
| Evangelism Department                                             | 15,218.31  |
| Sunday School- The Lord's Day                                     | 13,368.91  |
| Women's Department/Offerings                                      | 80,000.00  |
| Youth Department - (Consists of Youth Church, Youth Day and YPWW) | 18,317.64  |

**TOTAL OFFERINGS**

**\$845,948.53**

**DONATIONS**

|                                                      |            |
|------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| Adjudancy                                            | 15,000.00  |
| AIM Conference Donation                              | 100,000.00 |
| COGIC Publishing House                               | 150,000.00 |
| Pontotoc Donation                                    | 25,000.00  |
| Men's Conference Donation                            | 10,000.00  |
| Special Donations - UnRestricted                     | 27,000.00  |
| Special Donations - Restricted - (Urban Initiatives) | 25,000.00  |
| Women's Convention Donation                          | 150,000.00 |

**TOTAL DONATIONS**

**\$502,000.00**

**SALES & CONVENTION SERVICES**

|                                                   |            |
|---------------------------------------------------|------------|
| Vendor Exhibits (Convocation)                     | 311,095.00 |
| C.O.G.I.C. Exchange (Media Sales)                 | 74,024.90  |
| Hotel Commissions (April Call)                    | 4,170.00   |
| Hotel Commissions (Convocation)                   | 227,246.76 |
| Hotel Commissions (Men's Conference)              | 18,474.00  |
| Convention Services Registrations - (Convocation) | 647,675.00 |
| Sales - General Secretary Items                   | 5,295.00   |

**TOTAL SALES & CONVENTION SERVICES**

**\$1,287,980.66**



**CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST, INC.**  
**STATEMENT OF REVENUE ACTIVITY**  
**APRIL 1, 2018 - MARCH 31, 2019**

Presented by: Bishop Frank A. White

**OTHER REVENUE**

|                                            |            |                     |
|--------------------------------------------|------------|---------------------|
| All Saints Bible College - Fees            | 26,880.00  |                     |
| C. H. Mason Institute Affiliate Fees       | 11,465.00  |                     |
| Miscellaneous Revenue                      | 139,570.74 |                     |
| New Bishops Academy                        | 6,550.00   |                     |
| General Secretary's Office (Registrations) | 24,573.99  |                     |
| Utilization of Saints Academy              | 34,002.46  |                     |
| <b>TOTAL OTHER REVENUE</b>                 |            | <b>\$243,042.19</b> |

**LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE**

|                                     |            |                     |
|-------------------------------------|------------|---------------------|
| Corporate Sponsorship               | 10,000.00  |                     |
| Church Growth Leadership Conference | 8,976.00   |                     |
| General Public Offerings            | 24,512.18  |                     |
| Jurisdictional Sponsors             | 27,500.00  |                     |
| Hotel Commissions                   | 20,638.28  |                     |
| Miscellaneous Donations             | 170.00     |                     |
| Online Contributions                | 576.00     |                     |
| On-Site Registration                | 43,555.00  |                     |
| Registrations                       | 203,824.50 |                     |
| Sales COGIC Media                   | 1,376.00   |                     |
| Vendor Exhibits                     | 20,700.00  |                     |
| <b>TOTAL LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE</b>  |            | <b>\$361,827.96</b> |

**TOTAL BUDGETED REVENUE**

**\$9,835,055.85**

Church of God in Christ, Incorporated  
 Unaudited preliminary balances as of March 31, 2019  
 Financial Presentation to General Assembly  
 Tuesday, April 09, 2019  
 Elder McKinley Johnson, DSL, Interim Director of Finance

|                                   |                                     |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <u>Cash Balance:</u>              |                                     |
| Cash Balance at February 28, 2019 | \$ 1,209,029                        |
| Decrease                          | \$ (122,121)                        |
| Cash Balance at March 31, 2019    | <u>\$ 1,086,908</u> Note 1 & Note 2 |

|                                         |                            |
|-----------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| <u>Investments:</u>                     |                            |
| Investment Balance at February 28, 2019 | \$ 2,695,142               |
| Decrease                                | \$ 35,682                  |
| Investment Balance at March 31, 2019    | <u>\$ 2,730,824</u> Note 3 |

|                                              |                            |
|----------------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| <u>Loans &amp; Lease Obligation Balance:</u> |                            |
| Loans/Obligation Balance March 31, 2019      | <u>\$ 2,573,072</u> Note 4 |

Note 1: Includes \$10,636 Citizen account balance. Money market account balance is \$11,241.

Note 2: Cash balance as of 03.31.18 was \$845,494. Increase to the \$1,086,908 cash balance as of March 31, 2019 is \$241,414.

Note 3: Investment balance at 03.31.18 was \$2,614,770. Investment balance at 03.31.19 is \$2,730,824. Return on investment for fiscal year-to-date as of March 31, 2019 is 4.4%.

Note 4:

On 03.30.16 an initial draw of \$750,000 was taken against the \$1,000,000 line of credit for the Lelia Mason Project.

An additional draw of \$250,000 was made on 02.08.18. The outstanding loan balance at 03.18.18 is \$988,102.00.

On 03.05.18 a short term loan of \$750,000.00 was secured to cover operating expenses. The loan was paid in full on 04.12.18.

Subsequently, an additional line of credit of \$1,584,970 was established on 02.13.19 to cover off-budget expenditures of \$825,039 and a cashflow shortage of \$645,263.

Church of God in Christ, Inc. HQ  
Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual  
April 2018 through March 2019

| Expenditures                                 | TOTAL               |                     |                    |                |
|----------------------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|--------------------|----------------|
|                                              | Apr '18 - Mar 19    | Budget              | \$ Over Budget     | % of Budget    |
| <b>Expense</b>                               |                     |                     |                    |                |
| 60000 · Payroll Expenses                     | 1,236,649.58        | 2,037,446.00        | -800,796.42        | 60.7%          |
| 61000 · Employee Benefits                    | 179,699.57          | 213,380.00          | -33,680.43         | 84.22%         |
| 61500 · Employee Benefits 403B ER Match      | 0.00                | 0.00                | 0.00               | 0.0%           |
| 62000 · Payroll Taxes                        | 124,101.30          | 144,059.00          | -19,957.70         | 86.15%         |
| 63000 · Professional Services                |                     |                     |                    |                |
| 63001 · Decorator                            | 0.00                | 186,000.00          | -186,000.00        | 0.0%           |
| 63002 · Audio Visual                         | 226,897.16          | 429,400.00          | -202,502.84        | 52.84%         |
| 63003 · Registration                         | 210,740.18          | 228,000.00          | -17,259.82         | 92.43%         |
| 63004 · Special Events                       | 51,640.00           | 36,500.00           | 15,140.00          | 141.48%        |
| 63005 · Webcasting                           | 980.00              | 28,975.00           | -27,995.00         | 3.38%          |
| 63006 · Hotel Masters                        | 22,667.56           | 65,000.00           | -42,332.44         | 34.87%         |
| 63008 · Conference Expenses                  | 116,987.44          | 0.00                | 116,987.44         | 100.0%         |
| 63009 · Staging                              | 0.00                | 150,000.00          | -150,000.00        | 0.0%           |
| 63010 · Professional Svcs-Reimbursement      | 27,432.87           | 0.00                | 27,432.87          | 100.0%         |
| 63000 · Professional Services - Other        | 1,597,960.08        | 1,074,952.00        | 523,008.08         | 148.65%        |
| <b>Total 63000 · Professional Services</b>   | <b>2,255,305.29</b> | <b>2,198,827.00</b> | <b>56,478.29</b>   | <b>102.57%</b> |
| 64000 · Supplies                             |                     |                     |                    |                |
| 64001 · Office Supplies                      | 7,070.19            | 0.00                | 7,070.19           | 100.0%         |
| 64002 · Operating Supplies                   | 4,076.31            | 85,724.00           | -81,647.69         | 4.76%          |
| 64003 · Supplies-Reimbursement               | 5,708.50            | 0.00                | 5,708.50           | 100.0%         |
| 64000 · Supplies - Other                     | 68,641.61           | 0.00                | 68,641.61          | 100.0%         |
| <b>Total 64000 · Supplies</b>                | <b>85,496.61</b>    | <b>85,724.00</b>    | <b>-227.39</b>     | <b>99.74%</b>  |
| 65000 · Telephone                            | 38,850.67           | 56,540.00           | -17,689.33         | 68.71%         |
| 66000 · Utilities                            | 287,124.26          | 308,000.00          | -20,875.74         | 93.22%         |
| 67000 · Facilities Rental                    | 154,974.52          | 16,344.00           | 138,630.52         | 948.2%         |
| 67500 · Equipment Leases and Rental          | 12,112.27           | 4,526.00            | 7,586.27           | 267.62%        |
| 68000 · Repairs and Maintenance              |                     |                     |                    |                |
| 68001 · Maintenance & Repairs                | 30,560.86           | 18,300.00           | 12,260.86          | 167.0%         |
| 68002 · Maintenance & Repairs-Auto           | 4,057.01            | 500.00              | 3,557.01           | 811.4%         |
| 68003 · Maintenance & Repairs Bldg           | 55,892.42           | 302,720.00          | -247,027.58        | 18.4%          |
| 68000 · Repairs and Maintenance - Other      | 135.00              | 0.00                | 135.00             | 100.0%         |
| <b>Total 68000 · Repairs and Maintenance</b> | <b>90,445.29</b>    | <b>321,520.00</b>   | <b>-231,074.71</b> | <b>28.13%</b>  |
| 69000 · Property Insurance                   | 458,190.39          | 330,000.00          | 128,190.39         | 138.85%        |
| 70000 · Travel                               | 1,240,943.38        | 664,450.00          | 576,493.38         | 186.76%        |
| 71000 · Remuneration                         | 2,181,894.90        | 2,094,850.00        | 87,044.90          | 104.16%        |
| 72000 · Property Taxes                       | 73,402.35           | 42,644.00           | 30,758.35          | 172.13%        |
| 72003 · Professional Devt                    | 0.00                | 1,000.00            | -1,000.00          | 0.0%           |
| 72005 · International Delegates              | 13,650.00           | 0.00                | 13,650.00          | 100.0%         |
| 73000 · Credit Card Fees and Bank Chgs       | 78,642.59           | 74,890.00           | 3,752.59           | 105.01%        |
| 74000 · Advertising and Marketing            | 7,160.00            | 20,500.00           | -13,340.00         | 34.93%         |
| 75000 · Postage                              |                     |                     |                    |                |
| 75001 · Postage-Reimbursement                | 1,428.22            | 0.00                | 1,428.22           | 100.0%         |
| 75002 · Shipping                             | 6,115.04            | 0.00                | 6,115.04           | 100.0%         |
| 75000 · Postage - Other                      | 43,262.20           | 59,830.00           | -16,567.80         | 72.31%         |
| <b>Total 75000 · Postage</b>                 | <b>50,805.46</b>    | <b>59,830.00</b>    | <b>-9,024.54</b>   | <b>84.92%</b>  |
| 76000 · Printing                             |                     |                     |                    |                |
| 76001 · Printing-Reimbursements              | 4,813.39            | 0.00                | 4,813.39           | 100.0%         |
| 76000 · Printing - Other                     | 75,038.95           | 65,850.00           | 9,188.95           | 113.95%        |
| <b>Total 76000 · Printing</b>                | <b>79,852.34</b>    | <b>65,850.00</b>    | <b>14,002.34</b>   | <b>121.26%</b> |
| 77000 · Student Housing                      | 796.61              | 0.00                | 796.61             | 100.0%         |
| 78000 · Furniture Fixture Equip Expens       | 5,111.26            | 29,393.00           | -24,281.74         | 17.39%         |
| 79000 · Fees                                 |                     |                     |                    |                |
| 79001 · Fees                                 | 1,500.00            | 0.00                | 1,500.00           | 100.0%         |
| 79003 · Fees - Investment                    | 21,199.04           | 0.00                | 21,199.04          | 100.0%         |
| 79000 · Fees - Other                         | 20.00               | 0.00                | 20.00              | 100.0%         |
| <b>Total 79000 · Fees</b>                    | <b>22,719.04</b>    | <b>0.00</b>         | <b>22,719.04</b>   | <b>100.0%</b>  |
| 80000 · Administration Costs                 | 123,975.00          | 122,750.00          | 1,225.00           | 101.0%         |

Church of God in Christ, Inc. HQ  
Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual  
April 2018 through March 2019

| Expenditures                        | TOTAL               |                      |                    |                |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------|----------------------|--------------------|----------------|
|                                     | Apr '18 - Mar 19    | Budget               | \$ Over Budget     | % of Budget    |
| 82000 · Contingencies               | 157,028.04          | 278,327.00           | -121,298.96        | 56.42%         |
| 83000 · Bad Debts                   | 14,114.36           | 0.00                 | 14,114.36          | 100.0%         |
| 85000 · Other Expenses              |                     |                      |                    |                |
| 85002 · Grants and Stipends         | 321,531.96          | 451,000.00           | -129,468.04        | 71.29%         |
| 85003 · Student Tuition             | 46,400.00           | 41,400.00            | 5,000.00           | 112.08%        |
| 85004 · Institutional Fees          | 150,000.00          | 150,000.00           | 0.00               | 100.0%         |
| 85005 · Affiliation Fees            | 15,209.18           | 15,000.00            | 209.18             | 101.4%         |
| 85008 · Trustee Board Expenses      | 0.00                | 3,000.00             | -3,000.00          | 0.0%           |
| 85009 · Auto Fuel                   | 5,971.05            | 4,500.00             | 1,471.05           | 132.69%        |
| 85010 · Membership Dues             | 5,600.00            | 2,750.00             | 2,850.00           | 203.64%        |
| 85011 · Housing Allowance           | 50,644.28           | 128,000.00           | -77,355.72         | 39.57%         |
| 85012 · Miscellaneous Expense       | 10,100.96           | 1,000.00             | 9,100.96           | 1,010.1%       |
| 85013 · Meals                       | 739.42              | 0.00                 | 739.42             | 100.0%         |
| 85014 · Donations                   | 201,622.97          | 0.00                 | 201,622.97         | 100.0%         |
| 85016 · Quadrennial Election        | 0.00                | 5,000.00             | -5,000.00          | 0.0%           |
| 85000 · Other Expenses - Other      | 3,611.47            | 0.00                 | 3,611.47           | 100.0%         |
| <b>Total 85000 · Other Expenses</b> | <b>811,431.29</b>   | <b>801,650.00</b>    | <b>9,781.29</b>    | <b>101.22%</b> |
| <b>Total Expense</b>                | <b>9,784,476.37</b> | <b>9,972,500.00</b>  | <b>-188,023.63</b> | <b>98.12%</b>  |
| Other Expense                       |                     |                      |                    |                |
| 94000 · Interest Expense            | 99,134.66           | 62,500.00            | 36,634.66          | 158.62%        |
| <b>Total Other Expense</b>          | <b>99,134.66</b>    | <b>62,500.00</b>     | <b>36,634.66</b>   | <b>158.62%</b> |
| <b>Grand Total Expenditures</b>     | <b>9,883,611.03</b> | <b>10,035,000.00</b> | <b>-151,388.97</b> | <b>98.49%</b>  |

# ATTACHMENT I



# COGIC STRATEGIC PLANNING

February 11, 2019

## Introduction

The committee convened its meeting after discussing the documents sent by the Chair which included the Scope of Work and specifics leading to the crafting the specific objectives in the areas of Education and Convention Planning. In accordance with the Strategic Focus Areas outlined in the Perspectives document, the committee engaged in a Lateral Thinking exercise to frame its understanding of the work contextual the subject in order to appropriately discuss it in session with invited guests.

The Committee in order to form an objective statement and determine a Scope of Work itemized the number of Degree Awarding Institutions and Training, Development and Certification programs within the Church of God in Christ whose goals are similar in developing the laity, credential holder and academic aspirant.

## Proposed Objective Statement

"The Church of God in Christ seeks to develop, create, facilitate an educational delivery system comprised of degree awarding institutions for members of the Church of God in Christ to develop a comprehensive global theological educational system for the COGIC."

## Menu of Programs Discussed:

1. All Saints Bible College
2. C.H. Mason Seminary
3. C.H. Jurisdictional Training Institute
4. Standardize Ordination Training
5. Jurisdictional Secretary Certification
6. Bishop's Academy
7. General Council of Pastors and Elders Training Academies
8. Missions Training Center
9. On Line Distant Learning

## Categories

1. Degree Awarding Institutions
2. Professional Development, Training and Certification

Online distant learning will be utilized by the All Saints Bible College and C.H. Mason to bolster the educational delivery. The Degree Awarding Institutions will offer Continuing Education Credits as well as Professional Development course. All Saints will be seeking accreditation for undergraduate studies and anticipate that accreditation in the near future.

## Proposed Process

All Saints Bible College would be the undergrad entry point for members of COGIC. C.H. Mason Seminary would be the post grad institution for members of the COGIC seeking an accredited theological degree. JTI is the point of access for lay members and those seeking a non-degreed theological exposure and use them as feeder pools to All Saints Bible College and C.H. Mason Seminary through on-line utilization. Once the Board of Bishops and General Assembly have approved and adopted the Standard Ordination proposal could be placed in All Saints Bible College. Continuing Education credits will be assessable to members through these institution.

## Place Holder for Results

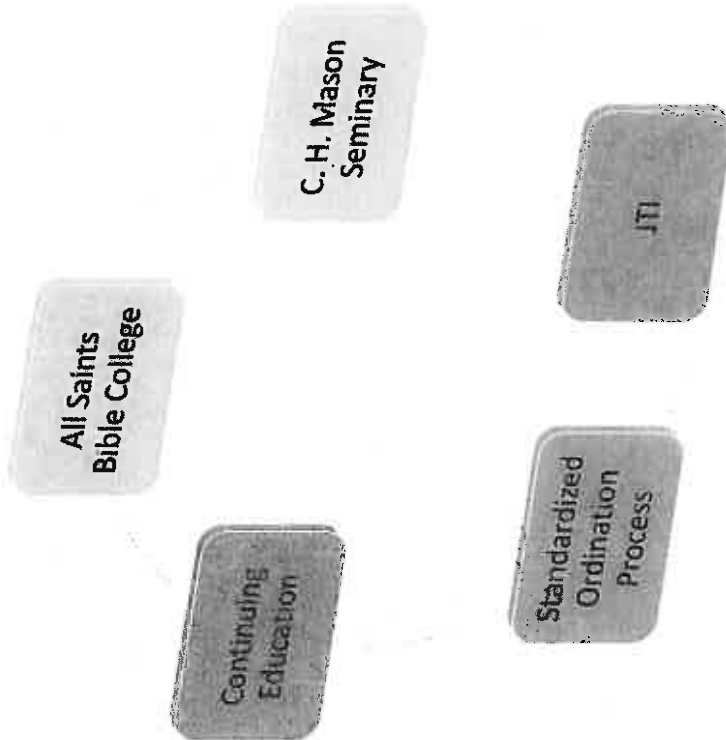


## Value Added Benefits

1. Creating a seamless process in developing and securing COGIC educational institutions to create ministry professionals.
2. Address pragmatic problems we face and assist ministers to bolster skill sets in rural and urban communities.
3. Increase the quality of transformation through formal education.
4. Centralizing our educational /theological processes to improve the educational quality of members and pastors of the COGIC by creating an appetite for excellence.
5. Assist bi-vocational pastors with increasing earning potential or expanding those possibilities.
6. Increase employment opportunities for pastors who may not have pastoral assignments within the COGIC
7. Help to attract COGIC students in other seminaries by adding prestige to the church and complimenting the ministers call with competence of an accepted unified way of being taught by a respected theological institution.

## Proposed Cautions

Challenge of Change: How does this affect me?  
 Threat of diminishing local and regional identity from those whose name appears on the local or regional training school.  
 Sensitivity to non-degreed ministers who have successfully built ministries w/o formal training.  
 COGIC Culture  
 Incorrect presentation w/o addressing political sensitivities within the footprint.



## Recommendations

Ten year strategic plan should address possibility of creating charter school system within the COGIC to keep our institutions vibrant and our COGIC theology relevant in the world.



# CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST STRATEGIC PLANNING FRAMEWORK

## Focus Area #1 Ministry Training, Education and Convention and Conferences

| <u>Stake holder</u>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | <u>Degree Awarding Institutions:</u>                    | <u>Credentialing Education Programs:</u>                         | <u>Ministry Development/CE</u>                                              |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Presiding Bishop and General Board</li> <li>➤ Bishop John Henry Sheard, Board of Bishops</li> <li>➤ Bishop David Daniels, Chair of the Board Education</li> <li>➤ Dr. Harold Bennett, Dean of Charles Harrison Mason Seminary</li> <li>➤ Dr. Fisher, President of All Saints Bible College</li> <li>➤ Dr. Goldie Wells of Charles Harrison Mason Jurisdictional Institutes (CHMJ)</li> <li>➤ Bishop David Hall, The Standardized Ordination Curriculum</li> <li>➤ Chairman Michael Eaddy, General Council of Pastors and Elders (GCPE)</li> <li>➤ Dr. Kenneth Newman, Franklin Knight Theological Institute</li> <li>➤ Dr. Barbara McCoo Lewis, Department of Women</li> </ul> | <p>All Saints Bible College<br/>C.H. Mason Seminary</p> | <p>CHMJI<br/>Standardized Ordination<br/>Department of Women</p> | <p>Department of Women<br/>Board of Bishops<br/>GCPE<br/>GCPE Institute</p> |

### Process

The Church of God in Christ has within its educational construct, multiple accesses for the constituency of the church; laity training, ministerial training and certification programs. COGIC has various leadership and ministry development opportunities through the various departments of the church for continuing education and ministry professional development.

# Educational Metric/Matrix:

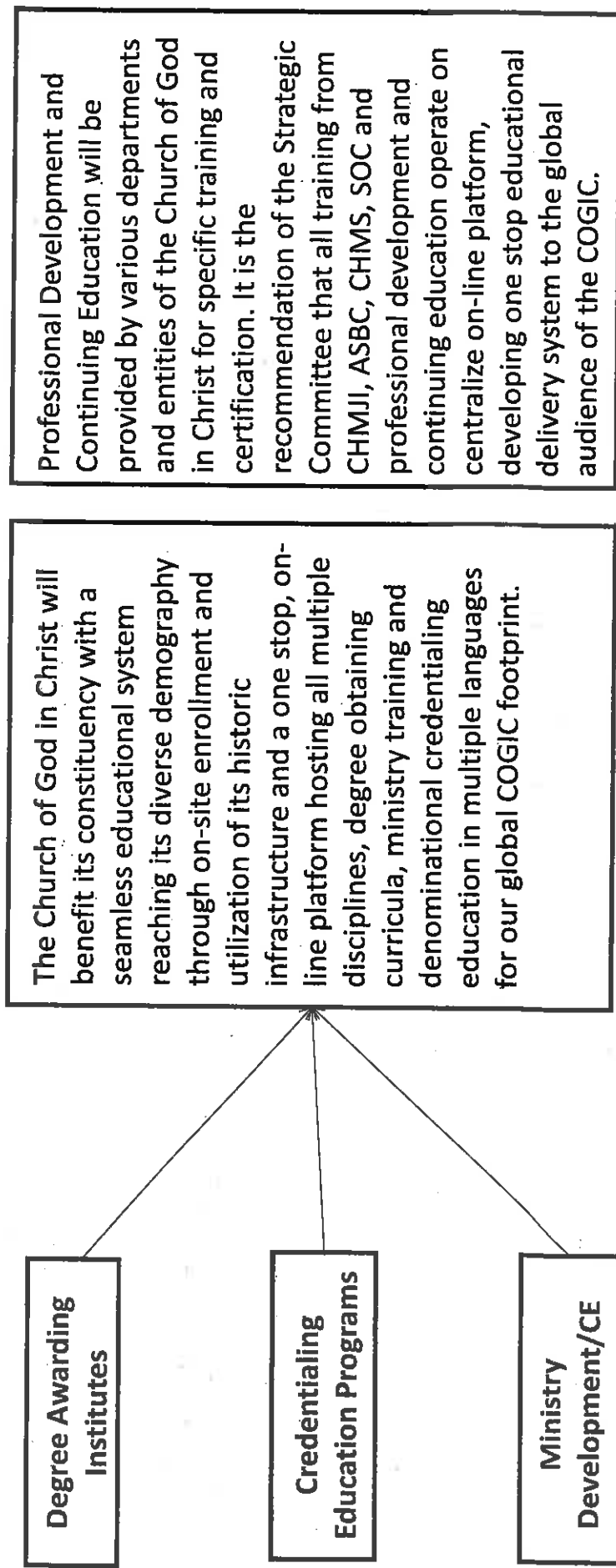
| Institution                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | Scope of Training                                                                                                                     | Responsible                                 | Target Audience                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Benefits                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p><b>C.H. Mason Seminary:</b> The Official School of the Church of God in Christ for post baccalaureate, professional, and academic studies in theology and religious education. The C.H. Mason Seminary trains men and women for the practice of traditional parish ministry, institutional chaplaincy, and for teaching and research in the theological disciplines. Through its affiliation with the Interdenominational Theological Center, the C.H. Mason Seminary is accredited by both Regional and National accrediting agencies Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACSOC) and the Association of Theological Schools in United States and Canada (ATS).</p> | <p>Master of Divinity,<br/>Master of Arts in<br/>Christian<br/>Education, Doctor<br/>of Ministry;<br/>Certificate in<br/>Theology</p> | <p>Dean of the<br/>Seminary</p>             | <p>Primary audience is graduates of accredited four-year colleges and universities. A nine-month Certificate Program in Theology is available for persons who have not obtained a degree from an accredited four-year college or university.</p> | <p>Instruction and training occurs in an interdenominational context; faculty have terminal degrees in theology from top-tier research institutions in the United States; School is located in Atlanta, Georgia and at the historic Atlanta University Center; Online Education, Award Winning Robert W. Woodruff Library (RWWL); RWWL houses an extensive collection in Black Religious Studies and a collection of material on the COGIC; provides the official professional credentials for institutional ministries; a participant in Federal Financial Aid programs; a participant in COGIC Financial Aid assistance; a launch pad for admittance into earned doctorate programs at major accredited research institutions in the United States.</p> |
| <p><b>All Saints Bible College:</b> Awards the academic certification and one of the credentialing educational programs for the Standardized ordination curriculum <b>awarding associates and bachelors degrees to matriculating students.</b> Upon completion, students will be encouraged to attend C.H. Mason Seminary for Masters and or Doctorate studies.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | <p>Certificate,<br/>Associates,<br/>Bachelor, SOC<br/>Laity/License/<br/>Academics</p>                                                | <p>President and Board<br/>of Directors</p> | <p>Laity/License/<br/>Academics</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                              | <p>Centralized platform, Global Access, Stream line education system, consistency of deployment across the land and in multiple languages, Standardized Ordination Curriculum</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |



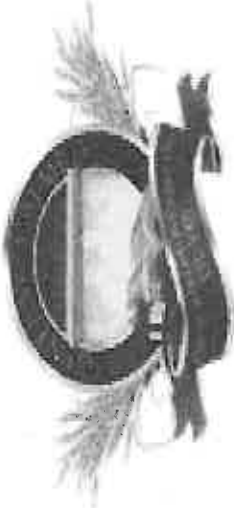
## Educational Metric/Matrix:

| Institution                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Scope of Training                                      | Responsible | Target Audience               | Benefits                                                                                                                                                                          |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|-------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p><b>CHMJI:</b> The local and regional access point for laity and clergy throughout the footprint of the denomination. The institutes throughout the United States and abroad will encourage enrollment in ALL SAINTS upon completion of the certificate program for those desiring academic and theological advancement.</p> | <p>Credentialing Education Certificate</p>             |             | <p>Laity/License</p>          | <p>Centralized platform, Global Access, Stream line education system, consistency of deployment across the land and in multiple languages, Standardized Ordination Curriculum</p> |
| <p><b>GCPE Institute:</b></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | <p>Credentialing Education, Certified SOC Training</p> |             | <p>Pastors &amp; Elders</p>   | <p>Centralized platform, Global Access, Stream line education system, consistency of deployment across the land and in multiple languages, Standardized Ordination Curriculum</p> |
| <p><b>Dept of Women:</b> The Jurisdictional DOW access point for aligning the denominational requirements to distinct levels of licensure for women in ministry.</p>                                                                                                                                                           | <p>Certificate/Licensing</p>                           |             | <p>Non Credentialed Women</p> | <p>Centralized platform, Global Access, Stream line education system, consistency of deployment across the land and in multiple languages, Standardized Ordination Curriculum</p> |

## ***Focus Area #1 Ministry Training, Education and Convention and Conferences***



Universal access to one platform providing global access with multiple languages and prescribed content with opportunity to contribute COGIC content for the purpose of training and development of the constituency of the denomination.



# COGIC STRATEGIC PLANNING

March 24, 2019

## Introduction

Focus Area #1 includes a deep dive into the futuristic sustentation and viability of an international organization's convention, conference, events and travel construct. The strategic observation and visual mapping for maximum efficiencies, effectiveness and ultimately the COGIC corporate economy will be examined. Without engaging in any specific operational strategy, this committee, with the assistance of the professionals who manage this task seek to forecast viable options for the COGIC in this focus area. The Strategic Planning Committee hopes to strengthen the corporate economy and maximize efficiencies and effectiveness through centralization, consolidation, collaboration and eliminate corporate cannibalization.

## Proposed Objective Statement

"The Church of God in Christ seeks to centralize all annual National Meetings through creative restructuring to address and consolidate the number of annual meetings; standardize the corporate product, promote the international COGIC brand and leverage our collective numbers to reduce costs to delegates and increase revenue to the church."

## Menu of Programs Discussed:

1. COGIC Leadership Conference
2. April Call Meeting
3. Men's Conference
4. Pastors & Elders Conference\*\*
5. Women's International Convention
6. AIM Convention
7. CH Mason Celebration
8. Bishop's Conference\*\*
9. Holy Convocation

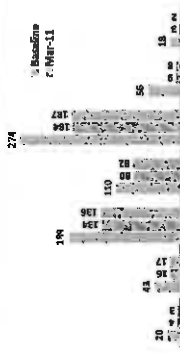
## Strategic S.M.A.R.T. Goals

1. Standardize protocols and professionalize departmental personnel.
2. Strategize collaboration opportunities with confabulation on sponsorship, space and financing of multiple conferences.
3. Clarify cultural shifts and conference purposes within present church climate and align conferences to address demographic challenges.
4. Conceptualize a national change of schedule and realignment of meetings to justify cost/benefit analysis.
5. Determine a time certain for complete centralization of conferences and protocol
6. Construct fiscal policies and strategies from an master or annual budget and discontinue funding conferences from an operational budget.
7. Bid multi-year or multi-convention contracts to mitigate costs.

## Proposed Process

COGIC Conferences, Events and Travel would be represented by the appointed leader, the applicable conference coordinator, the contracted housing agency, the Chief Financial Officer, the Financial Secretary and the COGIC Registrar on a team chaired by the Director of the Office of Conferences, Events & Travel (OCET). This team would work toward centralizing the process & protocols for standardizing staff composition, Requests for Proposals (RFP), site visits, registration, budgeting, contracting, etc. OCET is the liaison between the Destination Management Organization (DMO), vendors, trade associations, facilities and vendors. All appointed leaders would maintain their responsibility for all programmatic elements and the execution of their assigned COGIC event.

## Place Holder for Results

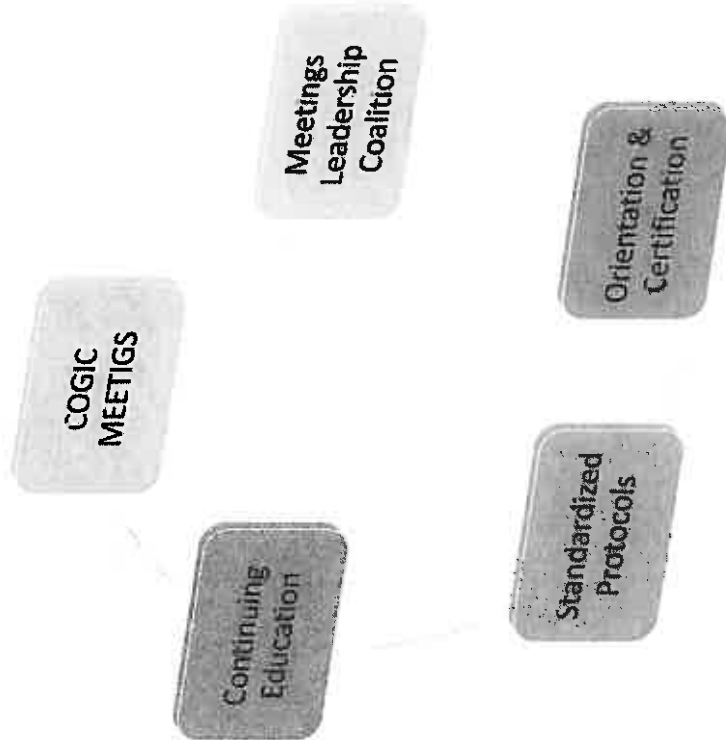


## Value Added Benefits

1. Creating a minimum standard for how COGIC Meetings are implemented.
2. Promoting in lieu of protecting the COGIC brand across the country.
3. Increase contributions to the national budget through financial efficiencies.
4. Reducing redundancies in staffing and costs elements and thus increasing net profits.
5. Promoting attendance via less meetings and more focused events.
6. Creating more professional staff and volunteers via a certification process.
7. Innovating the traditional model will create levels of involvement from changing constituency and increase simultaneously new forms and levels of delegate investment.
8. Change of schedule would create efficiencies to operational modality resulting in expanded investment and mitigate operational redundancies.
9. Collaboration or elimination of regional meetings frees resources to redirected to national paramount projects and initiatives

## Proposed Cautions

1. Challenge of Change: How does this affect me?
2. Turf issues with reducing redundancies in staffing.
3. COGIC Culture
4. Reduced influence with regard to expenditures.
5. Bishops Conference and Pastors & Elders Conference present unique challenges and opportunities.
6. Inconvenient truths and critical conversations.



## Recommendations

Ter. year strategic plan should address consolidating several annual meetings to reduce costs to delegates, centralizing the back side of meetings to leverage our numbers and reduce costs, and standardizing the process & protocols for doing events.

# ATTACHMENT J

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**CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST, INC. – GENERAL ASSEMBLY**  
**Resolution Committee – April 2019**  
**LOCAL CHURCH PROPERTY TRUST CLAUSE AMENDMENTS**

**RESOLUTION #042019-04**

**WHEREAS**, there has been much conflict over ownership of church property, and

**WHEREAS**, the General Assembly is the only law making and doctrine espousing body in the Church Of God In Christ.

**WHEREAS**, it has always been the intent of the National Church and our Founder Bishop C. H. Mason that any real estate, and/or structures, which are gifted, deeded or bequeathed in the name of the Church Of God In Christ, remain under the local Church Of God In Christ's control

**WHEREAS**, Church officers, be they Trustees, Deacons or corporate directors, have the authority and management responsibility of the properties.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, Article III; Section D. paragraph 8 and 9, shall be amended to state:

8. All local trustees and officers shall be members of the local Church Of God In Christ. All corporate directors, officers, and trustees of local churches are to be duly elected by the local church membership, and when applicable, in accordance with state law where said property is located. When the local church is incorporated, the corporation shall hold title deed to the local property for the exclusive use and benefit of the local congregation (membership). Trustees of local unincorporated churches and their successors in office shall hold title to all real and personal property, for the use and benefit of the members of the local Church Of God In Christ with section 9 hereinafter. Where however, the law requires no mode of election of trustees, they shall be elected by a majority of the members of the congregation, present and voting in a regular or special business meeting of the church. All special meetings of the church shall be announced on a Sunday preceding the date of the meeting and shall state the purpose of the call and the time and place of the meeting.

9. Real Estate or other property may be acquired by purchase, gift, devise, or otherwise, by local churches. Property acquired by the local church by devise or gift, shall create to the local church the same right of exclusive ownership as purchased property. The local church shall have the right to assert its right of ownership of local church property against any and all others. Where real or personal property is acquired by deed, the instrument of conveyance shall contain the following clause to wit:

The said property is held in trusts for the use and benefit of the members of the local, individual congregation, with membership in the Church Of God In Christ, with National headquarters in the city of Memphis, Shelby County, Tennessee, and subject to the Charter, Constitution, Laws and Doctrines of said Church, now in full force and effect, or as they may be hereafter amended, changed or modified by the General Assembly of said church.

**Submitted this day, April 9, 2019, by the General Assembly Resolution Committee Vice Chairman: Elder Willie Bonner, Sr., Elder Jerry Walker, Secretary and the committee members:**

|                            |                          |                        |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|
| Elder Clyde Brown          | Elder Roland Joyner      | Elder Aaron Tolbert    |
| Supv Lenora Early          | Bishop Kevin Knight, Sr. | Dr. Angela Wilson      |
| Elder Myrick Fondren       | Elder Herman Platt       | Evangelist Cleon Sykes |
| Elder Barry Fraser         | Dr. Hazel Shepherd       | Elder Wilbur Vincent   |
| Elder Gilbert Ginyard, Sr. | Dr. Phillips Jackson     | Elder David Taylor     |

**CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST, INC. – GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
Resolution Committee – April 2019  
REQUIREMENTS FOR THE GENERAL BOARD CANDIDATES**

**RESOLUTION #042019-02**

**WHEREAS**, the Church of God in Christ was founded by Bishop Charles Harrison Mason in 1907 on biblical principles of Holiness; and

**WHEREAS**, the bible declares in I Timothy 3:1, “This is a true saying, if a man desire the office of a bishop he desireth a good work.”

**WHEREAS**, the scripture further declares, in I Timothy 3:2-7, “A bishop then must be blameless, the husband of one wife, vigilant, sober of good behavior, given to hospitality, apt to teach, not given to wine, no striker, not given to filthy lucre, but patient, not a brawler, not covetous, one that ruleth well his own house, having his children in subjection with all gravity; For if a man know not how to rule his own house, how shall he take care of the Church of God? Not a novice, lest being lifted up with pride he fall into condemnation of the devil. Moreover he must have a good report of them which are without, lest he fall into reproach and the snare of the devil.”

**WHEREAS**, the 1972 AMENDMENT TO THE CHARTER states in SECTION A. THE GENERAL BAORD, ITS ORGANIZATION, POWERS AND DUTIES.

1. The General Assembly shall elect from among the Jurisdictional Bishops, twelve Bishops who shall comprise and be designated as the General Board and they shall be EX Offiico Directors of the Corporation.

**WHEREAS**, the Constitution further states under letter 3). The Presiding Bishop shall Appoint all Bishops of Ecclesiastical Jurisdictions and Foreign Jurisdictions from among the roster of qualified elders of the Church of God in Christ.

**WHEREAS**, Article IV further states the following delineation between Domestic and Foreign Bishops

**SECTION B – FOREIGN BISHOPS**

Foreign Bishops shall be appointed by the Presiding Bishop by and with consent of the General Board to preside over Churches of the Church of God in Christ located in geographical areas outside of the continental United States of America, and not designated as on of the several states of the United States. The qualifications, powers, and duties of Foreign Bishop shall be fixed and determined by the General Board.

**SECTION C – BOARD OF BISHOPS**

All Bishops shall comprise and constitute the Board of Bishops.

**WHEREAS**, the Church of God in Christ Constitution clearly states the qualifications of a jurisdictional bishop shall be as follows; he must be an Ordained Elder of the Church,

he must be in good standings with the Church; and he must be a man of integrity; and he shall be dedicated to the work and service of the Church.

**WHEREAS**, the office of the bishop, or the ministry of the word is not an idle dignity, but a work, and that an excellent work; and therefore a bishop must be furnished with many virtues both at home and abroad. Therefore it is necessary before he is chosen to serve as a General Board Member, that he be well learned, and has demonstrated gifts abilities and a saved, sanctified and Holy Ghost filled life.

**WHEREAS**, our Constitution requires that all candidates seeking the office of the General Board, which is one of the highest official capacity within our great Church, not only be members in good standings, have been loyal to the church for over a period of fifteen (15) years or more, they shall not be guilty of adultery or immoral character, smoking, drinking or any unclean habits. They shall be men of unimpeachable character and in good health.

**THEREFORE FINALLY BE IT RESOLVED**, the position of a General Board Member requires a person that is not a novice, knowledgeable of the Church of God in Christ Constitution, with demonstrated and proven leadership skills, therefore effective immediately in addition to current Constitutional bylaws, all candidates that aspire to become members of the General Board must be a Domestic Jurisdictional Bishop; and there shall be no exceptions to this rule.

**Submitted this day, April 9, 2019, by the General Assembly Resolution Committee  
Vice Chairman: Elder Willie Bonner, Sr., Elder Jerry Walker, Secretary and the  
committee members:**

Elder Clyde Brown

Supv Lenora Early

Elder Myrick Fondren

Elder Barry Fraser

Elder Gilbert Ginyard, Sr.

Elder Roland Joyner

Bishop Kevin Knight, Sr.

Elder Herman Platt

Dr. Hazel Shepherd

Dr. Phillip Jackson

Elder Aaron Tolbert

Dr. Angela Wilson

Evangelist Cleon Sykes

Elder Wilbur Vincent

Elder David Taylor

# ATTACHMENT K



# Church Of God In Christ, Inc.

## World Headquarters

930 Mason Street • Memphis, Tennessee 38126

### 2019 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

*(Remainder of the year)*

#### **Men's Conference**

April 30 – May 2, 2019

Location: Little Rock, Arkansas

Contact:

[admin@gncogic.org](mailto:admin@gncogic.org)

#### **Int'l Women's Convention**

May 27-31, 2019

Baltimore, Maryland

Contact: (888) 673-7208

[www.redcardwic@cogic.org](http://www.redcardwic@cogic.org)

#### **Hampton's Ministers Conference**

June 3, 2019

*Dr. Joseph Connor, Chairman, Speaker*

June 5, 2019

*Bishop Frank Anthone White, Speaker*

June 6, 2019

*Dr. Joseph Clemmons, Speaker*

#### **AIM (Auxiliaries in Ministry)**

July 1 – 5, 2019

Tampa, Florida

Contact: (888) 771-7190

[www.aiminifc@cogic.org](http://www.aiminifc@cogic.org)

#### **General Counsel of Pastors & Elders**

**Shepherds Conference & Elders Academy**

August 26 – 29, 2019

Kansas City, Missouri

Contact: (773) 533-6877 or

(832) 620-3609

[www.cogic.org](http://www.cogic.org)

#### **Bishop Mason Celebration**

September 10-12, 2019

Memphis, Tennessee

*Events celebrating the birthday of our Founder*

*Bishop Charles Harrison Mason*

*(September 8<sup>th</sup> - actual birthdate)*

Contact: (901) 947-9300

[www.cogic.org](http://www.cogic.org)

#### **Annual Bishop's Conference**

September 16-19, 2019

Norfolk, Virginia

Contact:

[www.cogic.org](http://www.cogic.org)

#### **112<sup>th</sup> Int'l Holy Convocation (and General Assembly)**

November 5-12, 2019

Saint Louis, Missouri

Contact: (901) 947-9322

[www.cogic.org](http://www.cogic.org)

• November 4, 2019

General Assembly Registration begins

• November 5-11, 2019

Holy Convocation Worship Services

• November 11-12, 2019

General Assembly Sessions

Office of the General Secretary

(as of April 11, 2019-may be subject to change)

