

GA Today

GENERAL ASSEMBLY TODAY



JULY 30—AUGUST 3, 2018
ORLANDO, FLORIDA

77TH CHURCH OF GOD INTERNATIONAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY

TUESDAY | JULY 31, 2018

TUESDAY, JULY 31

Tuesday Events

Intercessory Prayer

9:00 a.m.—7:00 p.m., 204 ABC

International General Council

8:30—11:30 a.m.; 1:30—4:30 p.m.
Hall AB

Prayer Ministries Luncheon

12:00 noon, 307 A

Kids Day Camp

1:00—5:00 p.m., 205, 206 ABC

International Junior Talent

1:00 p.m., Chapin Theater

Children's Church

7:00 p.m., 206 ABC

Kids Church

7:00 p.m., 205 ABC

New York State Office

9:30 p.m., 307 A

PT Seminary Reception

9:30—11:30 p.m., 209 ABC

Youth & Discipleship Celebration

9:30—11:30 p.m., 202 ABC

En Español

16

GA2018

Peter Thomas Presented ‘Order of the Towel’

By Cameron Fisher

Rev. Peter Thomas was inducted into the ‘Order of the Towel’ during the World Missions banquet held Monday night in the Valencia Ballroom.

The recognition was presented by Doug Small, director of Church of God Prayer Ministries. The honor is bestowed “in recognition of servant leadership and the creation of an ethos of character in leadership.”

LEAD Kicks Off GA18

By David White

More than 2,000 Church of God pastors and leaders came together for an inspiring start to International General Assembly week with four hours of intensive training at the LEAD Conference in the Chapin Theater on Monday.

The pre-Assembly leadership training featured four dynamic guest speakers from all walks of ministry to give the room-capacity crowd a well-rounded view of ministry leadership within and without the church.

“What an amazing afternoon,” said General Overseer Tim Hill, describing the event as the “premier training conference for Church of God ministers and laity.”

“Discovering, Developing, and Delivering Your Life’s Message” was the central thread that connected the four keynote speakers—contemporary spiritual pastor, Leon Fontaine; multicultural pastor, Rae Orozco; leadership



Fontaine



Chand



Orozco



Madu

guru, Sam Chand; and dynamic preacher, Robert Madu; with leadership coach, Dave Martin facilitating a roundtable discussion.

—continued on page 3



Doug Small, second from right, presents the Order of the Towel to Peter Thomas. Looking on is David Griffis, left, and Tim Hill.

In the decade in which Peter Thomas has served as the Church of God field director for much of Africa, 43 nations have felt the temperate passion of a man who has given himself to a continent. For more than two decades, he served as the education director, forging relationships, pressing the character of the church deeper, creating a continent-wide

—continued on page 5

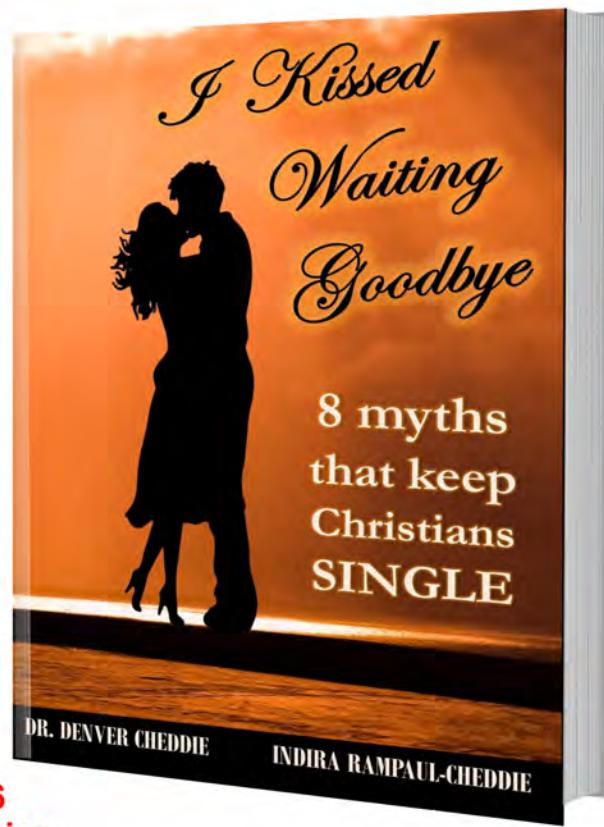
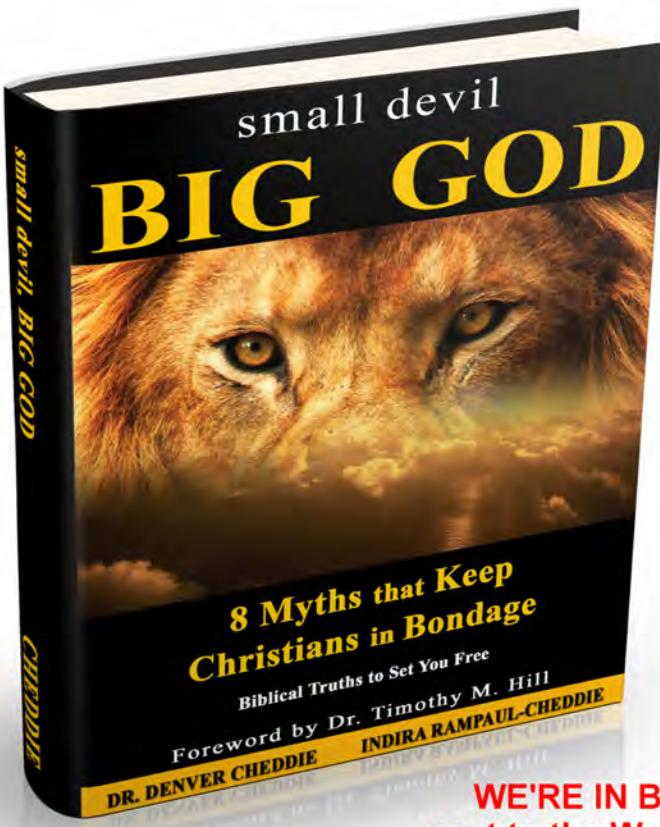
A “Different” Council Agenda

By Lance Colkmire

“The 77th General Assembly agenda is different,” reads a line in the agenda’s Statement of Purpose. Its very name—the FINISH Commitment Agenda—reflects that difference, highlighting the denomination’s determination to be part of Christ’s body helping to fulfill the Great Commission. The agenda is “conceived and contextualized on the declared Mission and Vision of the Church of God,” the purpose statement continues.

Something else that distinguishes this year’s agenda from most of the previous Assemblies is the limited number

—continued on page 9



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[ACTS 20:35]

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LEAD Kicks Off GA18

—continued from page 1

• Fontaine kicked off the afternoon session with an emphasis on reaching people through a Spirit-filled, contemporary ministry. "If you're going to share Jesus with people, do it in a way that is relevant or 'Spirit Contemporary,®'" said Fontaine, CEO of Canada's only 24/7 Christian family network and pastor of one of the country's largest inter-denominational churches.

Fontaine emphasized the need to be led by the Holy Spirit and teaching new disciples to do the same. "When you open your mouth, we must equip them with principles, but we must also teach them to be led by the Holy Spirit," Fontaine said. "We have to have an awakening in our churches that the Holy Spirit is not for the pastor and a few inside the church. He is there for every believer."

• Orozco continued the theme of sharing the Gospel outside the church building, using Acts 2 as the blueprint for the church.



Dave Martin served as facilitator of the LEAD conference.

Orozco pastors Grace to the Nations, a multicultural megachurch in Tucson, Arizona.

She challenged the audience to cross-cultural borders and to deny prejudice a place in the church, describing multicultural ministry as a "Pentecostal imperative." "The kingdom of God has always been counter-cultural," she said. "The Kingdom culture transcends all other cultures. Consider yourself an ambassador of Christ. Go and make disciples of all nations!"

• Chand laid out an architectural plan to let the "S.Q.U.I.R.R.E.L." loose in your church growth plan. The eight-point acronym encouraged pastors and leaders to value commodities such as questions, incremental increase, relationships, risks, eruptions, and leadership.

"One of your goals as a leader is to create an environment in which things happen," said Chand, a change strategist named to the Top 30 Global Leadership Gurus list. "Take some risks. Don't die with 'coulda-shoulda'-woulda'."

• Madu closed the training with a unique deliverance that included oversized green glasses with "But Me" over the plastic lens—exhorting the audience to look outward more than inward, and to do so without playing the comparison game. "If you could just get your eyes off yourself, you could see what Jesus wants you to do. Your 'But me' glasses are blinding you from the vision." ♦



GA Today

GENERAL ASSEMBLY TODAY

General Assembly Today is produced in the interest of delegates to the 77th Church of God International General Assembly. It is published daily, Monday through Friday, July 30 – August 3, 2018.

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Comments or inquiries about *General Assembly Today* are welcomed and can be emailed to the editor, Cameron Fisher, (cfisher@churchofgod.org).

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'Order of the Towel'

—continued from page 1

network committed to the complete evangelization of African peoples, and establishing a self-sustaining movement.

In Africa's leadership conferences, Peter Thomas can often be seen sitting quietly on the sidelines. He leads by serving. He directs by sharing authority and influence. He guides with affirmation and, when necessary, clear, dispassionate principled engagement.

"In 2008, 1,798 churches with 424,227 members were reported" stated Doug Small. "The figures proved to be inflated, and were adjusted, by as much as 25 percent, for accuracy. Still, after a decade, with more credibility in statistics, the number of churches reported total 6,524, with 817,150 members. Conservatively, the net gain is 4,726 new churches and 393,923 new members."

Where Islam has been pushing south,

with an agenda of making all of Africa Muslim, the Firewall Project has been established, not as a defensive mechanism, but as a good-news evangelism and church-planting initiative. In four short years, 3,837 churches planted have been in the 10/40 window/Sahel zone. These are Muslim-dominated territories where there was only one struggling church or there were diaspora churches that spoke a foreign tongue and were not culturally, effectively evangelizing the indigenous locals. In Niger, there was one church. Now there are 27 new churches planted through the Firewall initiative—all indigenous, evangelizing congregations. In Chad, 197 churches have been planted, one a week, through the Firewall initiative. All are indigenous. Togo—struggling with 13 churches, and a national bent toward animism, ancestor worship, and voodoo—has seen 127 new churches planted.

"There are few people among us who rightly deserve the appellation of 'apostolic,'" Small stated. Peter Thomas is

such a man. "Too often our ideas are clouded by images of strong and dominant personalities. The apostle Paul, on the other hand, often spoke of being weak and gentle among the churches. He forged forward meeting rejection and acceptance."

"Along his journey, Peter Thomas has been taken hostage and virtually left for dead," Small concluded. "He has been turned out of countries, injured and wounded, falsely accused and arrested, and in peril that threatened his life. Nevertheless, he has quietly persisted in a mission to see an entire continent set ablaze in the glory of God. Youthful Africa, with an average age of 19, is the rising continent. It is the harvest that could change the world."

Some of the previous recipients of the Order of the Towel Award have been Dr. Robert Fisher; Dr. Horace Ward; Missionary Margaret Gaines; Former Attorney General, John Ashcroft; and Times Square pastor, Carter Conlon. ♦

Special Orders of the Day Begin Wednesday Morning

By Cameron Fisher

"Special Orders of the Day" will take place starting tomorrow during the morning sessions of General Council. The featured speakers include Mark Rutland, Bruce Deel, and Samuel Rodriguez who will bring contextualization to the FINISH Commitment Agenda. Following Scripture and prayer, the presentations will be the first item of business.

On Wednesday morning, August 1, Rutland, a former megachurch pastor, university president, and noted author, will lead off the series with an exciting message on the global Impact of the FINISH Commitment, "Your Personal Ministry Journey." Rutland has served as senior pastor of Orlando Assembly, president of Southeastern University, president of Oral Roberts University, and is currently president of the National Institute of Christian Leadership through his organization, Global Servants.

On Thursday, ordained bishops and International General Assembly delegates can look forward to the captivating story of the City of Refuge as Bruce Deel speaks on "Urban Transformation." Deel founded the City of Refuge in inner-city Atlanta, which exists to bring light, hope, and transformation to individuals



Mark Rutland



Bruce Deel



Samuel Rodriguez

and families. Deel, a Lee University graduate and ordained bishop, has been recognized with numerous awards for his leadership.

Wrapping up the series on Friday morning will be internationally known leader of the Hispanic Christian Leadership Conference, Samuel Rodriguez. Rodriguez will speak on the topic of "An Agenda for National Revival." He has met and consulted with dozens of world and national leaders and read Scripture at the most recent presidential inauguration.

Special Orders of the Day presentations are open to all registered delegates of the International General Assembly. ♦



Tweet-Worthy

Posted on Twitter @COGGA18

Michelle Davenport @got2preach Moments of scarcity is where miracles happen. @samchand #COGGA18

Kylee Clukey @KyleeSherlin General Assembly lesson learned: Allow an extra 15-30 minutes to your walk time to stop and talk to everyone you know. #COGGA18

Pastor Matthew West @PastorMatt f the brightness of the blessing, blinds you to the blesser, it is no longer a blessing it's a curse. @robertmadu #COGGA18

Krissy Wilson @KrissyWilson1 Lead Conference is like a Church of God Ted Talk.
~Jason Wilson #cogga18

Website Features All Things General Assembly

By Cameron Fisher



For the last several years, a dedicated website has been established to provide information and content for all aspects of the International General Assembly. This year, ga18.org has been the "go-to" website and will continue to be as this week progresses.

While the website can be accessed directly, it also has a presence on the primary denominational website, churchofgod.org. Simply click on the International General Assembly graphic.

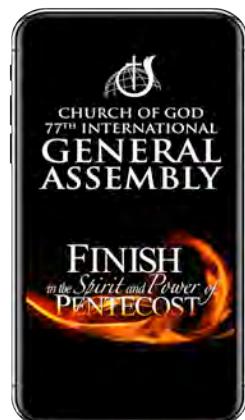
Launched in January of this year, the site initially contained just a link to event registration and hotel accommodation information—the two most vital aspects of a successful Assembly experience for delegates. The site was fully launched a few months later as pieces of the International General Assembly began to be released. First came the announcement of the nightly speakers, followed by musical guests, details about the Exhibit Hall, social media, and information about the West Concourse of the Orange County Convention Center (OCCC). As they were released, there was the "Items of Previous Notice," a paper on the meaning and usage of the term, "Bishop," and finally the all-important International General Council Agenda. There are links to convenient money-saving discounts. The website also includes a day-by-day schedule of events, including children's church, kid's camp, and when sessions of Junior Talent will be staged.

Under the GA18 News tab are more than two dozen Assembly-related articles that have appeared on faithnews.cc. As press releases are written this week, they will populate to this link. Also

included here will be a PDF of each issue of this publication the day of its release.

Earlier this month, a convenient listing of all ordained bishops was launched to assist in researching ministerial file numbers. The option will come in handy as the International General Council votes on the Council of Eighteen today.

Starting yesterday with the LEAD conference, a dedicated livestream became available on both websites. Those unable to attend the International General Assembly in person can follow the International General Council sessions and the nightly services until their conclusion on Friday. Upon the official close of the 77th International General Assembly on Friday night, the printed publication of Elections and Appointments will be distributed. Release of the document on ga18.org will follow shortly thereafter. ♦



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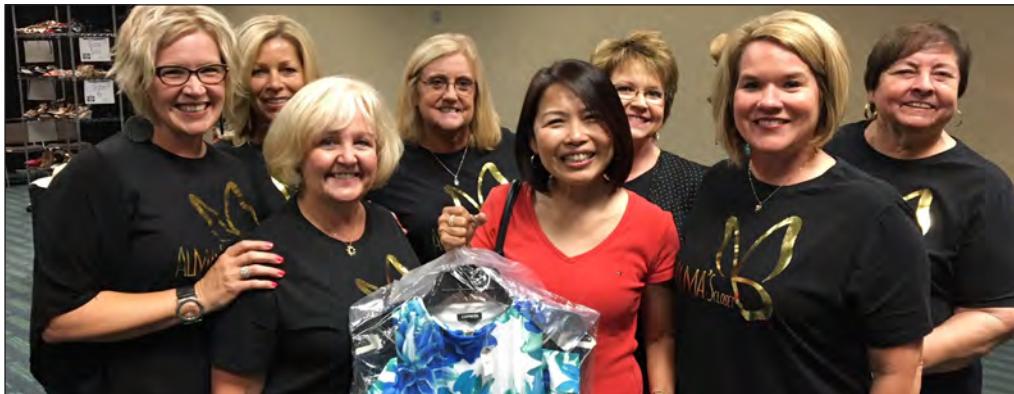
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Alma's Closet: Serving Missionaries While They Serve Others

By Cameron Fisher



L to R: Renee Talley, Jodi Cushman, Charla Madden, Susan Rodgers, Agnes Toke, Darlene Landreth, Sharon Ballinger, & Jenny Pletcher

Alma Kelley was a minister of the gospel with a heart for missions. Burdened for a way to assist the hundreds of missionaries traveling to the General Assembly, Alma recognized one of the needs was for new clothing, or perhaps outfits that reflected American styles. Out of her burden was born Alma's Closet—a benevolent ministry that operates only at the General Assembly.

The service is made available to the many who have dedicated their lives to international missions. For some, Alma's Closet may be the only opportunity they have to receive new clothes to wear at the Assembly. In addition, each woman is anointed and prayed for before leaving with her selections.

With Alma's passing several years ago, the ministry is being carried on by the Redemption Point Church of God in Ooltewah, Tennessee—the church where Alma and her husband, B.L. Kelley, spent their retirement years. For the last several months, Redemption Point members have been gathering donations, both physical and monetary, to stock the 2018 edition of Alma's closet.

Opening on Monday, a steady stream of women missionaries have been visiting Alma's Closet to browse the more than 700 dresses, 400 pieces of jewelry and accessories, shoes, and even purses and hats. The space is located on the third floor of the Orange County Convention Center. Rental fees for the room were paid by Church of God World Missions, and the room is staffed by volunteers from Redemption Point.

"The amount of support we continue to receive for Alma's Closet is phenomenal," stated Sharon Ballinger, who has served with her husband, Travis, as pastor of Redemption Point since

May 2017. "It is not just Redemption Point, but other churches, individuals, and state and regional offices who have contributed more than \$12,000 and sent hundreds of dresses."

Ballinger pointed out that the dresses must be new, even with the tags still attached.

"Our missionaries deserve the best, so Alma Kelley's original vision of new, not used clothing remains a staple of the ministry," she stated.

Alma's Closet will remain open until the selection is depleted. On Tuesday, from 9:00 to noon, missionaries will be invited to return for a second time to be sure all the clothing and accessories are given out.

"We don't want to return home with anything," Ballinger concluded. "We want our missionaries to return home blessed with as much as they need and can use." ♦

Council Agenda . . .

—continued from page 1

of elections that will take place. At the 2016 General Assembly, all the current Executive Committee members were elected to four-year terms, as were the international director and assistant director of Youth and Discipleship. Therefore, the only elections taking place this week will be for the 18-member International Executive Council (IEC).

Item VI of the agenda concerns increasing the size of the IEC from 18 to 24 members. The most recent increase, from 12 to 18 councilors, took place in 1986, when the Church of God worldwide consisted of 1,652,089 members with churches in 109 countries. Today,

membership is nearing 7.5 million, with churches in 185 countries. If this measure passes, it will be effective following the 77th International General Assembly.

Another agenda item impacting the IEC involves its duties and authorities. Specifically, this measure would task these leaders to actualize a global context of ministry, including "enhancing the availability of language-specific resources; recognition and utilization of international leaders during general church events; refining programs, methods, and systems to reflect the international nature of the church; and challenging the church to think globally."

Global thinking is involved in a measure that would allow the first two levels of ministry (exhorter and ordained minister) to be altered "to reflect the history and polity of the particular nation/region of a candidate," while testing for the highest level (ordained bishop) would remain as is.

In another matter relating to ministerial credentialing, a proposal will be considered to hold ministry forums "globally to provide opportunity for deliberate and meaningful discussion, dialogue, questions/answers, and time for spiritual insight regarding the importance and understanding of ministry ranks, qualifications, and women in ministry with attention upon the meaning and usage of the title 'bishop.' Following the forums, appropriate motion(s) be formulated by the International Executive Council specifically addressing the stated issues and brought to the 2020 International General Council."

This year's agenda also has various items concerning the necessity of reaching and engaging younger ministers and members. These include: (1) instructing our youth in our doctrinal beliefs; (2) making adjustments in the tenure of state youth and discipleship directors; (3) charging state and regional leaders to adopt a yearly plan for identifying, training, and engaging young men and women designated as the "Jeremiah Generation" in both local and state/regional ministry of the Church of God.

Other matters in the FOCUS Commitment Agenda include church planting and revitalization, affirmation of church doctrine; tithing and giving, pastoral election, appointment, and enhancement; state overseer qualifications; aging ministers; and spiritual acceleration. ♦



Ministry to the Military

ALUMNI & FRIENDS RECEPTION

Wednesday Evening,
August 1 @ 9:30 - 11pm

Orange County Convention Center West
Room W 209 ABC



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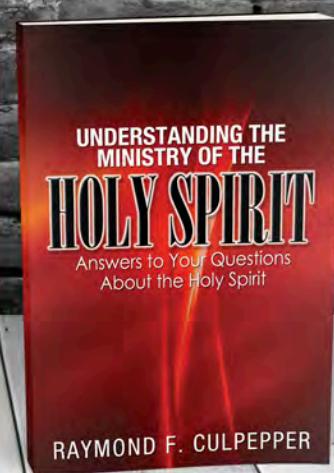
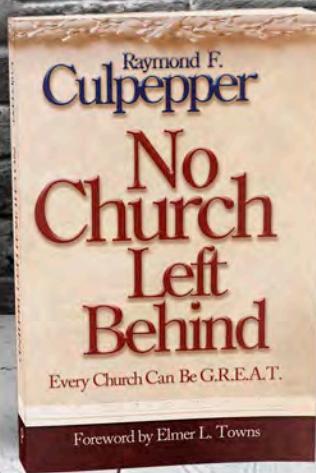
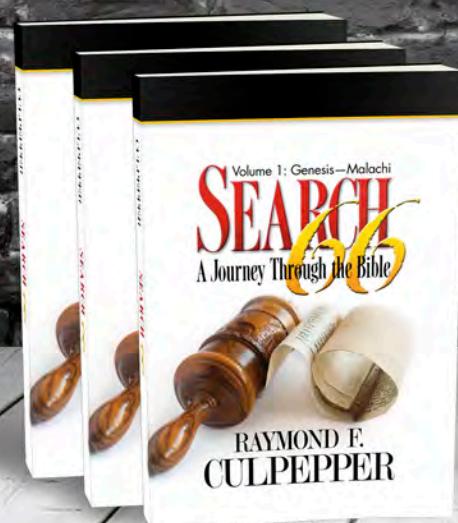
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SCAN, Watch and Listen!



*Standing from left to right: Harold L. Bare, O. Wayne Brewer, Anthony T. Pelt,
Kenneth R. Bell, Jerry Jeter, Michael L. Baker, Charles Fischer,
Victor G. Cruz, Joseph K. Byrd, Luis O. Rodriguez. Seated from left to right:
James W. Westberry, Arlene O. Hall, David E. Ramirez, J. Martin Taylor,
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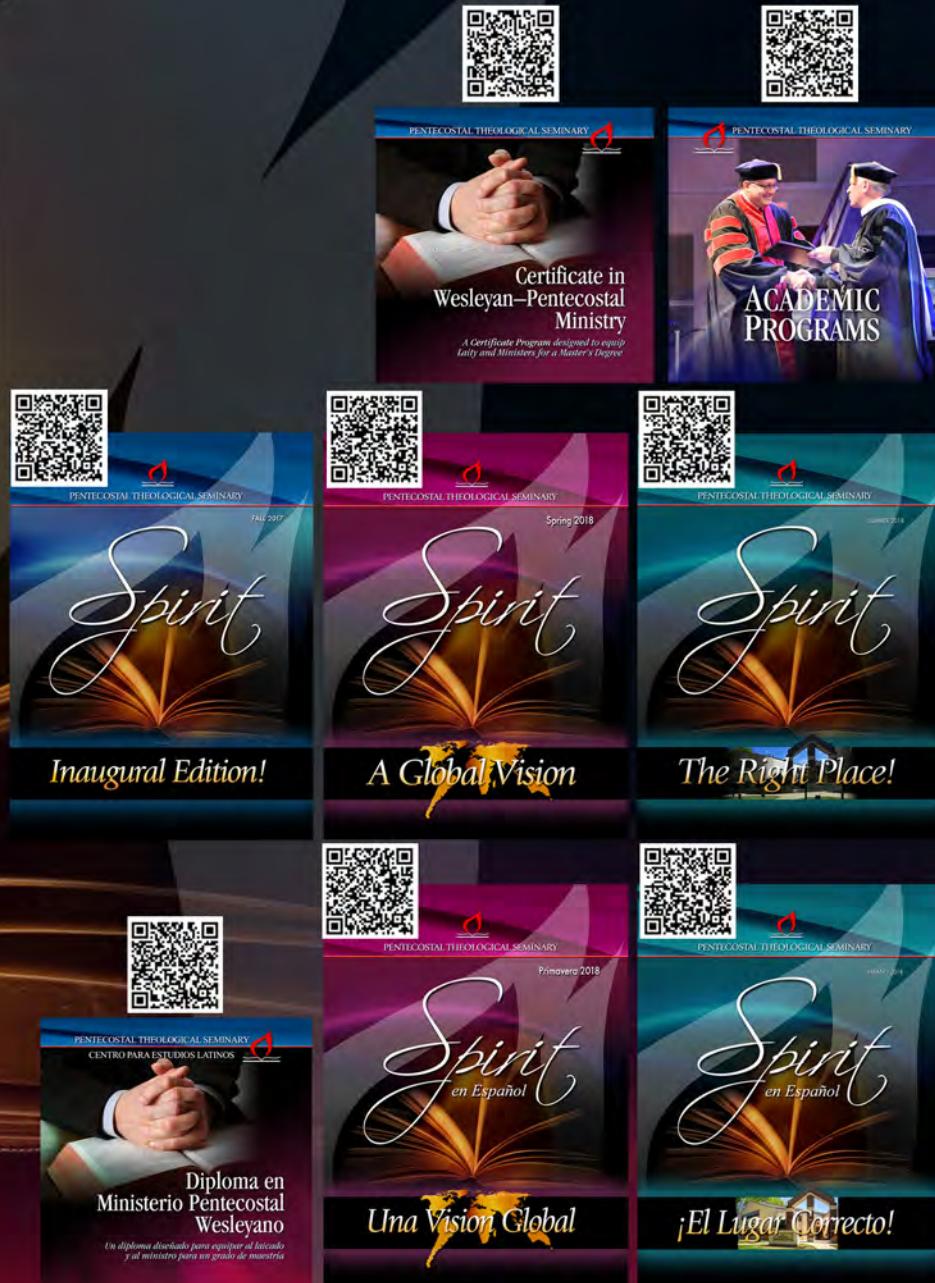


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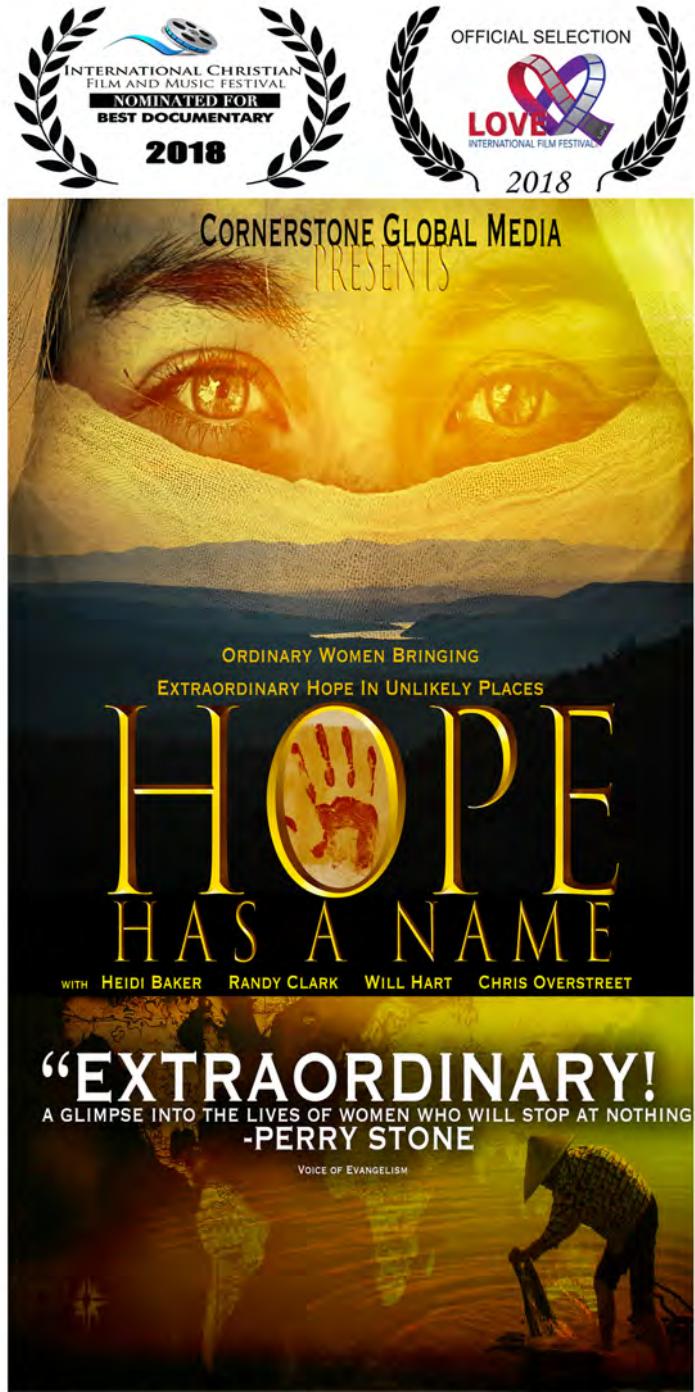
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—Acts 13:47

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Zenobia Poitier Anderson, Carolyn Dirksen,
Randall Smith, Marc Morris

Row Three (L. to R.): Greg Sloop,
Eduardo Urena, Doug Anderson,
Bruce Rabon, Cecil Mullings



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Juan A. García Y Su Pasión Por El Reino

Por Déborah Ortiz

Como evangelista, pastor y supervisor, ¿cuáles entiende son los obstáculos más comunes que impiden que las iglesias sean más activas en la evangelización? As an evangelist, pastor and overseer, what do you understand are the most common obstacles to churches to be more active in evangelism.

Desde mi perspectiva, el obstáculo más común es el desenfoque de lo que es más importante en el Corazón del Señor en relación con la evangelización. El enfoque de nuestros esfuerzos evangelistas tiene que ser las personas que no conocen a Cristo. No es una nueva van para «recoger los perdidos»; no es un nuevo sistema de sonido para que nuestras voces y la música proyecten un buen sonido; no es tener el mejor sistema de cámaras, proyectores y conexiones de las redes sociales. El enfoque debe ser el identificar a los perdidos y acercarnos a ellos con lo que tenemos, el poder del Espíritu Santo, asegurando que puedan escuchar el mensaje poderoso de salvación.

From my perspective, the most common obstacle is the lack of focus on what is most important in the heart of the LORD regarding evangelism. Our focus on the evangelistic efforts must be the persons that do not know Christ. It isn't a new passenger van to "transport the lost"; it is not a new sound system so that our voices and church music can project clearly; it is not acquiring the best camera, projection and social media connections. The focus should be identifying the lost and drawing towards them with whatever resources we have, in the power of the Holy Spirit, assuring them of hearing the powerful message of salvation.

¿Cuáles son algunas de las estrategias que su región ha planificado para lograr El Compromiso Final? *What are some of the strategies that your region has planned to achieve The Final Commitment of the COG?*

La región Noreste Hispana ha tomado una decisión intencional de «hacer discípulos que hagan discípulos». Crear un sistema, inundado con el Espíritu Santo, de educación y preparación ministerial que refleje sinergia de los recursos de nuestro movimiento, y agregándole lo necesario para contextualizar los esfuerzos evangélicos con el propósito de establecer un ministerio transformacional y no transaccional.

The Northeast Hispanic region has made an intentional decision to "make disciples that will make disciples" by creating an educational and ministerial development system, inundated with the Holy Spirit, that reflects synergy with the resources of our movement, while adding whatever is necessary to contextualize our

evangelistic efforts with the purpose of establishing a transformational and not transactional ministry.

Su región posee una gran diversidad cultural, ¿cuál ha sido la clave para unir al pueblo de Dios en la obra? Your region has a vast cultural diversity, what has been the key element to bring together the people of God?

La clave es no permitir distracciones con el levantamiento de las diversas banderas nacionales representadas en la región. Dirigidos y sometidos al Espíritu Santo, celebramos la diversidad y la relevancia cultural, honrando y exaltando la bandera de Cristo. La bandera del evangelio no hace excepción de personas – la bandera de Cristo asegura unidad del cuerpo. “Somos Una Familia”.

The key is to not allow the distractions that may occur with the raising of the diverse national banners represented in the region. Led by and in submission to the Holy Spirit, we celebrate the diversity and cultural relevance, while honoring and exalting the banner of Christ. The banner of the gospel shows no partiality – the banner of Christ guarantees the unity of the body. "We are ONE Family".

¿Qué pueden otras iglesias aprender de la manera en que los hispanos trabajan para el Señor? ¿Qué ejemplo podemos darles? *What can other churches learn from the way in which Hispanics work for the Lord? What example can we set for them?*

Hay suficiente evidencia para demostrar que cada grupo étnico aquí en los EE. UU. Y fuera de los EE. UU. tiene una plétora de cosas que pueden ayudar al resto del mundo a ser discípulos más eficientes. Creyendo que todos somos producto de la obra poderosa del Espíritu Santo, no pretenderé que tenemos el modelo más excepcional de discipulado y al mismo tiempo no ignoraré que hemos sido una parte extremadamente exitosa del cuerpo de Cristo. Mi sugerencia en este momento en la historia de la Iglesia es: no teman acercarse a las personas que están disfrutando de un éxito indudable en el REINO; aprende de ellos y permítelles aprender de ti.

There is enough evidence to prove that every ethnic group here in the US and outside of the US has a plethora of things that can help the rest of the world be more efficient disciples. Believing we're all a product of the powerful work of the Holy spirit, I will not pretend that we have the most exceptional model of discipleship and at the same time will not ignore that we have been an extremely successful part of the body of Christ. My suggestion at this time in the history of the Church is, don't fear drawing close to the people that are getting it done in the KINGDOM; learn from them and allow them to learn from you.

Como obispo, usted ha invertido su tiempo en guiar a nuevos ministros y ministras. ¿Cuáles son sus esperanzas para el futuro de la Iglesia de Dios? As

bishop, you have invested your time in mentoring new ministers. What do you hope for the future of the Church of God?

Soy una pieza (peón) elegido para este momento para comprometerme y cumplir SU voluntad por el Reino de Dios. No tengo dudas de que el SEÑOR continuará ubicándome en posición de reconocer aquellos que ÉL ha llamado [y] capacitado para mayores experiencias en el futuro como parte del cuerpo de la Iglesia de Dios. El futuro de la Iglesia de Dios es excepcionalmente brillante porque sigue siendo la iglesia de DIOS, moviéndose en el poder del Espíritu Santo.

I am a pawn chosen for this time to engage and fulfill HIS will for the sake of the Kingdom of God. There is no doubt in my mind that the LORD will continue to place me in position to acknowledge those whom HE has called and equip them for greater experiences in the future as part of the body of the Church of God. The future for the Church of God is exceptionally bright because it is still the church of GOD moving in the power of the Holy Spirit. ♦



El obispo Juan A. García ha servido a la Iglesia de Dios como evangelista nacional, pastor, director de Juventud y Educación Cristiana y obispo administrador de las regiones hispanas de Nueva Inglaterra y el Noreste. Además, ha sido parte de un sinnúmero de juntas y comités tanto dentro como fuera de la denominación. Al presente, funge como presidente de la junta de Ministerios Hispanos de la Iglesia de Dios y obispo administrador de la Región Noreste Hispana. Su ministerio lo ha dedicado a la edificación del Reino mediante la preparación, la capacitación y el discipulado de las nuevas generaciones.

Juan A. Garcia has served the Church of God as a national evangelist, senior pastor, Youth and Christian Education director and Administrative Bishop for the New England Hispanic and Northeast Hispanic regions. Chairman of the Hispanic Ministries for the Church of God, Rev. Garcia has also served in numerous community and interdenominational boards and committees. The bulk of his ministry has been dedicated to preparing, equipping, discipling, and mentoring a generation for Kingdom building.

PROGRAMA PARA EL MARTES, 31 DE JULIO

Inscripción:

8:00 a. m.—9:00 p. m.

Sesiones del CGI A-B

8:30 a. m.—11:30 a. m.
1:30 p. m.—4:30 p. m.

Servicio de adoración:

7:00 p. m.

Moderador:

Dr. Raymond F. Culpepper

Alabanzas:

The Crabb Family, Brooklyn Tabernacle Singers,
Coral

Predicador:

Dr. Tony Evans

Actividades para los Niños

Campamento Diurno para Niños

206 ABC (1:00 p. m.—5:00 p. m.)

Iglesia de Niños (De 3 a 6 años, que sepan ir al baño)

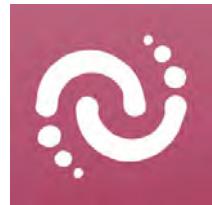
206 ABC

(7:00 p. m. / Abierto desde las 6:30 p. m.)

Iglesia de Niños (De 7 a 12 años)

205 & 206 ABC

(7:00 p. m. / Abierto desde las 6:30 p. m.)



Servicio de Interpretación Disponible a través de App Interactio

La interpretación de las sesiones de negocios ha sido un aspecto muy importante en las pasadas asambleas generales internacionales de la Iglesia de Dios. Este año, Comunicaciones de la Iglesia de Dios ofrecerá el servicio en varios idiomas a través de la aplicación de audio Interactio. Este cuenta con español, francés, portugués, alemán e indonesio. Los usuarios que estén dentro del Centro de Convenciones del Condado de Orange, en la ciudad de Orlando, recibirán la transmisión a través de sus móviles inteligentes (androide o Apple) o tabletas.

La 77^a Asamblea General Internacional se llevará a cabo del 30 de julio al 3 de agosto de 2018. El Rev. Luis Rodríguez y el Rev. David Blair estarán a cargo de supervisar a los intérpretes.

El hermano Blair hace el siguiente

anuncio: «Esperamos que los delegados y asistentes descarguen la aplicación en sus móviles antes de la asamblea [General Internacional]. Una vez que estén en el centro, recibirán instrucciones adicionales para que activen el servicio a partir del lunes, 30 de julio.

«Hemos hecho todo lo posible para transmitir estas interpretaciones», declaró Blair. A la entrada encontrará un Mostrador de Asistencia con la Interpretación en donde recibirá la contraseña para que acceda al servicio durante la semana. Se recomienda que traiga sus propios audífonos y cargadores de repuesto para sus aparatos electrónicos.

El Mostrador de Asistencia con la Interpretación estará operando en el piso en donde se llevarán a cabo las sesiones de negocios y los cultos. ♦

¡GRAN FIESTA LATINOAMERICANA!

El Departamento de Ministerios Hispanos se honra en presentar la Fiesta Latinoamericana. Esta gran celebración se llevará a cabo el **2 de agosto a las 11:30 a. m.** en el Executive Ballroom I del Hotel Rosen Centre. Busque el acceso directo desde el Centro de Convenciones.

Los obispos regionales latinos de los Estados Unidos han preparado un reconocimiento especial para El Dr. Efraín y la Reverenda Elba Navas con motivo de su retiro de las labores administrativas en la Región Norte Central. Ambos continuarán su ministerio en otras capacidades, como predicadores de eventos especiales, campañas y retiros ministeriales.

La sesión del Concilio General Internacional reanuda a la 1:30 p. m., por lo que esperamos verle las 11:30 a. m., ya que queremos aprovechar el tiempo. Esta fiesta es una gran oportunidad para que confraternice con sus hermanos y hermanas de los Estados Unidos, Canadá y América Latina. El almuerzo concluirá a la 1 p. m., pero el convivio continuará hasta las 2:00 p. m. Recuerde que los obispos deben estar presentes en las sesiones del CGI.

El cupo de la actividad es limitado y esperamos que haya obtenido sus entradas a través de su oficina regional. Si interesa más información, comuníquese con su obispo administrador o superintendente de área. También, visite el mostrador de Ministerios Hispanos en el área Misión Norteamérica, en la Sala de Exhibiciones del Centro de Convenciones. No garantizamos la disponibilidad de entradas (\$50.00). ♦



Leslie Ruiz en la Adoración

Información provista por Leslie Ruiz



Ungida para la adoración, Leslie Ruiz comparte su fe y amor por Jesucristo con toda persona que la escucha. Como adoradora se mueve en ambos idiomas para

llover el mensaje del Señor. De principio a fin, su estilo de vida es la proclamación de la bondad y fidelidad de Dios.

Leslie Ruiz, nació en la ciudad de Chicago el 2 de junio de 1982. A temprana edad sus padres, el obispo Rafael y Wanda Robles, se dedicaron a cultivar el talento que Dios había depositado en su hija. Después de haber grabado su primer disco a los nueve años, Leslie tuvo la oportunidad de cantar en frente del Capitolio de Puerto Rico en una actividad conocida como *MusiEvangelización*, en donde creyentes de toda la isla se reunían a adorar al Señor. En ese tiempo también, tuvo el gran privilegio de cantar en la Asamblea General Internacional de la Iglesia de Dios llevada a cabo en el Superdome de la ciudad de Nueva Orleans, en el estado de Luisiana. A los once años, lanzó un segundo disco en donde colaboró con el cantante y pastor, René González. A los catorce años fue invitada a cantar durante la inauguración del presidente Bill Clinton en la ciudad de Washington, DC y también a la Convención Nacional Demócrata. Además, ha entonado el

himno nacional en varios de los partidos del equipo de baloncesto los Toros y el de pelota profesional los Cachorros, ambos de la ciudad de Chicago.

En el 1994, Leslie experimentó la trágica pérdida de su madre y decidió tomarse un descanso de la música. Después de años sin grabar, el Señor volvió a confirmar su llamado al ministerio y comenzó su increíble historia de gracia.

Leslie ha tenido la oportunidad de servir como pastora de adoración junto con su esposo y sus tres hijos en la Iglesia de Dios Torre Fuerte (Orlando, Fl). En los pasados doce años ha ministrado en un sinnúmero de congregaciones. Su música ha viajado hasta Camboya. En el 2017, lanzó su más reciente proyecto musical, titulado *Abre los cielos*.

Esta semana tendremos la oportunidad de escucharla durante el servicio Fe, Libertad y Fuego del Ministerio Internacional de la Mujer en el Salón Valencia del Centro de Convenciones del Condado de Orange. ♦

Celebración de Ministerios Internacionales de la Mujer

Por Déborah Ortis

Este año, la Asamblea General Internacional contará con la magna celebración de Ministerios Internacionales de la Mujer. Este servicio, el miércoles a las 9:00 de la mañana, en el Salón Valencia, al oeste del Centro de Convenciones del Condado de Orange.

Paula Hill, presidenta de los Ministerios Internacionales de la Mujer, ha anunciado la celebración de una recepción y entrega de reconocimientos. La junta asesora espera que las hermanas se den cita para la continuación de la Celebración de Fe, Fuego y Libertad, una serie de concentraciones masivas llevadas a cabo durante el año pasado.

La evangelista Joye Rodgers estará a cargo de la ministración de la Palabra. Rodgers es la fundadora de Primary Purpose Ministries y el Señor la ha usado para ministrar más allá de las barreras étnicas y religiosas. Su misión es que la gente encuentre su propósito en Dios.



La música contará con la participación de Angela Primm y Leslie Ruiz. Angela Primm ha cantado con algunas de las voces más reconocidas dentro del góspel. Leslie Ruiz es pastora de adoración junto a su esposo en la Iglesia de Dios Torre Fuerte.

Recuerde que la admisión a la actividad requiere que esté debidamente inscrita como delegada de la AGI. Esperamos que el Señor se glorifique en todo. ♦

CONÉCTESE ELECTRÓNICAMENTE CON AGI 2018

Esta semana usted podrá mantenerse informado de todos los acontecimientos de la AGI de muchas maneras.



• **En la Red:** Busque la página electrónica oficial para que obtenga las noticias, la información, fotografías y videos. Visítenos en www.churchofgod.org y www.ga18.org.

• **Sitio móvil de la Iglesia de Dios:** Busque el sitio móvil para su teléfono o tableta. Los enlaces más populares son la página oficial de la IDD y Faith News Network, GA2018. www.ga18.org.

• **Twitter:** ¡Únase a la discusión! Síganos a través de Twitter: @COGHQ. Cuando tuitee use el logo oficial de la AGI #COGGA18

• **Facebook:** Únase a los más de 120,000 que siguen nuestra página oficial: www.churchofgod.org/facebook. Suba sus comentarios y fotografías.

Campamento e Iglesia para los Niños durante la Asamblea



Los niños y los jóvenes disfrutarán de actividades diseñadas para ellos durante la 77.a Asamblea General Internacional, a celebrarse del 31 de julio al 3 de agosto en la ciudad de Orlando, Florida.

Las actividades para la niñez girarán en torno al tema de la Guerra de las Galaxias: «Guerra de las Almas: Despertemos la fe». La iglesia infantil (de 3 a 6 años de edad y capaces de ir al baño) se llevará a cabo en el salón 206 ABC, ala oeste del Centro de Convenciones del Condado de Orange. La iglesia de niños (de 7 a 12 años) se llevará a cabo en los salones 205 y 206 ABC. Los programas comienzan a las 7:00 p. m. de martes a viernes. Las puertas abren a las 6:30 p. m. La salida es a las 9:00 p. m.

Además de las actividades nocturnas, los niños de 7 a 12 años podrán disfrutar del campamento diurno, en el salón 206 ABC del Centro, desde la 1:00 p. m. hasta las 5:00 p. m., de martes a viernes. Este campamento estará a cargo de ReMix Education, una compañía original de la ciudad de Lexington, KY.

«La asamblea será emocionante para los niños», afirma David Blair, director de Juventud y Discipulado Internacional. «Tendrán actividades durante el día y servicios nocturnos».

La participación en los cultos de los niños es gratuita, pero el campamento requiere una cuota de \$20.00 dólares por niño. Todos los padres deben completar el formulario de inscripción tanto para los cultos como el campamento. Hágalo a través de la página oficial de la asamblea, www.ga18.org. ♦

¿Necesita lenguaje de señas o acomodo especial? Busque los asientos reservados en el piso principal, a la derecha de la plataforma. Los intérpretes estarán para servirle.

Órdenes Especiales del Día del CGI

Por Cameron Fisher



Mark Rutland



Bruce Deel



Samuel Rodríguez

Las sesiones del Concilio General Internacional incluyen una serie de órdenes especiales o discursos que estarán a cargo de tres grandes exponentes: Mark Rutland, Bruce Deel y Samuel Rodríguez. En esta ocasión, cada exposiente contextualizará la Agenda del Compromiso Final. Cada presentación comenzará a las 8:45 de la mañana.

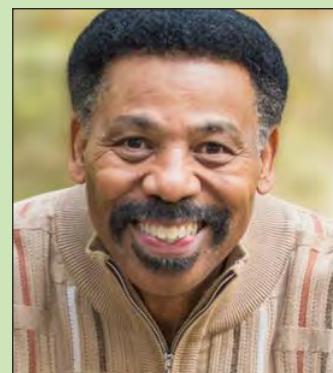
En la mañana del miércoles, 1º de agosto, le corresponderá el turno a Mark Rutland, quien disertará sobre el tema, «Su trayectoria ministerial». Rutland fue pastor de *Orlando Assembly*, presidente de la Universidad del Sureste, de la Universidad de Oral Roberts y actualmente preside el Instituto Nacional del Liderazgo Cristiano a través de su organización, *Global Servants*.

El jueves 2 de agosto, los delegados tendrán la oportunidad de escuchar el tremendo testimonio de la Ciudad de Refugio de parte de su director, Bruce Deel, quien hablará sobre el tema, «Transformación urbana». Deel dirige de este ministerio cuya misión es llevar luz, esperanza y transformación a la gente del interior de la ciudad de Atlanta.

La serie concluye con el reconocido líder de la Conferencia de Líderes Hispanos Cristianos, el Rev. Samuel Rodríguez. Su sesión está titulada, «Agenda para el avivamiento nacional». Rodríguez ha asesorado a otros líderes nacionales y tuvo a su cargo la invocación de la pasada inauguración del presidente de los Estados Unidos. ♦



**Martes, 31 de julio de 2018.
Predicador: Tony Evans**



El Dr. Tony Evans es el fundador y pastor de la Oak Cliff Bible Fellowship en la ciudad de Dallas, TX, presidente de The Urban Alternative, excapellán del equipo de fútbol profesional de los Cowboys de Dallas y capellán del equipo de baloncesto profesional de los Mavericks, también de Dallas. Su programa radial, «The Alternative with Dr. Tony Evans», es transmitido diariamente a través de mil doscientas estaciones. Sus sermones son descargados más de diez millones de veces al año.

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COG Church planters, Michael and Jannah Williams of New Life Chapel in Madison, AL, joined the project before launching their first service!



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MUSICAL GUEST



ANGELA PRIMM
MUSICAL GUEST



JOYCE RODGERS
FOUNDER, PRIMARY PURPOSE MINISTRIES
KEYNOTE SPEAKER



Deborah Childers



Peggy Culpepper



Paula Hill



Joyce Stephens



Fernanda Ramirez



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