

# INDEPENDENT ASSEMBLIES OF GOD, CANADA



PAGE 13

## LOSE SOME WEIGHT!

Diets, exercise and calorie counting will not help you lose this kind of weight. Our friend in Saskatchewan shares an answer!

PAGE 20

## UGH... TRANSITION!

Get some key points on how to avoid pain and pitfalls when it's time to pass the baton, from Dr. Dreger

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## JUST A LITTLE LONGER

When a young boy comes for prayer with one leg shorter than the other, what would your faith expect to happen!? Find out with Rev. Towongo!

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## FROM THE DESK OF OUR GENERAL SECRETARY

*Rev. Dave Kelsey*

### GREETINGS TO MY BROTHERS AND SISTERS IN OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST!

His peace and grace be on you today. As the Thanksgiving season lingers, it offers us a time we stop to reflect on the goodness of God.

I have no idea what some of you are going through. But in whatever situation you are in look to God, and for hope, strength and His peace. Be thankful you know the Almighty One who is for you!

We have freedom to worship, and to have church and to share the greatest message even given to mankind. So be THANKFUL and enjoy your friends, family and His Presence.

**Pattie and I look forward to seeing you all in May 2026 in Ottawa.**

**This is a strategic place and an important time to gather. Please make plans now on joining us for our annual National Convention, May 4-7<sup>th</sup>, 2026. Friendly reminder, you convention registration fees are already included in your upcoming 2026 credential renewal.**

Have a great fall and winter season.

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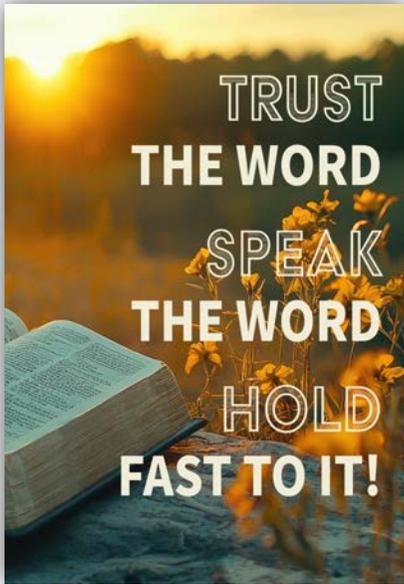
## GOD IS IN THE STORM

*So keep up your courage, men, for I have faith in God that it will happen just as he told me. Acts 27:25*

Isn't it wonderful to know that God is in the boat with us! Isn't it wonderful to be able to see God and hear Him even in the worst storms we will ever go through. It seems the last month or so the storms are abounding all over North America. Political, financial, weather, but the question is this: Do you have a message to share? YES, you do. Preach the Word!

During COVID many lost sight of why we are here and lost vision of the call to follow Christ and be Jesus. We have the GREATEST message ever given to men to share. Let us demonstrate it!

All through the Bible are historical accounts of God talking His people through difficult times. Abraham, Joseph, Moses, David, Elijah, Peter, Paul and others. God took them THROUGH the storms of life. Today I say to your GOD IS IN THE STORM WITH YOU. I remind you; God takes you through the storms. We are going OVER to the other side.



I'm here to remind you that in the midst of your storm God has a Plan. Storms will test your faith, BUT GOOD NEWS. God still speaks to us in the storms! God will walk with you in the storm. He will ride along with you in the storm. Most of all HE WILL PROTECT YOU in the storms. **Just believe His promises and hang onto Him.** Jesus is your anchor.

It is a season of testing. Great testing. We are being challenged to hold on to what is important in our life. Trust the Word, speak the Word. Hold fast to it. USE HEAVEN'S AUTHORITY, as you are an officer of HIS KINGDOM. God Backs Up His People, because you are His!

Acts 27 gives us a few points about handling storms, even deadly violent storms. But the main point is this: in the midst of the storm Paul heard God speak. Good news for us. God won't leave you; God won't abandon you. He still speaks in the storm! Pay attention when the Lord speaks. In verse 10 God had spoken to Paul, but they chose to ignore it.

It was not Paul's fault, but now he is IN THE STORM. Sometimes the decisions of others have put you into the path of a storm! People choose not to obey the Word of God, and it can affect you. But God knows.

As we read Acts 27, we see they faced "contrary winds" (v4, NLT), then the "the wind did not allow us" (v7) - "with GREAT difficulty" (v8) is repeated 3 separate times in this chapter. "We are losing time!" and things had been "Dangerous" (v9). Ever been there?

INQUIRE OF THE LORD for His timing and plan. By the time we get to verse 13, things "looked good" so they set sail. And then the Bible says not long after there was a violent agitation, and we lost control.

Have you ever come to a place where you are ready to quit? To a place of 'what is the use?' and exceedingly tempest tossed. "*When neither sun nor stars appeared for many days and the storm continued raging, we finally gave up all hope of being saved.*" (Act 27:20) We have all experienced dark times of storms in our lives and have felt this way.

**In your darkest hour you need to hear God.** Speak to me prophet of the Lord! Speak to my spirit man, God. Holy Spirit, come and stir up a Word in me. God sends an angel to Paul with a prophetic word of encouragement. Paul stands and declares: 'I believe God - we will come out of this shipwreck.'

Shipwrecks - we have all had them - broken marriages, financial loss, your reputation is hit, an accident, or injury, kid problems. But God is there.

**BUT GOD.** If you need or want a breakthrough PRAY! We see Paul had been praying and fasting, and God came and spoke to Him (v23-24). GOD ALMIGHTY sent an angel in the midst of the storm to Paul. In the storm get a word from God. 'I have granted you safety AND ALL THOSE who sail with you.' (v24) Your presence should affect those around you in a positive way.

Even in the middle of the storm, Paul gave thanks. (v34) **When you have heard from God, His peace comes to you.** Even in a storm, peace can come to you. And your peace will touch and affect others. They were all encouraged. Your presence and the anointing in you should change the atmosphere in any room and situation you are in.

Even with their good plan to move forward, they still ran aground  
Have you ever had a plan NOT work out?

We ran into an unexpected obstacle on our journey. God, we hit an unknown problem. Something got in their path, and it is happening at the worst spot and at the worst time. Violent waves are tearing up the ship, forcing everyone to jump for safety. How did this happen, where did that storm come from?

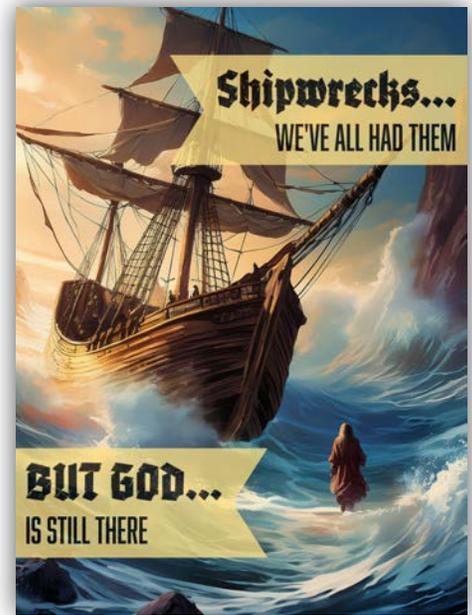
There is much to glean from Acts 27, but here are few to consider:

1. **GOD STILL SPEAKS** - even in our worst storms! Get a God Word for your storm.
2. **SHIPWRECKS SHOW US** - we can't go back to life the way it used to be, but you will live on
3. **TRUST GOD** - Storms may impact your path BUT HIS PLAN will still come to pass.
4. **STORMS ARE NOT ALWAYS YOUR FAULT!** - remember that.
5. **STAY IN THE BOAT** - Trust Pilot Jesus. There is safety when God is in the boat.
6. **STICK TOGETHER** - Unity provides a safety to everyone as well.
7. **GOD'S PRINCIPLE IS LIFE** - Save more than just yourself. Be a soul winner, be a life giver.
8. **GOD HAS A PLAN**

But the story doesn't end in the storm. Acts 28:1-5 it says they came to, 'a certain island.' In God's Word when you see a certain village, a certain time, and a certain place (island) God is setting up something for good! It is a divine appointment about to come forth. The men from the ship land with lots of questions. They land with uncertainty, but God had a plan in all of it. On this island were unsaved people. When Paul picks up some stick and a snake comes out and bites him; he is supposed to die. But instead, Paul shakes it off. Church, learn to SHAKE IT OFF! The enemies attack, shake it off.

**God did not save you from a shipwreck; to let you die on the beach.** The Holy Spirit gave this phrase to me. God is not going to preserve you through all those storms to just let you die on the beach. NO!

Come on church, you have anointing in you. His power flows in you. You have God's Holy Spirit in you. We will come through the storms and God will use it in the end! Look later in Acts 28. Paul heals a man,



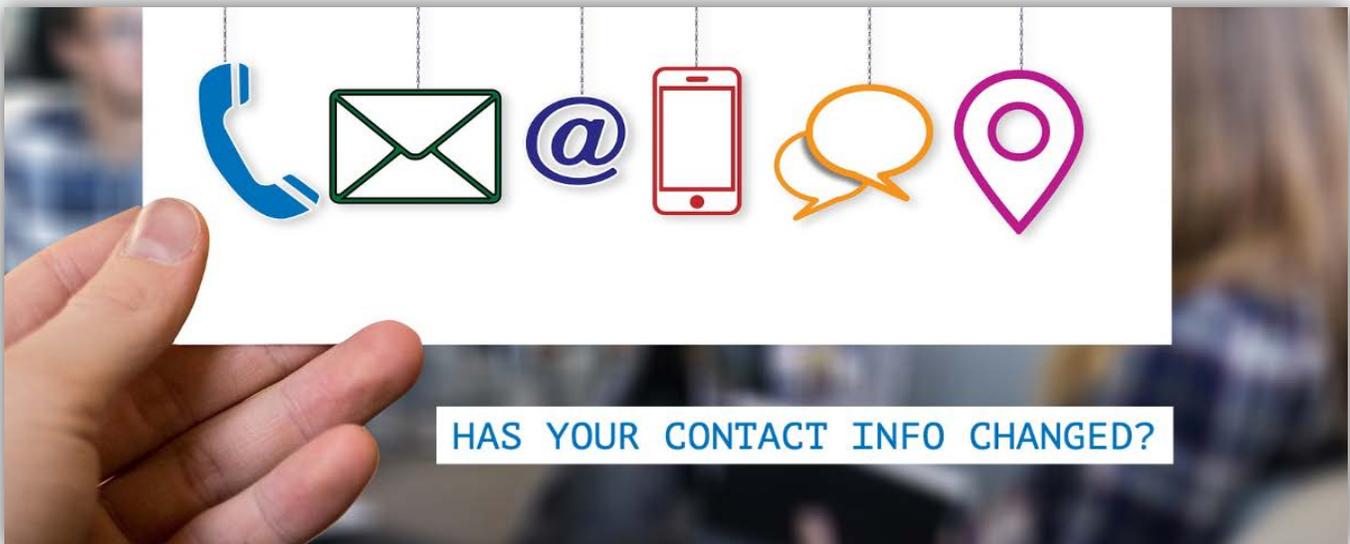
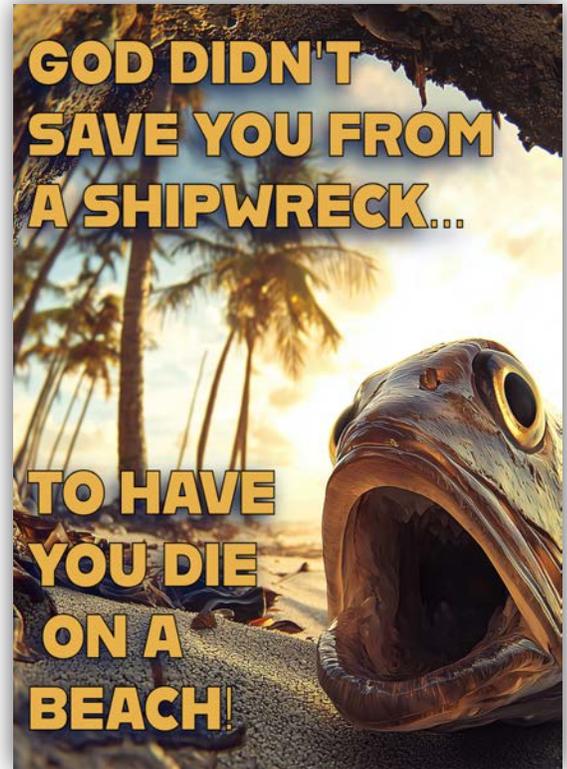
and more people come be healed and hear Paul. God had a plan for revival on that island and Paul would bring it. How would he get there? Through storms! All through the storms, God thought about the people on that certain island. Genesis 50:20 reminds us that what was meant for evil God changes for good. God steered the wind to blow that boat onto the island so people could be saved.

That same anointing is in you. Use it. Rise up in Him. His authority gives you power. Give thanks and worship the Lord. Remember, **GOD DIDN'T SAVE YOU FROM A SHIPWRECK TO LET YOU DIE ON A BEACH!** Bless you today. Be strengthened and encouraged. Great things are ahead, and so are some storms. But that's ok. God is in your boat.

God Bless,



Rev. Dave Kelsey, General Secretary



The General Secretary has the responsibility to maintain an accurate membership list, and the responsibility of reporting changes in contact information to the appropriate authorities.

PLEASE KEEP US IN THE LOOP WITH NEW TELEPHONE NUMBERS,  
NEW ADDRESSES AND NEW E-MAIL ADDRESSES.

# MINISTRY UPDATES

## COMPASSION LIFE MINISTRIES

### *REVIVAL AND HEALING ENCOUNTERS IN HONDURAS*

Dr. Peter Towongo | [drpeter@destinyinlife.ca](mailto:drpeter@destinyinlife.ca) | [www.compassionlife.org](http://www.compassionlife.org)

Earlier in the year, I had intended to have a Gospel crusade in Uganda. As I was preparing to get a ticket, Bishop Alejandro Calendo phoned and asked me to urgently come to Honduras for a revival conference within four days. But I was hesitant since I was planning to be in Uganda. So, I committed these trips in prayer.



#### **Prophecy and Fulfillment**

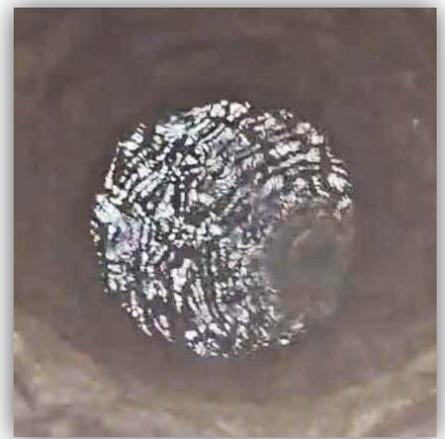
Bishop Alejandro reminded me saying, “Peter! Remember in 2020 during the lockdown, you were preaching from my friend’s Facebook and prophetically called my name. You said, ‘Alejandro, I don’t know if you are a man of God or not. But the Lord is giving you a land somewhere in Central America to build a training center for pastors and leaders.’ You described the land in detail. I wrote your prophecy down. In about a year, I was given a land to build a training center for pastors as it was my dream. After laying the foundation of the building. Only then, I remembered your prophecy. I checked my notebook to read the details. It shocked me!

Now, the building is finished, and I want you to come as a symbol of the prophecy fulfilled, to speak during the revival meeting and officially launch the pastors’ training center. Buy your own ticket; we will only provide you with accommodation and food!”

#### **My Trip to Honduras**

Immediately I felt the Lord directing me to go to Honduras instead of Uganda. Within 30 minutes, I got my ticket ready. Once I arrived in Honduras, we drove to the town of Lepaterique where the training center was based, just two hours away from, the capital city.

Bishop Alejandro shared more about the miracle project. Witchdoctors threatened the construction of the project to stop. More than twice, they slaughtered horses at night, spreading horse blood on the ground and white substance like ashes. One worker fell from the top of the building but miraculously was saved by God. Furthermore, the center had no water around. They dug a well several meters deep into the ground and found no water. After the workers abandoned digging the well, Bishop Alejandro came in by faith, laid hands on the dry well and prayed for water. The following morning, water gushed out of the well and flooded the area. It was indeed a miracle project!



## Ministration & Healings

There were about 350 pastors attending the revival meetings from 7 different countries attending—Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Mexico, El Salvador, Guatemala, and the USA. On that Saturday, amazing things happened during the ministry time. There was fresh infilling of the Spirit and vivid miracles occurred. We had people coming to the altar testifying of many miracles God did in their lives. A pastor with a swollen stomach, came forward for prayers saying he had kidney stones which blocked the passing of urine. The anointing fell on him and he went down



several times, and immediately he began to urinate on himself. When he rushed to the washroom, he urinated almost a full bucket according to his testimony. God healed him instantly. Glory to Jesus!

Another woman had swollen legs but got up from her chair and began to walk! The congregation erupted! Another person removed her bandage on her left arm with a fractured elbow and by faith began to stretch her hand, running all over the place. Also, a lady with breast cancer testified of how a “shadow-like bird” popped out of her breast and flew away—she started jumping while crying in happiness. Another woman who was 80% blind in both eyes began to see things normally. Among other testimonies, Bishop Alejandro, his team, and I were so moved with compassion and began to weep, seeing how the devil bound the people, but God healed them!

By Sunday evening many sick people thronged the training center, while it was pouring rain. I realized these were new people, not the pastors or their teams. They looked sickly, distressed, and overwhelmed with problems. One of the Pastors shared, “Peter, yesterday evening it was announced on the local radio of the miracles that took place here. These people are coming for healing. Now minister to them!” I was so exhausted from the long day, but the moment I opened my mouth, strength entered me. I spoke for a few minutes and made an altar call. Several people received Jesus Christ into their lives. We then began to minister healing them. Many miracles again happened just like the ones on Saturday. One outstanding miracle was a 14-year-old boy whose right leg was short, and the left leg long. I sat him down to stretch his two legs. As we began to pray for God to lengthen his right leg, he began to cry loudly saying fire was burning his leg. Miraculously his right leg began to grow step by step till it became equal with the left leg.



One of the pastors was so full of revival fire! While driving back to Guatemala, they stopped in a small town just before the border and began to call people to hear a message. About 50 people gathered. He preached Christ and many of them got born again. He saw a pool nearby and baptized many there. Immediately he opened a fellowship at that town. Another pastor

who attended the conference went to his church and began open air preaching which brought over 70 new members in his church.

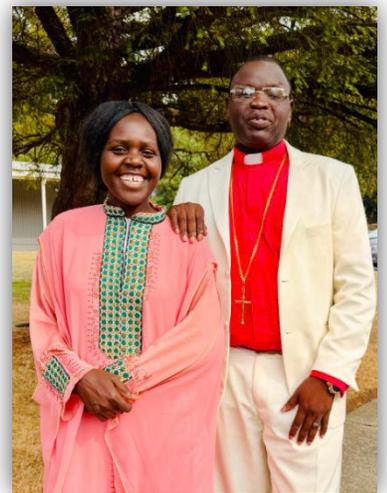
### Healings in Dreams and Visions

Bishop Alejandro told me that recently many people were receiving healing at night through dreams—somebody comes to them in a dream saying they were healed. When they woke up, sicknesses disappeared.

This Honduras encounter has opened more doors for ministry in different parts of Central America. This October, we will be training Hispanic leaders in New York to send to different parts of Central America. In January, we will be doing revival meetings in Guatemala and Honduras. Pray for these countries that God will continue sparking revival and many will come to Him.

## Dr. Peter Towongo | British Columbia

Dr. Peter is the founder and president of Compassion Life Ministries International (CLMI) and Destiny Life Church. He travels throughout Canada, the United States, Israel, Egypt, Jordan, South Sudan, Uganda, DR Congo, and other parts of the world addressing critical issues affecting individuals from different walks of life and preaching the gospel of Christ. Peter is married to his beautiful wife, Mary Aongo, an evangelist, conference speaker, poet, author of inspiring books including *Healing Songs*, and *I've Called You By Name*. God has blessed them with three children, and they currently reside in Langley, BC



## WORLD HARVEST MINISTRY CANADA

Rev. Russell & Sonia Murray | [pastorrussm@gmail.com](mailto:pastorrussm@gmail.com) | [www.worldharvestministry.net](http://www.worldharvestministry.net)

Earlier this year we had a three-week trip to Tanzania, East Africa teaching at World Harvest International Bible College (WHIBC) which went well and was greatly appreciated by the students. The College is built in a strong Muslim coastal area with the purpose to be able to feed the many new church plants.

The college prepares several to be well equipped for the many churches we will plant. We have a great vision and a goal to plant 200 churches before 2030. When I was the college this trip, I found something strange upon arrival! I found a Muslim student recently enrolled! I was shocked and asked the Dean of students about this. The young man had showed up at the College saying he wanted to learn about God, paid his tuition, and started classes. I immediately set a time to meet with him. I shared the gospel with him



clearly and he was saved. When we baptized him a few days later he testified that although he'd been to church a number of times and heard about Jesus and the cross, he'd never heard the gospel clearly.

A month ago, we finished our 40th church build/plant, and the new pastor was identified and installed (one of WHIBC graduates) and they are having services now! We are poised to start church number 41

on the coastal area of Tanzania which is another predominantly Muslim territory, but not for long! Then church number 42 in Lusaka Zambia very soon. On that church property we are also digging a water well that will be a source of good clean water. Pastor Percy is also a graduate of our Bible College and will be pastoring the church. He had come in January of 2023 from Zambia.

We also have bought another property on the coast for a future church

as soon as we have the funds. Our approach is to build a basic structure of cement blocks, corrugated steel roof and a cement floor then it's in the hands of the pastors and his "new members to be", to complete the work! It is only about \$6400 to build a church. WHM has a goal to plant 6 to 10 churches this year. Here is a picture of our latest church build and good view of how many of our locations are constructed. This location will be lead by Pastor Frank.



Often in our trips we take used cellphones to provide to our pastors as well musical instruments like smaller keyboards or tambourines. Please reach out if you are able to partner with us in any way. God is doing great things in Tanzania!

We covet your prayers.

In His Grip,

*Missionary Russell Murray | Ontario*

*World Harvest Ministry was founded by Russell and Sonia Murray in 1991. It is an apostolic ministry to the nations with a great emphasis in Tanzania, East Africa. One area of focus for the last several years is the mobilization of the believer to preach the gospel. The ministry has now built and planted 40 churches and counting! Russ and Sonia are currently based out of Sarnia, ON*



## GRACE LIFE MINISTRIES - KELL & LORRI UPDATE

Rev. Kell and Lorri Frandsen | [kell555frandsen@yahoo.ca](mailto:kell555frandsen@yahoo.ca) | [www.gracerest.com](http://www.gracerest.com)



Lorri and I are extremely grateful to have ministered together with so many of you over the last 31 years. A great many have travelled with us over the years and fallen in love with the children, our leaders, and the many villagers in India.

As Lorri can no longer travel, I have not been able to go to India since 2019. We are both now in the mid-seventies and ministry responsibilities have been taken over by

excellent GLM Board members. However, we still communicate with the ministry leaders several times a week. I have done all the meetings and banking reports to government, and most of the organizing all these years. Lorri and my family have been urging me to step back and let others lead GLM, not to be inactive, but to concentrate on writing our book *Grace Warriors* with Lorri covering our 50 years of front-line ministry.

On 11 August 2025 I resigned from the Board, but I will still be available to sponsors and friends. Lorri and I have started a ministry to equip and encourage the body of Christ. We will be posting online the many things God has taught us over the years. Also, Lorri will make available her e-books online for free. She has finished 2 books this year, fully illustrated: *War of the Seed* and *Revelation*. She is just completing an extended version of *War of the Seed - Expanded Version*. That will be available this fall. So along with our family living on our 5.1 acres, we are very busy.



The leaders in India are well trained. It is time for them to stretch their wings and fly. Also our new board are young and strong. Jason has God's heart and has visited and become friends with our leaders and

their families. In Odisha the Shining Charitable Trust (our corresponding Indian Charity) has the tools to set many free from poverty. The infrastructure is fully set up for the ministry to multiply. The rescue of widows and orphans is a huge priority. Our many young evangelists are equipped to take Odisha and India. Like AB Simpson said 130 years ago, "The great emergency of the church is evangelism!"



India will permanently change only through Christ and the new birth He offers. Both John the Baptist and Jesus declared “repent and receive this good news to be reconciled to God” That is the greatest love we can show mankind. JESUS SO LOVED US! We must share that love.



Our mission is far from over. Paul disciplined himself to win the prize of the upward call of God. Now, more than ever, the new Board and our leaders, and their great teams will need prayer for wisdom and protection in the Spirit and your continued support. I

won't be directing but I will be there to encourage and, like you, see Christ conquer this dark land. Already we have great treasure and wonderful eternal fruit beyond imagination. We are now invited to see this multiplied!!

Romans 8:37 “No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through HIM who loved us!”

Stay up to date with Lorri and I on our new web site: [www.gracerest.com](http://www.gracerest.com)

*Rev. Kell & Lorri Frandsen | British Columbia*

*Rev. Kell and Lorri live in the Courtney area of Vancouver Island, British Columbia. Having seen first-hand the suffering in Odisha, India back in 1994, Kell and Lorri have continued to passionately and practically meet the needs of orphans and widows in villages and communities - all while spreading the good news of Jesus Christ and raising up more leaders to do the same. While transitioning much of GLM to the board, Kell and Lorri will continue to hold a key role in promoting the work. Odisha is forever marked by the Kingdom of God due to their faithfulness.*



**IAOGI/ADDII CANADA IS ON**



We now have a new general Facebook page for the IAOGI! Just another way to stay connected. Please take a moment to “Like” and “Follow” the page.

# IT'S TIME TO RENEW YOUR CREDENTIALS

**DUE: JANUARY 31, 2026**

The time of credential renewal is upon us.

This year the renewal fee is **\$210.00** if sent in by JANUARY 31, 2026. **Please note:** this includes your \$50.00 annual convention fee, regardless of attendance.

**PLEASE MAKE ALL CHEQUES/MONEY ORDERS PAYABLE TO: IAOGI**

**After February 1, 2026, there will be a late penalty of \$50.00 added to the \$210.00 = Total \$260.00.**

Form 3 must be completed for all credential renewals and can be completed via hard copy and mail or online.

**Hard copy** forms must be sent to your sponsoring pastor/church with your cheque/money order. Your sponsoring pastor/church must sign off on your documents. Your licensing or sponsoring pastor/church will then forward your documents for processing.

**Online renewal** is available through [www.iaogcan.com](http://www.iaogcan.com) however, please consult with your sponsoring pastor/church **FIRST**. The process must be completed **WITH** them. They may send us an email verifying your sponsorship.

If you complete Form 3 through our online renewal, please ensure you complete Step #2 for the online payment of your renewal fees.

**For a minister 75 years of age** and older your renewal fee is \$25.00. **REMINDER!** Your fee now includes your annual convention fee. Please follow one of the options listed above for processing.

Thank you for being prompt in your submissions. All resources and forms are available through our website.



If you need additional support, please connect with your Regional Secretary.

# THINK ON THESE THINGS

From time to time the Lord speaks to His servants' words from His heart to His people. IAOGI fully encourages the gifts of the Holy Spirit. These words are submitted humbly and prayerfully.

Please take some time to carefully examine how they may strengthen and encourage you.

**1 CORINTHIANS 14:29-31**

**LET THE PROPHETS SPEAK TWO OR THREE, AND LET THE OTHER JUDGE. IF ANY THING BE REVEALED TO ANOTHER THAT SITTETH BY, LET THE FIRST HOLD HIS PEACE. FOR YE MAY ALL PROPHECY ONE BY ONE, THAT ALL MAY LEARN, AND ALL MAY BE COMFORTED**

## LOSING WEIGHT

Rev. Araba Quaye / [aquaye1@gmail.com](mailto:aquaye1@gmail.com) / [www.humboldtlivingword.com](http://www.humboldtlivingword.com)

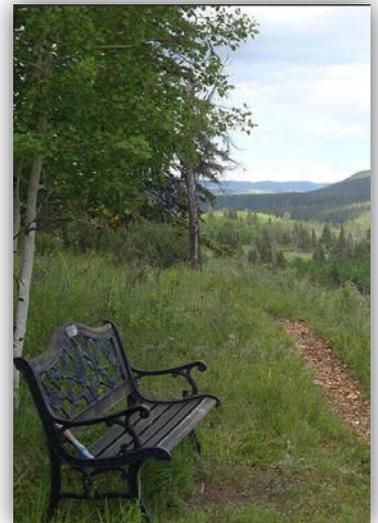
From the middle of July till the third week in September, I was pressed to take what I have coined a “partial sabbatical.” I found a Christian retreat centre located in Morley, Alberta, called King’s Fold Retreat & Renewal Centre. It had a spectacular view of the Rocky Mountains, a valley with a vibrant river flowing below, and a beautiful, quiet landscape of pine and birch trees that could be seen stretching for miles.

As I inhaled deeply and took in the view, I said in my heart, “Lord, I’m here! What is your word for me?” I sat with this request in my heart for what seemed like a long moment. Then the Lord replied, “Lay aside every weight.” His words penetrated my heart so deeply that I temporarily couldn’t catch my breath.

I was a bit puzzled. So, I answered the Lord in my heart, “But Lord, that’s why I’m here—to rest and wait on you.” The Lord was quiet in response.

Feeling compelled, I took my Bible and looked up the rest of the verse.

*“Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a huge crowd of witnesses to the life of faith, let us strip off every weight that slows us down, especially the sin that so easily trips us up. And let us run with endurance the race God has set before us. We do this by keeping our eyes on Jesus, the champion who initiates and perfects our faith. Because of the joy awaiting him, he endured the cross, disregarding its shame. Now he is seated in the place of honour beside God’s throne.”*  
Hebrews 12:1-4 (NLT)



Though I had come to rest and fellowship with the Lord, I had also come with “weights”. The Greek word for “weight” is “*ogkos*” and it doesn’t simply mean a heavy burden. It can also mean something prominent, a bulge, a mass—something unnecessary or cumbersome. It can refer to things that may not seem heavy but are still slowing us down.

With ministry, I had become busy—setting up programs, planning events, tending to people’s needs—so much so that I began neglecting care for myself, and more importantly, my deeper time with the Lord. There’s nothing inherently wrong with doing things for God. But I have come to realize that as ministers of the gospel, what must be most prominent is our time with the Lord, and exercising our focus muscle—by keeping our eyes on Jesus above all else.

That word “*looking*” in verse 2, in the Greek, means turning the eyes away from other things and fixing them on something—or in this case, Someone: Jesus. When I focused more on the “other things”—even good things—it slowed me down spiritually. To run the race the Lord has set before us with endurance, we must intentionally turn our eyes away from distractions and fix them firmly on Jesus. Otherwise, we are slowed down, or in some cases, brought to a complete stop. ●

No athlete would ever willingly add weight or carry something that slows them down during a race. Neither would they allow distractions to interfere with their focus. Any hindrance must be removed to ensure they run freely. The Lord was telling me to do the same.

I’m reminded of a powerful interview with Billy Graham, one of the greatest evangelists of our time. In his early 90s, he was asked, “Looking back on your life, is there anything you would have done differently?” His answer stirred my heart. He said, “I wish I would’ve spent more time with the Lord.”

Wow, what an answer! This man spent almost all his life winning million upon millions of souls for Jesus and doing what was honourable and good. But when asked about his life in retrospect and what he would have done differently, his answer was not what most would assume.

Since being on my sabbatical, my prayer has become:

*Father, forgive me. Help me to lay aside every weight. Help me to posture myself so that I can constantly live looking unto You in every moment. Help me to take great pleasure in You at all times. Search my heart, oh Lord. I don’t want to be slowed down by ministry weight, family weight, personal weight, or any other kind of weight. Help me to keep my focus on You, and how You want to do things, so that I can endure and finish the race You have set before me with excellence.”*

It’s so easy to pick up weights along the way during this ministry journey but may we continually make it our prayer to lay aside every weight as ministers of the gospel, and may the Lord carry on to completion the good work he has started in us until the day of Christ Jesus.

Amen.

*Rev. Araba Quaye | Saskatchewan*

*Araba is the pastor of Living Word Church International, located in Humboldt, SK where she’s been ministering over 8 years. Her zeal and love for the Lord is infectious. Her mission is to expand the kingdom of God through the preaching and teaching of the Word of God, prayer, praise and worship, and outreach programs.*



## THE BORDER OF JUDAH AND BENJAMIN

Rev. Mark Gascho / [imgascho@hotmail.com](mailto:imgascho@hotmail.com) / Hopewell Worship Centre

Judah and Benjamin mean 'praise' and 'son of the right hand' (favour and authority)! There is a picture in Joshua 15:5-9 where the portion of Judah's border that is shared with Benjamin is given to us in detail.

When we think of borders we think of limits. However, Israel had to work together. I believe this is a picture of the things that unified them, like a zipper, not division. These places had to be conquered territory, things to be dealt with or overcome, removed or strengthened depending on what they represent. I believe God gave us some insight into the things that bring 'praise' and 'favoured authority' together. Here is a quick overview of the surrounding borders:

Bethhogla - 'house of a partridge' - insignificance, easy prey

Betharabah - 'house of the desert' - sterility

Bohan - 'thumb' (stubby) (not the hand, not even the finger - unimportant) - not counted as one of Reuben's 4 sons - possibly by his adultery with Bilhah in Gen 35:22 - rejection

Debir - 'oracle' - innermost sanctuary from where God speaks

Achor - 'troubled' - trouble, sorrow

Gilgal - 'wheel, rolling' - removal of residual effects of bondage

Adummim - 'red spots' - the Greeks called it "ascent of the red ones" because of the blood shed by thieves - bloodshed, assault

Enshemesh - 'fountain of the sun' - pagan worship

Enrogel - 'fountain of the fuller' - to clean, whiten, bleach, thicken, shrink or dye cloth

Valley of son of Hinnom - 'lamentation, wailing' - a site of child sacrifice to Molech - destruction of the next generation

Jebus - 'trodden, threshing place' - separation of chaff from wheat

Jerusalem - 'foundation of peace' - establishing or planting of the Lord

Top of the Mountain (Moriah) - 'chosen by Jehovah' - God's choosing

Valley of giants - Rephaim - 'giants' - place of victory over the enemy - 2 Sam 5:17-

Nephtoah - 'opening, opened' - from here water flowed to the dipping gate of the temple where the priests did ceremonial bathing for the day of atonement - from where the word, the river of life and cleansing flows

Mount Ephron - 'gazelle, fawn' - gracefulness, gentleness

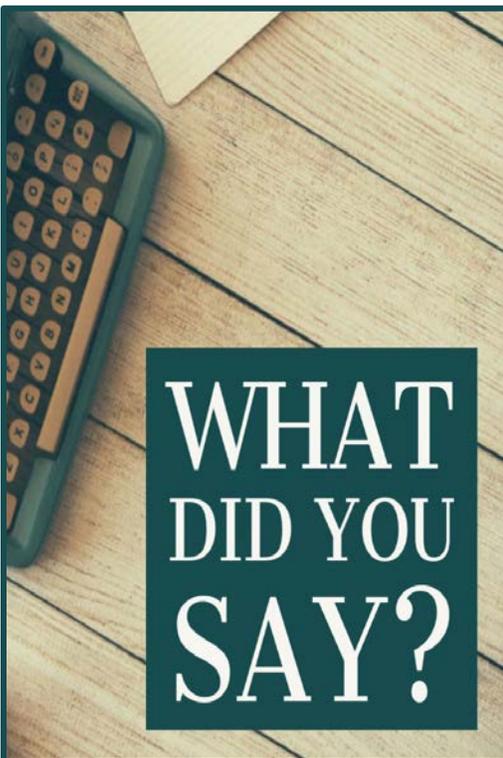
Baalah - 'city of Baal' - Kirjathjearim - 'city of forests' - a city of the Gibeonites (Joshua 9:17) - what belonged to Baal, material to build idols

Colossians 2:16-17 gives us the understanding that the law of Moses, the old covenant, and by extension much of what happened with Israel, were shadows of things to come. Shadows produced by the person and reality of Jesus. The lessons we learn from pictures like this border with Judah and Benjamin, are things we learn in Christ. Through Christ these limitations (easy prey, sterility, rejection, trouble, sorrow etc) are conquered and redeemed, and through Christ these blessings (God speaking, being clean, rivers of life, grace, victory etc) flourish. Such favour and authority most certainly gives us reason to praise! I just enjoyed so much seeing yet another place in scripture where New Testament principles were tucked away in the Old Testament writings, that I just wanted to share it.

God bless and prosper you all,

*Rev. Mark Gascho | Ontario*

*Pastor Mark and Azucena have been married and doing ministry together for 35 years and counting. Now in their second Church Plant, pastoring Hopewell Worship Centre, Mark and Azucena call Kitchner, ON home. They can be found ministering also in Cuba, Nicaragua and California as the Lord allows as well as visiting their four children and two grandchildren across Canada. "We are looking forward to many more years of service for Jesus. He does all things well and we are greatly blessed"*



***WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!!***

*Please do not hold back your testimonies, ministry updates, or words of inspiration and encouragement. Staying connected is important! Please send your articles to us for The Canadian Mantle in a Word document. Articles should be no more than 500 words in length.*

*Don't forget to share some photos too and include your ministry's information and website. Friendly reminder, all articles are subject to the discretion of the editor and will be reviewed upon submission.*

*Remember! We need each other's gifts!*

*Email: [mantlearticles@outlook.com](mailto:mantlearticles@outlook.com)*

***NEXT DEADLINE FRIDAY, JANUARY 16, 2026***



## SPONSORSHIP IN THE IAOGI

*Rev. Jason MacKay* / [pastorjason@celebrationlife.ca](mailto:pastorjason@celebrationlife.ca) / [www.celebrationlife.ca](http://www.celebrationlife.ca)

Sponsorship is a topic that is foundational to the spirit of the Independent Assemblies of God International Canada. It is a practice that ensures the core values of our Fellowship continue throughout the successive generations.

Although sponsorship is not a specific subject that Paul or Peter or John spoke about in the New Testament, we can readily see the biblical elements of sponsorship in the Book of Acts and the Epistles.

When we are considering sponsoring a candidate for credentials, the following biblical elements and questions should be a part of our consideration.

**SHARED VALUES** Does the candidate share the same values with you?

In 1 Corinthians 4:17 Paul tells the Corinthians that Timothy will remind them of his way of life in Christ Jesus. This shows us that Timothy held the same values in Christian living as Paul and was trustworthy to teach these values to others.

The bible asks, "...how can two walk together unless they agree?" (Amos 3:3) which reminds us that if we are going to sponsor someone, it may prove to be an unnecessary challenge if that person holds a different set of values than we do.

**PERSONAL ENDORSEMENT** Can you endorse the candidate?

In Acts 9:27 Barnabas "endorses" Paul, who at that time was still known as Saul, the persecutor of the church. The brethren were wary of Paul because of his reputation but Barnabas endorsed Paul's conversion to Christian as a genuine experience. This endorsement gave the rest of the brethren confidence to allow Paul to fellowship with them.

In the same way, when we are considering sponsoring someone, we should be confident in our endorsement of that person, knowing that we are signaling to the Fellowship that this person is welcome to be a part of our body.

## RECOGNITION OF CALLING OR COMMISSIONING

Can you recognize God's call on the candidate?

When we credential someone, we are officially recognizing the God-given call to ministry on someone's life and/or we are commissioning them to be sent out from our midst with our blessing.

In Acts 13:2-3, Paul and Barnabas were sent out from the Church in Antioch. They were sent out by the brethren because the brethren recognized the call of God on both Paul and Barnabas. It was from this point forward that they were called "apostles".

Similarly, before we sponsor someone, we must be sure that they have a genuine call to the ministry. There are many Christians who show good character, even full of the Spirit, but are not called to a five-fold ministry, such as the seven deacons in Acts 6. We do someone great disservice if we sponsor them to a ministry they were not called to.

## RESPONSIBILITIES OF ASSISTANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY

Considering the above-mentioned responsibilities, we can easily see that the sponsoring pastor is responsible to both assist and hold accountable the sponsored minister. Assistance can come through prayer, encouragement or counsel. Accountability is maintained through regular and honest fellowship.

## THE ROLE OF THE LOCAL CHURCH: TWO SOURCES FOR SPONSORSHIP

Today there are two sources of sponsorship in the IAOGI. The first one is the traditional and original method:

*From within:* raising up ministers, credentialing them, and sending them out.

The second source has grown over the years and now greatly exceeds the first:

*From without:* receiving other ministers into the Fellowship and credentialing them.

In the early years of the Fellowship, most ministers were sponsored by a local church and came under that church's vision and authority; today, most ministers come from outside the Fellowship and are sponsored by a pastor that has not been involved raising up that minister.

If ministers are raised up from within the local church, the relationship and accountability between the church and the ministers it sponsors is stronger, and the vision of the local church is perpetuated. But ministers who come into the Fellowship from outside are more likely to become isolated if there is not an intentional development of relationship and accountability by the sponsoring pastor, which can then weaken the Fellowship and open the door for problems.

If the fellowship is strong between a sponsor and the minister who is sponsored, then there is a far greater opportunity for growth and stability in the Fellowship.

## AN APOSTOLIC FUNCTION

The local assembly has an apostolic function in that it commissions and sends ministers. From the beginning of the IAOGI, the pastor of the local assembly would credential someone on behalf of the local



assembly that he/she pastors. And so, the whole church was involved in the commissioning (credentialing) of the minister.

In 2 Corinthians 3 and Acts 18:27, there are references to “letters of recommendation” from the local assemblies, where a letter of recommendation would be sent to endorse a minister travelling to another church. More specifically, in Acts 13 the prophets and teachers in the church at Antioch commissioned Paul and Barnabas, and at the end of their first missionary journey, Paul and Barnabas reported back to that same Antioch church.

And so today, the church has an apostolic responsibility in the commissioning of its ministers.

## BENEFITS OF SPONSORSHIP

There are definite benefits to sponsorship - benefits that strengthen our Fellowship as a whole, in addition to the personal benefits of the sponsorship relationship.

*Sponsorship opens the door to succession.* It makes good sense to raise up someone who will carry the vision God gave you after you depart. The nature of sponsorship is highly conducive to raising up a successor.

*Sponsorship maintains the integrity of the Fellowship.* The relationships that are developed through sponsorship ensure that the Fellowship remains strong and accountable; it helps to perpetuate the spirit and values of the Fellowship.

*Sponsorship promotes both freedom and accountability in the ministry.* The delicate balance between the freedom to fulfill the vision of God in your ministry and the accountability we have to one another is maintained through sponsorship.

## IN CONCLUSION

We were all sponsored by someone and some of us may already be sponsors; remember to be intentional in maintaining your relationship and connection. For many, those who originally sponsored us and helped launch us into the ministry have been promoted to glory; be intentional in continuing to build connections and relationships in your region - don't miss those local gatherings. Do not shy away from being “known” by those who labour among you. If you are looking to sponsor someone, please take time to review these questions and considerations before moving forward.

Sponsorship is integral to perpetuating the values and spirit of our Fellowship; without it we will become weak and ineffective, but with it we can help one another fulfill the vision and call of God through strong churches and powerful ministries.

*Rev. Jason MacKay | British Columbia*

*Rev. Jason MacKay has been the regional secretary for the BC Southwest Region for the last four years. With a passion to teach the Word and see everyone walk in the fullness of what God has for them, he also serves as an associate pastor at Celebration Life Church. Jason, his wife Shalane and their family live in Delta, BC*



## PASSING THE BATON

Dr. Gwen Dreger | [pastorgwen@celebrationlife.ca](mailto:pastorgwen@celebrationlife.ca) | [www.celebrationlife.ca](http://www.celebrationlife.ca)

Transition doesn't have to be difficult!

Let's address one of the challenges many ministries face. What happens when we realize that we have completed what the Lord has shown or instructed us to accomplish in ministry? Whether we pastor or travel, we should know if the work was built to continue or to end. It will continue if the successor that the Lord has ordained has been raised up.

Here are three of the many things that I have learned to aid in transitions in ministry. I share them to help guide you through these times.

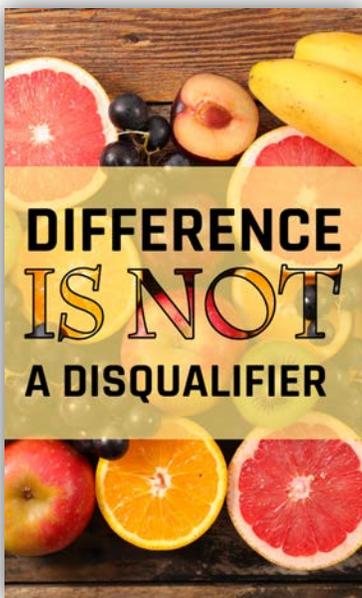
### 1. IDENTIFY THOSE WHO HAVE THE SAME VISION.

*Philippians 2:20-22 For I have no man likeminded, who will naturally care for your state. For all seek their own, not the things which are Jesus Christ's. But ye know the proof of him, that, as a son with the father, he hath served with me in the gospel*

Paul knew Timothy. Timothy walked alongside, served, honoured, and ministered with grace both to Paul and others. It was clear that his heart demonstrated pure motive as one who seeks for the things that are Christ's. He lived a provable life which all could witness. God's kind of compassion filled his life. Get to know the people around you. Listen to how they pray. Watch who and how they care for others inside the ministry and in their homes. Knowing someone is much more than knowing about them. Make the time to do that.

### 2. KNOW THAT THEY WILL DO THINGS DIFFERENTLY.

*Ephesians 4:15 But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ: 16 From whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplies, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love.*



Difference is not a disqualifier. What you did when you first obeyed the call of God, was in part. Deciding to be in agreement with the part that this next individual will bring is godly submission. Consider that you have poured into this person. You learned about this person. You recognized how they love and serve the Lord. Now, accept how the Lord works through them. Each of us only sees in part and works the part He gives. Trust the Lord in that person. Trust that they are following the way God shows them; just like you followed the way the Lord showed you.

### 3. ALWAYS HAVE A HEARING EAR.

*Luke 8:8 And others fell on good ground, sprang up, and bare fruit an hundredfold. And when he had said these things, he cried, He that hath ears to hear, let him hear.*

Years of ministry does not conclude that you know everything. I have witnessed this struggle with many. While we have certainly learned much through years of ministering, we do not have it all together. There is always more to learn and more areas we can grow in. Deciding to hear is our responsibility. It is humbling, and it demonstrates maturity. Remember that the soil of your heart can be the ground of growth. It is there that the blessings of ministry can thrive in your successor. Hear what the Lord is saying to them. You taught them to hear Him, then they have something to bless you with. I have such pleasure in hearing words of faith, revelation, joy, and vision come forth from those I have mentored.

Friends, I know that passing the baton well is important. The loss that many encounter as they let it go from their hands can be daunting, but the Lord is gracious, full of mercy, and still has a plan for you until you meet Him. You will not know what is next while you fill your focus with what you need to let go of.

Look up. Keep Jesus' face in your focus. He has promised to show us things to come!

*Dr. Gwen Dreger | British Columbia*



*Rev. Gwen Dreger is the founder and Senior Pastor of Celebration Life Ministries. God has continued to move through Rev/ Gwen not just in dynamic teaching of the Word but also in power. Rev. Gwen has prayed for many who have experienced the miraculous healing power of God and the moving of His Spirit in their lives. The power of God is a normal and active part of her ministry. Rev. Gwen also serves as the IAOGI National Prayer Coordinator.*

## JOIN US FOR THE NEXT NATIONAL PRAYER EVENT ON ZOOM

TO SIGN UP TO RECEIVE IAOGI PRAYER UPDATES PLEASE EMAIL: [PRAYER@IAOGCAN.COM](mailto:PRAYER@IAOGCAN.COM)



MONDAY, OCT 6<sup>TH</sup>  
5:30 pm PST - 8:30pm EST

MONDAY, NOV 10<sup>TH</sup>  
5:30 pm PST - 8:30pm EST

<https://zoom.us/join>

Meeting ID: 820 7770 7133

Passcode: 299033



### REV. LLOYD HERMIT (1941-2025)

Rev. Lloyd Hermit was promoted to Glory the evening of July 31<sup>st</sup>. Rev. Lloyd has been a member of the IAOG since 1999.

Originally from Jamaica, he served at Chatham Christian Church with Rev. Paul McPhail. He was known for his love to sing and worship. A happy welcoming figure at their church. Rev Hermit proudly distributed Bibles for the Gideons throughout the years. Please continue to pray for their family. Donations made in memory of Lloyd to ShareWord Global (formerly known as Gideons) would be appreciated by the family.

Rev. Hermit is a member of the compassion fund



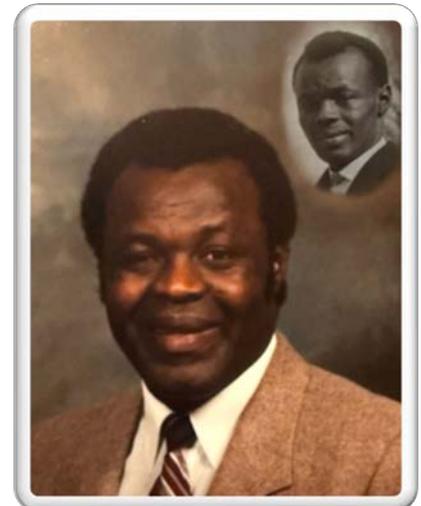
### REV. STANFORD TAYLOR (1942-2025)

Rev. Stanford Taylor passed away the first week of August. He was in his 84th year. Stan and his wife Doreth from the beginning had evangelism as a central part of their lives, whether through outreach on Indigenous reserves or tent meetings across the region.

He first joined the IAOG back way back in 1979. He and his wife Doreth pastored Shiloah Assembly Apostolic church in Regina.

He retired due to health issues, but they continued helping in their local church. Rev. Taylor will be remembered for his unwavering faith, his devotion to family, and his tireless commitment to uplifting others.

Rev. Taylor He was a member of the compassion fund.



# ARE YOU A MEMBER OF THE COMPASSION FUND?

A MINISTRY OF COMPASSION TO THE FAMILIES OF  
MINISTERS OF THE LORD JESUS WHO ARE PROMOTED TO GLORY.

**This is not a life insurance plan** but a Biblical way of ministering to a loved one with a gift of condolence in time of need. The ministry of Compassion Fund functions to collect gifts of money from participating members to give to the beneficiaries named by the participating member who has died.

A contribution of \$20.00 will be paid to the Ministry of Compassion Fund when you are notified of the death of a fellow participating member. Notification will be sent when a fellow subscribing member dies so that you may contribute as an expression of compassion and love. One-time registration fee of \$20.00 is required. Applications can be found on our website, or you can write IAOGI to request registration.

Ministry of Compassion Fund  
PO #32069 - RPO Northland | London, ON | N5V 5K4

## THE ITINERARY OF THE GENERAL SECRETARY

\*\*\* PLEASE NOTE DATES AND EVENTS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. FOR THE FULL ITINERARY OF THE GENERAL SECRETARY PLEASE VISIT [WWW.IAOGCAN.COM](http://WWW.IAOGCAN.COM) \*\*\*



In my travels in September, it was a delight to see so many faces at our recent regional meeting in Ontario. A number of people I met for the first time. A privilege for me. As I write this I will soon be on my way to Quebec to see our friends and members of the IAOGI Canada there and then I am out west with all my friends in the Prairies.



Since I have retired as lead pastor of Faith Tabernacle at the end of June, my itinerary is even fuller. BUT I am willing to come to see you if you extend an invitation and still have some final dates available in 2025. Please reach out directly: [gensec@iaogcan.com](mailto:gensec@iaogcan.com)

# THE CANADIAN MANTLE

## OCTOBER 2025

*A FELLOWSHIP OF MINISTERS AND CHURCHES  
UNITED IN SPIRITUAL FELLOWSHIP WITH  
SOVEREIGN, SELF-GOVERNED CHURCHES*



**INDEPENDENT  
ASSEMBLIES OF GOD**  
INTERNATIONAL CANADA

Send all enquiries and correspondence to:

**REV. DAVE KELSEY**

*General Secretary*

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