



REVOLUTION

You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you

Acts 1:1-8 (NIV)

105th General Assembly

November 7-8, 2025

General Assembly of the Church of God in Michigan

Schedule

November 7-8, 2025 Lansing, Michigan

Friday - November 7, 2025

9:00 a.m.

Worship- Worship Roundtable

Message- Rev. Erin Taylor

Ballrooms A, B, C, D, and E

10:45 a.m.

Ministry Women's Tea, Reo Room

Pastor's Husbands Coffee, Hotel

Restaurant

10:45 a.m.

Call to Order First Business Session-

Rev. Dale Turner, Chair

Welcome and Presentation of Agenda

Introductions and Appreciation

New Pastors, Associates, Visitors, and

Guests

Statement of Voting Membership

Minutes of 2024 General Assembly

Credentials Candidate Videos

State Pastor Report- Rev. Mark K.

Richardson

Mission and Vision Presentation-Rev.

Joshua Brandt

Finances and Budget Proposal

Those completing terms of service

for our Assembly

Credentials Candidate Videos

Ballot Presentation and Ratification-

Rev. Rob Tramel, Business Committee

Chair

12:00 p.m.

Recess until 8:30 a.m. Saturday

12:15 p.m. Lunch

Sponsored by Servant Solutions

Rev. Mark Senseman

2:45 p.m. Worship Service

Rev. Handel Smith

Worship Roundtable

Ballrooms A, B, C, D, and E

4:15 p.m.

Free Time - Dinner on your own

7:00 p.m.

Worship- Worship Roundtable

Message- Rev. Erin Taylor

Ballrooms A, B, C, D, and E

After Service: Dessert Time

Meet and Greet Fellowship

Youth Pastor/Leader Gathering-Location

TBA

Saturday - November 8, 2025

8:00 a.m.

Continental Breakfast

Ballrooms A, B, C, D, and E

8:30 a.m.

Call to Order Second Business Session-

Rev. Dale Turner, Chair

2026 Proposed Budget Vote-

Rev. Rob Tramel, Business Committee

Chair

Presentation of Awards-

Rev. Mark K. Richardson

Lifetime Achievement

Rev. Jim Horn

Rev. Jack Perkins

Outstanding Service Award

Rev. Jon Wallace

25 years serving in ministry in Michigan

15 years serving in the same congregation

In Tribute Recognition-Rev. Joshua Brandt,

Associate State Pastor

Credentials Presentations-

Rev. JJ Perry, Credentials Chair

Dedication of Ordination Candidates-

Rev. Joshua Brandt, Associate State

Pastor and Rev. JJ Perry, Credentials

Chair

9:45 a.m.

Adjourn Business Session-

Rev. Dale Turner, Chair

10:00 a.m.

Worship- Worship Roundtable

Message- Rev. Handel Smith

Ballrooms A, B, C, D, and E

11:45 Dismissal

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General Assembly of the Church of God in Michigan-Statement of Membership

- A. The pastor of each congregation within the state of Michigan.

B. The members of all the recognized ministries and committees of this organization.

C. The associate pastors/ministers called by each congregation on a full-time or part-time basis.

D. One layperson chosen as an official representative by each Michigan Church of God congregation with an average weekly attendance to 100; two laypersons from each congregation with an average weekly attendance of 101-500; three laypersons from each
- congregation with an average weekly attendance of 501-1000; and four laypersons from each congregation with an average weekly attendance of 1,001 and above.

E. All others who are registered in the current Yearbook of the Church of God or have served as past chairs of the Michigan General Assembly, and who reside in Michigan and worship in Church of God congregations in Michigan.

F. One delegate as appointed by each recognized Camp Meeting Association within the state.

REVOLUTION

YOU WILL RECEIVE POWER WHEN THE HOLY SPIRIT COMES ON YOU

¹ In my former book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and to teach ² until the day he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles he had chosen. ³ After his suffering, he presented himself to them and gave many convincing proofs that he was alive. He appeared to them over a period of forty days and spoke about the kingdom of God. ⁴ On one occasion, while he was eating with them, he gave them this command: "Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about. ⁵ For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit."

⁶ Then they gathered around him and asked him, "Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?"

⁷ He said to them: "It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority. ⁸ But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

Acts 1:1-8 (NIV)

Reverend Handel Smith



Reverend Handel Smith currently serves the Church of God as the Executive Director for US and Canada Strategy for Church of God Ministries, Anderson, Indiana. His work within the Church of God involves serving the dynamic pastors, ministers & leaders within the Church of God movement that include over 2,000 churches and 6,000 ministers in the United States and Canada.

Reverend Handel Smith is called by God to be a loving leader used by God, helping people, churches, and organizations discover God's purpose and reach their full potential in God.

Locally, Rev. Handel is Pastor of a vibrant congregation of believers at Celebration Church Arrow Heights in Anderson, Indiana.

Rev. Smith is married to his wife of 42 years, Rev. Vickey Smith and together they have 3 adult children; Darius, Josiah, and Mariah.

Rev. Handel's educational accomplishments include:

- BA in public affairs and government from Anderson University, Indiana
- MS in Business Administration and an Executive Leadership from Johns Hopkins University
- Certified Pastoral Counselor
- Certified Professional Christian Coach Level 3

His guiding verse expresses well his heart for the Lord and his determination to serve God with steadfast fruitfulness: "...His delight is in the law of the Lord and on his law he meditates day and night... He is like a tree planted by streams of water which bears its fruit in season...whatever he does prospers..." (Psalm 1:2-3).

Reverend Erin Taylor



Erin Taylor is passionate about helping others experience the transforming love of Jesus Christ. Her ministry reflects her deep love for the local church, a drive to develop leaders, and a commitment to serving Christ wholeheartedly. She is a gifted preacher, leader, and mentor.

In 2024, Erin and her family took a leap of faith by moving to the west side of Portland, Oregon to plant a church called Hope Collective. Prior to this, she served as Lead Pastor of Alma Church of God in Michigan, a congregation known for its strong community impact. She also invested 13 years as Teaching Pastor at Church at the Crossing in Indianapolis.

Erin's life is deeply rooted in the church. As the daughter of Church of God pastor Bob and Renee Moss, she grew up in St. Joseph, Michigan and felt called to ministry at age 15 during the International Youth Convention of the Church of God. She is graduate of Anderson University, where she completed both her undergraduate and seminary education.



Erin and her husband Dan have four amazing kids—Will, Noah, Jake, and Anna Kate—and celebrate adoption as a beautiful part of their family story.

Worship Roundtable

Rev. Chad Harlan



Chad is the Lead Worship Pastor at First Church in St. Joseph, Michigan and has been serving in this role for 13 years. He oversees the worship ministry across four campuses and has a volunteer base of over 200 musicians and vocalists. Chad began playing the piano at age two and since then, God has opened many doors. Chad has led worship for over 20 years, toured with a country band, and was a house musician for TCT-TV in Marion, Illinois, which allowed him to accompany many Nashville artists. Chad has also been a session musician. Chad is the Church of God Worship Roundtable Director which allows him to help lead and guide other worship pastors across the movement. Chad's desire is to encourage and help develop people in their musical journeys.

Chad has been married for 30 years and serves on staff at First Church with his wife, Tracey. They have three adult children, who are also musically inclined.

Rev. Clint Dunn



Clint Dunn is a Church of God Pastors and Missionaries kid growing up in Michigan and Sydney, Australia. He has devoted more than 40 years to Music Ministry in the Church, bringing his passion for worship and excellence in music to churches across the U.S. and 16 countries worldwide. He holds a B.A. in Music Education and a Master's in Vocal Performance, with studies at Northeastern State University (OK), Ball State University (IN), the University of Michigan, and the School of Theology in Anderson, Indiana. His diverse career includes solo performances with symphonies and opera companies—such as Wichita Grand Opera and Northern European Opera in France—as well as concert ministry, studio work, and background vocals for renowned Christian artists including Sandi Patty, Michael W.

Smith, Michael English, the Gaithers, Guy Penrod, Amy Grant, and The Katinas. Clint has also served as an adjunct professor of voice at Ball State University.

At the heart of Clint's ministry is a deep love for the local church and a lifelong calling to lead others into God's presence through worship. He is currently in his 14th year as Worship Pastor at Church at the Crossing in Indianapolis, where he and his wife of 38 years, Lisa, live near their three grown children, their spouses, and three grandchildren.

Leo and Meagan Flores



Rev. Meagan Flores is currently the worship pastor at The Gathering in Muncie, Indiana. She and her husband Leo have been in worship leadership for over 20 years and have ministered in the presence of God with beautiful people from many places around the world in those years. They met in college at Mid-America Christian University and both share a rich history of worship through both of their families. Both of their fathers are Ordained ministers in the Church of God, Meagan carries an anointing of Spirit-led worship and a heart to lead people to behold the beauty of the Lord. Meagan

and Leo have three beautiful daughters who love the Lord and love the church. It is the honor of Meagan's life to lead people into the presence of God and to minister to Him.

Rev. Dr. Leslie Parker-Barnes



Dr. Leslie Parker Barnes is a native of Akron, Ohio. She graduated from Akron Public Schools and continued her education at Bowling Green State University. After receiving an Associate Degree in Applied Business she furthered her education at the McCreary Center for Black Religious Studies receiving a diploma in Black Religious Studies. She then went on to obtain a Master of Divinity degree from Ashland Theological Seminary and received her Doctorate in Worship from the Robert Webber Institute for Worship Studies in June of 2017.

Leslie Parker Barnes, Founder and Executive Director of Youth Excellence Performing Arts Workshop Emeritus, served YEPAW from 1990 to July of 2022, encouraging youth, through the arts, to pursue

lifestyles of excellence. In 2006, she was the recipient of The Akron Beacon Journal's Extraordinary Woman Crystal Award in recognition of her service to youth. She is a graduate of the 2008 class of Leadership Akron. In 2010, she was recognized by the Women's Endowment Fund for her extraordinary commitment to social justice through her service to thousands of youth. In 2012 she received the Margaret Clark Morgan Impact Award for Imagination in her service with youth. In 2014 she received the Harold K. Stubbs Humanitarian Award for Social Action.

Dr. Barnes serves as the Minister of Praise & Worship Arts at Arlington Church of God in Akron. She is also a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Inc. Leslie is married to Ted Barnes and together they have four children, Rochelle, Rachel, Theo, Kimberly and two grandsons, Trey Barnes and Kevin Johnson.

Michael Romero Jr.



Michael Romero Jr, a professional musician with more than 30 years of experience, serves as the Worship/Arts Pastor at New Beginnings Church in Albuquerque, New Mexico. He grew up in a musical family, started performing traditional Mexican music at the age of 9, and later became a Church of God Ordained Minister, now dedicated to ministry alongside his family in their beloved city.

Ministers Retreat 2026

January 26–28, 2026

Holiness, Being Set Apart for God

Hebrews 12:14



Monté Dillard
Faciliator



Cameron Kreager
Worship Leader

Gull Lake Ministries
Hickory Corners, Michigan
micog.org/ministersretreat



New Pastorates



Roy Angel
Roy and Heather
Crossway Church of God,
Charlevoix



Brent Beggs
Brent and Heather
Ithaca Church of God,
Ithaca



Brian Fee
First Church of God
Eau Claire Campus, St.
Joseph



KC Graves
KC and Diana
First Church of God, Saint Johns

Cameron Kreager
Cameron, Jennifer, Avery, and Noah
Pennway Church of God, Lansing





**Patricia (Trish) Norvell
Dan Gross and Trish
First Church of God, Cassopolis**



**Jon Wallace
Katherine and Jon
Burlington Church of God, Burlington**

New Associate Pastors



**Valerie (Val) Gehrke
First Church of God,
Saint Joseph**

Minutes | 104th General Assembly of the Church of God in Michigan

Annual Business Meeting Session 1; November 1, 2024

9:00 a.m. Welcome: State Pastor Mark Richardson, opened the 104th General Assembly.
Worship: Chad Harlan led the assembly in worship.
Message: Rev. Dr. Leslie Parker Barnes.
Benediction: State Pastor Mark Richardson.

10:33 a.m. The Vice Chair Charles Nebus called the first session/meeting to order. Charles Nebus Opened the meeting with a word of Prayer.

10:35 a.m. Charles Nebus reviewed the presented the agenda found on page 2 of the General Assembly Booklet. Charles Nebus gave an introduction and thank you for those participating in the 104th General Assembly:

- Chad Harlan.
- Rev. Dr. Leslie Parker Barnes.
- Sarah Scharbrough McLaughlin.
- Rev. Mitchell Burch.
- Those behind the scenes Jim Blake, and Jack Seaton on controls.
- Goldie Kurtzhals.
- Becky Adams.
- Karen Gunter.
- All the vendors, sponsors and also the Crowne Plaza Hotel.

10:38 a.m. Charles Nebus Introduced the New Pastors for the State of Michigan found on pg. 7 of the booklet, including:

- Michael Helmick.
- John Wallace.
- Kevin Keeder.
- José Luis Larco.

Charles Nebus asked that all the new pastors' stand and the General Assembly welcomed them with applause.

10:40 a.m. Charles Nebus asked the General Assembly to review with him the Statement of Membership found on page 3 of the package.

Charles Nebus read the Statement, and so let the minutes reflect that we have a quorum present for the 104th General Assembly.

10:41 a.m. Charles Nebus shared with the General Assembly the previous minutes found on pages 8-13, and that the previous minutes have been reviewed and approved prior to the General Assembly meeting.

10:42 a.m. Charles Nebus gave an introduction to the General Assembly of the eight candidates that are ready for ordination, from page 28 of the booklet, with the presentation videos of the first three.

1. Chance Adams.
2. Sheila Granger.
3. Derek Whitacre.

10:53 a.m. Charles Nebus turned the meeting over to our State Pastor Mark Richardson and the Associate State Pastor Joshua Brandt.

State Pastor Mark Richardson:

- Mark Richardson shared a good new story about the Church of God in Michigan.
- The vision and structure has served the Church of God in Michigan well.
- Moving forward-what will the next 30 years in the COG look like?

Mark Richardson turned the meeting over to the Associate State Pastor Joshua Brandt.

Joshua Brandt took the General Assembly through the mission and vision.

- Joshua joined the as the State Associate at the end of December 2023.
- Joshua shared the mission and vision found on the back page of the booklet.
- Joshua Brandt shared with the State Pastor Mark Richardson the very question will the Church of God in Michigan be willing to invest in a mission and vision that he is likely not going to see come to pass, and may take 20-30 years to complete.
- State Pastor Mark Richard gave the affirmation of yes!
- Joshua confirmed that the decisions made will effect generations to come.
- Joshua Brandt shared two major questions:
 1. What are out pastors in Michigan experiencing?
 2. What are the church experiencing?

- Joshua now had the flyers passed out to the General Assembly carrying the new logo with the mission.
- Joshua shared that on this flyer it contains the idea that every household hears the good news of Jesus and the transforming power of the Holy Spirit.
- Joshua shared the vision to expand and build 300-500 new churches.
- Some would ask how-Joshua said ask a different question.
- Joshua shared the reality is, "How many know Jesus?"

Joshua turned our attention now to the core values found on the back of the flyer.

1. Jesus is Lord: and no one else.
2. Witness: of the Word and Spirit.
3. People: matter to God and they matter to us.
4. Unity: looks like something.
5. Uncommon: called to be holy and set apart.

6. Table: the breaking of bread and our best.
7. Story: we will share the good news.

Joshua shared the questions of, "How do we do this?"

- Some answers are still be fleshed out.
- Truth is we don't have all the answers

Joshua now talked about the processes and systems; we must be unto to something.

- Pastoral health
 1. Minister's retreats and ministers wives.
 2. Pastoral coaching initiative, Converge Coaching.
 3. Ministry to Ministers.
- Church health, transformation and Multiplication
 1. Planting together.
 2. New thing movements.
 3. MissionInsite.
 4. Your dreams to multiply and plant.
 5. Credentials have 8 candidates now, this fall 9 entering in the licensing process, and what happens when we are expecting 40?
 6. Academy of Servant Leadership, (ASL).
 7. Intern Academy, trellis, and the work with our universities.
 8. Pathways for all called to ministry will be streamlined.

- Advancement and development will need funding, as this will incur costs.

11:24 a.m. Joshua Brandt turned the meeting over to our State Pastor Mark Richardson.

- State Pastor Mark confirmed the conversation from Joshua, and noted that he sees the people writing and being called to the Lord, and we need to ensure that the COG works to streamline and helps others prepare for ministry.

11:25 a.m. State Pastor Mark Richardson turned the meeting over to Charles Nebus.

Charles Nebus shared page 28 and the next three candidate videos from the Credentials.

1. Brent Beggs.
2. Trevor Moody.
3. Jon Wallace.

11:37 a.m. Charles Nebus now turned the meeting over the State Pastor Mark Richardson.

11:38 a.m. State Pastor Mark Richardson led the General Assembly through his State Pastor Report and budget.

- Mark shared that the COG in Michigan is determined to lead the way.
- Mark talked about partnering with the COG.

- Mark shared a special thanks to all:
 1. Servant Solutions-they are the best
 2. Jim Walters.
 3. Sandy Turk and Nancy Beecher St. Louis Camp.
 4. Dick Foresman.
 5. Scott Bale-Warner Camp.
 6. Jason Barner-Anderson School.
 7. Richard Fields-Helping Hands.
 8. Steve Starks and Larry Brown.
 9. Jan Adams.

- Mark talked about the things he hopes for in the Church of God in Michigan.
- Mark shared page 14 with a look back at 2024 and a look at 2025.
- Mark shared his thanks for 2024:
 1. How do we let the Holy Spirit be known in our lives?
 2. We need to learn and leverage.
 3. We have a rich heritage of leaders.
 4. Mark shared about the goodness of the Lord.

5. We need to invest in leadership development.
6. 2024 we added staff, including Joshua and Karen
7. Karen has become a great resource for registrations and demographics.
8. Academy of Servant Solutions.
9. Midwest Multiplications.
10. Planting together.
11. Ministry to ministers.
12. Youth winter retreat.
13. MSLI.
14. The need to invest in young men and women.
15. Mark is working on a grant for financial planning resources, and to develop retreats.

Going Forward:

- Mark Richardson celebrated the core values and new input for social media.
- Mark talked about the mission and visions.
- Mark shared that they are working on videos, pod cast and a series.
- Mark talked about workshop for training.
- New Initiatives.
- Long term growth.
- The need to invest in infrastructure.

12:05 p.m. State Pastor Mark now shared the financial report found on pages 20-27.

- Mark shared the need to supplement the budget through endowments.
- Mark share the budget is still on track.
- Page 24 Mark talked about the additions of Joshua and Karen to the staff.
- Mark shared the need to invest in the state offices.
- The building will need more upgrades.
- The investments are tracking very good to date.
- Mark shared that the COG in Michigan made three investments totalling 15k to three places.

- Next year the coaching initiative
- Overall budget is 1k less than the 2024 budget.

12:10 p.m. State Pastor Mark Richardson turned the meeting over to Charles Nebus.

12:11 p.m. Charles Nebus ask the General Assembly to give a round of applause to our State Pastor Mark Richardson and his wife Sharon, also to our Associate State Pastor Joshua Brandt and his wife Laura.

12:13 p.m. Charles Nebus share the final candidates for ordination videos from page 28.

1. Patrick Gilbert.
2. Kevin Keeder.

This concludes the all the candidates for ordination with their videos.

12:22 p.m. Charles Nebus turned the meeting over to the Business Committee Chair Rob Tramel.

Rob Tramel led the General Assembly to ballots located on each table.

Rob shared that this is a ratification ballot only and it is on the blue and white ballots.

Rob Tramel identified the tellers for the General Assembly as:

1. Matt Stone.
2. Chris Slosser.
3. Sally Reynolds.

Rob directed the ballots to be marked and the tellers will be around to pick them up.

12:25 p.m. Rob Tramel turned the meeting over to Charles Nebus.

12:27 p.m. Charles Nebus shared the appreciation for Servant Solutions and providing the lunch for the General

Assembly today.

12:28 p.m. Charles Nebus led the General Assembly in prayer and adjourned the meeting until Saturday November 2nd at 8:30 a.m.

Meeting adjourned.

**General Assembly Annual Meeting-Second Session
November 2, 2024**

8:31 a.m. Vice Chair Charles Nebus called the second session of the 104th General Assembly to order.

8:32 a.m. Charles Nebus opened with a word of prayer.

8:33 a.m. Charles Nebus turned the meeting over to the Business Committee Chair Rob Tramel.

Rob Tramel shared about the ballots on the table and voting.

- Rob indicated that the assembly vote also for the 2025 budget.
- Rob noted for the minutes that all members on the 2025 ballot have been ratified and approved, by the General Assembly.
- Rob also noted that all 8 candidates for ordination have been approved by the General Assembly.
- Rob noted that we had 15 members voting online and all 15 members also approved the budget and ballots.
- Tellers to collect the ballots on the tables.

8:36 a.m. Rob Tramel turned the meeting over to Charles Nebus.

8:37 a.m. Charles Nebus turned the meeting over to our State Pastor Mark Richardson.

8:38 a.m. State Pastor Mark Richardson shared about those receiving awards and that so many are deserving of these awards, but the State offices had chosen 2 for the Lifetime Achievement Awards and 2 for the Outstanding Service Awards.

State Pastor Mark also indicated that with the awards Servant Solutions is also presenting each award recipient with a \$200.00 gift.

8:40 a.m. State Pastor Mark Richardson Presented the two Lifetime Achievement awards to the following:

1. Brian Hansen, who is out ill and cannot attend, but Mark read a letter from Brian to the Assembly.
2. Tim Foreman and his wife Linda.

State Pastor Mark Richardson presented the two Outstanding Service Awards to the following:

1. Albert Grant.
2. Steve Gulick.

8:50 a.m. State Pastor Mark Richardson, presented those with 25 years at the same congregation and those with 15 years at the same congregation recognition.

Those with 25 years are the following:

1. Mike Heflin, who could not be present.
2. William Hill Sr.
3. Richard Latham
4. Bill Greiner, who could not be present.
5. John Mellish

Those with 15 years are the following:

1. Jack Perkins

8:52 a.m. State Pastor Mark Richardson turned the meeting over to Charles Nebus.

8:53 a.m. Charles Nebus turned the meeting over to our Associate State Pastor Joshua Brandt to pay tribute and recognition to those lives who served the Church of God in Michigan.

8:54 a.m. State Associate Pastor Joshua Brandt shared about the impact of those lives who served the Church of God in Michigan and are now home with the Lord. Joshua led the General Assembly and read each name listed on page 45 of the package, asking the Assembly if our lives have been touched by these individuals please stand as their names are read.

8:56 a.m. Associate State Pastor Joshua Brandt led the General Assembly to stand in a prayer of remembrance, and Joshua prayed.

9:00 a.m. Associate State Pastor Joshua Brandt turned the meeting over to the new Credentials Chair JJ Perry.

9:10 a.m. JJ Perry asked the General Assembly to turn to page 31, and he shared with the General Assembly the Credentials team, and then asked for recognition of the team.

- JJ Perry shared the list of candidates found on 28 and as the names were called would each candidate come to the front.
- JJ Perry acknowledged the work that each candidate had completed.
- JJ Perry then asked all the candidates and family, and friends to come and join then for prayer.
- JJ Perry led the General Assembly in prayer over the candidates.
- JJ Perry then asked all the candidates to come together for a picture.

9:17 a.m. JJ Perry turned the meeting over to the Associate State Pastor Joshua Brandt.

9:18 a.m. State Associate Pastor Joshua Brandt shared the MSLI video and shared the QR. code to download on our phones.

9:22 a.m. State Associate Pastor Joshua Brandt shared about the 360 conference and also shared the QR. Code with the Assembly.

State Associate Pastor Joshua shared that the Winter Retreat in being held Jan 3-5th 2025.

9:24 a.m. State Associate Pastor turned the meeting over to Charles Nebus.

- Charles Nebus recognized the General Assembly Program Committee members and asked the Assembly to give them applaud them for their great work.
- Charles Nebus shared that the 2025 budget has been approved, by 100 percent

vote, and the minutes to reflect that approval.

9:26 a.m. Charles Nebus introduced the new Vice Chair of the Assembly, Rev. Dr. John Davey.

9:27 a.m. Rev. Dr. John Davey led the General Assembly in a closing prayer.

9:28 a.m. Charles Nebus Formally called for a close to the 104th General Assembly

All agreed and the Assembly was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted:
James Matt.

Minutes Read and Certified by:

Rev. Rachel Bird, Rev. Kenny Seidler, and
Rev. Mark Staton II

In Tribute to Michigan Church of God Ministers



Rev. Hugh James Burger
June 19, 2025



Minister Harvey E. Deam, III
August 25, 2025

State Pastor Report – Rev. Mark K. Richardson



Welcome:

On behalf of our great assembly, Sharon and I welcome you to this 105th General Assembly of the Church of God in Michigan. I continue to appreciate the privilege of serving as your State Pastor. The Church of God in Michigan stands out across our Movement for having great leaders, congregations, and wonderful ministry success stories. I thank our Lord for your faithfulness in living out the Gospel of Jesus Christ through the power of Holy Spirit.

A Look Back at 2025:

2025 to this point, much like 2024, has been a whirlwind of activity, ministry, successes and challenges. **Jesus Christ deserves the credit for the many great stories of creative and successful ministry which we can celebrate.** Here are some of the highlights to celebrate.

- Several exciting connection events across the state, including our Youth Winter Retreat which saw over 370 people in attendance, an outstanding Ministers Retreat, the Academy of Servant Leaders continuing to grow, Michigan Student Leadership Institute (MSLI), four great Camp Meetings across three camps (Charlevoix Camp, Warner Camp, and St. Louis Camp), a great 360 Conference Event focusing on our new vision, mission, and core values, our 41st Ministry Women's Retreat, and now this General Assembly Meeting.
- The celebration of one hundred years of ministry with three of our congregations (Crossroads Church of God in Howell, the Church of God in Detroit, and Community Church of God in Ypsilanti).
- The third anniversary of our Church Plant in Big Rapids, Connect Church, through the leadership of Pastor Mark and Heather Robb.
- The continued development of our Hispanic Church Plant in Grand Rapids, Iglesia Nuevo Pacto, under the leadership of Pastors José and Karina Larco.
- Exciting outreach ministries in so many congregations, like the community impacting Berrien County Mission, helping so many needy people through the Anchor Church in Stevensville, through the leadership of Rev. Marc Danapilis, and the incredible laundromat ministry of Good Church in Flint through the leadership of Rev. Leo Robinson II. Many of you are doing tremendous ministry in your communities, and we encourage you to continue to share the stories with us. Thank you to our congregations that are impacting your communities for Christ.

- The additions of Rev. Joshua Brandt and Karen Gunter, brought onto the staff last year, continue to be a great blessing to the health, growth, and function of our ministries across the state.
- The planned ordinations of several new candidates who have worked diligently through the process of ordination that we will celebrate tomorrow.

There is so much more to celebrate, and we hope that the fellowship here will offer the opportunity for us to share with each other the great things the Lord is empowering us to accomplish. While there are yet challenges we face, we can surely say that the Lord God has been and will be good to us.

2025: Revolution, You Will Receive Power When the Holy Spirit Comes On You

This theme, based on Acts 1:1-8 is our theme for this Assembly and beyond, as it helps to keep our focus on the mission and vision which we launched in 2024. Our mission is simply stated yet complex enough to spur us forward for the next 30 years is compelling. ***Every household in Michigan hears the good news about Jesus and the transforming power of Holy Spirit.*** Each of us can embody this with passion as we seek the Lord's anointing to reach our communities. During our time together, we will seek to build on our compelling mission, and share many things that are taking place and some plans for the future.

During this exciting time of meetings, worship, fellowship, and celebration, we will be joined by some great leaders across the Church of God Movement. Rev. Handel Smith, the Executive Director of US and Canada Strategy for Church of God Ministries and Rev. Erin Taylor, the Planting Pastor for Hope Collective Church in Portland, OR and a daughter of this Assembly will be our speakers across the four worship services of the Assembly gathering. The Worship Roundtable of the Church of God, chaired by our own Rev. Chad Harlan from First Church of God in St. Joseph, MI, will lead us into the praise and worship of the Lord. During these exciting services, and the Ordination Consecration time on Saturday morning, we are expecting the Lord to do mighty things in our midst.

Heartfelt Thanks:

In reflection of my blessed tenure as your State Pastor, and on behalf of our staff, I am incredibly grateful for the love, encouragement, prayers and blessings you extend to us on so many occasions. Thank you to all who serve our congregations, our state teams, and our campgrounds. Thank you for all that you do and your consistent and greatly appreciated giving to the state's ministries. The impact of your support goes across Michigan and beyond. I am

very thankful for the great support staff we have which continually goes beyond the call of duty to serve. I am particularly grateful for the excellent staff persons who serve with such competence, character, and grace. Thanks to Becky Adams, who manages our Finance and Media with consistency and competence, Goldie Kurtzhals, who serves our Credentials Candidates and our Credentialing Process as well as helping to make our General Assembly Gatherings happen, and Karen Gunter, who has done a wonderful job of helping our pastors and churches to keep in good standing through registrations. She also is helping our congregations with demographic studies of their communities. Thanks also to Rev. Albert Grant and Rev. John Mellish for their work as Regional Pastors. As we move from that model at the end of this year, we are grateful to these two men of God who serve their congregations and the Church of God in Michigan with consistent love and excellence.

I certainly want to very specifically thank Rev. Joshua Brandt, who in the past 18+ months has helped to radically stretch the reach of our ministries and our competency in so many areas. He is a blessing to me, many of our Pastors and congregations, and across the Church of God. He serves with excellence and competence making a significant difference for so many. In addition to his great work with us, He serves as the National Committee on Credentials Chair, and as such has helped us the Church of God and our Assembly's Credentialing Process be top notch. He works tirelessly to effectively impact ministry for the Lord and our Assembly, and it is greatly appreciated. Please pray for him as he does what he does while working on his doctoral degree.

I hope this General Assembly gathering will be a rich and rewarding experience for us all and firing us up to reach every household in Michigan with the good news of Jesus Christ and the transforming power of Holy Spirit. Thank you for joining us at this 105th General Assembly of the Church of God in Michigan. May the Lord bless and keep you.

With Love,

Rev. Mark K. Richardson

Pastor Mark



We provide a cost effective retirement plan for churches and ministry organizations.



Associate State Pastor Report – Rev. Joshua Brandt

Welcome to General Assembly! I am thankful you are here. I have prayed for these two days and for each one of you. My hope is that you hear from Holy Spirit while you are here. My desire is that you leave encouraged and prepared for the months to come.

To the representatives from Churches, thank you for your service to the local church. You serve as elders, sound techs, and nursery workers. You pray for your pastors and encourage them with your words of affirmation. You love Jesus and you love your church. Thank you.

To every pastor's spouse, thank you for standing in the gap. You have heard every new idea months before it is ever shared from the platform. You have waited up deep into the night for a board meeting to be over so you can win the tears from weary eyes. You have given up on the normalcy your friends experience. And most of the time it is worth it. May you find rest today. You are with people who see you and get it. Thank you for being here.

To the pastors gathered in the room, I want to share with you something I am learning. There may be nothing so holy as a pastor who loves their church, a church who loves their pastor, as they both learn to love God more and more. Pastor, you are working hard and it is seen. You are putting hours into preparation. You are worried about the sick and the boiler. Every visit matters. Every email is an opportunity for grace. Will you do me a favor today? Find space to rest and listen to the familiar voice of Jesus.

Our General Assembly was created with you in mind. It is a chance for you to worship without worrying about what comes next. It is an opportunity for you to hear the Word of God spoken with tenderness and conviction. And we hope you will remember your calling and ordination, as we celebrate with those being ordained.

You matter to God and you matter to me.

A year ago during our time together, we shared our new mission: *Every household in Michigan hears the good news about Jesus and about the transforming power of Holy Spirit.* I was encouraged over the last twelve months as you shared how you are wrestling with this idea. Some of you have renewed your commitment to the neighborhoods around you. You are looking for ways to reach the neighbors around your churches. Others of you are preaching and teaching about our shared core values. Thank you for embracing this mission.



We are only a few steps into this new season of our work together in Michigan. Remember this is a thirty-year goal! It will be several years until we see the impact of our work together. I believe that within five years we will begin hearing encouraging reports of entire communities experiencing transformation.

What are you doing to reach the households around you? Perhaps you are still dreaming, planning, and praying. Good! That is an important first step. Maybe you already are developing a strategy to reach every household. I would love to hear about it!

Let's all work together to have an initial plan in place by the end of January 2026. Pray about next steps *and* write them down. Send them to me or Pastor Mark, so we can be praying with you. And, as always, let us know how we can help.

Once again, thank you for being here.



Joshua Brandt
Associate State Pastor

Credentials Ministry Report – Rev. JJ Perry, Chair

The Work Continues

The Credentials Team continues the work of meeting with those who are called into vocational ministry. Since the beginning of the year, we have met with 27 candidates, ranging from those at the very beginning of the ordination process to those who have completed every course and assignment. The Team licensed six candidates who completed their first year in Leadership Focus.

We are both thankful and blessed in the state of Michigan to see how God continues to provide new candidates and leaders to join the call for pastoral ministry in the Church of God. Overall, we have 36 individuals within the process of ordination, and of those, are eight brothers and sisters whom we will be ordaining at the General Assembly this November 2025. God is good.



Changes and Challenges in Credentialing

As Credentials Chair, I want to report that credentialing in the Church of God is changing. Both the requirements for ordination and the cost for Leadership Focus are rising.

We were made aware (three years ago) that changes were coming in writing the Theological Commitments, and now that our first candidates have completed their first year in this new format, it is important to report that this is a more rigorous credentialing process. Churches and pastors must continue to support our candidates as the writing has increased.

As for the second change, during the General Assembly in Denver, we were informed that there will be an increase in pricing for Leadership Focus. Once again, the state office, pastors, and churches will need to consider how we can support our ordination candidates through their calling to be ordained in the State of Michigan.

Rev. JJ Perry, Credentials Ministry Chair



Leaders Currently in the Ordination and Licensing Process

Roy Angel	José Luis Larco	Juan Ruiz (L)
Martonio Backstrom (O)	Nygil Likely	Kim Salyer (L)
Joseph Bongard	Cecil Mickens	Peter (PJ) Sando
Caleb Claybaugh (O)	Bryan Millender	Michael Severn (L)
Jeanie Conner-Fontenot	Patricia Norvell (O)	Kim Sheldrake-Formsma
Karina Delgado Larco	Jonathan Oldham (O)	Austin Smith
Patricia Dotson (L)	Artemio (Art) Perez	Josie Sposito (O)
Brian Fee (L)	Randy Perteet	Jeff Stackman (L)
Valerie Gehrke	Scott Rees	Danny Whaley
Jessica Goodrich	Jared Rider	Jaqueline Williams (O)
Wesley Hardnett	Miosha Robinson (L)	Benjamin (Benji) Wilson
Stephen Ivy (O)	Alex Robleto	Keywana Wright-Jones (L)

O = Presented to the General Assembly for Ordination L = Licensed

Pastoral Health Ministry Report – Rev. Tim Broyles, Chair



The Pastoral Health Ministry considers it a great privilege to walk alongside our pastors and their families to encourage and inspire them in the work that they do to help our Churches grow stronger and accomplish kingdom objectives.

We continue to plan and support the following events to promote the health and growth of our pastors:

The January 26-28, 2026 Ministers Retreat is looking great. We will be returning to Gull Lake Ministries. Our speaker will be Interim General Director of Church of God Ministries, Rev. Monté Dillard, with the theme of “Holiness: Being Set Apart for God” based upon Hebrews 12:14. Worship during the sessions will be led by Rev. Cameron Kreager, Pastor of Pennway Church of God. We expect a good response for registrations.

There were five Ministry Renewal Grant requests given this year.

Our Ministry to Ministers is active and assisting several pastors and their spouses with resources for counseling. This program can reimburse up to \$120 of a co-pay for 12 sessions. The Ministry Women Retreat: September 19-21, held at St. Francis Retreat Center was a success: our 41st year for this retreat.

Pastoral Circle Groups are continuing to meet. There are seven active groups; mostly meeting on Zoom.

Awardees being presented to General Assembly 2025 are:

25 Year Ordained in Michigan: Jeff Eckman

15 Year Same Church: David Aukerman, Bill Ferguson, Ronald Peterson, Kevin Tippin

Also additional diverse awards

Outstanding Ministry Award

. Jon Wallace – Burlington

Lifetime Ministry Award

. Jim Horn – Clio, Community Church of God for thirty-six years, Regional Pastor for ten years, and currently serving as Interim Pastor at Alma, First Church of God.

. Jack Perkins - Southwestern Church of God

Respectfully submitted by:

Pastoral Health Ministry:

Tim Broyles (Chair), Marc Danapilis, Portia Davis-Mann, Erin Glezman, Bill Greiner, Mike Harris, Chris Walker, Mark Richardson (State Pastor)

Christian Women Connection Report – Mary Ross, President

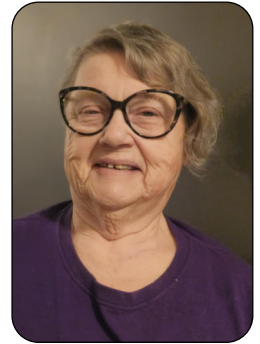
2025 State Convention Recap

Theme: Standing Firm

Scripture Reference: 1 Corinthians 16:13-14

Location: Floyd Church

Dates: April 25-26, 2025



We are grateful for a wonderful time of worship, fellowship, and encouragement at this year's State Convention. The Lord truly blessed our gathering as we came together under the theme "Standing Firm," grounded in the truth of 1 Corinthians 16:13-14.

Our keynote speaker, **Pastor Dale Turner**, brought timely and inspiring messages that challenged and encouraged us in our walk with Christ.

We were thrilled to welcome **80 women** representing **17 different churches**. The unity and spirit of the gathering were uplifting, and we are thankful for each one who was able to attend.

Looking Ahead

We are already preparing for the **2026 CWC Conference**, which will be held at **Warner Camp**. We are excited to announce that our guest speaker will be **Rev. Dr. Kimberly Majeski**. Mark your calendars—you won't want to miss it!

Additional Highlights

During **Afternoon Delight** at **Saint Louis Camp**, we had a wonderful group of **19 in attendance**. We were especially glad to have **Jenny Mihsill** join us. The time of fellowship was sweet and meaningful.

Our **auction event**, led by **Pastor Rick Webb** as auctioneer, was a great success. Thank you to everyone who donated items, your generosity was deeply appreciated. The event was a fun and fruitful way to support our ministries and build community.

We also want to recognize the **Children of Promise**—they now have three children, with one having recently graduated. Praise God for their growth and continued impact. This has been my first year serving in this position, and I want to thank you for your grace and support. If I have inadvertently missed anything, please accept my sincere apologies.

With gratitude,
Mary Ross
CWC State President

General Assembly Finances

Revenue

	Annual 2024 Budget	Actual YTD Dec 31 '24 (100%)	Annual 2025 Budget	Actual YTD Sept 30 '25 (75%)	Percent of Budget	Proposed 2026 Budget
Unrestricted						
General Budget	340,000.00	343,897.85	340,000.00	250,289.65	73.61%	340,000.00
Interest – CDs, MM, etc.	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00%	0.00
Loan Fees	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00%	0.00
Total Unrestricted	\$340,000.00	\$343,897.85	\$340,000.00	\$250,289.65	73.61%	\$340,000.00

	Annual 2024 Budget	Actual YTD Dec 31 '24 (100%)	Annual 2025 Budget	Actual YTD Sept 30 '25 (75%)	Percent of Budget	Proposed 2026 Budget
Temporarily Restricted						
Benevolence/Disaster Relief	0.00	2,786.00	0.00	0.00	0.00%	0.00
Regional Pastors	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00%	0.00
Youth Ministry	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00%	0.00
Church Multiplication	8,000.00	9,213.82	8,000.00	7,948.27	99.35%	8,000.00
Ministry to Ministers	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00%	0.00
Transformations	7,000.00	0.00	7,000.00	0.00	0.00%	7,000.00
Other Income	0.00	2,457.50	0.00	0.00	0.00%	0.00
Lifelong Learning Matching Funds	3,500.00	3,000.00	3,500.00	5,850.00	167.14%	\$4,000.00
Total Temporarily Restricted	\$18,500.00	\$17,457.32	\$18,500.00	\$13,798.27	74.59%	\$19,000.00

	Annual 2024 Budget	Actual YTD Dec 31 '24 (100%)	Annual 2025 Budget	Actual YTD Sept 30 '25 (75%)	Percent of Budget	Proposed 2026 Budget
Investments						
Land Contract Principal	6,422.87	6,042.68	6,422.87	4,999.17	77.83%	6,991.64
Land Contract Interest	1,701.73	2,081.92	1,701.73	1,094.28	64.30%	1,132.96
Revolving Loan Fund Endowment Interest	245.00	5.10	245.00	6.48	2.64%	6.93
Promissory Notes Interest	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00%	0.00
General Budget Investments	10,000.00	13,872.93	10,000.00	9,096.90	90.97%	10,000.00
Total Investments	\$18,369.60	\$22,002.63	\$18,369.60	\$15,196.83	82.73%	\$18,131.53

Total Budget Revenue	\$376,869.60	\$383,357.80	\$376,869.60	\$279,284.75	74.11%	\$377,131.53
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Registrations	Annual 2024 Budget	Actual YTD Dec 31 '24 (100%)	Annual 2025 Budget	Actual YTD Sept 30 '25 (75%)	Percent of Budget	Proposed 2026 Budget
360 Conference	12,000.00	10,030.00	12,000.00	2,175.00	18.13%	8,000.00
Ministers Retreat	4,000.00	3,610.00	4,000.00	1,900.00	47.50%	4,000.00
Ministry Wives Retreat	4,000.00	4,260.00	4,000.00	4,195.00	104.88%	4,200.00
Youth Winter Retreat	40,000.00	41,190.00	40,000.00	54,900.00	137.25%	55,000.00
MI Student Ldrshp Institute (MSLI)	4,000.00	3,615.00	3,000.00	3,562.18	118.74%	3,500.00
Annual General Assembly	40,000.00	40,197.00	40,000.00	22,705.00	56.76%	40,000.00
Other Events/Registrations	3,000.00	3,275.00	3,000.00	1,150.00	38.33%	3,000.00
Total Registrations	\$107,000.00	\$106,177.00	\$106,000.00	\$90,587.18	85.46%	\$117,700.00

Property Management	Annual 2024 Budget	Actual YTD Dec 31 '24 (100%)	Annual 2025 Budget	Actual YTD Sept 30 '25 (75%)	Percent of Budget	Proposed 2026 Budget
Gain/Loss Sale of Property	0.00	0.00	0.00	42,112.22	0.00%	0.00
Church Property Lease/Rent	0.00	0.00	0.00	6,639.42	0.00%	\$18,000.00
Cash receipts church dissolutions	0.00	25.00	0.00	48.30	0.00%	0.00
Total Property Management	\$0.00	\$25.00	\$0.00	\$48,799.94	0.00%	\$18,000.00

Endowments	Annual 2024 Budget	Actual YTD Dec 31 '24 (100%)	Annual 2025 Budget	Actual YTD Sept 30 '25 (75%)	Percent of Budget	Proposed 2026 Budget
B. Gale Hetrick Memorial	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00%	0.00
Ministry Renewal	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00%	0.00
New Works Fellowship	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00%	0.00
Ann Arbor Fund	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00%	0.00
Older Adult	0.00	1,000.00	0.00	750.00	0.00%	0.00
Pastoral Family Enrichment	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00%	0.00
Revolving Loan Fund	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00%	0.00
Revolving Loan Principal	00.00	1,744.90	0.00	2,243.52	0.00%	2,993.07
Endowment Investments	20,000.00	72,634.12	20,000.00	68,498.26	342.49%	30,000.00
Total Endowments	\$20,000.00	\$75,379.02	\$20,000.00	\$71,491.78	357.46%	\$32,993.07

Total Revenue	\$503,869.60	\$564,938.82	\$502,869.60	\$490,163.65	97.47%	\$545,824.60
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Expense

	Annual 2024 Budget	Actual YTD Dec 31 '24 (100%)	Annual 2025 Budget	Actual YTD Sept 30 '25 (75%)	Percent of Budget	Proposed 2026 Budget
Church Health Ministry						
Academy of Servant Leaders	6,000.00	2,549.40	4,500.00	1,793.19	39.85%	2,500.00
Transformations	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00%	0.00
Healthy Growing Churches	12,500.00	12,500.00	12,500.00	12,500.00	100.00%	12,500.00
Church Health Admin.	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00%	0.00
Church Health Minister	0.00	192.28	0.00	0.00	0.00%	0.00
Total Church Health	\$18,500.00	\$15,241.68	\$17,000.00	\$14,293.19	84.08%	\$15,000.00

	Annual 2024 Budget	Actual YTD Dec 31 '24 (100%)	Annual 2025 Budget	Actual YTD Sept 30 '25 (75%)	Percent of Budget	Proposed 2026 Budget
Pastoral Health Ministry						
Lifelong Learning	2,000.00	3,784.81	2,000.00	3,224.60	161.23%	2,000.00
Spiritual Direction	250.00	0.00	250.00	650.00	260.00%	250.00
Scholarships	2,500.00	3,174.50	3,000.00	0.00	0.00%	3,000.00
Pastoral Health Admin.	500.00	0.00	16,000.00	0.00	0.00%	1,500.00
Total Pastoral Health	\$5,250.00	\$6,959.31	\$21,250.00	\$3,874.60	18.23%	\$6,750.00

	Annual 2024 Budget	Actual YTD Dec 31 '24 (100%)	Annual 2025 Budget	Actual YTD Sept 30 '25 (75%)	Percent of Budget	Proposed 2026 Budget
Youth Ministry						
Youth Camp Scholarships	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00	100.00%	3,000.00
MI Singers Honorarium	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00	100.00%	3,000.00
Student Scholarships	1,500.00	555.00	1,500.00	365.00	24.33%	0.00
Youth Ministry Development	1,800.00	489.03	1,800.00	208.36	11.58%	1,000.00
Youth Ministry Admin.	1,700.00	113.66	1,700.00	0.00	0.00%	1,000.00
Total Youth Ministry	\$11,000.00	\$7,157.69	\$11,000.00	\$6,573.36	59.76%	\$8,000.00

	Annual 2024 Budget	Actual YTD Dec 31 '24 (100%)	Annual 2025 Budget	Actual YTD Sept 30 '25 (75%)	Percent of Budget	Proposed 2026 Budget
Credentials Ministry						
Ministerial Dvpmt Seminar	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00%	0.00
Background Checks	1,000.00	724.43	1,000.00	713.30	71.33%	1,000.00
Leadership Focus	5,000.00	3,200.00	6,000.00	1,800.00	30.00	3,000.00
Credentials Administration	24,300.00	25,621.53	24,820.00	19,809.03	79.81%	25,000.00
Total Credentials Ministry	\$30,300.00	\$29,545.96	\$31,820.00	\$22,322.33	70.15%	\$29,000.00

Assembly Operations	Annual 2024 Budget	Actual YTD Dec 31 '24 (100%)	Annual 2025 Budget	Actual YTD Sept 30 '25 (75%)	Percent of Budget	Proposed 2026 Budget
Ministry Promotion	5,000.00	4,690.86	6,000.00	2,842.08	47.37%	4,000.00
Benevolence/Disaster Relief	1,500.00	4,153.95	3,000.00	879.77	29.33%	1,500.00
Regional Pastors	30,000.00	28,497.29	14,000.00	9,925.33	70.90%	0.00
Legal Services	5,000.00	8,860.50	6,000.00	5,774.81	96.25%	6,000.00
Audit Review	9,500.00	9,400.00	9,500.00	9,400.00	98.95%	9,500.00
Books/Supplies	500.00	3,005.81	700.00	1,414.96	202.14%	1,500.00
General Assembly Admin.	20,000.00	44,516.89	40,000.00	17,410.36	43.53%	25,000.00
Bad Debt Expense	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00%	0.00
Investment Expense	0.00	3,188.00	0.00	0.00	0.00%	0.00
Total Assembly Operations	\$71,500.00	\$106,313.30	79,200.00	\$47,647.31	60.16%	\$47,500.00

Personnel	Annual 2024 Budget	Actual YTD Dec 31 '24 (100%)	Annual 2025 Budget	Actual YTD Sept 30 '25 (75%)	Percent of Budget	Proposed 2026 Budget
Salaries						
State Pastor	73,960.00	73,960.08	76,759.00	57,569.22	75.00%	74,628.00
State Pastor Housing	38,000.00	38,000.04	38,000.00	28,500.03	75.00%	43,000.00
Associate Pastor	80,000.00	36,170.00	45,000.00	33,750.00	75.00%	47,050.00
Associate Housing	-	30,500.00	37,000.00	27,750.06	75.00%	37,000.00
Church Health Minister	0.00	2,500.00	0.00	0.00	0.00%	0.00
Office Staff	20,800.00	17,333.40	21,320.00	15,990.03	75.00%	21,853.00
Finance/Media Director	66,217.00	66,216.96	67,872.00	50,904.00	75.00%	69,569.00
Total Salaries	\$278,977.00	\$264,680.48	\$285,951.00	\$214,463.34	75.00%	\$293,100.00
Benefits						
Pensions-Admin	21,120.00	19,648.90	21,650.00	16,232.58	74.98%	22,191.00
Pensions-Clerical	8,950.00	8,670.58	9,175.00	6,878.61	74.97%	9,404.00
Social Security Admin.	17,300.00	16,076.40	17,725.00	13,281.21	74.93%	18,168.00
Employer's FICA Expense	6,670.00	6,426.00	6,850.00	5,117.31	74.71%	7,021.00
Disability Ins-State Pastor	1,500.00	1,433.78	1,500.00	1,291.20	86.08%	1,500.00
Professional Development	9,500.00	3,590.52	9,500.00	3,428.57	36.09%	10,000.00
Total Benefits	\$65,040.00	\$55,846.18	\$66,400.00	\$46,229.48	69.62%	\$68,284.00

Office	Annual 2024 Budget	Actual YTD Dec 31 '24 (100%)	Annual 2025 Budget	Actual YTD Sept 30 '25 (75%)	Percent of Budget	Proposed 2026 Budget
Office Supplies	3,000.00	1,688.63	3,000.00	1,708.48	56.95%	2,200.00
Mobile	2,000.00	1,604.06	2,000.00	1,184.76	59.24%	2,000.00
Postage	1,500.00	1,171.78	1,500.00	907.25	60.48%	1,500.00
Information Technology	15,000.00	19,955.14	15,000.00	8,771.17	58.47%	12,000.00
Hospitality Supplies	2,000.00	2,213.88	2,000.00	2,055.27	102.76%	2,200.00
Total Office	\$23,500.00	\$26,633.49	\$23,500.00	\$14,626.93	62.24%	\$19,900.00

General Assembly of the Church of God in Michigan – Investments

2024	Balance as of January 1	Fund/Transfer/ Withdraw	Balance as of September 30
Ameriprise Financial, Inc.			
General Budget Account	181,898.44	(80,000.00)	115,580.63
Revolving Loan Fund Account (core endowment principal: \$231,785.92) 2022-2024 Revolving Loan principal payments reinvested \$0.00	224,188.21		248,109.66
Total with Ameriprise Financial, Inc.	\$406,086.65	(\$80,000.00)	\$363,690.29
Aspirean Wealth			
B. Gale Hetrick Memorial Endowment (core endowment principal: \$67,087.49)	72,048.35	(7,000.00)	71,603.76
Ministry Renewal Endowment (core endowment principal: \$200,000.00)	245,690.64	(56,000.00)	213,073.68
New Works Fellowship Endowment (Multiplication) (core endowment principal: \$128,020.02)	132,989.44	(10,000.00)	133,356.19
Older Adult Endowment (core endowment principal: \$50,000.00)	54,352.26		60,995.89
Pastoral Family Enrichment Endowment (core endowment principal: \$100,000.00)	0.00		0.00
Total with Aspirean Wealth	\$505,080.69	(\$73,000.00)	\$479,029.52
PNC Financial Services Group	Balance as of January 1	Fund/Transfer/ Withdraw	Balance as of September 30
Checking (General) non-interest	318,933.19		183,451.05
Money Market (Endowments)			
B. Gale Hetrick Memorial Endowment	1,691.99	7,000.00	8,692.35
Ministry Renewal Endowment	20,627.94	20,222.88	40,853.14
New Works Fellowship Endowment	29,462.10	0.00	29,464.38
Total Money Market (Endowments)	\$51,782.03		\$79,009.87
Total	\$370,715.22	\$27,222.88	\$262,460.92
Total Cash and Investments	\$1,281,882.56	(\$125,777.12)	\$1,105,180.73

2024 Endowment Expenses

Endowment Funds Available for Granting

Monies at PNC Bank Money Market Account

September 30, 2024 | \$79,009.87

B. Gale Hetrick Memorial

\$8,692.35

Ministry Renewal

\$40,853.14

New Works Fellowship (Multiplication)

\$29,464.38

B. Gale Hetrick Memorial

Ministers Retreat \$12,028.19

Ministry Renewal

CPE Scholarship \$0.00

Ministerial Marriage Enrichment \$0.00

Ministry to Ministers \$1,461.61

Ministry Renewal Endowment \$2,000.00

Ministry Women's Retreat \$4,873.19

Total \$20,362.99

New Works Fellowship

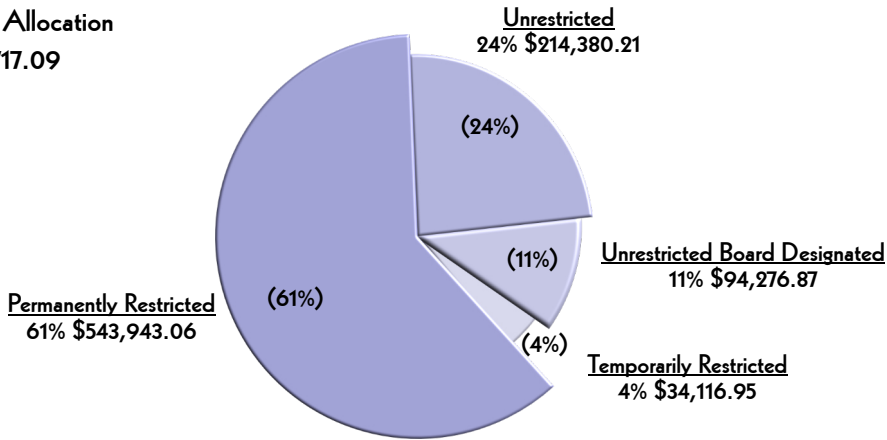
Church Transformations \$14,830.36

Multiplication \$45,216.57

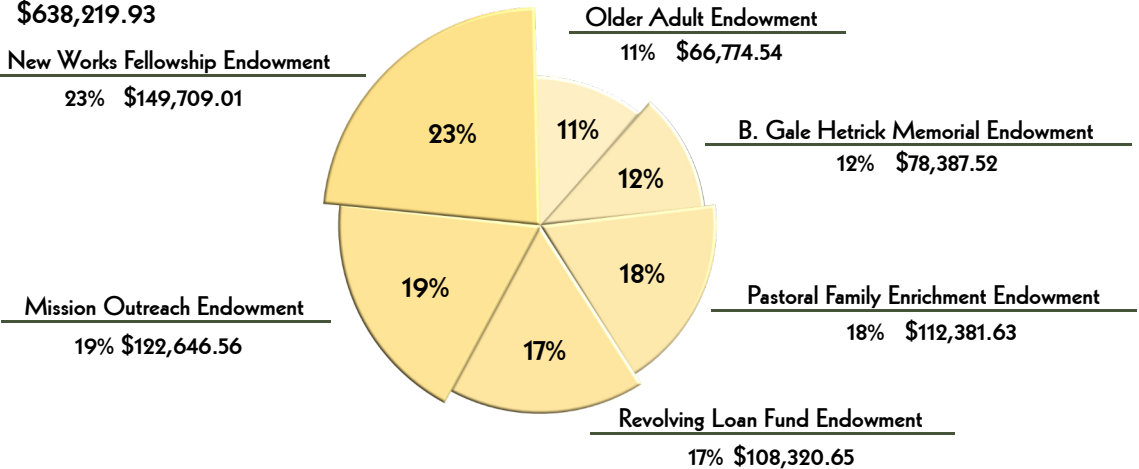
Total \$60,046.93

General Assembly of the Church of God in Michigan - September 30, 2025

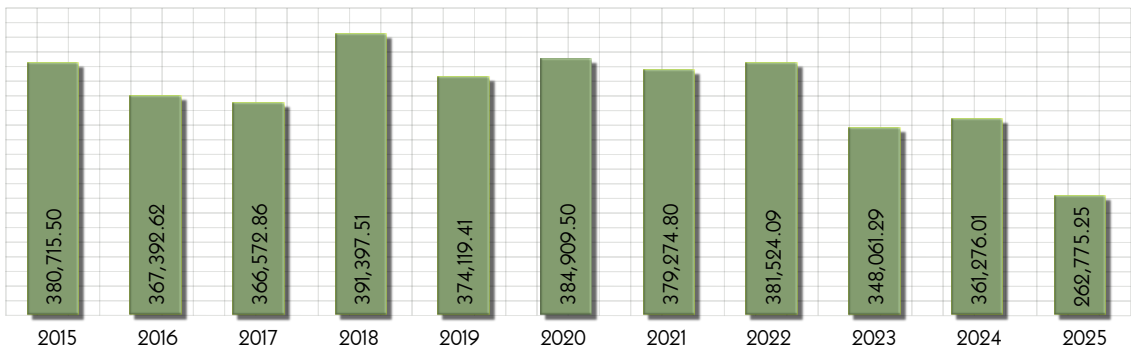
Asset Fund Allocation \$886,717.09



Endowment Investments \$638,219.93



Congregational Giving



Statements of Assets, Liabilities, and Net Assets – Modified Cash Basis
For the Years Ended 2020–2024

Statement Of Financial Position

December 31	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Assets					
Cash and cash equivalents	220,427	142,975	155,715	376,627	265,214
Investments	960,578	1,094,004	845,809	911,166	764,662
Loans receivable	389,890	320,609	321,021	62,962	55,174
Prepaid Expenses	5,205	10,595	9,310	9,815	9,137
Property and equipment	67,560	79,670	96,311	88,871	110,329
Total Assets	\$1,643,660	\$1,647,853	\$1,428,166	\$1,449,441	\$1,204,516
Liabilities & Net Assets					
Liabilities:					
Withholdings and sales taxes payable	666	666	666	666	666
Other payable	2,299	2,041	28,410	5,539	2,022
PPP loan payable	41,100	-	-	-	-
Registration deposits	914	12,305	12,230	31,335	51,550
Total Liabilities	\$44,979	\$15,012	\$41,306	\$37,540	\$54,238
Net Assets					
Without donor restrictions					
undesignated - available for current operations	832,273	833,584	511,868	523,370	234,844
Without donor restrictions, designated - quasi-endowment funds	201,102	201,665	200,975	201,692	208,693
Without donor restrictions, designated - other funds	22,565	48,037	49,660	59,760	79,722
Total net assets without donor restrictions	\$1,055,940	\$1,083,286	762,503	784,822	523,259
With donor restrictions	542,741	549,555	624,357	627,079	627,079
Total Net Assets	\$1,598,681	\$1,632,841	\$1,386,860	\$1,411,901	\$1,150,278
Total Liabilities & Net Assets	\$1,643,660	\$1,647,853	\$1,428,166	\$1,449,441	\$1,204,516

This financial information was extracted from the reviewed financial statements of the General Assembly of the Church of God in Michigan. This does not include all disclosures normally associated with financial statements prepared in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles. The complete financial statements for the General Assembly, including footnotes and the report of our accountants at Maner Costerisan are available to review upon request by email, info@micog.org.

Ministers Who Have Completed the Requirements for Ordination

Martonio Backstrom
Martonio, Teresha
Makhi, Amyia, Martonio Jr.,
Marenee, and Melanie
Good Church, Flint



Caleb Claybaugh
Kinsley, Heather, Emmett, and Caleb
Hillcrest Community Church, Cedar Springs



Stephen Ivy
Stephen and Carrol
Heart of God Ministries of Detroit,
Detroit



Patricia (Trish) Norvell
Dan Gross and Trish
First Church of God, Cassopolis



Jonathan Oldham
Theodore, Jonathan, Bella, Christina, and Sophia
First Church of God, Stevensville Campus



Josie Sposito
Stefano and Josie
Sears Church of God, Sears



Jacqueline Williams
Greenfield Avenue Church of God,
Detroit

Licensed Ministers Placed in the Process for Ordination



Patricia Dotson
Joseph Campau Avenue
Church of God, Detroit



Brian Fee
First Church of God
Eau Claire Campus, St. Joseph



Juan Ruiz
Iglesia Vida Plena,
Grand Rapids



Kim Salyer
Farmington Hills Church
of God
Farmington Hills



Jeff Stackman
First Church of God
Eau Claire Campus, St.
Joseph



Keywana Wright-Jones
New Creation Church of God,
Flint

2025 Leadership Directory



Dale Turner
Chair

Board Of Directors

Dale Turner, Chair; John Davey, Vice-Chair; James Matt, Secretary; Tim Foreman, JJ Perry, Mary Ross, Mark Staton II, Wendell Thompson, Robert Tramel, Ed Whitaker, Joshua Brandt, Mark Richardson, Chuck Nebus, ex-officio.



John Davey
Vice-Chair

Credentials Ministry

JJ Perry, Chair; Melissa Daniel, Secretary, Jeff Eckman, Julián Guzmán, Chariese Matthews, Ronald Nuckles, Emily Sparks, Joshua Brandt, staff; Mark Richardson, staff.

Pastoral Health Ministry

Tim Broyles, Chair; Marc Danapilis, Portia Davis-Mann, Erin Glezman, Bill Greiner, Michael Harris, Christine Walker, Joshua Brandt, staff; and Mark Richardson, staff.

Youth Ministry

Rachel Bird, Jeremey Byers, Matt Chesney, Jesse Hargett, Krystal Kotesky, Trevor Moody, Jessica Staton II, Adam Rentas, Ex-officio: Ken Forsman, Michigan Singers; Scot Bale, Warner Camp; Ben Kreider, MSLI; Joshua Brandt, staff.



James Matt
Secretary

Audit Committee

Robin Cook, Mary Hirakis, Vance Kupisch, Jaela McQuillan, Mike Stone, and Joshua Brandt, staff; Mark Richardson, staff.

Business Committee

Robert Tramel, Chair; Sheila Granger, Chris Slosser, Matthew Stone, Julie Wiseman, and Joshua Brandt, staff; Mark Richardson, staff.

Michigan Student Leadership Institute (MSLI)

Ben Kreider, Chair; Connie Graham, Kathy Jo Kindy, Jim Sirks, Kevin Tippin, and Joshua Brandt, staff; Mark Richardson, staff.

Personnel Committee

Alruthus Dulin, Patrick Gilbert, Greg Gordon, William Jones, and Joshua Brandt, staff; Mark Richardson, staff.

Program Committee

John Davey, Chair; Crystal Colp, Dwight Fontenot, Cameron Kreager, Nathanael Lyon, and Joshua Brandt, staff; Mark Richardson, staff.

Youth Winter Retreat Task Force

Jesse Hargett, Trevor Moody, Adam Rentas, and Joshua Brandt, staff; Mark Richardson, staff.

2025 Honoring Ministry/Committee Members Completing Terms and Ballot

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Chair: Dale Turner – 2025
Vice Chair: John Davey – 2025
Secretary: James Matt – 2025-1
Members:
Wendell Thompson – 2025-2;
Edwin Whitaker – 2025-1

MINISTRIES

Credentials Ministry:
Chariese Matthews – 2025-2;
Emily Sparks – 2025-1
Pastoral Health Ministry:
Tim Broyles – 2025-1

Youth Ministry:

Rachel Bird – 2025-1
Jesse Hargett – 2025-2

COMMITTEES

Audit Committee:
Robin Cook – 2025-1; Mary Hirakis – 2025-1;
Vance Kupisch – 2025-2;
Jaela McQuillan – 2025-2
Business Committee:
Julie Wiseman – 2025-1
Personnel Committee:
Alruthus Dulin – 2025-1;
Greg Gordon – 2025-1

2026 Ballot

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Vice Chair – Ratification for one for
one year term:
David Colp
Secretary – Ratification for one for
three year term:
Brent Beggs
Members – Ratification for two for
three year term:
Albert Grant, Edwin Whitaker

MINISTRIES

Credentials Ministry – Ratify two for
three-year term:
Portia Davis-Mann, Emily Sparks
Pastoral Health Ministry – Ratify one for
three-year term:
Tim Broyles

Youth Ministry – Ratify two for
three-year term:
Rachel Bird, Trevor Moody

COMMITTEES

Audit Committee – Ratify four for
three-year term:
Mary Hirakis, Debb Lyon, Kathy Hull,
Abby Schmidt
Business Committee – Ratify one for
three-year term:
David Mulherin
Personnel Committee – Ratify two for
three-year term:
Alruthus Dulin, Greg Gordon

2026 Biographies

Rev. David Colp – Board of Directors, Vice-Chair



Pastor David Colp serves as the Lead Pastor of First Church of God in St. Joseph, Michigan. He was officially installed on Sunday, September 16, 2007.

Born and raised in Marion, Illinois, David was an active member of Marion First Church of God. He graduated summa cum laude from Mid-America Christian University in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, earning a Bachelor of Arts in Pastoral Ministry. He later obtained a Master's in Church Leadership from Regent University. His pastoral journey has included ministry roles in Oklahoma (1989–1991), Illinois (1991–1996), and Breiel Boulevard First Church of God in Middletown, Ohio (1996–2007) before coming to St. Joseph.

Under his leadership, First Church has expanded into a multi-site congregation with a strong emphasis on community outreach. The church actively engages in transformational ministry through its nonprofit arm, the New Heights Christian Community Development Association, which David helped establish and now serves as Chairman of the Board. New Heights encompasses a variety of ministries, including an auto service ministry, a community food network, and a laundry hub that serves under-resourced individuals. Most recently, First Church launched the Restoration House, a transition home for men coming out of addiction, providing a faith-centered environment for recovery and restoration.

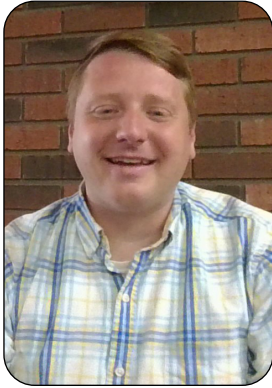
Beyond local outreach, First Church is deeply committed to global ministry, actively supporting church planting, leadership training, and discipleship efforts in Paraguay, Malawi, and India. Through strategic partnerships, the church has helped build churches, train pastors, and equip local leaders to spread the gospel and strengthen the global body of Christ.

David also serves the broader Church of God movement as a member of its Ministries Council. He is a certified activator in the Intentional Churches Operating System and is currently training to become a Christian Leadership Coach. Additionally, he partners with his wife, Crystal, in equipping churches and leaders with strategic planning and leadership development resources.

Crystal serves as the Discipleship Pastor at First Church and has played a key role in launching a Biblical Pastoral Counseling Center. She holds a Master's in Leadership from Mid-America Christian University and is a certified Working Genius assessment facilitator, helping teams and individuals maximize their God-given strengths.

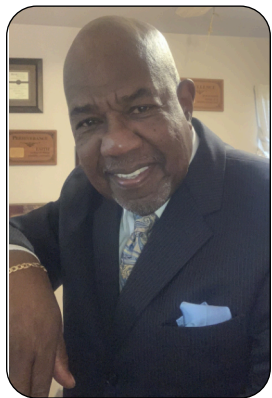
David and Crystal have been married for 34 years and share a passion for ministry. Together, they have two adult sons, Caleb and Jacob.

Rev. Brent Beggs – Board of Directors, Secretary



Rev. Brent and Heather Beggs grew up in the life of the Church and in ministry, both coming from loving and nurturing families. Brent's parents and Grandparents served as Church of God Pastors, and his great-grandparents were missionaries to Brazil. He has always had a passion for loving people and serving the Lord. Brent is a graduate from Anderson University's School of Theology and Christian Ministry with his Undergraduate Degree in Christian Ministries, and his Master of Divinity. Brent met the love of his life, Heather in 2013 at the nursing home where he was ministering through music and Heather was working as an activity aide. They got married on June 7, 2013.

Rev. Albert Grant – Board of Directors



Rev. Albert Grant is a devoted husband to Wendy Grant and a lifelong servant of the Gospel. He accepted his call to ministry at the age of 30 and was ordained in 1980 as a minister of the Church of God.

Rev. Grant has served faithfully in a range of impactful roles:

- Pastor of Faith Church of God in Racine, Wisconsin for 18 years
- Director of Fund Development for Church Extension, Church of God
- Director of Outreach and Urban Ministry for Church of God Ministries in Anderson, Indiana
- Pastor of the Church of God in Detroit since 2014
- Presently Serving as Southern Regional Pastor

He currently serves as Vice President of Ministers and Laity United (MALU), a dynamic movement committed to unity, service, and leadership across Metro Detroit congregations.

Rev. Grant received professional training from the College of William & Mary, Trinity Theological Seminary (Newburgh, Indiana), and Indiana University's Center on Philanthropy. He also earned his chaplaincy and Clinical Pastoral Education certificate from St. Camillus Campus in Wauwatosa, Wisconsin.

He is presently pursuing his master's degree at Anderson University School of Theology and Christian Ministry—continuing a lifelong commitment to growth, learning, and faithful ministry.

Edwin Whitaker – Board of Directors



My name is Ed Whitaker and I've lived my entire life east of Ithaca, Michigan. I was born on a farm and following High School, spent two years in the military. After that, I began farming for the next 25 years. During this time, I was State Representative for a Seed Corn Company, served ten years on the Michigan Corn Growers Board, and served as a Township Supervisor for many years.

In the early 1990's I started a company called "Quality Equipment" specializing in transportation of farm equipment. I've attended the Edgewood Church of God nearly all my life, where I have served as both Board Chairman and Vice Chairman. I am currently serving on the Edgewood Board as Treasurer. Through the church, I have participated in seven work missions including a trip to Alaska, Alberta Canada, and Barbados.

Within the last ten years I have been both Chairman and Vice Chairman of the St. Louis Church of God Campground. In addition to continuing my work at the Campground, I have become greatly involved with helping at the HopeWell Ranch in Weidman, Michigan.

Rev. Portia Davis-Mann – Credentials Ministry



Rev. Portia Davis-Mann is an ordained minister through the Church of God. She is currently the Senior Pastor of Community Church of God in Ypsilanti, Michigan after 12 years as Associate Pastor of the Christian Education and Youth ministries.

Portia has a 25 year background in Ministry Music within the United States and abroad as a part of her work in Anderson, Indiana and evangelistic efforts within various communities. She also has a passion for education for underserved teens and youth with 31 years in Educational Leadership and Management, supporting student academic achievement at WSC Academy, Anderson University, Everest University, and Ross Medical College.

Her educational background includes degrees in Criminal Justice, Business Management, and continued Masters level work in Theology at the Anderson University School of Theology.

Portia is married to Jerome Mann and they both serve in ministry together in the community and in their church. Portia's personal motto is to "Make Impact." She believes that "Every.One.Matters." which is this year's theme for the Community Church of God.

Rev. Emily Sparks – Credentials Ministry



Emily Sparks was ordained in the Church of God 2017 and since 2019, serves as the Senior Pastor of Faith United Church of God in Grand Rapids. She is a double graduate of Anderson University earning her BA in 2009 and her Master of Divinity in 2013. Emily previously served as a missionary on the Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota. She is married to Kenny and they have a dog named Lacy and a cat named Louie. Emily is passionate about Jesus, the National Parks, Antiques Roadshow, and Knitting.

Rev. Tim Broyles – Pastoral Health Ministry



Tim was ordained in 2006 in the Indiana Ministries of the Church of God where he worshipped and served many years at Church at the Crossing in Indianapolis. He moved to the Ann Arbor area in 2017 to join the ministry team at a Methodist church in Dexter. He since retired from full-time ministry and is serving as an interim pastor for Saline Methodist Fellowship; a start-up Global Methodist Church congregation. Tim says, " Nothing excites me more in ministry than seeing people grow in their understanding of God's grace and work in their lives. Tim's ministry to the Church of God has also included being on the board of two church plants in Indiana and being involved in a SHAPE cluster. He has a heart for the well-being of pastors and ministry partners.

Rev. Rachel Bird – Youth Ministry



Rachel is a co-vocational minister rooted in Lansing. She is partnering with other pastors around Michigan, serving as pulpit supply when called upon, as she works with Healthy Growing Churches to explore planting a church in Lansing. She is also working with the James Earl Massey Center for Compelling Preaching on a book project involving original research and is engaged in several local organizations within Lansing, including being on the board for two of them.

Rev. Trevor Moody – Youth Ministry



My name is Trevor Moody. I was born and raised in Dayton, Ohio until 2021 when I moved to Niles, Michigan to pursue Student Ministry. I went to Sinclair Community College where I received my Associates in History, and then completed two Internships through Intern Academy for Student Ministry. I have a passion for students as well as photography and videography!

Rev. Mary Hirakis – Audit Committee



Mary Hirakis spent her entire life at North Avenue Church of God in Battle Creek, where she now serves as Executive Pastor. After retiring as Staff Accountant for the City of Battle Creek, she heard God's call to ministry in the area of business. Mary went through Leadership Focus credentialing process and was ordained in March 2018. In addition to serving North Avenue Church, Mary is called to help other churches around Michigan. Her ministry now is state-wide in helping boards meet legal, financial, and ethical standards. She is organized and detail-oriented, and she offers a lifetime of experience in leadership roles within her community and congregation.

Mary has served the state on the Board of Directors and is currently on the audit committee.

Mary and her late husband, Phillip, have two children, five granddaughters, and four great-granddaughters. She enjoys spending time with her children and grandchildren, traveling and reading.

Debb Lyon – Audit Committee



Debb Lyon has been ministering in Jackson, Michigan for almost 20 years. She is the wife of the Lead Pastor, Jerry Lyon at New Horizons Church. Debb and Jerry have worked together on the 360 Leadership Conference held in Lansing, Michigan.

Debb is a detail-oriented and analytical accounting professional with a strong foundation in financial reporting, compliance, and internal controls. As a Staff Accountant, she has consistently demonstrated precision in managing financial records, reconciling accounts, and supporting month-end close processes. Her experience working under tight deadlines and collaborating across departments has equipped her with the skills necessary to thrive in an auditing role.

Debb is passionate about ensuring financial integrity and transparency, and she brings a proactive approach to identifying discrepancies and improving processes. With a keen eye for detail and a commitment to ethical standards, she is eager to leverage her accounting expertise to contribute to a dynamic audit team. Her goal is to support the Church of God in Michigan in maintaining compliance, mitigating risk, and achieving operational excellence.

Kathy Hull – Audit Committee



Currently I serve as Finance Director for Pennway Church of God and have been overseeing Pennway's finances for more than 20 years. My accounting career began with gaining audit experience with a CPA firm specializing in Governments and other Non-profits resulting in becoming a Certified Public Accountant (CPA) in 1993 in the state of California (status is now inactive). My work experience has mostly been with fund accounting in the public sector working for municipalities and education (City of Newport Beach, City of Seal Beach, and Michigan State University). Major contributions to these entities include setting up internal controls, creating budgets, monitoring the classification of expenses, and reporting. My goal at every place I have worked is to improve their accounting practices and streamline processes.

Abby Schmidt – Audit Committee



Abby Schmidt serves as Business Administrator for Renewal Christian Counseling Center, overseeing finances, human resources, billing, and compliance. She has 20 years of financial management experience, including 13 years in church financial administration. For the past three years, she has managed the finances of Clarkston Community Church, where she also serves on the Advisory Team and Finance Team. Her background combines a deep commitment to stewardship with expertise in both non-profit and faith-based organizational finance.

David Mulherin – Business Committee



David Mulherin is currently serving as connection pastor at West Court Street Church of God. He is serving as the chairman of the program committee for Charlevoix Family Camp. He is also on the pulpit supply list and has filled the pulpit for several churches. Throughout his years in ministry he has served in children's, and youth ministry. He was an Associate Pastor under Reverend Herbert Banks and Senior Pastor of Hilltop Church of God in Flint.

Alruthus Dulin – Personnel Committee



Alruthus Dulin is a retired banker. She spent more than 40 years working mainly in Retail Banking. Her main responsibility was Customer Service; interacting with customers and responding to their banking needs.

The last ten years of her career were spent in Administration including Banking Operations, Branch Administration and Human Resources. She retired in 2010.

Alruthus has been a member of Metropolitan Church of God in Detroit since 1988 where she served as treasurer of CWC (WCG), sang in the choir, and served as a volunteer in the Church's Credit Union. She is currently treasurer of Ministers and Laity United.

She enjoys spending time with her children and grandchildren and working in her garden. She is a "news junkie" and tries to keep up with current events.

Rev. Greg Gordon – Personnel Committee



Pastor Greg Gordon CCA Emeritus is retired from full-time paid ministry. He served almost 25 years at First Church of God in Saint Joseph, Michigan, as the Executive Pastor of Operations. Prior to working at the church, Greg managed Point O' Woods Country Club for 19 years and Whirlpool Corporation's managerial training center for two years. Greg is a Certified Church Administrator (CCA) through The Church Network (TCN). He served on the TCN Board for four years. He has served on various other nonprofit boards and committees. Greg currently helps churches, particularly with finances. He enjoys golf, fishing, family, friends, and volunteering at his church. Greg is married to his high school sweetheart Paula. They have one son named Taylor.

Lifetime Achievement – Rev. Jim Horn and Rev. Jack Perkins



Rev. Jim and Vicky Horn

Rev. Jim Horn

Pastor Jim and Vicky, have enjoyed serving Jesus in God's Kingdom work since 1980. Their story began serving with an independent ministry, in Rome, Italy for three months. Returning home, Jim began ministry with the Community Church of God in Clio. He served as youth, associate and Sr. Pastor from 1981 until 2017. Along the way he led mission teams for six years to Costa Rica; helped with the development of the State Youth Convention and was schooled with the international organization- Peacemakers; whose work is with churches and other organizations regarding conflict resolution.

Jim has served under the leadership of State Pastors Bill Jones and Mark Richardson as a Regional Pastor. He recently completed working towards certification, in the CHOG endeavor of pastoral/personal Coaching. Jim is currently serving as interim Pastor for the Alma Church of God.

"We are so appreciative of our fellowship with the Church of God. We have always counted it a privilege and a JOY to serve alongside others in the work of the Kingdom of God."

"We loved you so much that we were delighted to share with you not only the gospel of God but our lives as well, because you had become so dear to us."

1 Thessalonians 2:8

Vicky and I, are so blessed to be a part of God's continuing story...and will continue to serve as long as God grants the strength, wisdom, and JOY!



Rev. Jack Perkins

Rev. Jack and First Lady Ruby Perkins

Pastor Jack Perkins was born in Deatsville, Alabama on May 8, 1954. He was raised in the Church of God in Prattville, Alabama, and was saved January 8, 1968. In 1970, at the age of 16, Pastor Perkins was called to the Ministry.

Growing up in Elmore, Alabama, he graduated from Stanhope Elmore High School in 1972. In 1973, he married Ruby Hollenquest, and they have been married for 52 years. They have three children, a set of twin boys and one daughter, six grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Pastor Perkins started working for Ford Motor Company in September, 1973. He worked as an hourly employee at the Michigan Casting Plant in Flatrock, Michigan for five years, and was promoted to Supervisor of hourly employees. He attended Ford Motor Company's Supervisory Institute and completed all requirements. This position lasted for ten years.

In 1980, he attended the National Institute of Technology in Livonia, Michigan, where he majored in Advanced Computer Programming. Upon graduating, he became a driving instructor for the Sears, Hudson, and Montgomery Ward Driving Schools for a year. The National Institute of Technology hired him as their Computer Operator and Programmer. He also served there for a year.

In 1983, he was recalled to Ford's Sharonville Transmission plant, and served as Supervisor of Manufacturing Operations for 20 years. He also served as Diversity Trainer for their Matter of Respect Program, training more than 2,000 employees, including the plant management staff, as well as all hourly workers, in diversity, sexual harassment, workers with disabilities, and racial tolerance. He also served on the Equal Application Committee and as Safety Trainer for powered vehicles.

In 1979, Pastor Perkins became a member of Southwestern Church of God under the leadership of Pastor Lawrence P. Wyatt, working with the Youth Ministry. He also worked as a backup Sunday school teacher, and was a regular speaker for the Nursing Home Ministry, of which he loved very much.

In 1983, he became a member of the Owen and Lane Street Church of God in Hamilton, Ohio, where he served for two years, under the leadership of Pastor Dennis Kidd. After Pastor Dennis Kidd was called away to Pastor in Detroit, Michigan, Pastor Perkins was selected as Senior Pastor in Hamilton.

Under Pastor Perkins' leadership, the Church in Hamilton began to grow and needed larger facilities. They purchased a new church in the downtown Hamilton area and were able to burn the mortgage in seven years. God proved Himself to be faithful.

After the death of Dr. Lawrence P. Wyatt, Pastor Perkins accepted the call of God and the Southwestern Church of God family to become Pastor in February 2009.

Outstanding Service Award – Rev. Jon Wallace

Rev. Jon Wallace

In the summer of 2023, the Burlington Church of God established in 1889 was ready to close their doors. Under the guidance of Pastor David Colp, Jon agreed to serve as the interim Pastor while completing leadership focus. By unanimous vote the congregation, which had grown by the spring of 2024 asked Jon to become their Pastor. He was ordained in the fall of 2024. God has been moving in Burlington. The church is financially stable. In 2025 the first Good Friday service in years had more than 90 worshippers. Easter Sunday had more than 70 attending. The church, which still contains the original 1893 building inside of it has been updated and the parsonage has been turned into a community center. The congregation in Burlington has begun to hold regular opportunities for the community to participate in a variety of activities, including a children's festival just this past July. The Lord our God is being praised, worshiped and the Word taught as the Holy Spirit moves throughout the region with a congregation some of whom travel over 40 miles to be in God's presence. Praise God!



Jon Wallace
Katherine and Jon

Twenty-Five+ Years Serving in Michigan



Jeff and Tori Eckman

Rev. Jeff Eckman

Pastor Jeff Eckman grew up in Howell, Michigan, and attended the Wright's Corners Church of God (Now the Crossroads Church of God). He met his wife to be, Tori Dendel, in the Michigan Singers and they were married shortly before attending Warner Southern College in Lake Wales, Florida. They both graduated from Warner in 1993. The Eckman's have five children and 7.95 grandchildren.

Pastor Jeff served churches in Elwood, Indiana and Defiance, Ohio before returning home to Michigan where he pastored the Floyd Church of God in Midland for more than 12 years. In May of 2013 he accepted the call to be the Lead Pastor at the North Avenue Church of God in Battle Creek where he currently serves.

He has served the Church of God in Michigan on the Business Committee, as Vice Chair and Chair of the General Assembly, as Vice Chair and Chair of the Board of Directors, on the Church Health Ministry, the Pastoral Health Ministry as Chair, and currently serves on the Credentials Ministry Team. He has also served on Boards and committees for St. Louis Camp and is currently serving on the Board for Warner Memorial Camp.

Pastor Jeff's hobbies include playing guitar, coaching, camping, photography, video editing, and web design.

He is first and foremost a follower of Christ, second a husband and father, and third a Pastor and Worship Leader.

Fifteen Years Serving at the same Congregation

Rev. Dr. David Aukerman



David has served as the pastor of Mt. Haley Church of God in the Midland area since 2010. He has been involved in various ways in our state organization, including the Pastoral Health Ministry and the Board of Directors. David has preached at our Men's Retreat, St. Louis Camp Meeting, Charlevoix Family Camp, and the Church of God Convention in Anderson. Locally, he serves on the leadership team for the "Call to the Creek" home repair work camp and on the board of the Midland Area Interfaith Friends. He regularly listens to the podcasts "Interfaith Voices," "Wait Wait Don't Tell Me," and "Learning How to See." David has both a Master of Divinity and a Doctor of Ministry in spiritual formation from Anderson University.

In his spare time, he likes to sing with his wife Tara in as many choirs as possible, play chess with the local chess club, solve puzzles with the National Puzzlers League, and cheer for the Cleveland Guardians and Great Lakes Loons.

Rev. Bill Ferguson



Bill Ferguson has served as Lead Pastor of Grace Harbor/Westwood Church of God in Kalamazoo since July 2010. In January 2026, the congregation will celebrate two years at its new campus and facility. This move has brought new life, new members, and fresh opportunities for the future. It has also strengthened the church's financial foundation, supported current ministries, and renewed Bill's leadership focus.

There is much hope at Grace Harbor as new families engage and stronger connections develop within the church family. The congregation's repositioning on the west side of Kalamazoo is opening doors for outreach and growth in the surrounding neighborhoods and community. Ministry staff, governance board leaders, and laity are working together to update and recondition the facility as part of a long-term plan to enhance worship and existing ministries, while also preparing the space to serve as a community event center in the coming years. In addition, church leadership is exploring alternate expressions of worship and gathering—such as dinner church and micro-church initiatives—planned for launch in the next five years. In September 2026, Grace Harbor will celebrate 140 years of ministry in Kalamazoo.

Bill was ordained by the Church of God in Indiana in 1991 and is a graduate of the Anderson School of Theology, where he earned a Master of Divinity degree in 1986. He began full-time pastoral ministry in the fall of 1986. Throughout the years, Bill has served as an associate pastor in Ohio and Indiana, and as Lead Pastor in Washington, D.C., and Miami, Florida, before coming to Kalamazoo. For the past six years, he has also worked bi-vocationally with United Parcel Service.

Bill has been married to Debbie Yerden for 41 years. They are the proud parents of Michael (37), Haley (35, married to Andrew), Karly (32, married to Drew), Isaac (28), An An (22), Jonah (21), and Lily (19).

Rev. Ronald Peterson



I am originally from Birmingham, Alabama born and raised. My parents are Rev. Isiah and Alberta Peterson. Both my father and mother pastored for more than twenty-five years and was the vice chairperson of the state of Alabama Church of God and also for the Southern District. I never thought that one day I would be in the Ministry. But to God be the glory.

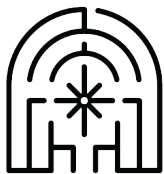
Rev. Kevin Tippin



Pastor Kevin Tippin was born and raised in Ohio until his sophomore year in high school when his family moved to Michigan. He has been married to Deb for forty years. They have four children and seven grandchildren.

Kevin has been the pastor of Meridian Church of God since Nov. 1 2010. Prior, he served as a volunteer youth leader then youth pastor at New Horizons Community Church in Jackson, Michigan for 25 years. He worked at Youth Haven Ranch in 1983. He worked in the Forging industry as a Journeyman Die Sinker for 30 years. He also was an EMT for 15 years. He has been involved within the community as Youth baseball and basketball coach. Boy Scout leader and Trail Life leader. Assistant High school track coach and part of the local Chamber of Commerce.

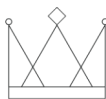
Kevin has served on the Michigan Youth Ministry. Participated in Mission 120. He is currently serving on Michigan Student Leadership Institute (MSLI) Task Force and Camp Charlevoix program committee.



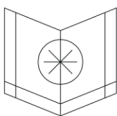
Church of God

IN MICHIGAN

*Every household
hears the good news about Jesus
and the transforming power of Holy Spirit*



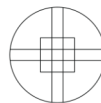
JESUS IS LORD
and no one else



WITNESS
of the Word
and the Spirit



PEOPLE
matter to God and
they matter to us



UNITY
looks like
something



UNCOMMON
called to be holy
and set apart



TABLE
the breaking of bread
and our best



STORY
we will share
the good news