SAVE THE DATE

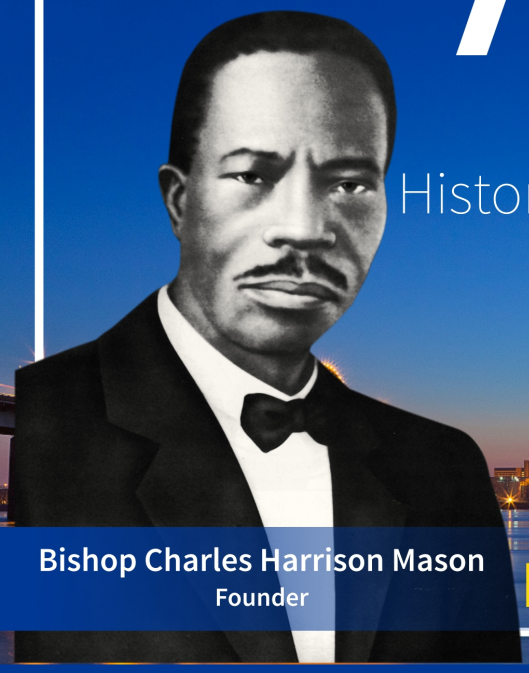
THE SEAL OF THE CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST, INC.
ORGANIZED 1907
MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE

FOUNDERS' DAY

CELEBRATION

SEPTEMBER 11-12 2017

Historic Mason Temple
Memphis, TN



Bishop Charles Harrison Mason
Founder

COGIC.ORG

Bishop Charles E. Blake, Sr.
Presiding Bishop

CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST, INC.

2017 FOUNDER'S CELEBRATION

Commemorating The Life and Impact of Bishop Charles Harrison Mason

Bishop Charles E. Blake, Sr. Presiding Bishop & Host

GENERAL SCHEDULE

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2017 | MASON TEMPLE/WORLD HEADQUARTERS

9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. **Methodist LeBonheur Healthcare Job Fair**
(Methodist Lebonheur Healthcare and Turner Construction will be hiring the unemployed to help them build the $280 million Methodist University Hospital expansion. Minority subcontractors will have an opportunity to bid on and provide about 90 percent of the workforce on the project. The job fair is scheduled to help connect unemployed people to the additional work needed for the expansion hosted by COGIC and Methodist's Congregation Heath Network, a citywide network of religious communities who check on Methodist Health Care patients.)

10:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. **Community Health Fair**

10:00 a.m. **Shelby County Board of Commission Honors Bishop C.H. Mason**

12:00 p.m. **Celebration & Site Visit of**
Mason Village Housing Development

12:45 p.m. **Reception for Church & Civic Officials**

4:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. **The C.H. Mason Prayer & Intercession Season**

6:30 p.m. **THE LEGACY WORSHIP CELEBRATION**
Wreath Laying Ceremony
Parade of Nations
COGIC Religious Workers' Guild Awards & Recognition

BISHOP JERRY W. TAYLOR, SPEAKER

8:00 p.m. **PENTECOSTAL HERITAGE THROWBACK CELEBRATION**

BISHOP T. T. SCOTT, SPEAKER

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2017
7:00 a.m. **Continental Breakfast**

7:30 a.m.

The Presiding Bishop's

HOLY PILGRAMIGE TO THE BIRTHPLACE OF THE CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST

(Motorcade from Mason Temple to Lexington, MS)

No single place influenced COGIC historic legacy more than the small town of Lexington, MS situated at the foothills of the rich farming region known as the Delta in Holmes County. A converted Cotton Gin became our first Church, St. Paul COGIC. Less than three miles away Saints Literary and Industrial School, later known as Saints Academy evolving into Saints Junior College by 1954, became the launch pad for educational endeavors impacting the entire denomination.

For more than half a century Lexington became the epicenter of COGIC organic thinkers. Our founding Chief Apostle called Saints "little Africa" in Mississippi as it developed in epic proportions. It was Lexington that Dr. Arenia Cornelia Mallory, a protégé of Dr. Mary McLeoud Bethune, and one of the nations greatest seminal African American female educators invested her life at the behest of Bishop Mason. YOUR ARE INVITED TO JOIN IN THE CELEBRATION OF HISTORY OF ONE OF COGIC'S MOST HISTORIC LANDMARKS SIMPLY BY PARTICIPATING IN THE COMMEMORATION OF THE BIRTH OF OUR FOUNDING FATHER, BISHOP C.H. MASON. As was led by Bishop Mason and Dr. Mallory in the 1950s during the Holy Convocation, the Presiding Bishop will lead the Holy Pilgrimage to COGIC's Birthplace.

10:00 a.m. **COGIC BIRTHPLACE TOUR – LEXINGTON, MS**

Tourists will walk in the footsteps of Bishop Mason and experience how he and other COGIC leader birthed a denomination that would impact the world.

More than 100 years ago, Bishop Mason began preaching about the gift of the Holy Ghost in the living room of the home of Brother John Lee. This location proved inadequate. However, a white landowner, Mr. John Stewart Watson gave his consent for meeting services to be held in a nearby abandoned gin house. Thus began what is today, the Church Of God In Christ, Inc.

The guided tour will visit the following sites:

- ***Asia Missionary Baptist Church***
- ***The Court House were Apostle C.H. Mason was jailed***
  - ***Historical Marker – South end of courthouse where Mason preached Holiness***
- ***St. Paul Church Of God In Christ –Lexington, MS - COGIC's True Mother Church Museum (Founded 1897). Tourists will view more than 100 historical photos, documents, paintings and artifacts including the first chair in the pulpit after the sanctuary was build.***
- ***Site where the Gin House once stood***
- ***Sweet Canaan COGIC – Lexington, MS***
- ***The Historic Saints Industrial & Literary School – Saints Academy***

12:30 p.m. **C.H. MASON LUNCHEON & SYMPOSIUM**

The Life & Cultural, Social, and Spiritual Impact of Mason
THE MANDATE: WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?

Saints Academy Campus – Deborah Mason Patterson Building
Bishop David Daniels, Coordinator

Saints Academy Alumni Recognition

Tour of Saints Academy Campus

3:00 p.m. **RETURN TO MEMPHIS, TN**

CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST, INC.
WORLD HEADQUARTERS | MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE

The Bishop Charles Harrison Mason Award
& Citations of Commendation

The Church Of God In Christ Religious Worker's Guild was organized in 1957 and Bishop C. H. Mason, December 11, 1959, during the General Assembly in Memphis, TN, appointed Bishop C.C. Owen President. The Guild was responsible for the creation and management of The Bishop Charles Harrison Mason Award, which was the highest award an individual, could receive in the Church Of God In Christ. A number of notable COGIC leaders and members received the award over the years as well as Citations Of Commendation. The purpose was to celebrate members of the Church who sacrificed much in service for the advancement of the denomination in many ways. Past Recipients of the Award and Citations include:

- Dr. Mattie Moss Clark
- Reverend Jesse Jackson
- Mother Lillian Brooks Coffey
- Dr. Arenia C. Mallory
- Bishop Ithiel Clemmons
- Bishop S. M. Crouch
- Dr. E.E. Dickerson
- Bishop P.A. Brooks
- Mother Mattie McGlothen
- Bishop O.T. Jones, Sr.
- Mother Mary Benjamin
- Brother Willie Cook
- Albernita "Twinkie" Clark
- Mother Lillie McGowan
- Mrs. Dorothy Brown
- Bishop Roy L.H. Winbush
- Bishop Charles Ford
- Bishop Frank O. White
- Bishop Chandler D. Owens
- Bishop F.D. Washington
- Mother Lucy Ntreh
- Bishop F. L. Haynes
- Bishop Frank Ellis
- Bishop C.L. Bryant
- Mother Annie Bailey
- Bishop C.H. Brewer, Sr.
- Bishop J.S. Bailey
- Bishop Robert Sanders
- Bishop C. L. Sexton
- Bishop Ted Thomas

In honor of the memory and commemoration of the COGIC Founder's Birthday, it is highly proposed to consider honoring outstanding leaders and members during the annual celebration with **The Bishop Charles Harrison Mason Award** and other so designated **Citations of Commendation.**

Recommendation for 2017 Recipients:

- Top Two Longest Serving Jurisdictional Bishops
- Top Two Longest Serving Jurisdictional Supervisors
- Longest Serving Pastor

The awards will be presented during the Founder's Celebration at a time designated by the Presiding Bishop.