Church Of God In Christ

107TH HOLY CONVOCATION

St. Louis, MO

THE LORD’S DAY WORSHIP CELEBRATION
9:00 AM

THE SERVICE OF EPISCOPAL CONSECRATION AND INSTALLATION
AND
THE HOLY COMMUNION CELEBRATION
7:30 PM

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2014
EDWARD JONES DOME
St. Louis, Missouri

BISHOP CHARLES E. BLAKE, SR.
Presiding Bishop and Chief Apostle

THE GENERAL BOARD
The Lord’s Day Celebration
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150 Years
Celebrating the Birth of Our Founder
Bishop Charles Harrison Mason
1864  2014
“Preserving the Landmark.”
Bishop Charles Harrison Mason

Bishop Charles Harrison Mason was the founder and first senior bishop of the Church of God in Christ (COGIC), presently the largest African-American Pentecostal church in the United States.

Born to former slaves Jerry and Eliza Mason in Shelby County, Tenn., on Sept. 8, 1864, Mason worked with his family as a sharecropper and did not receive a formal education as a child. But at an early age, he was influenced by his parents’ religion.

Mason joined the African-American Missionary Baptist Church when he was an adolescent and later received his license to preach from the Mount Gale Missionary Baptist Church in Preston, Ark. In November 1893, Mason enrolled at the Arkansas Baptist College, but withdrew after three months to transfer to the Minister’s Institute at the College; he graduated from the Institute in 1895.

In 1895, Mason met Charles Price Jones, a popular Baptist preacher from Mississippi. Mason and Jones soon began preaching the doctrine of holiness and sanctification in the local Baptist churches, which led to their expulsion from the Baptist Convention.

Mason and Jones decided to form a new fellowship of churches. Mason suggested the name Church of God in Christ, after what he described as a vision in Little Rock, Ark., to distinguish the church from a number of “Church of God” groups forming at that time.

Due to disagreements in the new Pentecostal teachings, the two men split their group in 1907. Mason won the legal rights to the Church of God in Christ name and charter, and established his work in Memphis.

After moving the COGIC headquarters to Memphis, Mason established additional departments and auxiliaries, created dioceses, and appointed overseers throughout the country.

In 1945, Mason dedicated Mason Temple in Memphis as the church’s national meeting site and the international headquarters of the Church of God in Christ.

At the time of Mason’s death on Nov. 17, 1961, COGIC had a membership of more than 400,000 and more than 4,000 churches in United States as well as congregations in Europe, South America, Africa, and Asia.

Today, it has an estimated 5 million members. The church can be found in every state in the United States and in more than 60 countries around the world.
Bishop Charles Edward Blake, Sr.

Bishop Charles E. Blake, Sr. is the fifth elected Presiding Bishop and the seventh leader in succession, appointed in November 2007 by the General Assembly of the Church of God in Christ. From 1985 to 2009, he maintained the position of Prelate for the First Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of California, where he was responsible for overseeing over 250 churches. He is an example of servant leadership and has become a voice to the nations to uphold the standards of holiness. He is known to many as being an eloquent, compassionate and practical leader, as well as a humanitarian and an advocate with a God-given gift for ministering to the whole man.

The Church of God in Christ is the fifth largest Protestant religious denomination in the United States, the largest Pentecostal church in the country and the second largest Pentecostal organization in the world with churches in 60 countries worldwide and an estimated membership of nearly 6.5 million members.

As Senior Pastor of the 26,000 member, West Angeles Church of God In Christ in Los Angeles, California, Bishop Blake’s leadership is positively impacting lives and enhancing the community through the work of the many ministries offered. As a compassionate advocate for the advancement of God’s Kingdom, he is committed to accomplishing God’s agenda as both a leader and a laborer, reaping a harvest of souls. His passion for meeting the needs of the “whole” man reaches globally through his humanitarian efforts. As founder and CEO of Save Africa’s Children, a program of the Pan African Children’s Fund, he helps to support more than 200,000 children in 400 orphan care programs throughout more than 23 nations on the continent of Africa.

Bishop Blake has several academic and honorary degrees, including a Doctor of Divinity from California Graduate School of Theology, a Doctor of Law degree from Oral Roberts University and an honorary doctorate from California State University, Los Angeles.

As a visionary who is both inspiring and influential, the awards and recognitions that Bishop Blake has received are extensive. He was recognized in Washington, D. C. by President Barack Obama in 2009 and invited to serve on the White House Advisory Council on Faith-Based and Neighborhood Partnerships. He was a speaker at the Democratic National Convention’s first Ecumenical Service where he eloquently challenged all to protect the unborn by advocating pro-life. Other accolades include the Distinguished Leadership Award from the African Presidential Archives and Research Center at Boston University, the Greenlining Institute’s Big Heart Award, a Trumpet Award, and the Urban League’s Whitney M. Young award, among many others.

Bishop Blake is married to Lady Mae Lawrence Blake. They have three children and eight grandchildren.
Dear Saints of God:

Welcome to the 107th Holy Convocation!

This year, I proclaimed the theme, “We are called to minister and witness to a deeply distressed and troubled world,” and all around us is evidence to confirm this very sentiment. Technology has exposed us to global disasters, economic chaos and uncertainties that have unraveled nations. We are living in times of daily anxiety and strain. Even as we gather in the city of St. Louis, we are reminded that matters of race continue to, unfortunately, disgrace America.

While the church may view these circumstances as evidence of societal decline, we must also embrace the opportunity to minister in the power of His resurrection, and to demonstrate the witness of a people who are anchored in Christ, our Lord and Savior. The Lord is calling us to be bread for the hungry, salt to the unsavory, water to the thirsty, and hope to the hopeless.

If we are to be triumphant, we must rise to the occasion and proclaim the message of Christ as the answer to the cares of this life. The world must be reminded that nothing is impossible with God!

During this Holy Convocation, I implore every delegate to steadfastly seek the presence of God; for it is His presence alone that brings fullness of joy and rest for the weary. When we as saints gather in one place and are on one accord, we have the wonderful privilege of inclining God’s ear. He is then able to give us a peace that surpasses all understanding, so that we may continue to go forth and breathe life into dark and desolate places.

I encourage you to take full advantage of the convocation ministries that are designed to strengthen your walk with Christ. Find ample time to join others in prayer, learn more about the spiritual disciplines of the Christian life in daily Bible instruction, and take advantage of the teachings of prayer and intercession conducted in the C.H. Mason Prayer Chamber. As we fellowship with one
another, let us resist any temptation to be disjointed. Instead, let us enjoy the fellowship of the saints in times of praise and worship. Consecrate your time and devote yourself by anticipating a great movement of the Holy Spirit.

Lastly, please earnestly pray for the leadership of the church, and pray God’s outpouring upon us in a great and mighty way. Only by yielding to God’s will can we be endowed with the power to tend to the world in these times of distress and anxiety. We must use each moment wisely to ensure that we yield ourselves as vessels fit for the Master’s use, contending for the faith that was once delivered to the saints (Jude 1:3).

Your Servant in Christ,

Bishop Charles E. Blake, Sr.
Presiding Bishop
The Seventh in Succession
CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST, INC.
The General Board

The Right Reverend
Charles E. Blake, Sr.
Presiding Bishop
Los Angeles, California

The Right Reverend
Phillip Aquilla Brooks, II
First Assistant Presiding Bishop
Prelate, Michigan Northeast
Detroit, Michigan

The Right Reverend
Jerry Wayne Macklin
Second Assistant Presiding Bishop
Prelate, NorCal Metropolitan
Hayward, California

The Right Reverend
Roy Lawrence Hailey Winbush
Secretary to the General Board
Prelate, Louisiana First
Lafayette, Louisiana

The Right Reverend
Frank O. White
Assistant Secretary to the General Board
Prelate, New York Eastern Third
New York, New York

The Right Reverend
George Dallas McKinney
Prelate, California Southern Second
San Diego, CA
The Right Reverend Nathaniel Wyoming Wells
Prelate, Michigan Western
Benton Harbor, Michigan

The Right Reverend Sedgwick Daniels
Prelate, Wisconsin Southeast First
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

The Right Reverend J. Drew Sheard
Prelate, North Central
Detroit, Michigan

The Right Reverend Brandon B. Porter
Prelate, Tennessee Central
Memphis, Tennessee

The Right Reverend Ted G. Thomas, Sr.
Prelate, Virginia First
Portsmouth, Virginia

The Right Reverend Lawrence M. Wooten, Sr.
Prelate, Eastern Missouri Western Illinois
St. Louis, Missouri
SUNDAY, THE NINTH DAY OF NOVEMBER,
TWO THOUSAND AND FOURTEEN ANNO DOMINI
AT NINE O’CLOCK IN THE MORNING

The Lord’s Day Worship Celebration
Edward Jones Dome

“We are Called to Minister and Witness to a Deeply Distressed and Troubled World.”
[Acts 26:15-18]

WORSHIP LEADER
BISHOP J.W. MACKLIN
Second Assistant Presiding Bishop,
Prelate – Nor Cal Metropolitan Jurisdiction

THE ORDER OF DIVINE WORSHIP
(+Where indicated, Please Stand)

9:00 AM       The Prelude Recital     The C. H. Mason Memorial Choir
               J.O. Patterson Fine Arts Orchestra
               Dr. Judith McAllister, International Minister of Music
               International Music Department
               Elder Ezra Howard, Director
               J.O. Patterson Fine Arts Orchestra

9:15 AM       The Processional
               Bishop Designate - Robert G. Rudolph, Jr.
               Secretary of the National Adjutancy COGIC

+ The National Adjutancy
+ The Visiting Prelates
+ The Military and Institutional Chaplaincy, led by the Military Vicar
+ National Appointees
+ The Chairman of the Council of Pastors and Elders
+ The National Board of Trustees
+ The Judiciary
+ The Board of Bishops, led by the Chairman
+ The Secretary of Finance
+ The General Treasurer
+ The General Secretary
+ The Chairman of the General Assembly

+ The Hymn of Adoration       Holy, Holy, Holy
                              The C. H. Mason Memorial Choir
                              J.O. Patterson Fine Arts Orchestra
                              And Congregation

+ The Acolytes and Cross Bearer
+ The Adjutant Overseers
+ The General Board – “Ascending Order”
+ The Second Assistant Presiding Bishop
+ The First Assistant Presiding Bishop
+ The Presiding Bishop
+ The Call to Worship

Bishop J. W. Macklin  
Second Assistant Presiding Bishop  
Prelate - Northern California Metropolitan Jurisdiction

The Leader: For the earth shall be filled with the knowledge of the Glory of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea.
The People: The Glory of the Lord shall endure forever: The Lord shall rejoice in His works
The Leader: Arise, Shine; for thy light is come, and the Glory of the Lord is risen upon thee
ALL: For the Glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together: For the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it. Fulfill your desire in our midst this day Oh Lord. AMEN.

+ The Invocation

Bishop George D. McKinney  
General Board Member  
Prelate - California Southern Second Jurisdiction

+ The Levitical Affirmation

The C. H. Mason Memorial Choir  
J.O Patterson Fine Arts Orchestra

+ The Old Testament Lesson  
Isaiah 52:9-11, 60:1-3

Bishop Nathaniel W. Wells  
General Board Member  
Prelate - Michigan Western Benton Harbor Jurisdiction

+ The New Testament Lesson  
John 20:19-23  
Acts 1:4-8

Bishop Ted Thomas  
General Board Member  
Prelate - Virginia First Jurisdiction

+ The Congregational Hymn  
The Comforter Has Come  
Led By: Bishop Darryl Hines  
(Page 190 COGIC Hymnal)

Choir & Congregation  
Prelate - Illinois Midwest Jurisdiction

+ The Affirmation of Faith

Bishop Roy L.H. Winbush  
General Board Member  
Prelate - Louisiana First Jurisdiction

+ The Celebrative Praise

Send Judah First - International Worship Team  
Psaltest Sharon Jackson – Coordinator  
Georgia Central South Jurisdiction  
Prelate - Bishop Norman O. Harper

The Anthem

The C. H. Mason Memorial Choir  
Dr. Judith McAllister, International Minister of Music  
International Music Department

The Salutation

Mother Willie Mae Rivers  
General Supervisor – Department of Women
THE SACRED MINISTRY OF GIVING
Bishop Brandon B. Porter
General Board Member, Prelate – Tennessee Central Jurisdiction

The Observations

Bishop J.H. Lyles, Jr.
General Secretary
Prelate – Greater Maryland First Jurisdiction

The Ministry of Music, Worship & Arts

The C. H. Mason Memorial Choir
J.O Patterson Fine Arts Orchestra
Send Judah First Liturgical Dancers

Dr. Judith McAllister, International Minister of Music/President
Elder Ezra Howard, Director J.O. Patterson Fine Arts Orchestra
Evangelist Rochelle Robbins, Coordinator- SJF Liturgical Dancers

COGIC Urban Initiatives Highlights

Bishop Edwin C. Bass
Auxiliary, Missouri Eastern First Jurisdiction
Prelate – Bishop R.J. Ward

The Introduction of the Presiding Bishop

Bishop P.A. Brooks
First Assistant Presiding Bishop
Prelate – Historic Michigan First Jurisdiction

The Sermonic Selection

The C. H. Mason Memorial Choir
Featuring
Lady Audrey DuBois-Harris
New York Eastern Third Jurisdiction
General Board Member, Bishop Frank O. White, Prelate

THE OFFICIAL MESSAGE
His Eminence, The Most Reverend
Charles Edward Blake, Sr.
Presiding Bishop and Chief Apostle, Church Of God In Christ, Inc.
Seventh in Succession

+ The Invitation

+ The Prayer of Healing & Deliverance

+ The Benediction

Bishop Lawrence M. Wooten
General Board Member
Prelate – Missouri Eastern/Western Illinois Jurisdiction

+ The Recessional

JOIN OUR YOUTH FOR
YOUNG PEOPLE WILLING WORKERS (YPWW)
5:30PM – 6:30PM

DR. BENJAMIN STEPHENS – PRESIDENT, INTERNATIONAL YOUTH DEPARTMENT
EVANGELIST JOYCE RODGERS – CHAIRLADY, INTERNATIONAL YOUTH DEPARTMENT
THE EDWARD JONES DOME
The Comforter Has Come

And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever. Jn. 14:16
Ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me. Ac. 1:8

1. Oh, spread the tidings 'round, wherever man is found, Wherever human hearts and human woes abound; Let every Christian tongue proclaim the joyful sound: wail and fury of the blast, As o'er the golden hills the day advances fast!

2. The long, long night is past, the morning breaks at last, And hushed the dread-ful soul a full deliverance brings; And through the vacant cells the song of triumph rings; tell the match-less grace divine—That I, a child of hell, should in His image shine!

3. Lo, the great King of kings, with healing in His wings, To every captive bove to all below reply, In strains of endless love, the song that ne'er will die:

4. O bound-less love divine! How shall this tongue of mine To wond'ring mortals Heav'n, the Father's promise given; Oh, spread the tidings 'round, wher-ever man is found—

5. Sing till the echoes fly above the vault-ed sky, And all the saints a-Fine Refrain

The Com-fort-er has come! The Com-fort-er has come, the Com-fort-er has come! The Ho-ly Ghost from

D.S. al Fine

The Service of Episcopal Consecration & Installation
7:30 PM
The America’s Center
Edward Jones Dome
THE SERVICE OF EPISCOPAL CONSECRATION AND INSTALLATION
SUNDAY, THE NINTH DAY OF NOVEMBER,
TWO THOUSAND AND FOURTEEN ANNO DOMINI
AT SEVEN-THIRTY O’CLOCK IN THE EVENING

EDWARD JONES DOME

The Order of Divine Worship
(+ Where indicated, Please Stand)

WORSHIP LEADER
BISHOP PHILIP A. BROOKS
First Assistant Presiding Bishop
Prelate – Historic Michigan First Jurisdiction

The Organ Prelude

❖ The Apostolic Procession
Bishop Designate Robert G. Rudolph, Jr.
Secretary of the National Adjutancy COGIC

THE NATIONAL ADJUTANCY
THE VISITING PRELATES
THE MILITARY AND INSTITUTIONAL CHAPLAINCY, LED BY THE MILITARY VICAR
NATIONAL APPOINTEES
THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL OF PASTORS AND ELDERS
THE NATIONAL BOARD OF TRUSTEES
THE JUDICIARY
THE BOARD OF BISHOPS, LED BY THE CHAIRMAN
THE SECRETARY OF FINANCE
THE GENERAL TREASURER
THE GENERAL SECRETARY
THE CHAIRMAN OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

❖ The Hymn of Adoration
Holy, Holy, Holy
THE C. H. MASON MEMORIAL CHOIR
J.O. PATTERSON FINE ARTS ORCHESTRA
AND CONGREGATION

❖ THE BISHOPS-ELECT [WITH EPISCOPAL ESCORTS]
❖ THE GENERAL BOARD
❖ THE PRESIDING BISHOP

❖ The Call to Worship
Bishop P. A. Brooks
First Assistant Presiding Bishop
Prelate – Historic Michigan First Jurisdiction

“We are Called to Minister and Witness to a Deeply Distressed and Troubled World.”
[Acts 26:15-18]
The Responsorial

Leader: For I am the Lord your God: ye shall therefore sanctify yourselves, and ye shall be holy; for I am holy.

People: Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean: wash me and I shall be whiter than snow.

Leader: But as He which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation; because it is written, be ye holy; for I am holy.

All: Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.

The Invocation

Bishop Sedgwick Daniels  
General Board Member  
Wisconsin First Jurisdiction

The Old Testament Scripture  Psalm 24

Bishop Frank O. White  
General Board Member  
Prelate – New York Eastern Third Jurisdiction

The New Testament Scripture  1 Timothy 3:1-7

Bishop J. Drew Sheard  
General Board Member  
Prelate – Michigan North Central Jurisdiction

The Hymn  “Are You Washed in the Blood”

Choir & Congregation  
Led by: Dr. Phil Hall  
Florida Eastern Jurisdiction  
Bishop Brandon B. Porter – Interim Prelate

The Affirmation of Faith

Bishop R.L.H. Winbush  
General Board Member  
Prelate – Louisiana First Jurisdiction

The Anthem

The C. H. Mason  
International MASS Choir  
Dr. Judith McAllister, International Minister of Music  
International Music Department  
Tennessee Eastern First Jurisdiction  
Prelate – Bishop Felton M. Smith, Jr. - Prelate

OFFICIAL GREETINGS

BISHOP J. H. SHEARD  
Chairman, College of Bishops

THE SACRED MINISTRY OF GIVING

Bishop Jerry W. Macklin  
Second Assistant Presiding Bishop  
Prelate – Nor Cal Metropolitan Jurisdiction

☞ The 107th Holy Convocation Video Highlights ☜
The Voice of our Leader
The Honorable Bishop Charles E. Blake, Sr.
Presiding Bishop and Chief Apostle
The Presentation of the Messenger

THE SERMONIC SELECTION

THE WORD OF GOD
Bishop Loran Mann
Prelate – Vermont Jurisdiction

❖ The Invitation, Prayer of Healing & Deliverance

❖ THE PRESENTATION OF CERTIFICATES ❖
The Honorable Bishop Charles E. Blake, Sr.
Presiding Bishop and Chief Apostle

“We are Called to Minister and Witness to a Deeply Distressed and Troubled World.”
[Acts 26:15-18]
Are You Washed in the Blood?

These are they which came out of great tribulation,
and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. Rev. 7:14

1. Have you been to Jesus for the cleansing pow'r? Are you washed in the blood of the Lamb?
2. Are you walking daily by the Savior's side? Are you washed in the blood of the Lamb?
3. When the Bride-groom cometh will your robes be white? Are you washed in the blood of the Lamb?
4. Lay aside the garments that are stained with sin, And be washed in the blood of the Lamb;

Are you fully trusting in His grace this hour? Are you washed in the blood of the Lamb?
Do you rest each moment in the Crucified? Are you washed in the blood of the Lamb?
Will your soul be ready for the mansions bright, And be washed in the blood of the Lamb?
There's a fountain flowing for the soul unclean, Oh, be washed in the blood of the Lamb!

Refrain

Are you washed in the blood, Are you washed in the blood, Are you washed of the Lamb?

Are your garments spotless? Are they white as snow? Are you washed in the blood of the Lamb?

The Service of Episcopal
Consecration & Installation
His Grace, The Most Reverend Charles Edward Blake, Sr.
Presiding Bishop,
Chief Consecrator and Celebrant

Preface to the Ordinal

The Holy Scriptures and ancient Christian writers make it clear that from the apostles’ time, there have been different ministries within the Church. In particular, since the time of the New Testament, three distinct orders of ordained ministers have been characteristic of Christ's holy (universal) Church. First, there is the order of bishops who carry on the apostolic work of leading, supervising, and uniting the Church. Secondly, associated with them are the presbyters, or ordained elders, in subsequent times generally known as priests. Together with the bishops, they take part in the governance of the Church, in the carrying out of its missionary and pastoral work, and in the preaching of the Word of God and administering His holy Sacraments. Thirdly, there are deacons who assist bishops and elders in all of this work. It is also a special responsibility of deacons to minister in Christ's Name to the poor, the sick, the suffering, and the helpless.

The persons who are chosen and recognized by the Church as being called by God to the ordained ministry are admitted to these sacred orders by solemn prayer and the laying on of Episcopal hands. It has been, and is, the intention and purpose of this Church to maintain and continue these three orders; and for this purpose these Services of Ordination and Consecration are appointed. No persons are allowed to exercise the offices of bishop, priest or elder, or deacon, or wear their insignia in this Church unless they are so ordained, or have already received such ordination with the laying on of hands by bishops who are themselves duly qualified to confer Holy Orders.

It is also recognized and affirmed that the threefold ministry is not the exclusive property of this portion of Christ's universal Church, but it is a gift from God for the nurture of His people and the proclamation of His Gospel everywhere. Accordingly, the manner of ordaining in this Church is to be such as has been, and is, most generally recognized by Christian people as suitable for conferring the sacred orders of Bishop, Elder, and Deacon.
The Service of Episcopal Consecration

THE PRESIDING BISHOP

CHIEF CONSECRATOR

(The Order of Worship completed and the Word of God having been preached, the Service of Consecration begins. The Presiding Bishop will summon the candidates to the main altar for consecration.)

The Presentation

(The Chairman of the Board of Bishops shall present the Candidates to the Presiding Bishop saying:)

“YOUR GRACE, BY THE WILL OF GOD WE PRESENT THESE CANDIDATES TO YOU FOR PUBLIC CONSECRATION TO THE SACRED OFFICE OF JURISDICTIONAL BISHOP AND AUXILIARY BISHOP IN THE CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST.”

(Having received the candidates, the Presiding Bishop begins the charge:)

The Charge

“The Church of God in Christ has expressed confidence in you, in your character, in your devotion to Christ and the Church, and in your ability to direct the affairs and promote the general interests of the entire Church in that she has signally honored you by selecting you to this high office.”

“The Apostle Paul warns that a Bishop must then be blameless, the husband of one wife...vigilant, sober, of good behavior, given to hospitality, apt to teach. Moreover he must have a good report of them which are without, lest he fall into reproach and the snare of the devil.”

The General Assembly of the Church of God in Christ has assigned to you as Bishop, the following duties:

- To uphold, obey and defend the Word of God.
- To obey and defend the Constitution of the Church of God in Christ.
- To function as the Administrative Head of the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction to which you are assigned.
- To seek out and discover, in cooperation with your District Superintendents and Congregations, a suitable Pastor for each Congregation under your care.
- To encourage Ministerial Improvements and Leadership Training by planning Pastors Study Groups, In-Service-Training, Ministerial Retreats and Supporting the Charles Harrison Mason System of Bible Colleges.
- To inspire the Pastors to spiritual growth and personal improvement for more effective witnessing for Christ and His Kingdom.
- To encourage visitation among the Pastors in the homes, hospitals and penal institutions.
- To stimulate, by your life example, as well as, by your preaching, the outlook and vision of your people and inspire them to holy living and more dedication to the total program of the Church.
- To submit yourself to your Superiors in the church with all prayerful humility and by your example, teaching those under your charge to do the same.
- To seek out communities in your Jurisdiction into which a Christian Witness might be effective.
The Inquiry

The Presiding Bishop:

“In as much as the Holy Scriptures enjoin that no man be placed hastily in supervision of the affairs of God’s Holy Church and in order that those here may know your mind and purpose concerning this Sacred office will you, in the fear of God, answer the questions we ask you in the name of Christ and His Church?”

ANSWER: “I WILL”

“Will you endeavor to live soberly, righteously and godly as a Bishop in the Church so that you may be an example to all others in Christian living?”

ANSWER: “I WILL, BY THE HELP OF GOD.”

“Will you instruct those who come under your charge, in the Word of God to the edification of the whole church?”

ANSWER: “I WILL DO SO, THE LORD BEING MY HELPER.”

“Will you give diligence to faithfully perform all the duties assigned to you as Bishop of the Church of God in Christ as directed by your Superiors?”

ANSWER: “I WILL, BY THE HELP OF GOD.”

“Will you ever seek, in true humility, to deal justly and kindly with your brethren in the ministry and with all others over which you shall be placed as Bishop?”

ANSWER: “I WILL DO SO BY THE HELP AND GRACE OF GOD, THE HOLY SPIRIT BEING MY STRENGTH.”

The Acceptance

(The candidates will now turn and face the standing congregation)

The Presiding Bishop:

“Saints of Christ: Do you under God, accept these men into this office and will you give them your cooperation, support and prayers as they seek to carry out the responsibilities of this office?”

ANSWER: “WE WILL DO SO, GOD BEING OUR HELPER.”
The Investiture

The Cassock: The robe which is worn during the service, is the symbol of an Elder and Servant. The Bishop is first and foremost, a Servant and one among his brethren.

The Cincture: This Garment is a symbol of Christ. It speaks of the Bishop’s willingness to “wash his brethren’s feet” pursuant to the example of His Lord.

The Rochet: This white linen Garment is a symbol of the Priesthood. Aaron’s Ephod is found in the book of Leviticus and is a reminder to the Bishop that his role as Celebrant and Worship Leader is prominent in the total Mandate of the Office.

The Chimere: This Garment is a symbol of a Prophet. The Bishop of the Church becomes the Chief Defender of the faith and the Preacher of the doctrines in his Jurisdiction. This is one symbol that sets him apart from Elders, for he alone wears this Mantle of Office.

The Tippet: The tippet is the symbol of a slave. It is the tippet that binds the Bishop to his Church. Inscribed on the tippet, is the seal of the Church of God in Christ, Inc., and the Seal of the Bishop. They are the symbols of Jurisdiction or Assignment. The tippet signifies that the Bishop is a man under authority.

The Pectoral Cross: This Cross of Gold is hung around the Bishop’s neck as a symbol of his imprisonment for Christ. The Bishop is hereby officially inducted into the College of Bishops.

The Ring: The Symbol of priestly authority.

The Installation of the Jurisdictional Bishop

(The Presiding Bishop now places the Tippet about the neck of the newly appointed Bishop and makes the following declaration)

The Presiding Bishop:


The Prayer of Consecration

Bishop Michael Cole – Prelate, North Dakota Jurisdiction

(The newly installed Bishops now kneel at the main altar)
Holy Communion
The Holy Communion Celebration

“This do ye in remembrance of me”

- The Scripture Reading: I Corinthians 11:23-32
  Bishop Tyrone Butler
  Prelate--New York Southeast Jurisdiction

- The Blessing of the Elements
  The Presiding Bishop
  Assisted by The General Board

- The Purification

- The Consecration and Distribution of the Hosts

  While the Presiding Bishop serves the members of the General Board, the Adjutant Elders will move toward their Communion Stations and remain there until the Bishop of the station arrives. When the Bishop of the station arrives, he will serve each of the Adjutant Elders and then instruct them to feed the flock of God. At that point, the Adjutant Elder from the Communion Station will proceed to feed the Saints. After the General Board has been served, the Jurisdictional Bishops will follow and be served at the main altar by the members of the General Board. The Bishops of the stations immediately after receiving the Lord’s Supper will move toward their stations and serve their table. (Phase One as described above will then be enacted.)

- The Closing Hymn and Levitical Benediction

  “And they sang a hymn and went out…”

- The Recessional

IN OBSERVANCE OF THE RECESSIONAL, PLEASE REMAIN AT YOUR SEAT UNTIL THE PRESIDING BISHOP, THE GENERAL BOARD AND THE BOARD OF BISHOPS HAVE RECESSED

THANK YOU.
“These are the men whom the Lord delighteth to honor”
2014 Jurisdictional Bishop Designates

Bishop Designate Leo Charles Brown, Jr.
Prelate, Washington Jurisdiction

Bishop Designate Alphonso Denson, Sr.
Prelate, Louisiana East Jurisdiction One

Bishop Designate Mark LaVoy Gilkey
Prelate, Kansas Southwest Jurisdiction

Bishop Designate Maurice Green, Jr.
Prelate, Mexico Jurisdiction

Bishop Designate Jerry Lee Ivery, Sr.
Prelate, Kenya East Africa Jurisdiction

Bishop Designate Esra Mataba
Prelate, South Africa Third Jurisdiction

Bishop Designate Don Venson Nobles, Sr.
Prelate, Texas Lone Star Jurisdiction

Bishop Designate Jerry Wayne Taylor
Prelate, Tennessee Fifth Jurisdiction

Bishop Designate Jimmie Lee Williams
Prelate, Florida Eastern Jurisdiction

2014 Auxiliary Bishop Designates

Bishop Designate William Henry Allen
Auxiliary Bishop, Illinois Sixth Jurisdiction

Bishop Designate David Douglas Daniels, III
Auxiliary Bishop, Illinois Fifth East Jurisdiction

Bishop Designate George Walter Davis, Jr.
Auxiliary Bishop, North Carolina Second Jurisdiction

Bishop Designate Nathaniel Andrew Ellis
Auxiliary Bishop, Missouri Southeast Third Jurisdiction

Bishop Designate Robert Lee Hargrove
Auxiliary Bishop, Pennsylvania Commonwealth Jurisdiction

Bishop Designate Milton Roscoe Hawkins
Auxiliary Bishop, Tennessee Fourth Jurisdiction

Bishop Designate Percy Walby Henderson, II
Auxiliary Bishop, Michigan Great Lakes Second Jurisdiction

Bishop Designate James Edward Hicks
Auxiliary Bishop, Washington Jurisdiction

Bishop Designate James William Hunt, Sr.
Auxiliary Bishop, Pennsylvania Commonwealth Jurisdiction

Bishop Designate Milton Paul Jackson
Auxiliary Bishop, Kansas Central Jurisdiction

Bishop Designate Willie Autry Jenkins
Auxiliary Bishop, Texas South Central Jurisdiction

Bishop Designate Levi Leroy Lenley
Auxiliary Bishop, Oklahoma Southeast Jurisdiction

2014 Auxiliary Bishop Designates (Continued)

Bishop Designate Clarence Lewis, III
Auxiliary Bishop, Pennsylvania Commonwealth Jurisdiction

Bishop Designate James Arthur Lewis, Sr.
Auxiliary Bishop, Southern California First Jurisdiction

Bishop Designate Albert James Mays, Jr.
Auxiliary Bishop, Texas Western Jurisdiction

Bishop Designate William Nichols
Auxiliary Bishop, Michigan Western Jurisdiction

Bishop Designate Charles Harrison Mason Patterson, Sr.
Auxiliary Bishop, Tennessee Headquarters Jurisdiction

Bishop Designate Willard Louis Payton
Auxiliary Bishop, Illinois First Jurisdiction

Bishop Designate Robert Perry
Auxiliary Bishop, Illinois Fifth West Jurisdiction

Bishop Designate Augustus David Pullen
Auxiliary Bishop, Connecticut Second Jurisdiction

Bishop Designate Robert Gene Rudolph, Jr.
Auxiliary Bishop, Arkansas Second Jurisdiction

Bishop Designate Marvin Sanders
Auxiliary Bishop, Missouri Eastern/Illinois Western Jurisdiction

Bishop Ahmed Marc Screven
Auxiliary Bishop, New York Eastern Fourth Jurisdiction

Bishop Designate Arthur Riley Shields
Auxiliary Bishop, Greater Maryland First Jurisdiction

Bishop Designate Robert Earl Smith, Sr.
Auxiliary Bishop, Michigan Historic First Jurisdiction

Bishop Designate Talbert Wesley Swan, II
Auxiliary Bishop, Massachusetts Jurisdiction

Bishop Designate Kurt Lance Thompson
Auxiliary Bishop, Texas Southeast First Jurisdiction

Bishop Designate Bernard Sylvester Wallace
Auxiliary Bishop, Pennsylvania Second Jurisdiction

Bishop Designate Dwight Eugene Walls, Sr.
Auxiliary Bishop, Michigan Great Lakes Second Jurisdiction

Bishop Designate Lee Ward
Auxiliary Bishop, Tennessee Headquarters Jurisdiction

Bishop Designate Patrick Lane Wooden, Sr.
Auxiliary Bishop, Greater North Carolina Jurisdiction

2014 Episcopal Assignments

Bishop Welton Lee Lawrence
Prelate, Canadian/Michigan Jurisdiction

Bishop Enoch Perry, III
Prelate, Ivory Coast Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction
“These are the men whom the Lord delighteth to honor”

2014 Bishop Designates
Bishop Designate
Leo Charles Brown, Jr.
Prelate, Washington State Jurisdiction

Bishop Designate Leo C. Brown, Jr. was born in Washington, D.C. to Mildred Vera and Leo C. Brown, Sr. in 1942, the second oldest of four children. Bishop Designate Brown was married for 35 years to the Late Barbara Jean Brown and was blessed to raise 14 children. Bishop Designate Brown has been preaching the Gospel since 1965 when he was called by God under the late Bishop R. E. and mother Bernice Altheimer. He is the pastor and founder of True Vine Community COGIC where he has been the watchman on the wall for 38 faithful years. He is the Superintendent of the Puget Sound District where he is the overseer of 8 churches. In 2009, he was appointed by the Late Bishop T. L. Westbrook as the 2nd Administrative Assistant to the Washington State Jurisdiction. God has also blessed Bishop Designate Brown to serve on the National Church of God in Christ Elections Committee for over 5 years and on the National Rules Committee for 5 years. Recently he was appointed to work with the Job Description and Remuneration Committee of the General Assembly.

In 1972 Bishop Designate Brown founded the Progress House Association which is a group of halfway houses designed to help men and women re-enter society from the penal system. Bishop Designate Brown is a developer of leaders, an entrepreneur, a humanitarian and a lover of God's people. Bishop Designate Brown is a man with a vision. His motto is: “Where there is no vision, the people perish”. This man of God has proven down through the years to be anointed, generous and highly favored by God. As God continues to materialize Bishop Designate Brown's dreams and aspirations in life, the pastors, communities, churches, and jurisdiction that he leads will be greatly blessed and highly favored by God.

Bishop Designate
Alphonso Denson, Sr.
Prelate, Louisiana East Jurisdiction One

Bishop Designate Alphonso Denson, Sr. is the seventh of eight children. He was reared by his stepfather and mother, Deacon Jesse and Mother Catherine McCollom in Andalusia, Alabama. As a life-long member of the Church of God in Christ, he was taught by his parents to fear God. At age 16, he received the baptism of the Holy Ghost and flourished in wisdom and knowledge under the direction and leadership of his pastor, Dr. Wiley C. Neal and the saints at the Andalusia COGIC. In 1982, Bishop Designate Denson began his gospel ministry under the leadership of the late Superintendent Burley Lafleur in Pineville, Louisiana. He has served as Founder and CEO of Abram Temple Community Development Corporation. He is currently working to bring affordable housing units to the community he serves. In 1991 the late Bishop J.E. Gordon appointed him to serve as District Superintendent, and in 2001 he was appointed to serve as an Administrative Assistant to Bishop Gordon. In April 2010, he and the Abram Temple Church family completed the construction of a new edifice for praise and worship in Bunkie, Louisiana valued at more than one million dollars.

Bishop Designate Denson and his lovely wife Miss’y Eula Young Denson reside in Alexandria, Louisiana. They married in 1981 and have two wonderful children: a son, Alphonso, Jr. and wife Nakia, and a daughter, Camille and husband, Derrick Guillory. They are also the proud grandparents of five.

He has a proven record of integrity, ingenuity, and invigorating character, and he is especially noted for his unwavering stance in holiness, faithfulness to the church, impeccable commitment to prayer and an anointing power of the Holy Ghost. Bishop Designate Denson loves the Lord and the Lord’s people. He believes in Holy living and believes, “Your Best Life is in Christ.”
Bishop Designate

Mark LaVoy Gilkey
Prelate, Kansas Southwest Jurisdiction

Superintendent Mark L. Gilkey is third generation Church of God in Christ. His father is the Bishop J. C. Gilkey, Sr. and his mother, the Late Gladys Yvonne Gilkey. He is married to Virdena Gilkey, his wife of 25 years. They have three children Breanna Nicole (21), Ryan Mark (20), and Ciara Chanee (17).

His past service and leadership in the District and Jurisdiction include: Jurisdictional Adjutant, Jurisdictional Minister of Music, Jurisdictional Youth President, AIM Chairman (20 years), L.H. Ford District Superintendent (9 years), and 2nd Administrative Assistant (8 years). Nationally, Supt. Gilkey serves as the National Coordinator for the Jurisdictional AIM Chairs, National Standards & Extension Committee, National Workshop Facilitator and Presenter, International Youth Department Mid-South Coordinator (1997-2002), International Youth Department Assistant Director of Finance (2000-2002), National Recordings: 3 songs written and recorded under the Late Legendary Dr. Mattie Moss Clark.


Under his ministry is the SMC Family Life Center Inc., which is a 501©3 non-profit organization formed out of St. Mark Cathedral. The life center’s mission is to assist those in need with programs and services that meet the social, emotional physical, relational and economic needs of families in the Wichita Metro area. The SMC FLC also offers an after school tutoring program and has a computer lab. Additionally, the summer lunch program feeds over 2,000 children annually.

Supt. Gilkey has an Associates of Arts Degree (Wichita State University – Social Science), Bachelor of Science Degree (Friends University – Human Resource Management), Master’s Program Religion and Theology (Friends University) Honorary Doctorate (Fellowship Bible).

Bishop Designate

Maurice Green, Jr.
Prelate, Mexico Jurisdiction

Born out of years of foundational training and teaching in the Church of God in Christ, Bishop Designee Maurice Green Jr. emerged a dynamic vessel “anointed to lead”. Elected visionary of the LILY OF THE VALLEY Church of God in Christ in Bryan, Texas, he ministers as a charismatic pastor who has genuinely, sensitively and sacrificially nurtured the flock of God for the past thirty-three (33) years. Under the pedagogy of the late Bishop Samuel Crouch, the late Bishop J. A. Blake, Bishop Charles Blake, the late Bishop T. D. Iglehart, and Bishop Samuel E. Iglehart, Bishop Designee Green has served veraciously as Evangelist, District Y.P.W.W. President, State Music Department President, Chairman of the Elders’ Council, Jurisdictional Adjutant to the Bishop, National Adjutant, Sergeant at Arms and Marshall, International Women’s Department Prayer Team, Pastor, District Superintendent and Administrative Assistant.

As an International Evangelist, he has worked extensively in Africa, the Dominican Republic, Belize, London, England and Mexico where he is currently serving. His pastoral reach extends beyond the walls of the organized church as he also serves, civically, as Bryan Independent School District committee member, Campus pastor for Life Saver’s Bible Study (Texas A&M University) and team member of Save our Street Ministries. In addition, he performs weekly services at the Federal Women’s Prison (Bryan), services at the Texas Department of Corrections and a weekly radio ministry. His most endearing service is chronicled in his life as the adoring husband to Missionary Barbara Hall Green, caring father to his children and loving grandfather to his precious grandchildren.
Bishop Designate

Jerry Lee Ivery, Sr.

Prelate, Kenya East Africa Jurisdiction

Bishop Designate Jerry L. Ivery, B.A., M.S., PhD was born July 23, 1954, the fourth child of ten. As an infant he suffered a stroke that left him with a lazy eye and a speech impediment. At the age of two he fell down a flight of stairs and burst his eardrums. The doctor placed him in his mother’s arms to die. However, his parents who were members of Temple Church of God in Christ, under the leadership of the late Bishop Charles H. Mason, had faith in God. His father took him upstairs and gave him to God, praying the prayer of faith, believing God to heal their son. Bishop Designate Ivery was healed and was brought up in the admonition of the Word of God. God also delivered him from the speech impediment.

Bishop Designate Ivery received his call to preach the gospel at the age of 15, but was not sent until the age of 30. In 1991, he began to pastor. He is currently the Senior Pastor of World Redeemer’s Outreach COGIC in Memphis, TN. Prior to this he asturing Trinity Church of God in Christ and Word of Life Church of God in Christ. While asturing, he also served for ten years as Jurisdictional Secretary for Tennessee 5th Jurisdiction under Bishop Samuel Lowe, three years for Tennessee Eastern 1st Jurisdiction under Bishop Felton Smith and for the last seven years Jurisdictional Secretary for the Philippines Jurisdiction under the leadership of Bishop Avel Forto.

Bishop Designate Ivery was appointed by Bishop Carlos Moody, as the Director of Mission for Kenya, East Africa in 2007. Since his appointment, he has traveled to Kenya over 30 times recruiting and training over 200 pastors under the Church of God in Christ. In addition, he has helped to establish an orphanage and school that serves over 300 homeless children, called the Joy Valley Orphanage. This orphanage has been cited by the local government and featured on one of the local television news channel as one of the premier orphanages in Nairobi.

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Bishop Designate

Esra Mataba

Prelate, South Africa Third Jurisdiction

Bishop Designate Esra Mataba was born in a Christian family on July 13, 1946 in the rural area of Kwa-Zulu/Natal called Mtunzini. Bishop Designate Mataba was called to Ministry in 1970 and was sent to Bible College by Faith Mission.

In 1973, he started preaching in Train Ministry with (the late) Evangelist Richard Ngidi and has evangelized with great men of God & evangelists; Pastor Fred Roberts, Pastor Raymond, Pastor Bonke, Apostle Lucky Moyo from Bulawayo in Zimbabwe, Elder Dunn and many others.

He was united in holy matrimony to the late Gloria Khazile and to their union were blessed with three children. Bishop Designate Mataba has been used of the Lord to evangelize in Tent Crusades since the 1970’s and continued steadfast in this work unto the late 1990’s.

In 1984, he established his own ministry the Waylife Truth Ministries. Through divine providence he met and connected with the late Missionary Sandra Parker, who led him to Church of God In Christ. With the help of the Lord, presently he has established Waylife Fellowship of Churches (COGIC South Africa).

In 2003, he was appointed Superintendent for COGIC Region 3 in Kwa-Zulu/Natal: After being appointed to the Board, today, he is serving as a Board Member for Church of God In Christ: South Africa.
Bishop Designate

Don Venson Nobles, Sr.
Prelate, Texas Lone Star Jurisdiction

Bishop Designate Don V. Nobles, Sr. was born on September 5, 1949 in Timpson, Texas to Alvin and Effie Lee Nobles. He has been married to Betty Jean Nobles for forty years. They have five children Donna, Felicia, Don Jr., and Benjamin. They also have four grandchildren. He holds an Associate in Arts Degree in Business from Tyler Junior College (cum laude) and Bachelor of Science Degree in Organizational Management from Paul Quinn College (summa cum laude). He was saved at the age of twelve years old under the ministry of Elder Eddie Davis of Nacogdoches, Texas. He was filled with the Holy Ghost under the ministry of Bishop C.L. Bryant. Bishop Designate Nobles start preaching at the age of fourteen under the ministry of Elder Eddie Davis. Bishop C.H. Nelson licensed him to preach at age fourteen. In 1970 Bishop R.E. Ranger appointed him to Holy Temple COGIC in Caledonia, Texas. In 1971 Bishop R.E. Ranger invited him to preach in the Church of God in Christ Southeast Convocation in Waco, Texas. In 1976 Bishop Ranger appointed him to the Canada Drive COGIC in Dallas, TX. Bishop Designate Nobles served as State Youth President, Assistant State Secretary, Secretary and Bishop R.E. Ranger's Adjutant. Bishop Designate Nobles served as Secretary with Bishop J. Neaul Haynes and Bishop Leroy Anderson before and after the death of Bishop R.E. Ranger.

Bishop Designate Nobles worked with Bishop D.L. Smith during the years of the Texas Lone Star Fellowship. He was a worker for Bishop D.L. Smith, and was there for the election of Bishop C.F. Porter in 1994. In 1994 Bishop C.F. Porter of Texas Lone Star Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction appointed Bishop Designate Nobles Superintendent of the Lake Como District, Fort Worth and Bishop Porter appointed him Administrative Assistant to the Office of Bishop in Texas Lone Star Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction.

Bishop Designate

Jerry Wayne Taylor
Prelate, Tennessee Fifth Jurisdiction

Jerry W. Taylor was born on October 23, 1952, to the late Ulysses and Franceola Fields Taylor. He is married to Gloria his wife of 39 years. They have three children: Cedric (Lutricia), Jerri (Steven), and Stephanie (Antwon). They are the proud grandparents of six. Pastor Taylor is the eldest of three children.

He was saved and sanctified in 1981. The same year he received the baptism of the Holy Ghost. A year later, he was called into the ministry under the leadership of Pastor Jasper D. Porter. The very next year he was appointed as assistant to Pastor Porter at the Greater Beulahland COGIC. He served in that role until 1987. That same year, he was ordained as an elder by Presiding Bishop J.O. Patterson, Sr. of the COGIC. Pastor Taylor was inspired to name the ministry the Holy COGIC, which received it's beginning in his home on January 17, 1988. In 1991, the ministry moved to a storefront location with the seating capacity of 100 members. On June 5, 1995, the Lord enlarged Holy City’s territory to 3.7 acres of land at 3208 James Road. In June of 2001, Holy City broke ground by building a brand new worship facility located at 3200 James Road seating over 1,000 members. In 2004, the groundbreaking service took place for the Vision for Life Center.

In 1994, Pastor Taylor was appointed as Superintendent of the J.D. Porter Memorial District. In 2002, he was appointed Administrative Assistant to Bishop Samuel L. Lowe. He served as Chairman of the Finance Committee for the Tennessee 5th Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction for fifteen years. From August of 1999 to May of 2007, he served on the National Tithing Committee under the leadership of the late Presiding Bishop G. E. Patterson. He served on the National Treasurer Committee of the COGIC under the leadership of Bishop Samuel L. Lowe for fifteen years. He currently serves in that same position, under the leadership of Bishop Designate Charles Harrison Mason Patterson. Pastor Taylor enjoys serving God’s people and doing whatever his hands find to do for the betterment of the kingdom of God.
Bishop Designate
Jimmie Lee Williams
Prelate, Florida Eastern Jurisdiction

Dr. Jimmie L. Williams is a native of South Florida where he received his formative education. He subsequently received a Bachelor of Religious Studies at Maranatha School of Religious Studies and an Honorary Doctor of Divinity Degree from the Saint Thomas University in Jacksonville, Florida. It was during a revival in 1975 at the Macedonia Church of God in Christ in Miami, Florida that he was saved and shortly after received the baptism of the Holy Ghost. While serving faithfully at the Macedonia Church of God in Christ under the tutelage of Superintendent Paul Golatt, Sr., Dr. Williams accepted the call of God on his life to preach the gospel. In 1980, he was ordained as an elder in the Church of God in Christ under the leadership of Bishop Jacob Cohen. Because of his faithful service, he was appointed pastor of Saint Paul Church of God in Christ in Fort Lauderdale where he served for three years until the Lord directed him to establish another ministry, Lighthouse Worship Center Church of God in Christ.

Many lives have been touched by this phenomenal leader’s message of hope, love and inspiration. He has earned the reputation of being a gifted, anointed teacher and preacher of the gospel and a great psalmist. Not only is he a visionary, but he also has a passion for the ministry and because of his concern for the “whole man” is also very active in service to the community through outreach ministries such as, “Feed the Children”, Golden Age Ministry, Prison Ministry, Marriage Enrichment Ministry, Youth Outreach, and the Feeding and Clothing Ministry. Dr. Williams is the very proud, dedicated and devoted husband to his lovely wife of 39 years, Iris E. Williams, who both share their life’s missions with two beautiful daughters, Jasmine and Jimiris.
“These are the men whom the Lord delighteth to honor”
Bishop Designate
William Henry Allen
Auxiliary Bishop, Illinois Sixth Jurisdiction

William Henry Allen is the spiritual leader of one of the largest Church of God In Christ in the State of Illinois. Dr. Allen is a native of Texas, was raised in a strict Pentecostal environment, and became a Christian at 16 years old. At the age of 18 he preached his first sermon.

Allen realized that he needed to be equipped in order to serve God’s people. He matriculated at the following: Moody Bible Institute, Malcolm X College, Kennedy King College, Chicago State University, a Bachelor’s at Governor State University and attended graduate school at Oral Roberts University. A Doctor of Divinity from Grace Theological Seminary. He is married to the love of his life Wyllon R. Allen for 60 years and from the union 6 children were born.

Dr. Allen served under the late Bishop H.W. Goldsberry for 25 years as the Assistant Pastor and for the past 27 years he has been Administrative Assistant to Bishop William Haven Bonner, prelate of the Sixth Jurisdiction of Illinois.

Bishop Designate
David Douglas Daniels, III
Auxiliary Bishop, Illinois Fifth East Jurisdiction

David Douglas Daniels, III chairs the National Education Board, having been appointed by Bishop Charles E. Blake, and heads as the Education Department for 5th Illinois-East (Bishop J. C. Austin, prelate)

An ordained elder since 1980, Daniels, a native of Springfield, Massachusetts, grew up at Holy Temple COGIC during the pastorates of Bishop Walter Teagues and Elder Henry Smith. He earned the Bachelor of Arts from Bowdoin College, the Master of Divinity from Yale University, and a Ph.D. in Church History from Union Theological Seminary in New York. He joined the faculty of McCormick Theological Seminary in 1987 where he currently occupies an endowed chair as the Henry Winters Luce Professor of World Christianity.

Daniels has served as the president of the Society for Pentecostal Studies, co-chaired the International Reformed-Pentecostal Dialogue, taught in Brazil, South Korea, the Philippines, and Ghana, and participated on consultations sponsored by the World Council of Churches. Daniels served on the COGIC Historical Commission, chaired by Bishop Ithiel Clemmons, and the Commission on Education.

The author of over 20 scholarly articles and book chapters in volumes edited by Cornel West, Vinson Synan, Dorothy Bass and others, Daniels has lectured at various colleges and seminaries in North America and as well as In Europe, Africa, and Asia. He has presented at the Holy Ghost Conference, the Elisha Conference, the Leadership Conference, the O. T. Jones Institute, the Pastors and Elders Conference, and the National Prayer Clinic. He has preached at congregations of various denominations in United States and other countries, including West Angeles Cathedral, Glading Tidings Church, New St. Paul Church, Mt. Airy, and St. Luke Church.

Dr. Daniels is married to the Rev. Dr. Delois Brown-Daniels and they are the parents of two adult children, David IV and DeAndrea.
Bishop Designate
George Walter Davis, Jr.
Auxiliary Bishop, North Carolina Second Jurisdiction

Superintendent George Walter Davis, Jr. was appointed Pastor of the Green Pond Church of God in Christ on October 30, 1999. Pastor Davis was born in Rocky Mount, North Carolina to Deacon and Mother George W. Davis, Sr.

As a teenager Bishop Designate Davis moved to Washington, D.C. There he joined the Refreshing Spring Church of God in Christ, under the pastorate of the late Bishop A. D. Headen. It was there he received his call to the ministry, and began his biblical studies. He received his B.A. degree from the renowned Howard University School of Theology, and an Associate Degree in Religious Studies from the Washington Capital Seminary.

In August 1997, Elder Davis was invited to the Green Pond Church of God in Christ to lead the annual revival. His anointed delivery of the Word of God and his proven leadership abilities led Bishop C. Ellis Anderson to ask him to serve as Interim Pastor of the church until the search for a permanent pastor was completed. Elder Davis humbly accepted his new responsibility and began to work ardently on meeting the needs of the congregation. Jeremiah said it on this wise, “And I will give you pastors according to mine heart, which shall feed you with knowledge and understanding”. He became, in every sense of the word, the pastor. Under Pastor Davis’s leadership, Green Pond has membership growth. Souls continue to be saved, sanctified, set free, and filled with the Holy Ghost. In addition to his pastoralship at Green Pond, Pastor Davis holds several leadership positions in the Church of God in Christ, internationally; to include: National Overseer Adjutant for Protocol, Assistant Chief Adjutant for, Platform Protocol, Special Assistant for Administration, National Adjutant Overseer, National General Assembly Executive Committee, Special Assistant to the International Women’s Department, Leadership Conference Executive Committee Member, Sergeant At Arms for the National General Assembly and Platform Coordinator for the Church of God in Christ, Inc. Within the North Carolina Second Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction, Pastor Davis serves as Administrative Assistant to Bishop Stenneth E. Powell, Sr., Chairman, Council of Pastors and Elders, Superintendent of the Central District.

Bishop Designate
Nathaniel Andrew Ellis
Auxiliary Bishop, Missouri Southeast Third Jurisdiction

Bishop Designate Nathaniel A. Ellis was born in Chicago, Illinois, November 11, 1959 to the late Mr. Robert Ellis and Mrs. Edna L. Ellis. He is the second oldest of three siblings. He has been married for 32 years to District Missionary Hester Ellis. They are the proud parents of two adult daughters, Heather R. Ellis Jefferson and Natalie Nicole Ellis.

Bishop Designate Ellis has been preaching and teaching the gospel for over 38 years. He currently serves in two jurisdictions. For 25 years he has faithfully pastored North Six Street Evangelistic Church of God in Christ in the Eastern Missouri/Western Illinois Jurisdiction, where General Board Member, Bishop Lawrence M. Wooten is the Prelate. For eight years he has faithfully pastored Victory Temple Church of God in Christ in the Missouri Southeast Third Jurisdiction where he also serves as the AIM Chairman and Administrative Assistant to Jurisdictional Prelate, Bishop Charlie Green Jr. Bishop Designate Ellis has been a National Evangelist in the COGIC For 28 years and has served as the Jurisdictional President of the Department of Evangelism for 22 years, and for 10 years he has served as Assistant District Superintendent in Eastern Missouri/Western Illinois Jurisdiction. Bishop Designate Ellis has also served as Chairman of the Tri-Jurisdictional Rally for the International Department of Evangelism.

For more than 33 years Bishop Designate Ellis has held many positions on the District and State level under the leadership of the Late Bishop C.N. Rucker, the Late Bishop E. Harris Moore, and the Late Bishop W. Wesley Sanders. He has faithfully served and followed the leading of the Lord, his Leaders and this “Grand Old COGIC.”

Bishop Designate Ellis has a Bachelor of Science degree in Education and a Master of Arts degree in Curriculum and Instruction. He has taught in the Missouri and Illinois public school systems for more than 31 years, and is a conference and motivational speaker. Most of all he is a Man of God, filled with the Holy Ghost, who loves his wife,
Bishop Designate

Robert Lee Hargrove

Auxiliary Bishop, Pennsylvania Commonwealth Jurisdiction

Bishop Designate Robert L. Hargrove was born in Dahlonega, Georgia, the eldest son of the late Preston and Marguerite Hargrove. He received his early education in Dahlonega, where as a teenager he met and married the former V. June Ferguson. They have been married for 68 years.

Bishop Designate Hargrove is currently the Pastor of the Holy Temple Church of God in Christ, and is Senior Advisor to the Jurisdictional Prelate of the Church of God in Christ, Commonwealth Jurisdiction. As well as the Senior Advisor to the West District Superintendent, Commonwealth Jurisdiction, Church of God in Christ. Bishop Designate Hargrove has in his spiritual career been; Administrative Assistant to the Late Bishop O. T. Jones, Sr., Assistant Pastor to Bishop O. T. Jones, Jr.

As Pastor of Holy Temple Church of God in Christ, and through his vision of Prayer, Study and Work, seven active new ministries have been added to the church: The Sons & Daughters of Holy Temple Church, The Judah Praise Ministry, The BCE (Board of Christian Education), Holy Temple, Convocation Fellowship Dinner, The Living Nativity, Couples Re-Dedication Sunday, FOCUS on the Family educational literature (weekly). He is an active member of the Philadelphia Council of Clergy; Board member for the Pennsylvania Bible Society, at the beginning of 2008, he was installed as 1st Vice president for Black Clergy of Philadelphia and Vicinity and served for 2 consecutive terms. Bishop Designate Hargrove is a graduate of Temple University Theological Institute and has been keynote speaker at churches and civic affairs throughout the Eastern and Southern cities of the country.

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Bishop Designate

Milton Roscoe Hawkins

Auxiliary Bishop, Tennessee Fourth Jurisdiction

A descendant of a priestly lineage, Milton Roscoe Hawkins was born to Elder S. Roscoe Hawkins and Evangelist Mary Patterson Hawkins on September 1, 1960 in Detroit, Michigan. He accepted Christ at a young age and delivered his first sermon on Easter Sunday in 1988. Shortly thereafter, he was ordained as an Elder and appointed as Assistant Pastor. The late Bishop Willie L. Harris elevated the faithful Elder Hawkins to District Superintendent in 1990. After the demise of his beloved grandfather, Bishop W.A. Patterson, Superintendent Hawkins was appointed as Pastor of New Jerusalem Church of God in Christ in 1991. During his pastorship of seventeen years the congregation experienced tremendous growth and development.

Superintendent Hawkins’ spirit of servanthood led Bishop John H. Sheard to appoint him as Jurisdictional Platform Chairman, Executive Board Member, and Ordination Board Member. Superintendent Hawkins served as interim Pastor for God’s Holy Tabernacle for two years, after the passing of Superintendent Zelte Crawford. Later, Superintendent Hawkins was requested by his mentor and treasured uncle, the late Presiding Bishop G.E. Patterson, to travel with him as Adjutant-Apostolic. On July 20, 2007, Bishop Jerry L. Maynard, Prelate of Tennessee Fourth Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction, appointed Superintendent Milton R. Hawkins as Pastor of Temple of Deliverance Church of God in Christ. Subsequently, he was appointed Executive Administrative Assistant. Under Bishop Designate Hawkins’ anointed leadership, Temple of Deliverance continues to flourish and expand by building lives through ministries. He has established community programs and philanthropy acts that have positively impacted several states across the country as well as the countries of Nigeria, Haiti, Japan and the Republic of the Philippines. The Bishop Designate has unselfishly served the church as National Overseer Adjutant for the General Board, Constitutional Convention Board Member and currently serves on the International Administrative Headquarters Planning Committee and Chairperson of Government Relations.
**Bishop Designate**  
**Percy Walby Henderson, II**  
**Auxiliary Bishop, Michigan Great Lakes Second Jurisdiction**

Born September 3, 1959, in the City of Detroit, Michigan. Fourth generation Church of God in Christ. He was educated in the Detroit Public School system, and has attended Henry Ford Community, Wayne State University, He is currently attending Schoolcraft College in Michigan. Bishop Designate Henderson is married to Darlene Henderson (22 years) and has two biological daughters, Diamond & Destinee’.

He began preaching in 1976, and was ordained as an Elder in 1985 by the late Bishop C. L. Anderson (General Board Member). He served as a young elder for a while under the Pastorate of Bishop P.A. Brooks (now 1st Assistant Presiding Bishop), and when his uncle (the late Admin. Asst. Willie R. Ginyard) began his church, Deliverance COGIC of Pontiac, MI, he went to help him. He served there faithfully until 1998 after the demise of his pastor. In December of 1998 he began Power In The Praises Church. Recently the church purchased a 43,000 square foot elementary school, sitting on 1.5 acres of land and has converted the facility into a Church of God in Christ.

Bishop Designate Percy W. Henderson II has served the leadership of the church on the national level for over two (2) decades. He was episcopal adjutant to the late Bishop C.L. Anderson, Jr., he has served on the national security team for the late former Presiding Bishop C.D. Owens, a long time National Adjutant currently serving as a Adjutant Overseer under Bishop Matthew Williams (Adjutant General). He is a member of the Resolution Committee (General Assembly), He has served as a Jurisdictional Youth Department President ( in Great Lakes and Great Lakes Second), and is currently an Administrative Assistant, the Executive Jurisdictional Secretary, and a District Superintendent in Great Lakes Second Jurisdiction of Michigan, under the leadership of Bishop Alfred

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**Bishop Designate**  
**James Edward Hicks**  
**Auxiliary Bishop, Washington Jurisdiction**

Bishop Designate James E. Hicks is a native of South Bend, Indiana. In 1963, he received the Baptism of the Holy Ghost under the leadership of the late Bishop R.J. Causey in Seattle, WA. 51 years ago, he married the lovely Helen Bernice (Burrage) Hicks. Bishop Designate Hicks is a family man. They have five children; several grandchildren and three great grandchildren. Pastor Hicks served honorably 9 years in the U.S. Army and retired as a supervisor with the Boeing Company after 18 years of service.

Bishop Designate Hicks founded the Unity Church of God in Christ in 1980 in Seattle. He is the co-founder of the Tiny Tots Development Center. Tiny Tots Development Center has five locations and is currently serving 400 families. Bishop Designate Hicks was appointed as the District Superintendent of the L. J. Green District in 1993 and was appointed as the 2nd Administrative Assistant to the late Honorable Bishop T. L. Westbrook in 1994. He was appointed to the office of, First Administrative Assistant in 2009.

Pastor Hicks appreciates people and does not mind working to make things better for the Community, the Local, District and the International Church. Pastor Hicks loves the Church of God in Christ, honors his Grace the Bishop Charles E. Blake, the Presiding International Prelate and the entire General Board.

Pastor Hicks is a man of strong morals and ethical character; He stands on the principles of holiness for which the church is founded. Pastor Hicks has served the National church, working in the finance department since the days of the late Bishop Ben Crouch. He is currently chairman of the Church of God In Christ International Finance committee and a member of the International Constitution committee of the general assembly.

Pastor Hicks is committed to the vision, mission and affirmation of faith and ministry of the Church of God in Christ.
Bishop Designate  
James William Hunt, Sr.  
Auxiliary Bishop, Pennsylvania Commonwealth Jurisdiction  

Pastor James W. Hunt, Sr. was born in Rochelle, GA. He is the second of four children, born to William and Lola Hunt. He grew up in Detroit, Michigan. For more than thirty-five (35) years, God has demonstrated that Pastor Hunt is a true “Man of God,” full of faith and good works. He loves and respects the Word of God, and wants everyone to be educated and rooted in it. His scholarship is an inspiration to the newly saved, and to the experienced saints to pattern their daily walk as outlined by the Gospel.

Pastor Hunt acknowledged God’s call to the Ministry in 1971. He received his Minister's license in April 1973 and was ordained an Elder in September 1974. He was appointed Pastor of Ebenezer C.O.G.I.C. on the first Sunday in May, 1979. He has left an indelible mark in Ebenezer. In 1982, he attended the 13th Pentecostal World Conference in Nairobi, Kenya. East Africa. September of 1983, he returned to Africa and led a missionary delegation to Liberia and the Ivory Coast.

Pastor Hunt was elected Vice Chairman of the General Assembly on April 18, 2001. He was re-elected three (3) times as Vice Chairman and served over ten (10) years being the longest Elected Vice Chairman in the history of the Church Of God In Christ, Inc. On June 25, 2011, he became the Chairman of the General Assembly.

His life verse is, “O taste and see that the Lord is good, blessed is the man that trusteth in Him.” Psalm 34:8

Bishop Designate  
Milton Paul Jackson  
Auxiliary Bishop, Kansas Central Jurisdiction  

Bishop Designate Milton P. Jackson Jr. was born June 24, 1945 to Bishop Milton P. Jackson Sr. and the late District Missionary Ruth A. Jackson in Topeka, Kansas. He has been married 43 years to his beautiful wife, Dr. Betsy Vaughn-Jackson. They have two wonderful sons De’Von and Dante’. As a family, they play an active, instrumental, and important role in ministry.

Superintendent Jackson has been a gospel minister for over 40 years. He was Ordained as an Elder in the Church of God in Christ in 1979 by Bishop I.B. Brown in Topeka, Kansas. He is 3rd generation Church of God in Christ and his oldest son is 4th generation minister in Church of God in Christ. He is the pastor and founder of Abundance of Life Cathedral of Praise Church of God in Christ, founded on May 1, 1983. Through his leadership the first church buildings were purchased and mortgages burned in a period of nine years. The present church location at 1239 Western (Miracle on Western) is on the Historic Registry and was purchased in 1995 debt free.

Superintendent Jackson is a visionary, churchman, and active leader. He retired from Santa Fe Railroad as a Purchasing Manager after 27 years. He is Founder/Chairman of the Kingdom Building Conference Ministries, Past President of AOLCOM Humanitarian Foundation, Past President of Topeka COGIC Union Fellowship meeting, Past Chairman of Board of Superintendents-Kansas Central Jurisdiction COGIC, Superintendent of the Capitol City District-Kansas Central Jurisdiction (27) years, former Vice Chairman, and present member of Finance Committee Kansas Central Jurisdiction, Jurisdictional Secretary of Kansas Central Jurisdiction 12 Years, National Adjutant COGIC (13 years), National Regional Jurisdictional Secretary Coordinator, Past co-chairman to the Topeka African Pastor's Coalition, served as Local AIM Committee Secretary (2005) , past Chairman Men’s Leadership Conference Kansas Central Jurisdiction, Chairman of Leadership Conference Kansas Central Jurisdiction, and Administrative Assistant Kansas Central Jurisdiction (8 years).

Superintendent Jackson is known as a man that loves to preach the gospel. His mission is to help people become better, so that they can reach their fullest potential in Christ. Consequently, their lives become better and the world becomes a better
Bishop Designate
Willie Autry Jenkins
Auxiliary Bishop, Texas South Central Jurisdiction

Bishop Designate Willie Autry Jenkins was born in Beaumont, Texas to the late Administrative Assistant O.J. Jenkins, Jr., and Missionary Edna Levias Jenkins. Bishop Designate Jenkins received his formal education in the Beaumont public schools, Lamar State College of Technology, University of Maryland (Far-East Division) and North Carolina College of Theology where he was awarded a Bachelor in Biblical Studies, Masters in Biblical Studies and Doctor of Theology degrees. Bishop Designate Jenkins was honorably discharged from the United States Army after two years of service and later retired from the United States Postal Service as a manager.

Bishop Designate Jenkins currently serves as District Superintendent and Administrative Assistant to the Jurisdictional Prelate, Bishop Prince E.W. Bryant, Sr. His ministerial experience during the past 51 years have been numerous including Jurisdictional Financial Secretary for 26 years, Member of Jurisdictional Board of Directors for 30 years, Chairman of Jurisdictional Scholarship Committee, and Chairman of Jurisdictional Commission on Conventions and Convocations. He currently serves as Pastor of Greater Law Memorial Church of God in Christ in Houston, Texas where he succeeded the late Jurisdictional Prelate, Bishop N.H. Henderson. Bishop Designate Jenkins is also a member of the Standards and Extensions Committee and Election Commission of the General Assembly. Other affiliations include Executive Board Member, Prairie View A & M University Ministers Conference, Member, Houston Ministers Against Crime, Community Development Corporations, and other church and community work. Bishop Designate Jenkins is married to Johnnie Taylor Jenkins and is the father of two sons, Elder Willie A. Jenkins, Jr., and Julian A. Jenkins, also one grandson, Gerald D. Jenkins.

Bishop Designate
Levi Leroy Lenley
Auxiliary Bishop, Oklahoma Southeast Jurisdiction

Dr. Levi Lenley accepted Christ Jesus into his life and received the Baptism of the Holy Ghost at an early age. Dr Lenley was licensed by his Pastor, the Late Supt. L.C. Castleberry, Stop 6 Church of God in Christ and later was ordained by Bishop F.L. Haynes of Texas Northeast Jurisdiction.

Dr. Lenley has served our Country in the War of Vietnam. After he returned home, the Lord blessed him to earn a Liberal Arts Degree, a Master of Divinity and a Doctorate in Religious Philosophy.

It has been a long journey, but most rewarding, in that; hundreds of souls have been saved and filled with the baptism of the Holy Ghost. Many have been healed and delivered from the bondage of sin, sickness and despair. Dr. Lenley is married to Missionary Saundra Linley, and is the father of six children.

So it can well be said of Dr. Lenley, as previously said by the Apostle Paul, “I HAVE Fought A GOOD FIGHT, I HAVE FINISHED MY COURSE, I HAVE KEPT THE FAITH.”
Bishop Designate
Clarence Lewis, III
Auxiliary Bishop, Pennsylvania Commonwealth Jurisdiction

Bishop Designate Clarence Lewis III, is truly “a servant.” His heart’s desire is to serve well the people of God.

He is saved and had the privilege of receiving spiritual guidance under the tutelage of Bishop Benjamin H. and Mother Elizabeth J. Dabney at the Garden of Prayer Church of God in Christ, Philadelphia, PA.

He has served as Pastor of First Calvary Church of God in Christ, Coatesville, PA, for the past 15 years. Before being sent to First Calvary, Elder Lewis was Pastor of St. Paul Church of God in Christ, Chester, PA for 17 years. For many years, he served faithfully as the Episcopal Adjutant to the late, Bishop O.T. Jones, Jr.

Elder Lewis is currently Chairman, Pastors and Elders Council for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Jurisdiction. As of 2009, he was appointed Sr. Deputy Adjutant General of the National Adjutancy Corps of the Churches of God in Christ, Inc.

He is married to Evangelist L. Ernestine Lewis. To this union were born: 7 children, 19 grandchildren and 8 great-grand-children.

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Bishop Designate
James Arthur Lewis, Sr.
Auxiliary Bishop, Southern California First Jurisdiction

Bishop Designate James Arthur Lewis was born June 17, 1936 in Tulsa, Oklahoma and moved to Los Angeles with his family in 1942. Pastor James A. Lewis accepted Christ as his personal savior in November 1959 and was filled with the Holy Spirit shortly thereafter. He acknowledged his call to the ministry on January 12, 1960 and was ordained in the Church of God in Christ June 1963. He matriculated at Life Bible College where he attended from 1973 to 1976. The Doctor of Divinity Degree was conferred upon him by the Southern California School of Ministry in May 1999.

He married the former Barbara Ann McCoo of Los Angeles on June 9, 1962. They have two sons, both ordained Elders of the Church of God in Christ; Elder James A. Lewis, Jr., and Supt Jeffrey Martin Lewis (wife Floetta and grandchildren Shannon and Jeffrey Jr.) his family is the joy of his life.

He founded the New Antioch Church of God in Christ in 1970. Some of his past Jurisdictional involvements include: Executive Secretary from 1982 to 1992, member of the Jurisdictional Executive Board, Treasurer of the Jurisdictional Tithing Fund, Secretary of the Jurisdictional United Jurisdictional Auxiliaries Convention (UJAC), Coordinator of Convocation Institute sessions and Chairman of the Program Committee. He was the founding Superintendent of the New Antioch District which consisted of six churches and is presently the District Advisor to the Superintendent. He was appointed an Administrative Assistant to former Jurisdictional Prelate Presiding Bishop Charles E. Blake and subsequently was honored by Bishop Blake as the Senior Administrative Assistant. He currently serves under Jurisdictional Bishop Joe L. Ealy.

He has served on the national level of the Church of God in Christ as a member of the Executive Committee of the General Assembly, member of the Screening Committee and the Standards and Extension Committee.

Dr. Lewis is an anointed gospel preacher, a prolific soul winner with a special gift of healing ministry. He is known as a loyal, caring and unselfish individual to the work of the Lord and has greatly impacted the character and has influenced the ministry skills of countless men and women.
Bishop Designate

Albert James Mays, Jr.
Auxiliary Bishop, Texas Western Jurisdiction

Bishop Designate Albert James Mays, Jr. is originally from Fort Lauderdale, Florida. He retired from active duty as a U.S. Army Sergeant Major, with 24 years of service. He currently serves as a Department of the Army Civilian, Instructional Systems Specialist (Education Specialist), Quality Assurance Office, United States Army Sergeants Major Academy (East Fort Bliss), Texas. He holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree from Park University in Social Psychology, a Master of Arts in Instructional Systems, and a Master of Arts in Education from TUI University with a concentration in Teaching and Instruction. Bishop Designate Mays is a doctoral candidate at North Central University with a concentration in Organizational Leadership and is expected to receive an Ed.D in 2015. Bishop Designate Mays serves as an Associate Professor who teaches Cultural Diversity at the University of Phoenix and Business and Technology Graduate and Undergraduate classes at Excelsior College. Bishop Designate Mays accepted Jesus Christ as his Lord and Savior in June 1976 and was filled with the Holy Ghost in August 1979. In 1995, Bishop Designate Mays’ ordination was received into the Germany Jurisdiction of the Church of God in Christ, by Bishop Carlis L. Moody from the African Methodist Episcopal Church. He served as pastor of Pirmasens COGIC in Pirmasens, Germany and Dean of Education in the Germany Jurisdiction. Bishop Designate Mays is the author of M.E.L.T. (Ministerial Effectiveness Leadership Training) that’s used as a tool for ministerial training and development for clergypersons worldwide. In November 2000, he founded Word of Life Ministries, Inc., in El Paso, Texas. He currently serves as the 1st Administrative Assistant of the Texas Western Jurisdiction Church of God in Christ (TWJ COGIC), El Paso, Texas and Superintendent of the Zion District, TWJ COGIC, Bishop J.O. Lawson, Jurisdictional prelate. He currently serves as the honorary chaplain of an empowerment and community resource organization for military families. Bishop Designate Mays resides in El Paso, Texas with his wife, District Missionary Willie Mae Collins Mays, originally from Avon Park, Florida. They have one son, Minister Albert James Mays, III.

Bishop Designate

William Nichols
Auxiliary Bishop, Michigan Western Jurisdiction

William Nichols was born March 25, 1935 in Lapine, Alabama to Roosevelt and Easter Nichols. He was reared in the Rockdale Missionary Baptist Church. He moved to Florida in 1956 and in 1959 he was saved, sanctified and filled with the Holy Ghost in the Church of God in Christ. He was called into the ministry in 1960. He was united in Holy Matrimony to Miss Martha Ray Collins in 1961 and from this union four children were born; Wilbur, William Jr., Cheryl Lynette, and Marshetta and they adopted a son Jason. William and Martha moved to Michigan in 1963, where he served under Elder Versie Flake and later became his assistant pastor. In 1966 William Nichols was led of the Lord to start a work at 294 Paw Paw Ave. in Benton Harbor, MI. With the loyal support of his wife that work has grown from five members to 200 plus. A sanctuary built from the ground, well over 10 lots purchased two vans for transportation of the saints, many ministries established. The Church now stands as Unity Temple Church of God in Christ. “The Church that dares to be Different”. Elder Nichols has been a loyal supporter of his church, district, and national and serves faithful in his jurisdiction under Bishop Nathaniel W. Wells as Chairman of Elder’s Council, member of Ordination Board, District Superintendent, Administrator of Southern Region, and Expeditor.
Bishop Designate
Harrison Mason Patterson, Sr.
Auxiliary Bishop, Tennessee Headquarters Jurisdiction

Bishop Designate C. H. Mason Patterson, Sr. is continuing a legacy of service and progress on the foundation built by his forefathers. Bishop Charles Harrison Mason, founder of the Church of God in Christ, is his great-grandfather and namesake. He has taken up the torch lit by his grandfather, the late Bishop J.O. Patterson, Sr., COGIC’s first elected Presiding Bishop and his father, the late Bishop J.O. Patterson, Jr., former Chairman of the General Assembly and currently serves as senior pastor of Pentecostal Temple Church of God in Christ.

Bishop Designate C. H. Mason Patterson was born September 11, 1976, to the union of the late Bishop J. O. Patterson, Jr. and the late Missionary Rose Kelly Patterson. He is the youngest of four children. He was born a leader. He accepted the call to the ministry at the early age of 16. In August 1998, he was ordained an elder in the Church of God in Christ at the age of 21. Throughout his life and ministry, Bishop Designate Patterson has demonstrated a caliber of leadership well beyond his years. In Nov. 2004, Bishop Designate Patterson was elected to the COGIC National Board of Trustees, the youngest person ever to win a seat on the 15-member body. During his time as a member of the Trustee Board, he also served as the Superintendent of National Properties. In April 2010, during the church’s National April Call Meeting, Bishop Designate Patterson was appointed Assistant Treasurer of the National Church. And during the November 2011 General Assembly he was elected as the National Treasurer of the Church of God in Christ. He is a very humble, high-spirited servant of Christ who daily devotes his life to fulfilling his calling. Following in the steps of his father, grandfather and great-grandfather, he prays, fasts, and studies the Word of God daily in an effort to further appreciate the work that God has called him to do. Bishop Designate Patterson wants nothing more than to have his cup run over with the love of God and the spirit of the Holy Ghost. His ultimate desire is to have God’s will fulfilled in his life. The Patterson family has a long history of civic service to the City of Memphis and Bishop Designate Patterson is no exception. He is the President and CEO of the C.H. Mason Patterson Community Development Corporation and former Housing Rehabilitation Specialist for the City of Memphis Department of Housing and Community Development. Bishop Designate Patterson studied Mortuary Science at the Northwest Community College in Desoto County, Mississippi and General Education Studies at Southwest Community College in Memphis. He also has a certificate in Biblical Studies from Crichton College in Memphis. He is currently seeking a Bachelor of Science degree in Psychology with a concentration in Pastoral Care from Trinity Bible College. Bishop Designate Patterson is the proud husband of LaShaundra Cox Patterson, affectionately known as “Bonnie”, and father of two sons, Tyren and Charles Jr. and two daughters, Kelly Rose and Callie Indiana.

Bishop Designate
Willard Louis Payton
Auxiliary Bishop, Illinois First Jurisdiction

Born in Chicago, IL to the late Missionary Mary Louise Payton, Elder Willard Payton was blessed and nurtured by the influence of the late Elder and Mother Johnie B. Wheeler, his godly Godparents, whose sanctified home was the source of a sound spiritual foundation upon which his life was established.

The New Birth Church, founded in 1964 by Elder Johnie Wheeler, has played a tremendous part in his life; for it was there that he married Gloria Lynne Barber in 1966, and there he fully committed his live to the Lord in 1968. Elder Payton was ordained and nurtured in the work of the church by the late Bishop Louis Henry Ford, and has effectively worked in various District, Jurisdictional and International positions in the Church of God in Christ since 1972; serving the General Church as a Vice Chairman, AIM Convention and the Vice President of the Int'l Youth Dept; and First Jurisdiction Illinois as the Jurisdictional Treasurer, a member of the Board of Directors, one of the Administrative Assistants and the District Superintendent of the Johnie B. Wheeler Memorial District. In 1991, Bishop L H Ford appointed Elder Payton as the Pastor of the New Birth Church of God in Christ.

As President of The New Birth Community Care Center, the church’s nonprofit CDC has provided preschool/head start programming from 1992 - 2003; completed an 89 unit senior residential building in 2003; and has participated in a project of constructing and marketing 30 units of new, single family affordable housing; and many other community related services. Also as the Co-Chairman of the Pastors of Englewood, a ministerial coalition serving the Englewood community; Chairman of the 17th Ward Community Redevelopment Advisory Council; and President, Board of Directors of Teamwork Englewood, (a New Community Program project sponsored by McArthur/LISC); Elder Payton faithfully strives to fulfill the mission of New Birth Church - ‘Share Christ… Serve Others… Show God’.

Bishop Designate Payton and First Lady Gloria Payton are the parents of eight (w/twenty-seven grandchildren and 6 great-grandchildren), and are endeavoring to faithfully demonstrate that God will always be fully responsible for any life wholly yielded to Him.
Bishop Designate

Robert Perry

Auxiliary Bishop, Illinois Fifth West Jurisdiction

Born February 7, 1950 in Aberdeen, Mississippi to the late Robert L. Perry, Sr. and Mother Maggie L. Perry. Bishop Designate Perry began attending the Grove Street Church of God In Christ as a small child with his grandmother; and is now the pastor. Bishop Designate Perry was saved and filled with the Holy Ghost at the age of nine years old, and has remained faithful to the Lord and church throughout his life. The first position he held in the church, was Assistant Sunday School Superintendent, at the age of fifteen. At the death of the Superintendent, he succeeded him at the age of seventeen, and served successfully until he left for college a year later. He did his undergraduate work at Eastern Illinois University, majoring in Sociology, with a minor in Psychology. While in college he remained faithful in his faith, and was instrumental in organizing its first Black Gospel choir and Black student government. After college he became the Executive Director of the Opportunities Industrialization Center of Champaign, an adult training and employment program. Later on he worked in the following secular positions: Special Assistant to the Mayor and City Manager's Offices of Champaign, Staff Specialist for the Comptroller and Attorney General's Offices for the State of Illinois. He accepted the call to ministry at the age of nineteen and was ordained by the late Bishop C. W. Gillespie, October 30, 1976, after he was married. He was assigned to his first pastorate, the Anderson Memorial Church of God In Christ of Peoria, Illinois, April 7, 1977, and his present pastorate November 25, 1983. He has served as a District Superintendent for more than thirty years and an Administrative Assistant for more than twenty five years; both under three consecutive bishoprics.

His National church involvement includes the following opportunities of service: The Adjutancy for more than thirty years and currently serves as one of the Senior Deputy Adjutant Generals and author of the church’s "Procedures for the Burial of Bishops". He and his wife are owner/operators of Perry’s Twin City Mortuary Service of Champaign, IL. He married the lovely Miss Annie M. Miller on July 12, 1975, and recently celebrated thirty-nine years of holy matrimony. They have one son, Robert L. Perry, III, and a brand new granddaughter Zala Rayn Perry. He is blessed to still have his mother, Mother Maggie L. Perry, with him, who serves as his District Missionary.

Bishop Designate

Augustus David Pullen

Auxiliary Bishop, Connecticut Second Jurisdiction

Bishop Designate Augustus David Pullen serves as the Pastor of the Rehoboth Family Life Church of God In Christ for 30 years in Bridgeport and five years in Hartford, Connecticut. He is the husband of Evangelist Michele Pullen. To this union of 39 years, God has blessed them with four beautiful children: Shayla, Heather, Joel and Jerrad and 10 grandchildren. Bishop Designate Pullen has prepared himself both spiritually and academically. He completed his undergraduate work at Franklin & Marshall College and obtained his Master of Social Work from Temple University. For the past 34 years, Bishop Designate Pullen has worked as a licensed therapist in the public and private sector.

Bishop Designate Pullen is a son of the Church of God in Christ. Throughout the years, God has privileged him to serve in various offices on both the Jurisdictional and National level. Currently, he is an Administrative Assistant to Bishop H. D. Bordeaux who serves as the Assistant Secretary of the Board of Bishops for the Church Of God In Christ. He is also the Superintendent of the historic Mason District. Nationally, Bishop Designate Pullen is acclaimed for his work in the National Adjutancy where he serves as the Overseer of the Induction Chamber, Chief Overseer and instructor for the National Adjutancy Academy. Bishop Designate Pullen also is an active member of the General Assembly where he serves on the Screening Committee, the Renumeration Committee, as well as a former member of the C. H. Mason Foundation. The seal of god's anointing resting upon Bishop Designate Pullen's life is evident by the four ministries that have been birthed out of Rehoboth since his tenure.
Bishop Designate

Robert Gene Rudolph, Jr.

Auxiliary Bishop, Arkansas Second Jurisdiction

Bishop Designate Robert Gene Rudolph, Jr., was saved and filled with the Holy Ghost at the tender age of five, preached his first sermon at the age of seven while standing on a chair and at the age of eleven formally became a licensed minister. Rudolph won the denomination’s National Oratorical Contest and was summoned to the world headquarters in Memphis, Tennessee, to be ordained at the age of sixteen at the hand of the late Presiding Bishop J. O. Patterson, Sr. For the past twenty years, he has served in pastoral ministry and is currently the pastor of both the Calvary Church of God in Christ (Malvern, Arkansas) and the Davis Memorial Church of God in Christ (Crossett, Arkansas). He has completed both his undergraduate and graduate education and is a recipient of an honorary Doctorate of Divinity. In addition to being a Fellow for the Center of the Study of the Presidency, Rudolph has now been in a career which spans two decades of service in the areas of politics and government from conducting research and speechwriting as a clerk for the Arkansas Legislature to being a Special Assistant to the Governor of Arkansas. Since 2003, he has been happily married to the lovely, Lady Michelle Parham Rudolph who supports his ministry wholeheartedly. After serving as the Executive Secretary and the youngest Administrative Assistant to the retiring prelate and his mentor, Bishop D. L. Lindsey; Rudolph was reappointed Secretary of the Arkansas Second Jurisdiction and promoted as the Executive Administrative Assistant to the incoming prelate, Bishop Frank J. Anderson, Jr. He was also appointed Superintendent of the New Day District. In addition to these responsibilities, he was the Administrative Assistant to the Interim Prelate of the Arkansas Third Jurisdiction and distinguished member of the denomination’s General Board, Bishop George D. McKinney. Rudolph continues to assist the current Prelate of that Jurisdiction, Bishop Joe B. Mason as the Superintendent of the Rehoboth District. In 2007, upon the recommendation of the Adjutant General, Bishop Matthew Williams, Presiding Bishop Charles E. Blake appointed Rudolph as the Scribe of the National Adjutancy and an Adjutant Overseer. In this capacity, he has assisted the Presiding Bishop and members of the General Board as they have guided more than sixty Jurisdictions with the intimate details of the national home going celebrations of bishops and actively assisted the interim prelate with the day to day operations of the Jurisdiction until a new prelate was named. Additionally, he has assisted in the consecration of bishops and has been given the distinct honor of announcing the apostolic procession at national ceremonial occasions across the country and the world. Due to his faithfulness to the former General Secretary, the late Elder A. Z. Hall, Jr., Rudolph was appointed by the current General Secretary, Bishop Joel H. Lyles, Jr., as an Assistant General Secretary for Records and Archives of the Church of God in Christ, Inc.

Bishop Designate

Marvin Sanders

Auxiliary Bishop, Missouri Eastern/Illinois Western Jurisdiction

Bishop Designate Marvin Sanders was born February 5, 1956 in St. Louis, Missouri and is third generation Church of God in Christ (COGIC) whose original family church was St. Paul in Lexington, Mississippi. He was called to ministry in 1978 and since 1998; he has served as the celebrated Pastor of the Shiloh Temple COGIC, St. Louis, Missouri. Serving faithfully with him in ministry is his affectionate wife of 35 years, Evangelist Angela Sanders. They are blessed with three sons, three daughters-in-law and three grandsons.

Bishop Designate Sanders is the fourth pastor of five in his immediate family, saved for 45 years with a preaching ministry of 38 years and pastoring for 15 years. He was the Assistant Pastor to the late Bishop W. Wesley Sanders for 21 years. Currently, Superintendent Sanders is an Administrative Assistant, Superintendent, Chairman of the Pastors’ and Elders’ Council and Executive Board Member of the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of Eastern Missouri-Western Illinois under the leadership of Bishop Lawrence M. Wooten, General Board Member. He is also an Executive Board member of the General Council of Pastors and Elders, COGIC.

Bishop Designate Sanders was educated in the Missouri school system where he presently holds a life-long teaching certificate at the Masters plus level and a Bachelor’s Degree in Biblical Studies from the Midwest College of Theology. He worked for a world-wide construction company for a number of years building large projects and presently is an executive board member for the Carpenters District Council of the Greater St. Louis area. He is the recipient of an “Outstanding Commitment to Workplace Diversity and Community Activism Award” by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) and is the member of the Ecumenical Leadership St. Louis Chapter, St. Louis Metropolitan Clergy Coalition, United Metro Clergy Coalition and NAACP.
**Bishop Designate**

**Ahmed Marc Screven**

**Auxiliary Bishop, New York Eastern Fourth Jurisdiction**

Ahmed M. Screven is the son of the late Dr. Nathaniel Louis Screven, Sr. and Evangelist Jean Screven. His father pastored Bethesda Church of God in Christ, and was the President of Evangelical Bible Institute. Growing up, in school he excelled in science and literature, and he sang with the youth choir at his fathers' church. Bishop Designate Screven graduated from the prestigious Rutgers School of Law. He also attended and graduated from Rutgers University, Orlando Theological Bible College, and Essex County College. In 1998, he was called to become the pastor of Greater Revival Community COGIC in Newark, and thereafter was installed as pastor of Bethesda Church of God in Christ in February 2008. Upon becoming Bethesda's new pastor, Screven began to commit himself and the church to a mission to help people reach their ultimate potential spiritually in their relationship with Jesus Christ, by teaching them to operate in the spirit and by faith. Under Screven's leadership, both the financial growth and the growth of the congregation through discipleship, has increased dramatically.

Since becoming Bethesda’s senior pastor, he serves as the President of Evangelical Bible Institute, has incorporated a new Bible institute in Aurora Illinois, and created numerous community outreach programs in Newark. He has also implemented over 30 active-in-house ministries at Bethesda. Bishop Designate Screven’s goal is to spread the Word of God in Newark, and throughout the world, through various missions and outreach efforts. He has established a new mission’s ministry in St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands where he and his ministry partners host yearly conferences, conduct revivals, implement community service initiatives to homeless shelters and senior citizen facilities, and provide food, clothing, and resources to the people of St. Thomas. In the National Church, Bishop Designate Screven has served in many capacities, and currently as an appointee of the Presiding Bishop, he serves as the Assistant General Secretary for Legal Affairs in the Office of the General Secretary. Personally, shortly after attending Essex County College, he met and married the former Subrina Edwards in September 1995, and together they have two children, Oksana and Abrielle.

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**Bishop Designate**

**Arthur Riley Shields**

**Auxiliary Bishop, Greater Maryland First Jurisdiction**

Arthur Riley Shields was born on May 17, 1923. As a young boy, while working around the church with his farther, he heard the call of the Lord. Unbeknownst to him at that time, the Lord had placed a great call upon his life. Dr. Shields was first licensed to preach under his pastor, the late Elder Eugene Curry in 1953 and ordained under the late Bishop D. Lawrence Williams. In 1957, with the help of his wife, Mother Annie B. Shields (deceased), he organized the Holy Trinity Church of God In Christ. On August 11, 1957 the opening service was held.

Realizing the necessity of a strong education, Elder Shields, pursued every available opportunity for educational advancement. He is the recipient of numerous honorary degrees.

Exemplifying his love for the Lord and his work in the church and community, Dr. Shields has received numerous awards and recognitions including; an interview as a guest on ABC affiliate Channel 2 “The Point” and a written recognition of his life and humble beginnings in the Baltimore Afro American Newspaper. Supt. Shields also received the Channel 13 Salute and the street on which the church was located was renamed, in his honor, The Dr. A.R. Shields Way. He has received citations and resolutions from the Mayor of Baltimore, State Senate, and Governor of the State of Maryland, as well as a letter of recognition from the President of the United States.

Dr. Shields is a Prayer Warrior who believes in fasting and prayer. He is a Pastor who, under the anointing of God, preaches the true gospel. In 2007, the Northeast District, in which he served as Superintendent, was renamed the Honorable A.R. Shields District; honoring him for more than 50 years of work and labor as Superintendent. He currently serves as one of the Senior Administrative Assistants to the Bishop Joel Harley Lyles, Jr. in the Greater Maryland First Jurisdiction.

Bishop Designate Shields is married to Lady Diane Shields. For his age, wisdom and fatherly character, throughout the Greater Maryland First Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction is fondly known as “Pop Shields.”
Bishop Designate
Robert Earl Smith, Sr.
Auxiliary Bishop, Michigan Historic First Jurisdiction

Bishop Designate Robert Earl Smith, Sr., was saved at the age of 14 under the late Elder James Markam, at the St. James (Selby Street) Church of God in Christ in Flint, Michigan, and was later filled with the Holy Ghost while serving with the United States Air Force in Paris, France. He was later called to the ministry and preached his first sermon in the French language in Paris. He was involved with the church’s music department as choir director and singer as a teenager. He also assisted the pastor in monitoring the weekly broadcast. Bishop Designate Smith was born in Brooksville, Mississippi, but received little education until he moved with his family to Flint, MI in 1952. Starting in 1952 he attended the Flint Public School System where he graduated from Flint Northern High School in 1956. He later joined the United States Air Force where he served for four (4) years and started his post high school education at the University of Maryland, majoring in the French language. He became fluent enough in the French language to be chosen by the commander of the Office of Special Investigation (OSI), to drive him and his boss around the country of France on tour. After his military tour of duty, he continued his education at the Mott Community Jr., College in Flint, and later the University of Michigan. Bishop Designate Smith has served the Church God of in Christ as State Sunday School Superintendent for 22 years, during which time he was appointed by the late Bishop C.W. Williams as Vice-Chairman and his Executive Assistant. He was later chosen by Bishop Jerry W. Macklin as Vice-President of the National Sunday School, until Bishop Macklin became a Jurisdictional Bishop. He served his jurisdiction as Chairman of USAC and later Chairman of the State AIM Convention. He was the original dean of the Flint Branch of the C.H. Mason Bible College, founded by Bishop PA Brooks. Bishop Designate Smith was appointed pastor of the White Cloud Church of God in Christ in 1966, where he and his family commuted 150 miles one way, from Flint, MI, often twice a week to serve that community. He has also served as pastor of churches in Saginaw, MI, and other cities while still maintaining the church at White Cloud. He also has served since 2012 as pastor of The Deliverance Church of God in Christ, pastored by the late Elder Zack Smith, in Flint, Michigan, to present. Bishop Designate Smith is presently the A.I.M. Chairman for his Jurisdiction, and also serves as Chairman of Finance and Administrative Assistant to the Jurisdictional Bishop, Bishop PA Brooks. He has been married for 54 years to the lovely, vivacious and beautiful, Mother Gilda Jean Sewell-Smith, and they have three (3) sons, Robert, David, Craig, all ordained in the Church of God.

Bishop Designate
Talbert Wesley Swan, II
Auxiliary Bishop, Massachusetts Jurisdiction

Bishop Designate Talbert W. Swan, II is a fourth generation member of the Church of God in Christ and follows in the steps of several generations of men and women in the Swan family serving in the ministry. A native of Springfield, MA, Pastor Swan is the son of the Fred Allen Swan, Sr. and Delois Fason Swan. Pastor Swan first acknowledged and accepted his calling into the Gospel ministry at the age of fifteen and was subsequently ordained in 1991 by Bishop L.C. Young, prelate of the Massachusetts First Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction. Pastor Swan attended the University of Massachusetts and subsequently graduated from Western New England College where he majored in computer science. He later attended Charter Oak State College where he received an Associate of Science and a Bachelor of Science in Religious Studies. His dedication to the art of preaching and his desire to prepare for pastoral ministry led him to Hartford Seminary where he graduated Magna Cum Laude with a Master of Arts in Theology and to Gordon Conwell Theological Seminary where he graduated Magna Cum Laude with a Master of Divinity in Urban Ministry. He also holds graduate certificates from Hartford Seminary in Black Ministries and Harvard Divinity School in Faith Based Economic and Community Development. Pastor Swan served as youth minister at the Spring of Hope Church of God in Christ before founding the Solid Rock Church of God in Christ in 1994. With God’s divine guidance and Pastor Swan’s committed leadership Solid Rock flourished, serving the community through several ministries, including a food pantry, youth ministries and television and radio broadcasts. In January 2009, the Solid Rock and Spring of Hope Churches merged and Rev. Swan was installed as pastor on May 31, 2009. The church serves the community through vibrant worship services, prayer hours, youth, adult and senior services along with several other active ministries. Pastor Swan is a consummate community activist and is respected for his work in the area of human rights across the region. He has served on many community boards and has received numerous awards for his work. His work has been highlighted in publications such as; the New York Times, Boston Globe, Washington Post, Emerge Magazine, Gospel Today and Sojourner’s Magazine to name a few. He has also been featured on Fox News, Black Entertainment Television and New England Cable News along with local and regional news outlets. Pastor Swan is a two-term member of the Alumni Council at Hartford Seminary, a member of the Black Alumni Council of the Harvard Divinity School and the current National Chaplain of Iota Phi Theta Fraternity, Inc., the fifth largest African American fraternity in the country. He currently serves the Massachusetts Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction, Church of God in Christ as Executive Secretary and the International Church of God in Christ as Assistant General Secretary for Administration, Advisor on Social Justice and Public Policy and Associate Liaison to the White House. He is the president of the Greater Springfield NAACP, Chairman of the Board of Dunbar Family & Community Center and sits on various other boards and committees. Bishop Designate Swan is married to the lovely Evangelist Cynthia A. Swan, who is actively involved in supporting her husband’s ministry. First Lady Swan stands supportive by his side, interceding for her husband and the success of his work. They are proud parents and grandparents.
**Bishop Designate**

**Kurt Lance Thompson**

*Auxiliary Bishop, Texas Southeast First Jurisdiction*

Supt. Thompson is one of the most sought after conference and convention speakers in Central Texas. He is a prolific teacher with an insightful, pastoral heart and a special evangelistic boldness. He presents the uncompromising gospel with clarity and effectively teaches the appropriation of the Word of God.

He was born and reared in Houston, TX and attended Houston Public Schools. He is a graduate of Texas Christian University holding a Bachelor’s degree in Elementary Education. He also attended the C.H. Mason System of Bible Colleges. In 1991, he organized the Assemblage of Praise Church in Bryan, TX. Today he is the Personal Executive Assistant to Bishop Rufus Kyles, Jr. Prelate of TSE #1 and Jurisdictional Business Manager. He also serves as District Superintendent of the Groveton-Crockett District. In August 2005 he was appointed Pastor of the Greater Old Field COGIC and is presently serving as Pastor of Greater Old Field Church, The Hampton Memorial COGIC in Crockett, TX. and Assemblage of Praise COGIC in Bryan, Texas. He ministers extensively through revivals and conferences throughout the nation and is seen weekly on television in Houston County.

Supt. Thompson’s ministry has spanned over 150+ cities, 49 states and countless Pastors and ministry opportunities too numerous to name. In January 2013, Supt. Thompson was appointed Deputy Commissioner of Security for the Church of God In Christ, Inc. by Presiding Bishop Charles E. Blake, Sr. Supt. Thompson is married to the talented Kimberly Reed-Thompson who is a renowned psalmist and in her own right.

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**Bishop Designate**

**Bernard Sylvester Wallace**

*Auxiliary Bishop, Pennsylvania Second Jurisdiction*

Bishop Designate Bernard S. Wallace is a lifelong resident of Beaver County, currently residing in Monaca, PA (Center Township). A third generation son of the Church of God In Christ, he is a man of many and varied offices. His primary role is that of Administrative Assistant to Bishop Melvin E. Clark, Sr., pastor of the Church In The Round (COGIC), Aliquippa, PA. In August, 1973, he was ordained Elder in the gospel ministry and November, 1986 appointed Executive Jurisdictional Secretary and Superintendent of the Headquarters District of the Second Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of PA. Most recently he was appointed to the National Financial Oversight Board, Church of God In Christ, Inc. Bishop Designate Wallace has served faithfully, with distinction in the Church In The Round. His earliest assignment in 1973 was that of Financial Secretary, followed in succession by member of the Board of Trustees and Board of Elders; Director of Church Publications; Director of Christian Education; Program Coordinator of the church’s Family Life Center, Inc.; Production Manager of the famed “Across The Pastor’s Desk” Radio Ministry; Coordinator of the “Commit To Christ” Crusades of the 1970’s and the “May I Present Jesus To You” Holy Ghost Conferences and former Chairman of the Kingdom Men’s Fellowship of the Church In The Round. Bishop Designate Wallace has distinguished himself as an educator and a community activist. He is a graduate of the Aliquippa High School and completed his understudy at Cheyney University of Pennsylvania receiving the Bachelor of Science Degree in Secondary Education, majoring in Social Science. He also degreed and is certified in Special Education for the Gifted and the Educable Mentally Challenged. His postgraduate studies included Penn State University, Geneva College and the Billy Graham School of Evangelism. As a former educator in the Aliquippa School District for nine years he established the Secondary Special Education Curriculum and Work Experience Program. Since resigning from the school system in 1970 he has given over 43 years work to full-time work at the Church In The Round. He celebrated 50 years of marriage to Gladys Evans Wallace of Aliquippa and is the proud father of a son and daughter and grandfather of five.
Bishop Designate
Dwight Eugene Walls, Sr.
Auxiliary Bishop, Michigan Great Lakes Second Jurisdiction

Bishop Designate Dwight E. Walls, Sr. is the son of the late Bishop and Mother Floyd A. Walls Sr. He was born and raised in Ypsilanti, MI where he attended the Ypsilanti Public School System. He attending the University of Michigan, Bank Street College, and Washtenaw Community College.

Bishop Designate Dwight E. Walls is a true family man. He is the husband of Missionary Mignon N. Walls and they’ve been married for over forty-two years and have three children Elder Dwight, Missionary LarScene, Brother Dion (Donnietra), who all work in the ministry and four grandchildren. Bishop Designate Walls has served as Pastor of Greater Shiloh Church of God in Christ for over twenty years, as the District Superintendent of the Greater Shiloh District and Administrative Assistant in Great Lakes Second Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of Michigan, where Bishop Alfred M. Smith serves as Prelate.

Bishop Designate Walls served his father at Greater Shiloh Church of God in Christ as a Deacon then months later God called him to preach. Living the life of a Holiness preacher, his father, the late Bishop Floyd A. Walls appointed Bishop Designate Walls the Assistant Pastor years later. The Late Bishop Floyd A. Walls became Jurisdictional Bishop of the Canada Second Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction in 1986, where Bishop Designate Walls served as his Episcopal Adjutant. Bishop Designate Walls has also served in the National Church of God in Christ as a Marshall. Bishop Designate Walls later became a part of the first Security Task Force team, under the leadership of the late Presiding Bishop J.O. Patterson, Sr. Bishop Designate Walls became a National Adjutant and was assigned to the late Presiding Bishop J. O. Patterson Sr., the late Bishop J. A. Blake, Sr. and the late Bishop C. L. Anderson, Jr. While serving as a National Adjutant to the late Bishop J. O. Patterson Sr., Bishop Designate Walls established a special love for him and a personal relationship was developed.

On November 13, 2012, Bishop Designate Dwight E. Walls, Sr. was re-elected for his 7th consecutive term by the General Assembly of the Church of God in Christ to the National Board of Trustees, and was elected as "CHAIRMAN" by his peers. He is humbled to serve as "CHAIRMAN" under the leadership of Presiding Bishop Charles Edward Blake, Sr. Bishop Designate Dwight E. Walls, Sr. has served on the National Board of Trustees for 26 years.

Bishop Designate Lee Ward
Auxiliary Bishop, Tennessee Headquarters Jurisdiction

Dr. Lee Ward was born the fourth of nine children in the small town of Abbeville, Alabama to the late Amnon and Cora Ward. He is married to the lovely Julia "JuJu" S. Ward and they are the proud parents of five (5) children, several grandchildren, and great-grandchildren.

Dr. Ward retired from the United States Marine Corps as Master Gunnery Sergeant, the highest enlisted rank, after serving twenty-six years and five months. Dr. Ward was privileged to work on the staff of three (3) Commandants of the United States Marine Corps. As a Montford Point Marine, he was one of the first black men to break the color barrier in the United States Marine Corps. In 2012, Dr. Ward was invited to Washington, D.C. to receive the Congressional Gold Medal of Honor, the highest award of valor by the Congress of the United States; the highest honor a civilian can receive.

Upon retiring, Dr. Ward moved to Memphis and united with South Fort Pickering Church of God in Christ, the first and oldest Church of God in Christ in Memphis, which was originally the Church of God. He was appointed Pastor of South Fort Pickering, which he renamed Greater Harvest Church of God in Christ. This church outgrew two (2) previous locations. During his career in the Marine Corps, Dr. Ward was sometimes stationed in areas where there were no COGIC churches; there he served in the United Holy Church of America and the Assembly of God in many capacities including being a member of the Board of Directors and Chairman of the Board of the Ministry of Godly Men. Under the banner of the Church of God in Christ, Headquarters Jurisdiction, Dr. Ward served on/as: the State Board, District Superintendent, State Board of Ordination, Chairman of the State Sunday School Department, the Board of Directors at C.H. Mason Bible College, and currently President of the Tennessee West Fellowship.
Dr. Patrick L. Wooden, Sr. has been saved for thirty-seven years and in the pastoral ministry for thirty-two years. He founded the Lighthouse COGIC where he pastored for 9 years and built a sanctuary within one year. In 1987, he was appointed to the Upper Room COGIC where he presently serves in Raleigh, North Carolina. Under his leadership the membership has grown from approximately 150 to presently over 3000 members. As CEO, Dr. Wooden has led Upper Room in three major building projects—in 1992, the first COGIC sanctuary ever built in Raleigh; in 1998, the current two thousand seat edifice; and in 2002, a 66,000 sq. ft. Christian school, which has provided quality education for thousands of students. Additionally, the ministry provides employment for over 70 people. Dr. Wooden serves as First Administrative Assistant, at the pleasure of the honorable Bishop Leroy J. Woolard, in the Greater North Carolina Jurisdiction; as Superintendent of the Greater Central District and nationally, on the Community Development Board. Dr. Wooden is a renowned gospel preacher, teacher, author and lecturer who is known for boldly and uncompromisingly addressing issues that adversely affect today's society. In addition to preaching across the country, he has been the featured guest on CNN, ABC, CBS, NBC, TCT, INSP, The Word Network, The O'Reilly Factor, Called 2 Action and Al-Jazeera. He has been the invited lecturer at campuses such as: UNC Chapel Hill, William Peace University, Meredith College and Shaw University. He has been featured in such national publications as the New York Times, Washington Post, Huffington Post, Associated Press, Jet, Charisma and the Whole Truth. Dr. Wooden resides in Raleigh, N. C. with his wife, Pamela McNeil Wooden. They have been married for over thirty-three years with two married children and two grandchildren. Dr. Wooden attributes his success to God's unmerited favor and good leadership. His motto for life and ministry is “God First.”
“These are the men whom the Lord delighteth to honor”
Bishop Welton Lee Lawrence  
Prelate, Canadian/Michigan Jurisdiction

Bishop Dr. Lawrence was born April 27, 1939 near Sikeston Missouri to Mr. Elton and Mrs. Myrtle Lawrence. He attended Detroit Public Schools and immediately entered the United States Air Force upon graduation. He served 8 years as a jet aircraft engine specialist. After leaving the military he attended aviation schools and earned Federal Aviation Administration licenses for Aircraft Structural and Systems Technician; Aircraft Engine Technician; Private Pilot and Commercial Pilot. His academic credentials include Bachelor of Science, and Master of Education Degrees from Wayne State University and an earned Doctorate of Education from the University of Southern California. As a teacher and professor his teaching experiences include an aerospace technical high school and Wayne County Community College in Detroit; and Anchorage Community College and the University of Alaska. He served as principal of the West Angeles Christian Academy; and also served as a tenured, full–professor for the University of Alaska’s Aviation Technology Program. He retired from the University of Alaska Bachelor Of Technology Education Department.

Bishop Lawrence accepted his ministerial call and was licensed and ordained under the leadership of Bishop Charles D. Williams of Anchorage Alaska. His current assignments are pastor of the East Grand Boulevard C.O.G.I.C; and Auxiliary Bishop of the Canadian/Michigan Jurisdiction. At the national level he is a member of the General Assembly Executive Board National Selection and Screening Committee and C.O.G.I.C Publishing Board. An advocate for strong families; he and his wife Joyce recently celebrated their 52th wedding anniversary. They have four children, all of whom are college graduates, seven grand-children and seven great-grand-children.

Bishop Lawrence has a special love for Canada and has traveled extensively throughout that nation. His travels have carried him from the west coast city of Vancouver across Canada to the east coast of Nova Scotia and the Island of Newfoundland. He has traveled from the most southern point in Canada at Point Pelee Ontario up the Alcan Highway through the Canadian Rocky Mountains through the Yukon Territory to the border of Alaska. Bishop Lawrence is very excited about the prospect of working to expand the presence of the Church of God in Christ in the nation of Canada.

Bishop Enoch Perry, III  
Prelate, Ivory Coast Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction

Judge Enoch Perry III is a prominent litigator and negotiator on both local and national levels. For over 14 years, he has served as general counsel of the Church of God in Christ, Incorporated, attending to the legal needs of hundreds of churches worldwide. He has conducted seminars and published reference books on the topics of church law, risk management, sexual misconduct, and the legal processes which have ultimately saved the Church millions of dollars in legal expenses.

Shortly thereafter, Judge Perry was appointed by the late Jurisdictional Bishop Warren G. Crudup, Sr. as pastor of the Jerusalem Church of God in Christ in southeast Washington, DC. One year later, he was appointed by the late Presiding Bishop L. H. Ford to function on behalf of the Church as chairman of the Church of God in Christ’s National Lawyers Committee. Later, Bishop L. H. Ford appointed him General Counsel of the Church of God In Christ. He has humbly served in this capacity under four administrations.

The Judge has earned the designated title of Certified Christian Mediator through the American Association of Christian Counselors and recently was awarded an Honorary Doctorate from the Inter-Denominational Theological Center and the Charles Harrison Mason Theological Seminary in Atlanta, Georgia.

Judge Perry has been happily married to his childhood sweetheart, Maudene, for 30 years and he is the parent of three adult children, nine grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren.
The Affirmation Of Faith

The Leader: We affirm our faith in the Bible
The People: We believe the Bible to be the inspired and only infallible written Word of God.

The Leader: We affirm our faith in God
The People: We believe that there is one God, eternally existent in Three persons: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.

The Leader: We affirm our faith in the Blessed Hope
The People: We believe in the Blessed Hope, which is the rapture of the Church of God, which is in Christ, at His return.

The Leader: We affirm our faith in Repentance and Salvation
The People: We believe that the only means of being cleansed from sin is through repentance; and faith in the precious blood of Jesus Christ. We believe that regeneration by the Holy Ghost is absolutely essential for personal salvation.

The Leader: We affirm our faith in Jesus Christ
The People: We believe that the redemptive work of Christ on the cross provides healing for the human body in answer to believing prayer.

The Leader: We affirm our faith in the Holy Ghost
The People: We believe that the baptism of the Holy Ghost according to Acts 2:4 is given to believers who ask for him.

The Leader: We affirm our faith in Sanctification
The People: We believe in the sanctifying power of the Holy Spirit, by Whose indwelling, the Christian is enabled to live a holy and separated life in this present world. AMEN.