



**International Voice of The Church of God of North Carolina**

**Volume 19—Number 04**

**October, November, December, 2016**

# *Merry Christmas One and All*



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## Editorial:

# WHAT CHRISTMAS MEANS TO ME

*International Overseer  
~John A. Wilkins, Jr.~*



Christmas is a very special time to me and it bothers me to see so many who have made this special day just another marketing gimmick to take our dollars. This is a day set aside to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ who was sent from Heaven as a baby to grow up in this world to be an example to all of humanity in living a sinless life as a man. He was both God and man and denied Himself of the attributes of God when He gave His life on Calvary without the aid of angels or godly power. He did not have His life taken, but rather gave it willingly to take our place for SIN and relieved us of the burden of it and responsibility of paying for our own sins. He is our savior and redeemer and thus is entitled to praise, adoration and worship during this very sacred time we call Christmas, His birthday celebration.

It is also a time of exchanging gifts in His honor with family and friends as we meet to enjoy the festive foods, trimmings and beautiful lights of

Christmas. As we think about what to give our children, husband or wife let us think also about Christ, what are you giving Him? Many talk all year about giving Him part of our lives, but many never do it.

The greatest gift we could ever give Christ is our complete and total surrender of ourselves to Him. Once we have done that, He is our all in all and we think of Him every day that we live and seek His guidance for our individual lives. He is Christmas for me on a daily basis and I desire to reflect His glory from my life.

Make Christ a part of your Christmas this year and help me celebrate His birth!

*Happy  
Birthday  
Jesus*



# MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL!

## STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT

**The Banner of Truth** ®, official quarterly publication of The Church of God of North Carolina, Inc., owner with International Headquarters at 310 West Edgerton St. P.O. Box 2109 Dunn, North Carolina 28335-2109; published by The Banner of Truth Press, John A. Wilkins, Jr., Cathy Elder, Executive Editors; and Elizabeth Wilkins, Managing Editor.

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**The Church Flag** is a registered trademark of the Church of God of Prophecy, however we believe it was given to the church by the Holy Ghost to be displayed because of the truth.

# The Foundation of God Standeth Sure, Are You On It?

*International Overseer  
John A. Wilkins, Jr.*

***Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD, Behold, I lay in Zion for a foundation a stone, a tried stone, a precious corner stone, a sure foundation:*** Isaiah 28:16a

I learned about foundations while watching them being built in different states. I shall never forget watching them in South Carolina where the sand would fall in so bad while the foundation was being dug that it looked impossible for anything to ever work. I asked a lot of questions about foundations and soon learned that they must be dug below the frost line and they were made different widths as needed depending on the structure that would eventually rest on them. I remember building one for a gazebo one time and a builder came by and looked at it and said, "You could build a very tall building on this one." I had put it deep into the ground because I did not want to see it lean or fail to support my gazebo; now the gazebo needs a lot of repair, but the foundation is still excellent and strong. If you are going to build a nice building, then you will need a good foundation to support it. I remember staying on the 49<sup>th</sup> floor of a hotel in Japan one night and I wondered about the foundation so I asked my friend that was staying there in the next room if he felt the foundation was sure? Once he felt the building swaying, he had some strong concerns also. I stayed in Mexico in a hotel that had been hit by an earthquake and there was a

large crack in the wall there in the lobby that concerned me so I asked, "Where did you get that crack?" The desk clerk explained that it was from a previous earthquake and I didn't rest very well that night and regretted that I had asked.

We do not have to concern ourselves with the spiritual foundation, it is established by God and is built upon the rock (Jesus Christ). Our concern is that we remain firmly established on that rock and our souls firmly attached so we do not move. This foundation will remain but we may not if we allow the winds of doubt, disappointment, fear and despondency move or shift us. You can have the strongest foundation that can be built but if the structure is not built on that foundation then the winds and storms can shift the building off the foundation and great will be its fall. The foundation is there to hold us secure if only we remain on it and stay firmly attached to it. If Christ is our rock then we need not worry, just stay on the foundation.

***To whom coming, as unto a living stone, disallowed indeed of men, but chosen of God, and precious, Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by***



*Church Foundation Memorial, Mount Hittin, Israel*

***Jesus Christ. Wherefore also it is contained in the scripture, Behold, I lay in Zion a chief corner stone, elect, precious: and he that believeth on him shall not be confounded. Unto you therefore which believe he is precious: but unto them which be disobedient, the stone which the builders disallowed, the same is made the head of the corner, And a stone of stumbling, and a rock of offence, even to them which stumble at the word, being disobedient: whereunto also they were appointed. But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light: Which in time past werenot a people, but are now the people of God: which had not obtained mercy, but now have obtained mercy.*** 1 Peter 2:4-10

A foundation can be of superior quality and then have the building set so that the back wall is off the solid foundation, what then? We must be built upon the foundation not part on and part off.

***Wherefore whosoever shall eat this bread, and drink this cup of the Lord, unworthily, shall be guilty of the body and blood of the***



*Lord. But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of that bread, and drink of that cup. For he that eateth and drinketh unworthily, eateth and drinketh damnation to himself, not discerning the Lord's body. For this cause many are weak and sickly among you, and many sleep. For if we would judge ourselves, we should not be judged. 32 But when we are judged, we are chastened of the Lord, that we should not be condemned with the world.*  
1 Corinthians 11:27-32

Many among us have eaten and taken part with us at the table and they have done so in an abominable act without regard to the sovereign God of Abraham, Isaac and us and our walls are shifted and the building is not squarely on the foundation any more. You cannot build with materials that are weak and failing; they have been eaten by the bugs of the world system and left in a condition which renders them unfit for the walls. We need to turn now to the Lord Jesus Christ and allow Him to make us over in strength and power to stand on the foundation, not in our sufficiency but in His. He has not called us to fail but to have power and success through Him!

*This is the third time I am coming to you. In the mouth of two or three witnesses shall every word be established. I told you before, and foretell you, as if I were present, the second time; and being absent now I write to them which heretofore have sinned, and to all other, that, if I come again, I will not spare: Since ye seek a proof of Christ*

*speaking in me, which to you-ward is not weak, but is mighty in you. For though he was crucified through weakness, yet he liveth by the power of God. For we also are weak in him, but we shall live with him by the power of God toward you. Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith; prove your own selves. Know ye not your own selves, how that Jesus Christ is in you, except ye be reprobates? But I trust that ye shall know that we are not reprobates. Now I pray to God that ye do no evil; not that we should appear approved, but that ye should do that which is honest, though we be as reprobates. For we can do nothing against the truth, but for the truth. For we are glad, when we are weak, and ye are strong; and this also we wish, even your perfection. Therefore I write these things being absent, lest being present I should use sharpness, according to the power which the Lord hath given me to edification, and not to destruction. Finally, brethren, farewell. Be perfect, be of good comfort, be of one mind, live in peace; and the God of love and peace shall be with you.*  
2 Corinthians 13:1-11

It is time to examine ourselves to see if we remain on the foundation of God and that we are honest with ourselves lest we be shifted from the foundation. There is no safety away from the foundation. The thing we need today is the precious Word of God, not the tongues and stammering lips, but the clear and understood WORD. Many are weak and sick today because instead of the precious WORD they have only the speaking in tongues and joy of that feeling

in place of the precious word from God that they can walk by and enjoyment of doing what God says. My own will can replace His will unless we are subject to His Spirit and obey His voice. I have seen so many over the last several years go after tongues when they should have been quite and allowed the Lord to speak directly to them. This will make your building shift and leave the foundation during a strong storm. You cannot make someone stay on the foundation unless they recognize the need to remain. I recently had a foundation shifter try to tell me some things that clearly told me that they were off the foundation attempting to build the Church their own way. The Church can only be built one way, His way! Our job is to stay on the foundation and every piece must be put in a certain way in order to remain a part of the original structure. When we love God we love each other and when we love each other it is evident that we love God and it is demonstrated to others that we are different from the world.

*Nevertheless the foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal, The Lord knoweth them that are his. And, Let every one that nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity. But in a great house there are not only vessels of gold and of silver, but also of wood and of earth; and some to honour, and some to dishonour. If a man therefore purge himself from these, he shall be a vessel unto honour, sanctified, and meet for the master's use, and prepared unto every good work. Flee also youthful lusts: but* →

*follow righteousness, faith, charity, peace, with them that call on the Lord out of a pure heart. But foolish and unlearned questions avoid, knowing that they do gender strifes. And the servant of the Lord must not strive; but be gentle unto all men, apt to teach, patient, In meekness instructing those that oppose themselves; if God peradventure will give them repentance to the acknowledging of the truth; And that they may recover themselves out of the snare of the devil, who are taken captive by him at his will.*

2 Timothy 2:19-26

We do not have to improve the foundation of God. It is greater than any man can lay, it is perfect, it is straight and pure, it is eternal

and without the impurities of man. You can't improve upon what God has given. Our job is to get on it and stay anchored down against the storms of man and the vain philosophies that tend to carry us to the side and eventually off the foundation.

*According to the grace of God which is given unto me, as a wise masterbuilder, I have laid the foundation, and another buildeth thereon. But let every man take heed how he buildeth thereupon. For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ. Now if any man build upon this foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble; Every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be*

*revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is. If any man's work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward. If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire.*

1 Corinthians 3:10-15

Conclusion: We will only survive if we stay on the foundation that God has given to us, no greater is possible to us. Christ asked Peter, "*Are you willing to look to me and walk or look some other place and sink*". Now we know the story, Peter feared and started looking into the sea and he started to sink but, Jesus took him out safely from the sea. He will save us if we will let Him. Keep building on the firm foundation, Jesus Christ! □

## Why Not Send Your Special Gift This Year To:



The Church of God  
of NC

P.O. Box 2109  
Dunn, NC 28335





**Bible Training Institute—BTI**—Is an important part of The Church of God of NC and we recognize the need to educate and provide management training for people in charge of handling the affairs of our churches. The BTI

program is designed to train and educate people on how to manage the affairs of the church including financial affairs and affairs that are deemed non-financial. This effort is to primarily advance the church through church management skills as well as spiritual guidance and training in Bible Doctrine, Church Business, Pastoral, and the various church auxiliaries. It is a comprehensive approach to educating our base line of workers to go any place in the world with the message and skills to advance The Church of God of NC.

We highly recommend that you try to attend BTI 2017! Dates are in the works and will be announced very soon, tentatively we are looking at July 17-25, 2017. We are also working on low cost lodging for BTI and the Assembly. (More information to follow soon!) It will be held in Dunn, NC at our International Headquarters just prior to our International Assembly in 2017. (We are looking at approximately mid-July 2017). We will be having Terms 1—3 this year and are looking forward to a wonderful time in the Lord! BTI is open to all of those from the age of 12 years old and up that are interested in learning more about the Church, Bible History, Operations of the Church. (Youth under the age of 16 years of age must have a parent/guardian attend BTI with them.)

Your tuition for BTI will be \$90.00 and covers your books and class supplies for the course you are registered in and will be including a light breakfast, a good hearty lunch, and snacks. Please start saving your money for BTI now. Christmas is on its way, that would make a GREAT Christmas gift for those you don't know what to get! BTI Course Director/Coordinator for 2017 is Jannece Colon. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact Sis. Jannece by phone at 575-631-3412 or by email at [jc@thechurchofgodofnc.com](mailto:jc@thechurchofgodofnc.com) or by mail at 5026 N Florida Ave., Alamogordo, NM 88310.

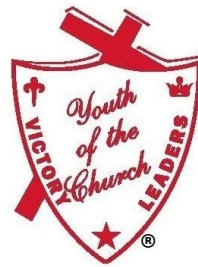
## National VLB Director—USA

~Sis. Emily Colon~

The VLB's or Victory Leader's Band is a program designated for the youth of the Church. The purpose of the VLB's is : 1) To Evangelize the Youth, 2) To Establish young people through Bible study and prayer, 3) To Inspire young people to raise money for the printing of the gospel, 4) To Inspire young people to reach out to others with the gospel, 5) To Train young people for Christian Service, 6) To be a channel for young people to be an outreach for the Church.



### VICTORY LEADERS BAND



VLB's are for the youth ages 12-35. Gleaners are for the training of our children up through 11 years of age to prepare them for the youth program.

One of our functions in the church is to raise money for the printing of the gospel. We can do this by raising funds or donating directly to the Wings For Tracts Program each month/year. You can participate monthly by making a commitment and sending in at least \$100.00 per year, that is as little as \$8.34 per month. If it could save one person, why would you not do it?

Let's get busy and do our part for the church and raise those funds to print the gospel.

I urge our youth to get out and spread the gospel! If your local church does not have tracts available, please encourage them to order tracts from the International Office. I am urging all of our youth and other members as well to get out and share a tract a day! That is just one per day! Let's get out and spread the gospel and see The Church of God grow!



## **Women Mentoring Women**

### **Be A Woman** **After God's Own Heart!**

~Jannece Colon~  
Alamogordo, NM



Where ever you turn, you will always find a woman no matter the age, that is looking for a guide, a coach, a model, an advisor. They are looking for someone who knows about what they are going through during the season of life they are currently in. If for no other reason than to uplift and encourage them and reassure them that they are NOT alone in their Christian walk.

Mentoring is a MUST! Mentors look inside us and find the woman we long to be, then they help us to bring that woman to life! Mentors nurture our souls, they help to shape our character, they pray for us, and they call us to become complete women that are whole women, and, by the grace of God, HOLY women. Proverbs 27:17 says ***"Iron sharpeneth iron; so a man sharpeneth the countenance of his friend."***

Titus 2:1-5 says ***"But speak thou the things which become sound doctrine: That the aged men be sober, grave, temperate, sound in faith, in charity, in patience. The aged women likewise, that they be in behaviour as becometh holiness, not false accusers, not given to much wine, teachers of good things; That they may teach the young women to be sober, to love their husbands, to love their children, To be discreet, chaste, keepers at home, good, obedient to their own husbands, that the word of God be not blasphemed"***. As women in The Church of God, we must make sure that the other sisters around us are not failing, but that they know they are not alone. We are a support system, We are the prayer warriors, We are sisters in the Lord! Let us lift up and encourage one another!

All of our wishes as sisters in the Lord should be to strive to be a Woman After God's Own Heart, a Proverb's 31 woman. Proverbs 31: 10-31 says ***"Who can find a virtuous woman? for her price is far above rubies. The heart of her husband doth safely trust in her, so that he shall have no need of spoil. She will do him good and not evil all the days of her life. She seeketh wool, and flax, and worketh willingly with her hands. She is like the merchants' ships; she bringeth her food from afar. She riseth also while it is yet night, and giveth meat to her household, and a portion to her maidens. She considereth a field, and buyeth it: with the fruit of her hands she planteth a vineyard. She girdeth her loins with strength, and strengtheneth her arms. She perceiveth that her merchandise is good: her candle goeth not out by night. She layeth her hands to the spindle, and her hands hold the distaff. She stretcheth out her hand to the poor; yea, she reacheth forth her hands to the needy. She is not afraid of the snow for her household: for all her household are clothed with scarlet. She maketh herself coverings of tapestry; her clothing is silk and purple. Her husband is known in the gates, when he sitteth among the elders of the land. She maketh fine linen, and selleth it; and delivereth girdles unto the merchant. Strength and honour are her clothing; and she shall rejoice in time to come. She openeth her mouth with wisdom; and in her tongue is the law of kindness. She looketh well to the ways of her household, and eateth not the bread of idleness. Her children arise up, and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praiseth her. Many daughters have done virtuously, but thou excellest them all. Favour is deceitful, and beauty is vain: but a woman that feareth the LORD, she shall be praised. Give her of the fruit of her hands; and let her own works praise her in the gates"***.



# VLB—The Victory Kid

~By: Emily Colón~ Alamogordo, NM



In the growing up process you start to think about school, work, bills, your future and many more things that consume the adolescent naivety that shields you from all the monsters under your bed and the wolves outside your door.



Proverbs 22:6 says: **Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.**

Now, while your children and grandchildren are all young and still ever naïve and free from the burden of adulthood, train them in the endangered art of True faith in our father above. I was taught this through my family, and through what I saw from my parents and grandparents growing up.

Remember, you may be the only bible some people will ever read.- Anonymous

Let your faith in God be bigger than your fears. Bigger than the monsters under your bed. Greater than the wolves outside your door and a safe haven in which your true home exists.

Children are great imitators. Give them something great to imitate, for children close their ears to advice but open their eyes to example so be the person you needed when you were younger because that is the person your child needs now.



Childhood is the most beautiful of all the seasons life gives. Cherish the season of youth for in the blink of an eye it has passed by and is lost forever.



But as it says in Ephesians 4:14: **That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive;**

Just like the story of little red riding hood children can't tell the difference between friend and foe. But as Proverbs 22:6 says, once again: **Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.**

Show your children right from wrong and they will never forget. Pray for your children daily for they will remember and be thankful.

When we focus on rules, we raise rule followers. When we focus on God, we raise Christ followers - Focus on the family

I remember my mother's prayers and they have always followed me. They have clung to me all my life- Abraham Lincoln



## ASSEMBLY BAND MOVEMENT



Sis. Nellie Lowe

Magna, Utah

USA National ABM Director

### ABM Special Boost

I urge that you and your local churches get the National Overseer's Pay Association up and going if it is not already working in your area. What we mean by the National Overseer's Pay Association is: 1) Please be receiving 4th Sunday Offerings for our National Overseer and send them in monthly to our National Treasurer, Sis. Shirley Michael, 2) We highly recommend when and where possible that you give Poundings of Love to our National Overseer (National Conventions/Camps/When he visits your local churches/etc.), 3) When possible, remember him and his wife with gifts and letters of encouragement. Our National Overseer, Bro. Thurman Lowe and his wife, Sis. Darlene have already since his appointment traveled many, many miles to fulfill his promise of visiting all the churches in the USA before the end of the year. If he has not visited with you by the time this paper comes out, he will be with you before you know it. During his short time as our National Overseer: he has written countless letters, made numerous phone calls, and has driven thousands of miles in visitation of members and churches, flew out to International Headquarters to see the property and conduct business while there, on top of going to meetings, camps, and National Convention all in between. He has not asked for any financial assistance for any of the work he has done! The National Overseer's Pay Association will assist in his many expenses that he is incurring on a daily basis. Let's please help out in any way possible.

I also highly recommend that you and your local churches do your best at receiving a monthly love offering for our International Overseer. He is dedicated to the Lord and The Church of God and has been doing a lot of traveling this year as well. Anything you can do to assist would greatly be appreciated.

# e-mail us @

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# Contact us...

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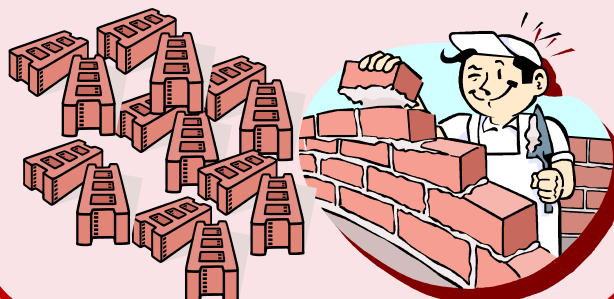
910-891-5010

Fax: 910-891-5693

## SPECIAL THANKS...

To "ALL" who are Participating in the **Brick Plan**. Whether it be: \$1.00 \$5.00 \$10.00 etc., or **\$50.00 each month, for Headquarters expense.**

**YOUR HELP IS  
GREATLY APPRECIATED!**







*Eunice Clark Foster*

*May 19, 1936 - October 3, 2016*

### *Safely Home*

*I am home in Heaven, dear ones;  
Oh, so happy and so bright!  
There is perfect joy and beauty  
In this everlasting light.  
All the pain and grief is over,  
Every restless tossing passed;  
I am now at peace forever,  
Safely home in Heaven at last.  
Did you wonder I so calmly  
Trod the valley, of the shade?  
Oh! But Jesus' love illuminated  
Every dark and fearful glade.  
And He came Himself to meet me  
In that way so hard to tread;  
And with Jesus' arm to lean on  
Could I have one doubt or dread?  
Then you must not grieve so so sorely,  
For I love you dearly still;  
Try to look beyond Earth's shadows.  
Pray to trust our Father's Will  
There is work still waiting for you,  
So you must not idly stand;  
Do it now, while life remaineth -  
You shall rest in Jesus' land.  
When that work is all completed,  
he will gently call you Home;  
Oh, the rapture of the meeting,  
Oh the joy to see you come!*

## **ANOTHER SOLDIER OF THE CROSS HAS GONE HOME**

Mrs. Eunice Foster, 80, of Crab Orchard, KY passed away Monday, October 3rd, at her residence. She was the wife of Bishop Hillard E. Foster, Sr. whom she married on May 19, 1956 in Cincinnati, Ohio. Eunice was born in Charleston, WV on May 19, 1936. She was a daughter of the late Raymond and America (Gabbard) Clark. She was a faithful member of the Church of God since the age of 14. Eunice was a woman of great faith and practiced what she preached. She loved reading, especially the Bible and loved Angels. Her home was always opened to any child. Over the years she fostered many children giving them a loving home. Eunice was a loving wife, mother, grandmother and great grandmother.

Bishop Foster and his wife Eunice were with us at the start of the continuation of The Church of God under the new name, The Church of God of North Carolina in 1996 due to doctrinal differences with the parent organization. They both worked very hard to reach out to the lost souls around them and to work to build the new organization under the old teachings and practices. She knew what the ministry was like and put all she had into the new effort while supporting the past practices of The Church of God which she had joined at the age of 14. She proved her love for the Church by standing for every principal of doctrine she had once believed in and did this until her passing.

She will be greatly missed by her family, her Church and friends, but we all know exactly what we must do in order to go where she has gone. We must be faithful also until our time comes and God calls to us, "Come Home" then we will be able to see her again. One of the last things she ever said to me was, "I want my family all to be saved" and we prayed that day for this to happen. She gave me a smile as she always did and I left her knowing that if I did not see her again while she lived, she was ready for the crossing.

Thank you Lord for allowing us to know this wonderful and loving lady and for her stay with us!

John A. Wilkins, Jr.,  
International Overseer



# USA National Convention Report

September 28-30, 2016

Sivell's Conference Center and Camp, Cloudcroft, New Mexico

*U. S. A. National Overseer*

*~Thurman Lowe~*

The theme for our Convention this year was **“How Secure is Your Foundation,”** Isaiah 28:16. Our National Overseer, Bro. Thurman Lowe opened the convention with a Welcome to all the Convention Delegates. Then, we were blessed with an amazing time with the Lord for the entire convention.

The opening night of the convention was packed full of testimonies, prayers of healing, great devotional, singing, and a message with instructions and appointments.

## Instructions from the National Overseer, USA

1. All ministers and clerks must report faithfully on a monthly basis. These reports are due into the International Office by the 7<sup>th</sup> of each month.
2. Emergency Dollars were passed in the National Convention 2014 of \$10.00 per member each year, with those being due each June 13<sup>th</sup> (Church Flag Day) – These are to be sent into our National Treasurer, Sis. Shirley Michael. Let's go ahead and send in for the 2016 year, if you have not already done so.
3. CPMA memberships are \$10.00 per person each year and run from January-December of each year. These memberships must be sent to International Headquarters with a list of names for those memberships.
4. All churches should be having business conferences each quarter and should have Communion and Feet Washing at least once a quarter. If you do not have enough male members in your congregation, please contact Bro. Thurman Lowe, National Overseer to assist in these matters.
5. Each Church needs to try to get all of the auxiliaries operating this year.
6. Pastors need to visit all their members monthly. If they have members that are far away, they need to at least be making contact through mail, email, phone calls, etc.
7. All National Auxiliary Leaders need to have an article published in the Banner of Truth each quarter. Messages or Articles are due into the International Office by December 10<sup>th</sup> for the January issue, March 10<sup>th</sup> for the April issue, June 10<sup>th</sup> for the July issue, and September 10<sup>th</sup> for the October issue.
8. All National Auxiliary Leaders need to write a letter of encouragement, tips, ideas, helps, etc. to the local churches that should be emailed to Bro. Thurman Lowe at [tl@thechurchofgodofnc.com](mailto:tl@thechurchofgodofnc.com) at the first of each month to be included in his monthly letter to the churches.
9. We must assist and support our International Headquarters in whatever amount we can send in each month. It is just like our own households, the bills come due every month and are recurring, not just once a year.



## Ordination of New Bishops



## Prayer For New Bishops





## Prayer New Bishops & Spouse's



## New Bishop's





## New Bishops and Spouse's





# Called To Duty! Suit Up! The War is NOW! Ephesians 6: 10-18 Family Camp 2016—USA

~Jannece Colon~



Our first night of Family Camp started with Sis. Jannece Colon opening the camp and preparing our soldiers for Battle! First we went through Ephesians 6: 10-18 and dressed our Model Soldier, Ricky Colon, then it was everyone else's turns, from our tiniest soldier to our eldest. It was a fun night, but a very memorable Armor of God! That was then followed by our message and altar call by Bro. Thurman Lowe, USA National Overseer/Camp Evangelist. Following our service for the evening, we had popcorn and a movie night. We showed "The War Room", if you have not yet seen it, we highly recommend it. It can and will change your life if you will allow it to!

Saturday was a great day filled with devotion by Sis. Nellie Lowe. It was a letter from a Soldier to His Commander in Chief (God) and God's reply to the Soldier. It was very moving and so spot on! We can't give up no matter how hard our battle is or how tarnished or worn our armor becomes. We must continue on to the end! We had classes by Bro. and Sis. Wilkins and Bro. Richard and Sis. Jannece Colon. That evening following our message and altar call, we had Communion and Feet Washing. We had a glorious camp with so much fun, fellowship, food, but most of all the presence of the Lord was with us through the entire camp! To God be the Glory for all the great things he has done, is doing, and will do very soon!



Sunday morning continued with a mighty time in the Lord! Sis. Emily Colon gave our morning devotion followed by our General Session with Bro. Wilkins. Following a wonderful message, we had a summary of camp highlights and a time that everyone enjoys with gifts of appreciation for the staff, door prizes for all in attendance, and Minister Appreciation Gifts for all our Ministers and Authorized Teachers present at camp.



We want to express our sincere appreciation to Bro. Dumas Michel, National Overseer of Haiti and Dominican Republic for coming and being with us during our National Convention and Family Camp 2016!



# Special Thanks!

To All who Prayed, Worked and came to Make Our  
National Convention and Family Camp

**A Success...**

*Family Camp Director  
~Jannece Colon~*



# **USA National Appointments**

*U. S. A. National Overseer*

*~Thurman Lowe~*

BTI – Jannece Colon

ABM – Nellie Lowe

CPMA – Herman Lowe

Sunday School – Ramona Colon

Camp Coordinator – Jannece Colon National Treasurer – Shirley Michael

WMB – Appointment Pending

Your National Committee – USA – Thurman Lowe, Chairman

Committee Members: David Colon, Herman Lowe, Richard Colon

Thursday of our Convention did not fail to give us what we needed to hear. We had a Camp Boost and BTI Boost by Sis. Jannece Colon. Sis. Elizabeth Wilkins gave a Publishing Department Boost and spoke about the Banner of Truth. Sis. Nellie Lowe gave an outstanding ABM boost and spoke on Exodus 18:13-26.

Then, there was a very special part added to the program. Bro. Wilkins spoke about the qualifications of Bishop. He asked Bro. Thurman Lowe and Bro. Richard Colon, who had both been presented to be ordained as Bishops in The Church of God, to come forward. After asking the Convention Delegates if anyone had any reason why they should not be Bishops to speak, there were no objections. These two men came to the front with their wives. They kneeled down and the Bishops in attendance came up and anointed Bro. Thurman Lowe and Bro. Richard Colon and their spouses and prayed for them, their ministries, and their families. The congregation then greeted each one of the new Bishops and their wives. This was an amazing and blessed time of the convention!

Following the Ordination Service of our two newest Bishops in The Church of God, we had a message by Bro. Phillip Vaughn. He spoke on Sheep Beaters. It was an amazing message with so many good points.

That afternoon did not end the wonderful messages and blessings from the Lord! We had our VLB Boost by Sis. Emily Colon. She talked about the purpose of the VLBs and what we need to do as youth of The Church of God. Then, we were blessed to hear a message by Bro. Herman Lowe about foundations. This was then followed up by a report and message by Bro. Dumas Michel, National Overseer of Haiti and Dominican Republic. We were all so blessed and happy to have him join us in our convention this year. Bro. Dumas instructed us that we must forget the conflict of the past and go forward with the work of God and His Church.

Thursday evening was another amazing time with the Lord. The National Overseer held a called conference to set Bro. Phillip Vaughn into the ministry. We were all so blessed to have Bro. Phillip and his beautiful wife, Judy and their Daughter, Whitney and Grand-daughter McKenna with us in the Convention this year. After the called conference, we heard a message by Bro. Richard Colon. His topic was, “Don’t Let Them Steal Your Bait!!” He urged us to make sure what we are projecting to the world is really what they need. Don’t let anyone steal our witness or our joy!

Friday morning was no disappointment! God is so good! Bro. David and Sis. Ramona Colon gave a wonderful devotion on foundations and not allowing the little things creep into our lives to destroy our foundation. We had our National Committee Report which was approved by all in attendance. During this time, God moved in a mighty way and supplied a mighty big financial need in The Church of God.

# **Remember These 2016 Dates:**

**Dominican Republic: December 1-4 Convention**

**Mexico: December 2-4 National Convention**

## **Dates For 2017**

**Assembly and Bible Training Institute (BTI)**

**Bible Training Institute (BTI) July 17-25, 2017**

**International Assembly July 27-29, 2017**

**KEEP THESE DATES IN YOUR PRAYERS!**

### **“THE BANNER OF TRUTH”**

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