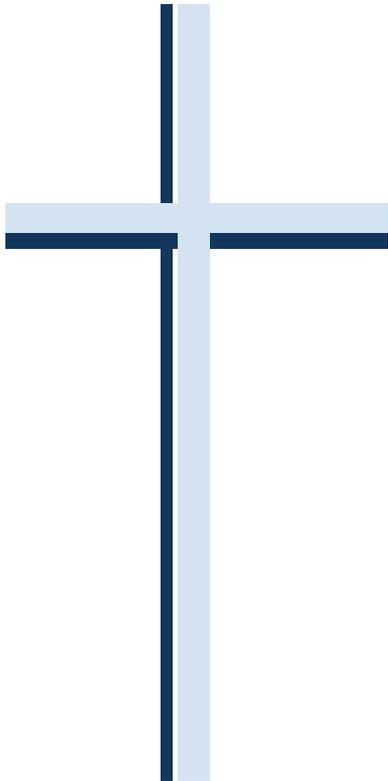


No Rewind...FORWARD

Ohio
General Assembly
October 22, 2022



653 McCorkle Blvd. Suite G
Westerville OH 43082-7159

Office Hours:
Mon-Thurs 9-4:30 pm
(740) 747-2916
Website cogo.church



Table of Contents

Agenda and Membership	3
2021 Assembly Minutes	4
GA Chair Report.....	5-6
State Pastor’s Report	7-14
Steadfast Ministries	15
2023 Budget.....	17
Churches Contributing.....	18-20
For Clergy	21
In Memoriam	22-23
2022 Ordination Candidates	24-29
Leadership Focus.....	30
Ratification Ballot Candidates.....	31
Disaster Relief.....	32
Circles	33
Start Fresh.....	34
Senior Adult Ministry	35
NXTGen Ministry	36-37
Partners in Ministry	38
Christmas Project	39
COGO Staff.....	40
Supporting COGO Ministries	41
2023 Calendar of Events	42
Notes	43

COGO Ministries

**EQUIPPING AND EMPOWERING FOR
THE MISSION OF JESUS**

~ Agenda ~

Call To Order, Welcome and Prayer
Recognition of Guests
Appointment of Tellers and Parliamentarian
Approval of 2021 Minutes

Reports:

Board of Director Chair
State Pastor/Director

New Business:

Financial Report & 2023 Budget Presentation
Presentation of Ordination Candidates
Nominating Committee Report
Ratification Ballot
Announcements and Adjournment

ARTICLE 3 - MEMBERSHIP

3.1 Members of OHIO MINISTRIES with voting privileges shall be as follows:

3.1.1 Ministers. All ministers who are in good standing as defined by the state's credentials committee, and are ordained, licensed, or commissioned in the Church of God (Anderson, Ind.) and fulfill any of the following qualifications and declaration thereof by Church of God (Anderson, Ind.) Yearbook registration within the last two (2) years:

- 3.1.1.1 Ministers actively engaged in ministry with Church of God (Anderson, Ind.) congregations in good standing in Ohio.
- 3.1.1.2 Ecumenical ministers actively engaged in ministry while maintaining relationship with OHIO MINISTRIES.
- 3.1.1.3 Retired ministers who maintain identity and affiliation with the Church of God (Anderson, Ind.) in Ohio.
- 3.1.1.4 State Executives and Officers of the Corporation.

3.1.2 Lay Delegates. Lay Delegates selected by their local congregation, under the following formula: one for every one hundred people counted in the local congregation's annualized average weekend worship service attendance published in the current **Church of God (Anderson, Ind.) Yearbook**, not to exceed 10 delegates from any one congregation; such lay members of the Assembly shall have their eligibility authenticated by a written statement (presented to OHIO MINISTRIES) from the sending congregation's lead pastor, interim pastor, or leadership board (in the absence of a pastor) before participation is allowed.

October 23, 2021

Time: 12:20 pm Location: Meadow Park Church

AGENDA

Call to Order and Welcome: Matt Roe welcomed the group and set the rules for discussion to 3 minutes a person and to only share one time until everyone has had an opportunity to share.

Approval of 2020 Minutes: Motion made by Jim Childers and seconded by Rex Haggy. Approved by members of the assembly.

Appointment of Tellers: David Cross, Jim Roma, Steve Smith, Stan Harmon, Jim Wallick, Michael Long.

Parliamentarian: Steve Anthony

REPORTS

Board of Director Remarks: Matt Roe introduced the Board of Directors and thanked the state ministry staff.

State Pastor Report: Esther Cottrell followed the outline of her written report in the packet. Within the State Pastor's report, Demetrius Booker reported on the COGO Grant and Andy Shroyer, Pastor of Restoration at Cedarville campus, shared testimony. An addition to the written report was the introduction of Full-Strength Network as a confidential counseling ministry. COGO is purchasing 10 subscriptions to begin this ministry.

NEW BUSINESS

Bylaws Amendment: Josh Deeter, Secretary of Assembly

Bylaws Change of Address resolution

No discussion. Motion passed.

2022 Budget Presentation and Financial Report: Esther Cottrell and Demetrius Booker

Informed Assembly that the motion to adopt this budget has been made and seconded in the Board of Directors meeting and that the budget ratification is on the ballot. No need to call for a second. Approved on the ballot

Presentation of Ordination Candidates: David Guess

Aaron Barkley, Alisa Beisner, Rita Bullock, Christina Cooling, Kelly Daniel, Steven Jones, Alisa M. Keck, Jacquelyn Mann, Joshua McConnell, Gregorio Mendoza, Jesse Ralston, Seth Walsh. All were approved.

Nominating Committee Report: Angie Swonger, Nom. Committee Chair
Nominees for Board of Directors: Rita Bullock, Ron Fowler II, Janet Orr, Jerry Webb II, Matthew Roe (Chair). Nominee for State Credentials Chair: David Guess

Ratification Ballot: The GA overwhelmingly voted yes on everything.

Adjournment: Jim Childers moved adjournment, Chairman Matt Roe accepted the motion and declared the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Josh Deeter

Board of Directors Secretary

It is great privilege to serve the General Assembly as your Chair. All of us are blessed to serve the Church of God in Ohio. Our history shows we are the “trend setters” for the rest of the church. We are blessed with great leaders like Dr. Esther Cottrell and Rev. Demetrius Booker. Dr. Cottrell has a gifted and passionate staff. Together, they have given us a great vision for enriching and equipping leaders and churches in our Ohio.

Last year we celebrated the 60 plus anniversary for COGO. What a great time for us to hear from former State Pastors, Dick Latham, Vernon Maddox, Randy Spence and our present state Pastor, Esther Cottrell. In addition to their ministry efforts, we are indebted to Leonard (Bucky) Snyder for his leadership. Ohio has been blessed with these amazing leaders. Our COGO ministry team did an outstanding job with this event providing us with many moments to celebrate.

This past year we saw some changes in our COGO Board. Rita Bullock and Jerry Webb II joined us for a first term. Dave Hennen was nominated by the board to serve in the interim until the end of the year due to an unexpected resignation.

This year the Board has been given the task of reviewing our Guiding Principles. A task force was established that includes Janet Orr, Jerry Webb and Eric Livingston, State Pastor in Illinois. Esther Cottrell is serving as convener and facilitator for this task force. There are three insights that need review. (1) Updating verbiage to ensure the guiding principles are up to date with current ministry operations. (2) Attention was needed in director accountability, and (3) The Board Principles section needs completion. The task force is working to bring these insights into compliance with proper operating procedure.

Esther Cottrell has asked the Board to come up with a process for the State Pastor’s annual review. A task force was established that included Janet Orr, Jerry Webb, and myself. This task force is working through the appropriate process for an annual review for the state pastor.

General Assembly Chair Report *cont'd*

At our annual retreat in May the board worked through a S.W.O.T. analysis. The key findings are:

Strengths – Staff/Leadership, financial position, focus on the mission.

Weaknesses – our story is not well known, disconnected church partnerships, leadership pipeline and age of leaders, part time staff are remote and too few.

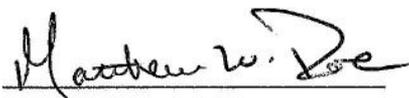
Opportunities – changing culture, expanding diversity, evangelism, technology advancement, time for the board to step up.

Threats – perception of COGO, lack of trust, need greater diversity, changing culture, church attendance decline, struggling and isolated churches, pastoral leadership decline.

The SWOT helps define the direction and action the staff will take to move COGO into the best position to address these findings.

It has been a blessing to serve on this Board, with these outstanding servants, in the kingdom of God. I look forward to another great year with these passionate leaders as we support the ministry efforts of Dr. Esther Cottrell and the COGO team. Thank you for continued prayers and support.

Respectfully Submitted,



Matt Roe
General Assembly Chair



2022 State Pastor Annual Report

TO: The Ohio Assembly of the Church of God
FROM: Dr. Esther Cottrell, State Pastor and Director of Ministries
DATE: October 22, 2022

Who knew in March of 2020 that we were entering a new era? This new era is redefining our culture, our economy, our politics . . . and our churches. Most pastors report that there are new people coming since the Pandemic. Some are even seeing an uptick in salvations and interest in disciple-making. That is encouraging news in any season. Pastors also report that some folks have slipped away, and that attendance is down 20-50% from 2020. In new eras of human history, we can rest in the truth that the Gospel message is unchanging even while we scramble to discover effective methods that will work in the new era.



In this “new normal” that we find ourselves in, COGO has been at work this past year to equip and empower you for the mission of Jesus. This report seeks to recap the key challenges, goals, and victories of this past year.

2022 FOCUS ON COMMUNICATIONS

In last year’s retreat with the Board of Directors, the need to implement better and greater communications systems was identified. The COGO staff sought to strengthen our channels of communication on several fronts.

1) **We subscribed to a text message system** with EasyTithe Plus. This subscription allows us to send short text alerts and messages throughout our database. Studies show that texts are opened sooner and at greater levels than emails. You can help us maximize this service by downloading and using the EasyTithe App and by sharing your cell phone number with our office.

2) **Circles were introduced.** Designed to strengthen communications with pastors, develop networking opportunities, encourage one another, and empower pastors and lay leaders for ministry. We had 8 Circle meetings with 97 Church of God congregations represented.

3) **Tell our story in video.** David Bullock has helped us to develop “Stories from the Pew.” A video to help us tell some of the powerful Church Transformation stories that we have been honored to be involved in. Also we have done some shorter videos to introduce the staff. These are downloadable from our website: cogo.church.

NXTGen MINISTRIES

Kids Ministries and Student Ministries continue to have an important focus at COGO. Over the last couple of years, we have been on a discovery path to discern best approaches to equip the kids’ ministry leaders in the local church. Some of the better approaches are in networking people of like-minded ministries together and developing a “Training in a box” experience that can be utilized at the district and local levels. Both Liz Hultz and R.W. have given extensive time and attention to these paths.

In this year, **A Student Ministry Team (SMT), made up of student ministry leaders from around the state was renewed.** The focus and objectives of this new team is 1) Networking with student ministry leaders from around the state with one another and with a member of the Student Leadership Team; 2) Communicating what is happening in the life of the COGO NXTGen Student Ministry; and 3) Collaborating with the Student Leadership Team for the planning and carrying out of OSYC. Additionally, a **Student Leadership Team made up of student leaders from around the state was established.** The purpose of the team is to intentionally give students the ability to lead the planning and carrying out of OSYC. **In this next year a goal is to develop a Kids Ministry**

Team to work at the district level with congregations seeking to enhance their ministry to the youngest generation.

After a 2 year hiatus, 3-SLI took place March 4-6, 2022, at Day-spring Church of God in Cincinnati. This is a collaborative event between IN, OH, KY, and WV. 8 Ohio churches brought 50 students and leaders to this weekend. This was the largest delegation of the 4 states. Next year's event will take place March 3-5, 2023.

NXTGen Leaders Retreat took place March 25-26, 2022 at Inspiration Hills Camp in Burbank with about 35 student and kid ministry leaders attending. Brett Talley from Orange Curriculum served as the guest speaker for the retreat, facilitating discussions around ministry alignment and soul care of the leader. **Next year's NXTGen Leader Retreat is April 21-22, 2023 at Warsaw Camp.**

OSYC 2022 is November 11-13, 2022 at Maiden Lane Church of God in Springfield. Our Theme is Reinvention—Awake, Anew, Alive. The service project is in partnership with Kids Around The World to pack meals for a village in Ecuador and homeless ministries in Springfield. 35 churches were represented at OSYC 2021. The goal is to get 40 churches to OSYC 2022.

NXTGen Ministries collaborated with NEO and SWO to provide summer camp experiences and piloted a Winter Fam Jam with the NEO Kid's Ministry Team in February.

At the end of this year Liz Hultz is discontinuing her leadership with Kids Ministry to pursue ecumenical ministry opportunities with Lifewise. **We are grateful for the great ministry that Liz Hultz has provided these last 2 years. She has made a true difference! And we are excited that RW Moody has agreed to continue this great ministry by overseeing both Kids and Student NXTGen Ministries.**

CHURCH MULTIPLICATION

Collaboration seems to be the key as we continue to dream and work toward Church Multiplication. Work continues with Hillside Church in Springfield as they restore Cedarville. At the 2 year mark, Restoration at Cedarville continues to grow in numbers and new disciples! Last year they baptized 15 new believers. Restoration at Hillside is also partnering with Shalom Iglesia in Columbus and COGO to plant a Spanish language church in Springfield. Additionally, neighboring Springfield churches are eager to partner in financial and people support.

This summer the Midwest Multiplication (MI, IN, & OH) sponsored 2 great events. Discovery Day at Salem Church, a day set aside for pastors and lay leaders to explore the basics of church multiplication and the Lima Leadership Event. Both were well attended by Ohio folks.

The Midwest Multiplication Initiative has now added Illinois to the team. We are excited to see how the Lord will bless us in this greater partnership. **A shared goal we have for the next 3 years is Launch 32.** We are praying and working to launch 32 new congregations, microchurches and/or Fresh Expressions across our 4 states.

May 1-2, 2023 in Nashville, TN is the next opportunity we have to attend an Exponential Regional Event. We have several tickets to scholarship interested pastors. For more information see me.

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Mission 120 has been a great ministry initiative for the Church in the IN, MI, IL, and OH. From the survey sent to pastors who engaged in the Mission 120 initiative about ¼ completed the survey, reporting that over 350 new disciples here in Ohio! Next year a fifth wave will be offered.

Start Fresh was in-person again this Spring. Over 200 registered for this event from every district in the state. David Colp was the main speaker with several breakout sessions offered to help our church lay leaders and pastors receive some tools for ministry post-Covid. The team is looking forward to another great Start Fresh March 11, 2023.

Steadfast Ministries continues to gain ground. This new ministry umbrella offers peer networking through Circles, counseling with Full Strength, spiritual formation with SoulCare and coaching through our office. All parts of this umbrella are designed to encourage, strengthen, and aid the minister and his/her family. Several of the counseling subscriptions have been redeemed. The Circles have been well received with the most attended one designed for Women Clergy. Recent data shows that new pastors find coaching to be helpful. To fortify our coaching efforts, Demetrius Booker is working on coaching certification of Emotional Intelligence and will be available to work with leaders and pastors on this important skill.

Leadership Focus continues to serve us well as we take candidates through the ordination process. We currently have 50 in the process and are presenting 20 to this Assembly for ordination today.

CHURCH TRANSFORMATION

We have several churches seeking lead pastors. This past year we have worked with 23 congregations in their search for a new pastor. In conversation with search committees in Ohio and my counterparts in other states, there is a real recognition that we have a shortage of qualified pastors seeking to make a transition in ministry. This means that the local congregation may need to re-think the search process. We are hopeful with the inauguration of the Atlas platform with Church of God Ministries that some of the issues of connecting pastors and churches will be alleviated. However, the shortage issues will persist. I believe that it is critical that COGO maintain an emphasis on resourcing churches searching for new leadership lest they become discouraged and simply *settle*.

Dying to Restart is with us this year to introduce and offer coaching to pastors and churches who are ready to take some bold steps in transforming their church into a new lifecycle.

Partnerships with Everence and Grow Generosity Academy is resulting in 2 opportunities in 2023 to sharpen fundraising skills. So let's talk about money. How to acquire it, save it, and grow it!

CONGREGATIONAL SERVICES

Disaster Relief

With your generosity, Ohio raised and requisitioned for relief to Haiti, Kentucky, Ukraine, Florida, and West Middlesex over \$171,800. The generosity of the Church of God in Ohio is beyond belief! Unfortunately, the **DR Fund is now in dire need of replenishment before this ministry can give upfront money to the next disaster.**

Senior Adult Ministries

After two years, both the Plain City and Walnut Creek Fall Feasts were able to meet again. Both had great attendance and happy seniors! The Senior Adult Ministries is planning on a Spring Fling Luncheon next year and will be offering a first-time convention in the fall.

Finance Report

We are grateful to report that **we can reasonably anticipate that we will once again meet our church income budget for this year.**

Our investments reflect the US stock market, showing a downturn or loss for the first 3 quarters of this year.

The Investment Team is aware of the losses and continue to support the *hold steady* approach to investing. This maintenance posture is the recommendation of the Team in consultation with our Ron Blue financial advisor.

Church Deeding and State Certification

In researching church deeds, Nancy Blankenship has discovered that **several of our churches have allowed their state certification to lapse.** We are asking that all churches ensure that your church's certification is up-to-date.

Real Estate

One of the sad predictions of the state of the Church in America in the aftermath of Covid-19 is that as many as 20% of the churches will close within the next 5-10 years. This is not to say that the pandemic is the culprit, simply that the pandemic has revealed churches that are at the end of their life cycle and hastened their demise. In essence the pandemic became "the last straw." Whenever a church closes our first option is to investigate the possibility of creating a fresh ministry at the facility. If that is not reasonable, then we seek to sell the facility to a like-minded, Christ honoring, church or non-profit. Our last option is to sell the property to an ethical business or individual. When COGO holds a safeguarding deed on such properties, 70% of the proceeds are applied to the Church Multiplication account and the remainder is divided evenly between Leadership Development, Church Transformation, and the General Budget.

Sadly, the Girton church found it necessary to close this year. Thankfully, a safeguard deed was in place which allowed the property to be sold and the funds put to work according to the ministries as outlined above.

We are aware that helping congregations to set up safeguarding deeds properly and legally continues to be a great need. Nancy Blankenship is currently working with several congregations to that end.

CLOSING THOUGHTS

Out of the work of the SWOT analysis with both the board and staff some very helpful and directional discoveries came to light. The staff continued the conversation by matching strengths to opportunities, strengths to threats, weaknesses to opportunities, and weaknesses to threats. Our reflections and work together have led to this conclusion as we think about 2023: With so many churches struggling after this pandemic, the ensuing issues of economic uncertainty, the loss of congregants, and the *new normal*, **COGO is committed to journey with our pastors and congregations. Our focus for 2023 is evangelism and discipleship for the Post-Pandemic Church.**

As I have often said, I love serving the Church of God in Ohio! And I love serving alongside you, the board, and the staff! It is truly an honor and privilege.

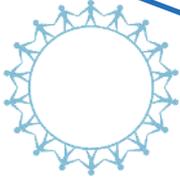
Better together!

Esther



Esther M Cottrell

CIRCLES



Your COGO Ministries Team is excited to announce a new clergy and district partnership COGO Circles. COGO Circles are designed to provide a two hour teaching and fellowship morning ending with a meal together.

SOUL CARE



How is it with your soul? In ministry we need to be vigilant in the care of our souls even as we care for our flocks. Soul Care is an opportunity to explore your spiritual being and to deepen your day-to-day experience of being grounded in the goodness and presence of God. Through our partnership with SoulCare.com you can be paired with a spiritual director for one-to-one sessions or join a peer group. For more information contact esther@cogo.church.

COACHING



Coaching – We all seek to minister with deep purpose, achievement, and vision. Coaching is bringing someone alongside you to teach you, challenge you, and encourage you to reach your God-given ministry goals and vision. A Coach will help you move toward specific objectives and transformation with accountability, encouragement, and practical wisdom. COGO can help you find a coach to match your ministry objectives. For more information contact demetrius@cogo.church.

COUNSELING



Sometimes we need a safe place to talk through life's hurts and disappointments, to recover and regain balance, avoid burning out, or simply stay mentally strong and healthy for life and our ministry. The COGO Counseling Team is working with reputable Christian counselors to significantly underwrite counseling for you and your family. With a confidential system, counselees remain anonymous to COGO and any other Church of God entity. Go to COGO.church/resources-for-pastors/steadfast-ministries-for-pastors/

FINANCIAL

<i>Revenue Comparison January - July</i>	2021	2022
Total Revenue *	910,740	308,167

<i>Expense January - July</i>	Actual	Budget
Budgeted Expense Including Other Property and Disaster Relief	312,473	381,027

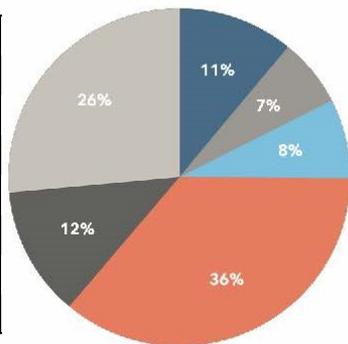
Note: 2021 Revenue included 623K of property and investments. Still on track to make 2022 budget.

Balance Sheet	2021	2022
Assets		
• Cash and short-term investments	853,189	592,045
• Long Term Investments	1,350,540	1,383,017
Accounts receivable/Notes - Removed		
	234,549	218,307
- Barrett Road – West Chester	530,386	530,385
	140,000	225,000
• Fixed Assets *		
• Church Properties * Rising Sun, Girton CHOG and Cedarville (Cedarville not listed)		
Total Assets	3,108,664	2,948,754
Liabilities		
• Accounts payable (Credit Card and Pensions)	11,783	6,440
Total Liabilities	11,783	6,440
Net Worth	3,096,881	2,942,314

2023 Proposed Budget Expenses

2023-2022 Budget Comparison

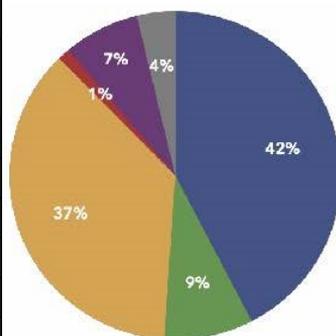
Description	2023	2022
Church Multiplication	\$75,993	\$53,144
Church Transformation	\$45,333	\$44,034
Leadership Development	\$52,390	\$70,690
State Operations/Administration	\$249,464	\$233,189
NXTGen Ministries	\$85,800	\$82,000
Congregational Services	\$183,149	\$180,061
TOTAL BUDGET EXPENSES	\$692,129	\$663,118



- Church Multiplication
- Church Transformation
- Leadership Development
- State Operations/Administration
- Next Gen Ministries
- Congregational Service

2023 Proposed Budget Income

Description	2023 Budget	2022 Budget
Church and Individual Contribution	\$283,000	\$270,000
Investment Fund Transfer	\$58,158	\$266,306
Balance Sheet Transfer	\$244,106	\$0
Short Term Investment	\$8,000	\$8,000
Registration and Fees	\$49,500	\$52,500
Programming	\$25,000	\$8,000
All other Receipts	\$24,365	\$58,500
TOTAL INCOME	\$692,129	\$663,306



- Church and Individual Contribution
- Investment Fund Transfer
- Balance Sheet Transfer
- Short Term Investment
- Registration and Fees
- Programming



Nancy Blankenship,
Business Admin

Detailed reports are available upon request.

*Thank you
to the
following
church
partners.*

Akron-Arlington COG
Akron-Ellet Community COG
Akron-Wintergreen Ledges COG
Ansonia First COG
Ashland First COG
Ashtabula-First Community COG
Athens First Church Of God
Barberton COG
Bellefontaine First COG
Blacklick-New Horizons Community
Blanchester-Daystar First COG
Boardman-Simon Road COG
Bridgeport First Church of God
Cadiz First Church of God
Canton-Eleventh Street Church
Chillicothe First COG
Cincinnati-Dayspring COG
Cincinnati-Iglesia Nueva Esper
Clayton-Salem Church of God
Cleveland-Church of God-Union
Columbus-First Church of God
Columbus-Hilltop Church of God
Coshocton Church of God
Creston Community Church
Dayton-Ashcraft First COG

Churches contributing—continued

Dayton-Hopeland Church
Dayton-New Vision COG
Defiance First Church of God
Dennison First Church of God
Dupont First Church of God
East Canton Church of God
Eaton First Church of God
Elmore Church of God
Franklin Furnace First Church
Franklin-First Church of God
Fredericktown First COG
Gallipolis First Church of God
Germantown-First COG
Green-Greensburg COG
Grove City-Faith Community COG
Hamilton-BridgeWater COG
Hamilton-Eaton Road COG
Hubbard-Chestnut Ridge Church
Huber Heights-Church of God
Iglesia de Dios Shalom Columbus
Jeffersonville Church of God
Kettering-Marshall Rd First COG
Lancaster-First Church of God
Laurelville Church of God
Lima-Crossroads Church of God

London First Church of God
Lorain-Great Lakes Church
Lordstown-Harvest Point Church
Mason Church of God
Miamisburg-First Church of God
Middleburg Hts-Church of the Harvest
Middletown-Breiel Blvd First COG
Middletown-New Covenant Church
Middletown-Poasttown First COG
Middletown-Towne Church of God
Middletown-Yankee Rd First COG
Mineral Ridge-First COG
Monroe First Church of God
New Lexington First COG
New Philadelphia First Church
New Springfield Church of God
Newark-Rocky Fork First Church
Newton Falls First COG
Northwood Church of God
Oakwood-Auglaize Chapel Church
Ontario-Avenue Church of God
Paulding-Rose Hill COG
Peebles Church of God
Piqua-Madison Ave First Church
Pyrmont Church Of God
Ravenna-Avenue Church of God

Ravenna-First Church of God
Rayland-Meadowbrook COG
Saint Mary's First COG
Saint Paris First COG
Sardis-Duffy Church of God
Shelby-Awake Church
Sidney-Connection Point Church
South Lebanon First COG
South Point First COG
Springfield-Hillside COG
Springfield-Maiden Lane COG
Springfield-Northside COG
Sugarcreek-Barrs Mill COG
Tallmadge First Church of God
Toledo-First Church of God
Troy First COG
Van Wert First Church of God
Warren-First COG
Warren-York Ave COG
Wauseon First Church of God
West Chester-Anthem House COG
West Liberty First COG
Wilmington First Church of God
Wooster-Highland Church of God
Xenia-Ledbetter Rd COG
Zanesville First Church of God

*Because of
you
COGO
Ministries
continues.*

*If you do not see your church
listed please see or contact
Nancy Blankenship.*

Nancy@cogo.church



Housekeeping

Are you new to Ohio?

- ◆ Have you transferred your credentials?
- ◆ If not or are unsure contact your former credentials chair or the state office you moved from.

Are you moving out of Ohio?

We will miss you, but if you must go, please:

- ◆ Go to our website COGO.church and fill out a transfer form
- ◆ Go to Resources | For Pastors | Credentials

Annual Registration?

- ◆ Please make sure your contact information and status are up-to-date with COGO and also with [CHOG Atlas](http://CHOG).
- ◆ Go to Church of God website: register.jesusisthesubject.org



ATLAS is...

- The new National Database System for the Church of God
- Replaces Ministry Connector

Have you signed up with Atlas yet?

Go to: register.jesusisthesubject.org

*A Grateful Church
Remembers*



Rev. Ronald Louis Jackson

1-26-1947 to 1-20-2022



Rev. Raymond A. Cowie

10-17-1936 to 2-9-2022



Rev. Samuel D. Wollum

6-29-1929 to 4-25-2022



Rev. Neil R. Davis

5-11-1951 to 5-24-2022

*A Grateful Church
Remembers*



Rev. Michael James Milthaler

3-9-1947 to 6-16-2022



Rev. Delores M. Rayle

2-13-1938 to 6-20-2022



Rev. James "JC" Burchett

4-25-1932 to 7-6-2022

- CENTRAL DISTRICT -

Cornell Billingsley Huber Heights



Cornell Billingsley

Cornell started attending the Huber Heights Church of God in 2012. Since then, he has served on the Trustee Board and was an adult youth leader. He currently serves on the Christian Education Board and is the Wednesday Night Children's program director. He also teaches weekly children's and youth classes. He has eight children of his own and has now developed a strong pull to shepherd others.

Douglas Black Maiden Lane, Springfield



Douglas Black

Doug serves in multiple roles at Maiden Lane Church of God in Springfield, Ohio. He serves in roles including Elder, Youth Leader, and Youth Sunday School teacher. He has served and taught youth ministry for nearly 10 years. Doug is passionate about training young people to be a disciple of Jesus. His wife, Penny, and children, Ellie (6) Greyson (11), Lahela (20), and Zeith (22) are excited for this next chapter in their ministry journey.

Donald Curtis Moraine First Church, Dayton



Donald Curtis

Donald has been on staff as the Senior Pastor of the Moraine City First Church of God in Dayton, Ohio since 2018 and is a graduate of Eastern Kentucky University. For the past 15 years he has served as a missionary in Guatemala and Haiti. Donald and his wife Denise have two married daughters, Hannah and Natalie and one son Jake and five grandchildren.

John Instine Middletown Church, Cable



John Instine

John is currently serving as Pastor at The Middletown Church of God near Cable Ohio. His wife Sonja is a tremendous help in his ministry. John is passionate about preaching God's Word and reaching his community with the love and grace of Jesus Christ.

- CENTRAL DISTRICT -



Mark Kaufman

Mark Kaufman

Connection Point, Sidney

Mark is serving as the Discipleship Pastor at Connection Point Church in Sidney. He is passionate about leading others to become Everyday Disciples who discover God, connect with others, and grow in their relationship with God; so out of the overflow of their own journey, they go and multiply where they live, work and play. Mark and his wife Deb have three grown children and six grandchildren.



Chad Mitchell

Chad Mitchell

First Church, Washington Court House

Chad has been attending the Church Of God Washington Court House Ohio for the past 16 years, where he serves as worship leader, and is a member of the church board. Chad is a graduate of The Ohio State University with a degree in Strategic Communications with a minor in Marketing. He and his wife enjoy traveling and experiencing new cultures with their two daughters and preaching the word of God.



Todd Watson

Todd Watson

Catherine Street, Springfield

Todd is the senior pastor of the Catherine Street First Church of God, in Springfield, OH and has established ministries such as Prayer Call, Weekly Bible Institute, Social Justice Ministry, We Do-Marriage Ministry, Health & Wellness Ministry, Stand Up/Stand Out Youth, and created the Carson-Daniel Scholars to high school seniors and returning college students. He is a board of trustee member for Mid-America Christian University in Oklahoma City, OK; an avid reader, active 5k & 10k distance runner; a Bachelor of Science degree in Secondary Education with an emphasis in social studies, from Central State University, in Wilberforce, OH. Todd has been married to Shawndreka for 21 years and parents to one child, Artees.

- NORTHEAST DISTRICT -

Patricia Dennison

Ravenna Avenue, Ravenna



Patricia Dennison

Patricia is the Pastor of Ravenna Avenue Church of God, Ravenna, OH. As God's chosen vessel called to preach and teach His Word, she demonstrates the love of Jesus as a servant leader who walks alongside her congregation to meet, minister, and serve people where they are by sharing the gospel of Jesus Christ. Pat and her husband Cary have been married for 45 years and have two adult sons, C.J. and Andre. C.J. and his wife, Keri, have blessed them with four precious grandchildren.

Rhonda Johnston

Forty Corners Church, Massillon



Rhonda Johnston

Rhonda currently serves as a licensed clinical counselor in a Christian mental health practice. She has attended and served the Forty Corners Church of God in Massillon since 2018. While there she served as pulpit supply, adult discipleship leader, women's Bible study facilitator and she also served on the leadership team. Rhonda hopes to continue to preach, teach and perhaps do some writing in the future. She and her husband, Bob, recently moved to the state of Alabama, and anxiously await what God has for them there. They have 2 adult children and 2 grandchildren.

- NORTHWEST DISTRICT -

Stephanie Schack

StoneBridge, Findlay



Stephanie Schack

Stephanie has served on staff at StoneBridge Church in Findlay Ohio as BridgeKids Director for the past 9 years. She loves teaching kiddos about Jesus and is excited to transition into helping others take their next steps toward Jesus too! She spends her free time with her husband Cameron, son Titus, and dog Tank!

- SOUTHEAST DISTRICT -



David Hennen

David Hennen Meadowbrook, Rayland

Dave is currently serving as an Associate Pastor at Meadowbrook Church of God in Rayland, Ohio. He and his wife, Regina are excited about what the Lord has in their future. They have 4 children, Cayden (24), Abby (22), Carissa (20), and Madison (18).



Paul Hensley

Paul Hensley Lancaster First

Paul is currently serving as the Pastor of Pleasant Chapel First Church of God in Lancaster Ohio. He is also serving as a part-time chaplain for the Southeastern Correctional Facility. Paul is passionate about teaching the word of God and the opportunity to help lead people to a real relationship with Jesus Christ. He is excited for this new chapter in ministry and looks forward to building new relationships within the First Church of God.

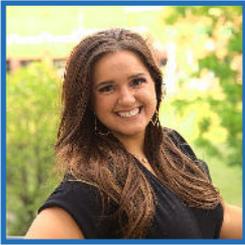


Jason Parker

Jason Parker Chillicothe First

Jason currently serves as the Children's Pastor at Chillicothe First Church of God in Chillicothe, OH. Jason truly feels blessed to work alongside children and families as they begin/ continue their walk with Christ. Jason along with his wife of 17 yrs Mistee, and boys Landen (15), Samuel (12), and Malachi (9) love doing Ministry together.

- SOUTHWEST DISTRICT -



Becky Heller

Becky Heller

Meadow Park, Columbus

Becky is an entrepreneur who serves churches and small business owners through her virtual assistant business. She and her husband, Tim Heller, serve at Meadow Park Church in Columbus. Becky currently serves in multiple ministries at MPC including, communications, worship, student ministry, and as a small group leader.



Timothy Heller

Timothy Heller

Meadow Park, Columbus

Tim is currently serving as the Youth Pastor at Meadow Park Church in Columbus along with his wife, Becky. He is passionate about pouring into the next generation. His desire is for students to know they are loved by him, and more importantly loved by God. He also serves on the CHOG Youth Ministry Team, COGO Student Ministry Team, and 3SLi Leadership Team.



Toby Howell

Toby Howell

Winton Road First Church, Fairfield

Toby is a bi-vocational minister who attends The Winton Road First Church Of God. As a Firefighter/Paramedic and a Minister he has spent a lot of time away from family serving others and he recognizes their sacrifice. He thanks his wife Casey, Daughters Mackenzie & Addison and Son Bowen; Fred & Judy Howell (his parents); Dennis & Connie Whitaker (His wife's parents). Pastor Brian Buriff Mentored Toby for many years before he began the Ordination process and through it, proud to call him a mentor, brother and most importantly a friend. Toby's ministry passion is Youth and Community but he is not placing any limitations on how God can use him.

2022 Ordination Candidates

Rebecca Palmatier Dayspring, Cincinnati



Rebecca Palmatier

Rebecca has been married to Tucker for over 20 years and serve/minister together in their community with their two daughters, Noelle (9) and Jemma (7). Rebecca attended both Cincinnati Christian University and Liberty University to gain a Bachelor's Degree in Biblical Studies, with a minor in Cultural Studies. Most recently, Rebecca served as the Pastor of Discipleship & Worship Arts at Dayspring Church in Cincinnati, OH. In September 2021, God called their family to plant a COG church in the small mountain town of White Sulphur Springs, WV. She also hosts 'The Scripture Habit' on Facebook, helping people develop the daily habit of getting into scripture.

Elizabeth Snyder BridgeWater, Hamilton



Elizabeth Snyder

Liz is currently serving as the Online Pastor at BridgeWater Church in Hamilton. She is passionate about the intersection of faith and culture and loves exploring new ways to connect a world in need to a God of hope. Her journey in ministry has spanned 4 states and 15 countries, and she is looking forward to all of the adventure come.

Scott Snyder New Covenant, Middletown



Scott Snyder

Scott is the Worship Pastor at New Covenant Church in Middletown OH. Through the last several years he has served multiple churches as an interim worship leader/worship pastor. Scott has traveled the region presenting his Gospel Jazz saxophone music. During his years at Dayspring Church of God, Scott served as an elder, musician, worship leader, and Bible teacher. He and his wife Rhonda have been married for 43 years, and have 3 children, Elizabeth (who is also being ordained), Anthony, and Jeffrey.

Kimberly Zulock Towne, Middletown



Kimberly Zulock

Kim has been attending Towne Church, Middletown, since 2012. She has been serving in the children's ministry for the past 8 years, including as the interim Children's Director from October 2016-August 2017. She currently serves as the Troop Coordinator for American Heritage Girls Troop OH3722 and helps to lead the elementary school aged Sunday and Wednesday services.



LEADERSHIP FOCUS

EQUIPPING | COACHING | CREDENTIALING

First Steps:

Step 1: Talk to your Senior Pastor

Step 2: Begin the Application Process at www.choglf.com - Click on New Credentials Candidates Registration - select Ohio in the drop downtown menu, follow the instructions to start the process. Deadlines are January 1st for Spring Sessions and July 1st for Fall Sessions.

4 Foundational Principles based on Acts 2:42-47

**Spiritual Formation
Missional Commitment
Competencies
Community**

Currently in Ohio Leadership Focus

Course	Individuals
1	12 (5 Spanish Track)
2	9
3	7
4	6
5	6
6	10 (1 Spanish Track)

Leadership Focus is the credentialing tool used within the Church of God. This 3 year, 6-course curriculum is used to support the credentialing requirements in the Credentials Manual of the Church of God. It is designed to prepare leaders for ordination. Completion of this process does not guarantee ordination, but is a requirement in order to be considered for ordination.

The Course themes explored are:

- ENROLLMENT**
- #1 COMMENCEMENT**
- #2 CHARACTER**
- #3 COMPETENCIES**
- #4 CONFESSIONS**
- #5 CONNECTIVITY**
- #6 CELEBRATIONS**

Spring Session is March—August
Fall Session is September—February

Rev. Kimberly Leach
Credentials Administrator



Kim can be reached through email credentials@cogo.church

Rev. Dave Hennen

Member, January 1, 2023-December 31, 2024

2 year term—unexpired term

Dave is currently serving as an Associate Pastor at Meadowbrook Church of God in Rayland, Ohio. He and his wife, Regina are excited about what the Lord has in their future. They have 4 children, Cayden (24), Abby (22), Carissa (20), and Madison (18).



Rev. Patricia Gomez

Member, January 1, 2023-December 31, 2025

3 year term

Patricia is a pastor, ordained by Church of God. Along with her husband, Jose, they pastor the Shalom church in Columbus, Ohio, a church they founded together. Patricia is the mother of three brave children. Daniel, Anthony and a beautiful daughter Jaretzi. At 11 years old she received Jesus Christ as her personal savior and was baptized at age 12. Patricia is a woman passionate about God and His kingdom. Her greatest desire is to live every day of her life serving God.



Rev. Tom Sothard

Member, January 1, 2023-December 31, 2025

3 year term

A retired business executive, Tom has over 35 years of Global Leadership, Organizational and Strategic development for Konecranes, the World's largest provider of Overhead lifting equipment and service. Tom lead and developed the business from <\$20 million to a company with sales exceeding \$2.5 billion and started the North American Field Service business for KONE. He was responsible for the post acquisition strategy and business integration plans and was the growth-oriented manager experienced in organic and acquisition. Tom is an active leader in his community's non-profit work and is a key leader in his home church, Restoration at Hillside Church in Springfield, Ohio.



Bringing Hope, Giving Help!



DISASTER RELIEF TEAM

At work in 2022
Around the World
and in the Homeland



Over \$171,800
given this year
through
Disaster Relief.
Thank you for your
financial support.



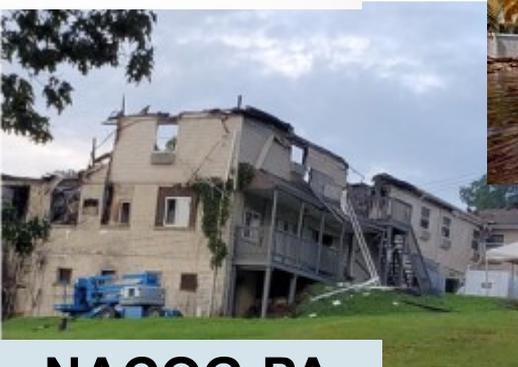
Ukraine



Kentucky



Ian-FL



NACOG-PA

DRT-Disaster Relief Team

Marvin Schooler—*Chair*

Terry Ball

Dean Butts

Mark Duffy

Kim Graves

Jeremy Tillotson

Vernon Maddox—*COGO Advisor*

Circles

Circles are designed to increase state ministry communications among our local and district leaders, as well as among our nearly 200 congregations spread throughout Ohio. Circles are a time when our ministry leaders meet for two hours to experience Fellowship, Alignment and Empowerment.

Districts and Registration QR



Northwest Ohio
October 27, 6 PM - 8 PM
at the Northwood Church



Southeast Ohio
November 10th, 10 AM - Noon
at Zanesville Church



Southeast Ohio
November 17th, 10 AM - Noon
at Zanesville Church

Northeast Ohio
December 6th, 10AM - Noon
at Tallmadge



Leadership Focus
Credential Candidates
November 12th, 9:30-11:30 AM at
Maiden Lane in Springfield OH
(at OSYC)



Spring Church Leaders Event

S T A R T
FRESH

Saturday
March 11, 2023
Meadow Park Church,
Columbus

Start Fresh 2023 These Stones



Joshua 4

March 11, 2023

10 AM - 3 PM

*Teach the wise, and they will become even wiser;
teach good people, and they will learn even more.*
Proverbs 9:9 NCV



Rev. Demetrius Booker
State Associate Pastor/Church Health

Save the date,
Start Your Recruiting Now!

Save the Dates



Senior Adult

Spring Fling

Tuesday

April 25, 2023

Der Dutchman, Plain City

Senior Adult

Fall Conference

Saturday

September 30, 2023

Crossroads Church, Lima



Start Your Recruiting Now!

Sponsored by



CHURCH OF GOD
OHIO MINISTRIES
MOVING TOGETHER



**Ohio State Youth Convention
November 10-12**

Follow OSYC on Facebook
<https://www.facebook.com/ohchog/>



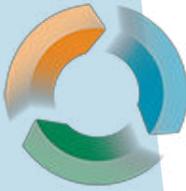


2023

March 3-5
Dayspring Church
Cincinnati



COGO
NXTGEN



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We are thankful and grateful for the many years these ministry partners have supported our Kingdom work in Ohio. On behalf of staff and the Board of Directors, we ask that you would support these ministry partners.

Christ's Birthday Observance

2022

Presented by
Christian Women Connection



ENTERTAINING ANGELS

Christ's Birthday Observance

*Let mutual love continue. Do not neglect to show
hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have
entertained angels without knowing it.*

HEBREWS 13:1-2

December 18, 2022
Collection Sunday

RESOURCE GUIDE LINK

<https://christianwomenconnection.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/CBO22-Resource-Guide-WEB.pdf>

Hebrews 13: 1-2

COGO Staff



Rev. DEMETRIUS BOOKER
*State Associate Pastor
Church Health*



Rev. KIMBERLY LEACH
Credentials Administrator



Rev. NANCY BLANKENSHIP
Business Administrator



Rev. LIZ HULTZ
NxtGen Kid's Pastor



Dr. ESTHER COTTRELL
*State Pastor
Director of Ministries*



Rev. R.W. MOODY
NxtGen Student Pastor



Rev. VERNON MADDOX
Disaster Relief/Special Projects



KYNA SHINDLE
Administrative Assistant



GIVING MADE EASY

COGO Ministries still receives contributions by check or through your banking institution. Now you can also go to our website, www.cogo.church and simply click on the **GIVE** button at the top right hand of your screen. The page will give you the option of "Giving Now" or "Sign In" to setup a recurring giving schedule. Once on this site, you will see how easy it is to give to any of the ministry areas listed. You can also use this site to pay for any of your individual or congregation event registration.



TEXT TO GIVE

In addition, we have **Text to give**, which is another secure way to give without the hassle of having to use a computer or tablet or iPad. Simply text GIVE the following numbers (740-227-4040) from your smart phone.

MOBILE APP



Download our EasyTithe [mobile app](#) to see our events and give online.
(Use QR code to download our app)



At COGO Ministries, we appreciate your financial support and consider it a privilege to serve you in so many ways, on so many platforms.

2023 Calendar of Events



March 3-5	3SLI Student Ministry Event..... Dayspring Church, Cincinnati OH
March 11	COGO Start Fresh..... Meadow Park, Columbus OH
April 9	EASTER Sunday
April 21-22	COGO NXTGen Leaders RetreatWarsaw Retreat Center
April 25	Senior Adults Spring Fling..... Der Dutchman in Plain City OH
May 28-June 2	Southwest Ohio District Camp MeetingLebanon OH
June 22-25	Church of God Convention Tampa FL
July 7-16	Southeast Ohio District Camp Meeting..... Warsaw OH
July 15-21	Northwest Ohio Payne Camp Meeting..... Payne OH
July 23-28	Northeast Ohio District Camp Meeting..... Berlin Center OH
July 30-Aug 6	Central Ohio Springfield Camp Meeting Springfield OH
August 6-13	NACOG Camp Meeting (National Association of the Church of God)West Middlesex PA
August 22	Lima Leadership Event Lima OH
September 8-9	Ohio Christian Men's Fellowship Camp Lebanon OH
September 30	COGO Senior Adults Conference Crossroads Church, Lima OH
October 21	COGO Ohio General Assembly/Ordination Service Meadow Park, Columbus OH
Nov 10-12	COGO OSYC-Ohio State Convention.....TBD

Disclaimer: Dates are subject to change



*Equipping and Empowering
for the Mission of Jesus*



Learn More About COGO Ministries