

THE VOICE

The Official Newsletter of Church of God in Ontario



SPECIAL THANK YOU

TO ALL PASTORS, MINISTERS AND MINISTRY WORKERS
FOR YOUR HARD WORK, DEDICATION AND DILIGENT SERVICE
TO YOUR MEMBERS AND COMMUNITIES.

YOUR SACRIFICES HAVE NOT GONE UN-NOTICED.

MAY GOD BLESS YOU ETERNALLY

Bishop Dr. Lennox D. Walker
Administrative Bishop

IN THIS ISSUE

MOVING FORWARD - ONE STEP AT A TIME

GREAT COMMISSION IMPACT

YOUTH & DISCIPLESHIP

DISTRICT NEWS
WEST TORONTO DISTRICT
SPECIAL HIGHLIGHT - TEMPLE OF PRAISE

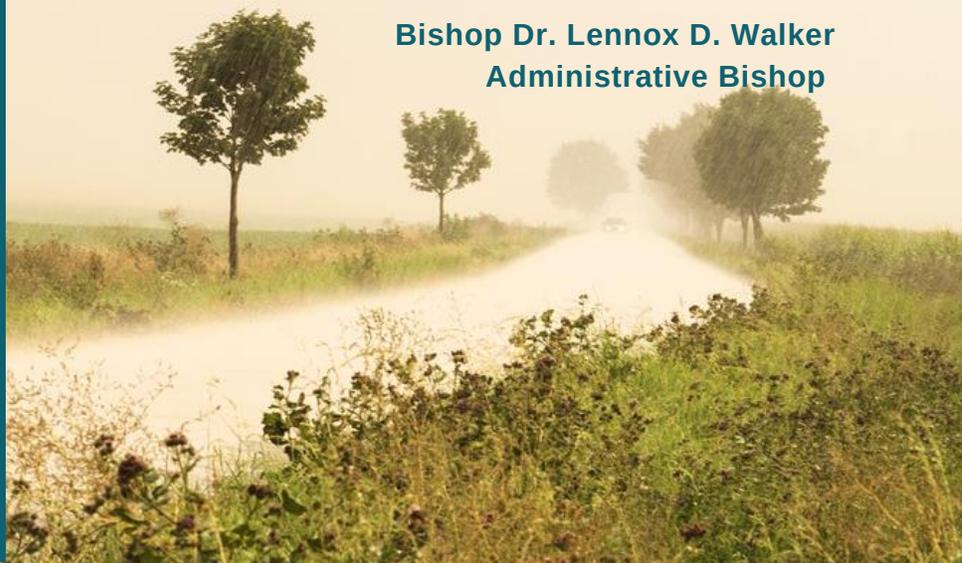
WOMEN'S DISCIPLESHIP

NATIONAL NEWS

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

ARE YOU A PEOPLE BUILDER OR A PEOPLE DISCOURAGER?

MANAGING UPWARDS





BISHOP DR. LENNOX WALKER
ADMINISTRATIVE BISHOP
2014-2022

MOVING FORWARD ONE STEP AT A TIME

Lennox D. Walker

Special Greetings on this the third edition of **THE VOICE** – the official Newsletter of Church of God in Ontario.

The Province of Ontario has set very strict guidelines for the safe reopening of places of worship. Places of worship in Stage 2 is restricted to 30% of normal capacity while practicing guidelines for safety and sanitation has laid down by the Province of Ontario guidelines.

Places of Worship are now faced with major risks and benefits when reopening. Benefits 1. The people of God get the chance to fellowship in person together 2. Some programs within the Church such as counselling, evangelism and music ministry, weddings and funerals do benefit from in greater in person interactions 3. Tithing will improve, particularly in Churches with very limited technological infrastructure Risks 1. Members becoming infected with COVID19. 2. The elderly and vulnerable becoming very exposed 3. The entire Church being shut down for weeks with members being isolated should one person become infected, therefore triggering contact tracing and isolation. This could be devastating as virtual worship telecasted from within the sanctuary would be badly affected if not paused.

Its against this background that I must point out to you that reopening is not a simple matter, but a very complex matter that will need careful, considerate and extensive planning To properly prepare for phased reopening I will be focussing at the macro level on three main initiatives and strategies to be employed by the Church to facilitate safe and sustained reopening.

The Church may be exposed to litigation should any attendee becomes infected from attending service. This can and will be devastating to any Church .Therefore, I am offering the following recommendation -:

a.) All churches need to consult with an Attorney to have a legal document drafted that will allow every attendee to waive their rights in writing by signing a waiver to absolve the Church from any lawsuits emanating from being infected while attending any function within the Sanctuary or by even entering the Sanctuary

a.) Every church should create and maintain a Handbook that is kept in the church office, and regularly updated with regulatory information to ensure paid Administrative Staff are fully aware of Government compliant procedures

b.) The church must engage in constant updating, frequently educating of volunteers and Leadership within the Church with updated regulatory information.

The government has been very clear on the capacity and seating limitation as well as social distancing policies and therefore the following strategies must be employed for successful operations.

a.) All attendees who are not well or fall within the category of the vulnerable either by age or pre-existing conditions must be encouraged to remain at home until a vaccine is found that could mitigate such risks

b.) A nurse or trained health care professional, or trained individual, should take the temperature of every attendee entering the sanctuary on all occasions.

c.) All attendees entering the sanctuary must record their names and phones numbers on entry for contact tracing and legal situations that could arise

d.) Ushers, Greeters, Security and other persons making up the first line of contact must be trained and prepared and their instructions strictly adhered to by attendees. Senior Pastors must ensure that all attendees adhere strictly to the instructions of these folks without any exceptions

e.) The preparation and set up of the sanctuary must adhere strictly to the Govt guidelines with absolutely no exceptions, which could trigger legal action through negligence and non adherence to Govt guidelines.

f.) An Audit Committee with at least one health care professional should be immediately instituted with vigilant weekly reviews of existing systems and procedures to ensure strict compliance to Govt guidelines.

Bishop Dr. Lennox Walker



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MOVING FORWARD ONE STEP AT A TIME



STRATEGIES FOR MAINTAINING A SALUBRIOUS ENVIRONMENT

Last, but possibly the most important, cleanliness is next to Godliness and if there is ever a time that the people God should be careful with sanitation is now.

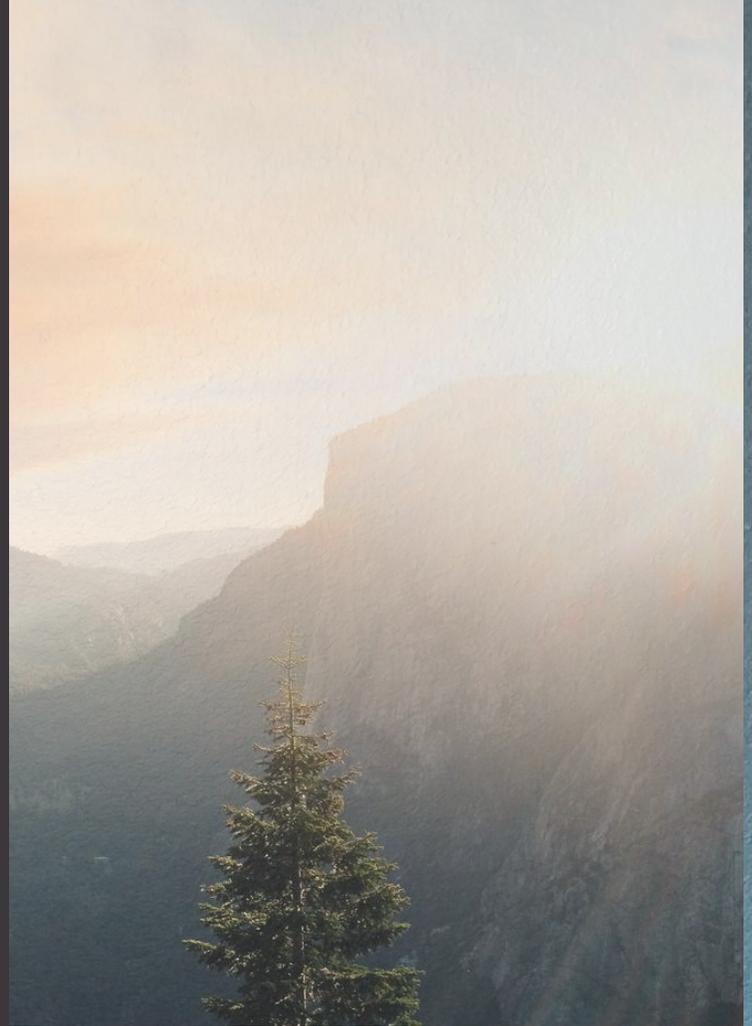
- a.) Bathroom and sanitation facilities must be remodeled if necessary, to ensure safe and efficient use in line with sanitary requirements needed to limit infections and cross contamination.
- b.) Churches must invest in paid personnel or volunteers who carry out constant cleaning operations, especially when services are in operations
- c.) All attendees must receive constant education from the pulpit on the need to maintain the Church in environment in a salubrious condition. If we take these strategies seriously and carry them out to the letter vigilantly and constantly, updating ourselves and upgrading our environment the Church will weather this storm.

However, if we become complacent and negligent in the handling of this phased reopening we will suffer the consequences of Texas Florida & Arizona and some of our Churches may never recover from this .

GREAT COMMISSION IMPACT May, 2020

OFFICE OF THE
ADMINISTRATIVE BISHOP

Sermons - 356
Converted - 48
Restored - 10
Sanctified - 0
Baptized with the Holy Spirit - 1
Baptized in Water - 14
Homes Visited 1363
Revivals conducted - 0
Number of Ministers Reporting - 89



FINANCIAL DATA FROM REPORTS May, 2020

DOES NOT INCLUDE TITHES OF TITHES RECEIVED
FOR PREVIOUS MONTHS

Tithes	-	\$9025.79
Missions	-	\$3008.60

THANK YOU
COGIO

[Continue reading at next page >](#)



YOUTH & DISCIPLESHIP MINISTRIES

DR. D. RON BINDA
YOUTH DISCIPLESHIP DIRECTOR &
LADY MARIE BINDA
GIRLS MINISTRIES COORDINATOR

HOW TO CALM YOUR FEARS DURING DIFFICULT TIMES

As days extended into weeks and weeks into months, we saw a massive loss of jobs, stay at home orders, long lines at grocery stores, and shortages of essential goods. The daily tallies of those that were diagnosed and those that succumbed to COVID-19, along with daily updates from governments locally and internationally only added to the large lists of concerns we all were experiencing. The lack of answers surrounding a cure for COVID-19, hospitals being overwhelmed by patients and the instability of every sector caused fear sweeping the globe.

We began using words like unprecedented, social distancing, stay at home orders, cancelled and virtual. The list is exhaustive and we will never forget these times as many of us have never experienced anything like this before. How do we respond to the questions posed by our children and youth who have seen their lives dramatically changed?

1. God has been there in the past and He has brought us through difficult times before. Hebrews 13: 18 tell us that "Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and today, and for ever".

2. God holds your future in His hands. "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." Jeremiah 29:11

3. The Bible gives us many examples of God's deliverance. In Genesis 39 God takes Joseph from prison to the highest office in Egypt and Job from death's door to restoration and unprecedented blessings. The LORD blessed the latter part of Job's life more than the former part. He had fourteen thousand sheep, six thousand camels, a thousand yoke of oxen and a thousand donkeys. And he also had seven sons and three daughters. Job 42:12-13

4. We must not lose hope. God is merciful and has given each of us a ministry which He expects us to continue in these difficult times. Since He has called us He will also empower us. "Therefore, through God's mercy we have this ministry, we do not lose heart". 2 Corinthians 4:12.

5. We must keep our focus on our mission. Our mission must not be lost in the midst of the pandemic. In Matthew 28:18-20 Jesus commands the church to "go". What a great opportunity and open door God has given the church.

Let's walk through it and focus less on self and more on mission and Finishing the Great Commission and help to usher in The second Coming of Jesus Christ.

Dr. D. Ron Binda



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CHURCH OF GOD IN ONTARIO



Monthly Collaboration



First Lady,
Rev. Dorett E Walker
Women's Ministries Director
COGIO



Lady Marie E. Binda
Girl's Discipleship and
Conference Coordinator,
COGIO

CORDIDIALY INVITES ALL

PASTORS WIVES

NEXT MEETING: MONDAY AUG 10 - 7:30PM

ZOOM link will be sent to your email or
Contact Lady Binda - marie.binda@rogers.com

JOIN US ONLINE **zoom**
EVERY FIRST MONDAY - 7:30 PM

THE NEW BUZZ

PASTOR'S WIVES - DON'T MISS OUT



UNPRECEDENTED

As women, we are called to utilize our gifts and talents to impact our society. God has empowered us to influence the world and each other, as Proverbs 27:17 tells us "Iron sharpens Iron."

This is why I find our Regional Monthly meetings for Pastor's wives so rewarding and beneficial . It has provided an opportunity for us as sisters in Christ to meet and share.

For the past few months, we have heard the word "**unprecedented.**" I thank God for our Visionary, Women's Discipleship President Lady Rev Dorett Walker, and her team for stepping out to ensure the Pastor's wives and Female Pastors are not forgotten, especially during this new normalcy of life.

For us as women in ministry, "unprecedented" means fashioning more effective ways to keep our ladies informed and engaged. Many of us, for the first time, was exposed to learning about the technical tools to host virtual meetings and became social media experts overnight. We all opened ZOOM account, created YouTube, WhatsApp and Facebook accounts.

I am genuinely grateful that Rev. Walker was not afraid to tackle this new way to do ministry. I have been truly blessed through this opportunity and the rich discussions, which have been so enlightening and uplifting.

As a Pastor's wives, we are able interconnect with our sisters in Christ via ZOOM, which has created opportunities for us to encourage each other, share, and laugh without leaving the comforts of our home. I believe that God is moving us from a place of competition and fear during this season and preparing us for our next assignments. Although we are apart from each other, I treasure each meeting, they are more intimate with a greater sense of freedom and purpose.

It would be remiss of me not to use this medium to encourage my others sisters and Pastor's wives. We are in perilous times, which poses different challenges for us all. I want to encourage your hearts, to let you know, you are not alone. God is with us all the way. He has blessed us and given us favour to influence others.

My sisters, I could tell you about my experience each month, but why not join us and experience it for yourself.

Be blessed



Pastor J. Rider

Continue reading at next page >

THE NEW BUZZ

PASTOR'S WIVES - GROWING TOGETHER

MENTORED. DISCIPLED. TRANSFORMED

The Journey of a Female Minister and Pastor's Wife



Over the past months, under the visionary leadership of our First Lady Rev. Dorett Walker, the female ministers and pastors' wives have been connecting virtually as a means of fostering a sisterhood. These meetings have proven to be beneficial to our growth and development. I must confess that as a pastor's wife and a female minister my soul has been irrigated as the other ladies and I are being mentored and disciplined by our leader. It is out of my experience that I am stirred to share insights that have resonated with me from our meetings.

It should not be surprising to know that discipleship is at the core and is truly the heartbeat of every Bible-believing church, even more so within the women's ministry. Younger women are encouraged to engage older women to disciple them, and older women are spurred to invest in the lives of the younger women. The Apostle Paul cemented this truth in the second chapter of his letter to Titus. However, many pastors' wives are not quite sure how discipleship looks or should be for them, especially in the context of their local church.

A pastor's wife's hesitation about discipleship is understandable. However, this must be understood from dissecting the reality of the person's context. To serve as a pastor's wife or as a female minister comes with its own restrictions and challenges. It can be awkward and sometimes deemed unhealthy for a pastor's wife/female minister to divulge personal struggles and challenges to another woman in her church family. Although some of us as pastors' wives have a mentor in our congregation, not all of us are privileged in this way. We are certainly in a unique situation when it comes to sharing personal information and we should take every precaution in handling disclosure as best as possible.

As pastors' wives, we have one of the most precious and unique roles in the church. We sacrifice so much for the good of our beloved church families; and is by extension a family of families. We try and sometimes fail to balance our own family time and that of doing ministry. We serve as the primary support system for our husbands, through our ongoing encouragements and prayers, with anticipation of effectively fulfilling our daily duties as wives. Our role is scarcely seen by church members and the outside world. If truth be told, we are often undermined or ignored. We invest in so many others, and so it is important that we allow others to empower us as well.

Continue reading at next page >

THE NEW BUZZ

PASTOR'S WIVES - GROWING TOGETHER

MENTORED. DISCIPLED. TRANSFORMED

The Journey of a Female Minister and Pastor's Wife

I have learnt from my own experiences and through the adventures of others, that it can be difficult to take the time to think about our own spiritual needs. If we deprive our souls of ongoing discipleship and encouragement, we do ourselves a great disservice to ourselves and to our ministry. Without an older, more mature pastor's wife with whom to dialogue, the dark burdens of ministry can lead to discouragement, resentment, and eventually to our own detriment; but worse to other things that take our focus away from Christ. I strongly believe we greatly benefit from older, more experienced pastors' wives disciplining us.

As ladies, we like to maintain an **"I got it all together"** image, but what I have learnt from Lady Walker, that as pastor's wives and female ministers we must find a seasoned pastor's wife who we can be transparent, powerless, unguarded and vulnerable with. This engenders an atmosphere and a relationship where we can be ministered unto in order for us to grow and develop.

My sisters be reminded that we are valuable to the ministry. I want to encourage us, especially in this season to find a mature mother in the body, sit at her feet, glean from her and I promise you, we will benefit from it tremendously. I truly hope you were encouraged from my testimony, as I look forward to sharing time with you.

Because of Him.



Pastor Marie A. Francis



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LET US PRAY ONE FOR ANOTHER



DEVOTIONAL REFLECTION

GENESIS 28:15

I am with you and will watch over you wherever you go, and i will bring you back to this land. I will not leave you unti I have done what I have promised you.

Reflect

Strength Through Faith

What an awesome peace you can have knowing that God promises to be with you wherever you go! Ge has special plan for your life and won't ever leave you. No matter the season of life your're in, the hardships you're facing, or the uncertainty you're handling, God is with you.

List your worries and cares and your hopes and joys. Pause to life these thoroughs to God in prayer, trusting that God will always meet your needs and never leave you.

From the Reflection make a list of :

The Things on your Heart!

Adversity & Trial

What you want the Lord to Teach You?

Adversity & Trial

What You want the Lord Guide You?

Adversity & Trial

What You Thank Lord For?

Adversity & Trial

What is Your Prayer Request

Adversity & Trial

Continue reading at next page >

THANK YOU

Our Pastors, Ministry Leaders and Members
who are making a difference on the
Front-line During COVID-19



REV. JACKIE NUGENT

SPECIAL HIGHLIGHT

Travel back with me to the summer of 2019. Do you remember the thousands of people crowded together on the streets of downtown Toronto? In public squares and in homes all over the nation of Canada, Toronto Raptor fans blissfully celebrated the NBA championship title win! Whether you were a participant or not, the win was palpable, as we witnessed Raptor fans all over the world rally together revelling in solidarity to a victory, never seen before in Raptor franchise history. Now, let's fast forward to present day.

It's now summer 2020. The memory of mass gatherings and carefree socializing seems almost inconceivable. Who would have imagined that in one year the world, as we knew it, would radically change the way we interact personally and in public. In light of the current backdrop, 2020 has unexpectedly acquired what appears to be new global contender we call COVID-19. COVID-19 has become a major health threat that continues to evolve. The risks associated with this infectious disease varies in severity and between and within countries and communities.

The risk in Canada is considered high. As of July 7, 2020, 7p.m. EDT, COVID-19 total cases in Canada were 106,167. There has been 3,020,172 people tested, 69,883 recovered and approximately 8,700 deaths. The Province of Ontario has the second highest number of positive cases, next to Quebec (www.canada.ca). Public health officials continue to regularly evaluate the risks related to COVID-19 based on the best available evidence.

I have asked myself and now probe your understanding. How is the body of Christ responding to the COVID-19 pandemic related to the risks associated to our fellowship and worship together? With the government's approval to reopen places of worship, is your worship facility ready to face this new unwelcomed rival who will attempt to enter in your church building to dwell amongst our congregation? Will you continue in a preconditioned, pre-COVID 2019 mindset of doing ministry? Or, will the body of Christ evolve and arise armed with the wisdom of God's Word combined with evidenced based infection prevention practices to keep each other as safe as possible?

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Making a Difference on the Front-line During COVID-19



REV. JACKIE NUGENT

The body of Christ has a great responsibility to uphold. As Kingdom Citizens, we are our brother's keeper; therefore extra vigilance is to be taken for the health and safety of ourselves and for our neighbors.

My name is Jackie Nugent. I am an ordained minister, passionate about the body of Christ and committed to advancing the Kingdom of God.

By profession I am a board certified Infection Prevention and Control Specialist. Infection Prevention and Control (IPAC) practitioners specialize in preventing the spread of infections within healthcare facilities. We promote safe and healthy environments for patients, healthcare providers and visitors through evidenced based practices, policies and procedures, communicable disease surveillance, outbreak identification and management, consultation and continuous education.

It is my desire to transfer my expertise and support to help churches re-open as safe as possible. I have had the pleasure of consulting with churches across the GTA. Each church is assessed and provided evidence-based recommendations that help prevent COVID-19. Consultation also includes management tips for a potential outbreak amongst parishioners. Statistics have told us that the elderly are one of the most susceptible populations for COVID-19. Since, churches are known to have a substantial demographic of seniors, how can we best support our most vulnerable while protecting fellow worshipers and ourselves?

Five basic Infection Prevention and Control Principles that everyone should know and practice:

1. PRACTICE HAND HYGIENE REGULARLY

What is hand hygiene? According to CDC, hand hygiene is a way of cleaning one's hands that substantially reduces potential pathogens which are the harmful microorganisms/germs that can live on the hands. Hand hygiene is considered an important measure for reducing the risk of transmitting infections. For the general public, there are two primary methods used to clean hands. A) The use of alcohol-based hand rubs, containing 60%–90% alcohol and B) hand washing using soap and water. Both methods are appropriate to clean hands, but if your hands are visibly soiled or contaminated, washing with soap and water is best. When washing hands remember to wet hands first, lather for a minimum of 15 – 20 seconds ensuring you rub entire hand including fingers tips and wrists. Follow with thorough rinsing and if using a public sink that does not automatically turn off, use a paper towel to turn off the tap. You do not want to soil your hands by touching the tap again. When using alcohol-based hand rubs, ensure you follow the manufacturer's guideline for use. Use the right amount and product, which is about a "twoonie" sized amount, and rub hands until dry.

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2. CLEAN AND DISINFECT

Ensure regular cleaning of fixtures, equipment and personal items. For example, when was the last time you disinfected your cell phone? Such items are reservoirs for microorganism to live and grow. Some pathogens seek entry points into the human body, therefore if you are not cleaning your hands and your items, a virus can be easily transmitted directly or indirectly into your body.

3. PHYSICAL DISTANCING

Physical distancing of 2 meters (6 feet) is the spatial separation required to prevent the spread of COVID-19 and other respiratory pathogens. Practice this and you will be creating an invisible barrier of protection for yourself and for others.

4. WEAR MASK CAREFULLY

With recent by-laws making face masks mandatory in public spaces, it is critical to our safety to use this personal protective equipment carefully. Have you noticed, people touch their faces more when wearing masks? As the need to adjust our face masks arise, we tend to touch and fidget with our faces more often.

The more we touch our masks the more we will need to clean our hands also. Correct application and removal will protect you and others around you. I could say a lot about glove use, but I will simply say, glove use similar to mask use, must be used carefully and does not replace the need for regular hand hygiene.

5. MAINTAIN A HEALTHY LIFESTYLE

Your physical, mental and spiritual well-being, contributes to your overall health. Healthy eating, exercise and rest are part of your defense mechanism that you have control over. With physical distancing in effect, try to find new ways to support your human need for physical touch. Exploring new ways for fellowship is also important to maintain mental health. Use online and telephone options to keep you connected to friends and loved ones. Continue to feed your spirit daily by regular bible reading, meditation and prayer.

We may not be able to revel in our thousands on the streets of Toronto right now or at any time in the near future, but we the church must continue to rejoice and celebrate Jesus Christ as Lord over all. Remember "nothing can separate us from the love of Christ (Romans 8:38-39)" not even COVID-19!

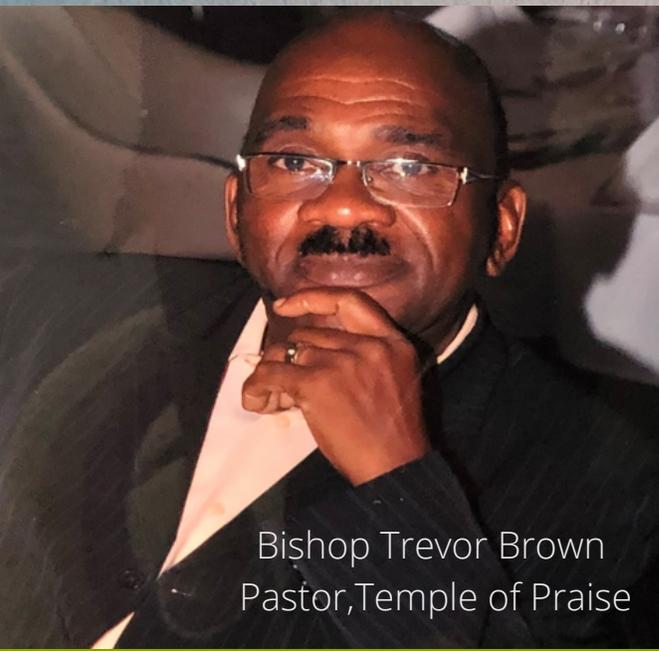
Keep safe everyone! 

God Bless You
Rev. Jackie Nugent

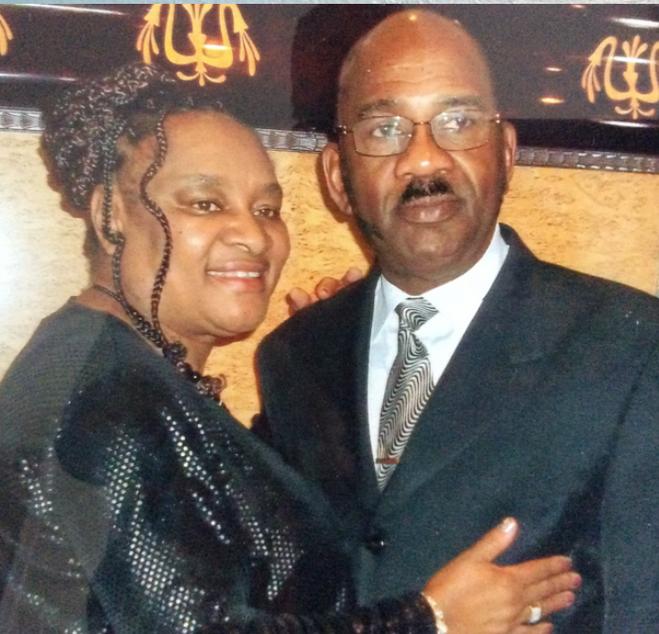
**MASK AVAILABLE
FOR PURCHASE
CONTACT
JACKIE NUGENT
416 903 8466**

UCWIHTJACKIE@GMAIL.COM JACKIENUGENT.COM

Continue reading at next page >



Bishop Trevor Brown
Pastor, Temple of Praise



Bishop Trevor Brown & Rev. Joycelin Brown

MINISTRY HIGHLIGHT

WEST TORONTO DISTRICT

TEMPLE OF PRAISE

I have been honoured to be pastoring the Temple of Praise Church of God for the past 13 years. Rev. Joycelin Brown, my wife of 43 years, has always been, and continues to be my partner in ministry. We are privileged to serve some of the most committed, loving, caring, God-fearing people anywhere in Christendom. We express gratitude to the members who have committed themselves to God and have remained faithful in his service over the years; and especially during these recent challenging months; first dealing with COVID 19; and then dealing with the racial unrest, amidst other challenges.

God has certainly been good to Temple of Praise; over the past 13 years He has allowed spiritual and numerical growth, to the point where we have more than doubled the number of our original congregation. We continue to trust God for His leading; and we will follow. We are blessed with talented individuals, spiritually and secular, who are committed to serving God in various ministries; and though a relatively small church, we, through these Ministries, endeavor to serve the diverse needs of our community.

Continue reading at next page >

TEMPLE OF PRAISE

VIBRANT & GROWING YOUTH & DISCIPLESHIP MINISTRY



CHANGING LIVES ONE YOUTH AT A TIME FOR JESUS CHRIST

SUBMITTED BY REV. JOYCELIN BROWN

Our Youth Department, under the able and committed leadership of Sis. Dewi Clark-Palmer, continues to experience great growth. Our Youth participated in many local, regional and international Junior and Teen Talent Competitions, in which they have had great successes.

This past July they were awarded 1st and 2nd places in competitions as they represented Eastern Canada at the International Teen Talent Competition in Cleveland Tennessee. As a result of his brilliant, inspiring performance, one of T.O.P's very talented youth, Curtis Hall Jr. (CJ) was awarded a scholarship to Lee College in 2019. He has just completed his first year.

In December 2019 we baptized in water seven (7) youth from our local Youth group. We give God praise.



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**BAPTIZING THEM
IN THE NAME OF THE FATHER,
IN THE NAME OF THE SON AND
IN THE NAME OF THE HOLY
SPIRIT.....MATTHEW 28**

BISHOP TREVOR BROWN FULFILLING THE CALL

In December 2019, just before COVID 19, we water baptized 9 candidates and later added 11 new members; administering the right hand of fellowship into our congregation. It is noteworthy that seven of the nine who were water baptized were between ages 13-25; and one of the two adults was a new convert from our Community Day activities. We thank God for saving young people for his Kingdom as we disciple them for imminent ministry.

COVID-19 RESPONSE

....."As to the effect of COVID 19, God has truly been faithful to us during this time. We have been meeting via Zoom every Sunday for worship, along with meetings each Thursday for Prayer Meeting and Bible Studies. Our Women's group has also met for meetings. This platform has given us opportunities to minister to people in different countries, as we have had a 20% increase in attendance via Zoom. We are also blessed to use this medium to bring many preachers from abroad to minister in our services. Majority of our members have remained faithful in their stewardship and we give God thanks."

.....Rev. Joycelin Brown

Continue reading at next page >

Temple of Praise

A FAMILY THAT PRAYS TOGETHER STAYS TOGETHER



COMMUNITY DAY

Once per year during the summer we close the doors of our physical building as we bring the gospel to local streets, ministering in the community. On that designated Sunday morning we meet at the church facility, dressed in our (Temple of Praise) TOP T-shirts and jeans. After a brief devotion we disperse in small groups to various places in the community; cheerfully greeting the people and handing out tracts. This past summer on Community Day we handed out over 1000 tracts. We ended with a picnic in the park, which was a most enjoyable occasion. It was an inspiring day ministering in the local community.



Temple of Praise

VISION

To be a vibrant agent of spiritual growth, making a positive difference in our church and community

MISSION

Preach and teach the word of God; disciple souls to Christ; minister to the "whole" man.

Our Location

37 Bakersfield Street
Toronto, Ontario. ON
Phone: (416) 786-9174

WELCOME



COGIO LIFEBUILDERS

Men called to Encounter | Connect | Serve

GOD IS STILL LOOKING FOR MEN

The challenge of the Great Commission is to preach the gospel to all creation. This includes the young and the old, rich and poor, male and female. With all of humanity in mind, I am of the firm conviction that God is looking for men who will lead His Church and advance His Kingdom. It has been said that the church is the hope of the world. If that is true, then men are the hope of the church. This is not a chauvinistic sentiment; in fact, the question before every church is "Where are the men?"

Even a cursory reading of Scripture reveals that God is looking for men. Consider the following passages: Ezekiel 22:30 "I searched for a man among them who would build up the wall and stand in the gap before Me for the land that I might not destroy it but I found no one."

1 Timothy 3:1 "It is a trustworthy statement: if any man aspires to the office of overseer, it is a fine work he desires to do."

2 Timothy 2:2 "The things which you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses, entrust these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also."

God is looking for men with humble hearts; men who will sacrifice everything for the cause of Christ and who will stand in the gap as servant-leaders for their families and for Christ's Church. God is looking for a changed man. A man who has been changed by the message of the gospel. A man who desires to be a righteous agent of change in the earth.

A changed man will influence a marriage and a family. A changed family will influence a neighborhood and a community. A changed community will influence a nation. A changed nation will help change the world. It all begins with a changed man.

Men must be called and equipped to be spiritual leaders if the church is ever going to fulfill the Great Commission. Pastors, How are the men in your church recruited, trained and deployed to change the world? As a Region, Men's Ministry must now become a priority. We need to ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into the harvest. Alongside of our prayers, as Pastors and leaders locally and regionally, we need to develop strategies designed to win, build and send men. What am I saying? Pastors if you do not see the importance of building a strong Men's Ministry you have cheated the world of its hope that can be found through purposeful and intentional Mens Ministry. The Church is the hope of the world and men are the hope of the church. God is looking for men. God is looking for you. Will you be like Isaiah, in Isaiah 6:8 and say to the Lord, "Here am I, send me!"



Bishop Robert Francis
MEN'S MINISTRIES DIRECTOR

Continue reading at next page >

Program Schedule

SCHOOL OF MINISTRY 2020-2021



Contact for more information:
National Office: 905.499.2970
Professor Blayne Waltrip:
blaynewal@hotmail.com

SUMMER 2020

Semester 3
July 8- July 31



**Rescheduled to
Fall 2020
Due to COVID-19**

COURSE CODE - 2190

Ministering to Culturally Diverse
Populations: Credit - 1

Professor: Blayne Waltrip

TOTAL CREDITS: 1

Thank you for your understanding.
We apologize for any inconvenience
this may have caused.



Continue reading at next page >

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE GENERAL OVERSEER



Dr. Timothy "Tim" Hill,
General Overseer, Church of God



MOVING FORWARD, STEPPING BACKWARD

July 3, 2020 By coginternetworkmin -
Re-published - Getting the Message Out

Cleveland, TN: In light of the recent events surrounding the COVID-19 (coronavirus), Dr. Timothy M. Hill, General Overseer of the Church of God, issued the following statement:

"Having heard from so many of you over the last few days, I know that there is great disappointment among our pastors who are not going to be able to re-open their buildings as previously scheduled or are facing another shut down of church services following an increase in confirmed coronavirus cases. To many, I'm sure that it seems like we have taken one step forward and two, or maybe even three, steps backwards. However, I want to encourage and remind you that God has this all in control. While we may not understand His plan or purpose, He is working all things out for His and our good. We just have to trust Him.

Recently, I have held close the promise found in Isaiah 46:9-10 (NIV): 'Remember the former things, those of long ago; I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is none like me. I make known the end from the beginning, from ancient times, what is still to come. I say, 'My purpose will stand, and I will do all that I please.'

So, whether you are having to delay your reopening or whether you are having to close your doors once again, please know that you are in my thoughts and prayers. The health and well-being of our congregations and our ministerial staff are critically important during this trying time.

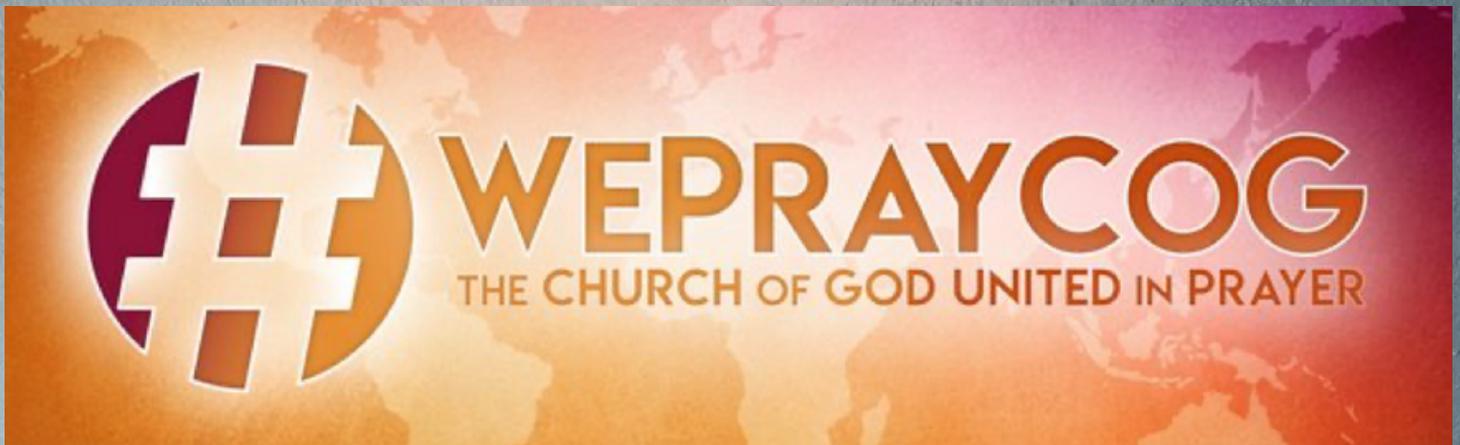
Pastor, please know that you have the support and complete confidence of the Church of God Executive Committee. You are the visionary and spiritual guardian that God has set over your congregation and no one is walking your unique journey, nor understands your particular context of ministry quite like you. As you pray, God will lead you and definitely provide for every need in your church and family.

Also, know that we are experiencing similar problems. The International Offices closed again this week because of a spike in COVID-19 cases in this area and we will continue to be closed next week as well, hoping that our International office family will shelter in place and remain safe from this new wave of the virus. Our staff is faithfully working from home and continuing to provide effective ministry during this unusual season.

Remember, God has promised us that He will provide a healing in our land if we will seek His face. I am calling on every member of our church family to pray for that healing. Only He can bring the healing that our nation and our world needs."



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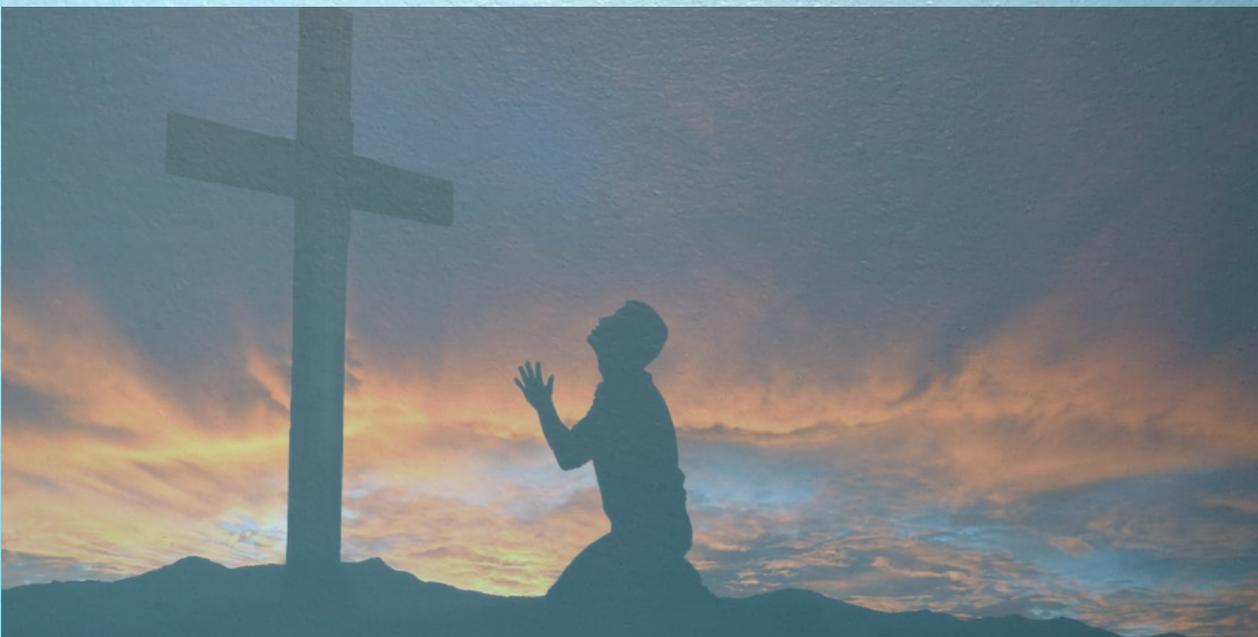
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2 Corinthians 5:18

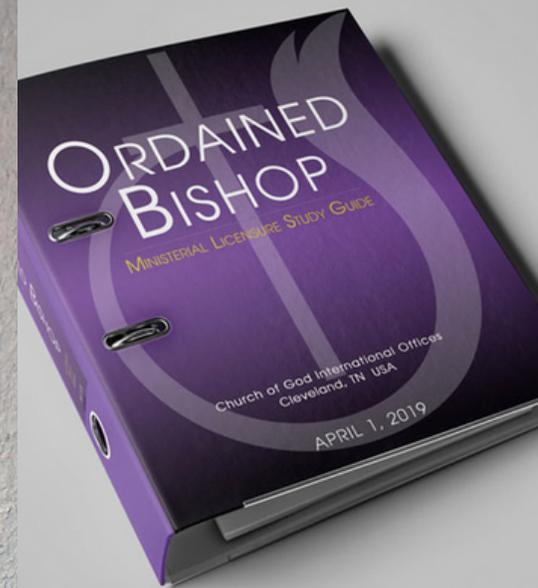
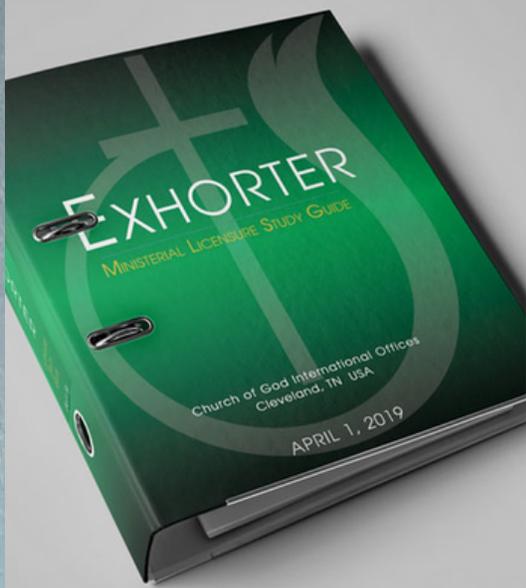
And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to Himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the Ministry of Reconciliation.

Prayer

Dear God, since you have reconciled us to yourself through Jesus, we acknowledge that you have given us the wonderful ministry of reconciliation. Help us to grasp the importance and opportunity of this privilege and truly be your Ambassadors of the "Good News" of Christ Jesus every day that we live. Lord, as we ask you for a real Pentecostal Revival, we beseech your for prevailing unity and for spirit-purposed direction for our church and for our nations.



Continue reading at next page >



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RISE



ARE YOU A PEOPLE BUILDER OR A PEOPLE DISCOURAGER?



1 Thessalonians 5:11, NIV

"Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing."

The word encourages means "to urge forward" All of us should have someone we believe in, someone we are urging forward, someone we are helping to achieve their goals and dreams. This person should not only be someone from our extended or immediate family nor our children. The question is, how does one encourage someone? It is important to study that person and identify what he or she does well. What excites them: What are their strengths? An Encourager sees things in others that they can't see in themselves. A simple compliment, a single word of encouragement can give a person the confidence he or she needs to take that step of faith.

You have the ability to stir up someone's dreams by giving them the permission to succeed. You can light a fire on their inside that glows joyfully for a lifetime. When you take time to believe in someone, and you speak positivism and faith into the heart of another, your words can become the seed God nourishes. Can you imagine what your negative words can do in the heart of another. And a slight discouragement can damage someone self esteem far worst than you can imagine. You will never know the impact a small note or a kind word of encouragement can have. **Be a people builder and not a person breaker.**

PRAYER FOR TODAY

Father, Lord Jesus, we thank you for all the people who have encouraged us and who believed the best in us. Help us to use words to encourage and help develop others to develop their full potential to realize purpose and destiny.

I'm an encourager at heart. I love to give words of encouragement and I love to receive words of encouragement. That's probably why words of discouragement affect me so deeply.

Continue reading at next page >

TIPS FOR EFFECTIVE UPWARD MANAGEMENT

Ever know someone who held great respect for his or her team but was not respected by those around them? Or maybe you've had a leader that just could not get things done effectively because he or she just didn't know how to "work the system?" or even still, are you a Leader who is continually frustrated because you can't get your team to do what you need to be done? If any, of these sound familiar to you, welcome to the world of ineffective upward management.



Upward management is a skill that many do very well, others never seem to master and virtually all learn only through lessons learned from experience. **When done well**, the Leader and team member, works as a cohesive team, ensuring each is informed, problems addressed collaboratively before there is any spin out of control, and are more effective at managing unforeseen circumstances and risks. When done poorly, both Leader and team members are not on the same page and nothing will ever get done. The Leader is only listened to out of respect

Throughout my years working in the secular world and in the ministry, I've come to realize that poor upward management falls into four personality types:

- **The Spewing Volcano:** This is the team member who subscribes to the "more the better" school of managing information and will tell the Leader every gory details of every single event, every single day. Rather than upwardly managing, the spewing volcano, spews data like hot lava and forces the Leader to pick out the important facts.
- **The Coward Lion.** This is the team member who is afraid to share information with the Leader because of fear of the Leader's reactions. Rather than upwardly managing, the coward lion avoids sharing information and will do so unless cornered.
- **The Rebellious Teenager:** This is the team member who consciously hides from his or her Leader because he/she wants to demonstrate that the work can be done without the Leader. Rather than upward managing, the rebellious teenager keeps the Leader in the dark by withholding information.
- **The Brown-Noser:** This is the team member who treat the Leader as some kind of rock-star and constantly searches for what the Leader wants to hear. Rather than upwardly managing, the brown-noser, upwardly affirms whatever it is the Leader is thinking, even when wrong judgement is demonstrated while dealing with high risks situations.

AVOIDING MIS-STEPS IN MANAGING UPWARDS

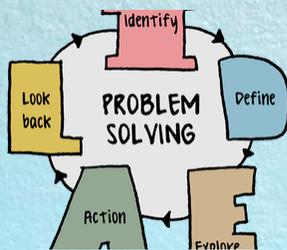
Understand your leader

Think about how your Leader likes to communicate; does your Leader prefer written emails or verbal discussion? Does your Leader like structured one-to-one meetings or informal chats? Get a clear understanding of how the Leader likes to engage and adapt your style accordingly.

Be Specific about what you need

Whether it is financial support, resources, or some other form of assistance, be very specific about what you need, why you need it and what will happen if you don't get what you need. Your leader may not be able to provide what you need, however, your leader may be able to provide direction about getting what you need or may be able to offer an effective recommendation to forego what you think you need.

Solve your problems when you can



Your leader has greater responsibility than you. You should not delegate things to your Leader that you should be doing or can do for yourself.

Make Your Leader look good

Let's say your Leader is about to make a presentation to his Leader and is relying upon you to provide some critical information. You should give your Leader the information he needs to present to his superior. Do not put your Leader in a situation where he looks bad in front of his others. **You not only hurt your credibility, you have hurt his credibility.**

Present Options for consideration



In making decisions leaders like to see alternatives. Good leaders will listen. Arrogant and weak leaders will not. Some of the best decision making meetings are those where there is meaningful dialogue around viable options to solving a tough problem.

It is important to present facts and recommendations to support each option. The recommendation may be accepted, as well as it may be rejected. Be prepared to handle a rejected idea. Having exhausted all options, be a team player and accept the decision, even if it's not your suggestion. Leave the room unified with one voice.

Don't give Flattery, give genuine Praise



Telling your Leader what they want to hear is insincere, dishonest and to some it is hypocritical. You will quickly lose respect of others around you, whether they tell you or not show it all. It is also a sign of poor leadership abilities.

Anyone not capable of providing objective feedback is a weak leader. Objective feedback is different from criticism.

NOTICE TO OUR MEMBERS:

This will your monthly publication.

We value your feedback. please do not hesitate to send your concerns or comments , articles and ministry updates to churchofgodinontario@gmail.com

THANK YOU
LAUREL SERVICE, PMP
Project Manager

