

# Together

## Worldwide Church of God News

July/August 2007

Volume 2, Number 4

### Church Multiplication Ministries

## New Church Leadership Training Conference

by Lorenzo Arroyo

On March 21-24, 2007, a historic event took place for the Worldwide Church of God with its first New Church Leadership Training conference. Twenty-two participants from across the eastern United States attended this event, including current and prospective church plant leaders. Others were interested in becoming coaches and assessors for church plant leaders. NCLT was conducted at the Community of Faith (WCG) in Memphis, TN.

Church Multiplications Ministries, directed by Randy Bloom, trained participants in the basic principles and processes necessary for successfully starting healthy new churches that will start more new churches. NCLT provides training based on the best that the church multiplication movement now offers from organizations and individuals such as Evangelical Free Church of America, International Church of the Foursquare Gospel, Ed Stetzer, Rick Warren, Robert Logan and others.

Training sessions led by Dan Rog-

ers, Randy Bloom, Lorenzo Arroyo and Ken Williams focused on the three stages of church planting. The “dream stage” entails the development of the vision and mission for a new church as well as identifying its target group. The “building stage” focuses on developing culturally relevant ministries, ministry leadership teams and support groups. The building stage leads to the “launch stage,” when the dreaming and building becomes a reality with the birth and development of a new church.

Some of the attendees have already started new churches. Others are in the process of preparing to start a new church. Some participants wanted to learn how to help their existing congregations become more effective in their mission and discipling processes.

All participants expressed appreciation for having attended NCLT. Tom Kennebeck, from Orr, MN, said, “I found this training very helpful toward establishing a biblical pathway to Great Commandment and Great Commission ministry in the development of our church plant.”

Tim Cenac, of Olathe, KS, said, “This conference gave me direction

and purpose. It made me think big.”

At the conclusion of the conference, Alvin and Rhonda Goodwin of Bessemer City, NC, said that they were “thoroughly convinced that church planting is a God thing.”

Although CMM is primarily concerned with starting new churches for



Ken Williams addresses the conference.

WCG, the training it offers is applicable to many other ministry contexts (leadership development, evangelism, discipleship, etc.).

If you are interested in starting a new church, or if you would like to provide financial support for either a new church or for any of the CMM training events, please contact the Church Administration & Development (CAD) office or contact Randy Bloom, director of CMM, at randy.bloom@wgc.org.

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Participants in the New Church Leadership Training conference in Memphis, TN, March 21-24

## Second NCLT conference

June 16-19, 2007, CMM conducted its second New Church Leadership Training at our headquarters facility in Glendora, CA. Fifteen participants came to learn how to start a new church. The interactive sessions covered the following aspects (and more) of new church development:

- Biblical principles for starting new churches
- Key characteristics of effective new church leaders
- Determining a target group
- Building teams of ministry leaders
- Developing culturally relevant ministries and worship services
- Raising funds to start a new church

The program generated more excitement and interest for starting new churches. Several participants asked for training to be able to coach church plant leaders. Others requested church multiplication workshops for their congregations. Participants felt the material covered was extremely helpful for helping existing congregations continue to grow and develop.

Glen Weber, District Pastoral Leader and pastor of Vancouver, WA, and Portland, OR, commented about the training program: "It gives great

tools to see the future in a whole new light—ways to gather, choose, and empower leaders...material to give us a strong foundation for coming decades."

Alberta Ecker stated that the training was "giving WCG a new focus and a new hope for our future."

Dan Rogers expressed the need for us to plan these leadership training programs in multiple locations around the country. We will begin planning for these right away.

In June, the CMM team planned to meet in Memphis, TN, with Charles Albrecht of CAD and Ted Johnston, director of Generations Ministries, to discuss plans for the rest of the year and 2008. Charles will provide helpful input as we consider future planning and budget considerations. The CMM team and Ted will discuss ways to integrate church multiplication vision and goals into Generations Ministry programs.

Please continue to pray that we will be alert to the Spirit's guidance as we continue to work to start more new churches. And please remember Jesus' command to pray for more workers as we strive to reach all kinds of people, in all kinds of places, with new churches. —Randy Bloom



## Bengali Easter celebration

**O**n Easter, the Bengali Evangelical Association held a Bengali-language celebration in Loma Linda, CA. The service was organized with other Bengali leaders as a sanctuary for the many Bengalis in the Los Angeles area who feel in need of a spiritual home base.

Dr. John Biswas, a WCG elder, is looked on by the Bengali people in Southern California as their pastor and leader and has been pressured to organize this sort of gathering in their own language and culture, hence this Easter service and social gathering.

Many of the attendees were Muslim, and this was their first Christian worship service and their first chance to hear in their own language

that Christ died not just for Christians but for Muslims, too. Many of the 380 attendees were former Adventists who had never attended an Easter service, either.

What started out as a small monthly prayer group for Bengalis has grown into a spiritual sanctuary for their community. Similar celebration services are planned

for the future.—*Roger Lippross*

## Ross Jutsum Visits Grace Family Church

**D**r. Ross Jutsum, of State of the Heart Ministries and former director of the Young Ambassadors, led worship at Grace Family Church (Richardson, TX) on May 20. The composer and musician said his ministry is now in its tenth year. He logged 150,000 miles of air travel last year and over the years has visited 115 denominations, plus non-denominational churches.

Associate pastor Gabriel Ojih introduced Dr. Jutsum, reminding the congregation: “We exist to worship God, to honor and exalt him and glorify him. We do that well in music because it quickly breaks so many barriers.”

The theme of the service was The Heart of Worship. Dr. Jutsum described how Matt Redmond, who wrote “Blessed Be Your Name,” came to also write “The Heart of Worship.” Mr. Redmond was worship minister at a large church in London. One day the pastor called him in and said the worship was great but the services were beginning to seem more like a concert than a church service. That drove Mr. Redmond to his knees, and one result of his prayers was the well-known “Heart of Worship” song.

Dr. Jutsum recalled being invited to give a concert at a nursing home in London. Hazel, a wheelchair-bound woman who hadn’t spoken in three months, became responsive and sang every word to the traditional hymns. Afterward the 93-year-old woman told Dr. Jutsum that she had been a minister in Jamaica. She said, “Don’t forget, sonny, you’re never too old to praise your Creator.”

He also recalled meeting a woman whose husband had just been killed in Iraq. She was on her way to the funeral. She had committed her life to Jesus at age 7 but had later gotten involved with the wrong crowd. Dr. Jutsum listened and told her God had never turned his back on her.

She was a Dallas Cowboys fan. After the flight landed, Dr. Jutsum persuaded former Cowboy Michael Irvin, who had also been on the flight, to meet the woman. He put his arm around her and prayed for her.

“How many times has God given us an opportunity and we don’t see it,” Dr. Jutsum said. “He has a ministry for each one of us.”—*Frank Lewandowski*

## Dan Rogers Leads Discipleship Class

**S**uperintendent of Ministers Dan Rogers addressed a packed discipleship class in Richardson, TX, on May 6. He described how effectively



Some of the participants in the Bengali Easter program.

God can use a congregation when the leaders and members discover their gifts, find an area the congregation is passionate about, then use that passion to serve the local community.

“Our motivation is not church growth. We’re here to give, to share God’s love,” he said. “God doesn’t need to work through us, but he wants to. God doesn’t need our good works, but our neighbor does.” He urged everyone to discover what their congregation has to give, to find out what plans the Holy Spirit has and cooperate with those plans.

In the worship service, Superintendent Rogers gave a sermon titled: “Who Is Jesus and Why Do We Dance With Him?” Expounding on John 10:22-39, Mr. Rogers explained that Jesus knows his sheep, and they know him. “The Shepherd accepts us, knows us,” he said. “It’s not about me, it’s about him, so my fate is secure. It cannot be taken away.”

Verse 30 says that the Father, the Son and the Spirit are one in the sense of being the same. “God is a relational being.”

He noted the Greek word *perichoresis* meant, literally, “to dance in a circle.” “Creation mirrors who God is. The great dance of life is shared by the Father, the Son and the Spirit. Let’s all join hands, lock arms and dance in this joyous dance forever. This is all made possible by Jesus Christ.”—*Frank Lewandowski*

## Voice of the Martyrs in Kalamazoo

On February 10, Nathan Geigly, local representative for Voice of the Martyrs, spoke to the congregation on the plight of the persecuted church. The Kalamazoo church is involved with the needs of the persecuted church, in financial donations, actions packs, and in other ways.

On February 17, the sisters in fellowship packed blankets to be sent to refugees in Sudan. This year Voice of the Martyrs will send Bibles with each blanket. There was food, fun and fellowship.

Our 13th annual Black history celebration was on February 24. The sermon was given by Cleophus Sturdivant; special music was a praise dance from Ce Ce Winan’s “Come Fill My Heart” performed by Cathy Sturdivant. After lunch, there was a variety show with a tribute to Mahalia Jackson, readings on the accomplishments of Blacks in America, and songs. —*Catharine Sturdivant*

## Community Center Progress in Bangladesh

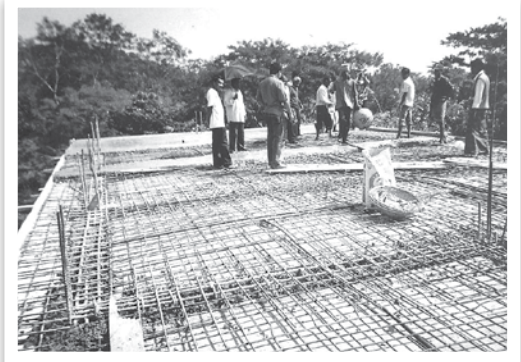
In Bangladesh, the Bengali Evangelical Association is involved in building a community center that is designed to double as a disaster relief center. The photos show the progress on the third floor of the Herman L. Hoeh Community Center. Everyone is happy to see the donations in action so effectively. The center will be strong because of the amount of steel we are using (right).

The cement is carried from the cement mixer to the third floor on the heads of the workers. The construction is labor intensive, which gives wages and job training and responsibility to the villagers. As donations come in, we pay for the materials already supplied to us. We feel an urgent need to get the building completed along with the interior fittings because of escalating costs, and the local need for a facility like this. —*Roger Lippross*

## Spiritual Formation Class in Gainesville

On the weekend of April 28-29, the Gainesville WCG congregation (New Beginnings Christian Fellowship), “population” 10, sponsored the Ambassador College of Christian Ministry (ACCM) class, *Spiritual Formation*. The class, attended by

42 participants from the southeastern U.S., was taught by J. Michael Feazell, Randy Bloom and Charles Fleming. The two-day interactive program explored the biblical foundations of spiritual formation, inner transformation accomplished by the Holy Spirit, and focused on the disciplines of Bible study, prayer, worship and service. A highlight of the weekend was the ordination of Paul Volpe and Linard Johnson as elders. Paul and Linard serve as co-pastors of the Gainesville congregation.



Paul Volpe commented, “It was a privilege for us to host this conference. We are still taking it in; and for a small church, it was a big shot in the arm. We realize how mindful of us the Lord is. We were encouraged by and appreciated the insights shared.”

ACCM will be conducting additional two-day classes at the General Conference of Elders in Indian Wells, CA. *Christian Leadership* will be held July 23-24 and *Life and Teaching of Jesus* will be July 30-31. To register, members may visit the

ACCM website at [www.ambascol.org](http://www.ambascol.org). To find out how your congregation may sponsor an ACCM weekend class, contact Susan Dick in Church Administration & Development. —Larry Hinkle

## Ft. Lauderdale Prayer Retreat

The North Broward WCG congregation held their annual prayer retreat on March 30-April 1. The theme for the weekend was “With God all things are possible.”

Friday night began with a motivational message on the Possibilities of Prayer by Beotis Williams. Beotis talked about prayer in the workplace and the difference that prayer can make in helping a person be on a mission with God. Larry Hinkle led a prayer session allowing all to bring prayer concerns before God.

The worship leader, Charles Nickert, encouraged the participants to listen throughout the weekend for God’s answer to at least one area in our lives in which we limit God.

On Saturday, the worship focused on Jesus’ triumphal entrance to Jerusalem. The point was made that we often limit God by wrong expectations, just as those who welcomed Jesus to Jerusalem erroneously expected him to free them from Roman oppression and become their King to restore the former glory to Israel. God came in an unexpected way as a sacrificial lamb to bring a greater freedom—freedom from spiritual oppression and a way of entry into the kingdom of God.

Charles Fleming spoke on praying the will of God by taking the big “I” out of “will” and remembering that God’s plan is not about “me” but has a much larger context: our community, the nation and the world.

A wonderful potluck was served, and fellowship continued around a campfire. The day culminated with a lively game of Bible Baseball.

On Sunday, the group celebrated a baptism. Afterwards, they gathered for a summary of the weekend, and

a personal and group assessment of what God had done over the weekend. —Carmen Fleming

More on this and other stories at [www.wcg.org/together](http://www.wcg.org/together)

## Coming Events

### Harvest Conference in Myrtle Beach Oct. 4-7

The Harvest Church in Marion and Myrtle Beach, SC, will again sponsor a conference titled “Gathering in the Harvest for Jesus.” The conference will be held Oct. 4-7 at the Springmaid Convention Center.

Paul David Kurts will speak on Thursday evening; Charles Young on Friday evening. On Saturday, Dan Rogers will speak in the morning, and in the afternoon seminars will be offered on marriage, finances, and youth. Howard Blakeney and Keith Brittain will conclude on Sunday.

Registration is \$35 for an individual or \$80 for a family. For more details contact Howard Blakeney, phone 843-206-5388.

### South Pacific Festival Sept. 27-Oct. 4

September and October are Springtime in the Southern Hemisphere! The New Zealand church extends a warm invitation to enjoy eight intimate and invigorating days of worship, fellowship and fun in Rotorua, the geothermal, tourist and cultural capital of Aotearoa (“the land of the long white cloud”).

Daily worship services will be augmented with activities such as a family games evening, tours to geothermal and other sites of natural beauty, men’s and women’s breakfasts, seminars and a café church. Visitors can also enjoy fascinating Maori cultural evenings, visit reconstructions of earlier village life and take amazing scenic flights. Best of all, visitors get to meet with “family”

from the southern-most of WCG congregations and enjoy our hospitality.

Hotel accommodation at the venue, Kingsgate Hotel, is US\$115 per room per night (sleeps two) including breakfast. Motels nearby with full kitchen facilities and sleeping up to four people cost about the same, with smaller studio units about US\$90 per night.

For a full package of information and an application form, please email Dennis Richards at [dennis@wgc.org.nz](mailto:dennis@wgc.org.nz) or write him at P.O. Box 7109, Palmerston North 4443, New Zealand.

### Festival on Majorca Island, Spain—Sept. 29–Oct. 7

If you want to enjoy a spiritually and physically profitable autumn festival, the Majorca site is a good place to go. In full sun, with the entire Mediterranean at your feet, Sun Club Eldorado Bungalows Resort offers you an unbeatable range of services where the pleasures of relaxing or playing sports in the open air are unending.

The site is a special place for families with children and youngsters and for adults to enjoy a memorable spiritual retreat. The prices given to us by the Eldorado are unbeatable on the island at this time of year. The sermons will be in English and Dr. Ross Jutsum will be the worship director.

For a full package of information and an application form, please send a message to Pedro Rufian at: [idadespana@yahoo.es](mailto:idadespana@yahoo.es) or write to: Pedro Rufian; Real 26; 28610 Villamanta (Madrid); Spain. Or see [www.wcg.org/events](http://www.wcg.org/events) for a brochure full of information.



Steven Ancona*	Parkland High School, Winston-Salem, NC
Valerie Jeanne Bailey	North Crowley High School, Fort Worth, TX
Michael Blakeney, Jr.	Turner Job Corp, Albany, GA, GED
Jeremy Brannen	Yukon High School, OK
Abigail Butz	North College Hill H.S., OH
Erin Cole*	Seymour High, WI
Elizabeth Cook	Big Sandy High School, TX
Tiara Decembra	Marion High School, SC
Abel Dizon	Pasadena Polytechnic High, CA
Brittany Egbert	Huntington Beach High, CA
Delci Eschberger	Sonora High, La Habra, CA
Lamin Fofanah	Southern California
LanDis Frederick*	Hughes Center, Cincinnati, OH
Nick Glaros	Options for Youth, San Gabriel, CA
Stephanie Golden	Blair High School, Pasadena, CA
Felecia Gonzalez	Big Sandy High School, TX
Tommie Lee Grant III	Summerville High School, SC
Robyn Nicole Hall	Perquimans County High, NC
Garry McAlaster Hamrick II	Summerville High School, SC
Asia Hardy	Marshall High, Pasadena, CA
Aaron Haynes	Western Brown High School, Mount Orab, OH
Ross Hill	Centerville High School, OH
Kenneth Hoeft	Stewartville High School, MN
Teague Holmes	Ridgefield Christian School, Jonesboro, AR
Travis A. Johnson	Burleson High School, TX
Joel Kirsch	Middleburg High School, FL
Danielle Lahr	Grafton High School, WI
Jacki Lakeberg*	Dixie Heights High School, Fort Mitchell, KY
Tamara Lytch	Walterboro Job Corp, Walterboro, SC, GED
Joel Martin	Centerville High School, OH
Mary McKeown	Hawkins High School, TX
Wesley Clinton McKoy	Southern Lee High School, Sanford, NC
Elvis Monroy	Downtown Magnets High School, Los Angeles, CA
Mathew Morgan	Glendora High School, CA

Christina L. Murchison	Lee Senior High, Sanford, NC
Jeremiah Noordhoek	Arkansas School for Mathematics, Sciences and the Arts
Deanna O'Brien	Gorman Learning Center, CA
Krista Olive	Crescenta Valley High, CA
Charles Olson	Marysville High School, WA
Betsy Pairitz	John Glenn High, Walkerton, IN
Melodee Pajela	Southern California
Tiffany Perez	EIE Academy, CA
Jonathan Petty	Arkansas Community College, High School Diploma
Adrian Pinnix	Terry Parker High School, Jacksonville, FL
Matthew Keneson Rakestraw	Florida State University School (Florida High)
Laura Reed	Englewood Christian Academy, Independence, MO
Brady J. Rehm	East High School, Cheyenne, WY
Janay Reid	West Charlotte High School, NC
Richard Ridgell II	Handley High, Winchester, VA
Jerrold E. Rogers	Gananda High, Walworth, NY
Kayla Schallenberger*	Harrison High School, OH
Tamara Scherick**	Colleyville Heritage High, TX
Theodore Schnoor	Western Wisconsin Technical College GED
Brandi Schultz*	Harrison High School, OH
Zach Seymore	Batesville High School, AR
Jenna Lee Smith	Hedgesville High School, WV
Jessica Smith*	Leander High School, TX
Jaimie Briana Stewart	Southern Senior High School, Durham, NC
Jordan Tatum	South Anchorage High, AK
Jennifer Lynn Terrana	Menomonie High School, WI
Mark Unthank*	Harrison High School, OH
Jacob Uselton	Arkansas School for Mathematics, Sciences and the Arts
Todd Weaver	Batesville High School, AR
Hannah Wegner	EIE Academy, Monrovia, CA
Ashleigh Wilson	Centerville High School, OH
Michael Young	Hancock High, St. Louis, MO

**\*Read about awards and plans for the future at [www.wcg.org/together/07/july/grads.htm](http://www.wcg.org/together/07/july/grads.htm)**

## Graduates of Technical Schools, Colleges and Universities

Susan Barnhill	Davidson County Community College, NC	Early Childhood Associate Degree
Cuyler Cannon	Westmont College, Santa Barbara, CA	B.A. in Computer Sciences
Katherine E. Carter*	King's Seminary, Van Nuys, CA	Masters in Practical Theology
Tricia Cole	Axia College, U. of Phoenix, online	A.A. in Business
David Crouch	Pennsylvania State University, PA	B.S. in Information Sciences and Technology
Bermie Dizon	Azusa Pacific University, CA	M.A. in Christian Education
Eric Troy Ellett	University of Florida, FL	Master of Business Administration
Dennis Elliott*	North Carolina State University, NC	B.S. in Mechanical Engineering
Kyra Giles	Michigan State University, MI	B.A. in Journalism
Lisa Graham	University of South Carolina Upstate, SC	B.S. in Psychology
Octavia Antrinette Hall	Alabama State University, AL	B.S. in Psychology
Tyson Levar Hall	Jacksonville State University, AL	M.A. in Music Education
Erick Harrell	University of Phoenix, GA	B.S. in Business Management and Marketing
Erin Hart	University of Cincinnati, OH	B.A. in Social Work
Kimberly Hickman	Cincinnati Bible Seminary, OH	M.A. in Counseling
Janine Marie Jackson	University of Miami, FL	M.S. in Music
Bridget Michelle Jones	University of New Orleans, LA	B.S. in Psychology
Stephanie Jones	Xavier University, Cincinnati, OH	M.A. in Educational Administration
Allison K. Kurts	Auburn University, AL	Doctor of Pharmacy
Richard Lane*	King's Seminary, Van Nuys, CA	Masters of Divinity
Nora Lea Larson*	Bellingham Technical College, WA	Accounting Assistant Certificate*
Ellen Lechlitner	Bethel College, IN	M.S. in Environmental Biology
Terry Marshall	Auburn University, AL	B.A. in Communications; minor in Music Perform.
Neil Melton	South Eastern Oklahoma State Univ., OK	Occupational Health & Safety
Laniece Miller	Clarkson University, Potsdam, NY	B.S. in Physics
Neftalie Morales	Vidal Sasoon Academy, Santa Monica, CA	Cosmetology
Stephanie Perez	Rio Hondo Community College, CA	Associate of Arts
Tiffany Perez	Rio Hondo Community College, CA	Associate of Arts
Lynsey Pope	Mt. Vernon Nazarene University, OH	B. of Language Arts
Treva Pryor	Indiana Wesleyan University, IN	Masters of Education
Jon Reinagel	University of Missouri – Rolla, MO	B.S. in Physics
Kneight Reinagel	Westwood College, Woodridge, IL	B.S. in Game Software Development
William Spencer II	Ohio Valley University, WV	B. of Business Admin. in Information Technology
Amber Dawn Taylor	Wesley College, Dover, DE	B.S. in Nursing
Tonya Thompson	Rutgers University, Newark, NJ	B.S. in Digital Arts
Kimberly Toliver	Seton Hall University, South Orange, NJ	Masters in Sports Medicine
Robin Nicole Webster	Minnesota State University, MN	M.S. in Professional Communication, Marriage & Counseling
Sarah Elizabeth Wigfall	University of Virginia Law School, VA	Juris Doctor
Bethany Ann Winfield	Dillard University, LA	B.S. in Nursing
Debbie Wood	Tyler Leadership Class, TX	Certificate in Leadership

\*Read more details at [www.wcg.org/together/07/july/grads.htm](http://www.wcg.org/together/07/july/grads.htm)



## Awards

**Chaconne Klaverenga**, 14, daughter of James and Julia Klaverenga, of Living Hope Fellowship in Lafayette, IN, won the Rantucci International Classical Guitar Competition, youth division, March 22-25. The competition included participants from Europe, South America, the Middle East, Asia, Canada and the U.S. She won the senior division of the Society of American Musicians, Classical Guitar Division, in Chicago in January.\*

**Matthew Keneson Rakestraw**, of Grace Family Fellowship, Tallahassee, FL, achieved the rank of Eagle Scout on March 20. His service project was organizing his troop to clear undergrowth on a dangerous, blind curve on a roadway near his home.

## Elder ordinations

- Rebecca Deuel, Fox Valley, WI
- Ines Cante, Moreno Valley, CA
- Sarah Faulkner, Fort Myers, FL
- Linard Johnson, Gainesville, FL
- Ed Kitt, Calgary, Alberta
- Bonny McQueary, Fort Myers, FL
- Zita Mickens, Tucson, AZ
- Ted Millhuff, Tucson, AZ
- James Nicholson, Honolulu, HI
- Reynaldo Salayon, Daet, Philippines
- Paul Volpe, Gainesville, FL

## Anniversary

**Dan and Barb Shenton** celebrated their 40th anniversary on April 28. They attend Grace Community Fellowship in Hartville, OH, and have been with the Worldwide Church of God since 1974.

## 100 years of excellence

**Margaret (Meg) Glasgow** celebrated her 100th birthday on March 4 as about 70 people gathered in Egg Harbor City, NJ, for a celebration. Friends came from as far away as California, Oregon, and Arizona. Meg attended the Portland, OR, congregation for many years until 2000, when she moved to New Jersey to live with her son.\*

## Obituaries

**Donald Ray Benningfield**, 70, of Big Sandy, TX, died on March 3. He was baptized in 1967, and made a deacon in 1981. Survivors include his wife of 51 years, Bernice; daughters Donna Scott, Annette Atteberry; sons, Wendell and Wayne, and four grandchildren. He was preceded in death by grandson Cole Atteberry.\*

**E.C. Davis**, 83, of North Platte, NE, died March 17 from a stroke. He was a member of the WCG for 43 years, serving as an elder many of those years. He is survived by Jean, his wife of 64 years, two sons, Fred and Nolan, their wives, and a daughter-in-law, Joyce. One son, Larry, is deceased. He is survived by 12 grandchildren, 20 great-grandchildren, a brother-in-law and his family.

**Annetta Gray**, 77, of Vancouver, WA, passed away April 14. She was born in Romania, and moved with her family to Canada about 1930. In 1948, she married Lawrence Gray and moved to the U.S. Survivors include her husband of 58 years; daughters, Laurel Glasgow and Sheila Saunders; sons, Brad and Jesse, chosen daughter, Tina Coad, four grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.\*

**Glenn Earl McCall, Sr.**, 79, of Pioneer, TN, passed away Feb. 28. He was baptized in 1976 with his wife, Ethel Jean McCall. In 1980 he started attending in Knoxville, TN. He is survived by his wife; sons, Glenn, Jr., and Eldon Dale; daughters Betty Westbrook and Sarah McCall; sisters Edith Chaput, Ruth Ann Toman, and Hazel Marie Laubach; four grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren.\*

**Christopher Todd Parsons**, 40, of Big Sandy, TX, died Feb. 20 at his home. Todd is survived by his parents, Frank (Sonny) and Jane Parsons, two daughters, a sister, niece and nephews, aunts and uncles. Todd loved to serve and was a Special Skills EMT worker until diabetes kept him from serving.

**Truman Allan Lorne Slack**, 72, of Pasqua Lake, SK, passed away on May 21, following a battle with Myelodysplastic Syndrome. He is survived by his wife, Audrey, children Kevin,

Susan, Lorna, Warren and Wendi; step-children Brenda and Garth Gross; two sisters, a brother, a sister-in-law; and 11 grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his first wife Dorothy, and an infant son John Robert Reid.\*

**Thelma Smith**, 73, of Hernando, MS, died Apr. 5. Thelma was a member of the Community of Faith (WCG) in Memphis, TN, since 1961. She is survived by her husband of 53 years, Lee, two daughters, five sons, 17 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren.

**Ann Louise Tucker**, 93, of Dayton, OH, died Jan. 28. Ann and her twin brother, Tom, a medical doctor, traveled extensively. She was a long-time member of CrossRoads Christian Fellowship (WCG). She is survived by two nephews, Dr. Tom Tucker and Johnnie Tucker, two great-nieces, and two caring neighbors, Linda Katz and Kathy Tully.\*

**Doris Elizabeth Blackerby Walton**, 77, wife of Gene Walton, of San Augustine, TX, died March 15. Doris was baptized in 1957 and was the mother of four boys.\*

**Teresa L. "Sis" Wise**, 37, of Aleppo, PA, died May 19 from an auto accident. She was a member of The Fountain of Life Church in Washington, PA. Survivors include her husband, Harley Howard Wise, Sr., and three sons: Harley H. "Skippy" Wise, Jr., Hayden O. "Howddy" and Hudson M. "Maddie" Wise; her mother, Joyce Elaine Wright, a stepdaughter, Valerie Bender; a brother, Charles Conner; a sister, Michelle Kiger; a stepfather, James Hostutler, and others.\*