

Together

Grace Communion International News

February/March 2010

www.wcg.org/together/

Volume 5, Number 1

International Conference Orlando, Florida July 22-25

Open to all members

We are thrilled to announce that our 2010 International Conference will be held in Orlando, Florida from Thursday, July 22, through Sunday, July 25. There will also be a pre-conference session for senior pastors on Wednesday afternoon, July 21. The venue will be the Hilton Hotel in the Walt Disney World Resort.

The conference will be open to all GCI members, families and guests. We are looking forward to reconnecting as we fellowship and worship together. In addition to denominational presentations and workshops, speakers will include noted author, pastor and professor Elmer Colyer (above), InterVarsity Press Senior Editor Gary Deddo (next) and his wife, Bible teacher and retreat leader Cathy Deddo (third), and missiolo-



may do so at personal expense.

We have negotiated a \$99 per night room rate, which includes all taxes and fees. This is a very good summertime rate for a hotel with conference facilities in Orlando.

The Hilton is located across the

gist Ed Stetzer (far right). As the agenda and other details are finalized, they will be posted on the conference website www.2010.gci.org.

Congregations will be responsible for the transportation and on-site costs for pastors attending the 2010 International Conference. To help with some of the costs, the denominational office will cover the registration fee and a portion of the lodging costs for pre-registered senior pastors. Elders and members wishing to attend the conference



Hilton in the Walt Disney World Resort
1751 Hotel Plaza Blvd.
Lake Buena Vista, Florida 32830
link to website: <http://2.gp/disneyhilton>

street from Downtown Disney and offers free shuttle service within the resort area. The hotel property provides plenty of casual meeting areas to reconnect and unwind.

Please do not contact the hotel directly for reservations. The hotel will not give this rate to call-ins. We will generate a housing list for our group. For reference in the meantime, the hotel location and website are noted above.

If you want further information regarding the 2010 International Conference, please check out our conference website or email your questions to church.administration@gci.org.



We look forward to seeing you in Orlando in July!

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To submit an article for *Together*, send it by email to michael.morrison@gci.org, or by U.S. mail to P.O. Box 5005, Glendora, CA 91740. If you want an article or photo returned, please include a self-addressed, stamped envelope.

**Sponsor a pastor for the July 2010
International Conference**

As we look forward to this year's international conference, it would be wonderful if we could help pastors from isolated, underprivileged areas to be able to attend with us. This hope can become a reality if some of our congregations with the means and desire would sponsor a pastor and spouse for the 2010 conference.

Some congregations might want to direct a portion of their international missions budget toward this need. If your congregation would like to be involved, please contact Charles Albrecht (charles.albrecht@gci.org), who will help you select a pastor to sponsor. Smaller congregations might want to combine resources to sponsor a pastor. Charles can also help you coordinate a joint effort.

Conference website

We are pleased to announce that we now have a conference website. Information about the agenda, speakers, activities and other conference-related items will be posted to this website as details are confirmed. Registration has already begun. Check out www.2010.gci.org for the latest details.

**Generations Ministry announces
teen and young adult track for the
Orlando conference**

During the 2010 GCI conference, Generations Ministries will sponsor a conference within the conference for young adults and teens. In this special Generations Ministry Track, teens and young adults will be able to attend training sessions geared toward their areas of ministry. They will have an opportunity to participate in some Orlando activities and they will have a place to reconnect and hang out. Sessions and activities will run parallel to the conference dates, July 22-25. The conference registration fee for teens and young adults will be \$20, which will help offset some of the costs for this special gathering. Save the dates and spread the word – details will be forthcoming.

**Church-Next Training
in California**

Twenty ministry leaders attended Church-Next Training (CNT) at the Pinecrest Christian Conference Center, August 24-28, 2009. CNT is conducted by Church Multiplication Ministries (CMM) to provide preliminary training for starting new churches.

CNT participants came from across the U.S., the Philippines and Columbia. They included Eugene Guzon, National Director for the Philippines and Hector Barrero, National Director for Central and South America.

Marcelle Dotson, church planter for



the United Methodist Church, attended CNT and said, "Anyone who wants to start a church would find this beneficial and practical. The Trinitarian approach was well infused throughout all the sessions and it helped me ask the right questions in terms of what God is doing and how I can more effectively participate with him in starting a new church in Wilkes-Barre, PA".

Best Practices Conference

Dr. Dan Rogers, Superintendent of US Ministers, attended the Best Practices Conference on August 24-25, sponsored by Lifeway Research in Nashville, TN. Leaders from a variety of denominations were in attendance. Presentations by Ed Stetzer, Thom Rainer, Ron Silva and others focused on church planting best practices. All in attendance were in agreement that churches in North America must see the mission more clearly, be more "outward" in thinking and practice, and have a process for starting new churches.

GCI Pastoral Internship Program

By Greg Williams, program coordinator

Jeb Egbert, Dennis Wheatcroft, Keith Brittain, Ted Johnston. Why this list? Because these and a few other men have played important roles in my life as my mentors. Like all good mentors, they have taken time to speak wisdom to my head and demonstrate love to my heart. They have included me in the rhythms of their busy lives—their work, family and relationship with God. These men believed in me, shared the resources of their lives, and opened doors for me to move into places of greater opportunity. I owe them a debt of gratitude for building confidence in my spirit and helping me become the person that I am.

Following their examples, I was privileged during my 15 years as a pastor to mentor four young people who were experiencing God's call to pastoral ministry. Though different in personality and gifting, each demonstrated love for Jesus and a strong desire to make him known to others. I was happy to allow these young, energetic ministry candidates into my professional and private life for the sake of sharing in the work Jesus is doing to multiply pastoral leaders. I treasure the times we shared, and God blessed our relationships. However, I lament that there wasn't a more organized system at the time to guide our mentoring/interning work.

Four years ago, I stepped out of the pastorate and joined the leadership team of GCI Generations Ministries (GenMin). Even though I no longer serve as a church pastor, I continue to pour myself into the lives of others coming along behind me. The configuration of the GenMin leadership team demonstrates how this works. My mentor, Ted Johnston, is ten years ahead of me

in age and experience. Then I am mentoring Anthony Mullins, who is ten years behind me. This mentoring "chain" reflects a wonderful mix of friendship, giftedness and accountability. We did not design the chain (we aren't that smart!)—God put us together and we've tried to be faithful to what he is doing.



A continuing con-

cern we have in GCI denominational leadership is to provide for the mentoring of young emerging leaders to pastor existing churches, start new churches, and provide leadership for denominational ministries. Dan Rogers, director of Church Administration and Development (CAD), led the way in addressing this concern by teaching about our participation in Jesus' movement of ministry multiplication. In response, GenMin began about four years ago offering a mentoring seminar. Out of that came Servants Passage — a two-year long "journey" that facilitates peer-based ministry mentoring and equipping.

Then over the last several years, the growth of GenMin's camp system has trained dozens of young emerging leaders. GenMin then launched Journey with the Master (JWM)—a journey of discovery and connection with Jesus and his ministry (you can read more about this at our website: <http://genmin.wcg.org/leadershipministries.htm>).

These and other GCI initiatives are discovering many young emerging leaders who are hearing God's call to pastoral ministry and church planting within GCI. We thank God for this! But how shall we respond?

It has become clear that we need to provide these young men and women with focused mentoring. And so we are now launching the GCI Pastoral Internship Program.

I have been asked to serve as program coordinator on behalf of CAD. The program team includes Dan Rogers (CAD director), Charles Albrecht (CAD Operation Manager), Randy Bloom (CMM director) and Ted Johnston (GenMin director). The team will provide mentoring tools and training; identify, equip and coach GCI pastors who want to serve as mentors; and seek out dedicated, available and gifted young men and women who sense the Spirit's call to GCI pastoral ministry. We will seek to provide pastoral internships for these young emerging leaders—connecting them with seasoned GCI pastors who will serve as their mentors. In some cases (as income allows), internships will come with part-time employment.

If you are a pastor who is interested in serving as a mentor in the pastoral internship program, or a young leader interested in becoming a pastoral intern, you are encouraged to contact me at Greg.Williams@gci.org.

Further details about the internship program are found in the Pastoral Internship Manual, posted online at <http://www.wcg.org/MinDev/Web%20Documents/PastoralInternshipManual.pdf>.

If you or your congregation would like to provide financial support for the new pastoral internship program, you are encouraged to donate to the GC Next mission fund. Make checks out to Grace Communion International, and indicate on the check that the donation is for the "GC Next fund." Mail checks to:

Grace Communion International
PO Box 5005
Glendora, CA 91740-0730



Mini-mission trip to Mexico

For the fourth year, GCI's Crossing Borders camp ministry made a winter "mini-mission" trip into Mexico, Dec. 11-13, 2009. Since we conduct a week-long camp ministry program to Mexico during the summer, this weekend winter trip allows us to keep in contact with our Mexican friends and touch them again with the love of Jesus.

Twenty-one missionaries from Texas, Colorado and the Washington, D.C., area participated in the trip—several for their first cross-border outreach experience. Attendee ages ranged from pre-teen to those in their golden years, and everyone contributed their unique talents as we served God's children across the border.

One great blessing this year was that our border crossings went very smoothly and quickly. Last year it took us five hours to travel the final two miles to get across the border; this year we spent scarcely 15 minutes to cross.

Our first stop was at a church in one of the "pallet cities" on the outskirts of Nuevo Laredo. Pastor Pedro and his wife, Lourdes, hosted us as we took time to visit with the children and parents, play games, lead in a sing-a-long of Christmas music, and distribute shoeboxes full of useful and fun gifts to the chil-

dren. Ladies from the Fort Worth, Texas area had knitted and crocheted lovely blankets, which we gave to the mothers, bringing tears to the eyes of both the givers and the receivers.

We took a walking tour of the village, seeing hundreds of tiny ramshackle homes built from wooden pallets, old pieces of tin and tarps. But even in this tough poverty, the Spirit of God is active, and we were able to



Left, Pastor Pedro gathers a crowd outside the church building. Above, Consuelo Orduño prepares to distribute shoeboxes. Right, Armando Villarreal leads the group in songs. Photos by Pedro Orduño, Johnnie Weatherman, and Lee Berger

join with Jesus as he brought joy and hope to these people.

Next we traveled a few miles to a second church pastored by Pastor Pedro, and we visited with the people and distributed shoebox gifts. For many of these children, these small gifts may be the only new items of any kind they'll get during the year. The church building was very small and made of mismatched pieces of rough used lumber, but there is a thriving and growing group of believers that meets there. It reminds us to be thankful for whatever resources God has given us to enjoy.

Our final stop was at a children's home for abused and abandoned children. We cooked dinner for the group, watched spiritual dramas, treated them to some craft projects, sang songs, distributed shoebox gifts, and spent a lot of time laugh-

ing with, hugging and holding these lovable children. We have visited this home many times over the years, but each visit brings new joy along with the prayer, "Come, Lord Jesus."

Crossing Borders is a camp/mission ministry of Grace Communion International. Our motto is "Crossing national, cultural and personal borders with the Good News of Jesus Christ." Whether for our week-long summer camp or our mini-mission winter trip, we invite you and

your friends to come participate in a life-transforming experience. We welcome anyone from youth to seniors, and we love to see families share this experience together.

Our next trip is June 20-26, 2010.

For more details, go to www.cbmission.org or call 903-746-4463.

Lee Berger

Online worship blog

GCI-USA Ministry Development is pleased to announce the launch of Trinitarian Worship—an online blog for discussing how Trinitarian theology undergirds and shapes the worship ministries of the church. The blog is moderated by Mike Hale in partnership with Ministry Development. It will be of particular interest to worship directors and leaders, pastors, musicians, technicians, and all those involved in planning and facilitating worship in the church. We invite your participation at <http://trinitarianworship.blogspot.com/>.



ACCM launches first class in Spanish

Ambassador College of Christian Ministry (ACCM) presented its first class in the Spanish language with an intensive course in Spiritual Formation just before the GCI Regional Conference in Orlando Nov. 4-5 (see photo above). The class was taught by Florida Pastor Larry Hinkle, Latin American Missions Developer Hector Barrero, and Hector's wife Paulina. Most of the translation work for the online materials, as well as the class workbook for the intensive, were done by our GCI translator in El Salvador, David Agreda. Kerry Gubb, ACCM Registrar, set up the online materials.

ACCM Director John McLean was delighted that ACCM is now able to help serve the Spanish-speaking ministry. He added, "We are very happy to have someone with Larry's experience and expertise teach the class, and he has done a great job getting our first Spanish-language class off the ground."

Nine students attended from the US, Mexico, Colombia, El Salvador, and Argentina. They will now have six months to complete the remaining coursework from materials made available online. Scholarships for students were provided by the Sydney, Australia, congregation.

Participants said the class was a great success, and that "the Lord's presence was clearly evident." Sonia Orozco, our pastor in Barranquilla, Colombia, expressed her hope that many other leaders and members will take the class and learn more

about God's love for humanity.

Plans are under way to develop a Spanish-language version of each of the courses in the ACCM Diploma program. This major undertaking will take time, but we feel blessed to have been able to "jump start" the program with this successful initiative in Orlando.

The cost for taking an ACCM online class is \$150 for credit or \$100 for audit. Although this is inexpensive in comparison to other quality online courses in the US, for most of our members living in Latin America it is quite expensive. For anyone interested in helping to financially sponsor future courses for those unable to afford this ministry training, please contact Larry Hinkle at larry.hinkle@wgc.org or 954-346-7706. For further information regarding classes in the ACCM program see www.ambascol.org.

Grace Communion Seminary classes for 2010

GCS, the online seminary affiliated with GCI, offers graduate level training and a masters degree in pastoral studies. The following classes are being offered this year:

- Spring 2010** (already under way)
- T.F. Torrance's Scientific Theology, taught by Dr. John McKenna
 - Pauline Theology, by Dr. Michael Morrison
 - Church History: The First Millennium, by Pastor Jonathan Stepp
 - Theology of Ministry, the capstone of the masters degree, by Drs. Russell Duke and Michael Morrison

- Women in Leadership, by CAD Budget Analyst Pat Shaw
- Trinitarian Youth Ministry, by Ted Johnston and Greg Williams

Summer 2010

- Pastoral Leadership, by Dr. Duke
- The Prophets, by Dr. McKenna
- New Testament Background, by Dr. Morrison
- Church History: The Second Millennium, by Pastor Neil Earle
- Theology of Ministry, by Drs. Duke and Morrison
- Biblical Counseling, by Pastor Luciano Cozzi

Fall 2010

- Doctrine of the Trinity, by Dr. Gary Deddo
- The Pentateuch, by Dr. McKenna
- The Gospels, by Dr. Morrison
- Ministerial Leadership, Dr. Duke
- Practice of Ministry, by Jonathan Stepp
- Trinitarian Youth Ministry, by Ted Johnston and Greg Williams

For course descriptions, a description of the program, and registration procedures and fees, see gcs.ambassador.edu

"Gathering in the Harvest" in Myrtle Beach, SC

Attendees came from as far as Africa, Canada, California, Connecticut, Delaware, New Jersey, and New York, as well as the nearby states of Tennessee, Georgia, Florida, and North and South Carolina. We had great weather and great services daily. The attendance on opening night, October 8, was 160. We had 205 on October 9, 240 on the 10th, and 265 on the 11th. Speakers were Paul David Kurts, Charles Young, Dan Rogers, and Howard Blakeney. We ended the conference with an inspiring Communion message by Curtis May.

We again did an outreach service and provided a meal at the homeless shelter, and eight people accepted the love and grace of Jesus, and passed from unbelievers to believers. We had another five folks accept his

grace after the sermon on Sunday.

A marriage seminar was given by Charles and Debbie Young; a financial seminar by CPA Ernest Leonard, a youth gang seminar by Deputy Ellison, and a racial reconciliation seminar by Curtis May. A breakfast for pastoral wives was hosted by Janice May. There was also a formal dinner and family dance. Donations were given to GCI Next, the homeless shelter, and the Office of Reconciliation Ministries.

Howard Blakeney



Ice-cream social

The Women's Ministry of the Word of God Christian Fellowship (Canfield, OH) held an ice-cream social fundraiser on Sept. 27. Many varieties of pie and ice cream were donated. There was a large attendance, and many generous donations were received. The ministry visits nursing homes and serves community needs. The following women are members of the ministry: Patricia Gailey (coordinator), Anna Provitt (vice president), Isabel Huber (secretary), Randy Weaver (treasurer), Rosie Aikens, Carrie Bailey, Marge Capil, Alice Cobb, Mary Cunningham, Jeanette Daniels, Angie Davis, Charlotte Dietz, Mary Dobritch, Flora Koppler, Sharon Kramer, Pat Gent, Jennifer Frye, Marge Lardas, and Arlene Shaffer.

Marge Lardas

Birmingham women's retreat

The Birmingham, AL, church held a women's retreat Oct. 16-18 at the St. Bernard retreat center. About 50 women attended the event, which began with a lively night of board games. Everyone enjoyed getting

acquainted. Saturday morning began with praise and worship, led by Barbara Dahlgren and Ann Hartmann, followed by speakers Tammy Tkach, Ginny Rice, Ruth Miller and Mary Jo Leaver. Ann Hartmann performed some songs she wrote and recorded.

Sunday morning featured praise and worship, another session by Tammy Tkach and more wonderful songs by Ann Hartmann. Ruth Miller wrapped up the weekend. Everyone agreed they should do it again next year.

Ruth Miller

Thanksgiving meals in Ohio

Christ Community Church of Cincinnati reached out to the community around its church hall the Sunday before Thanksgiving with Thanksgiving meals. The area is one of the lowest-income communities in the county, with many school-age children. The congregation collected food and cash donations to put together 100 meals.

The meals included all the traditional Thanksgiving trimmings and a gift certificate for a turkey or ham at



the local grocery. After a shortened service, the congregation pitched in to put the meals together and deliver them to the community. In the process we were able to meet many of our community neighbors. The spirit of "missions" was high as most of the congregation was involved in the process.

After delivering the meals, we returned for a pizza dinner and shared

our experiences in meeting our neighbors. Our original goal was 100 meals, but we collected so much we were able to donate over \$300 worth of food supplies to a soup kitchen the congregation serves every month. Next year we are talking about a goal of 200 meals.

George Hart

Tyler youth Christmas program

On Dec. 13, the New Covenant Fellowship congregation enjoyed a youth Christmas program. "Christmas Star" recital was performed by Kurt and Molly Swisher. The recital spoke about the birth of Jesus and the star that shone bright on the night of Jesus' birth. The second recital included "The Christmas Story," narrated by Zachary Adair and Austin Farnsworth. As the story was told, Mary (Molly Swisher) and Joseph (Kurt Swisher) acted out the story. They were joined by a shepherd (Brandon Adair) and two angels (Madison Newsom, Laura Kay McClelland). After the story, the congregation was asked to sing a few Christmas songs with the children. A communion service followed.

Janalee Swisher



Curtis May, Valdasia Merrick, Sandra Hamilton, Vickie and George Hart

Reconciling Africans and African-Americans

The focus of our Oct. 29-31 reconciliation meeting in Cincinnati, OH, was to bring Africans and African Americans into a better understanding of each other and thus a better relationship. As pointed out by the presenters (college professors, bishops, pastors and other prominent leaders from Africa and America), we need to better understand our

cultural differences and how they affect our relationships. We need to reject much of the media influence that helps perpetuate stereotypes that we believe about each other.

We also emphasized the need to build a better bond with each other through personal contact, which includes worshipping together at times to emphasize the words of Jesus that there is one Lord, one faith and one baptism. The event, which took place Thursday night, Friday night and all day Saturday, included prayers of repentance, forgiveness and affirmation, two communion services and a concluding homily.

Scholars made powerful presentations on the history, culture, languages and worship styles of the two groups and how they have led to divisions, and we then explored ways to remove the walls and build bridges. One of the scholars, Dr. Funso Oluyitan, a Nigerian, is host of a local TV religious program. He plans to continue to support our efforts on his program.

Curtis May



140 children blessed in San Fernando, CA

Last Sunday we had 306 people in attendance with 140 children being blessed and prayed for. It was the second service of the year for which the members invited local families to bring their children so we could bless them. After the service we served hot dogs and cheeseburgers and provided a play area with games and jumpers for the kids.

Pastor Heber Ticas



Summer Teaching Mission Opportunity in Malawi

There is an opportunity for two to travel to Malawi, Africa, and teach in our GCI-owned elementary school. You will stay at the school and work closely with the school administration. This six-week opportunity begins June 21. The school term runs to Sept. 17, but we are planning to stay only six weeks. If you would like to stay longer, we can make arrangements for that.

This opportunity is only available for women this year. We hope to have further opportunities in later years. The main cost will be

your airfare, and there will be some minimal costs while at the school. If interested, we are considering adding a short safari as part of the mission trip. Those details will be forthcoming.

We are looking for qualified teachers or students enrolled in nationally accredited elementary education degree programs. If interested, please contact Rick. Shallenberger@wgc.org or Rick@cfcnext.org for further details. You can also write to Christ Fellowship Church, P.O. Box 13609, Hamilton, OH 45013.

Outreach to the homeless

Nine members of the congregations of Abundant Grace Church of Rockford, IL and Deerfield, WI, and three friends served a meal to 180 homeless at the Rockford Rescue Mission on Nov. 15. Roger Walter, deacon of the Deerfield congregation, presented a short worship service. The message shared

Jesus' compassion and desire to heal using the example of the healing of the leper. The men, women and children at the Rescue Mission are



always thankful. It is also a great time of bonding and fellowship for the members.

Luci Cramer

Church anniversary in New Jersey

The 24/7 Community Church in Newark, NJ, celebrated their 10th anniversary on Dec. 6. The congregation began with 12 members and has steadily grown over the years.

Having begun as

a church plant, they now have visions of planting another congregation. Members there mentor young people at the Juvenile Detention Center and hold a church service there once a month. They also minister to a senior citizens center.

Below: a youth group dance symbolizing spiritual warfare.



Announcements

Wedding

Jacquelyn Bierer and Jeffrey Cunningham, both of Haines City, FL, were united in marriage on Oct. 16, 2009 in Lake Wales, FL. Pastor Steve Schantz officiated. Jacquelyn is the daughter of Alice Dix Bierer and the late Daniel J. Bierer, longtime WCG pastor.

Ordinations

Carlie Bellamy, Mt. Sterling, KY
Vinnie Mae Collier, Atlanta, GA
Louis Doig, Port St. Lucie and Pompano Beach, FL
Ron Garrett, Charlotte, NC
Harold Jackson, Albuquerque, NM
Alwaid Johnson, Atlanta, GA
David Menagh, Chicago NW, IL
Phil Nichols, Monroeville, AL
George Pigg, Antlers, OK
Joseph Zachariah, Singapore

60th wedding anniversary

John and June Perry, of Champaign, IL, celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on Sept. 20, 2009. They have one daughter, Peggy, who lives in Champaign, and one son, David (wife is Jonnie), GCI Pastor in Indianapolis, Lafayette, Terre Haute and Hope, IN. John and June have been members of our denomination since 1965.

Obituaries*

Cynthia Carroll Cook, 92, passed away peacefully on Nov. 28, after a short period of ill health. She was born June 22, 1917, to Jesse and Eunice Jones.

She began attending the Houston congregation in 1958. She moved to Corrigan in 1968 and began attending the Lufkin congregation and was baptized. She worked for

Corrigan Funeral Home for almost 40 years.

She was ordained a deaconess in 1988 and was the treasurer of Good News Christian Fellowship for several years. She is survived by her sister Nancy Andrews, her daughter Kathy Wasdin and husband Bruce, grandsons Brandon and Jason Wasdin, granddaughter Rachael Perry and her husband Christopher, and numerous nieces and nephews.

Margaret Peggy (Deahl) Dinger, 86, died on Nov. 29, 2009 in Arcadia, CA. She was born on Feb. 16, 1923, in Pennsylvania. She married Clayton Dinger Jan. 12, 1947, and both were baptized in 1958. They attended in Pittsburgh, PA. After Clayton died in 1985, Margaret moved to Pasadena, CA. She was buried in Pennsylvania next to her husband and daughter Bonnie. She is survived by three children: Larry Dinger, Leila Hegvold, and Debra Burleson, their spouses; nine grandchildren: Tina, Julie, Jonathan, Jacqui, Jared, Andy, Gina, Jeff, and Brett; and seven great-grandchildren.

Mary Sue Hartley, 83, died on Oct. 11. She was born Mary 4, 1926, to Robert Shelton and Dura Alice Sutton Burrow. She was born in Walter, AL, and moved at the age of 16 to Michigan, where she worked for Sears and Roebuck, and there met her husband. She moved to Cullman, AL, and served as a volunteer with the auxiliary at Cullman Regional Medical Center.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Alexander Hartley; a sister, Dorothy Hildron Hudson; and a brother, James Glenn Burrough.

Survivors include her nieces, Frances Maxine Simon and Nancy Sue Phillips; a nephew, James Glenn Burrough Jr.; three grandnieces, Melinda Arto, Michelle Simon

and Melanie Rinks; two great-grandnephews, Chance Cardwell and Karl Joliff; a great-grandniece, Blakely Joliff; and a brother-in-law, Walter Ray Hudson.

David E. Slack, 86, passed away Oct. 6, in Long Beach, CA. He was born June 8, 1923, in Corvallis, OR. David led his family into the Radio Church of God in 1963 in Tacoma, WA. In 1964 the family moved to Pasadena, CA; he worked at the Ambassador College campus for a number of years.

He and his wife of 66 years, Janess (Jimmie), had 11 children, three of whom preceded him in death: David Theodore in 1976, Deanna Marie in 1984, Jimmie Janess in 2000. He was also preceded in death by a granddaughter, Jessica Hart.

David is survived by his wife and eight children: Thomas, of North Hills, CA; James Bruce, of Shelton, WA; Cathy Jean Jackson, of Everett, WA; Nancy Slack (Rob), of Phoenix, AZ; Susan Slack, of Tacoma, WA; Sally Egbert (Ken), of Tacoma, WA; Mary Jo Wood (Tim), of Rock Springs, WY; and Sarah May Hart, of Monrovia, CA. He is survived by 25 grandchildren, 18 great-grandchildren, and one great-great grandson.

Cassandra Lou (Cope) Wakefield, 59, passed away Oct. 22, in Richardson, TX, after a lengthy illness. She was born Jan. 23, 1950, in McAlester, OK, to Clarence and Allie Lou Cope. She attended Ambassador College in Big Sandy, and married Richard O. Wakefield in 1971. Richard pre-deceased Cassie in 2006. She is survived by four children: Julie Anne, Jeffery Todd, Jennifer Lynn and Caren Elizabeth; her mother, Allie Lou Cope; and three siblings: Ted Cope, Christopher Cope, and Cynthia (Cope) Greco.

* See www.wcg.org/together/10/feb/announce.htm for photos and more information.