



E-Newsletter for AK/BC Pastors and Supporters

Fall 2022

The Alaskan landscape is quietly turning from vibrant greens to yellows, golds, and reds. The snow is already starting to fall in the mountainous regions of our Great State. It's safe to say that winter is coming! We were blessed to go out to Whittier with some of our Ministry Workshop guests and take in the beautiful landscape of the glaciers. It looks as if Winter has already settled in there! Regardless of the season, this trip never gets old!

We've all been busy here in AK/BC with church projects, meetings, and ministry. While there's always something to do, we are striving to keep the main thing, the main thing. Our mission is to reach the lost. As we continue to work together, we strive to keep the missional mandate in the forefront. Join us in prayer that God would continue to empower the ministers of AK/BC to make a difference in every church, every village, and every community.

As always, please let us know if there is anything we can do for you! It is our pleasure to serve our Great God and this Great State!

"JB"



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Mount Olive Church of God

We were blessed to visit Mt. Olive Church of God in Cleveland, TN back in July. Pastor Sears allowed us a few minutes to thank the church for their support of AK/BC.

We're extremely grateful for Mt. Olive and their mission to reach around the world for Christ. This mission includes Alaska and we're so blessed to join Mt. Olive in their efforts to reach a city, a county, a country, and the world for Christ.



The Polanco's welcome a new grandson!

Pastors Moyce and Sara Polanco welcomed a new grandson recently! Isn't he handsome? Sis. Sara looks so happy enjoying time with this newest addition!

Congratulations to the Polanco's and their growing family!



Jesus is Lord

Bishop McGirt was blessed to be with Pastor Will Asaivao and the Jesus is Lord congregation on Aug.

7th.



It was a beautiful time of praise and fellowship. Continue to keep Pastor Will and this congregation in your prayers!

General Assembly

General Assembly was a great time of fellowship and encouragement. We were blessed by each service and so thankful that many of our AK/BC pastors could attend!

We are so grateful for the re-appointment back in AK/BC. It is our pleasure to continue to serve this Great State!

Pastor Thomas Odom and his wife Wendy were at the World Missions Banquet. It was great to see them and enjoy an evening of fellowship together!



We were privileged to meet Raymond and Joella Beard at the General Assembly. They formerly pastored in Wasilla, AK.

The Beards are now retired and spend their time travelling the country in their RV!



Look who we ran into at the CMT dinner... former Overseers Pat and Jan Wright! It's always great to re-connect with these guys who love AK/BC through and through!



We were so blessed to have lunch with some of our AK/BC pastors during General Assembly. Pastors Tommie and Fredda Shook, Pastors Moyce and Sara Polanco, Pastors Fred and Dr. Tamika Ledbetter, and Pastor Keith Greene. It always fun to get together with these wonderful folks!



Retirement for Pastors Tommie and Fredda Shook

Tommie and Fredda Shook served the North Anchorage Church of God for 36 years for a total of 47 years in the pastorate. On Aug. 14th, they formally retired from the pastorate. The congregation honored them with a beautiful tribute, gifts, and a delicious lunch.

As this precious couple enters into a new phase of life and ministry, cover them with your thoughts and prayers!





Pastors James and Brittany Kinkead are Elected

James and Brittany Kinkead were elected as Pastors of the North Anchorage Church of God on Sunday, Aug. 21st. They previously served as Associate Pastor under the direction of Pastor Shook. Let's join in prayer for the Kinkead family as they begin this new adventure!



Updates on Church Projects

The Kenai Church of God got a facelift over the summer. Jim Jolin from Sterling Alaska and the Men of Action came and painted the exterior of the building among other things.



The Juneau Church of God recently replaced the carpet in their sanctuary and and improvements to the downstairs bathrooms and fellowship hall.



Valley of Blessing Church of God in Fairbanks has dealt with basement flooding for many years. Pastor Perez finally found the culprit! There was a pipe buried some five feet deep. The church treasurer, Paul Gibson, was instrumental in helping secure a track hoe to dig the pipe up, seal the pipe, and help take care of the issue. Pastor Perez and the congregation are looking forward to a flood free future!



Bishop McGirt visited the North Pole Church of God September 4th. What a great service and fellowship was had! Pastors Jeff and Jen Oden even took Bishop out for a viewing of the Northern Lights. This was an amazing experience for Bishop McGirt and one he won't soon forget. Thanks to the Oden's for always being such welcoming and hospitable hosts!

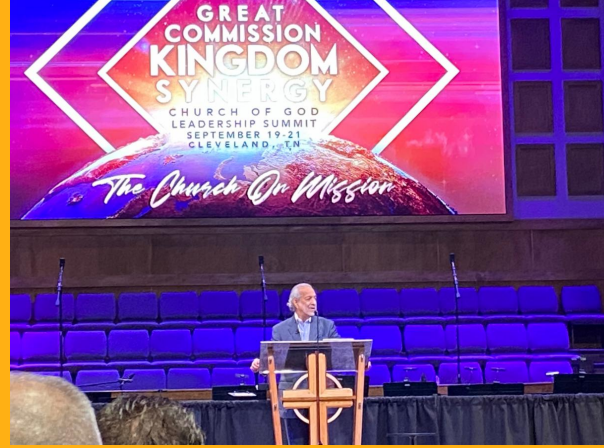


Leadership Meeting- Cleveland TN

We attended our first leadership meeting in September in Cleveland, TN. During the meeting, Dr. Hill unveiled the Harvest 24 FINISH Commission. This information was subsequently shared with our pastors and credentialed ministers at our State Minister's meeting.



Dr. Culpepper and a panel of seasoned AB's shared important information with new Administrative Bishops. Sam Chand talked about *Outcome Driven and Strategic Leadership*. Sam is a former Pastor, college President, Chancellor and now serves as President Emeritus of Beulah Heights University.



Benny Tate, pastor of the Rock Spring Church in Milner GA, spoke on *Things Leaders Do To Hinder their Organization*. James Davis spoke on *The Finish Declaration and Why and How to Finish the Great Commission*. James is Founder of Cutting Edge International and the Global Church Network.



In addition to the amazing speakers, we were blessed by the worship each night. The Westmore Church of God and The Voices of Lee lead us into the presence of the Lord! We thank God for the opportunity to attend this powerful meeting!



Congratulations to Pastor Fred and Dr. Tamika Ledbetter

Dr. Tamika Ledbetter was recently appointed as the Board Chair for the National Association of State Workforce Agencies. We are so proud of

Dr. Ledbetter and pray that her influence will impact the Kingdom as she serves in this role.



Pastor Fred and Dr. Tamika Ledbetter also took part in The Western Regional Pentecostal Fellowship's 48th Annual Convention. The Ledbetter's led a Leadership Training Session along with a Relevant Preaching Session during this virtual event that was held Oct. 6-9. We appreciate the Ledbetter's and all they do for the Kingdom!



State Minister's Meeting

Our first Minister's Meeting was a huge success! Thirteen of our pastors were in attendance. It was so good to see everyone and witness the connections and friendships that have evolved over the years! Many connections are just beginning as some of our newer pastors are meeting others for the first time.



Pastor Mitchell Tolle from the Man-O-War Church of God in Kentucky kicked off the meeting with a tremendous worship service on Thursday night!
What a word!



We so appreciate Pastor Brandon and Tonya Scott from the Kenai Church of God, for providing our worship music. Melinda Maness from Mt. Olive Church of God also blessed us in song!



We have a new State Council following the Ministers Meeting. Bishop McGirt is excited to be working with them over the next two years:

(L to R) Andy Terry (Chairman), Pastor of Soldotna Church of God, Keith Greene, Pastor of Juneau Church of God, Bishop McGirt, Bobby Jones of Harvest Christian Fellowship in Eagle River, Shannon Panthin (Co-Chairman) Pastor of Oceans

United in Kodiak, Moyce Polanco, Pastor of Bethel Hispanic in Anchorage, and James Kinkead, Pastor of North Anchorage Church of God. Congratulations to all!



We had a great line up speakers at our Ministry Workshop. We're so appreciative for their expertise, advice, and encouragement they provided for our ministers.

Art Rhodes provided us with information regarding *The Minister and Taxes* and *Legal Issues facing Minister's and Churches*. This was followed by a healthy Q & A session. We so appreciate Bro. Rhodes for investing in our pastors.



Donna Carter, State Treasurer for Western North Carolina Church of God, spoke on the importance of *Building a Healthy Church Treasurer*. Her discussion also led to a great dialogue - thank you so much Donna!



Dr. Tim Maness, Pastoral Counselor and Spirit Care Director discussed *The 5 Principles of Self Care*. This was another timely and important topic for our ministers!



What a tremendous time of fellowship we enjoyed! It was so good to be in the presence of our brothers and sisters in the Lord and to get to know those we've never met. These pictures can't convey the love felt during this time together. We're looking forward to the time when we can all be together again!



December 1st – Credentialed Minister/Spouse and Retired
Minister/Spouse Christmas Banquet, the Hotel Captain Cook

AK/BC Missions

Thank You!

To all of our supporters,
churches, and friends: thank
you! We could not do what we
do without your continued
support. We are thankful for all
you do for AK/BC! Together, we
can do more!

**AK/BC World Missions Project
Number: 102-7088**

Mission in Sri Lanka

Let's endeavor to complete our
faith promise toward the Sri
Lanka World Missions and New
Zealand projects.

Remember:

We are VITAL
We are VISIONARY
We are VALUED