A teal-colored illustration of a nativity scene. Mary is on the right, leaning over a baby Jesus who is lying on a bed of straw. Joseph is on the left, looking down at the baby. The background is dark and textured.

THE HOUSE OF GOD CHURCH
EMMANUEL:
GOD WITH US MATTHEW 1:23

2025 HOLIDAY COMMUNIQUE

BISHOP CLARY K. BUTLER, SR.
CHIEF OVERSEER AND SENIOR BISHOP

THE CHIEF OVERSEER'S MESSAGE

Wherein they think it strange that ye run not with them to the same excess of riot, speaking evil of you. Who shall give account to him that is ready to judge the quick and the dead.

1 Peter 4:4-5

Holy Greetings to all Chief Helpers, Bishops, State Elders, General Elders, Elders, all Ministers, Deacons, Young Adults, Lay-members, Youth, and Headquarters and Branch Office staff.

Everywhere I travel, throughout the Keith Dominion, my eyes behold and my heart says THANK YOU. Thank you for the great work accomplished throughout our church since the beginning of the 6th Administration. We honor the legacy left on record by our Founder, Mother M. L. Tate, Bishop M. F. Keith, Bishop J. W. Jenkins, Bishop J. C. Elliott, and Bishop R.W. Fletcher.

As we study the word of God from Genesis to Revelation, we find throughout the scriptures that we are living in the last days and that Jesus will soon return. We continue to hear of wars and rumors of wars, floods, earthquakes, and hurricanes: see that you be not troubled, for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet.

Now as never before, we realize that brotherly love must continue. We must strive for perfection, as God Brings Back the Love. Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamor, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice: And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you. Ephesians 4:31-32

We are God's elect children, adopted into God's Royal Family. Thank you Lord for being our God and our Rock in a weary Land. We must never forget that we are laborers together with God. I encourage you to go forth spreading the love of Jesus Christ to all mankind, everywhere.

Blessings to you and your family,



Bishop C.K. Butler, Sr.
Chief Overseer



Thanksgiving Day & Watch Night Services

Thanksgiving is not just a one day celebration in which we thank God for the material things of life. Thanksgiving is an ongoing occasion when we thank God for both spiritual and material things that are made available to us by Him. 1) We are to thank God for His love, kindness and faithfulness. 2) We should thank Him for His judgment and His great works of deliverance.

THANKSGIVING DAY is Thursday, November 27, 2025. I recommend that you meet locally or by districts on Thanksgiving Day at 9:00 A.M. (or at an appropriate time for your congregation) for approximately one hour to render due praises to God for His goodness. Let us resurrect the practice of gratitude. The worship service should include reading of the Thanksgiving Lesson and other forms of worship.

WATCH NIGHT is Tuesday, December 31, 2025. As we faithfully assemble, let us gratefully praise and thank God for bringing us through 2025, while requesting His devout blessings and guidance of our souls throughout the coming year.

Seven Days Fast

Let us join together wholeheartedly as we observe the SEVEN DAYS FAST beginning Tuesday, December 31, 2025 at midnight. The appointed time of the fast will be from midnight to 6:00 P.M. (or the approximate time of "sundown" / the setting of the sun in your location) on a daily basis and will continue until 6:00 PM or Sundown on Tuesday, January 7, 2025.

The first seven days of the New Year are our annual fast days. This is a period of sanctification and consecration to help us abide in the True Vine. This will bless the Church to reunite into one body as we move forward with the Sixth Administration of this Church.

As we prepare for the Seven Days Fast, let us pray, cry, repent and allow God to fix our hearts so God will anoint and bless us as we go forth, fishing for lost souls in the "Great Sea of Humanity." Pray for God's anointing as we sanctify the altar in God's House, that the Church might be filled with the great harvest of lost souls.

For the fast that pleases God, study Isaiah Chapter 58.

SEASON'S GREETINGS

ANNUAL HOLIDAY MESSAGE

*Saying, Where is he that is born King of the Jews?
for we have seen his star in the east, and are come to
worship him. -Matthew 2:2*

HOLIDAY COMMUNIQUE LESSONS

THANKSGIVING LESSON 2025

CHRISTMAS LESSON 2025

WATCH NIGHT 2025

SEVEN DAYS FAST LESSONS 2026

FAST DAY ONE NEW YEARS DAY LESSON

FAST DAY TWO THURSDAY JANUARY 2

FAST DAY THREE FRIDAY JANUARY 3

FAST DAY FOUR SATURDAY JANUARY 4

FAST DAY FIVE SUNDAY JANUARY 5

FAST DAY SIX MONDAY JANUARY 6

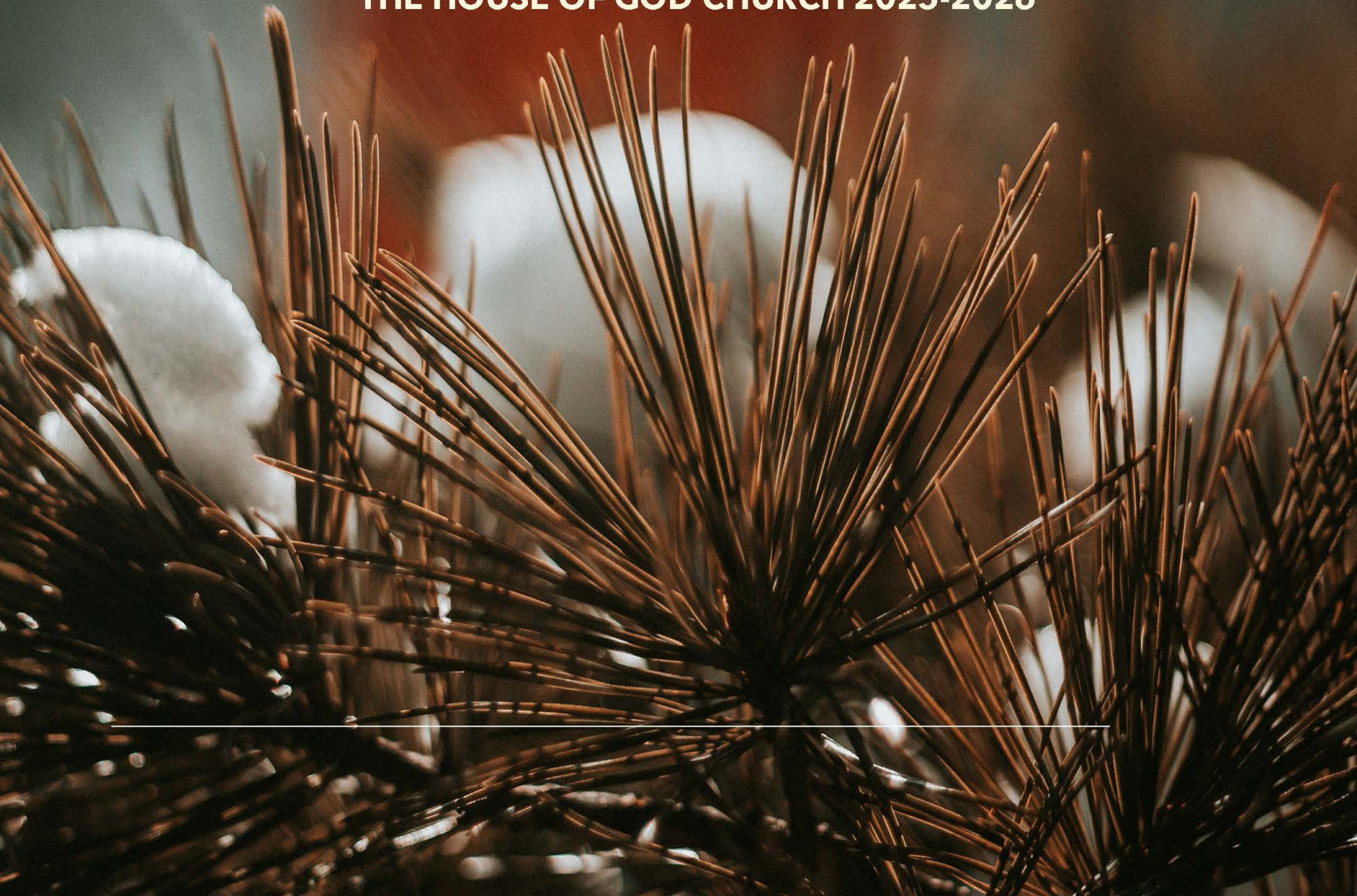
FAST DAY SEVEN TUESDAY JANUARY 7

THE HOUSE OF GOD CHURCH



Holiday Lessons

THE HOUSE OF GOD CHURCH 2025-2026



THANKSGIVING LESSON

NOVEMBER 27, 2025

Give Thanks To Almighty God

Lesson Text: 1 Chronicles 29:11 Thine, O LORD, is the greatness, and the power, and the glory, and the victory, and the majesty: for all that is in the heaven and in the earth is thine; thine is the kingdom, O LORD, and thou art exalted as head above all.

David, the son of Jesse reigned over all Israel forty years. He was thirty years old when he began to reign, and he reigned forty years. David grew great, because the Lord was with him. *David was about 70 years old when he died. 2 Samuel 5:4,10*

1. *Psalm 69:30-31* I will praise the name of God with a song, and will magnify him with thanksgiving. This also shall please the LORD better than an ox or bullock that hath horns and hoofs.
2. *Psalm 145:10-11* All thy works shall praise thee, O LORD; and thy saints shall bless thee. They shall speak of the glory of thy kingdom, and talk of thy power.
3. *Psalm 136:1-3* O give thanks unto the LORD; for he is good: for his mercy endureth for ever. O give thanks unto the God of gods: for his mercy endureth for ever. O give thanks to the Lord of lords: for his mercy endureth for ever.
4. *1 Thessalonians 5:18* In everything give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.

THOUGHT FOR TODAY: Take time-out today to honor God, and to let him know that you are thankful for his abundance of grace and mercy that he pours upon you every day. Thank him daily for answering your prayers. Give thanks always unto the Father, for all things that he is doing in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

CHRISTMAS LESSON

DECEMBER 25, 2025

I AM NOT THAT LIGHT

LESSON TEXT: John 1:8-10 He was not that Light, but was sent to bear witness of that Light. That was the true Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not.

It was predicted that the Messiah would be preceded by a forerunner who would prepare the hearts of the people for the Lord. John, who was called Baptist, was that forerunner. As it is written in the prophets, Behold, I send my messenger before thy face, which shall prepare thy way before thee *Mark 1:2-4*.

That was the true Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not. He came unto his own, and his own received him not. But as many as received him, to

them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God. *John 1:9-13*

1. *Isaiah 40:3* The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God.
2. *Malachi 3:1* Behold, I will send my messenger, and he shall prepare the way before me: and the LORD, whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to his temple, even the messenger of the covenant, whom ye delight in: behold, he shall come, saith the LORD of hosts.
3. *Luke 1:15-17* For he shall be great in the sight of the Lord, and shall drink neither wine nor strong drink; and he shall be filled with the Holy Ghost, even from his mother's womb. And many of the children of Israel shall he turn to the Lord their God. And he shall go before him in the spirit and power of Elias, to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the disobedient to the wisdom of the just; to make ready a people prepared for the Lord.

THOUGHT FOR TODAY: *John 1:4-5* In him was life; and the life was the light of men. And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not.

WATCH NIGHT

DECEMBER 31, 2025

THE VIRGIN BIRTH

LESSON TEXT: *Luke 1:30-35* And the angel said unto her, Fear not, Mary: for thou hast found favor with God. And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name JESUS. He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David: And he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end. Then said Mary unto the angel, How shall this be, seeing I know not a man? And the angel answered and said unto her, The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore, also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God.

Now the birth of Jesus Christ was on this wise: When as his mother Mary was espoused to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Ghost. Then Joseph her husband, being a just man, and not willing to make her a public example, was minded to put her away privily. But while he thought on these things, behold, the angel of the LORD appeared unto him in a dream, saying, Joseph, thou son of David, fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife: for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost. And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins. *Matthew 1:18-21*

THOUGHT FOR TODAY: *Matthew 1:22-23* Now all this was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying, Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us.

THE 2025-2026 HOUSE OF GOD CHURCH

SEVEN DAYS

Fast Lessons

FAST DAY ONE

JANUARY 1, 2026

NEW YEAR'S LESSON
SERVING THE CHURCH IN THE NEW YEAR

LESSON TEXT: ISAIAH 43:18-19 Remember ye not the former things, neither consider the things of old. Behold, I will do a new thing; now it shall spring forth; shall ye not know it? I will even make a way in the wilderness, and rivers in the desert.

As we enter the New Year with new challenges, we bring a message of new hope. Let us start our new season, with a fresh start, and a new beginning for a better world. Forgetting those things which are behind us, let go of the past. Your future looks bright. Concentrate on the future. Attending revivals will spark a spiritual renewal in your life. Our attitude and our behavior will change for the better. This time, let's get it right. Do not be trapped in your past. Surrender your life to him, including past relationships.

1. *2 Corinthians 5:17* Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold all things are become new.
2. *Revelation 21:4-5* And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away. And he that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new. And he said unto me, Write: for these words are true and faithful.
3. *Lamentations 3:22-23* It is of the LORD's mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not. They are new every morning: great is thy faithfulness.
4. *Ephesians 4:22-24* That ye put off concerning the former conversation the old man, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts; and be renewed in the spirit of your mind; and that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness.

THOUGHT FOR TODAY: Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus. *Philippians 3:13-14*

FAST DAY TWO

JANUARY 2, 2026

GOD IS OUR HIDING PLACE

LESSON TEXT: *Psalm 32:7* Thou art my hiding place; thou shalt preserve me from trouble; thou shalt compass me about with songs of deliverance. Selah.

Our real hiding place is God. He that dwell in the secret place of the Most High. He shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty. The LORD, is my refuge, my fortress and my God; in him will I trust. Surely he shall deliver you from the snare of the fowler, and from the noisome pestilence. He shall cover you with his feathers, and under his wings shalt thou trust: his truth shall be your shield and buckler. You shalt not be afraid for the terror by night; nor for the arrow that flies by day nor for the pestilence that walks in darkness; nor for the destruction that waste at noonday. A thousand shall fall at thy side, and ten thousand at thy right hand; but it shall not come nigh you. Only with your eyes shalt you behold and see the reward of the wicked. Because you have made the LORD, which is my refuge, even the most High, your habitation; There shall no evil befall you, neither shall any plague come nigh your dwelling.

Psalm 91:1-10

1. *Proverbs 18:10* The name of the LORD is a strong tower: the righteous runneth into it, and is safe.
2. *Isaiah 32:2* And a man shall be as an hiding place from the wind, and a covert from the tempest; as rivers of water in a dry place, as the shadow of a great rock in a weary land.
3. *Psalm 32:1* Blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.
4. *Psalm 32:2* Blessed is the man unto whom the Lord imputeth not iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no guile.

THOUGHT FOR TODAY: Out of all the storms that rise up against us, the word of God assures us that we have a strong tower of refuge in Jesus Christ.

FAST DAY THREE

JANUARY 3, 2026

THE HOLY GHOST HAS NOT CHANGED

LESSON TEXT: *Numbers 23:19* God is not a man that he should lie; neither the son of man that he should repent: hath he said, and shall he not do it? or hath he spoken, and shall he not make it good?

We are trusting in the Lord according to his word, that what God has spoken, he will make it good. We praise God because his word is full of grace and truth. Heaven and earth will pass away but God's word will not pass away.

1. *Hebrew 13:8* Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and today, and for ever.

2. *Psalm 102:27* But thou art the same, and thy years shall have no end.
3. *Malachi 3:6* For I am the LORD, I change not; therefore ye sons of Jacob are not consumed.
4. *Psalm 119:89* For ever, O LORD, thy word is settled in heaven.

THOUGHT FOR TODAY: *Acts 1:8* But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and Samaria and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

FAST DAY FOUR

JANUARY 4, 2026

WITH GOD ALL THINGS ARE POSSIBLE

LESSON TEXT: *Matthew 19:26* But Jesus beheld them, and said unto them, With men this is impossible; but with God all things are possible.

With God all things are possible, for nothing shall be impossible with God: Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and today, and forever. Faith comes from hearing and hearing through the word of God. But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteous.

1. *Philippians 4:13* I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.
2. *Hebrews 11:6* But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.
3. *Mark 9:23* Jesus said unto him, If thou canst believe, all things are possible to him that believeth.
4. *1 John 5:4* For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith.

THOUGHT FOR TODAY: *Ephesians 2:8* For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God.

FAST DAY FIVE

JANUARY 5, 2026

LIVING SINLESS IN A SINFUL WORLD

LESSON TEXT: Titus 2:12-13 Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world; Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Savior Jesus Christ.

We know that the wages of sin is death, but Jesus Christ did no sin, neither was guile found in his mouth. He lived a sinless life in a sinful world. Jesus was tempted, just as we are, yet without sin. When he was reviled, he reviled not again; when he suffered, he threatened not; but committed himself to him that judge righteously. *1 Peter 2:22-23* Jesus Christ is that lamb without blemish and without spot.

1. *1 John 3:5* And we know that he was manifested to take away our sins; and in him is no sin.
2. *James 1:13* Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God: for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempt he any man.
3. *John 1:14* And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.
4. *Romans 8:3* For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh.

THOUGHT FOR TODAY: 2 Corinthians 5:21 For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.

FAST DAY SIX

JANUARY 6, 2026

IF THE WORLD HATES YOU

LESSON TEXT: John 15:18-19 If the world hate you, ye know that it hated me before it hated you. If ye were of the world, the world would love his own: but because ye are not of the world, but I have chosen you out of the world, therefore the world hateth you.

If the world hates you, and persecutes you for righteousness sake, know that you are blessed. Remember that Jesus said, "Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake." Therefore, rejoice, and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in heaven: for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you. *Matthew 5:10-12*

1. *2 Timothy 3:12-13* Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution. But evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse, deceiving, and being deceived.

2. *John 7:7* The world cannot hate you; but me it hateth, because I testify of it, that the works thereof are evil.
3. *James 4:4* Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God.
4. *Matthew 10:22* And ye shall be hated of all men for my name's sake: but he that endureth to the end shall be saved.

THOUGHT FOR TODAY: 1 *John 3:15* Whosoever hates his brother is a murderer: and ye know that no murderer hath eternal life abiding in him.

FAST DAY SEVEN

JANUARY 7, 2026

WE HAVE THE VICTORY

LESSON TEXT: *Deuteronomy 20:4* For the LORD your God is he that goeth with you, to fight for you against your enemies, to save you.

Today and every day, we have the victory and can do all things through Jesus Christ who blesses and strengthens us daily. We have that victory and blessed assurance because we know that we have overcome the world. There has no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it. *1 Corinthians 10:13*

1. *Romans 8:37-39* Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us. For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.
2. *Ephesians 6:10-11* Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might. Put on the whole armor of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.
3. *1 John 4:4* Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world.
4. *Colossians 2:15* And having spoiled principalities and powers, he made a shew of them openly, triumphing over them in it.

THOUGHT FOR TODAY: 1 *Corinthians 15:57* But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Notes

Thought: _____

Dates: _____

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Notes

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Dates:

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Dates: _____

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Christmas Service

YOUTH CANDLELIGHT PROCESSIONAL

CALL TO WORSHIP

And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn. (Luke 2:7)

OPENING SONG OF PRAISE / CAROL

PRAYER

CHRISTMAS CAROL

SCRIPTURE

WELCOME/GREETINGS

RECITATIONS

CHRISTMAS CAROL

CHRISTMAS SKIT

CHRISTMAS CAROL

SERMONETTE

ALTAR CALL

REMARKS

RECITATIONS

A Song Was Heard at Christmas

A song was heard at Christmas
To wake the midnight sky,
A Saviour's birth, and peace on earth,
And praise to God on high.

The angels sing at Christmas
With all the hosts above,
And still we sing the newborn King,
His glory and His love.

The Christmas Story

Once upon a time,
A long, long time ago,
Begins the story of a baby,
That most of you should know.

His daddy's name was Joseph,
And Mary was His mom,
This babe was very special
He was God's only Son.

Some angels came from heaven,
And they began to sing.
To the shepherds in the fields below,
"Glad tidings do we bring!"

A bright star lit the heavens,
To light the magi's way,
To the baby in the manger
Who was born on Christmas day.

And all who gathered round Him,
Rejoiced and praised His birth.
For the babe, the King, named Jesus,
Is our Saviour here on earth!

Candy Cane

Look at a candy cane, what do you see?
Stripes that are red like the blood shed for
me!
White for my Savior, Who's sinless and pure!
"J" is for Jesus, My Lord that's for sure!
Turn it around and a staff you will see,
Jesus, my Shepherd, is coming for me!

If I Am...

If I am a king,
my crown I will give to him.
If I am a caroler,
I'll sing to Him the best hymns.
If I am a shepherd,
the best lamb I'll bring
If I am an angel, I'd give Him my wings.

If I am the wise man,
I'd give my wealth away.
If I am a soldier,
I'll die for Him all the way.
But I'm just a poor little boy,
with nothing much to give,
but to offer my little hands
and my little feet.

To glorify the one in the manger that was
born,
the hope and light of this mixed-up world.
I give my heart to the one that was born to
die,
and brings freedom to all mankind.

I am just a little boy today,
I'll do bigger things for Him one day.
I'd give my life, my all, to the One who calls
me.

Jesus Christ was born to set me free,
and this is what Christmas means to me.

Jesus was Born on Christmas

Jesus was born on Christmas,
on a very holy night,
and in the sky above Him,
shone the very brightest light.

All of the heavenly angels,
Sang a song to praise His name.
They told the lowly shepherds,
so they left their sheep and came.

From the east the wise men roam,
bringing precious gift to share.
Riches for the King of Kings,
to show the Saviour that they care.

Now we celebrate His birthday,
in our hearts and every day.
Jesus in your humble manger,
your true love is here to stay.

Celebrate His First Coming

Some Christians say Christmas is pagan,
While others celebrate and rejoice.
Some are really just indifferent.
We are all free to make our choice.

As for me, I really like Christmas.
It is a time to think of God's love.
I can thank my great Heavenly Father
For sending His Son from up above.

In His great love, God sent Jesus.
Jesus had a very lowly birth.
On a manger bed, He lay His head
When He first came to the earth.

It might not have been in December.
It could have been another date,
But praise God He came to die for us,
So His first coming, I'll celebrate.

A Christmas Prayer

Loving Father,
help us remember the birth of Jesus,
that we may share in the song of the angels,
the gladness of the shepherds,
and worship of the wise men.

Close the door of hate
and open the door of love all over the world.
Let kindness come with every gift
and good desires with every greeting.
Deliver us from evil by the blessing
which Christ brings,
and teach us to be merry with clear hearts.

May the Christmas morning
make us happy to be thy children,
and Christmas evening bring us to our beds
with grateful thoughts,
forgiving and forgiven,
for Jesus' sake.
Amen.

Bring Me to the Manger

Bring me to the manger
For I desire to go,
Bring me to the manger,
For I desire to know,
The Holy child
So meek and mild,
So spotless and undefiled
Cradled therein,

For dark is this night
And I long even for the star
That did guide
The wise men from afar,
To where He lay,
For my soul shall weep and pray
Till I find my way
To Him!

Rejoice This Christmas Day

Unto us a Son was given,
rejoice this Christmas day,
a gift from God to you and I,
the Truth, the Light, the Way.

To the world a Savior's born,
rejoice this Christmas day,
He fills the soul's hunger pain,
the Bread, the Life, the Way.

To every heart bound in sin,
rejoice this Christmas day,
the gift of grace will set you free,
the Christ, the Lord, the Way.

To thirsty souls everywhere,
rejoice this Christmas day,
and drink from the Fountain of Life,
the Grace, the Mercy, the Way.
To all those who are heavy-laden,
rejoice this Christmas day,
for He is the Prince of our Peace,
the Door, the Lamb, the Way.

Rejoice on this Christmas day,
your Lord and Saviour is here,
rejoice, I say again rejoice,
let His birth bring your heart cheer.

If You Look for Me at Christmas...

If you look for me at Christmas,
you won't need a special star;
I'm no longer just in Bethlehem,
I'm right there where you are.

You may not be aware of Me
amid the celebrations.
You'll have to look beyond the stores
and all the decorations.

But if you take a moment
from your list of things to do,
and listen to your heart, you'll find
I'm waiting there for you.

All Ye Faithful

Hark the herald angels sing
A Lamb was born this day
Hail unto this newborn King
We trust Him, come what may

Deck the halls with boughs of holly
Enjoy this time of year
Mindful of our acts of folly
Let's keep conviction near

O little town of Bethlehem
Or so the carol goes
He didn't come here to condemn
But save, the Bible shows

God rest ye merry gentlemen
Our battles He will fight
Though often mocked by some of them
Thank God some see the light

Glory be to God on high
All His heavenly host
Happy Holidays" may apply
But "Merry Christmas" most

The first Noel, angels did say
All glory to His name
While in a tomb His body lay
Yet death could never claim

You're the one I want to be with,
you're the reason that I came,
and you'll find Me in the stillness,
as I'm whispering your name.

Love, Jesus

The Light Of Christmas

We bring in the Christmas season
With beautiful Christmas lights.
They shine forth across our cities
Throughout the season's nights.

Many look forward to celebrating
This wonderful time of the year
By decorating their homes with lights
To spread some Christmas cheer.

Leave Christ in Christmas

Christmas without Christ?
Tell me, how can it be?
So many people change it
To suit themselves, you see.

Can't we say "Merry Christmas"
Instead of "Happy holidays"?
We take Christ out of Christmas
In so many different ways.

It is nice to exchange gifts
This special time of the year,
But what do we give to Christ,
Our Redeemer and Savior so dear?

Christ is really what makes it
A genuine Christmas season.
If we take Him out of Christmas,
We celebrate for the wrong reason.

I want Christ in my Christmas,
For inside my heart Jesus lives.
Jesus can be your Savior too,
For free salvation He gives.

We string lights on Christmas trees,
On wreaths hanging here and there.
Lights adorn many, many decorations.
We see pretty lights everywhere.

Jesus is the real light of Christmas.
He is the light of the world today.
He died on the cross for our sins.
He is the truth, the light, the way.

They Came With Haste to Jesus

As shepherds watched their flocks
In a field in Judea one night,
They were amazed and startled
By a bright and shining light.

The angel of the Lord appeared
To announce a very special birth.
God sent His only Son, the Savior,
To be born here on this earth.

A multitude of the Heavenly host,
Praising God appeared to them then.
Saying, "Glory to God in the highest.
Peace on earth, good will toward men."

Then when all the angels went away,
To one another the shepherds said,
"Let us go to the town of Bethlehem
And find the babe in the manger bed."

Then the shepherds came with haste
And found Jesus, the Christ child.
He was wrapped in swaddling clothes,
God's Son, so holy, meek, and mild.

Christ Jesus was born on the earth
So He could one day die for our sin.
Our Savior shed His precious blood.
He died to save the souls of men.

Let us come with haste to Jesus.
He can gloriously save you today.
Yes, Jesus is patiently waiting
To forgive and take your sins away.

The Best Gift Ever!

Synopsis: A Sunday school teacher helps her students to realize the real meaning behind exchanging gifts at Christmas.

Characters: Ms. Jenkins, Child 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5.

Props: Chairs, bibles, Electronics

[Ms. Jenkins walks into the Sunday school classroom and over hears the children talking about Christmas]

Child 1: I'm getting some new shoes for Christmas.

Child 2: I'm getting a new cell phone.

Child 3: I'm getting a new tablet!

[All of the children chime in together telling one another what they are expecting to receive Christmas morning.]

Ms. Jenkins: All of your gifts sound really nice, but I got a gift better than all of those. In fact, my gift is the best gift ever.

[All of the children stop talking and look at Ms. Jenkins in amazement.]

All of the Children: [In a surprised voice] Really? You do?

Ms. Jenkins: Yep, since it is Christmas, I plan to share that gift with all of you today.

Child 4: No way, prove it!

Child 5: Did you when the lottery or the Mega Million?

[Children all inquire what the gift is at once.]

Ms. Jenkins: [Laughing and shaking her head no.] My gift is better than any electronic, new sneakers, or even winning a bunch of money in the lottery.

Child 1: Enough already! What is the gift?

Ms. Jenkins: I will give you all a hint.

Children: [In an excited voice] Ok, go ahead!

Ms. Jenkins: My gift didn't cost me anything.

Child 1: [Shocked look] It was free?

Child 2: Are you pulling our leg? Free gifts usually stink!

Children: Yeah!

Ms. Jenkins: You guys, my gift is Jesus! He was free for me to receive and pass along to others.

Child 5: How is Jesus the best gift ever?

Child 3: Yeah, I'd rather have new video games.

Child 2: Me too! Me too!

Ms. Jenkins: Jesus is the best gift, because he is the reason we exchange gifts at Christmas! If God never gave his son, Jesus, there would be no Christmas! Therefore, you would never get any of those fancy gifts you all want.

Child 1: Hooray for Jesus! Thanks to Jesus, we get gifts at Christmas!

Child 2: Yeah, hooray for Jesus!

Ms. Jenkins: Yes, hooray for Jesus! Hooray for him being the best gift, not because of the other gifts we receive.

Ms. Jenkins: Have any of you ever been sick?

Child 1: I have.

Ms. Jenkins: How did you get well again?

Child 1: I don't know; because mom gave me Chicken soup?

Ms. Jenkins: No, chicken soup did not heal you, Jesus did. He is our healer, our

protector, and our Savior. Jesus was born so we could have the gift of eternal life! The Bible says, "God loved the world so much that he gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life" John 3:16 (NLT).

[All of the students have an ah-ha moment realizing the value of Jesus.]

Children: Hooray for Jesus! The best gift ever!

ANGELS

Angel: I am the Angel of Joy.

Mom: Angel of Joy?So you are the angel of joy huh? What joy is there, especially this time of the year, with all the advertising starting in Sept, people being disappointed at not receiving the things they want for Christmas, buying presents for people you don't really know and some you don't really like. Spending money you don't have, and the disappointment when Christmas doesn't happen like it does on the TV shows.

Angel of Joy: Well, real joy is: the joy of God's presence. Joy is giving. Joy stands for Jesus, others, and yourself -- in that order. Joy is the coming of Jesus, then, now, and in the future.....God's joy to you.

Angel: I'm the Angel of Peace.

Mom: So, you're the angel of peace? There can't really be peace, why with families arguing, countries fighting, people fighting each other because of their differences, how can there be peace? And when you do think you have peace, another problem pops up.

Angel of Peace: You are looking at peace in the wrong way, true peace is: Knowing God is in control. Jesus came to bring peace on earth, peace to the heart of those who accept Him. The peace of contentment. Peace with God. (Pause)...Peace unto you.

Angel: I am the Angel of Hope.

Mom: Angel of hope? What hope is there? I don't think people will ever change. I don't think Christmas will get any better, in fact I just see it getting more and more hectic. Soon we won't even know what Christmas is about. I just don't see much hope for this old world.

Angel of Hope: There is hope because Jesus came to bring you new hope, a hope of a life that is better than this. Hope is found through faith in God's wisdom and love. Jesus is the hope of the world. Keep your hope alive.

Angel: I am the Angel of love. The Spirit of Christmas is God's love sent down to earth in His Son. God's love to you.

Mom: Boy! Joy, peace, hope, and love, that's the true spirit of Christmas! The food, gifts, tree, and decorations are just things for us to enjoy. They aren't the *real meaning* of Christmas. I've been trying to create the Spirit of Christmas with outward things. I can't create it, it was created when God gave the gift of His son to the world. I just need to celebrate it. Christmas is intended to be a celebration, not a contest. A celebration of the birth of Christ and all that it brings to us.

PLEDGES / OFFERINGS

THANKSGIVING DAY is Thursday, November 27th, 2025.

CHRISTMAS DAY is Thursday, December 25th, 2025.

Please make an effort to collect the regular contributions of \$2.00 per individual for both Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day. These offerings assist our evangelistic, soul winning teams and related efforts, including foreign missions.

OUR GENERAL COMPLEX RALLY DAY is the Fourth (4th) Sunday in January, January 25th, 2026.

The contributions for this day remain the same:

All Bishops	\$400
All Elders	\$300
Ordained & Local Ministers	\$200
Exhorters and Deacons	\$150
Laymembers	\$100

Send all Thanksgiving, Christmas, and Complex Rally Day Offerings to:

The House of God Church
Attention: Reverend Nova Walker-Carter
P. O. Box 22675
Nashville, TN 37202-2675

THE GENERAL PASTORAL DAYS for the 2025 Calendar Year are:

March 29th, May 31st, August 30th, November 29th

Please strive to have a complete report.

Contributions for each General Pastoral Day (5th Sunday):

Chief Helpers	\$15.00
Bishops	\$12.00
All Elders	\$10.00
All Ordained Ministers	\$8.00
Local Ministers & Exhorters	\$7.00
All Deacons	\$5.00
Laymen	\$4.00
Children	\$2.00

Make all Fifth Sunday reports payable to Bishop Clary K. Butler, Sr. and mail to:

Bishop Clary K. Butler, Sr.
P. O. Box 30787
Charleston, SC 29417-0787

THE PRESENT GOSPEL SPEAKER

The annual edition of our church news magazine, the **PRESENT GOSPEL SPEAKER**, will be printed for the 2025-2026 fiscal year.

We are asking all reporters to begin submitting articles now.

The deadline for the submission of all articles is Wednesday, March 31, 2026.

Articles that warrant pictures, please send **High-resolution pictures**. **Color Pictures are acceptable**. **Limit of one or two pictures for each article**. (*We cannot guarantee the quality of color photos*). Please submit photos along with the articles for identification purposes.

GUIDELINES FOR SUBMITTING NEWS ARTICLES

Please send ALL news articles typed in **12-point Times New Romans** font and **SINGLE-SPACED** to e-mail address, novawc@outlook.com, by March 31, 2026.

DO NOT DOUBLE-SPACE articles!

All articles are to be written as a **Microsoft WORD** document or a **PDF** file. Digital **Color** or **Black and White** photographs may be scanned and sent via e-mail along with (**not within**) your article. Reporters, you must **PROOF-READ** each article prior to submitting your work.

All monies (not articles) should be sent to **Headquarters**. **ALL FINANCES** should be made payable to **The House of God**.

The Present Gospel Speaker

P. O. Box 22675

Nashville, TN 37202-2675

Please share interesting and noteworthy news with the church, such as:

- Church Revivals
- Evangelistic In-Reach and Outreach Activities
- YFFU News
- High School and College Students/Graduates and their Activities
- Weddings, Births, etc.
- Church Dedications, Anniversaries, New Programs
- Obituaries, etc.

CHARGES FOR NEWS RELEASES:

State Assemblies, Conventions, etc.	\$ 20.00
Church News, Testimonies, Sermonettes, Obituaries	10.00
Wedding Announcements, Wedding Anniversaries, Acknowledgements, Births	10.00
PHOTOS (B/W, Color) - <i>limit of one or two per article</i>	6.00 / 8.00

Adult registration packet will include a complimentary copy of the **Present Gospel Speaker**. Additional copies of The Present Gospel Speaker can be obtained at a minimum cost of **\$5.00 each**.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY LODGING

Please do not send lodging deposits before the specified date. Sending in lodging deposits early does not guarantee receiving a room. People who received lodging reservations for on-campus accommodations for 2025 will receive first priority for 2026.

Lodging is available Friday, June 19th, 2026 (arrive prior to midnight). Individuals and families that plan to arrive in Nashville before Friday must make arrangements in advance with the Director of Lodging, Elder Fran Jackson. Sister Deloris Shaw is Assistant Director of Lodging. **ALL ROOMS ASSIGNED TO PERSONS WHO HAVE NOT CHECKED-IN BY MONDAY (OPENING DAY) WILL BE REASSIGNED. NO ROOMS WILL BE HELD BY THE LODGING COMMITTEE WITHOUT THE APPROVAL OF THE DIRECTOR OF LODGING.**

Upon arrival at check-in, your full lodging fee is due!

All requests for on-campus lodging must be made via the Lodging Request Form submitted to the Lodging Committee, c/o Elder Fran Jackson, Director of Lodging at P. O. Box 22675, Nashville, TN 37202-2675. These request forms must be postmarked annually on or after January 2nd each year. **All request forms postmarked before January 2nd will be returned to the sender.**

The W. L. Nelson Dormitory is reserved for Supreme Executive Council and General Trustee Board members. **The fee is \$275 per room** (2 double beds; private bath). The Lodging Committee is extending a courtesy to Bishops staying in the Nelson Dormitory by not requiring a room deposit to reserve the room prior to the General Assembly; however **your lodging fee will be due upon your arrival.**

OTHER DORMITORY FEES		
Jenkins Dormitory	2 double beds and private bath	\$275.00
Keith Dormitory	2 double beds and private bath	\$275.00
	1 double bed, 1 single bed/ private bath	\$250.00
Lewis Dormitory	2 double beds and private bath	\$275.00
	1 double bed, 1 single bed and private bath	\$250.00
	1 double bed and private bath	\$225.00
Tate Manor Dormitory	2 double beds and private bath	\$275.00
	1 double bed and private bath	\$225.00
	1 double bed with adjoining bath	\$200.00

Lodging Check-in & Check-out Hours: Specific hours of operation have been set and will be **strictly adhered to** according to the schedule – There will be NO after mid-night check-ins!

Thursday and Friday June 18 th – 19 th , 2026	8:00 a.m. – 12:00 Noon 2:00 – 10:00 p.m.	
Saturday and Sunday: June 20 th – 21 st , 2026	8:00 a.m. – 12:00 Noon 2:00 – 10:00 p.m.	Preplanning
Monday: June 22 nd , 2026	11:30 a.m. – 2:00 pm 3:00 – 5:00 p.m. 9:30 – 10:30 p.m.	Opening Day
Tuesday thru Monday: June 23 rd – 29 th , 2026	8:00 – 9:00 a.m. 11:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. One Hour after last service for the Day	

NOTE: Submission of a lodging application form does not guarantee on campus lodging accommodation. As a reminder, do not leave personal property in the room upon your departure!

NOTE: Persons who pay their National Complex contributions in January will be given priority in room placements. If you are requesting a **handicap assessable room**, please **provide documentation** with your application. Any other personal conditions and/or circumstances requiring special consideration must be explained on the Lodging Request Form.

THE HOUSE OF GOD
WHICH IS THE CHURCH OF THE LIVING GOD,
THE PILLAR AND GROUND OF THE TRUTH
WITHOUT CONTROVERSY, INC., KEITH DOMINION

TATE UNIVERSITY



Bishop Clary K. Butler, Sr., BA, MA, D.Min.,
Chief Overseer & Senior Bishop

NOTICE TO THE CHURCH AT-LARGE From the Desk of Our Chief Overseer

NOVEMBER 15, 2025

Dear Saints,

*Study to shew thyself approved unto God,
a workman that needeth not to be ashamed,
rightly dividing the word of truth. (2 Timothy 2:15, KJV)*

For decades, the General Assembly classes have been a cornerstone of spiritual and leadership development within our Church. To ensure these vital programs continue to thrive and remain sustainable, we are implementing a phased plan for the coming years. These updates will enhance the quality and integrity of our training while providing a clear, structured path for ministerial advancement.

This communication outlines the registration fees for 2026 and important changes to the qualification requirements for ordination, including a transition period for certificate requirements that will be fully implemented by the 2027 and 2028 General Assemblies.

1. Revised Class Registration Fees (Effective 2026 General

To ensure our General Assembly educational programs remain accessible and valuable, the following registration fees will take effect for the 2026 academic year:

Class Fees:	Ordination Training Class	\$50
	(New) Confirmation Candidates	\$50
	Adult Laity Class	\$20
	(New) Exhorters Class	\$20
	Young Adults (Ages 18-25)	\$20
	Youth (Grades 7-12)	\$10
	Youth (Grades K-6)	\$10

2. Updated Ordination Qualifications & Certificate Requirements

Spiritual growth and promotion are not based on any human timeframe, ability, or favoritism, but solely by the good works produced by the indwelling power of the Holy Ghost (Psalm 75:6-7). The following qualifications and certificate requirements will be phased in to ensure thorough preparation.

A. General Qualifications for All Ordination Candidates

All candidates must:

1. Be filled with the Holy Ghost.
2. Have an attendance report of at least 96% for required classes.
3. Be fasting.
4. Not be a novice in faith and conduct.
5. Be a member in good standing of this Church for at least three years.
6. Have been serving in their current position for at least three years.
7. Have attended the General Assembly for at least three years.
8. Have two years of Complex dues paid since 2021.
9. Provide verification of evangelistic work (e.g., souls brought to Christ).
10. Be in good standing with their State Bishop and be recommended by at least two of the following: Pastor, State Elder, General Elder, or Presiding Elder.
11. Vow to obey the Constitution, Government, and General Decree of the House of God Church.

NOTE: A clear record of distinguished works, continued obedience, and duty to those over you in the Lord must be firmly established.

B. Grandfathering and Transition Period for Certificates

- For the 2026 General Assembly: To qualify as a candidate for ordination or reclassification, you must have attended the 2025 or 2026 General Assemblies and received at least one of your certificates from the 2025 or 2026 General Assemblies.
- Looking ahead to the 2027 and/or 2028 General Assemblies: There is the expected requirement of at least three (3) consecutive years of certificates for ordination candidacy, stressing the importance of consistent training.

3. Class Requirements by Rank and File (Phased Implementation)

Effective with the 2026 General Assembly:

- All Exhorters must obtain at least one (1) certificate from the Ministers Class, the Exhorters Class, or the Confirmation Class to be eligible for reclassification as a Local Minister.

Effective with the 2027 and/or 2028 General Assemblies:

- Deacons & Local Ministers are required to attend and receive certificates for three (3) consecutive years of General Assembly classes to be qualified for Ordination.
- All Ordained Ministers (including State Elders, General Elders, Pastors) are expected to attend three (3) years of the General Assembly Advanced Leadership Courses; as these certifications will be required as evidence of pre-qualification for advancement.
- All Trial Elders are required to attend three (3) years of the General Assembly Advanced Leadership Courses; as these certifications will be required as evidence of pre-qualification for advancement.

SPECIAL NOTICE REGARDING: Confirmation/Orientation Course (One Year)

- All new Bishops, Elders, Pastors, and Ministers who are returning or deciding to fellowship with the House of God Church are expected to attend this one-year course and receive a certificate of confirmation eligibility.

CONFIRMATION ORIENTATION CLASSES
For new and returning Bishops, Elders and Ministers

Tuesday, June 16, 2026	The Church History & Governance
Wednesday, June 17, 2026	Decree on Faith and Doctrine & Ordinances
Thursday, June 18, 2026 COMBINED	The Authority & Survey of Scripture

2026 GENERAL ASSEMBLY CLASSES

Dates	Deacons	Un-Ordained Ministers & Exhorters	Advanced Leadership for Elders, Ordained Ministers, and Pastors
Tuesday, June 16, 2026	The Deacon's Role & Church Governance	The Minister's Role & Church Governance	The Elder's Role & Church Governance
Wednesday, June 17, 2026	Church Stewardship & Practical Service	Homiletics & Sermon Preparation	Advanced Biblical Theology & Hermeneutics
Thursday, June 18, 2026 COMBINED	The Authority & Survey of Scripture	The Authority & Survey of Scripture	The Authority & Survey of Scripture

BIBLICAL ENRICHMENT CLASSES

- The General Assembly Enrichment Classes for K – 12, 18 – 25 Young Adults, Laity are non-degree certificate classes. The Laity class is for all persons who desire enrichment and are not taking Ordination Training classes.

- Three days of Classes will be held for K-12, Young Adults and Laity students. We encourage all our youth, Young Adults and adults to register for the General Assembly Classes.

THERE IS A MANDATORY “CHILD SAFETY WORKSHOP” APPOINTEES IN THE HOUSE OF GOD CHURCH

- This required workshop is currently only offered during the General Assembly and is no longer at the Diocese level. All leaders who have not taken this course must do so to be eligible to work with children pursuant to Church policy.

2026 General Assembly Class Schedule & Information

Official Class Dates: Tuesday, June 16 – Thursday, June 18, 2026

Graduation Date: Friday, June 19, 2026

Individuals seeking to register for classes should visit our church website located at www.hogconline.org for pertinent information.

All persons who successfully complete three classes are eligible to participate in the Tate University graduation exercise.

For further inquiries, please contact:

Deaconess Letonia Moore, Registrar

- Phone: (336) 710-9983
- Email: lvmoore27030@yahoo.com

Deaconess Angie Anderson, Executive Assistant

- Phone: (843) 670-4890
- Email: anderson4569@bellsouth.net

I remained committed to the cause of Christ,

Bishop Clary K. Butler, Sr.
Chief Overseer & Senior Bishop

Greetings!

Our God is great and greatly to be praised! As we approach the pending holidays, let us lift up holy hands and continue to pray for one another and this great church. During the holidays many of the church begin to care for and attend to the needs of family, friends, the imprisoned... those in need. As the Courtesy Welfare as a whole, let us continue our efforts yet let us neglect not the "household of faith." Many of our sisters and brothers right in the body are in need. Some may have temporal, others tender loving care.

Remember, if there is a need from your National Courtesy Welfare, please submit the request form with proper signatures with information on how, when, and in what ways the State Courtesy Welfare has assisted:

State Elder C.K. Turner at tconstance18@aol.com or
10 Marcel Court-Fairfield, OH 45014.

Living to Serve

State Elder C.K. Turner,
National Courtesy Welfare Chairperson

**THE HOUSE OF GOD CHURCH
KEITH DOMINION**



**INTERNATIONAL
YOUTH
CONGRESS**

"GOD HASN'T FORGOTTEN YOU"
September 18-20, 2026
CHICAGO, IL

EXHORTER
JESSIE A. BROWN SR.
NYC SUPERINTENDENT

BISHOP
CLARY K. BUTLER, SR.
CHIEF OVERSEER

SISTER
SHEREE ALLEN
ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT

YFFU YOUTH AWARDS & FORMS

KEITH DOMINION AWARD

The **Keith Dominion Award** is the most prestigious award presented in our church. The recipient of this award served the church faithfully during the Administration of Bishop M.F.L. Keith, our Second Chief Overseer, continued working faithfully and diligently during the Administration of Bishop J.W. Jenkins, our Third Chief Overseer, Bishop J.C. Elliott, our Fourth Chief Overseer, Bishop Rebecca W. Fletcher, our Fifth Chief Overseer and has continued to serve during the 6th Administration under the leadership of, Bishop Clary K. Butler Sr.; Chief Overseer.

CONTINUED SERVICE AWARD

The **Continued Service Award** recognizes individuals who have given continued service to the church for fifty years or more. During this time, the recipient made outstanding contributions on the local, state, and national levels.

SPECIAL SERVICE MERIT AWARD

The **Special Service Merit Award** recognizes individuals who have worked and made outstanding contributions on the Local, State & National YFFU Committee for at least 15 years or more. The National Youth Committee selects recipients.

DR. J. W. JENKINS YOUTH AWARD

The **Dr. J. W. Jenkins Youth Award** recognizes youth up to age 35, who are full of the Holy Ghost, active in their community, faithful members of the youth department and active on local, state, and national levels. (i.e., singing in General Assembly or Universal Choir, volunteer with YFFU or other auxiliaries during the General Assembly, YFFU Program participation).

BISHOP REBECCA W. FLETCHER ACADEMIC INCENTIVE AWARD

The **Bishop Rebecca W. Fletcher Academic Incentive Award** is a monetary reward given to up to two students on each grade level from Kindergarten to Twelfth grade who displays faithfulness in church as well as in school. To qualify, students must maintain a "C" average or higher with no documented reprimands in the current school year. A copy of the report cards for the school year and (for high school students) a recommendation from the guidance counselor regarding conduct should be included in the nomination. They also must have outstanding achievement/performance in school, church, (SBS, YFFU, church services) and/or the community. They should be approved by the Local Pastor, State Coordinator and State Bishop.

ELDER CLARA LEOLA BELL WILLIAMS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP
(see the 2026 Spring Communique)

Scholarship Application Guidelines

Applicants must be a current bonafide member of the House of God Church, Keith Dominion and meet the following criteria as outlined below.

- Be a high school senior at the time of application submission
- Have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 – transcript must have a seal and be mailed from the high school
- Exhibit strong motivation for education and have commitment and the potential for success
- Demonstrate leadership as evidence by regular attendance and active participation in your local church
- Submit three signed letters of reference: one from teachers/counselors – sealed and on school letterhead, one from an adult member who is a regular attendee and active participant of the local church
 - Church reference must be signed by the Pastor of the church and one from someone who has knowledge of your community involvement
 - Letter of reference should be returned in a sealed envelope addressed to Trial Bishop Yolanda Davis
- Submit a letter of acceptance from an accredited college or university you plan to attend
- Submit completed application packet by April 30th (NO EXCEPTIONS)

Application Deadline April 30th

THE HOUSE OF GOD CHURCH
Keith Dominion
2005 Heiman Street
Nashville, TN 37208
Chief Overseer Bishop Clary K. Butler, Sr.

Selection Criteria

The following items are required to complete the Elder Clara B. Williams Scholarship Application Packet:

500-word minimum Essay Topic

- **How will I use my education to benefit the House of God Church and Community?**

1. Essay will be evaluated according to these categories and the maximum points according to the rubric will be 5 points for each of the categories.

Rubic and Categories

- Usage and mechanics (5 points)
- Clarity and keeping with the theme (5 Points)
- Inclusion of adequate details (5 Points)
- All essays should be typed double-spaced and 500-word minimum. (5 Points)
- Essays should be placed in a manila envelope, accompanied by a cover page, and mailed to Trial Bishop Yolanda Davis at P.O. Box 12391 Florence, South Carolina 29504 or emailed to ymholman@gmail.com.

The scholarship will be awarded based on overall points.

The selected grading scale will be based on the applicant's official transcript and their high school's GPA weighting policy to ensure equality and fairness.

1. *Weighted Grade Point Average (points will be awarded based on the following scale):*

4.60 to 5.00 : 40 points
4.10 to 4.50 : 35 points
3.76 to 4.00 : 30 points
3.51 to 3.75 : 25 points
3.26 to 3.50 : 20 points
3.00 to 3.25 : 15 points

Unweighted Grade Point Average(points will be awarded based on the following scale):

3.9 to 4.0 : 40 points
3.8 to 3.7 : 35 points
3.6 to 3.5 : 30 points
3.4 to 3.3 : 25 points
3.2 to 3.1 : 20 points
3.0 : 15 points

1. References (3 required) : 15 points
2. Essay (typed, minimum of 500 words) : 20 points
3. Community Involvement : 10 points
4. Church Participation : 15 points
(Sunday School, Church Services, Choir, Usher, Missionary, YFFU)

Late Scholarship packets WILL NOT be accepted or reviewed.

THE HOUSE OF GOD CHURCH
Keith Dominion
2005 Heiman Street
Nashville, TN 37208
Chief Overseer Bishop Clary K. Butler, Sr.

Elder Clara B. Williams Memorial Scholarship Application
Please Print Clearly

Name: _____
(Last, First, Middle)

Address: _____
(City, State, Zip Code)

Parent or Guardian(s): _____

Home Phone: (_____)_____-____- Cell: (_____)_____-____-

Email Address: _____

Academic Information

Potential Major/Minor/Field of Study: _____

Name of High School: _____

Address of High School: _____
(City, State, Zip Code)

High School Graduation Date: _____ High School GPA: _____

When did you become a member of the House of God Church? _____

AWARDS RECOMMENDATION FORM

Name of Proposed Recipient: _____

Diocese: _____

[illegible]



WHICH IS THE CHURCH OF THE LIVING GOD THE HOUSE OF GOD
THE PILLAR AND GROUND OF THE TRUTH
WITHOUT CONTROVERSY, INC.
INTERNATIONAL DEACONS UNION KEITH DOMINION

Bishop Clary K. Butler, Sr. Chief Overseer

Deaconess Lilly W. Haygood, President
999 Harvard Street, Rochester, NY 14610-1713
Email: lillyhaygood@yahoo.com Tel: (585) 461-0359 Cell: (585) 749-5643

Deacon John 'Jay' Fonville, Vice President
4301 Haywood Farms Road, New Bern, NC 28562-8361
Email: jfonville1@suddenlink.net Tel: (252) 638-8373

2026 INTERNATIONAL DEACONS UNION AWARDS

The International Deacons Union is now accepting nominations for Deacons who may qualify for the following awards to be presented during the General Assembly Deacon's Program, in June, 2026:

- Bishop Rebecca W. Fletcher Distinguished Leadership Award
- Deacon Johnnie L. King Legacy Award
- Deacon Frank Blue Distinguished Service Award

Please complete and submit all nominations for these awards no later than the **1st of March, 2025** as outlined for each Category listed on the Award Nomination Form. **It is imperative that you use the updated Award Nomination Form that has the notation: *Revised: 2025-2026* at the bottom of the form because the criteria and contact person has changed.** Also, all required signatures **must be on each form** in order for the nominee to be eligible for review of and consideration for an award. **No electronic signatures or signatures initialed that are signed on behalf of someone will be accepted.**

A Deacon can be nominated for each of the Award(s) if he/she meets all of the eligibility qualifications outlined. All nominations from prior years must be resubmitted for several reasons:

- a) The standing or qualifications of the Nominee may have changed from the previous year;
- b) The Nominator may desire to include more information about the Nominee that was excluded the previous year, which may enhance the Nominee's qualification and more closely meet the award criteria.

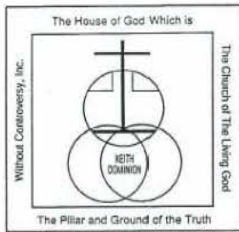
Therefore, you must submit your Award Nominations on the new forms for consideration each year.

The Biographical Sketch for each Nominee is the only document provided to the Awards Screening/Selection Committee for each of the three categories, prior to and after review and selection of the Awardees. All identifiable personal information is never disclosed to ensure confidentiality. No Nomination Forms are resubmitted by the Committee from previous years.

For additional information, please contact Deaconess Nicole Gilliam, IDU Awards Committee Chairperson, (email: nikkig1933@gmail.com or phone: (786) 234-7551).

Please timely submit the completed form for your Nominee prior to the **1st of March, 2026**. The International Deacons Union Auxiliary Program is scheduled for Thursday during the General Assembly in June, 2026 when the Deacon Awards winners will be announced.

Deaconess Lilly W. Haygood



Bishop Rebecca W. Fletcher Distinguished Leadership Award Nomination Form

Description

The Bishop Rebecca W. Fletcher Distinguished Leadership Award was created to honor and recognize our fifth administrator's promotion, advocacy, and development of leaders at all levels, rank, and file of our church. This award highlights the personal contributions and service of deacons and deaconesses of the House of God Church-Keith Dominion who have served in a leadership position. This award is given to individuals who serve or have served on the National level as an Advisor, President, Coordinator, Director, Committee or Subcommittee Chairperson, or as an assistant to these roles, or on the National Staff in an appointed or volunteer position responsible for directing others. This award honors deacons and deaconesses who we believe epitomize the office of deacon as servants of our Lord Jesus Christ and our church. It is the highest and most prestigious award given to honor such individuals.

Criteria

- Ordained Deacon
- Served as a Deacon for at least **20** or more years
- Demonstrates Responsibility, Accountability, Respectability, and Availability
- Has shown commitment throughout their service in the House of God-Keith Dominion
- Submit the **COMPLETED** form to the Committee on or before **March 1**.

Nominee: _____

Local Band: _____ **Diocese:** _____

Current Rating: _____ **Year Ordained:** _____

Nominator's Address: _____

Phone Number: _____ **Email Address:** _____

Required Signatures

Nominator: _____ (Print) _____ (Signature)

Chairman Deacon: _____ (Print) _____ (Signature)

Pastor: _____ (Print) _____ (Signature)

State Bishop: _____ (Print) _____ (Signature)

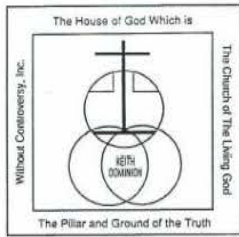
Please use the space provided to give a brief biographical sketch. Include a list of all positions held on the state, local, and national level. Also, include all contributions made as a Deacon/Deaconess, including any outside organizations.

To ensure the committee remains as fair as possible, please write the bio sketch in third person, i.e., “The nominee has been a deacon for 20 years.”

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

To be considered for this award, your form must be completely filled out and must have required signatures (no electronic or substitute initialed signatures accepted). Submit to Deaconess Antoinette Lebby (a.l1977@yahoo.com) on or before March 1.

Revised: 2025-2026



Deacon Frank Blue Distinguished Service Award Nomination Form

Description

The Deacon Frank Blue Distinguished Service Award recognizes the dedication and contributions of deacons and deaconesses who have a distinguished record of service in our church and have freely given of their time and substance to advance and support the ministries of the House of God Church-Keith Dominion. We believe the recipient of this award has exemplified the inherent, selfless, servanthood of the deacon office in our church.

Criteria

- Ordained Deacon
- Served as a Deacon for at least **15** or more years
- Demonstrates Responsibility, Accountability, Respectability, and Availability
- Has shown commitment throughout their service in the House of God-Keith Dominion
- May be awarded to a Deacon/Deaconess Posthumously
- Submit the **COMPLETED** form to the Committee on or before **March 1**.

Nominee _____

Local Band: _____ **Diocese:** _____

Current Rating: _____ **Year Ordained:** _____

Nominator's Address: _____

Phone Number: _____ **Email Address:** _____

Required Signatures

Nominator: _____ (Print) _____ (Signature)

Chairman Deacon: _____ (Print) _____ (Signature)

Pastor: _____ (Print) _____ (Signature)

State Bishop: _____ (Print) _____ (Signature)

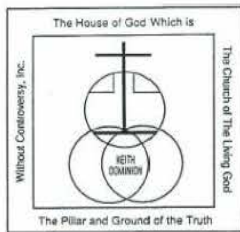
Please use the space provided to give a brief biographical sketch. Include a list of all positions held on the state, local, and national level. Also, include all contributions made as a Deacon/Deaconess, including any outside organizations.

To ensure the committee remains as fair as possible, please write the bio sketch in third person, i.e., “The nominee has been a deacon for 15 years.”

[illegible]

To be considered for this award, your form must be completely filled out and must have required signatures (no electronic or substitute initialed signatures accepted). Submit to Deaconess Antoinette Lebby (a.l1977@yahoo.com) on or before March 1.

Revised: 2025-2026



Deacon Johnnie L. King Legacy Award Nomination Form

Description

The Deacon Johnnie L. King Legacy Award recognizes the dedication and contributions of deacons and deaconesses who have served the House of God, Keith Dominion for 50 or more years. The recipients of this award have long and distinct records of service and support for all ministries of our Church. The calling and election of these deacons and deaconesses is manifested through their enduring and indelible pattern of good works, character and leadership, which others who hold this office should emulate.

Criteria

- Ordained Deacon
- Served as a Deacon for at least **50** or more years
- Demonstrates Responsibility, Accountability, Respectability, and Availability
- Has shown commitment throughout their service in the House of God-Keith Dominion
- May be awarded to a Deacon/Deaconess Posthumously
- Submit the **COMPLETED** form to the Committee on or before **March 1**.

Nominee _____

Local Band: _____ **Diocese:** _____

Current Rating: _____ **Year Ordained:** _____

Nominator's Address: _____

Phone Number: _____ **Email Address:** _____

Required Signatures

Nominator: _____ (Print) _____ (Signature)

Chairman Deacon: _____ (Print) _____ (Signature)

Pastor: _____ (Print) _____ (Signature)

State Bishop: _____ (Print) _____ (Signature)

Please use the space provided to give a brief biographical sketch. Include a list of all positions held on the state, local, and national level. Also, include all contributions made as a Deacon/Deaconess, including any outside organizations.

To ensure the committee remains as fair as possible, please write the bio sketch in third person, i.e., "The nominee has been a deacon for 50 years."

To be considered for this award, your form must be completely filled out and must have required signatures (no electronic or substitute initialed signatures accepted). Submit to Deaconess Antoinette Lebby (a.l1977@yahoo.com) on or before March 1.

Revised: 2025-2026

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INTERNATIONAL DEACONS UNION

Our Future Is Growing: the IDU Young Stewards Mentoring Program

The Young Stewards Mentoring Program (YSMP) is expanding throughout our dioceses and dominion based on the increased number of inquiries we've received regarding the program (how to get started, costs, program activities, etc.) and the increased purchases of our Training Manuals and other items.

We would like to verify and validate this anecdotal information by obtaining the actual number of churches that have implemented the program in their local bands, and the number of Young Stewards (YSIT) in each congregation. **YOU** can help us in this effort!

Please submit the name of your state diocese and local church. Also forward the names, email addresses, and phone numbers of each local Deacon Board Chairperson and list the number of Young Stewards in your local band.

Email this information to: **Deacon Dion Braddy**, IDU Young Stewards Mentoring Program Committee Chair, at dionbraddy@yahoo.com.
Phone (786) 426-7440.

Please submit this information no later than **January 15, 2026**.

Deacon John Fonville, IDU Vice President/Committee Advisor

The House of God

Keith Dominion

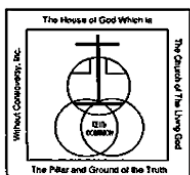
Chief Overseer's Branch Office
FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

Apply Now!



Submit the completed application
and all other deliverables to
cobofellowship@gmail.com

WWW.HOGC.ORG



THE HOUSE OF GOD

WHICH IS THE CHURCH OF THE LIVING GOD
THE PILLAR AND GROUND OF THE TRUTH
WITHOUT CONTROVERSY, INC.
KEITH DOMINION



Headquarters: 2714 Scovel Street Nashville, TN 37208 P: 615.329.1625 F: 615.329.0354

Mailing Address: PO Box 22675 Nashville, TN 37202-2675

Branch Office: PO Box 30787 Charleston, SC 29417-0787

BISHOP CLARY K. BUTLER, SR., CHIEF OVERSEER & SENIOR BISHOP

The Chief Overseer's Fellows Program is designed to assist House of God Church members with exclusive service opportunities. These opportunities may include serving alongside international auxiliaries, serving senior leadership, and all other tasks and duties as assigned. Please email the completed application along with all other required deliverables to cobofellows@gmail.com.

Name: _____

Email Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Diocese: _____

Please indicate which pertains to you below:

☐

I am not in college.

☐

I am currently enrolled in college seeking an undergraduate degree.

☐

I am currently enrolled in college seeking a professional degree.

☐

I have completed my degree(s).

Headshot & Resume:

Please submit a headshot and a copy of your resume, including church accomplishments if applicable, to cobofellows@gmail.com.

All applicants must receive the endorsement of their pastor and presiding prelate.

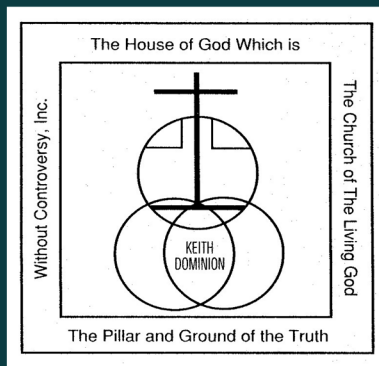
Pastor: _____

Presiding Prelate: _____

I acknowledge and confirm that I have completed and will submit all the required pieces of this application (including my resume and headshot). I understand that my information will be provided to the office of the chief overseer for approval and admission.

Signature: _____

Date: _____



THE HOUSE OF GOD CHURCH - HEADQUARTERS
2714 SCOVEL ST, NASHVILLE, TN 37208

THE HOUSE OF GOD CHURCH
EMMANUEL:
GOD WITH US MATTHEW 1:23