

Monthly NEWSLETTER



December 2024/Vol 77

GTI COVER GIRLS

Stay With God!

Psalms 27:14

DID YOU KNOW

December 10, 1896

Swedish chemist Alfred Nobel died at San Remo, Italy. His will stipulated that income from his \$9 million estate be used for awards recognizing persons who have made valuable contributions to humanity. Nobel recipients are chosen by a committee of the Norwegian parliament. Prizes for Peace, Physics, Chemistry, Medicine, Literature, and Economics are presented annually in a ceremony in Stockholm, Sweden, on the anniversary of his death

December 25th

Christmas Day, commemorating the birth of Jesus of Nazareth. Although the exact date of his birth is not known, it has been celebrated on December 25th by the Roman Catholic Church since 336 A.D.

December 31st

New Year's Eve, the final evening of the Gregorian calendar year, traditionally a night for celebration to welcome in the new year.

December Flower

Holly and Paperwhite Narcissus

December Birthstone

Blue Topaz and Turquoise

Cover Girls November Fellowship Highlights

We began 2024, our 4th year on Zoom and now, there is only one more fellowship for 2024!

We always rocked and enjoyed the best gospel music ever because of our team, the dynamic duo, Missionaries Michelle Logan and Chelece Williams. They know how to pitch hit, swing, pass, and score to bring the night alive!

Our first facilitator, Sister Antonia Lee, started our evening by calling Missionary Van Hill to pray for us. She not only prayed asking God to heal, bless, and keep us, she also asked that the zoom line be opened so the ladies could tell each other that we loved them!

Nothing follows a good prayer like a great scripture. Sister Carrie Banks read Psalms 139:1-7.

With Thanksgiving being in November, it was so befitting for Missionary Gail Webb to share the song, "We Gather Together". This song was written in 1597.

After the names of all the ladies who celebrate their birthday in November, Sister Lee asked everyone to list in the chat something they were thankful for.

Spotlighting "COGIC Women Trailblazer's", Sister Pam Dennis shared the many accomplishments of Mother Annie Pennington Bailey, the 3rd Supervisor of women (1964-1975). Here's a short list of her established units: International Women's Training Institute, Business and Professional Women's

Federation, Sunday School Representatives, and the First National President of Sewing Circle/Artistic Fingers.

Sister Ann Nutt facilitated the second half of the evening. She began with a heartfelt warm "thank you" to all of the Cover Girls for their kindness and acts of love towards her during her moment of need.

Get ready to be encouraged and surprised while not knowing who's doing it, "Secret Sister Project" is back! Sister Charlotte Hines will be the go-to person. Look for an email from GTICoverGirls@gmail.com.

What season is this? Yes, Fall; and Missionary Sunny Vaughn has our children "Falling in Love with Jesus" because he will not change like the seasons. They are studying the history of The Church of God in Christ and Bishop C. H. Mason. Visit our website and download your copy of the Children's Newsletter for more information.

Our Cover Girls Newsletter Team is on the move and growing. Sister Angel Marshall introduced Sisters Charlotte Hines and Eldreai Ellis to the team.

Our leader, Missionary Vanessa Macklin let us know that December 21st will be our annual Christmas in the Park celebration. Her encouraging words for the evening were "Let's live a life that's ready to meet Jesus!" She never fails to thank all those who contributed to this wonderful evening.

Kindness is not what I do but who I am.....

Glad Tidings
International COGIC

970 Glad Tidings Way
Hayward, CA 94544
510-783-9377 (Office)

Inspirational Testimony



Sister Connie McLain

When I wake up in the morning, the first thing I say is “thank you Lord for one more day.” After all I've been through, I thank God I'm still alive.

In 1979 and 1985, because of a hairline fracture on my pelvis, I couldn't walk. In 1986, I had back surgery to correct this condition. Because of diabetes, I suffered with blindness twice. I noticed things started looking blurred and I could see blood in my left eye. Not knowing why, I went to the doctor, and was informed I was hemorrhaging. On my job, I had a signing authority up to a million dollars but I couldn't see what I was typing on my computer. If I signed the wrong document, I would've lost my job. I prayed, “Lord, please don't take my sight.” A magnified viewer was added to my computer screen to enlarge everything but it was still blurred. I didn't want anybody on my job or my husband to know I was going blind. However, one day, I stumbled over something in the living room and my husband asked, “honey are you blind?” I had to tell him I was.

Many surgeries followed. I had artificial lens implants in 1999. They worked for 2 months but because I procrastinated, my sight went away again.

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Inspirational Scripture

I John 1:6-7

If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth: but if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.



Healthy Minds Moment

10 Tips for Surviving the Holidays

The holiday season can bring mixed emotions for many. For some, it is their favorite time of the year. For others, it brings feelings of sadness and loss. Seeing old friends and family members may be exciting or may bring up memories of disappointments.

Feeling depressed or anxious is not unusual during the holiday season. These feelings may be even worse for those who have experienced divorce, loss of a loved one, or living far from family and friends.

Here are 10 tips to “beat the holiday blues”.

1. Keep your regular routine. A change in routine can lead to additional stress
2. Try to exercise at your usual time and stick to as normal diet as you possibly can.

“You are a child of God. You are wonderfully made, dearly loved, and precious in His sight.” Psalm 139.



3. Think moderation. Try not to overindulge with eating and drinking.
4. Be realistic and try not to expect the “ideal” holiday. We tend to have an idealized version of what the holidays should be like and are disappointed when they do not live up to our expectations.
5. Stay connected. Make time to spend with friends and/or family who value you.
6. Throw guilt out the window. Try not to put unreasonable pressure on yourself to be happy.
7. Do not be alone if you do not want to be. Volunteer somewhere, like a soup kitchen, with children in group homes, or the elderly.
8. Focus on today, not yesterday. Family and old friends tend to make us become who we were and not who we are.
9. Just say no. It is okay to say no when you are asked to do more than you can.
10. Ask for help. It is okay to ask for help from family and friends. Be good to yourself. If you are feeling blue, pamper yourself. Do what feels good, and what you want to do. Try to take a walk or spend time alone if that is what you want. Remember, this is your holiday too, and you can be there for yourself just like you try to be for everyone else.

The holidays only come once a year and only last for a few weeks. If you follow these 10 tips, you might just find this year to be more joyful and less stressful.

Linda Walter, LCSW
Life Without Anxiety

Happy Birthday Greetings

We honor and celebrate
November Birthdays



Carrie Banks



Vanessa Hill



Pam Dennis



Jonnie Toney



Toni Lee

Greetings Cover Girls



I will trust in the Lord, I will trust in the Lord, I will trust in the Lord until I die.

I'm going to stay on the battle field, I'm going to stay on the battle field, I'm going to stay on the battle field until I die.

I'm going to treat everybody right, I'm going to treat everybody right, I'm going to treat everybody right, I'm going to treat everybody right until I die.

The election is now over and many people are feeling desponded, sad, and uncertain about the future. The outcome was not what I wanted or expected. Even though it was a surprise to many of us, it didn't come as a surprise to God. He has everything in and under control. The Bible says, some trust in chariots and some in horses but my trust is in God. In these uncertain times, don't get weary, don't be stressful, and have no fear because there is no fear when you trust God.

The Bible says in Mathew 6:30-33, "Wherefore, if God so clothe the grass of the field, which to day is, and to morrow is cast into the oven, shall he not much more clothe you, O ye of little faith? Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? Or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed? (For after all these things do the Gentiles seek:) for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things. But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you."

So, stay strong, stay in God's will, and continue to fight on this battlefield for the Lord because at the end of the day, this is not our home and our only goal is to hear Him say, "Well done my good and faithful servant." Lastly, the animosity, anger, and hatred in this county is at an all time high. We have to get back to "We are one nation under God." It is not "us and them", "me and you", or "left and right" but it is "God and we the people". Let love fill the air and kindness rule the world.

Let's continue to pray for the family of our dear Cover Girl, Sister Shirley Dee Jenkins, who went home to be with the Lord. She will truly be missed.

I want to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and remember Christmas is only about Christ. Don't worry about presents and getting more in debt but spend time with family and friends sharing the birthday of the greatest gift you will ever receive, Jesus Christ.

Lastly, welcome to the world, Grace Elizabeth Cuningkin. You are loved by so many already and with the great parents you have, you are destined for greatness.

Blessings,
Lady Vanessa Macklin

The November Birthdays Continues...



Ann Nutt

Barbara Titus



Alexus Lott



Allegra Tolefree



Arteria Davenport



Cover Girls Unsung Heroes

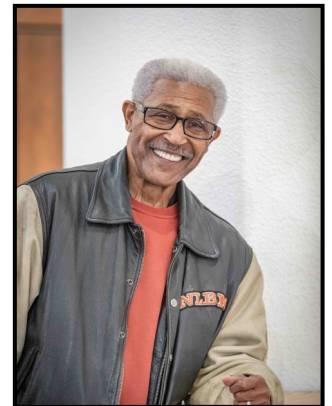
Every month, the Cover Girls Newsletter honors a member who works in ministry not to be seen but because they love the work they do. They are our Unsung Heroes. This month, we celebrate Deacon Fulton Brinkley.

Deacon Brinkley has been a member of GTI for 38 years. Prior to joining GTI, Deacon Brinkley said, "I was a member of any club that was opened" He started coming to GTI because of his next door neighbor, who was a member of the church. She had been inviting him to the church for years before he decided to come. One Sunday, he was babysitting the children because Missionary Brinkley had to work. The children were getting on his nerves and he remembered when he was their age, his mom would take him to church. So, he decided he would take them to church, so they could be in children's church and he would have peace from them. This became his Sunday morning routine. He would come to the morning service, so he could get home in time to watch the game. He would sit behind a pillar where Bishop couldn't see him. One Sunday, while still sitting behind that pillar, Bishop called him up to the alter. He told him to run around the church. He began to run and when he got back to the front of the church, he was speaking in tongues. The Lord saved him and filled him with the Holy Ghost.

The news made it home before he did. So many people called Missionary Brinkley sharing the good news. They told her, he was jumping around the church like a frog. Bishop Macklin became his mentor. He would meet him every Wednesday at Jack in the Box next door to the church to just talk. He was a heavy smoker but Bishop never judged him or challenged him to quit. He would just meet with him and encourage him to get involved in church activities. He would often come to the church early and help with cleaning and setting up the church for the 2nd service with Deacon Galloway to help alleviate some of the pressure from Bishop.

Instead of going to happy hour with friends from work, he started hanging out with the men of the church, Deacon Galloway, Deacon Rogers, and Elder Simpkins. The more he was around Christian men, the less he was with his drinking buddies. This made his transformation a lot easier. The men rallied around him, prayed with him, and became his friends. He said, "Deacon Fred Hines would often pray with him. He also credits Pastor Jerome Harris for helping him and being available to talk with him. He said, "Pastor Harris always had a scripture to what I was going through and the best thing with talking with Pastor Harris, he didn't share it with anybody."

He was 10 minutes late for church one Sunday and when he got there, Bishop had made him Chairman of the Deacon Board. That's what happens when you are late. At the end of the conversation, Deacon Brinkley found his membership certificate with the exact date he joined, which was in 1990. He said, "I was a bootleg member for over 3 years."



We are not able to take group pictures, so I'm asking you to send me your picture for the birthday shout outs. So all of the December birthday ladies, send me your picture for the January Cover Girls Newsletter.

You can send it to: awiley1999@aol.com

Text (510) 459-8867

Stay With God!

August 8, 2001, was the darkest day of my life. My only biological child died of a massive heart attack within a few months of him giving his life to the Lord. The pain of his passing intensified because his wife and six-month old twins were left without a husband and father.

While lying in bed full of grief, the Lord asked me, "Do you trust Me?" I said, "Yes Lord, I trust You." I felt like Peter after God asked me three times the same question. Proverbs 18:10 says, "The name of the Lord is a strong tower: the righteous runneth into it, and is safe." I could not pray as usual. All I could say is "help me Lord".

God knew my fear for my son's wife and children. I was 64 years young when my dad transitioned and I remember how I felt losing my father at that age. So I knew how my grandchildren were feeling losing their father at such a young age in their life. However, every time I wanted to get angry, I could not. Psalm 31:14-15 says, "But I trusted in thee, O LORD: I said, Thou art my God. My times are in thy hand: Deliver me from the hand of mine enemies, and from them that persecute me." I could not let go of God's hand. How could I leave Him during the most painful time of my life. "Staying with God" was my lifeline.

Isaiah 41:10 says, "Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee, yes, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness." I am a living testament that "Staying with God" can bring peace in the midst of a storm, joy in the midst of sorrow, and comfort in the midst of pain. Though I walked through the valley of death, I "Stayed with God"; not knowing the future of my grandchildren, I "Stayed with God"; not having the strength to do it alone, I "Stayed with God".

Deuteronomy 31:8 says, "And the Lord, he it is that doth go before thee; he will be with thee, he will not fail thee; neither forsake thee: fear not, neither be dismayed." The twins are both loving and caring college graduates of HBCUs; but most importantly, God never left them nor has forsaken them. My son continues to live through his children, and why, may you ask? Because I "Stayed with God".

Written By:
Missionary Rosemary McFadden

The 64,000 Dollar Question

What was ONE of the house rules growing up?

Ann Nutt - The entire kitchen had to be clean before bedtime.

Mother Delores Thomas - I could not go to bed until the entire kitchen was clean, dishes, table, floor, and stove.

Rosemary McFadden - A made up bed and clean bedroom every morning.

Angel Marshall - I had to be home before the street lights came on.

Chandra Winters - If you are not in bed, it had to be made up.

Naomi Carter - Be home before lights go down.

Mother Sadie Ross - Number 1 rule, obey your parents.

Lady Vanessa Macklin - Get up and make your bed.

Connie McLain - Clean before going to bed.

Van Hill - Don't sit in my living room.

Kathy Hines - Make our beds, no excuses.

Gerri Rogers - No fighting!!

Charlotte Hines - What goes on in THIS house STAYS in this house!

Chelese Williams - Don't go to bed with dishes in the sink.

Pam Dennis - You either work or go to school.

Evette Newton - No sitting on the bed to watch TV in our bedroom. We had to sit in a chair or on the floor.

Delanda Burgess - On Sunday, we had to get our school clothes out for the whole week.

Carrie Banks - Make up your bed after you get up.

Continue on Page 6

64,000 Dollar Question Continues...

Marion Harris - If you want to eat dinner, be at the table at 5:30 pm.

Tina Chaney - Housework MUST be done before you go outside.

Sabrina Jones - You must clean up!

Allegra Tolefree - What is spoken in the house stays in the house.

Bertha Harris - When my parents had company you knew to go to your room.

Frantasia Mason - Clean like my Big Mommy clean or it's not called cleaning (period).

Dianna Johnson - We had to wait until my dad got home from work before we ate dinner because we had dinner at one time at the same table as a family!

Aineicia Ransburg - If momma said no, and I went and asked my daddy...automatic double team smack down.

Gloria Wright - You will eat what's on your plate.

What's Happening Now

Christmas In The Park

Can you believe it's time for Jingle Bells, giving and sharing, and Christmas trees? Christmas time is here.

But at the North Pole, here at Glad Tidings, it is time for our Annual Christmas In The Park. Bishop Macklin, like Jesus said, "Suffer the little children to come unto me and forbid them not for such is the kingdom of God."



What love and compassion our Bishop has for children. Not only the Glad Tidings children but the community at large. Every year, our campus is transformed into a "Winter Wonderland".



In years past, Pastor Aaron and his team coordinated donations from all the nearby stores and each child would receive two toys! I mean good toys like bicycles, baby dolls, scooters, and more. It was so beautiful to see the eyes of the children light up with anticipation and wonder. A hot cup of cocoa, apple cider, hot dogs, and candy canes was available to everyone plus a picture with Santa for the children. What a time was had by all the neighborhood and surrounding areas.



Well, this year is going to be even bigger and better! GTI's motto is "Go Big or Go Home". We are moving the location to the parking lot on Tennyson Road. We are combining our annual community dinner with this celebration. We are having a massive clothing give-a-way to the community. You will be able to receive slightly used clothes and shoes, live animals to pet and enjoy, food and drinks, and so much more. This event will be the greatest one ever. We are ending the year with a grand celebration for our community.

Oh come all ye faithful, joyful, and triumphant to Glad Tidings as we celebrate our Savior, Jesus Christ.

Seasons Greetings,
Vicki Savoy-Griffin

January's 64,000 Dollar Question

What is your goal for 2025 that was also your goal for 2024?

Testimony continues from Page 2

Since 2000, my sight has not returned in my left eye. One day I called the Human Resources Regional Office to ask for another position in banking because I was going blind. A week later, she came to my office in Watsonville. She looked in my file and said I had plenty of time to take off to get my eyes fixed and still have my job. After being off for 3 months, I returned to work.

In 2007, I lost sight in both eyes again. The doctor decided to perform a Vitrectomy. Now, sight in my right eye is better than 20/20. I was successful on my job and retired after 33 years. In 2017, I was diagnosed with stage 4 kidney disease but thank God, I'm not on dialysis. In July 2021, I got a double pacemaker. On May 6, 2024, I fell and broke my right leg. My surgery was almost 4 hours and 6 weeks in Stone Brook Physical Therapy Center. Many of the sisters and friends came to see me. Lastly, I went to the hospital on November 3rd with pneumonia symptoms and fluid around my heart. After 4 days, I was able to come home.

I'm so thankful and grateful for the healing power of God. I owe Him everything. Continue to keep me in prayers. Millions didn't make but I'm one of the ones who did.

Written By:
Missionary Sharon Burns



Test Your Knowledge

This past year, we have shared stories on different women in the Bible. It's time to see if you remember.

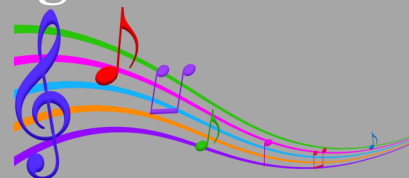
QUESTIONS

1. Who was a virgin when she had her first child?
2. Who was David's first wife?
3. Who taught her daughter, Eunice and grandson, Timothy the scriptures?
4. Who stepped into God's will by faith?
5. Who pleaded for mercy on behalf of her husband?
6. Who became Abraham's second wife?
7. Who name means pleasant or pleasurable but was evil on the inside?
8. Who tricked Judah to lay with her?
9. Who was healed of evil spirits and was a devoted supporter to Jesus's ministry?
10. Who protected her nephew from her mother who killed all her children and grandchildren to take over the throne by hiding him in the temple?
11. Who's name means garbage?

ANSWERS

1. Jezebel
2. Lois
3. The Widow at Zarephath
4. Naamah
5. Mary
6. Keturah
7. Joanna
8. Abigail
9. Jehosheba
10. Tamar
11. Michal

Song of the Month



O Come All Ye Faithful

Composer: John Francis Wade
Born: January 1, 1711, England, UK
Death: August 16, 1786, Douai, France
Occupation: English Hymnist & Musician
Buried: Westminster Cathedral, London, England

LYRICS

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem!
Come, and behold Him, born the King of angels!

REFRAIN

O come, let us adore Him;
O come, let us adore Him;
O come, let us adore Him, Christ, the Lord!

VERSE

God of God, Light of Light,
lo, He abhors not the virgin's womb;
very God, begotten not created; [

REFRAIN

VERSE

Sing, choirs of angels; sing in exultation;
sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above!
Glory to God, all glory in the highest!

REFRAIN

VERSE

Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, born this happy morning;
Jesus, to Thee be all glory giv'n!
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing!

REFRAIN

Chosen and sung by:
Missionary Gail Webb-Goodwin

Harvest Sunday

Matthew 25:37-40

“Then shall the righteous answer him, saying, Lord when saw we thee an hungred, and fed thee? or thirsty, and gave thee drink? When saw we thee a stranger, and took thee in? or naked, and clothed thee? Or when saw we thee sick, or in prison, and came unto thee? And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me.”

Every year, during the Thanksgiving holiday, GTI provides a basket full of food items to cook a feast for Thanksgiving including a turkey. No one should go hungry especially during this time. We prepare hundreds of baskets for the community and members. If you are in need, GTI is here for you!



All Working Towards One Goal



He Gave, So We Give



Great is God's Faithfulness



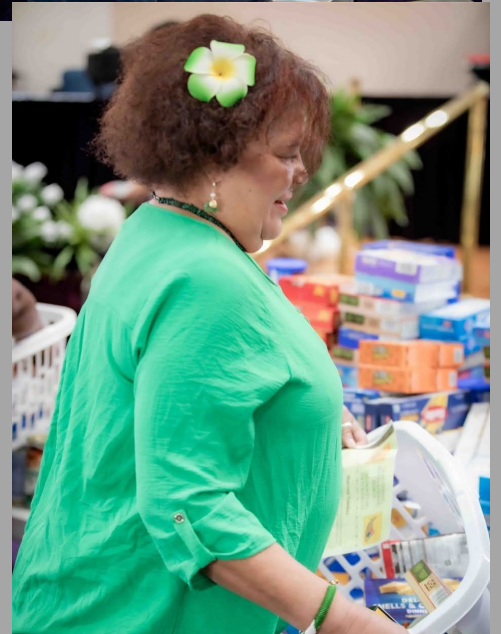
What a Beautiful Sight to See



Giving Back To Our Community



Doing What God Told Us To Do



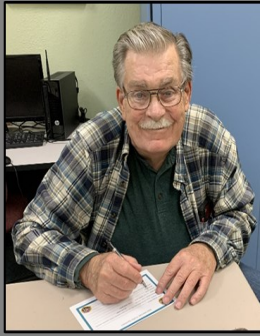
We Are Family

We are Praying for You

15



Faith Omoregie



Jeff Brazelton



Sierra Smith



Rita Marie Stevenson



Veldon Beckum



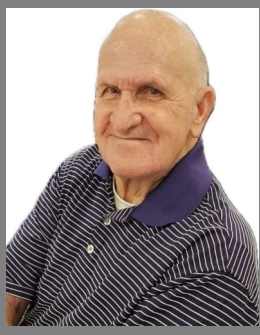
Brian Smith



Owen Omoregie



Reginald Wiley



Robert Orcutt



Owen Omoregie



Queen Aihie



Virginia Lee

Bereavement

Sister Shirley (Dee) Jenkins - Service
12/12/24

Sick List

Annie Bailey
Twanda Bailey
Deacon Mike Davis
Richard Davis
Daryl and Hazel Fair
Jacqueline Fennoy
Andrea Franklin
Milton Garland
Patricia James
Kimbrea Johnson
Doran King
Stacy Louis
Gwen McClure
Christopher Morris
Thomas Michael Nash
Elder Stuart Peyton
Emily Sanderfur
Natasha Shaw
Judy Stanley
Marie Stevenson
Keith Taylor
Samuel Walker
Mother Denise Winn

Convalescent

Juanita West
Mother Mary Shepard
Patricia Raspberry
Thaddius McDaniel
Shirley Hartman
Carolyn Walker
Yvette Drake
Tramaine Mitchell
Elder Albert Green
Larry Miles

Home Shut in

Mother Izoniah Lovett
Ralph Paige
Shonette Todd
Elder James Tucker
Helen Washington
Mother Mamie Simon
Claudell Woods
Josephine Freeman
Mother Sylvia Horton
Phyllis Walker

This month, we take a look back at members who became family of the Glad Tiding International COGIC. We've had many to join and are so glad you have decided to stay. We are stronger together.

Pray for saints everywhere

The Bible says in 2 Timothy 2:15, “Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.”

Sunday School is so important to the Christian believers. It’s a way to learn the Word of God, to ask questions, and to rightly divide the word of truth like the scripture says.

As the church grows, the Sunday School Department should grow and evolve as well. The recent relaunch of Glad Tidings International COGIC’s Sunday School is all about building community through smaller, more intimate gatherings.

During the pandemic, Bishop Macklin’s vision kept Christian education and fellowship alive through a single, large Zoom class. This format continued even in the post-pandemic hybrid model. For almost two years, we rotated teachers weekly, using both in-person and online options to ensure everyone stayed engaged.

However, we saw a need to evolve. The pandemic showed us that small groups foster a sense of belonging, which became central to our new approach. With Bishop Macklin’s guidance, Sunday School has now transitioned into smaller, specialized classes designed to better serve our congregation’s diverse needs. This includes new support groups for men, women, teens, young adults, and seniors, and even our children. All are structured to deepen spiritual connection and fellowship.

The children are not only learning about God but also the history of the Church of God in Christ.

Additionally, we’re excited to re-introduce the One Heart Ministry Couples Class for married couples and a new class for Missionaries, Ministers, and Elders. These focused groups provide a meaningful setting where people can share, support, and grow together. It will be strengthening both for personal growth and community faith journeys.

This relaunch is just the beginning. Glad Tidings International COGIC is preparing for even more ways to connect, grow, and uplift our community.

Stay tuned for future offerings as we continue to follow Bishop Macklin’s inspired vision for ministry. This is only just the beginning because we have a leader who is constantly developing new ideals as God gives him more vision.

You can scan the QR code for the classes that are offered. Sunday School will help you with your walk with Christ.



Coming Attractions

- December 1st - December’s Birthday Celebration
- December 7th - Cover Girls Quarterly Fellowship - 10AM Benihana, Concord, CA.
- December 11th - Cover Girl’s Monthly Women’s Zoom Fellowships
- December 20th - GTI Christmas in the Park
- December 22nd - GTI Christmas Program
- December 25th - Christmas Day
- December 31st - Watch Night - New Year Eve Service

Weekly: Online services for Bible Study and in person on Tuesday night, Friday Night Service, and In-person Sunday Morning at 9am and Zoom replay at 11am

gladdtidingscogic.org

**Submit your prayer request to
info@gti.church**

Stay committed to the vision of the Family Life Center and let’s continue to pay our pledges.