

# Monthly NEWSLETTER

July 2025/Vol 84

GTI COVER GIRLS



## Happy 4th of July

### DID YOU KNOW

#### July 1, 1863

Beginning of the Battle of Gettysburg during the American Civil War.

#### July 4, 1776

The Declaration of Independence was approved by the Continental Congress.

#### July 19-20, 1848

A women's rights convention was held at Seneca Falls, New York. Topics discussed included voting rights, property rights, and divorce. The convention marked the beginning of an organized women's rights movement in the U.S.

#### July 20, 1969

A global audience watched on television as Apollo 11 Astronaut Neil Armstrong took his first step onto the moon. As he stepped onto the moon's surface, he proclaimed, "That's one small step for man, one giant leap for mankind".

#### July Flower

Larkspur and the Water Lily

#### July Birthstone

Ruby

### Cover Girls Fellowship Highlights

As GTI Cover Girls, we began 2025 at the speed of faith with goals, challenges, and expectations. Over the years, our main goal has been to read through the Bible in a year. If the question was asked, "Are you up to date?" do not beat yourself over the head, just do a crash binge and catch up.

Also, a new challenge was to study one word for the month. Words for February to July also included scriptures. They were Faith, Obedience, Worship, Prayer, and Compassion.

The word for July is Love. The scriptures tell us what love is; what it is not; who you should love, and most importantly, who love is from because God is love!

I Corinthians 13:4-7 says, "Charity suffereth long, and is kind; charity envieth not; charity vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up, Doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil; Rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth; Beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things."

Matthew 22:37-39 says, "Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself."

1 John 4:7-8 says, "Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God. He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love."

The most powerful love scripture is St. John 3:16, "For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten son that whosoever believeth in him should not perish but have ever lasting life."

In this day and time we are living in, we need to love and know God! Lady Macklin says it best, "IT'S NOT OVER UNTIL GOD SAYS IT'S OVER."

Yes, we all are living through troubled times but we, the Spirit filled believers will put our trust in the Lord, leaning not on our own understanding, or any news channel. We go about doing what we know and living a righteous life. As a result of all this, you must stand firm, unshakable, excelling in the work of the Lord as always, because you know that your labor isn't going to be for nothing in the Lord.

Join us as we celebrate our June birthdays in July. Mark your calendar and save the date for Saturday, September 20th for our "Day Away Outing" We will start signing up on the first Sunday, August 6, 2025.

ALWAYS: ENCOURAGE,  
SUPPORT, PRAY, AND LOVE  
EACH OTHER!

Glad Tidings  
International COGIC

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# Inspirational Testimony



## Mother Mamie Simon & Evette

First, I want to give thanks, praise, and honor to God for allowing my mother, Mother Mamie Simon to be here for another Mother's Day, 2025 at the age of 95 years old. Second, I want to thank Bishop and Lady Macklin, and the GTI family for keeping my mom in your prayers.

My mom health challenges began in 2016, when she was diagnosed with Parathyroid Disease. This made her weak and tired, and at times, she could barely walk. That's when I started going once a week to help her and my stepdad. Papa Gus, who also started having some health challenges. He passed away in 2019, then my brother passed away 6 months later in 2020, my mom's only son. I could see their deaths took more of a toll on her health.

Then in 2022, my mom was diagnosed with congestive heart failure, stage 4 kidney failure, and a prolapse colon. From 2022 to 2024, my mom was in and out of the hospital because her feet would swell so big from heart failure. They would have to remove fluid from around her heart and from her lungs, which would take 3-4 days, sometimes 5 days in the hospital.

In February 2024, I had to take my mom back to the hospital because of the swelling in her feet and I could hear the fluid in her chest. This time it was different and worse.

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## Inspirational Scripture

### Proverbs 3:5-6

Trust in the Lord with all thine heart;  
And lean not unto thine own  
understanding. In all thy ways  
acknowledge him, And he shall direct  
thy paths.



## Healthy Living Vertigo

### Understanding Vertigo and Its Relationship to the Ear

#### What is Vertigo?

Vertigo is a specific type of dizziness characterized by the false sensation of spinning or movement. It is not merely a feeling of lightheadedness or a loss of consciousness.

#### Distinguishing Vertigo from Other Conditions

It is crucial to differentiate vertigo from other types of dizziness, such as lightheadedness, presyncope, or disequilibrium.

#### Vertigo and the Ear

The ear plays a crucial role in balance and spatial orientation, making it a key organ in understanding vertigo. The vestibular system is responsible for detecting motion.

#### Five Key Diagnoses for Causes of Vertigo

##### 1. Benign Paroxysmal Positional Vertigo (BPPV) (95%)

BPPV is one of the most common causes of vertigo. It occurs when tiny calcium carbonate crystals (otoconia) within the inner ear dislodge and move into the (the loops of the cochlea).

##### 2. Ménière's Disease

Ménière's disease is a chronic condition of the inner ear that causes recurrent episodes of vertigo. It is often accompanied by fluctuating hearing loss, tinnitus, and a sensation of fullness in the affected ear.

##### 3. Vestibular Neuritis

Vestibular neuritis is an inflammation of the vestibular nerve, which transmits balance information from the inner ear to the brain. It is caused by a viral infection.

##### 4. Labyrinthitis

Labyrinthitis like vestibular neuritis involves inflammation of the nerve and the cochlea. Patients experience both vertigo and hearing loss, along with tinnitus.

##### 5. Superior Canal Dehiscence

Superior canal dehiscence syndrome is a rare disorder. Central (Brain or spinal cord) Causes of Vertigo. Central vertigo arises from issues within the central nervous system, particularly the brainstem or cerebellum.

#### Conclusion

Vertigo is a complex condition that can stem from the ear or other parts of the body. Understanding the specific type and origin of vertigo is essential for effective diagnosis and treatment.

For more information on this topic and others visit me at <https://www.YouTube.com/@bodybalance25>. New information is uploaded every Wednesday at 6 a.m. EST. The show is featured on "The Church Family Channel" app under Church Medicine, on Firestick, Roku, Appletv or follow me on YouTube @bodybalance25 or on my podcast on RSS.com @bodybalance.

**Written By: Charla Johnson**

# Happy Birthday Greetings

We honor and celebrate  
**June Birthdays**

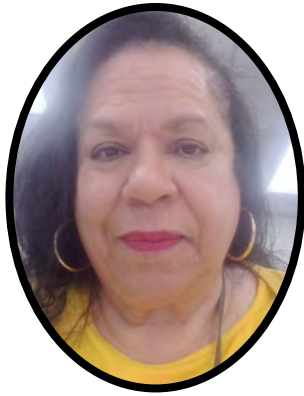


Angel Marshall

Mother Adrienne Green



Jennifer Morris



Judy Mackay



Rhonda Simien-Hayes



## Greetings Cover Girls

*Ain't no harm done calling on Jesus, Ain't no harm done calling on the Lord. Ain't no harm done calling on Jesus, calling on the Name of the Lord*

*I got saved calling on the name of Jesus, I got saved calling on the Lord. I got saved calling on Jesus, calling on the name of the Lord.*

*My body got healed calling on the name of Jesus, My body got healed calling on the Lord. My body got healed calling on the name of Jesus, calling on the name of the Lord.*

This is one of those old songs we used to sing during testimony service, when we had testimony service. I learned from an early age, the power that is in the name of Jesus. The Bible says, demons tremble just at the sound of His name. When trouble comes, call on the name of Jesus. I remember as a child, depending on the situation, I would either call my daddy or my mama. When I called my dad, sometimes he would say, "Ask your mother." I soon found out, when I really needed help, there is only one name that I can call on and He will answer prayer. Whenever you need any thing, call on Jesus and I guarantee, He is just waiting for you to call because He has already answered. He's just waiting for you to ask.

What a wonderful 47th year church anniversary celebration we had last month. It was such a joyous occasion, also with the dedication of the charging stations at the South Campus. The Singles Ministries were in charge of the service and did an excellent job coordinating the day. We made it 47 years through fasting and prayer and we will continue to move forward as long as we continue to let our light shine and not become dim. The only way that will not happen, we must stay connected to the power source, which is the Holy Ghost. As long as we stay connect to the charger, our light will continue to shine.

Last month, one of our Cover Girls went home to be with the Lord. Charone Jackson was a faithful member. She worked with many ministries throughout the 35 years at the church. She was the choir director, worked with the Pastor and Wife anniversary committee, and was the leader over the Single's Ministry. Due to health reasons, she could longer continue as the leader of the Singles but she continued to serve in the ministry as much as she could. Charone will truly be missed. Let's continue to pray for her family.

Congratulations to the Cover Girls Newsletter staff on your 7th year anniversary.

Blessings,  
Lady Vanessa Macklin



I'm sure you have heard many stories about strong, courageous women who have struggled in life with their battles, but God has brought them through. The Bible contains many inspiring stories of brave women who show incredible strength, courage, and faith. These great women often faced challenging circumstances that could have left them broken, but instead, they trusted God and walked boldly with their shoulders pulled back and their feet planted on the ground. They made it in life because of their fortitude, power, and obedience to the Word of God. You can say that many of these women did not have a strong Christian background, or many were unchurched, but they all had something to believe in. Today, women of God, I write these encouraging words of wisdom to you because I am one of those unsung heroes like yourselves who have something to talk about. We all must open our mouths, speak out our God-given voice, and let the world know that Jesus Christ is the same today and forevermore.

Ruth 1:16-17 states, "Lord, deal with me, be it ever so severely, if anything but death separates you and me." Her strength allowed her to step into the unknown, leaving her homeland, and people behind. It took great strength to leave her home and enter Israel as a foreigner. Her unwavering loyalty, perseverance, and faith in the God of Israel fueled her strength. She trusted God with her future, even though her circumstances seemed bleak.

So, women of God, even if they talk about you in their little circles or groups, don't worry about them because God is holding you up and working it out for your good (Romans 8:28). He is walking with you to the finish line. As many of you may know, my husband, my rock, passed away on September 1, 2025, and it seemed like the world had drifted away from me. God was setting me up, and I did not even realize it during the time of my suffering because on July 9th, I received two phone calls that I had been reassigned to serve as Supervisor of Kenya Third Impact Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction, COGIC in the continent of Africa, as well as completing my second Ph.D. in Psychology (Only God can do it). But through it all, I am learning to depend and trust in God (Proverbs 3:5-6). We get our hurts from church people who say they love God but will say things to you to get a negative reaction. Most times, they do not know what to say when a sister loses her husband, but I found out I am not the only woman in this world who has lost her husband, so when the enemy comes at me like a flood, the Lord will lift up a standard against it. However, from a psychological perspective, someone can go through the same trauma but respond to it differently. So, women of God, continue to trust in Jesus and don't entertain fools who try to interrupt your peace because God will take care of you. Remember that fortitude is courage in the face of adversity. It's the strength of mind that allows a person to endure pain or hardship with courage and resilience (Merriam-Webster). "Never forget you are God's gift to the world."

Also, look for my book, which will be released in August 2025, on Aged-out Foster Youth's Exposure to Spiritual Foster Homes and Transition into Adulthood. The publication can be found on ProQuest.

**Blessings**  
**Supervisor, Dr. Valerie Sims**

## The 64,000 Dollar Question

**You would get a million dollars if you can name the one person you call and they will NOT answer the phone. Who would that be?**

**Linda Lax** - My sister in law, Sharon

**Ruby Brown** - My brother, Archie

**Naomi McCoy** - My son, Stephon

**Yvette Glasgow** - Pastor Paul

**Donna Cooksey** - My work friend

**Jackie Forks** - My brother, DeAndre

**Vivian Irving** - Sister Donna

**Pamela Dennis** - My nephew, Zachary

**Toni Lee** - My 2nd eldest sister, Cecilia Bereal

**Judy Mackay** - My daughter

**Revina Bowling-Williams** - "My husband

**Rasheeda Salaam** - My sister, Jamila

**Naomi Carter** - My son, Robert

**Paula James** - My brothers, Boo and Reggie

**Bertha Harris** - My daughter in law, Sherrell

**Eldreai Ellis** - Keisha Serrano

**Kim Patton** - My brother, Shawn Harris

**Kathy Lyons-Brown** - My girlfriend, Jackie

**Allegra Tolefree** - Stacey Tucker

**Etana Imani** - My grandmother, Elizabeth Sharp

**Delanda Burgess** - My mom, Lean Johnson

**Jonni Atkins** - My friend, Kimberly in Miami

**Lady Vanessa Macklin** - My oldest brother

**Charlotte Hines** - My niece, Jasmine

**Continue on page 6**



## June Birthdays Continues...



Mother Ernestine Woods



Azariah Serrano-Liddie



Evette Newton



Revina Bowling-Williams



Faith Omoregie

## Cover Girls Unsung Heroes

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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 Sister Renita Sanders.

Sister Renita has been a member of GTI for over 13 years. Prior to joining GTI, she was a member of New Sweet Home COGIC under the leadership of Dad Macklin. She joined GTI because she enrolled in school and the commute going back and forth to church from the Bay to Palo Alto and attending school became too difficult. New Sweet Home was her family church where she attended as a child. She was 9 years old when her family joined. Her mom, sister, uncle, and other family members still attend church there.

Sister Renita is thankful for the Church of God in Christ. She grew up in church but left the church. When she was out in the world, she became pregnant. She decided she wasn't going to keep the baby. When she went to the doctor to abort the baby, the doctor informed her she might be pregnant with twins and ordered an ultrasound. As the doctor was listening to the heart beat, it was the strongest heart beat he had ever heard. The Lord said to her, "this baby is crying out, saying let me live. If you keep this baby, you shall be bless." That moment, I asked the Lord to save me because I can't do this by myself.. That was in 1999, she gave her life back to the Lord. It hasn't always been easy but God has always made a way.

The first ministry she joined was Sunday School. She remember, she didn't want to do it but Sister Robinson told her I need to talk to you. She said, "I told myself, I'm just going to sit in the back and not get involved. I didn't want to do anything. But that is not what God had for me. I listened to the voice of God." Then she became leader of the Single's Ministry. One Sunday, Bishop came up to me and told me he wanted me to the director of this ministry. She told him, "Bishop that's not me. I'm more of the behind the scenes person." At that time, Sister Charone was the director but she wanted to pass the baton due to her health challenges. Bishop said, "You will be fine."

Sister Renita would like to see the Single's Ministry come together as a ministry and reach out to those who are not saved letting them know Jesus loves them. She would like the Singles Ministry to have their own Bible study, singles conferences, and 12 hour prayer. She said, "Dad Macklin used to always say, as a single person, you can devote more of your time to God because you don't have a spouse." She would like the Single Ministries to provide support and encouragement to single parents as well, letting them know, they are not alone.

Sister Renita is happy to be a part of GTI and she loves her leaders. She said, "We have leaders that are one of a kind. They are wonderful." Her message to Lady Macklin, "You are a mother of many nations. Don't ever change."



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 July birthday ladies, send me your picture for the August Cover Girls Newsletter.

You can send it to: [awiley1999@aol.com](mailto:awiley1999@aol.com)

Text (510) 459-8867

# What's Happening Now

## 2025 Vacation Bible School

As the school year comes to an end and summer begins, it is time for Vacation Bible School. Well, if you don't know what VBS is, here are a few key aspects.

Vacation Bible School aims to teach Biblical lessons, instill Christian values, and create a fun, engaging environment for spiritual growth. VBS is 4 days of a wonderful educational program, focusing on religion for children and adults alike. It involves Bible lessons, religious instruction, activities, recreational games, crafts, music, and other activities all centered around a specific theme and of course some good food. VBS is designed to teach children the Gospel but it is also an outreach program for children who don't normally attend church. As an evangelistic tool, VBS helps churches fulfill the Great Commission (Matthew 28:19).

VBS also teaches children about the Bible and Christian principles through various activities. It is also a way for GTI to connect with families in the community and surrounding areas, offering a positive experience for children. VBS helps children develop their understanding of faith and build a foundation for their spiritual lives. Classes are available for all grade levels.

Adult participation is also available through dedicated Bible study sessions held alongside the children's classes focusing on building community fellowship and a deeper understanding of the Word of God.

VBS begins on July 15th through July 18th from 3 pm to 7pm. Knowledgeable teachers who are spirit filled, will create an atmosphere of love and kindness. Sis Renea Wilson is the coordinator and she and her team are ready for this year's adventures.

VBS is an outreach program sponsored by GTI. Everyone involved in this ministry looks forward to it every year. It is free to everyone, so bring your children, grandchildren, and neighborhood kids. They will have a fun, learning experience they will remember for a lifetime. I know I remember those VBS days as a kid.

**Written By: Vickki Savoy-Griffin**

**Fantasia Mason** - My sister in Demopolis, Alabama because she is a traveling nurse.

**Jacque Fennoy** - My sister, Julliette

**Marcia Gaulden** - My friend in Orlando, June Ali

**Krystal Smith** - My brother, Robert

**Ann Nutt** - My granddaughter, Jasmyne

**Gloria Wright** - My daughter, Shaun

**Evette Newton** - My oldest grandson.

**Staci Palmer** - My son, Elandis

**Myrel Ross** - My son, Jayson

**Aineicia Ransburg** - My daughter, Kaira

**Cynthia Dunn** - Keisha Serrano

**Teresa Gibson** - My baby sister, Janet McMiller

**Angel Marshall** - My daughter, Aunee Wiley

**Tina Chaney** - First Lady Tammy Benson

**Stacey Tucker** - Bridget McGrady

**Renita Sanders** - My sister, Renee

**Rosemary Omoregie** - My sister in Nigeria because of the time difference and her phone WiFi is turned off.

## August's 64,000 Dollar Question

**What song can you hear that immediately causes you to have the ugly cry?**

**Continue from Page 2**

The doctors came to me and said, she only have about 6 months to live and placed her in hospice.

My mom was sent some with oxygen, a nebulizer, and morphine, which I was against, and only gave maybe twice for pain. Her feet continued to swell, she slept a lot, and the prolapse colon still fell down at times but God!!! So many times, I thought this was it, but the prayers of the saints and God began to work. Every time, Bishop passed out blessed oil, I would get a bottle for my mom and anoint her with it, and sometimes, she would anoint herself. The hospice doctor wanted me to stop giving the medicines for her heart and removing the fluid but I didn't feel it in my spirit. So, I didn't and told the doctor that I wasn't. The doctor said to me, "Well, she is dying anyway." But God, he has the last say. He told me to remove her from hospice and I did.

These last 4 months, my mom's feet has not swelled, I have not had to give her oxygen, nor use the nebulizer, and I have disposed the morphine. She's up walking around at times, and has been to church three times so far, which she hadn't been in 5 1/2 years.

Yes, they still say she still has all the medical conditions. Even this past March, her heart test showed she now has Ventricular Tachycardia. But one year and five months later, my mom is still here. I continue to believe and trust God. Also, I know prayer works!!!

Written By:  
Missionary Sharon Burns



## Worker for the Lord

*"Salute the beloved Persis, who labored much in the Lord." (Rom. 16:12b).*

Persis was a remarkable Woman of the Bible and this verse speaks volumes about the character and contribution to the early church. Her name is Greek origin meaning a Persian woman. Not much else is known about her except she stayed in Rome and serve the Lord with Paul and other believers. Her story focuses on dedication and hard work within the church community. Paul salutes several women, but gives three distinct commendations that set Persis apart from the others.

### First, "The Beloved"

His statement suggest that Persis work demonstrated her love and she was greatly loved and dear to heart. Her work in the ministry earned the love and respect of those around her.

### Secondly, "Who Labored Much"

Persis was intensely dedicated, and faithfully served in the church. She fed the hungry, housed the homeless, and prayed for the sick. She did whatever needed to be done. As a disciple, she ministered, studied God's Word, encouraged, and spoke to others about Jesus. She always was doing ministry and taking care of the Lord's business. There is much to learn and model from this woman.

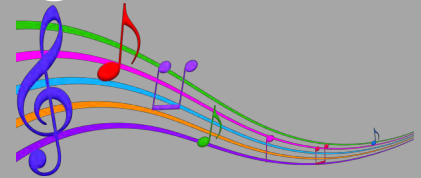
### The third and final commendation, "In the Lord"

Persis worked hard, pushing herself to the limit of her power, yet, she trusted God for renewed strength from the Holy Ghost. Zechariah 4:6 reads, "Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the Lord of hosts.

The work God has for us to do is accomplished by his power and not our own. We can learn to stay focused on kingdom work that glorifies God. Working in the church should always be in the will of the Lord and not about our personal goals or for the praise of men.

Women of God there is much work for us to do. Remember Persis, keep her as a model of church work before us that we also may be commended by God.

## Song of the Month



## Have Thine Own Way, Lord

**Composer:** Adelaide A. Pollard (Birth Name: Sarah Addison Pollard)  
**Born:** November 27, 1862, Bloomfield, Iowa  
**Died:** December 20, 1934, New York City.  
**Melody By:** George C. Stabbing  
**Genre:** Hymn  
**Written:** 1907  
**Based on:** Jeremiah 18:1-6

## LYRICS

Have thine own way, Lord! Have thine own way!

Thou art the Potter, I am the clay.  
Mold me and make me after thy will.  
While I am waiting, yielded and still.

Have thine own way, Lord! Have thine own way!

Search me and try me, Master, today!  
Whiter than snow, Lord, wash me just now,  
As in thy presence humbly I bow.

Have Thine own way, Lord! Have thine own way!

Wounded and weary, help me, I pray!  
Power, all power, surely is thine! Touch me and  
heal me, Savior divine.

Have thine own way, Lord! Have thine own way!

Hold o'er my being absolute sway!  
Fill with thy Spirit, 'till all shall see.  
Christ only always, living in me.

**Chosen and sung by:**  
**Missionary Gail Webb-Goodwin**



# 47th Year Church Anniversary

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# Congratulations GTI

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# God Has Been Good To Us

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# God Is Faithful To GTI

11





# This Light Will Shine Forever

12













## We Are Family

# Cover Girls United

This month, the Cover Girls Newsletter celebrates 7 years in publication. This newsletter was the vision of our First Lady, Missionary Vanessa Macklin to provide a monthly newsletter with insight, information, fun facts, and words of encouragement for the women of GTI. It is a ministry tool to unite the women who are not able to attend church on a regular bases but can stay informed through reading it. The newsletter is also emailed and mailed to women who are not members of the church but enjoy fellowshiping with other Women of God. It is a way for us to stay connected.



Can you imagine it's been 7 years! It has evolved from a 4 page newsletter to 16-20 pages at times. More and more articles have been added. It covers highlights of the monthly Women's Fellowship, Healthy Living, Healthy Minds Moments, Women of the Bible, and Spotlight Corner just to name a few. It's designed to help the body, soul, and spirit.

The Cover Girls Newsletter will not be possible if it wasn't for those who work every month using their gifts and talents for the body of Christ.



A special "Thank You" to the following amazing, awesome, fabulous people: Gloria Wright, Rosemary McFadden, Marion Harris and the Health and Wellness Ministry, Gail Webb, Sharon Burns, Vickki Savoy-Griffin, Eldreai Ellis, Kim Patton, Meredith Walker, Charlotte Hines, Doug Edmunds, the Missionaries and Deaconess who share their Words of Wisdom, and all

the ladies who contribute monthly in anyway through your testimony, sharing your pictures, and answering the \$64K Question. There is no Cover Girls Newsletter without all of you.

In His Service  
Angel Marshall



## We are Praying for You

### Sick List

Mother Elizabeth Sharp  
Brother Mickey Williams  
Annie Bailey  
Andrea Franklin  
Patricia James  
Doran King  
Stacy Louis  
Christopher Morris  
Lance Newton  
Emily Sanderfur  
Natasha Shaw  
Judy Stanley  
Keith Taylor  
Samuel Walker  
Mother Denise Winn  
Vinson Pressley  
Alma Scott  
Nathaniel Riley  
Mother Catherine White  
Lamarkus Gregory (Ken Gregory's brother)  
Aaron Cook (Missionary Hines' son in law)  
Shirley Nelson (Evette Newton's sister)

### Convalescent

Mother Mary Shepard  
Patricia Raspberry  
Thaddius McDaniels  
Anita Clark  
Belva Porter  
Carol Walker  
Mira James  
Yvette Drake  
Elder Albert Green  
Albert Johnson

### Home Shut in

Ralph Paige  
Shonette Todd  
Elder James Tucker  
Larry Miles  
Claudell Woods  
Deacon Fred Hines  
Josephine Freeman  
Mother Sylvia Horton  
Phyllis Walker  
Shirley Butler

Pray for saints everywhere

The 47th Church Anniversary of Glad Tidings International Church of God in Christ was a celebration like no other. The presence of the Lord was undeniably felt as the saints gathered with joy and unity, basking in the glory of God. This year's theme, “47 Years of Shining the Light! Yes, We Are That Light!” resonated deeply in the hearts of all who attended. It reminded us of the power and responsibility we carry as Spirit-led believers, walking in the beauty of Holiness and operating on one accord.

Throughout the celebration, it became clear, GTI is no ordinary church. Week after week, under the leadership of Bishop J.W. Macklin, the Word of God goes forth with power and precision. The anniversary's guest speaker, Bishop Roland Sanders of Chicago, Illinois, further confirmed the Word with a stirring message grounded in Matthew 5:14–16 and Acts 1:8. His challenge to the congregation, “Is your light still on after the storm?” In a world riddled with disappointment and discouragement, dealing with people who have let you down, and discovering no one was there but God. GTI stands as a lighthouse, proving that God's people can endure, thrive, and shine even after the fiercest storms.

The celebration was marked by spiritual richness and divine purpose. Brother Reggie Jenkins delivered a meaningful presentation on the “*Spiritual Colors of Elegance*”.

- **Brown** – the foundation of the earth
- **Peach** – gentleness and joy
- **Cream/Ivory** – purity
- **Gold** – glory
- **Platinum** – endurance and value

His insights revealed how these colors reflect the deeper layers of our spiritual walk, and encouraging us to pursue purity, balance, and enlightenment in our daily lives.

A heartfelt testimony by Missionary Deborah Leftridge served as a powerful reminder of how one decision can change generations. She shared how her mother, Sister Annette Sanders, moved their family from San Jose to Hayward and began attending GTI, an act that redirected the course of their lives. Her mother decided that if she could change the environment of her children, then God could change their lives! That faithful step led to spiritual grounding, academic success, and generational transformation. “Life changes everything,” she reminded us, “and we need GTI to keep shining for our children, youth, seniors, and families.”

Following the anniversary service, the celebration continued at GTI's South Campus with a festive dedication of the new Solar Power and EV Charging Stations, part of the ongoing campus renovation. Surrounded by family, friends, and neighbors, the afternoon was filled with laughter, delicious food, and warm fellowship. The joy and unity of GTI continues to cultivate after nearly five decades.

As the curtains closed on this year's anniversary, the GTI family looks ahead with expectation and renewed purpose. The vision remains clear. The calling remains strong. The light of this great church continues to shine brighter than ever. We honor our beloved leaders, who 47 years ago answered God's call and established this unwavering beacon of hope in Hayward. Today, that legacy stands firm, not only in buildings and programs, but in transforming lives, restoring families, and a community forever impacted by the power of God. GTI, the light is still on and we are that light!

## Coming Attractions

July 6th - July Birthday Celebration

July 12th - GTI Ladies Night Out

July 15th-18th - GTI Vacation Bible School

July 18th - GTI Couples Bowling for Love

July 20th-25th - GTI Bible Conference & Summer Revival

July 27th - Back To School Backpack Giveaway

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

[gladtidingscogic.org](http://gladtidingscogic.org)

Submit your prayer request to  
[info@gti.church](mailto:info@gti.church)

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