



the

ENVOY

A New Era

*Superintendent
Chad and Julie Mc Atee*



...SO THAT I MAY FINISH
MY RACE WITH JOY, AND
THE MINISTRY WHICH I
RECEIVED FROM THE
LORD JESUS...
ACTS 20:24

FORMER SUPERINTENDENT DONALD G. GIFFORD

HIGHLIGHTS FROM HISTORIC 77TH INDIANA DISTRICT COUNCIL



The Indiana District Council ministers, delegates, and visitors experienced a highly empowered Holy Spirit gathering. A special thanks to Pastor Wayne and Traci Murray and their team for hosting us with excellence. There were 727 registered for council, 494 voting during business, and many special guests. There were over 700 who attended the ordination service. Our worship experiences were led by Steve Sherwood and the Greenwood Grace team, as well as Paula Gallaway with worship leaders and musicians from across our district.

Our General Superintendent Doug Clay spoke Monday evening, at Tuesday's missions lunch, and at the ordination service with 16 ordination candidates. Superintendent Clay spoke with anointing and effectiveness to all our attendees. We also honored five individuals who were recognized for 50 Years of ordination: Ted and Sue Brust, Sam and Marcia Bush, Harvey and Kathi Lange, Phillip and Lynn Parker, and Gary and Karen Sobol.

The District Council elected Chad McAtee as our new district superintendent. He will begin July 1, 2023. Pastor Chad and Julie will serve with excellence and Spirit-empowerment. Pastor Chad was elected as our district executive secretary in 2018 and was re-elected in 2022. At this District Council, Pastor Chad was elected on the first electoral ballot showing strong support and unity among our district family. The prophetic word Julie spoke over Pastor Chad from 1 Chronicles 12:32 sealed the deal! It was an awesome moment to witness! The council then proceeded to elect someone for the position of executive secretary with five individuals receiving at least 15 nominations to be considered by the executive presbytery. Pastor Scott Burr was elected by a strong vote and will begin serving mid-July 2023 in his new assignment. Pastor Scott and Tandy have served as lead pastors at Owensville Dayspring Community Church since 2000. Pastor Scott was also elected to serve as the Southwest executive presbyter in May 2021. The Burrs have hearts for church planting, as well as world and U.S. missions. They will serve with Holy Spirit anointing and wisdom, making a great addition to the district team.

Also elected was Pastor Orlando Soler as the Northwest executive presbyter. Pastor Orlando was appointed in the fall of 2022 by the Indiana executive presbytery and elected for a three-year term to serve in that position. Pastor Soler and his wife, Sugey have served as ministry group presbyters and have been lead pastors at Hammond Life Point Church since 2013. Elected for the first time to serve as an executive presbyter for the Southwest area was Pastor Joel Rivera. He also serves as a ministry group presbyter. Pastor Joel and his wife, Kim have been lead pastors at Jasper Victory AG since 2011. They have a heart for the Kingdom and making investments in the ministries of others.

The Council also (by unanimous consent) voted to ask Superintendent Chad McAtee and Assistant Superintendent Robby Bradford to be the nominees for Indiana to be

considered for the Great Lakes Non-Resident Executive Presbyters at the General Council of the Assemblies of God. We elected Teresa Trout as our Indiana nominee for the Female Non-Resident Executive Presbyter for the Great Lakes region of the General Council of the Assemblies of God.

We are thrilled with the ratifications of Kathy Holdeman as the women's director and Pastor Greg Allison as the district treasurer who also ministers to our district affiliated churches.

Following Monday night's service, there was a celebration to honor Pastor Don and Diane Gifford for their 19.5 years of ministry as the Indiana District Superintendent. We express many thanks to the planning team of Robby Bradford, Ralph and Kathy Holdeman, Jen Doyle, Susie Bradley, Chad and Julie McAtee, and Greg Allison, who put together this great event. It had delicious food and a spectacular program. Jen Reese also did several projects for the planning team.

Superintendent Don and Diane were honored by several individuals who spoke words of affirmation. Videos were shown from former IDAG team members, past assistant superintendents, as well as former and present superintendents from other districts.

The many beautiful cards with your hand-written notes were overwhelming! Together we express our deep gratitude for your generosity and thank the executive presbytery for their very generous monetary gift to us. We felt undeserving of such kindness, and we are very thankful for your loving support. You have been such a blessing to Diane and me.

The greatest Monday evening highlights were our children who spoke blessings over us – our daughters, Angel Hinson and Megan Cregger, and our son Nathan Gifford singing a song he wrote in our honor. Of course, another highlight was Pastor Bob Fairchild roasting me, but not Diane, due to his fear of her! Pastor Bob, you were hilarious! We loved it and we felt very honored and hugged!

We appreciate the presentation of the beautiful roses, the many gifts, and especially those fishing poles! It was a joy to have over 30 family members, and especially Diane's

sister and husband, Pastor Larry and Denise Ramsfield from Wyoming. Also there was my sister, Karen Helms, an ordained AG pastor's wife from St. Petersburg, FL; my brother, Jerry Gifford, and his wife, Patty; and many of our grandchildren and great-grandchildren. I was especially honored to have my mom, Mary Gifford, who will be 89 years young in August. Diane and I would like to express our sincere and deepest gratitude for allowing us to serve the greatest ministry family in the world, the Indiana District Assemblies of God. It has been an honor to have followed our spiritual father of 29 years, Rev. Charles Crank. We say, "To God be the glory!"





NEW MEMBERS JOIN IDAG TEAM

TIM DAVIS, Church Development Director

Welcome Pastor Tim and Angie Davis as our Church Development director. Tim and Angie have been married for 32 years and have three adult children, Caleb, Bethany, and Bryson. Tim graduated from Central Bible College in Springfield, Missouri with a B.A. in Bible and Missions. They bring 31 years of ministry experience, beginning in 1992 when Tim became the student pastor at Greencastle First Assembly (The Storehouse). They remained in Greencastle while transitioning to the role of lead pastor from 1996 until 2004, when Tim joined the staff at Greenwood Grace. There he served 19 years in varying capacities, including ministries such as care, teams, assimilation, missions, and young adults. In addition to his pastoral role, Tim is an ISOM faculty member, serves on the district credentialing committee, and is vice president of Angelcare Inc. Angie has served alongside Tim providing leadership in areas of worship, hospitality, women’s ministry, young adults, and junior bible quiz. They are honored to join the district team and look forward to serving the Indiana District family.



MARK WHITEHEAD, NextGen Student Ministries Director

We also welcome Pastor Mark and Ashley Whitehead as our NextGen Student Ministries director. Mark was born and raised in Lafayette. He spent the first two years out of high school serving at a program in Big Sandy, Texas designed to help out with natural disasters. His main focus was on leadership and leadership development. After returning home to the Lafayette area, he began to study at Purdue University. While studying agricultural economics and serving as a youth leader at West Lafayette Bethel Christian Life Center (now Connection Point Church), he felt the call into full-time ministry. Ashley was born in Topeka, Kansas and lived there until she was 16. There her parents served as youth/staff pastors. Her family then moved to Colorado in 2001, where her dad served in the district office. Ashley graduated from Southwestern Assemblies of God University with a Bachelor’s degree in professional development and a minor in biblical studies. Following the call



to serve in ministry, Mark transferred to North Central University in Minneapolis, where he graduated with a Bachelor’s degree in youth ministries, and minors in biblical studies and business. After graduation, Mark and Ashley got married in Colorado Springs and began their ministry serving as youth pastors at Living Waters Church, in Salida, Colorado. From there they served as youth pastors over multiple campuses at Topeka First Assembly in Kansas. Upon moving back to Indiana, Mark and Ashley welcomed their son Samuel in 2016. In January 2017, Mark and Ashley joined the staff at West Lafayette Connection Point Church as youth pastors and in 2020, they transitioned to the role of NextGen pastors overseeing both kids and youth ministries.

JASON DAILEY, Southeast Executive Presbyter

Having the approval of our Executive Prebytery upon the resignation of Greg Carter, Jason Dailey joins the team, serving a one-year term as Southeast executive presbyter. Jason is in his sixth year as lead pastor of Madison Assembly of God. He is married to his wife, Amy of 28 years. They have four children whom they love very much. Before lead pastoring, Jason and Amy served 13 years at Greenwood Grace Assembly under Pastor Wayne Murray. Jason holds a B.A. in management, an M.A. in ministry, and a Ph.D. in ministerial leadership. He looks forward to serving Superintendent Chad McAtee and the Southeast region of Indiana.



AMY ALLISON, Administrative Assistant and Office Manager

Amy Allison is joining the Indiana District team as the administrative assistant and office manager. She will be supporting Superintendent Chad McAtee. Amy has a Bachelor’s degree in Christian Education from Anderson University. She has been an administrative assistant for over 30 years with 15 years working with executives in various sectors from ministry, education, manufacturing, and healthcare. Her most recent assignment was at Riley Children’s Health at Indiana University Health, where she assisted the executive team including the chief physician executive, chief financial officer, chief strategy officer and chief medical information officer. She was at Riley for seven years, with a total of 12 years at IU Health. Amy is married to Pastor Greg Allison, IDAG treasurer and business administrator. Amy and Greg have been married for 27 years and have three sons: Nathan (22), Ryan (18), and Carter (16).



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EXECUTIVE PRESBYTERS:

Jason Dailey Ralph Holdeman
 Joel Rivera Orlando Soler
 Teresa Trout Brian Whidden



TENSION BETWEEN HUMANITY AND DIVINITY

I was first called to the ministry at the age of 13 at the altars of Logansport Assembly of God, now LifeGate Church. The sense of God's hand on my life and plans for me to serve Him in full-time ministry was unmistakable. Through the years, the Lord was faithful to confirm my calling many times over. Most notably in a Sunday night service at Calvary Assembly of God in Elkhart, Indiana circa 1999. This night was life-changing as I surrendered my life to God and all He had in store for the ministries I would lead.

What I didn't know at the time, as a naïve Bible college student, was how broken I'd become through ministry; how inadequate I really was to make any difference in the world; how much God would have to work in my life to make me useful to His kingdom.

There's an old adage we've been quoting for several decades which goes like this: God doesn't call the qualified, He qualifies the called. Sounds super-spiritual, right? We hear it and say "amen" and reflect on how inadequate or unqualified we are. And rightly so.

Why does God call so many people to ministry who just don't have what it takes to do it? To make a difference? To really build the Kingdom? From the very beginning God called lower class people (fisherman, tax collectors, zealots, unlearned) to carry the message of the Gospel to a lost world. He didn't and doesn't choose the leaders we would choose.

I think the answer is two-fold: First, He calls people like this (me) because He has an expectation we will yield to Him and transform. We will grow. We won't stay in the place He initially found us. We will become something greater through the work of God in our lives. This is both our responsibility and God's divine work at the same time. How does He accomplish this life-long task? A few thoughts, though non-exhaustive:

- **Spiritual Formation** – God always starts in the beginning. I found, in those first five or six years of ministry, God used every circumstance and ministry moment to forge in me the essentials for surviving this thing called vocational ministry. Devotional life, perseverance, humility, thicker skin, and many other attributes become part of our character in those early years.

- **Unmet Expectations** – If you're following God in ministry, you've likely had people through the formation years tell you all kinds of things about how you are going to change the world. These well-meaning people unintentionally set us up for disillusionment and disappointment. When we wake up five years later and realize the world is yet un-changed, we can become frustrated at best and jaded at worst. But God uses this to put to death our selfish ambition and personal visions of grandeur so that His visions can become the centerpiece of our lives and ministry.

- **Suffering and Difficulty** – I once had a lady question my salvation over the Super Bowl. True story. I've had the "ladies prayer group" spend most of their "prayer time" gossiping about how I wasn't doing a good job. Two families once left my church over the playing of a Monkeys song at an outreach. We planted a second campus and no one new came. You have stories too. Suffering is the natural way God transforms us. St John of the Cross' "dark night of the soul" is the real deal. When we suffer, our flesh is put to death. More transformation happens in suffering, whether personal or ministerial, than in any other way.

Second, He calls people like this (me) so they will know they MUST rely on His strength, omnipotence, and purposes. We can do A LOT through Christ who strengthens us, but the truth is, there is A LOT only God can do. I distinctly remember the moment, early in my ministry during a prayer session, when God asked me if I was ready to do things His way and in His strength yet. I was stunned at the insinuation. But He was right. I'd taken "my" ministry as far as I was going to with the talents I had. How does God reveal our need for His strength AND lead us to surrender to it?

- **Failure** – Too much success early in ministry (whatever success is) can be seriously detrimental to this necessity. In American church culture, the truth is you don't really need God to have a big church or ministry. You need systems and the ability to execute (most churches have neither, frankly). When Jesus gave the 70 the ability to drive out demons and heal the sick, they were pretty impressed with themselves. These kinds of moments gave rise, in Luke 22 for instance, to arguments on who would be the greatest in the Kingdom of God. So our good, good Father often allows failure in our life or ministry to drive us from our strength into His capable arms. Failure is usually a blessing.

- **He Lets Us Feel Lostness** – The depravity of man is a real thing. Our souls should be stirred by the brokenness of our cities and towns. It's always been sad to me how deeply I can feel people's lostness in other parts of the world but struggle to feel it the same here in the USA. I want to feel what the Father feels. But there's a second part to this idea. Often God will let us feel lost. That empty feeling that something needs to be done, something needs to happen, but we are completely lost as to exactly what. This sense drives us to our knees (at least it should, rather than another conference) and deepens our dependence on Him. It's interesting often when we have no idea what to do, it gives way to the greatest things only God can do. And He does these things through us.

- **He Gives Us Impossible Assignments** – If we've tasted failure, we sometimes avoid some of these assignments. The enormity and impossibility of ministering reconciliation in some of the places and to some of the people assigned to us is overwhelming. Someone being transformed by God and relying on His strength for ministry will be asked by God to do ministry beyond them. This is the natural way. Remember Jesus gave additional talents to the servant who had been faithful with little. Impossible assignments are our opportunity to, as Mark Batterson says, work like it depends on us, but pray like it depends on God.

It is within this tension point God equips the called. If either of these components are missing from our lives, we will remain unqualified, incapable, and insufficient to accomplish the assignments we have. Why am I writing this? My current assignments are well above my head, gifts, and strengths. So, I need to revisit this tension. But I also want to encourage you, pastor, to yield to the transformation processes God has for your life. No matter how long you've been in ministry or at your current assignment, decide today to transform, and lean into God's strength! Live comfortably in the tension between your humanity and His divinity. Work hard, don't be lazy or complacent, but recognize without Him at the center, you can do nothing.



ISOM STUDENTS HONORED AT DISTRICT COUNCIL



Pastor Chad McAtee and Pastor Ed Garcia presented the ISOM graduates at the 2023 Indiana District Council on May 23 at Greenwood Grace Assembly of God.

Student Completing Certificate in Biblical Studies

Michelle McCauley

Students Completing Level One

Zachary Brubaker
Victoria Dawson
Jason Forthman
Ryan Griffin
Andrew Helton
Davey Medlin
Steve Miller
Andrew Nelson
Matthew Overman
William Reames
Deann Shannon
Steven Stallsworth
Adriana Tunin
Brice Webster
Trisha Webster
Isaiah Wilson
Jamie Wilson
Amanda Wise

Students Completing Nivel Uno - Spanish

Nubia Bobadilla
Jinette Cepeda
Edward Flores
Eloína Ortega
Carlos Vasquez
Emerson Vasquez

Students Completing Level Two

Alyssa Dermody
Jason Forthman
William Guerin
Michael Newman
Taiwo Oloyede
Robert Rickaby
Teri Rickaby
Monica Rominger

Students Completing Nivel Dos - Spanish

Zavier Agosto
Lenia Gamez
Gloria Garduño
Boris Gavilanes
Salomón Guerra
Yasmin Guerra
Ivonne Martinez
Johana Ramirez
Mercedes Zamora

Students Completing Level Three

Cynthia Chapman
John Chapman
Tiffany Courtney
Kelly Davidhizar
Phillip Miller
Jason Quellhorst

Students Completing All Three Levels

Gregory Ayris
Darren Carey
Anna Flack
Cody Tedford
Deborah Zupances

Students Completing All Tres Niveles - Spanish

Alba Arroyo
Josefina Bueso
Eduardo Flores



STUDENT MINISTRIES CHAD MCATEE

INDIANA FINE ARTS FESTIVAL RECAP

Fine Arts 2023 took place on April 15 at Lafayette River City. It was an amazing day highlighting our talented Indiana students and their gifts! A huge THANK YOU to River City Church for hosting with excellence once again!



IDAG PK Retreat

August 11-13, 2023
Lake Placid in Hartford City

Speaker:
Adam Detamore
Greenfield Realife Church

To Register: www.indianaag.org/events



GIRLS MINISTRIES FIELD DAY AT EAGLE CREEK

We had a wonderful time Saturday, June 3rd at Eagle Creek Park for our Indiana Girls Ministries Field Day! There were 43 girls and 11 leaders in attendance!

It was so nice to meet some great girls and amazing leaders who mentor these young ladies. I'm excited for what God is doing for our girls in Indiana!

- Pastor Becky Buess, Girls Ministries Coordinator



ANNUAL RANGERFEST RECAP: THE LOST TEMPLE

Over 150 boys and men gathered at the Rangers Campground at Lake Placid for our annual Rangerfest on June 2-4. Our theme was the Lost Temple. Boys enjoyed activities that challenged them, such as Bible trivia, primitive spear throwing, Bible search timed events, black powder shooting for the older boys, and air powered rifles for the younger boys. The boys earned pieces of ancient instruments of war during their events. Teams constructed trebuchets onsite, then used them to hurl project tiles across the athletic field at targets. Boys also competed for awards, such as the messiest tent, cleanest tent, ugliest socks award, and the best cook.

A Royal Ranger Gold Medal recipient, Pastor Mikel Stull, who is now serving as the Youth Pastor at Fort Wayne Hope Church, preached a message on cleansing the temple. He challenged us to seek a closer walk as vessels of a holy God. Worship was led by Nathan Runion and Levi Grubbs from Outpost 1 (Fort Wayne First Assembly), and Charlie Holbrook from Outpost 174 (Auburn Souls Harbor Assembly). Thank you to all the men who invested in this next generation of young men.

- Pastor Michael Holbrook, Royal Rangers Commander





LIVING HEAVEN DOWN

Thoughts taken from Lisa Potter's book, "The Collective Journey"

We all struggle with perfection, wanting to believe that perfection is achievable. But to the perfectionist - it never is! Perfectionism is relentless and exhausting; it isolates, highlights inferiority, produces shame, and creates false-self.

Perfectionism is NOT the same thing as striving to be your best and it is NOT self-improvement. It is important to work toward healthy achievements and growth, but perfectionism creates a false-self and is motivated by acceptance and approval.

Henri J. M. Nouwen says in his book, *Life of the Beloved*, "I have come to realize that the greatest trap in our life is not success, popularity, or power, but self-rejection. Success, popularity, and power can indeed present a great temptation, but their seductive quality often comes from the way they are part of the much larger temptation of SELF-REJECTION. When we have come to believe in the voices that call us worthless and unlovable, then success, popularity, and power are easily perceived as attractive solutions. The real trap, however, is self-rejection. Self-rejection is the greatest enemy of the spiritual life because it contradicts the sacred voice that calls us 'Beloved'. Being the Beloved constitutes the core truth of our existence."

The most important thing that you and I need to remind ourselves of is this - at the end of it all, we remain God's BELOVED!

Think of it this way, does God love you more when you are doing amazing things for Him? Or, if you were in a coma and unable to do a single thing for Him, what would cause Him to love you? Do your accomplishments cause Him to love you more?

We are simply beloved by God - regardless of what we can or cannot do. His love cannot be earned. This mind set begins to reveal Heaven Downward thinking.

Earth Up thinking is the perfectionist model and is impossible to maintain. It is "leader on the platform thinking."

When doing our best is still not good enough and the burden of perfection turns to false-self, we have traded our "beloved status for an earthly reward that will diminish the heavenly perspective. To say 'no' to perfection is saying 'yes' to presence. Heaven Downward is open hearted instead of heavy hearted.

The trap of living an unhealthy life centered on perfection remains a strong temptation in the lives of leaders. Peter Scazzero talks about three temptations that lead to false-self:

1. I am what I do - performance model
2. I am what I have - possession model
3. I am what others think - popularity model

Instead, we need to listen to Jesus and take risks, knowing that God's intentions are good and He loves us regardless.

Matthew 11:28-30 in The Message puts it this way, "Are you tired? Worn out? Burned out on religion? Come to me. Get away with me and you'll recover your life. I'll show you how to take a real rest. Walk with me and work with me - watch how I do it. Learn the unforced rhythms of grace. I won't lay anything heavy or ill-fitting on you. Keep company with me and you'll learn to live freely and lightly."

2023 **VITAL CONFERENCE**

FASHIONED
CREATED FOR PURPOSE

Greenwood Grace
Speaker | Martha Tennison

Friday-Saturday
September 29-30

register online at wms.indianaag.org/events



HEALTHY PENTECOSTAL MISSIONS

Our vision for the Church must align with God's. From His promise to Abraham that "all peoples on earth will be blessed" (Genesis 12:3) to the magnificent revelation of redeemed humanity in all its diversity (Revelation 5:9; 7:9; 21:24,26), God's heart for redemption is clear. People around the world with the least access to the gospel are crying out for truth. We know where the Church does not exist today. We have statistics, charts, and maps highlighting the places where there is little to no gospel witness.

We cannot unknow this information, nor can we stand before the judgment seat of Christ and plead ignorance. The missional realities of our generation compel us to reach the unreached. Healthy Pentecostal missiology is built on the foundation of Scripture. Three biblical insights are particularly relevant to this discussion:

1. The Bible's vision of Spirit-filled witness--Acts 1:8 is a significant verse for Pentecostals. This text informs not only our experience of baptism in the Holy Spirit, but also the primary purpose for this empowerment. The Pentecostal revival at the turn of the 20th century led to a rapid expansion of global missions. In 1914, the founders of the Assemblies of God expressed a desire to achieve "the greatest evangelism that the world has ever seen." We remain committed to the same calling of going in the power of the Spirit, taking the life-changing message of the gospel to people who have not yet heard.

2. The Bible's vision of humanity needing salvation from sin and reconciliation to God--People who are against missions, whether non-Christians or believers, hold a view of humanity that is at odds with the Bible. According to the biblical revelation, God created human beings in His image. However, sin entered the world and separated people from their Creator. The Bible's portrait of humanity as lost and in need of salvation is at the heart of God's redemptive project. It is also the fundamental starting point for understanding Scripture.

As Christopher J.H. Wright puts it in *The Mission of God*, "The whole Bible could be portrayed as a very long answer to a very simple question: What can God do about the sin and rebellion of the human race?" Reconciliation is at the center of the biblical narrative. The good news of what God has done through Jesus Christ is the message of hope we proclaim to a broken world. We continue preaching this saving message because reconciliation begins with proclamation (Romans 10:14-15). Romans 1:18-32 indicates humans suppress what they know about God from general revelation. Ultimately, all are accountable to God (Romans 3:19). In their rebellion, sinful humanity actively rejects the light (John 3:19-20; Revelation 9:20-21). Yet God is merciful. He sent His Son to die for lost people (John 3:16), and He sends His Church to declare His truth.

3. The Bible's vision of multiplication--Indigenous national church movements are a beautiful thing. In them lies the greatest hope for evangelizing their cultures and passing the faith on to the next generation. A fully indigenous, Bible-believing congregation is a missionary church that will go places to fulfill the Great Commission. The purpose of partnering with national churches is not to fill slots local believers can manage, but to help them reach and train their own people. Eventually, they will come full circle and send their own cross-cultural workers into the mission fields.

Of course, there are many who disagree radically with our understanding of the Bible and our continued desire to proclaim Jesus Christ to the world by sending missionaries. To use Chris Wright's phrase, however, we want to read the Bible with its grain and not against it. And that grain is the grand story of God's redemptive plan for all people. History is on our side in this. The

explosive worldwide growth of the Pentecostal Movement during the 20th century started with Spirit-filled believers who took seriously the Bible's message about the lostness of humanity, God's love for the world, the saving work of Christ, and the role of God's people in proclaiming salvation.

God is likewise calling this generation of Pentecostal men and women to go where the church and faith do not exist. We must continue sending gospel workers to engage in missional evangelism because there are still people in need of a Savior. We believe every person should hear a loving invitation to follow Jesus. That is what compels us to go as missionaries and send missionaries.

- Excerpt from the article, "The Case for Missionaries," by Dr. John Easter and Alan Johnson from the Spring 2023 issue of *Influence* magazine.



HOME AND AVAILABLE

CAREER MISSIONARIES

Stuart & Wendy Brown – Compassion Link – (417) 920-4150
sbrown@compassionlink.org

Jeremy & Kali Lance – South Africa – (812) 664-6534
jeremy.lance@agwmafrica.org

Tiffany Patterson – Arab World – (217) 617-6822
tiffanyk99@hotmail.com

Carolyn Slaughter – Northern Asia – (317) 430-7989
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Greg & Lisa Webby – Arab World – (765) 412-9143
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Eric & Tiffany Richardson – Arab World
etrichardson1@gmail.com

Alyssa Smock – Eurasia – (317) 294-3656
alsmock1@gmail.com

U.S. MISSIONARY

Tanya Jo Shipley-Knapp - Intercultural Ministries (Muslim)
(740) 504-5062 – tjoship@gmail.com

DISTRICT COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

A credentialed women's luncheon was held on Monday, May 22.

A Spanish speaking church planting seminar was held on Monday, May 22. Ed Garcia was the main speaker for this event.



Leaders from the Top Ten BGMC giving churches



NextGen Student Ministries Director Mark Whitehead and Lead Pastor Mark Wright spoke about giving at the STL/BGMC Grand Club Luncheon held on Monday, May 22.



Leaders from the Top Ten STL giving churches



Former Superintendent Don Gifford opened business on Monday, May 22 with prayer.



Pastor Chad and Julie McAtee were voted in as the next District Superintendent on Monday, May 22, on the first electoral ballot.



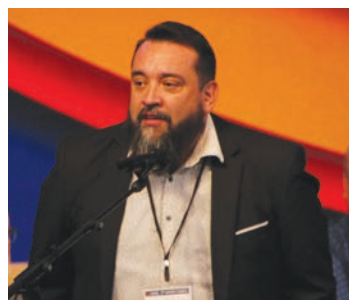
Roster Chair Jason Dailey



Host Pastor Wayne Murray



Pastor Scott and Tandy Burr were elected as the new Executive Secretary.



Pastor Orlando Soler was elected as the Northwest Executive Presbyter.



Pastor Joel Rivera was elected as the Southwest Executive Presbyter.



Pastor Teresa Trout was nominated for consideration as an ordained female for the General Council Executive Presbytery.

DISTRICT COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS



Monday night's worship service was led by Steve Sherwood and the worship team from Greenwood Grace.



General Superintendent Doug Clay was the guest speaker for Monday night's service.

Following the service, there was a retirement celebration for Superintendent Don and Diane Gifford.



The Giffords were honored and presented with several gifts at the Monday night celebration.



Former DYD Steve and Elaine Furr honored the Giffords.



Bob Fairchild brought the jokes and roasted the Giffords.



NCU President Scott and Karen Hagan attended the celebration.



Several people recorded video messages to the Giffords.



Former Executive Presbyter Greg Carter presented Former Superintendent Don Gifford with a special shepherd's staff.



The Gifford children and their spouses honored their parents: Nathan (pictured above), Angel and Ronnie Hinson (below), and Chris and Megan Cregger (below).



Several enjoyed the buffet at the Gifford celebration.



Carla Bowling and Former Superintendent Don Gifford



Keith and Karen Taylor with Don and Diane Gifford

DISTRICT COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS



A breakfast was hosted by Greenwood Grace honoring senior ministers 65 and older.



Former Superintendent Don Gifford preached the Tuesday morning communion message.



Former Superintendent Don and Diane Gifford consecrated Superintendent Chad and Julie McAtee at the Tuesday morning communion service at Greenwood Grace on May 23.



Tuesday's communion service worship was led by District Music Director Paula Gallaway and worship leaders from across the Indiana District.



Gary Sobol, Philip Parker, Sam Bush, Ted Brust, and Harvey Lange were honored on Tuesday, May 23 for being ordained for 50 years.



The World Missions Luncheon was held on Tuesday in The Commons at Greenwood Grace. Global Workers were given the opportunity to host tables. World Missions Secretary Jon Sosa led this event. General Superintendent Doug Clay was the guest speaker. Attendees were given the opportunity to prayer over Global Workers.

DISTRICT COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS



The 2023 Ordination Class with spouses and presbyters



Licensed and certified ministers and Indiana School of ministry graduates were recognized at Tuesday night's ordination service.



Ordination Class of 2023



2023 Executive Presbyters with Former Superintendent Don Gifford and General Superintendent Doug Clay.



Tuesday night worship was led by Steve Sherwood and the worship team from Greenwood Grace Assembly.



District Superintendent Chad McAtee introduced the ministry candidates and General Superintendent Doug Clay was the speaker for the Tuesday night ordination service at Greenwood Grace.



On Wednesday, May 24, ministers gathered for the 9th Annual Bike Ride for Missions and the 16th Annual Charles Crank Golf Outing.

NEWS AND VIEWS



On April 9, Easter Sunday, Pastor Chad and Julie McAtee attended a soft launch service for a brand-new Spanish speaking church within the ministry of Lafayette River City Church. This ministry is led by Pastor Ed and Evelyn Garcia.



April 23, Superintendent Don and Diane Gifford consecrated Chris and Amy Stubbs as the new lead pastors of Bedford First AG. The Stubbs are former AG world missionaries to Africa. Pastor Chris' parents were there from New Zealand, as well as several from Amy's family.



Pastor Greg and Amy Allison were honored to lead the consecration service for Pastor Larry and Connie Grow at French Lick Living Waters on May 28.



It is always an honor to be in a consecration service where the father passes his baton to his son. Superintendent Don and Diane Gifford did just that, on April 30, at Elkhart Calvary AG, watching Pastor Brian Whidden pass the baton to his son and new lead pastor, Nathan and Shauna Whidden. Brian, and his wife, Melody were honored for their 14 years of pastoring Elkhart Calvary, presenting a shepherd's staff to Brian and a card to Melody.



Superintendent Don and Diane Gifford shared in ministry on May 30 at Richmond First AG with Pastors Carlos and Sharon King. The Kings celebrated 30 years as pastors and Sharon's recent ordination at district council. Both pastors were presented with NLT Fire Bibles.

June 11 was a very special day for Pastor Timothy and Vonda Schroeder, as together we celebrated a dedication of the newly remodeled facilities at Danville New Beginnings AG. Even after a pipe broke earlier in the week damaging their new flooring (which insurance is covering), the church looked amazing! Many special guests were present, including several family members and friends of the Schroeder's. When former Pastor Phil Bilyeu passed away, Pastor Tim and Vonda came back to Indiana and later became the new pastors. Pastor Linda Greer serves as associate pastor. She and her team led worship.



On June 25, Superintendent Don and Diane Gifford consecrated Pastor Jeff and Kathryn Culver as the new pastors at Brownsburg Lighthouse Christian Fellowship. Former Pastors Dennis and Coetta DeWitt were in the service to pass the baton to Pastor Jeff.



Pastor Greg and Amy Allsion consecrated Chris and Missy Padgett as the new pastors of Indianapolis Discover Church and also the directors of Indianapolis Urban Outreach. Pastor Ken and Deborah Duke, interim pastor, was there to pass the baton on June 25.



With Christ...



Rev. Paul Murray, 84, passed away on June 6, 2023. Those who knew Pastor Paul know there was joy in heaven upon his arrival. No doubt he is telling stories and making even the most stoic saints cry with laughter. Paul was born on March 27, 1939 in Chicago, IL to John

Buren Murray and Ruth (Homoky) Murray. When he was 4 years old, Paul's family moved to South Bend, IN. As a boy, Paul loved buses, and at the age of 12 he asked his mother if he could ride the big bus on Sunday mornings to South Bend Gospel Tabernacle. Paul served 10 years as an associate pastor at South Bend Calvary Temple, now Southgate. He graduated from Central Bible College in Springfield, MO in 1961. He and Esther Uldin were married on August 25, 1962. They had two children, Jon and Rachelle. Paul became an ordained minister at the age of 23. For 22 years he pastored churches in Newell and Rapid City, South Dakota; Elkhart and LaPorte, Indiana. While pastoring in South Dakota, Pastor Paul was the state youth director for the District Assemblies of God churches. He and his family returned to South Bend in 1985 where he was an associate pastor at Calvary Temple until 1993 when he left the church pastorate to become a full time missionary evangelist. Paul is survived by his loving wife of 62 years, Esther; children Jon Murray (Amy) of Escondido, CA and Rachelle Hillebrand of South Bend, IN and five grandchildren.

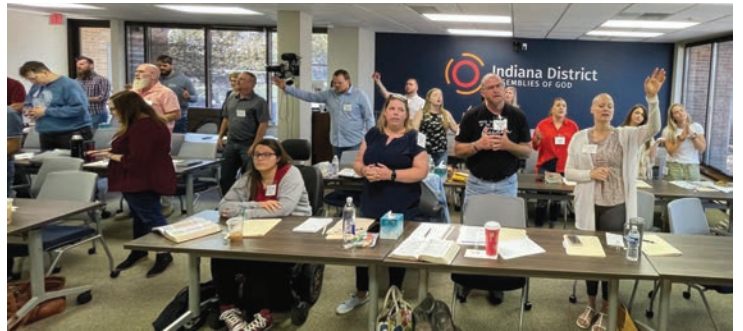
The AGWM Asia Pacific regional office has learned of the homegoing of Remy Shaneyfelt, missionary to the Philippines, on May 31, 2023. Rev. Remedios "Remy" Ramos Shaneyfelt was born March 4, 1944, in a small village on Central Luzon in the Philippines. She was the eldest of nine children and helped raise her siblings when her father became ill. Saved at an early age, Remy was filled with the baptism at 12. Remy was approved for missions assignment with AGWM in 1962. At Luzon Bible Institute in October 1964, she met her future husband, missionary Wayne Shaneyfelt. By the time she married Wayne in 1981, she was president of the Bible Institute for the Deaf in the Philippines. Together, Remy and Wayne wrote an illustrated book on sign language titled, Love Signs, in English and Tagalog. The book was used as curriculum in all schools for the deaf in the Philippines, Singapore, and Malaysia. Remy and Wayne were also instrumental in establishing the Department for the Deaf for the Philippines General Council of the Assemblies of God. At the time of their retirement in 1988, 7 out of 13 PGCAG districts had deaf ministries. The couple served together 24 years before Wayne's passing in 2006.

NEWS AND VIEWS

JUNE CREDENTIAL ORIENTATION HIGHLIGHTS

On June 1, 2023, we held Credential Orientation with several potential first time credential candidates. We had worship and communion with Pastor Don and Diane Gifford. Pastor Don shared about the facets of ministry leadership and our Superintendent-elect Chad McAtee spoke with our candidates about who needs

credentials and the stages of ministry. Credentials Specialist, Susie Bradley shared about the credentialing process. We are proud of and excited for men and women who are stepping in the call God has on their lives.



Superintendent Chad McAtee attended his first Church Extension Plan (CEP) board meeting on Friday, June 16, in Salem, Oregon.

On April 27, the district staff hosted a New Pastors Welcome. Those in attendance were: Front Row: Matthew and Courtney Holloway, Tim and Sarah Taylor, and Nick and Merry Pridemore. Back Row: Chris and Amy Stubbs, Derek and Josie Lopez, Chris and Missy Padgett, Zach and Lauren Gidcumb, and Larry and Connie Grow.