



**Camp Jubilee
Senior Camp**



**Camp Jubilee
Junior Camp**



**Children's Day
West Mobile**



Editorials . . .

Spiritual Preparation for the Up-Coming General Assembly

“Be ready . . . for the Lord will come down in the sight of all the people”

It's not too soon to start thinking about and praying for the up-coming General Assembly. What we desire most is to have the *“mind of Christ”* (1 Cor. 2.16); but this will come only if we diligently pray and consecrate ourselves. It was thus that the Lord said to Moses at Mount Sinai, in expectation of Him *“coming down in the sight of all the people”*: *“Go unto the people and sanctify them . . . and let them wash their clothes . . . and be ready”* (Ex. 19.10-11). And He further commanded, *“Let the priests [ministers] also, which come near to the Lord sanctify themselves [set themselves apart].”* The Lord thus charged Moses to *“Set bounds about the mount and sanctify it”* (vv. 22-23).

When the Lord was instructing Moses regarding the design, furnishings, and service of the *“Tabernacle in the wilderness”*, everything was to be anointed and set apart with a special consecration (Ex. 40.1-33; Heb. 8.5). The result of this consecration was that *“the glory of the Lord filled the tabernacle,”* so much so that even Moses *“was not able to enter into the tent”* (vv. 34-35).

Now how much more should we in Zion Assembly, who are under the new covenant, consecrate ourselves to see the Lord *“come down”* in our sight and *“fill the tabernacle with His glory.”* After all, the church is the very dwelling place of God. But someone will surely say, *“But we are now under grace, not the law.”* Yet the inspired writer of Hebrews indicates that because we are now under grace and in Christ, rather than under Moses and the law, we should walk even more circumspectly before God than did the Old Testament saints: and to be especially careful not to tread *“underfoot the Son of God afresh”* (Heb. 10.29-31).

We often hear stories of how God came down in our midst in some of the early General Assemblies. In fact, I have been in some of those glorious meetings myself and have witnessed the *shekinah* glory. The secret to those Spirit-empowered and glorious meetings was that our ministers and faithful people sacrificed and consecrated themselves. They prepared themselves spiritually and fasted in anticipation of a *“feast of fat things”* (Is. 25.6). And we may be sure that the Lord expects no less of us now. Indeed, if we expect to see His glory in this up-coming General Assembly we must consecrate ourselves-- *“lay aside every weight”* and *“present our bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God . . . and be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect will of God”* (Rom. 12.1-2).

I'm confident that all of our people desire to see the glory of the Lord and to witness His supernatural hand at work in this special annual meeting. We want to be able to say again in these last days, *“And the glory of the Lord filled the tabernacle.”*

Important Decisions to be Made

Bear in mind also that the General Assembly is the very epitome of the Lord's *ekklesia* in operation---a special meeting between God and His covenant people, in which we gather together to reason and discern His will and to make plans to fulfill it, that is, to “bind and loose on earth” what He has “bound and loosed in heaven” (Mt. 16. 18-19; 18.15-20). This is a critical Assembly. Many important decisions will need to be made to carry us forward toward the prophetic aims laid out for us in God's Word: including those connected with our expansion plans for the International Ministries Center, outreach strategies connected with world missions both here in the United States and throughout the world, and the development of our Media Ministries and the Department of Education.

Assembly Prayer Day---August 12th

In preparation for a Spirit-filled and Spirit-directed General Assembly, August 12th has been designated for all of our churches and missions to focus on special prayer together for the up-coming Assembly. It would be wonderful to become so prepared and consecrated for this great event that we will experience the same glory and power that those saints did in Acts 4.31: *“And when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together; and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they [spoke] the word of God with boldness.”* May the Lord grant it to be so!

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Voice of Zion, P.O. Box 2398, Cleveland TN 37320-2398
Telephone: 423-476-3337
zionchurch11@bellsouth.net

***“O Lord . . . revive thy work in the
midst of the years, in the midst of
the years make [it] known”
(Hab. 3.2).***

Church's Oldest Deacon Called Home



On Saturday, June 9, 2018, Grover Thomas "Tommy" Villers was called home to be with the Lord. He was endeared by the whole church and by all who knew him well. He was the church's oldest deacon having been ordained in 1960 (in our former fellowship), an ordination that was honored in Zion Assembly in 2005 and which continued to set him apart until God called him to heaven.

Tom received the Lord as his Savior at the age of 13 and was faithful to Him and His church till he was received up into Paradise. He was 91 years of age, born on January 23, 1927. He wed Doris Rose Thomas on June 14, 1947. They were married for almost 71 years, and shared a room together in a nursing home until his passing. Doris [89] is afflicted with severe dementia). To their

union were born two children, Grover Thomas Villers, Jr. (who lived only six hours) and Rose Marie. In 1979, Rose married Victor Arden Snyder and to their union was born one son, Zachary ("Zack") Arden in August 1982. Zack is currently serving as the pastor of the church in Goshen, Indiana and, also, as overseer of Canada; in addition, he is the secretary of the Assembly Business Committee. He and his

faithful wife, Kari, and their two sons, Davis and Alec, reside in Elkhart.



Brother Villers retired from Eastern Associated Coal Company, having spent most of his mining years at the Joanne mine at Rachel, West Virginia. He was a proud member of the United Mine Workers Association since 1953. He served his country in World War II, having been stationed in Frankfort, Germany. While there he served as a member of the infantry musical band, entertaining the troops with his inspired guitar playing.

After being honorably discharged from military service, he returned home and continued in his love for music, serving and glorifying Christ as the lead guitarist for 64 years at the Metz church [in our former fellowship]. He also served as the adult Sunday School teacher for over 30 years.

After the church was reorganized and restored on April 20, 2004 under the name Zion Assembly Church of God, Tom renewed his covenant and united in 2005 with the Idamay church in northern West Virginia. He continued to serve the church faithfully, finishing his course like he began it---with grace, dignity,

and spiritual victory.

Tom will be greatly missed by his friends, loved ones, and fellow members in Zion Assembly. He leaves behind an inspirational example of holy living---a life which any Christian could emulate. He personified a southern gentleman, providing a smile and word of encouragement to all with whom he came into contact---a beacon shining always the light of Christ in a dark world.



Presiding Bishop's Eulogy of Tommy Villers

I vividly recall the first time I saw Brother Villers and his cheerful and fun-filled wife, Doris. It was about 50 years ago. I had been saved in Elyria, Ohio, and some months after that had a vision of the local church in Clarksburg, West Virginia (located at that time in Wilsonburg just outside of Clarksburg). After receiving the vision, I felt impressed by the Lord to move to West Virginia to work in this church. When I got there, I knew the vision was from the Lord: for the building in which the people worshipped was the one I saw in the vision. So, Dale and I packed up and moved with our first child, Lynn, out in the country near Wilsonburg (in a little community called Sardis). During this time, we began to attend services in some of our other churches in the area, including Metz and Fairmont. It was in a district meeting in Fairmont that I first remember laying eyes on Brother and Sister Villers. Brother "Tommy", as he was affectionately known among the churches throughout West Virginia, was playing a guitar and helping to lead in worship.

My purpose in recalling so vividly my first acquaintance with Brother Tommy and Sister Doris is to point out how impressive they were as a couple. In fact, I believe the Church of God became the great institution and dynamic force that it did in the 1940s and throughout the twentieth century was in large part because of special couples like Tommy and Doris. Their marriage was not only ordained by the Lord but endowed with a certain charisma of the Spirit---a *charisma* that filled the atmosphere of the sanctuary with cheerfulness, kindness, love, and spiritual glory: in a word, with the gifts and fruit of the Spirit. They were gifted with charismatic appeal that drew people to them---and to God! Their very presence helped to create a spiritual dynamic in worship services and fellowship meetings. I believe in fact that many precious souls were saved in part through their presence in church services---because people saw and felt through this couple, whom God had made one, the grace and glory of the Lord. Likewise, they were the unsung cause for many joining the church, that is, people wanted to be a part of them.

This is the reason that I was so elated when I heard that they were uniting with Zion back in 2005. They symbolized to me the restoration of the church: for they carried the spirit of the church in their souls and bodies. I knew we needed in Zion their sweetness---this charisma that I'm talking about. And indeed because of them, and some other couples like them, we have excelled and increased in the Spirit as well as in numbers and in every grace; and we have confidence in Zion that we will become the church that the Lord wants us to become in prophecy---a glorious church in holiness, filled and anointed with all spiritual graces.

I will leave it to others to speak of the many other ways that Tommy and Doris blessed the church and the thousands who knew them. The church and the world were indeed made richer by their lives and charismatic gifts. They were, as the prophet says, "jewels" in the house of God (Mal. 3.17), and their hearts and countenances "adorned the doctrine of God" with "a meek and quite spirit" (Titus 2.10; 1 Pet. 3.3-4).

I regret not being able to attend the grand send off for Brother Tommy: but I was there in spirit. We are looking forward to the time when all of us will be reunited with the Lord and our loved ones and all the saints at that glorious "meeting in the air."

Tribute to My Grandpa

Zachary Snyder



The Scripture says, *“The lines have fallen unto me in pleasant places; yea, I have a goodly heritage.”* I feel this way today. There are many children and grandchildren that live with regrets after the passing of their grandparents: but not me! I can say that by the grace of God I don’t ever remember taking advantage of them: for I loved them dearly. I was the pride and joy of my grandpa, and he was mine!

My grandfather was my BEST friend. He was my confidant: I could talk to him about anything, including intimate, personal things without being chastised. He taught me the importance of holy living, to never compromise the truth of the Gospel, to be a man of integrity, and to stand firm always for the Church of God of the Bible. I am who I am today most assuredly by the grace of God, but also because of the time and energy my grandpa invested in me.

Here are some experiences I will never forget:

I remember every trip we ever took together (in all 48 states in continental United States). I recall shooting marbles with him in the garage during the winter. I remember taking off and putting on, repetitiously, the “skirts” that covered the back wheels of the old 1985 Pontiac Parisienne that he bought from Bob Yoho. Though it must have been aggravating to him, yet he never complained. I remember at 8 years of age driving the car up Johnny Cake Rd. for the first time by myself in the driver’s seat and getting stuck in the ditch. He never uttered a cross word. I remember mom and I driving him and grandma to the Pittsburg airport so that they could fly to Florida for two weeks. I cried like it was the last time I would ever see them. Grandpa wanted to go to the ticket counter and buy my ticket so that I could go. He said to my mom that he would buy me all new clothes once we got there. But I was in school and my mother refused. I remember him looking at her and saying, “I’d be ashamed!” I remember going fishing with him and Uncle Ray, and hunting with him and Uncle James. I didn’t enjoy the sport of it; but I went to be close to him. I remember swinging a golf club for the first time and he showed me how to do it (I didn’t know at the time that he had never swung one in his life). Perhaps that’s the reason that when I swung the club, it hit him in the side of the head and knocked him flat on



his back. I screamed for grandma because I thought I had killed him— she and Aunt Erma came running, and once grandma realized he wasn’t dead, she called him “stupid” for standing that close to me! I remember not long ago going to Washington DC where he and his fellow veterans were honored for their service to this wonderful country. I recall him picking me up from baseball practice, and although he never attended a game (for he thought it bordered on being worldly), he would show up an hour early to watch me practice. I remember him sitting endless hours on the porch watching me play basketball on the court he had built for me. I remember playing cars and wrestling men hours at a time and he patiently watched me without complaint. I remember a buddy of mine sneaking a deck of cards onto the front porch. Grandpa caught us playing “rummy.” We had to tear all 52 cards up in four pieces and then burn them up while he lectured us on the reasons why. I remember he stopped everything he had to do so that I could preach to him in the living room. I was then about 4 or 5 years old. I



remember swinging with him on the front porch and him singing “The Little Bird”—a tradition I have carried on with my boys. I remember combing our hair together before we left for church, and then again in the church basement before we went into the sanctuary. I remember stepping on the floor furnace and getting burned badly on my bare feet (blisters immediately). Grandma called Aunt Ruth and Aunt Marie and they came and, while sitting on my grandpa’s knee, they anointed my feet with oil, prayed the prayer of faith for healing, and the pain and blisters immediately left! I remember buying my first car for \$1500.00. I thought that I had that much money in my savings account, only to find out I only had \$500.00 and that grandpa had given my mom the other \$1000.00 to put in my checking account and told her not to say anything to me. I remember calling him on occasion when I found a pair of shoes I couldn’t live without and



asking if he would buy them for me. Grandma would ask if I had prayed about it: but it didn’t matter to grandpa because his buddy wanted them! I remember some people saying that I was spoiled, but grandpa would always reply, “He ain’t spoiled, he just smells that way!”

My best friend— my grandpa— was at every important event in my life. He was there when I received the Lord as my Savior; and when I was baptized in water (he baptized me!). He was at my graduation, and was there when I accepted my call into the ministry; when I preached my first sermon; when I joined the Church of God by covenant. He was there when I held my first revival. At 15 and 16 years of age, before I got my driver’s license, he drove me to my revival meetings---often 3 or 4 weekends a month. He was there when I married the love of my life; when our first son was born. He was there also at his dedication in Cleveland, Tennessee, and at the first International Youth Convention that I moderated. He was there at the first Sunday of my first pastoral appointment in Crossville, Tennessee; and he was there when I was ordained as a bishop, and on a thousand other occasions he was by my side to encourage me.

When I considered all the times that grandpa was with me to share in my joy, it saddens me to realize there will be no more such times. Still, I’m confident that the grandest moment of my entire life will be when we meet the Lord together in the air at the sound of the trumpet, and we will be together forever, never again to be separated!

My grandpa and grandma always made me feel that I was the center of the lives. In their presence I felt safe, loved, and accepted. Some kids wish they had been born into a different family (perhaps with last names like Rockefeller, Gates, or Trump), but I never did! I will be forever thankful to God to have been born into this family; having been raised in the most precious Christian heritage, by the most wonderful grandparents any kid could have. I will always be my grandpa’s “Peabody” (a nickname that he had given to me, the namesake of the last coal company he had worked for) and he will always be my hero.

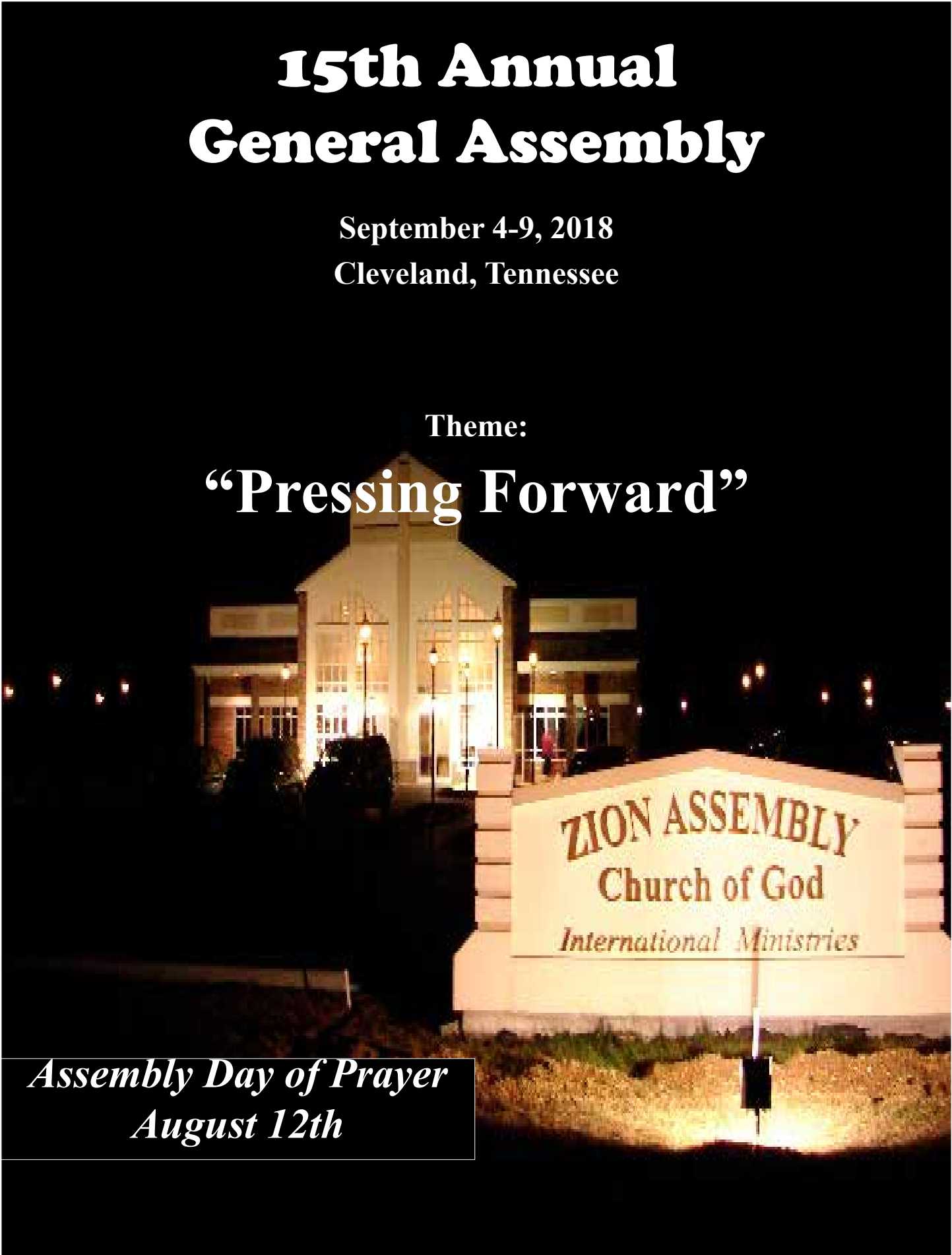


15th Annual General Assembly

September 4-9, 2018
Cleveland, Tennessee

Theme:

“Pressing Forward”

A nighttime photograph of the Zion Assembly Church of God building, which is brightly lit with warm interior and exterior lights. In the foreground, a large, illuminated sign reads "ZION ASSEMBLY Church of God International Ministries". The sign is mounted on a brick base and is surrounded by some landscaping. The background is dark, with some distant lights visible.

ZION ASSEMBLY
Church of God
International Ministries

*Assembly Day of Prayer
August 12th*

Welcome

Wade H. Phillips
Presiding Bishop



Expectations are running high in anticipation of this General Assembly expecting that it will exceed all previous Assemblies in glory and power. This is as it should be; for we are a prophetic church, pressing forward with a vision to fulfill end-time events, including the great inflow into the church (Is. 60. 1-5; Jn. 10.16; 11. 49-52; Eph. 1.10), the perfection of the church (Ps. 45. 9-13; Eph. 5. 27), and the glorious meeting in the air with the Lord and all the saints (Jn. 14. 1-3; 1 Th. 4.16-17; 1 Co. 15. 52-54)! We expect nothing less this year than a glorious Assembly illuminated and empowered by the Holy Ghost, for we believe each Assembly moves us closer to the fulfillment of the glorious realities promised in God's Word. And these promises will be fulfilled; for God cannot lie!

Our theme this year---“Pressing Forward”---came to mind in April during the School of Ministry in California. We feel therefore that it seems “good to the Holy Ghost, and to us” to carry it through for the up-coming Assembly; for it is consistent with prophetic the apostolic vision of the church and marks our way going forward. Our vision then has already been cast by Christ and the prophets and apostles in the Scriptures. We just need to dig out the precious gold from the Rock of our salvation!

I feel impressed here to encourage every delegate to be especially prayerful for this important event. It is a time to consecrate ourselves to Christ, the head of the church, so that we might be able to discern His instructions to us. We need light and power to fulfill our global mission. Take time then to pray and consecrate yourselves for this special time. Come to this Assembly prayed up and fully surrendered to Him. We want this Assembly to be a “dreadful place” (Gn. 28. 17), a time to meet together especially with the Lord---to hear from Him and to be energized and equipped by His Spirit to wage a successful warfare against the world, the flesh, and the principalities and powers in heavenly places that have set themselves against us.

“Camp Jubilee”

(Tennessee, Kentucky, Indiana)



On June 1st seventy-one campers and forty-one staff members gathered at Camp Hickory Hills in Dickson, Tennessee in expectation of a great youth camp--- “Camp Jubilee.” The campers were blessed by the new spacious facilities.

The overall theme this year was “*GET A LIFE*”, but there was a different sub-theme for each day----“The Book of Life”, “The Tree of Life”, and “The River of Life”.

The growth of Camp Jubilee though the years prompted the Camp Committee to conduct two separate camps at the same time---Junior Camp and Senior Camp. The new location provided adequate space to run the two camps.

Both camps included classes, activities, training, and nightly services which inspired the campers to “Get a Life”. We had 12 SIT’s (Staff In Training campers) involved in the program. Six of these were also part of the camp staff. Kim Erwin directed this program and did an outstanding job training leaders for future camps.

The nightly services were powerful. Junior camp worship was led by Shelby Erwin and Sister Kim. Bruce Wilcox preached the Word and campers were inspired, prompting them to fill the altar each night. Junior campers will always remember Brother Wilcox’s quote: “Life--- active, real, genuine, and devoted to God.” Senior camp worship was led by Alex Drake, Holly Ritchie and Zack and Kari Snyder. Byron Harris preached the Word and the campers were moved to consecrate themselves to the Lord. The altar was filled each night with campers pouring their hearts out to God.

It was with great joy that the Camp Committee announced the appointment Travis and Kayla Graves as the Junior Camp directors for 2019. Pam Jones will remain Senior Camp director for the upcoming year. Because we are conducting two camps, the Committee felt the need to have different directors in order to move forward in the expansion and growth of the camping ministry



Kayla and Travis Graves

We are happy to report that Junior Camp had 35 registered campers, 14 were saved, 6 sanctified, 3 baptized with the Holy Ghost, 2 professed healing, and 14 were baptized in water. In Senior Camp there were 36 registered campers, 6 were saved, 9 sanctified, 1 baptized with the Holy Ghost, 1 professed healing, and 10 were baptized in water. Look what the Lord has done!

With the understanding that Zion Assembly will be conducting an International Youth Camp (IYC) in January 2019, the Camp Jubilee Committee chose the campers and staff to represent our camp at IYC. The representatives are as follows: Campers: Jack Ferrell and Shelby Erwin; Staff: Charles Barker, Travis Graves, and Kayla Graves. Hettie Dodson was chosen as honorary representative for her faithful commitment to the camping ministry. Hettie will be a part of the training staff of IYC. We pray all the representatives will be inspired during this in-depth camp-ministry training.

There is not enough space to tell of all the events and special experiences that took place at Camp Jubilee, nor to mention all the staff which helped to make the camps such a great success. But worthy of special mention are Emily Carey and Tina Glover for taking pictures and posting them on the Camp Jubilee Facebook page.

To God be the glory for all He did at Camp Jubilee this year. Campers and staff left with a desire to be ALIVE and ACTIVE. They “GOT A LIFE” and returned home excited about living out the plan God has for them.

---Pam Jones, *Camp Director*

Children's Day in Zion



Greenville, SC

On June 3rd, the Greenville church celebrated Children's Day. Landon George welcomed everyone to our special service. The worship was led by Rachel and Elizabeth McDonald. The Lord's presence was felt throughout the service. Cindy George ministered to the congregation on being "Armed with Prayer" from Exodus 17:8-16. The 4 POPS performed a military-themed puppet show. Matthew McDonald conducted a quiz session to display what the children had learned in the lesson. Finally, we gathered for a meal and time of fellowship. Children's Day marks the beginning of our month-long Vacation Bible School. We are looking forward to an exciting summer!

--- Cheryl McDonald, *reporter*



West Pelzer, SC

On June 3rd, West Pelzer celebrated Children's Day by having the children participate in singing songs, playing the piano, and taking up the offering. Faye Davis and Summer Wilson both spoke about children's church and services, and upcoming events including youth camp and VBS. Prayer and encouragement for our children was requested as we continue to grow.

-- Summer Wilson, *reporter*

West Mobile, AL



On Friday June 1st, West Mobile commenced their 2018 VBS boot camp training organized by Janie Clary. We had an average of 26 children enlisted and an average of 45 staff sergeants. Every soldier, young and old, was involved. Every member exhausted all efforts to make this boot camp run smoothly. Friday and Saturday night the children went through some tough training to prepare for battles ahead. They plowed through obstacle courses, marched endless miles, sang their hearts out, and endured some intense intellectual training done by our finest teachers, Michelle Blakeney and Betty Joan Eldridge. One day out of the year on Children's Day the congregation, Pastor, deacon, song leaders, ushers, and Sunday School Superintendent relinquish their positions to allow our children to step into those rolls. It makes for an interesting service, but everyone is blessed and excited to see our kids boldly stepping up to the plate. We concluded on Sunday June 3rd Children's Day with songs by our new soldiers, a message by Courtney Fields and a graduation ceremony done by an actual Marine. He presented

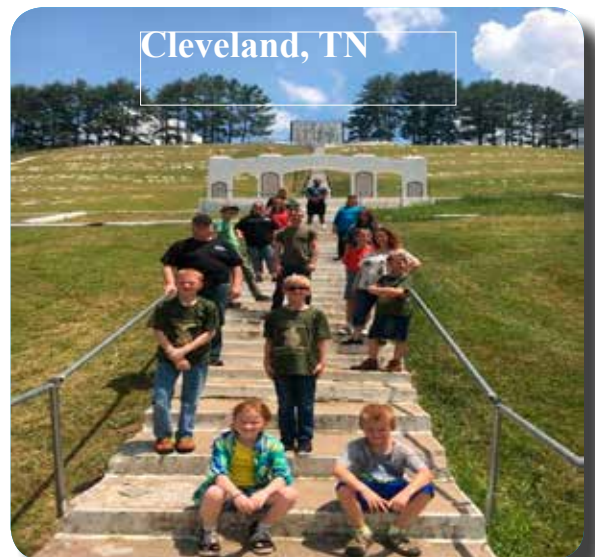
the very excited children with certificates and prizes. The newly graduated soldiers were enthused and prepared to enter onto the battlefield for Jesus! Following the service we had water activities, food and fellowship. It was a successful VBS and Children's Day!

---Courtney Fields, *reporter*

Cleveland celebrated Children's Day "Armed and Ready." The moderator for the service was Jacob Burnette. The kids led the congregation in worship. Special singing was provided by Sophia Burnette and Isabella Nichols. Our speakers were Joey Steele, Jonathan Burnette, and Donnie Burnette. A drama was put on by the kids with the help of our youth, directed by America Burnette. The pastor concluded the service. The whole congregation was invited to Fields of the Wood for a picnic and fellowship in the afternoon since the children had been learning the Ten Commandments on Wednesday nights. The service was concluded by Bishop Wade Phillips on prayer mountain.

---Debbie Morris, *reporter*

Cleveland, TN



Note: *Children's Day reports will continue in the next issue of the Voice of Zion*

Tribute to the Ramirez Family



Left to right: Robert, Becky (the daughter of Norie), Norie, Neto, Lupe, Danny, Zeke

It seems in divine order to give a special commendation to the Ramirez Family in southern California for their faithful dedication and collective contribution to the ministry and work of Zion Assembly. This family---the children of Dionicio and Francisca [Barron] Ramirez---have been a great blessing to the church for many years, beginning with Danny Ramirez and his wife, Rosie, who participated in the meeting in Pigeon Forge, Tennessee on April 18-20, 2004, a meeting that culminated in the restoration and reorganization of the church on April 20th.

The members of this family of whom we are speaking are Ernesto [“Neto”], Frances [deceased in 2016], Honoria [“Norie”], Ezequiel [“Zeke”], Robert, Guadalupe [“Lupe”], and Daniel [“Danny”]. Josefina [“Josie”] has also been a supporter and blessing to the church, though she has never formally united with Zion Assembly. These faithful members and many of their companions, children and grandchildren have made a powerful and fruitful impact on the church---in their liberal giving, hard work, spiritual gifts, talents, and faithfulness. We thank the Lord for them.

The paternal grandfather of the Ramirez’ was a Navajo Indian and their mother of Mexican descent. Soon after Dionicio and Francisca met and married in Indio, California, they moved to Santa Rosa, New Mexico. But after a few years they returned to Indio. It was in the early 1940s they were converted from the Roman Catholic tradition to an evangelical interpretation of the Gospel. They soon joined a small independent Pentecostal church located in Casa Blanca, and this led sometime thereafter to their union with God’s church under the leadership of “Papa Joe” Jimenez [in our former fellowship] at Riverside. It was in this powerful tradition of the faith that the Ramirez children grew up and were converted, sanctified, Spirit-baptized, and received their revelation and understanding of the church of the Bible.

Having been grounded and settled in the faith, the Ramirez children thus became dissatisfied when our former fellowship began to compromise and change the essential principles of the faith in the 1990s; and thus, when God moved upon Bishop Phillips and the brethren beginning in 2003 to restore the church, the Ramirez’ found themselves in sympathy with them and joined in the movement to restore the church. Soon they all were in Zion Assembly and building again upon the ancient foundation!

The Ramirez children learned the lessons of old-fashioned hard work and faithful Christian service from their parents. They especially speak of the outstanding example of their precious mother, Francisca, a devoted wife and mother. She was also an empowered prayer warrior. Her daughter “Norie” writes,

“Francisca was a very devoted and faithful Christian wife and mother and remained faithful to God until her death. Her prayer always was that God would save her children. Her prayers were answered after her death. Ten of the 13 children who grew up together accepted the Lord. [Of the three who did not, two were lost to drug addiction and we are praying for the other].

“Dionicio was a hard-working responsible father. They both worked very hard for their children and did all that was possible to inculcate in them good morals, values and good work ethics. The family never lacked a roof over their heads and there was always food on the table; we attribute this to their generous giving to God. Although Dionicio fell from grace a few years after Francisca accepted the Lord, he continued to pay tithes and support God’s work. He asked God for forgiveness on his death bed, and we are confident that he made things right with God before his death. Although they were not able to afford many extra material things, they provided all the necessities and all their love, but what is most valued is Francisca’s example of a good Christian woman who loved God with all her heart.”

--WHP

Tributo a la Familia Ramirez



Parece en orden divina dar un elogio especial a la Familia Ramirez del Sur de California por su fiel dedicación y contribución colectiva al ministerio y obra de Sión Asamblea. Esta familia---los hijos de Dionsicio y Francisca [Barrón] Ramirez---han sido una gran bendición a la iglesia por muchos años, empezando con Danny Ramirez y su esposa, Rosie, quienes participaron en la reunión en Pigeon Forge, Tennessee el 18-20 de Abril, 2004, una junta que culminó en la restauración y reorganización de la iglesia el 20 de Abril.

Los miembros de esta familia de quienes estamos hablando son Ernesto[“Neto”], Frances [fallecida] en el]2016], Honoria [“Norie”], Ezequiel [“Zeke”], Robert, Guadalupe [“Lupe”] y Daniel [Danny]. Josefina [“Josie”] también ha sido un apoyo y bendición a la iglesia, aunque ella no se ha unido formalmente con Sión Asamblea. Estos miembros fieles, algunos de sus compañeros, sus hijos y nietos han hecho un impacto poderoso y fructífero en la iglesia---en su dádiva liberal, trabajo duro, dones espirituales, y lealtad. Le damos gracias al Señor por ellos.

El abuelo paternal de los Ramirez era un Indio Navajo y su madre de herencia Mexicana. Pronto después que Dionicio y Francisca se casaron en Indio, California, se mudaron a Santa Rosa, Nuevo México. Pero después de unos pocos años, ellos regresaron a Indio. Fue en los años tempranos de los 1940s que ellos fueron convertidos de la tradición Católica Romana a una interpretación del Evangelio evangélico. Ellos pronto se unieron a una iglesia Pentecostés independiente localizada en Casa Blanca, y un poco después se unieron a la iglesia de Dios bajo el liderazgo de Papa Joe Jimenez [en nuestra confraternidad previa] en Riverside. Fue en esta tradición poderosa de la fe que los hijos Ramirez crecieron y fueron convertidos, santificados, y bautizados con el Espíritu Santo, y recibieron su revelación y entendimiento de la iglesia de la Biblia.

Habiendo sido fundamentados y establecidos en la fe, los hijos Ramirez por tanto se volvieron insatisfechos cuando nuestra confraternidad previa empezó a comprometer y cambiar los principios esenciales de la fe en los 1990s; y por tanto, cuando Dios se movió sobre el Obispo Phillips y los hermanos en 2003 a restaurar la iglesia, los Ramirez se encontraron en simpatía con ellos y se unieron en el movimiento de restaurar la iglesia. Pronto todos ellos estaban en Sión Asamblea y edificando de nuevo sobre el fundamento antiguo!

Los hijos Ramirez aprendieron de sus padres, las lecciones antiguas de trabajo duro y fiel servicio Cristiano. Ellos especialmente hablan del ejemplo sobresaliente de su preciosa madre, Francisca, una esposa y madre devota. Ella también era una guerrera de oración empoderada. Su hijo “Norie” escribe,

“Francisca era una buena madre y fiel Cristiana devota, y permaneció fiel a Dios hasta su muerte. Su oración siempre era que Dios salvara a sus hijos. Sus oraciones fueron contestadas después de su muerte. Diez de sus 13 hijos que crecieron juntos aceptaron al Señor. [de los tres que no aceptaron, dos se perdieron a la adicción de la droga y estamos orando por el otro].

“Dionicio fue un padre responsable que trabajó duro. Ellos dos trabajaron muy duro por sus hijos e hicieron todo lo posible para inculcarlos con buenos morales, valores y buena ética de trabajo. La familia nunca careció de un techo sobre sus cabezas y siempre había comida en la mesa; nosotros atribuimos esto a la dádiva generosa a Dios. Aunque Dionicio calló de la gracia por unos años después que Francisca aceptó al Señor, él continuó a pagar diezmos a Dios y apoyar la obra de Dios. El pidió perdón de Dios en su cama de muerte, y estamos confiados que hizo las cosas bien con Dios antes de su muerte. Aunque ellos no pudieron permitirse muchas cosas materiales extras, ellos proveyeron todas las necesidades y todo su amor, pero lo que es más valorado es el ejemplo de Francisca como una buena mujer Cristiana que amaba a Dios con todo su corazón.”

Voice of Zion
P.O. Box 2398
Cleveland, TN 37320-2398

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Up-Coming Events

General Assembly---September 4-9
United Christian Church--- 2200 Peerless Rd., Cleveland, TN

Youth Conventions

Pacific Coast Youth Convention---November 2-3, Rialto, CA
Eastern Youth Convention---November 9-10, Cleveland, TN
International Youth Camp---January 25-27, 2019, Dickson, TN