

# The Echoes

Nov/Dec 2017

**“For He that is mighty hath done to me great things; and holy is His name. And His mercy is on them that fear Him from generation to generation.” Luke 1:49-50**

## Christmas 2017

Christmas is coming quickly which means, we are making all the preparations for special services and all the extra things that go with the season, along with getting ready for time with our families.

Take the time to remember the preparations of our heavenly Father, getting ready to send His only begotten Son to be with us that first Christmas. We can follow the promises He gave us, as we read the Old Testament, letting us know the Savior was coming. All of those promises were fulfilled, bringing salvation, healing, and eternal life. The greatest GIFT ever given Jesus Christ.

Looking forward, Jesus tells us He is coming back to take us with Him. He says that He has gone away to prepare a place for us. When I think about that, I remember, it only took six days to create the universe so they have been working on heaven for two thousand years. What a place heaven must be! John 14:1 [kjv] “Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me.”

*Rev. Steve Fellers  
General Superintendent*

### Indiana Convention Report

Indiana held their State Convention at Rock House 2, in Demote, Indiana on Saturday, October 28th. Pastor Melvin Wilson, the Indiana Sec/Treas. and his precious wife, Alice, were great hosts.

God's presence could be felt the moment you entered the friendly group. Bro and Sis. Harry Unsworth lead praise and worship. State Superintendent Alan Dickerson brought a relevant and powerful message.

In the business meeting, all the state offices remained the same. Once dismissed in prayer, everyone feasted on pizza from the local favorite pizza parlor.

### Iowa Convention Report

September 15th & 16th were the dates of the Iowa Convention this year. It was a little later than usual due to some unforeseen circumstances.

Bro. Pete Sheesley's church in Osceola was the host again this year and as always did a fantastic job. They are always so gracious to let us come and hospitable to us while we were there.

Friday night service was a wonderful time in the Lord, with a thought provoking end time sermon brought by Bro. Don Stuben

Saturday morning the business meeting, chaired by Bro. John Virden, resulted in two new leaders being elected. Sis. Kay Barton was elected Sec/Treas. And Bro. Steve McKinney was voted in as State Presbyter.

State Superintendent Br. John Virden preached an awesome sermon on the theme, The power of the church and have we lost it?

Lunch was enjoyed by all and we ended with another glorious service, praising and worshipping our Savior.

### Kansas/Oklahoma State Convention

Coffeyville, Kansas was chosen as host for the 2nd annual

combined State Convention. This works ideally for these two states.

The theme was 'Climb That Mountain' with Oklahoma Presbyter, Bro. Larry Woody bringing the message Friday night. Kansas Superintendent, Bro. Leonard DeWitt, and Oklahoma superintendent Bro. Bob Massey presided over the business meetings, held simultaneously Saturday morning.

The closing service Saturday afternoon was an awesome time in the Lord's presence.

Election outcomes were kept identical in Oklahoma; and Kansas Secretary, John Crego remained, while Rev. Bert Keeton was elected as Kansas State Presbyter.

God's presence was there, anointed preaching, great worship, and wonderful fellowship left everyone as full as if eating at a King's feast.

Please pray for Bro. Crego, as he has difficulties with breathing, and has been on oxygen for several years. He is faithful, shows up and makes long journeys, but this year had to leave early, yet he continues to do an awesome job as Sec/Treas

## National Ladies Retreat Report

We just want to report how good God is! The Ladies of FGCI always come together ready to worship and receive from God's Word!

Sis. Doyla Shaw, from Neosho, spoke on Friday night. Wow, what an on time Word! Many were healed of infections and encouraged in the Lord. The testimonies that have come in after the retreat are amazing!

On Saturday, Sis. Cheryl Johnson from Arkansas, opened in an exhortation on prayer, and she prayed the power down. We must learn that His house will be called a House of Prayer. The Spirit moved mightily.

Our classes, this year, were conducted by Sis. Amy Patrick and Sis. Liz Majors. Sis. Amy spoke on the need of the teaching ministry in the Church today. Oh my, it was so needed. God's people must be taught the knowledge of God. Sis. Liz taught on how all ministries work together with the local church, out of Ephesians 4. Her examples were so good! We must work together in unity. She also put a plug in for missions. Yes we all need to be missionary minded.

We had some back, this year, that haven't been at retreat for years, but they got right in and enjoyed it. It's always good to see them back and new ones too. Oh how we all need to stay connected and encourage one another.

I also want to say, thank you, to the Ladies of Joplin Full Gospel for all the help of decorating and serving food. Couldn't do it with out you; you are a such a blessing. Also thank you to Sis. Yates for some awesome Praise and Worship. Thanks again for all who came. God is so Faithful!

*Rev. Joyce Myers, Ladies President*



## **Texas Ladies Conference**

Wow! Wow! Wow! Each year just keeps getting greater. The Texas FGCI 3rd Annual Ladies Conference was held October 20th & 21st. At New Day Fellowship in Sasche, Texas. Texas Pastor Roy Cummings' ladies out did themselves again this year in accommodating and preparing for the Conference.

Friday night started off with Praise & Worship led by Rev. Muzella Brown as she led us to the throne room. We were challenged to realize our worth as Ladies of the Lord by Sis. Chris Torsey.

Saturday morning brought a yearly visit from Sis. Critter who wanted to sing on the Praise and Worship Team, but received some admonition and encouragement.

With the theme of this year's conference being 'Burning But Not

Consumed,' Texas State Sec/Treas. Rev. Jean Criddle brought a message reminding our ladies that God does not want us to burn up or burn out, but He wants us to be burning and not consumed so that others will see Christ in us, the Hope of Glory!

Each year the Ladies conference has grown in attendance and momentum, so if the Lord doesn't return before next year, devil watch out!

## **Missouri Board Changes**

State Superintendent is now Rev. Richard Williams replacing Rev. James Yates who is now Assistant General Superintendent.

Rev. Ron Baker is now State Sec/Treas. replacing Rev. Amy Patrick who is now General Sec/Treas.

## **Graduation To Glory**

### **Rev. Ron Ford**

Bro. Ron Ford passed away on Sunday night the 26th of November..

He was born June 12, 1958. He is survived by his wife Judy ande was a faithful Ordained minister with FGCI since May 17, 1997.

"Little children, let no man deceive you: he that doeth righteousness is righteous, even as He is righteous."

I John 3:7

## **Graduation To Glory**

### **Rev. Tammie Patterson**

Tammie Sue Patterson passed away at her home at 8:12 am on August 12, 2017

She was a graduate of Ozark Christian Academy in Neosho, Missouri and served as a Missionary at an Orphanage as well as a school aide assisting handicapped children. She was a faithful member of FGCI and is survived by her husband, Alvin, of nearly 35 years.

## **Graduation To Glory Rev. Delorous Jean Combs**

*Of Colorado, Passed away  
September 3, 2017*

Jean wanted to go home as was ready! She was an Ordained Minister with FGCI since September 1996. Now, she is happier and healthier than ever. She can see perfectly and walk without the walker. So we celebrate with her!

## **World Missions Offerings**

**Please Send Your World Missions Offerings to:**

**Rev. Liz Major**

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## **The Echoes**

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## Thanksgiving 2017

I trust that you and yours had a wonderful Thanksgiving. What a special time of year it is, especially for those of us who know our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Even though our world seems to be upside-down, we have the assurance that our Heavenly Father has everything under control. Without a doubt we are living in the last days, but we can rest assured, with peace in our minds and thanksgiving in our hearts, that all is well with those of us who have, by faith, a personal relationship with Jesus!

Christie and I finally were able to take a vacation over the Thanksgiving holiday week. We left on the Saturday before Thanksgiving day and returned home the following Sunday. We did what we love to do, taking our horses and two trail dogs up to the Kentucky border (Long C Trails), for a week of trail riding on over four thousand acres. Although it was cold at night, the days were beautiful and it was awesome to have time away from everything, especially cell service (kind-of).

On Thanksgiving day we were joined by Christie's mother, Arleigh (almost 78 and still riding), and her brother and sister-in-law. They brought all the fixings for a great meal, including wonderful home made pies and we, thankfully, ate our fill, a couple of times, especially Arleighs fantastic home made cinnamon rolls.

Now we're back home and in the same old routine, wondering why time away has to go so fast. While that week is just a memory we are looking forward to the coming days and all the Christmas festivities we celebrate, as we remember that miraculous night, some two thousand years ago, when Jesus came to bring salvation through His birth, life and death. He is 'the reason for the season' and we'll certainly spend much of the coming days acknowledging that fact.

We want to take this opportunity to wish you the very merriest Christmas season, as we already begin to look forward to the coming New Year of opportunities to serve our Lord, as we anxiously anticipate His return.

*Yours in Christ, Editor*

*"O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good:  
for His mercy endureth for ever." Psalm 107:1*

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