



UPCI
UNITED PENTECOSTAL CHURCH INTERNATIONAL

News Bulletin from the
General Superintendent

October 16, 2018

General Conference

We enjoyed great blessings from the Lord at our recent General Conference in Louisville, KY. The estimated peak attendance was 8,200, which is higher than last year and similar to 2016. In just a few minutes each, North American Missions raised \$1 million to reach the major metropolitan cities of North America, and Global Missions raised \$2.5 million in cash and pledges to send 19 missionary families back to their fields with completed budgets. During General Conference the service videos were viewed for 1.3 million minutes by more than 200,000 unique online users from over 100 countries, and over 330,000 unique users viewed posts about the event on social media. You can purchase CDs and DVDs of General Conference services and audio of the seminars at <http://bit.ly/2NVtkJX>.



**General Superintendent
David K. Bernard**

In the elections, all incumbents were returned to office with one significant change. Due to the retirement of Jerry Jones, we elected Scott Graham as the new general secretary-treasurer for a two-year term. Brother Graham is currently the superintendent of the Missouri District and already resides in the St. Louis area. We thank Brother Jones for his many years of service, and we welcome Brother Graham to the administrative team at World Headquarters.

The General Conference adopted, with small amendments, all eight resolutions that were presented from the Resolutions Committee. The most significant were revisions of the Local Church Government, the Global Missions policy, and the Men's Ministries policy (including the change to this new name); a modification of the qualifications for General License; and a provision to standardize the reading requirements for all ministerial applicants including Bible college alumni. The next issue of the Forward will contain a full report of elections, appointments, and resolutions.

Hurricane Michael

Hurricane Michael has done extensive damage to a number of our churches, pastors' homes, and members' homes in Florida and Georgia. Many areas are completely devastated. In some places it could be two months before power is restored. At this point, we have identified seven churches in Florida that suffered severe damage, and two churches in Georgia were also damaged.

If you would like to send an offering to help with this disaster, please send it to the Florida District UPCI or the Georgia District UPCI and put Hurricane Relief in the memo. All funds will be used to assist churches that have been affected.

The Florida District has more extensive need for reconstruction. The district disaster relief director, Pastor Larry W. Sims, is coordinating all efforts to help these churches and pastors. If you wish to send supplies or labor, please coordinate this assistance through Brother Sims. We want to make sure our efforts are profitable and a blessing for all those in need.

Prayer for US Elections

I appeal to everyone to pray for the upcoming US elections on November 6, which will be significant for the direction of our nation and our world over the next two years. As a church we don't endorse political candidates, but we should pray for leaders who will preserve our political and economic liberty, especially freedom of religion. I also urge all citizens to participate in the voting process at every level.