

# The Faith Forum

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 20

MARCH 2014

**Church of God by Faith, Inc.**



## Countdown to Celebrating the Past

### Special points of interest:

- *Special offers for COGBF Centenarians*
- *How Can I Receive a Free Gala Ticket*
- *Who Qualifies for Recognition Awards*
- *How Can I Help?*
- *Inaugural & Gala Tickets For Sale*
- *Columbia Convention Ad Cut-off*

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We are in the home stretch. All of the Centennial Committees are going over every detail with a fine tooth comb trying to make certain that the Centennial Celebration goes off without a hitch.

If we could dismiss the miraculous occasion when the church got its official name, this may be considered the most outstanding event in the history of Church of by Faith, Inc.

Many have come and gone by the grace of God, but Church of God by Faith has stood the test of time and by faith the organization is celebrating 100 years of existence. All of the planning and preparation will be for naught if you don't join us for the big celebration. The celebration begins on the South Carolina District with our National Convention at DoubleTree Hilton on Thursday, July 23. Visit our website at [www.cogbf2014](http://www.cogbf2014) to make hotel reservations.

The Centennial Inaugural Gala is scheduled for July 26. This exciting kickoff event will be held at the Medallion Conference Center, 7309 Garners Ferry Rd., Columbia, South Carolina. Here's a glimpse of some of the things we are planning. This black tie gala will begin with a meet & greet reception with an on-site photographer and videographer to help you hold on to your memories, followed by a formal dining experience.

The evening's entertainment will include the of "Sounds of South Carolina", presentations to the oldest members and founders of churches on the SC District, video entertainment consisting of "candid interviews" with older saints, vignettes of yesteryear, generational photos of South Carolina's most influential members and much more.

Seats are selling quickly, so get yours NOW. Tickets are \$50.00 per person. The **deadline is April 30** and you can purchase yours at the COGBF National Headquarters in Jacksonville, through the Centennial Gala Committee or on the COGBF Centennial Website, [www.cogbf2014.com](http://www.cogbf2014.com). Make plans now to attend this historic event.

**CENTENNIAL GALA COMMITTEE**  
**P O BOX 6103**  
**GAINESVILLE, FL 32627**  
  
**100gala2014@gmail.com**

## Big Plans Underway For The Grand Gala

### The Search is on for Centenarians

Members of Church of God by Faith who are 100 years or older and physically able to travel to Atlanta will be honored at the Grand Gala. They will be provided with a complimentary one-night stay at the Hyatt Regency and given one complimentary ticket to the Grand Gala, compliments of the Church of God by Faith Gala Committee. If you know someone that fits this category, please contact the Gala Committee.

### Complimentary Ticket Offer

Pastor Jonathan McKnight, Sanctuary of Praise, Orlando, Florida has offered to bless 10 deserving seniors one ticket to attend the Grand Gala. Interested persons must submit a formal written request for one of the free tickets to the Centennial Gala Committee by mail or email no later than April 30.

To qualify, all applicants must be 65 years or older and have been a member of Church of God by Faith for 50 years or longer. Just a

reminder, only 10 seniors will be selected so get your applications in early. Please include the year and local church where the centenarian first became a member.

**GRAND GALA COMMITTEE  
PO Box 6103  
GAINESVILLE, FL 32627  
EMAIL:  
100GALA2014@GMAIL.COM**

**WEBSITE:  
COGBF2014.COM**

## Recognition Award Nominations Are Needed

### Gala Committee seeking Nominations

The Grand Gala Celebration will also host an awards ceremony as part of the gala night festivities. Several awards categories will be granted: *Pioneers, Living Legends, Trail Blazers, Lifetime Achievers, and Rising Stars*.

*Pioneer Award* will be limited to the founding fathers and others who were instrumental pillars of the Church of God by Faith, Inc.

The *Living Legends Award* nominees must have made significant contributions to COGBF by having served on a local, district and national level and has been a member

of the church for 50 years or longer.

*Trail Blazers Award* nominees must have been a member or is a member of the church for at least 20 years. This individual must have been instrumental in suggesting a wide scale implemented idea which resulted in a tremendous improvement to the National Church; or produced large-scale advancement of the National Church in one or more of its major departments.

*Lifetime Achievers Award* nominees are individuals who have made consistent and significant contributions to the church and have served on the local, district and national level over a span of at least 25 years.

*Rising Stars Award* nominees must have been a member for at least 10 years. This individual demonstrates leadership qualities and serves on a local, district and national level of COGBF.

A complete resume supporting the nominee's qualifications must be submitted to the Centennial Gala Committee by July 31. You can obtain nomination forms from [www.cogbf2014](http://www.cogbf2014) or your district representative.

***Centennial Gala  
Friday, December 19  
6:00 P. M.***

**For complete details on the upcoming Centennial Celebration, visit us on the web at [ww.cogbf2014.com](http://ww.cogbf2014.com).**

## Grand Centennial Gala Highlights

The Grand Gala will be a night of elegance and is one of the highlights of the 2014 Centennial Celebration on December 19.

The evening is slated to begin with a silent auction fund raising activity. Proceeds from this activity will benefit the effort to save and renovate the historic Ocala Temple. Other planned activities are:

A Red-Carpet Reception and meet and greet to allow guests the opportunity to greet the By Faith leaders, special VIP and corporate guests.

Photographers will be on location to

capture the Red-Carpet entrance of each guest and make photos available for guests to purchase so they can walk away with a great keepsake from this landmark event.

The evening will end with an exciting formal dining experience, star powered entertainment, a motivational speaker, awards ceremony and visionary commentary from our executives and VIP guests.

Grand Gala tickets are available now and can be purchased through the corporate COGBF Website

(cogbf2014.com), the National Headquarters in Jacksonville or through the Centennial Gala Committee.

Individual tickets are \$125.00. A table for 10 is \$1,200.00. Space is severely limited and has already been increased for your access but that was absolutely the last adjustment to be made. All tickets must be secured with a one half down deposit and the balance must be completely paid by the deadline of June 30, 2014. There will be no exceptions!!

## Silent Auction at the Gala

The Silent Auction is an important part of our Grand Gala Celebration. The overall goal of the Grand Gala is to provide opportunities for the members of COGBF to reflect on the great history and contributions of our forefathers.

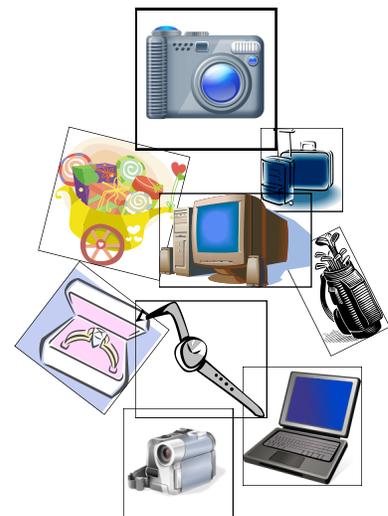
It also challenges us to look introspectively at the history that their contributions will demand from those who are now the beneficiaries of this rich heritage and to make haste in paving new paths for the future generation of "By Faith" babies.

The Temple in Ocala, Florida is the last major monument that still stands as a legacy and testimony to our spiritual forefathers. We have an obligation to "SAVE THE TEMPLE." This historic building is in great need of repair and upgrades and we must pool our collective resources to bring this building back to its former glory. Our pray is that all "By Faith" members and well

wishers will join us in this noble cause.

The Silent Auction is a major fund raising effort of the Gala Committee to help this project happen. We are urging all districts, local churches, corporate sponsors and businesses to assist us by donating significant items for auction bidding. Some examples of items that would be desirable are iPads, laptop computers, vacation trips, golf clubs, two or three day hotel getaways, electronic game systems, and other high-end items of general interest to the public at large.

Get creative and partner with friends or businesses to purchase items you'll donate. Groups of five or ten people can purchase the weekend vacation and give it to the cause. You may be surprised at how eager people will be help support your efforts.



**We can do this!**

## Church of God by Faith, Inc.

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2409 Old Middleburg Road N  
Jacksonville FL 32210  
(904)779-5469 Office  
(904)779-5399 Fax

info@cogbf.org

Editor: Sarah Lundy  
Contributors: Grand Gala Committee



A Great Heritage—A Great Future

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WE'RE ON THE WEB!

COGBF.ORG

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## COGBF Historic Collection and Exhibit Display Rooms

In an continuing effort to record the history of the National Church of God by Faith, we have requested that every district develop an extensive composite history of each local church to make a video or pictorial presentation of all information collected that chronicles the development of that local church.

These historical accounts should include pictures of the first church building (if available) and pictures of the founders and other important pillars of that congregation. Include any upgrades or renovations to the original church and the current church as it stands today with its current leadership pictures, etc.

We are asking further that all this information and collection be formatted in video and picture collages and brought to Atlanta for the four-day display in our special exhibit room at the Hyatt Regency. Monitoring of all your valuable exhibit material will be the responsibility of each district.

## Can I Help?

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### We're Looking for Volunteers

The Grand Gala Committee is open to volunteers to assist at the Centennial events. We're looking



**Looking for friendly faces.**

for friendly and hospitable greeters, ushers, and silent auction assistants to aide us with the movement of our guest and

members throughout the four days of the 2014 Centennial Celebration.

If you're interested in volunteering, please contact:

**Sister Audrey Jones**  
Chairperson  
Centennial Hospitality  
jones31@cfl.rr.com

### Centennial Ads Columbia Convention

Ads for the July Convention are being accepted now and full page ads are still only \$100.00. Please send your **print ready ads via email** to info@cogbf.org and slundy@cogbf.org today.

**AD CUT-OFF**  
**MAY 26**