



CHURCH OF GOD™
(SEVENTH DAY) UNITED STATES & CANADA



GC CONVENTION 2025

Engage

UTAH
SALT LAKE CITY
2025

Workshops

Calvin L. Rampton Salt Palace Convention Center



Level 1

- Convention Registration - Room 150 A/B
- Worship Service/Business Sessions/Artios
Graduation - Ballroom E/F/G/H/I/J
- Exhibits for GC Ministries - Ballroom A/B/C/D
- Children's Program - Room 151 G
- Nursery - Room 151 F

Level 2

- Workshops - Room 250 A-F

Level 3

- Youth Program - Room 355 A/B/C
- Young Adult Program - Room 355
D/E/F

Contents

Workshop Schedule 2

Workshop Descriptions 4

Tuesday • 2:00 - 3:15 p.m. 4

 • 3:30 - 4:45 p.m. 5

Wednesday • 2:00 - 3:15 p.m. 7

 • 3:30 - 4:45 p.m. 9

Thursday • 2:00 - 3:15 p.m. 10

 • 3:30 - 4:45 p.m. 12

A Note Regarding Language

- Workshops in Room A are offered in English by bilingual speakers, who will present in English but translate live as necessary.
- Workshops in Rooms B and C are offered in English, with Spanish being provided through translation equipment.
- Workshops in D and E/F are the same workshops, but are presented once in English only (Room D) and once in Spanish only (Rooms E/F). These six workshops are the only ones that are presented more than once.

Workshop Schedule

Workshops are at the Convention Center (second floor).

Tuesday _____

2:00 - 3:15 p.m. - **Session 1**

Room 250 A—F

A Experience the SHINE (Serving Him In Nations Everywhere) Ministry! - *English/Spanish* (Rousseau)

B Engaged Family - *English* (Stephens/Hrenyk)

C Spiritual Warfare (Conflict) - *English* (Zaragoza)

D Get a Grip on the Grind - A Little Organization Goes a Long Way in Achieving Success - *English* (Gjesdal)

E/F Don't Cross the Line - *Spanish* (Teran)

3:30 - 4:45 p.m. - **Session 2**

Room 250 A—F

A Joyful Leap: Awakening the Church to Defend Life - *English/Spanish* (Castillo)

B Engaging in the Community - *English* (Ling/Langs/McKibben)

C Making Sabbath School Engaging - *English* (Overman)

D Don't Cross the Line - *English* (Teran)

E/F Get a Grip on the Grind - A Little Organization Goes a Long Way in Achieving Success - *Spanish* (Ruiz)

Wednesday _____

2:00 - 3:15 p.m. - **Session 1**

Room 250 A—F

A Unlock the Power of Great Church Sound! Part 1 - *English/Spanish* (Rousseau/Stephens)

B Balloon, Bubbles, Crafts, Food, Music, Recreation, Worship, Message — Now What? What Does It Take to be a Youth Camp Director? - *English* (Haffner/Ogren)

C Introducing the International Federation - *English* (Holland)

D Put Me In, Coach: Experience the Fulfillment of Your Role on God's Team - *English* (Fernandez)

E/F Is Church Integration a Problem? - *Spanish* (Terans)

3:30 - 4:45 p.m. - **Session 2**

Room 250 A—F

A Unlock the Power of Great Church Sound! Part 2 - *English/Spanish* (Rousseau/Stephens)

B Strengthening Biblical Foundations Through Preteen Youth Camps - *English* (Stucker/Gjesdal)

C Next Step: Following the Call to Pastoral Ministry in CoG7 - *English* (Kyner/Franks/Ross)

D How to Lead Someone to Christ - *English* (Betances)

E/F A Seat at the Table: Cultivating Christlike Hospitality- *Spanish* (Capetillos)

B Getting Engaged with Ministry - *English* (Overman)

C Getting Church Eldership Right - *English* (Rose)

D A Seat at the Table: Cultivating Christlike Hospitality - *English* (Capetillos)

E/F How to Lead Someone to Christ - *Spanish* (Betances)

3:30 - 4:45 p.m. - **Session 2**

Room 250 A—F

A Homeschooling with Purpose: Tools, Tips, and Testimonies - *English/Spanish* (Davila)

B Restructuring GC Missions - *English* (McCoy/Stacy)

C Self-Care: Care for Yourself to Care for Others - *English* (Palmer)

D Is Church Integration a Problem? - *English* (Terans)

E/F Put Me In, Coach: Experience the Fulfillment of Your Role on God's Team - *Spanish* (Gutierrez)

Thursday _____

2:00 - 3:15 p.m. - **Session 1**

Room 250 A—F

A Engage: So You've Joined a Worship Band . . . - *English/Spanish* (Davilas)

Workshop Descriptions

Tuesday • 2:00 - 3:15 p.m.

Experience the SHINE (Serving Him In Nations Everywhere) Ministry!

Ronald Rousseau - English/Spanish

Convention Center Room 250A (Second Floor)

In this inspiring and interactive workshop, discover how you can live a little bit of SHINE at home, bringing the heart of missions into your everyday life. Hear powerful testimonies from those who have served, explore the exciting history of SHINE, and be inspired by the impact seen in lives and communities around the world. With engaging stories, eye-opening statistics, and a fun, interactive atmosphere, this workshop will leave you energized and ready to be a light — wherever you are! Don't miss this opportunity to connect, be challenged, and step into your role in God's mission. Come and SHINE with us!

Engaged Family

Jenny Stephens and Wayne Hrenyk - English (with translation equipment)

Convention Center Room 250B (Second Floor)

When we are faithful to the God-given responsibilities of family, our obedience will springboard us to fruitful ministries and blessings lasting for generations. Prepare to be greatly inspired and encouraged by simple concepts from scriptures regarding the importance of senior citizens, honoring our parents, and serving seniors within our communities.

Spiritual Warfare (Conflict)

Abel Zaragoza - English (with translation equipment)

Convention Center Room 250C (Second Floor)

We will explore how to find freedom in Christ Jesus; review the kingdom of God, the kingdom of Satan, and the struggles Christians face regularly (Ephesians 6:12); explore how to overcome negative thoughts, irrational feelings, and habitual sins; review God's armor and how we may allow an opening for one of those missiles to penetrate us. We will also explore the warnings of habitual sins that can lead to a stronghold in our lives. And we will learn that repentance is the only way to free us, gaining

God's peace again. Lastly, we will explore dreams and biblical dream interpretation and visions.

Get a Grip on the Grind - A Little Organization Goes a Long Way in Achieving Success

Loren Gjesdal - English

Convention Center Room 250D (Second Floor)

Church ministry is much more than Sabbath worship services, pot-lucks, and Bible studies. It is also the ongoing challenge of finding people willing to serve, conducting business meetings, and creating committees. This workshop will present some practical methods and examples for getting a grip on the grind of recruiting and training ministry leaders, making meetings more productive, and retaining volunteers. A little organization can go a long way toward ministry success!

Don't Cross the Line

Jamin Teran - Spanish

Convention Center Room 250E/F (Second Floor)

This workshop will teach you how to draw the line between your public and private communication. Learn the importance of how your social media posts affect your church and community. Understand the importance of internal and external agendas in live-streaming services and in live events, and become a more effective communicator to impact and engage your church and community.

Tuesday • 3:30 - 4:45 p.m.

Joyful Leap: Awakening the Church to Defend Life

Jenavi Castillo - English/Spanish

Convention Center Room 250A (Second Floor)

Abortion is one of the greatest injustices of our time — and it's closer to the church than we may realize. In this workshop, we'll look honestly at what abortion is and how it impacts women, men, families, and even those sitting in our pews. We will dive into what God's Word says about it. You'll hear real statistics, biblical truth, and practical ways you and your church can stand for life and support both mothers and babies with compassion and conviction. My prayer is that you leave not just informed but

deeply moved and ready to make a difference right where you are by caring for the least of these.

Engaging in the Community

Tony Ling, Kurt and Kristi Lang, Carla McKibben - English (with translation equipment)

Convention Center Room 250B (Second Floor)

Each member is gifted to fit within the body of believers and called to be a light in our communities. Hear how two groups of people engage in their communities in somewhat different ways. Have you thought of being a volunteer fireman or a volunteer sports coach in your community? Hear the motivation and impact of these choices, then join us and share your story in an **open forum**. Do you volunteer in a hospital, create quilts to support children impacted by tragedy, help in a school or non-profit, mentor students, serve in a senior residence, assist in a food bank, visit jails or prisons . . . ? The list of opportunities is long. Come share your story!

Making Sabbath School Engaging

Jason Overman - English (with translation equipment)

Convention Center Room 250C (Second Floor)

In this workshop, BA Editor Jason Overman will explore ways to make the most of the BAP Adult Sabbath school quarterlies. Whether you're a Sabbath school teacher or student, this seminar gives fresh perspectives on an age-old and beloved tradition of our church: studying the Bible together.

Don't Cross the Line

Jamin Teran - English

Convention Center Room 250D (Second Floor)

This workshop will teach you how to draw the line between your public and private communication. Learn the importance of how your social media posts affect your church and community. Understand the importance of internal and external agendas in live-streaming services and in live events, and become a more effective communicator to impact and engage your church and community.

Get a Grip on the Grind - A Little Organization Goes a Long Way in Achieving Success

Ramon Ruiz - Spanish

Convention Center Room 250E/F (Second Floor)

Do you feel spiritual stagnation in the life of your congregation? Are you not seeing any significant progress in your ministry? Do you think routine is suffocating your local church? If you answered yes to any of these questions, then this workshop is for you. In this presentation, we will analyze the causes of spiritual stagnation at the personal and congregational levels and. And of course, we will offer the biblical guidelines necessary for a healthy community to fulfill the mission entrusted to it by the Lord Jesus Christ.

Wednesday • 2:00 - 3:15 p.m.

Unlock the Power of Great Church Sound! Part 1

Ronald Rousseau and Robert Stephens - English/Spanish

Convention Center Room 250A (Second Floor)

Join us for an interactive, hands-on sound training session designed for those who run sound in church services. This is your chance to step behind the mixing board, listen, adjust, and learn in real-time! In this session, you will mix live sound and experience the impact of small adjustments; participate in A/B testing to hear the difference between good and bad mixes; get expert tips on common sound issues and how to fix them; and engage in a Q&A session to troubleshoot your toughest audio challenges. Whether you're new to church sound or have years of experience, this session will equip you with practical skills to enhance worship through excellent audio. Come ready to listen, learn, and level up your sound mixing skills! *Stick around for Part 2.*

Balloon, Bubbles, Crafts, Food, Music, Recreation, Worship, Message — Now What? What Does It Take to be a Youth Camp Director?

Greg Haffner and Harold Ogren - English (with translation equipment)

Convention Center Room 250B (Second Floor)

This workshop is designed to help you understand what it takes to design, implement, and succeed in directing a successful God-centered youth camp. We will go through the steps of picking a theme; choosing

staff, speakers, worship leaders, cooks; budgeting, cell phones, medical staff, insurance, programming, and marketing your camp before and after. Join two seasoned directors as we share our successes and failures in working with our next generation of church leadership.

Introducing the International Federation

Samuel Holland - English (with translation equipment)

Convention Center Room 250C (Second Floor)

This workshop will delve into the transition of the International Ministerial Congress to the Church of God (Seventh Day) International Federation. You'll have the chance to ask questions and receive updates on the organization that links us to a network of churches worldwide.

Put Me In, Coach: Experience the Fulfillment of Your Role on God's Team

Andrew Fernandez - English

Convention Center Room 250D (Second Floor)

The goal of this workshop is to help members catch the vision to fulfill their places in the work of God's vibrant twenty-first century Church of God (Seventh Day). We will consider the following: who God is calling to His team; the effects of serving and not serving on God's team; finding your gifts and place on God's team; a plan for equipping the players. Attendees should leave this workshop with a joyful and expectant heart regarding their roles in their local congregations, districts, and the General Conference.

Is Church Integration a Problem?

Jamin and Merari Teran - Spanish

Convention Center Room 250E/F (Second Floor)

This workshop will go over the importance of church integration — not to enhance one's culture, or structure, but to provide a model where everyone will be edified. Problems such as cultural identity, segregation, and lack of church identity will be discussed, and effective solutions will be provided. We will also touch on ways to connect with our church and community today.

Wednesday • 3:30 - 4:45 p.m.

Unlock the Power of Great Church Sound! Part 2

Ronald Rousseau and Robert Stephens - English/Spanish
Convention Center Room 250A (Second Floor)

Join us for an interactive, hands-on sound training session designed for those who run sound in church services. This is your chance to step behind the mixing board, listen, adjust, and learn in real-time! In this session, you will mix live sound and experience the impact of small adjustments; participate in A/B testing to hear the difference between good and bad mixes; get expert tips on common sound issues and how to fix them; and engage in a Q&A session to troubleshoot your toughest audio challenges. Whether you're new to church sound or have years of experience, this session will equip you with practical skills to enhance worship through excellent audio. Come ready to listen, learn, and level up your sound mixing skills! *This is a continuation of Part 1.*

Strengthening Biblical Foundations Through Preteen Youth Camps

Matthew Stucker and Kelsey Gjesdal - English (with translation equipment)

Convention Center Room 250B (Second Floor)

Did you know that most believers come to the Lord before age 13? Preteen youth ministry is an often under-appreciated but crucial work in the body of Christ. The call to follow Christ begins with planting, watering, and tending gospel seeds in the hearts of our young people, long before we see the harvest. Preteen youth camps are an amazing opportunity to engage in this work! In this workshop, a vision is cast for how preteen youth camp ministry can come alongside parents, Sabbath school teachers, pastors, and the Church to plant gospel seeds in young hearts.

Next Step: Following the Call to Pastoral Ministry in CoG7

Steve Kyner, Brian Franks, Makayla Ross - English (with translation equipment)

Convention Center Room 250C (Second Floor)

Artios Christian College and the License and Credentials Committee (L&CC) invite all interested students, current ministerial workers, and those considering a calling to pastoral work or ministerial advancement (from LPC to license or license to credentials). We will assist you and answer your questions about ministerial licensing and serving in the pastoral

ministry in the Church of God (Seventh Day). Our goal is to support future pastors in their education but also in their calling, spiritual development, and readiness to serve. Together we will explore how God is preparing leaders for His church and how we can walk faithfully in that calling.

How to Lead Someone to Christ

Narciso Betances - English

Convention Center Room 250D (Second Floor)

This workshop will encompass biblical strategies on how the church can lead non-believers, and believers who have gone astray, to Christ.

A Seat at the Table: Cultivating Christlike Hospitality

Moises and Pete Capetillo - Spanish

Convention Center Room 250E/F (Second Floor)

This workshop will explore the critical role that hospitality plays within the church, focusing on how we welcome both regular attenders and newcomers. We will compare the experience of being a guest at church to dining at different types of restaurants. Each type of dining experience represents various levels of service and hospitality, ranging from minimal to exceptional. This session will challenge participants to reflect on the current state of hospitality in their churches and encourage them to foster a culture of genuine love and care.

Thursday • 2:00 - 3:15 p.m.

Engage: So You've Joined a Worship Band . . .

Ruben Jr. and Jenny Davila - English/Spanish

Convention Center Room 250A (Second Floor)

Music holds a significant place in modern worship services. Regardless of style, the power of music in worship lies in its ability to transcend words, touch the heart, and enhance our communal praise. Join us as we talk shop and explore some practical tips and tricks for enhancing your music for worship and becoming a better musician, team member, or team leader. A variety of topics are discussed, including band dynamics and working together as a worship team. We also discuss giving space to each other, serving the song, and how to identify and eliminate distractions to make it easier for congregations to stay focused.

Getting Engaged with Ministry

Jason Overman - English (with translation equipment)

Convention Center Room 250B (Second Floor)

In this half personal testimony, half practical workshop, join BA Editor Jason Overman as he shares his story of engaging with ministry and what he has learned along the way. In addition, you'll learn more about the GC Publications Ministry and how you might plug into it.

Getting Church Eldership Right

Whaid Rose - English (with translation equipment)

Convention Center Room 250C (Second Floor)

This workshop will provide a biblical framework for the role of elders in the local church. It will draw upon the New Testament vision of vibrant churches led by a plurality of spiritual leaders, called to and gifted for a lifelong commitment to shepherding Christ's flock.

A Seat at the Table: Cultivating Christlike Hospitality

Moises and Pete Capetillo - English

Convention Center Room 250D (Second Floor)

This workshop will explore the critical role that hospitality plays within the church, focusing on how we welcome both regular attenders and newcomers. We will compare the experience of being a guest at church to dining at different types of restaurants. Each type of dining experience represents different levels of service and hospitality, ranging from minimal to exceptional. This session will challenge participants to reflect on the current state of hospitality in their churches and encourage them to foster a culture of genuine love and care.

How to Lead Someone to Christ

Narciso Betances - Spanish

Convention Center Room 250E/F (Second Floor)

This workshop will encompass biblical strategies on how the church can lead non-believers, and believers who have gone astray, to Christ.

Thursday • 3:30 - 4:45 p.m.

Homeschooling with Purpose: Tools, Tips, and Testimonies

Anita Davila - English/Spanish

Convention Center Room 250A (Second Floor)

Are you considering homeschooling or looking for ways to strengthen your homeschooling journey? I'll share insights from my personal experience as a homeschooling parent — what's worked, what hasn't, and how we've seen God's hand throughout the process. We'll explore practical tools, helpful resources, and support systems that can make homeschooling both effective and sustainable for your family. Whether you're just starting out or already on the path, come be encouraged, ask questions, and leave equipped with ideas and assets to help your family thrive in home education.

Restructuring GC Missions

Jody McCoy and Loren Stacy - English (with translation equipment)

Convention Center Room 250B (Second Floor)

Jody McCoy and Loren Stacy explain how the General Conference Missions Ministry is being restructured and the reasons that this restructuring was deemed necessary by the GC board of directors. If you have questions about which Missions Ministry efforts are continuing, which are being discontinued, and what to expect going forward, this seminar is for you.

Self-Care: Care for Yourself to Care for Others

Delia Palmer - English (with translation equipment)

Convention Center Room 250C (Second Floor)

Self-care is “an active and continuous process of maintaining physical, emotional, relational, and spiritual well-being to sustain both personal and professional effectiveness.” Too often, we who serve others, whether in ministry, healthcare, or leadership, neglect our own well-being, leading to exhaustion, diminished joy, and even burnout. This session provides practical strategies to integrate self-care into daily life while remaining rooted in our calling.

Is Church Integration a Problem?

Jamin and Merari Teran - English

Convention Center Room 250D (Second Floor)

This workshop will go over the importance of church integration not to enhance one's culture, or structure, but rather to provide a model where everyone will be edified. Problems such as cultural identity, segregation, and lack of church identity will be discussed, and effective solutions will be provided. We will also touch on ways to connect with our church and community today.

Put Me In, Coach: Experience the Fulfillment of Your Role on God's Team

Zuri Gutierrez - Spanish

Convention Center Room 250E/F (Second Floor)

The goal of this workshop is to help members catch the vision to fulfill their places in the work of God's vibrant twenty-first century Church of God (Seventh Day). We will consider the following: who God is calling to His team; the effects of serving and not serving on God's team; finding your gifts and place on God's team; and a plan for equipping the players. Attendees should leave this workshop with a joyful and expectant heart regarding their roles in their local congregations, districts, and the General Conference.