

# New Church LIFE

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A monthly magazine devoted to the teachings  
revealed through Emanuel Swedenborg

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A Christmas Sermon by David Ayers

The Kingdom Within  
Charter Day Address by Barry Halterman

Annual Directory of the General Church

2006 Annual Index

**December 2006**

# New Church Life

A MONTHLY MAGAZINE DEVOTED TO THE TEACHINGS  
REVEALED THROUGH EMANUEL SWEDENBORG

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## *Notes on This Issue*

In the sermon this month, the Rev. David Ayers addresses two related questions: First, how could the all-powerful Creator of heaven and earth be threatened or attacked by any evil and, second, why was it necessary for the Lord to be born on earth as a human being? The answers give us cause to celebrate the miracle of the Lord's advent.

Each year in the fall, Academy alumni and friends gather in Bryn Athyn to celebrate Charter Day. This year's opening address in the Cathedral was delivered by the Rev. Barry Halterman, religion teacher in the secondary schools. In his address, Mr. Halterman emphasizes that the Academy has a goal that no other educational system shares: to offer a spiritual education to lay the foundations for a spiritual life. More news about Charter Day 2006 will be forthcoming in the Academy's *Alumni Update*.

This issue includes the 2006-2007 Directory of the General Church provided by the Bishop's office. The Directory lists the current officers and board members of the corporate body of the church as well as the current status of various members of the clergy. Societies and Circles of the church are listed along with the names of the ministers who serve them.

Also included this month is the annual index.



The Rev. David Ayers currently serves as Principal of the Bryn Athyn Church School in Bryn Athyn, Pennsylvania. Prior to taking this position in July 2005, Mr. Ayers served as pastor of the Hurstville Society in Australia and of the Olivet Church in Toronto, Canada. David and his wife, Darcy (Bostock), live in Bryn Athyn with four of their six children.

## **WHY THE LORD WAS BORN AS A MAN**

BY THE REV. DAVID W. AYERS

*And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth. (John 1:14)*

All residents of this planet we call “earth” share a common element of our heritage, one that is unique among all of the planets, galaxies, and universes. Something happened 2,000 years ago on this planet that never happened anywhere before or since: the Maker and Creator Himself, the infinite God came to earth and was born as a human being. He walked among His people, taught them, loved them, and so saved the entire human race from total destruction.

What had made this incredible mission necessary? Nothing short of infinite Divine Love burning with a desire to save human beings from a hidden, but impending doom. Through generations of choosing to serve their selfish and worldly loves, people had separated themselves from God. They had chosen to forget Him and forget how He meant people to live. The Lord could not be present in people’s lives because they had chosen to exclude Him. Mutual love among people was extinguished, and evil was breaking out everywhere, in both the natural and spiritual worlds, destroying all ability to see or choose anything true or good, dragging people further into hell. Complete planetary annihilation was imminent.

And so the Lord assumed a human body so that He could be attacked by the hells, defeat them, and break the grip of every evil and falsity that held the human race in bondage. And He came to teach people how they could again live and be conjoined with Him.

### **Two Questions**

Even though the Lord has provided us with the four Gospels

and many volumes of the Writings for the New Church which explain His mission, it can still be difficult for us to understand how this process could have worked. Two questions especially stand out:

First, how could the Creator of every person and every thing ever be attacked by evil? After all, the Lord is Life Itself, Love Itself, Power Itself. How could anything or any one He created pose any threat to Him at all?

Second, why did the Lord have to be born on earth as a human being? Since He is so powerful, couldn't He simply have accomplished His work from heaven, using angels and miracles to defeat evil and save the human race?

In answer, we are taught first that the Lord had exhausted every other method of helping people. For hundreds of years the Lord had appeared to people in the form of angels who spoke in His name and acted as willing instruments of His love and guidance. He had empowered dozens of prophets to speak in His name, warning the human race of its spiritual folly in turning away from their Creator. But in time, the spiritual condition of the human race degenerated so much that this indirect communication was no longer sufficient or powerful enough. The Lord Himself would have to come.

Secondly, the Lord would never have used His great power to force His will on anyone. It would have been contrary to His nature to compel people to obey Him through fear and awe. He wants us to be free to choose in spiritual things above everything else. In fact, He guards this freedom so closely that we are allowed to use it to reject Him and choose hell. People can become spiritual only by *choosing* to leave behind their selfish loves, and by *asking* the Lord to grant them heavenly loves. In order to do this, we have to be able to understand what the Lord wants and then compel ourselves to accept it. This freedom to understand and choose heaven is what was missing from

people's lives before the Lord was born on earth. The Lord came to restore this freedom.

### **How Could the Lord Redeem Us?**

The Lord had to devise a way to carry out His mission of redemption while preserving our precious freedom, a way that would enable Him to restore conditions in the natural and spiritual worlds permanently so that freedom would never again be threatened.

How did He do this? The Lord is so powerful that no evil love or false thought could ever come close to Him. In order for the hells to attack Him, the Lord needed to find a way to share in the human proclivity for evil and falsity. He had to become, as it were, like one of us, thus fulfilling Isaiah's prophecy given 700 years earlier: "Surely He has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed Him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities..." (53:4-5). The method He chose to meet all these requirements was birth in a physical human form. The Lord's physical body was born from Mary but was conceived by the "power of the Highest." From the beginning, therefore, the Lord had two natures, one derived from God Himself that was His "soul" (which He referred to as "the Father"), and the other derived from Mary, that was His physical body (which He referred to as "the Son"). As to His Father, the hells could not even approach, much less tempt, the Lord. It was from His human mother that the Lord received the hereditary tendencies associated with His physical body that would enable the hells to attack Him—His external man, the Son.

### **The Temptation of the Lord's Human**

The Lord could never have been tempted to do evil by the hells as to His Good or Love. But because He was born into a physical

human body, the Lord had a natural part to his mind. He had to grow and learn like everyone else. And in that process of viewing the world and learning about the world around Him through that impure mind, He could be assailed by the illusions and falsities that had overwhelmed every other person. The Lord could be tempted to think, consider, and accept false assumptions and illusions based on His senses—and from this false thinking, be drawn toward evil. In this way all the hells broke upon the Lord and tormented Him throughout His entire earthly life.

We read about the Lord's temptations in this powerful passage from *Arcana Coelestia* 1690:

[T]he whole of the Lord's life in the world from earliest childhood consisted in constant temptation and constant victory. The last was when on the Cross He prayed for His enemies, and so for all people in the whole world...[and] *out of His love towards the whole human race He fought against self-love and love of the world*, with which the hells were filled completely.... The love that was the Lord's very life is meant by His being hungry and by the devil's saying, "If you are the Son of God, tell this stone to become bread." And Jesus answered, "It is written that man will not live by bread alone but by every word of God" (Luke 4:2-4; Matthew. 4:2-4). [emphasis added]

### **Combats Against Love of the World**

The Lord's combats against *the love of the world* are described in the Gospels in the account of the devil's taking Him up on a high mountain and showing Him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time, and saying, "All this authority I will give You, and their glory; for this has been delivered to me, and I give it to whomever I wish. Therefore, if You will worship before me, all will be Yours." And Jesus answered and said to him, "Get behind Me, Satan! For it is written, 'You shall worship the Lord your God, and Him only you shall serve'" (Luke 4:5-8; Matthew 4:8-10).

### **Combats Against Love of Self**

The Gospels describe the Lord's combats against self-love in the account of the devil's taking Him into the holy city, setting Him on the pinnacle of the temple, and saying to Him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down, for it is written, 'He shall give His angels charge concerning you,' and, 'in their hands they shall bear you up, lest you dash your foot against a stone.' Jesus said to him, "Again it is written, 'You shall not tempt the Lord your God'" (Matthew 4:5-7; Luke 4:9-12).

Based on these teachings, can we surmise what kinds of illusions and falsities tormented the Lord? Because He fought against all the loves of self and the world from a love for saving the entire human race, *He was tempted to doubt that His mission would succeed, about His ability to save people, and their willingness to be saved. He was assailed with doubts and fears* because He had a frail human part just like ours. He knew He must die and feared His mission might fail. He prayed in the garden of Gethsemane and sweated blood. He may have been *tempted to take shortcuts*: to force people to accept Him, to exercise the great power that was within Him, rather than allow people to mistreat and reject Him. These temptations, and more, battered the Lord throughout His entire earthly life.

We also know that the Lord's temptations were "so serious that no other could ever endure one ten thousandth part of them" (*Arcana Coelestia* 1573:4). This was because "the intensity of the love determines that of the temptation" (*Arcana Coelestia* 1690:6). Since the love that was tempted in the Lord was His infinite, burning, compassionate love for the entire human race, His grievous temptations were of a correspondingly intense nature.

Yet, miraculously, the Lord never failed in any temptation. Every time He was tempted, the Lord was victorious. Every day of His life the Lord fought the hells from the Divine Truth of the

Word. And every day He won great victories: “The hells were constantly overpowered, subdued, and vanquished by Him; and this He did solely out of love towards the whole human race” (*Arcana Coelestia* 1690:6).

Through this process the Lord gradually glorified His human. He put off every hereditary tendency for what was false and evil, and put on what was from the Father. By the time His earthly life ended, the Lord’s material body was completely dissipated. There was nothing left in the tomb. Instead, the Lord had a Divine Human—He was God even down to the natural level.

### **The Wonder of the Lord’s Incarnation**

As we celebrate this Advent season, may each of us spend time reflecting on the reason why the Lord had to be born as a man on our earth. By becoming flesh and living among us, the Lord broke hell’s evil stranglehold over our hearts and minds, restoring our ability to receive, understand and accept the truth, and so be saved from hell—if we choose to do so. This is the Lord’s *hidden* gift to us.

But He has also given us another gift of immeasurable worth—one that *we can see*. Because He was born as a man, we know that the Lord is Human, that He became the embodiment of all that is truly human. Through His presence on earth, the example He set by His life, and the clear teachings He gave in the Sacred Scriptures and the Writings for the New Church, we can see Him for what He is: our infinite, loving, merciful Heavenly Father, Who was and is willing to do *anything and everything* to give us every opportunity for eternal happiness—the joy and peace of heaven that we will all receive when we allow Him to make His Advent into our lives. *Amen*.

Lessons: John 1: 1-14; Malachi 4; *Arcana Coelestia* 2034:6

**THE KINGDOM WITHIN**  
**Charter Day Address, October 20, 2006**  
BY THE REV. BARRY C. HALTERMAN

*Now when He was asked by the Pharisees when the kingdom of God would come, He answered them and said, "The kingdom of God does not come with observation; nor will they say, 'See here!' or 'See there!' For indeed, the kingdom of God is within you." (Luke 17:20-21)*

"The kingdom of God is within you." What an incredibly world-altering statement that is! That one simple statement flips the whole idea of religion around. Throughout history people have tried to set up the Kingdom of God on earth. Some have tried it on the small-scale, community level. Others have tried to set up countries and whole empires based on their understanding of God's laws in hopes of creating the Kingdom of God here on earth. People have waited, and many are still waiting, for God to come down and establish His eternal Kingdom here on earth once and for all.

But is that really how the Lord said it would happen? Is He going to come down to earth and set up the Kingdom of God Himself? Is His Kingdom even an earthly kingdom at all? The Kingdom of God is not actually something external. We can't just see it someplace out there and go join it. It's not outside of us at all. It's in us.

In many ways the Heavenly Doctrine is an expansion of that key principle. I want to focus this morning on the profound implications that principle has for the whole theory and practice of education here at the Academy of the New Church. Believing that the Kingdom of God is within us gives a new purpose to education. It implies that we need to take education to a whole new level. We need to do more than just teach about our physical

world. We need to do more than teach about morality. We need to do even more than teach the stories and doctrines of our faith. We need to teach to a whole new level of the mind. If the Kingdom of God is within us, then we need to teach people about what's inside them. If the Kingdom is inside us, we need to teach about the nature of spirit and what it means to be spiritual.

This is a totally different goal for education than any other educational system has. The world talks about *academic excellence* and about living a *successful* and *excellent life*. These may indeed be worthy pursuits, and they may have a place here at the Academy, but we need to have them—and more. At its core, the Academy of the New Church is about spiritual education. It's about helping to lay the foundations for a spiritual life. There are other schools that can give you an excellent education for this world. There are other schools that can give you an excellent moral education as well. But what about an excellent spiritual education? Where else can you get an education based on the broadest, deepest, clearest spiritual truths ever given to the human race? Where else can you go to get such a clear picture of our Divinely Human God, the God into whose image and likeness we were created, the God whose image is reflected in all of His creation? Where else can you go to learn about how spirit is present in all things in life and how to bring spirituality into every facet of your life? New Church education is education of the spirit, by the spirit, and for the spirit.

I've used the words "spirit" and "spiritual" a lot now. What is a spirit? Spirits are sometimes portrayed as some kind of airy, floating mists, or as some kind of freaky, magical, ghostlike entities that go "wooooo." We can do better. Some people think of spirits as what we become when we die, and the spiritual realm as the place we go to when we leave this natural world behind. But these are only half-truths. Some of the most striking

and strongest teachings in the Heavenly Doctrine are the ones that elaborate on the fundamental truth that we are spiritual beings right now and that we are part of the spiritual realm right now. The spiritual world is not actually separate from our material world in any way. The spiritual world is present in this world like a hand in a glove. We are all spirits, and heaven is within us right now!

Despite what our senses tell us, we are not just our bodies. We are not merely physical beings. We are spirits, and our physical bodies are really only specialized tools that enable us to experience the physical world. Despite what science may teach, it is not our body that lives and feels and thinks and wills; it is our spirit doing all these through our body. On its own our body is lifeless. It certainly isn't our body that loves and grows wise. It is our spirit. Spirits aren't something strange or inhuman. We are spirits. We are spiritual beings having a natural-world experience.

Our spirit consists of what we love and the thoughts that arise from our loves. Just like our spirit, love can seem like some kind of unreal, abstract, mental thing, or maybe some kind of impulse. But just because love isn't measurable or even perceivable by our physical senses doesn't mean it isn't real. Love is real. We can feel it when it is present, and we feel when it's absent. We feel warm and alive inside when it is present and cold and lifeless when it's gone. We can feel and even see its effects, so we know that it exists. Don't tell parents the love they have for their children isn't real. That love is the most real thing on earth. The precious innocence we feel when holding a newborn child can warm the soul like nothing else. Personally, I've never felt anything more real. In fact, at those moments I'd say everything else seems pretty unreal.

What about you? When do you feel the most alive? Think about it. When was a time you felt really full of life? I'll bet it

was when you were doing something you really loved—hanging out with good friends, playing a sport, "chillin" at the beach, sitting and talking with a close friend about stuff that really matters in your life. What makes you feel alive? Isn't it just doing what you love? The more you love something, the more alive you feel. So love is very real. In fact, the book *Divine Love and Wisdom* (n.1) starts off by saying, "Love is a person's life." Of course!

Love and its partner wisdom aren't abstract. They may not be perceivable by our physical senses, but they can definitely be perceived by our spirit. The Heavenly Doctrine even says Divine Love and Wisdom are real spiritual substance (*Divine Love and Wisdom* 40). They are real things that are received by the faculties of the mind called will and understanding and felt by our spiritual senses. They are every bit as real to our spirit as warmth and light are to our body. Spiritual education means teaching about the spirit. It means teaching about love and wisdom and how they apply to every situation.

The passage we heard from the book of Revelation gives a powerful image of the kingdom that lies within us. The passage I want focus on is the one about the measurement of the city: "And he measured the city with the reed: twelve thousand furlongs. Its length, breadth, and height are equal" (Revelation 21:16). Now twelve thousand furlongs is equal to fifteen hundred miles or twenty-four hundred kilometers. We may be able to grasp, at least in theory, a city that huge. A city that wide would cover an area stretching from Boston to Miami and extending westward almost as far as to Denver. That's a huge city. But a city fifteen hundred miles high! Fifteen hundred miles is way out into space! We couldn't even breathe in the higher parts of it! Clearly this is no physical city.

The Heavenly Doctrine shows that in describing the features of the heavenly city New Jerusalem, John is actually describing

the nature of our spirit and the Kingdom of God that lies within us (see *Apocalypse Revealed* 907). It is the measure of a man, the measure of an angel (Revelation 21:17). They show that when we apply these three dimensions to our spirit, “length” refers to the intensity of our love, “breadth” means the extent of our knowledge, and “height” relates to the spiritual quality of our commitment to what we know and love.

Let’s look a little deeper at those three dimensions of our spirit and the implications for education. The “breadth” dimension refers to how much ground we cover in terms of the different experiences we have and the knowledge we gain. The greater the variety of things we learn and experience in life, the “broader” our perspective will be. The more knowledge we have about different kinds of things, the more ability we have to extend our influence in those areas. In terms of our spirit, then, we extend as “wide” as our knowledge and experience take us.

The “length” dimension of our spirit is linked to our love and affection for things. Length is a measurement of time as well as space. The more we love something, the longer we stick with it. This is true whether we are referring to a subject we learn about in school, a relationship, a career path, a hobby, or anything. As we move laterally in terms of different experiences, we move forward in those things we enjoy doing the most. The things we have experienced and don’t enjoy, we stop doing. They don’t take up much “space” in our minds because we don’t care about them enough to have them take up a greater amount of time in our lives. But the things we do care about and enjoy take up a greater “space” in our minds because we commit more time to them. As we move forward in time, the things we keep doing over and over again define the “length” of our spirit as they add a second dimension to our experiences, the dimension of intensity of passion for what we know and experience.

The third dimension of our spirit, and the most crucial for New

Church education, is the “height” dimension. The “height” dimension refers to the spiritual quality of our love for something. We use this type of “height” imagery in our ordinary speech when we describe people as “deep” or “shallow” depending on our perception of their level of spirituality. Just as the height dimension is the toughest to picture in John’s vision of the New Jerusalem, raising our thoughts and our motives to higher levels is also the hardest dimension to add to our lives. We need to make our life “three dimensional” by including the spiritual realm in it at all times, and we do this by elevating what we know about and care about by means of higher spiritual wisdom and deeper spiritual motives.

While “breadth” and “length” have to do with the *quantity* of our knowledge and our passion, the “height” dimension has to do with the *quality* of our knowledge and our passion. If we don’t raise our thinking and our motives to higher levels, then what we learn from our experiences is only information, and our love for something is merely worldly passion. When we do raise our thinking and our motivations to higher and higher levels, those facts and desires of our earthly life take on a heavenly quality and become the foundations for acting in spiritually loving and wise ways. If we don’t teach to the spirit, we are only giving a two-dimensional education, and a two-dimensional education can only build a flat, two-dimensional kingdom. Without that third dimension the world we build lacks an eternal, spiritual quality. New Church education must teach to all three dimensions. It must be fundamentally about teaching to the spirit.

There is one final misconception about being spiritual that I want to address. The theory is that to be spiritual we must run away from the world and deny all its experiences and pleasures. The Lord created a beautiful world, and He put us in this world to experience the beauty, the wonder, and the joy of His creation. He put us here to learn how to interact with each other and learn

to be useful to each other. We are not meant to shun the world and its pleasures. On the contrary, the more we know of this world and the more we experience it, the wider our potential field for usefulness in this world. The Writings affirm that it is essential for our spiritual development that we live in the world, experience the world, and gain knowledge of the world (see *Heaven and Hell* 528). When we learn about and experience the world in order to be of greater use in this world, worldly knowledge and experience serve as means for becoming wise, for confirming our faith, and for giving us the tools to do more good for the world (see *Heaven and Hell* 356). *The New Jerusalem and its Heavenly Doctrine* says: “God is loved by leading a life in accordance with His commandments, and the neighbor is loved by doing services for him. So in order to receive the life of heaven, a person has to live fully in the world, and engage in its services and business dealings” (n. 126).

As we have seen, spirits are not something strange and mysterious. We are spirits, and what is inside us is love and wisdom. When we look to the Lord and strive to have the Lord's principles and purposes be our principles and purposes, we raise our worldly wisdom and love to a new, higher dimension. The spiritual education we strive to give here at the Academy is not some otherworldly spirituality but a "this-worldly" spirituality. Being spiritual requires us to live by spiritual loves and spiritual truths in our everyday lives. As it says in *True Christian Religion* (n. 406): “It is utterly useless for you to know many things if you do not live by what you know. For knowledge has no other purpose than that you may become spiritual through it.”

New Church education is about helping people to be aware of the Lord's Kingdom within them and helping them to actively work to be part of it. If we don't have the Lord's Kingdom within us, then what we do will fade away. But with the Lord's Kingdom actively working within us, the Lord's Kingdom will

be in all we do. If we continue to look to the Lord as the source of our educational philosophy and practice, and live by the spirit of truth and love He teaches, then the Kingdom will be active within us. If the Kingdom is in here, within us, then wherever we are we take that Kingdom with us. As the Lord said: "The kingdom of God does not come with observation; nor will they say, 'See here!' or 'See there!' For indeed, the kingdom of God is within you" (Luke 17: 20-21). Amen.

Readings: Luke 17:20-21; Revelation 21:10-17; *New Jerusalem and its Heavenly Doctrine* 230-233, 236



The Rev. Barry Halterman is in his third year as a teacher of religion in the Academy of the New Church secondary schools. After his inauguration into the priesthood in 1994, Barry served 10 years as a minister in Canada assisting the pastor in the Olivet Church in Toronto, visiting in Ottawa, and as Executive Director of Information Swedenborg, Inc. Barry and his wife, Anita (Fiske), live in Bryn Athyn with their four children.

#### **AN ANNOUNCEMENT FROM BISHOP KLINE**

The Rev. Prescott Rogers has resigned as President of the Academy of the New Church effective September 27th, 2006. The Board of Trustees of the Academy, with the support of the Chancellor, the Rt. Rev. Thomas Kline, has appointed the Assistant Bishop, the Rt. Rev. Brian Keith, as Interim President.

The Chancellor has also appointed a committee to examine the Academy's governance structure and make recommendations for its future configuration.

## *Editorial*

### THE ANNUNCIATION TO MARY

The Lord's conception and birth were like, yet unlike, that of any man.

In the fullness of time, Jehovah God, the infinite and invisible Divine "bowed the heavens" and came down, taking on from Mary a body and finite human nature. Hidden within the infant child that Mary bore was a Divine soul that yearned for our salvation. This was the wonder of the Advent which took place in Bethlehem so long ago.

But there is more! The virgin Mary signifies an affection in us, a capacity to be moved and affected by truth. The Lord comes to each one of us in this affection. His seed of Divine truth is implanted. Veiled and contained in the forms of our own making, it bears our stamp and material. Yet, if it is to lead us to salvation, it must be glorified or made Divine. So truths, conceived in our mind by the power of the Holy Spirit and given substance in our thought, must be elevated above the limitations of our finite understanding.

How significant then, is Mary's affirmation: "Let it be to me according to your word." This is the attitude we must strive to attain. Every day the Lord is urging and pressing to be received. Will we receive His truth in our hearts? Will we acknowledge that it is His, to be served and obeyed? If so, the miracle of the Advent is renewed in our life.

"From this time the person begins to have his understanding enlightened as regards spiritual matters, and to advance to more and more interior wisdom.... After death he comes into heaven to the Lord Himself, and there, although he died an old man, he is restored to the morning of his life, and the rudiments of the wisdom implanted in him in the natural world grow to eternity" (*True Christian Religion* 766).

## *Communications*

### **The Authority of the Writings**

It is gratifying to see the following statement under the title of *New Church Life*: “A monthly magazine devoted to the teachings revealed through Emanuel Swedenborg.”

Occasionally, clergy and laity alike omit the words “teachings revealed through Emanuel Swedenborg” in written articles and in speech. All too often they say, “Swedenborg says...” or “the Writings of Swedenborg say...” I wonder if Swedenborg would be appalled at this tendency to give the authorship to him!

I'm sure it is usually taken for granted that what is quoted or paraphrased was revealed to Swedenborg by the Lord. I think I speak for others when I say I would feel more comfortable if the source were stated, for example, “The Lord says...” or “the Heavenly Doctrine teaches...” We need only to recall the familiar number, 779, in *True Christian Religion* for the explanation of the true source of these marvelous teachings: the Lord! But if brevity is the issue, would it be better to refer to the teachings given in the Second Coming of the Lord as what “the Writings say” rather than what “Swedenborg says”?

Yadah H. Alden  
Bryn Athyn, Pennsylvania

### **A Reflection**

When loved ones go to the other world after a long illness from which there was no hope of recovery, we have mixed feelings. On the one hand, we are happy that they have been released from the limitations that the illness imposed on them. But on the other hand, we know that we will miss having them with us, talking with them, and doing things together.

If we stop to reflect, we realize that thousands of people are experiencing these feelings at any one time. On further

reflection, we can come to realize how fortunate we are to have the knowledge about the life after death that the Lord has revealed in the Heavenly Doctrine.

That knowledge does not remove our pain, but it has the power to bring us new certainty about the reality of the spiritual world and the life after death. It assures us that the sense we have of our loved ones' nearness to us is not a product of our imaginations. And it also assures us that we will be reunited with them and find them the same people that we knew and loved when they were with us in the natural world.

This knowledge is a great gift, and we need to find effective ways of sharing it with others that have not yet received it. Perhaps we can do this by speaking openly and frankly about our experiences and our convictions when we find appropriate opportunities to do so. We need not quote passages from the Writings or present specific truths about the life after death. Those things can wait until our listeners ask about them. Instead we can show by our words and behavior that the knowledge we have been given has enabled us to survive the grief that is inevitable when we lose a loved one.

Donald Fitzpatrick  
Bryn Athyn, Pennsylvania

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*The Guiding Star* in December 2006  
*Approaching the Word Affirmatively* in January 2007

# DIRECTORY

## GENERAL CHURCH OF THE NEW JERUSALEM 2006-2007

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*Assistant Bishop:* Rt. Rev. Brian W. Keith  
*Secretary:* Mrs. Susan V. Simpson

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Rev. Messrs. Kenneth J. Alden, Göran R. Appelgren, Christopher D. Bown, Daniel W.  
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and Jeremy F. Simons

### GENERAL CHURCH OF THE NEW JERUSALEM (A Corporation of Pennsylvania)

#### Officers of the Corporation

*President:* Rt. Rev. Thomas L. Kline  
*Vice President:* Rt. Rev. Brian W. Keith  
*Secretary:* Nancy L. Heilman, Esq.  
*Treasurer/Chief Administrative Officer:* Mr. David O. Frazier

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE CORPORATION

Louisa Allais, Dean R. Boyce, Michael S. Cole, Jonathan P. Cranch, Edmond P. de Chazal, James B. de Maine, Jeryl G. Fuller, Terry K. Glenn, Nancy L. Heilman, Robert L. Heinrichs, Murray F. Heldon, Steven D. Hendricks, Jr., Leslie G. Horigan, Bradley H. Johns, Kaye J. Lermite, Fay S. Lindrooth, Alexander H. Lindsay, Jr., Tracy L. McCardell, Nathan J. Morley, Timothy V. O'Connor, Bryon Odhner, Linda S. Odhner, S. Stormont Scott, Robert C. Simons, Huard G. Smith, Karen D. Stoeller, Donald O. Synnestvedt, Arthur E. Uber, III, John H. Wyncoll, and Candace N. Zeigler

*Ex-officio Members:* Rt. Rev. Thomas L. Kline  
Rt. Rev. Brian W. Keith  
Mr. David O. Frazier

### BISHOPS

**Keith, Brian Walter.** Ordained June 6, 1976; 2nd degree, June 4, 1978; 3rd degree, October 17, 2004. Serves as Assistant Bishop of the General Church, Vice President of the General Church International, Incorporated, Interim President of the Academy of the New Church, Regional Pastor of the Southeastern and Midwestern United States, Chairman of the General Church Translation Committee. Address: PO Box 743, Bryn Athyn, PA 19009

## DIRECTORY OF THE GENERAL CHURCH

**Kline, Thomas Leroy.** Ordained June 10, 1973; 2nd degree, June 15, 1975; 3rd degree, November 30, 2003. Serves as Executive Bishop of the General Church, General Pastor of the General Church, Chancellor of the Academy of the New Church, President of the General Church in Canada, President of the General Church in South Africa, and President of the General Church International, Incorporated. Address: PO Box 743, Bryn Athyn, PA 19009

### PASTORS

**Agnes, Sylvain Apoh.** Ordained May 23, 2004; 2nd degree, June 25, 2006. Serves as Pastor to Côte d'Ivoire and other French-speaking countries in West Africa. Address: 01 BP 12161 Abidjan 01, Republique Côte d'Ivoire, West Africa

**Alden, Glenn Graham.** Ordained June 19, 1974; 2nd degree, June 6, 1976. Serves as Pastor of the Sunrise Chapel in Tucson, Arizona. Address: c/o Sunrise Chapel, 8421 E. Wrightstown Road, Tucson, AZ 85715

**Alden, Kenneth James.** Ordained June 6, 1980; 2nd degree, May 16, 1982. Serves as Pastor of the Boynton Beach Society in Boynton Beach, Florida. Visiting Pastor in south Florida (Melbourne, Bonita Springs, Vero Beach). Address: 7354 Shell Ridge Terrace, Lake Worth, FL 33467-7703

**Alden, Mark Edward.** Ordained June 10, 1979; 2nd degree, May 17, 1981. Unassigned. Address: PO Box 204, Bryn Athyn, PA 19009

**Ankra-Badu, William Ofei.** Ordained June 15, 1986; 2nd degree, March 1, 1992. Serves as Pastor of the Accra New Church in Ghana, West Africa, Principal of the New Church Theological School in Accra, Bishop's Representative for West Africa and Visiting Pastor to Togo and the Ivory Coast. Address: PO Box 11305, Accra-North, Ghana, West Africa

**Anochi, Nicholas Wiredu.** Ordained June 4, 1995; 2nd degree, November 2, 1997. Serves as Pastor of the New Church Dome Circle, Ghana, West Africa. Address: c/o The New Church, No. 2 Rocky Road, Dome, PO Box TA687, Taifa, Ghana, West Africa

**Appelgren, Göran Reinhold.** Ordained June 7, 1992; 2nd degree, July 3, 1994. Serves as Pastor of the Stockholm Society in Stockholm, Sweden and Regional Pastor for Europe. Address: Aladdinsvägen 27, S-167 61 Bromma, Sweden

**Asplundh, Kurt Hyland.** Ordained June 6, 1993; 2nd degree, April 30, 1995. Serves as a teacher of religion in the Academy Secondary Schools and Secretary of the Council of the Clergy. Address: PO Box 707, Bryn Athyn, PA 19009

**Ayers, David Wayne.** Ordained May 23, 1999; 2nd degree, November 12, 2000. Serves as Principal of the Bryn Athyn Church School. Address: PO Box 277, Bryn Athyn, PA 19009

**Bau-Madsen, Arne.** Ordained June 6, 1976; 2nd degree, June 11, 1978. Serves as Associate Pastor to Kempton Society in Kempton, Pennsylvania; Visiting Pastor to the Wallenpaupack Circle, Pennsylvania Address: PO Box 333, Bryn Athyn, PA 19009

**Bell, Reuben Paul.** Ordained May 25, 1997; 2nd degree April 11, 1999. Unassigned. Address: PO Box 554, Fryeburg, ME 04037

**Bown, Christopher Duncan.** Ordained June 18, 1978; 2nd degree, December 23, 1979. Serves as Pastor of the New Church Buccleuch in Buccleuch, South Africa, Visiting Pastor to the Cape Town Circle, and Dean of the South African Theological School. Address: Box 816, Kelvin, Gauteng, 2054, South Africa

**Boyesen, Ragnar.** Ordained June 19, 1972; 2nd degree, June 17, 1973. Serves as Pastor of the Jönköping Circle, Sweden, and Copenhagen Circle, Denmark, and Visiting Pastor to Oslo, Norway. Address: Oxelgatan 6, S-565 33, Mullsjö, Sweden

**Buss, Erik James.** Ordained June 10, 1990; 2nd degree, September 13, 1992. Serves as Pastor of the Westville New Church in Durban, South Africa, Principal of the Kainon School, and Regional Pastor for South Africa. Address: 30 Perth Road, Westville, 3629, South Africa

**Buss, Peter Martin, Jr.** Ordained June 6, 1993; 2nd degree, June 18, 1995. Serves as Pastor of the Immanuel Church Society in Glenview, Illinois, President and Principal of the Midwestern Academy, and Headmaster of the Immanuel Church School. Address: 73 Park Drive, Glenview, IL 60025

**Carlson, Mark Robert.** Ordained June 10, 1973; 2nd degree, March 6, 1977. Unassigned. Address: 30 New Road, Southampton, PA 18966.

**Carswell, Eric Hugh.** Ordained June 10, 1979; 2nd degree, February 22, 1981. Serves as Dean of the Academy of the New Church Theological School and Regional Pastor of the Northeastern District of the United States. Address: PO Box 717, Bryn Athyn, PA 19009

**Chapin, Frederick Merle.** Ordained June 15, 1986; 2nd degree, October 23, 1988. Serves as Assistant to the Pastor of the Carmel Church in Kitchener, Ontario, Canada. Address: 110 Marl Meadow Dr., Kitchener, ON, Canada, N2R 1L4

**Childs, Robin Waelchli.** Ordained June 6, 1984; 2nd degree, June 8, 1986. Unassigned. Address: PO Box 707, Bryn Athyn, PA 19009

**Clifford, William Harrison.** Ordained June 6, 1976; 2nd degree, October 8, 1978. Unassigned. Address: 1544 Giddings Ave. SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49507-2223

**Cole, Stephen Dandridge.** Ordained June 19, 1977; 2nd degree, October 15, 1978. Serves as Assistant Professor of religion and philosophy in Bryn Athyn College and of theology in the Academy of the New Church Theological School; Head of Religion and Sacred Languages Division in Bryn Athyn College; serves as a visiting pastor for the General Church where needed. Address: PO Box 717, Bryn Athyn, PA 19009

**Cooper, James Pendleton.** Ordained June 13, 1982; 2nd degree, March 4, 1984. Serves as Pastor of the Olivet Church in Toronto, Ontario, Canada. Address: 2 Lorraine Gardens, Etobicoke, ON, Canada M9B 4Z4

**Cowley, Michael Keith.** Ordained June 13, 1982; 2nd degree, May 13, 1984. Serves as Pastor of the Phoenix Society in Phoenix, Arizona, and Visiting Pastor to the Albuquerque Circle in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Address: 3607 Delcoa Drive, Phoenix, AZ 85032

**Darkwah, Simpson Kwabeng.** Ordained June 7, 1992; 2nd degree, August 28, 1994. Serves as Pastor of the Tema, Circle in Ghana, West Africa, Visiting Pastor of the Madina Circle in Ghana,

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West Africa, and Principal of the Tema New Church School. Address: New Church School, DTD Community 5, Tema, Ghana, West Africa

**de Pádua, Mauro Santos.** Ordained June 7, 1992; 2nd degree, June 12, 1994. Serves as a teacher of religion and Chaplain in the Academy Secondary Schools, and as visiting Assistant to the Pastor in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Address: PO Box 707, Bryn Athyn, PA 19009

**Dibb, Andrew Malcolm Thomas.** Ordained June 6, 1984; 2nd degree, May 18, 1986. Serves as Assistant Professor of religion in Bryn Athyn College and of theology in the Academy of the New Church Theological School and Visiting Pastor to Connecticut. Chairs the General Church Publishing Committee. Address: PO Box 717, Bryn Athyn, PA 19009

**Echols, John Clark, Jr.** Ordained August 26, 1978; 2nd degree, March 30, 1980. Serves as Pastor of the Cincinnati Society in Cincinnati, Ohio; Visiting Pastor to Indianapolis, Indiana, and Los Angeles, California. Address: 4418 Main Street, Darrrtown, OH 45056-8914

**Elphick, Derek Peter.** Ordained June 6, 1993; 2nd degree, May 22, 1994. Serves as Pastor of the Oak Arbor Society in Rochester, Michigan. Address: 395 Olivewood Court, Rochester, MI 48306

**Elphick, Frederick Charles.** Ordained June 6, 1984; 2nd degree, September 23, 1984. Serves as Pastor of the Michael Church, London, England, and Visiting Pastor to the Surrey Circle, England, and The Hague Circle, Netherlands. Address: 21B Hayne Road, Beckenham, Kent, England, BR3 4JA

**Genzlinger, Matthew Laird.** Ordained May 27, 2001; 2nd degree, August 10, 2003. Serves as Pastor of the Boston Society. Address: 138 Maynard Rd., Sudbury, MA 01776

**Gladish, Michael David.** Ordained June 10, 1973; 2nd degree, June 30, 1974. Serves as Pastor of the Dawson Creek Society in British Columbia, Regional Pastor for Western Canada, and as Executive Vice President of the General Church in Canada. Address: 1605 Loran Drive, Dawson Creek, BC V1G 4X9 Canada

**Gladish, Nathan Donald.** Ordained June 13, 1982; 2nd degree, November 6, 1983. Serves as Assistant Pastor of the Oak Arbor Society in Rochester, Michigan, and Principal of the Oak Arbor New Church School. Address: 320 Oak Arbor Drive, Rochester, MI 48306

**Glenn, Robert Amos.** Ordained May 28, 2000; 2nd degree, June 2, 2002. Serves as Pastor of the Pittsburgh New Church in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and Principal of the Pittsburgh New Church School. Address: 299 Le Roi Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15208

**Gyamfi, Martin Kofi.** Ordained June 9, 1991; 2nd degree, August 28, 1994. Serves as Resident Pastor for Asakraka-Kwahu Group and Visiting Pastor for Nteso and Oframase Groups in Ghana, West Africa. Address: The New Church, PO Box 10, Asakraka-Kwahu, E/R, Ghana, West Africa

**Halterman, Barry Childs.** Ordained June 5, 1994; 2nd degree, September 8, 1996. Serves as a teacher of religion in the Academy Secondary Schools. Address: PO Box 707, Bryn Athyn, PA 19009

**Hauptmann, Olaf.** Ordained May 23, 2004; 2nd degree, July 30, 2006. Serves as Pastor of the

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Colchester New Church, Colchester, Essex, England. Address: 8 Stoneleigh Park, Lexden, Colchester, Essex, England CO3 5FA

**Heilman, Andrew James.** Ordained June 18, 1978; 2nd degree, March 8, 1981. Serves as Assistant Pastor to the Kempton Society in Kempton, Pennsylvania, and as Visiting Pastor to the Campo Grande and Rio de Janeiro (Fatima) Societies in Brazil. Address: 1050 Mountain Road, Kempton, PA 19529

**Heinrichs, Bradley Daniel.** Ordained May 23, 1999; 2nd degree, November 19, 2000. Serves as Pastor of the Carmel Church in Kitchener, Ontario, Canada, and Principal of the Carmel Church School. Address: 157 Chapel Hill Drive, Kitchener, ON, Canada N2G 3W5

**Jin, Yong Jin.** Ordained June 5, 1994; 2nd degree, June 16, 1996. Serves as Pastor of the Philadelphia Korean New Church, and responsible for outreach to the Korean-speaking community in the United States. Address: 537 Anne Street, Huntingdon Valley, PA 19006

**Johnson, Martie.** Ordained May 27, 2001; 2nd degree, June 16, 2002. Currently serving as a Chaplain in the United States Navy. Address: 7708 171st Street SW, Edmonds, WA 98026-5013

**Kwak, Dzin Pyung.** Ordained June 12, 1988; 2nd degree, November 11, 1990. Serves as a Pastor of the General Church in Seoul, South Korea (on special assignment). Address: Seoul New Church, 75-21 Nokbeon-Dong, Eyunpyeong-Ku, Seoul, Korea 122-828

**Larsen, Ottar Trosvik.** Ordained June 19, 1974; 2nd degree, February 16, 1977. Unassigned. Address: 2145 Country Club Drive, Huntingdon Valley, PA 19006

**Lee, Jong-Ui.** Ordained May 31, 1998; 2nd degree, June 17, 2001. Serves as Assistant Pastor of the Olivet Church in Toronto, Ontario, Canada, and Visiting Pastor to the Ottawa Group. Address: 134 Smithwood Drive, Etobicoke, ON, Canada M9B 4S4

**Lindrooth, David Hutchinson.** Ordained June 10, 1990; 2nd degree, April 19, 1992. Serves as Director of New Church Outreach. Address: PO Box 743, Bryn Athyn, PA 19009

**Maseko, Jacob Mokaka.** Ordained November 29, 1992; 2nd degree, September 18, 1994. Serves as Pastor of the Diepkloof Society, South Africa. Address: PO Box 261, Pimville, 1808, South Africa

**Mbatha, Bhékuyise Alfred.** Ordained June 27, 1971; 2nd degree, June 23, 1974. Serves as Pastor of the Impaphala Society, Visiting Pastor to the Empangeni Group, and overseeing Pastor of the Clermont Society in South Africa. Address: PO Box 60449, Phoenix, 4080, South Africa

**McCardell, Ethan Derek.** Ordained May 25, 2003; 2nd degree March 21, 2004. Serves as Pastor of the Freeport Society in Freeport, Pennsylvania. Address: 980 Sarver Rd., Sarver, PA 16055

**Nzimande, Bongani Edward.** Ordained November 14, 1999; 2nd degree May 25, 2003. Serves as Pastor of the Kwa Mashu Society and Visiting Pastor to the Enkumba Group, South Africa. Address: PO Box 848, Pinetown, 3600, South Africa

**Odhner, Grant Hugo.** Ordained June 7, 1981; 2nd degree, May 9, 1982. Serves as Assistant

*DIRECTORY OF THE GENERAL CHURCH*

Professor of religion in Bryn Athyn College and of theology in the Academy of the New Church Theological School, and Visiting Pastor to the Boston New Church. Address: PO Box 717, Bryn Athyn, PA 19009

**Odhner, John Llewellyn.** Ordained June 6, 1980; 2nd degree, November 22, 1981. Serves as Assistant to the Pastor of the Bryn Athyn Church in Bryn Athyn, Pennsylvania, and religion instructor in the Bryn Athyn Church School. Address: PO Box 277, Bryn Athyn, PA 19009

**Orthwein, Walter Edward III.** Ordained July 22, 1973; 2nd degree, June 12, 1977. Recognized as a priest of the General Church June 12, 1977. Serves as an Assistant Professor of religion in Bryn Athyn College and of theology in the Academy Theological School, and Visiting Pastor of the Central Pennsylvania Group. Address: PO Box 717, Bryn Athyn, PA 19009

**Pendleton, Mark Dandridge.** Ordained June 9, 1991; 2nd degree, May 29, 1994. Serves as Assistant Pastor of the Immanuel Church in Glenview, Illinois. Address: 2700 Park Lane, Glenview, IL 60025

**Perry, Charles Mark.** Ordained June 9, 1991; 2nd degree, June 19, 1993. Serves as Pastor of the San Diego Society in San Diego, California. Address: 7911 Canary Way, San Diego, CA 92123

**Rogers, Prescott Andrew.** Ordained January 26, 1986; 2nd degree, April 24, 1988. Serves as instructor of religion in Bryn Athyn College and of theology in the Academy Theological School. Address: PO Box 743, Bryn Athyn, PA 19009

**Rose, Donald Leslie.** Ordained June 16, 1957; 2nd degree June 23, 1963. Serves as Assistant to the Pastor of the Bryn Athyn Society in Bryn Athyn, Pennsylvania. Address: PO Box 277, Bryn Athyn, PA 19009

**Rose, Jonathan Searle.** Ordained May 31, 1987; 2nd degree, February 23, 1997. Serves as translator for the Swedenborg Foundation and General Church Translation Committee. Address: PO Box 717, Bryn Athyn, PA 19009

**Rose, Patrick Alan.** Ordained June 19, 1975; 2nd degree, September 25, 1977. Serves as Pastor of the Atlanta Society in Atlanta, Georgia, and Visiting Pastor to Birmingham, Alabama and other locations in the southeastern United States. Does internet work for the clergy. Address: 502 Knollwood Place, Woodstock, GA 30188-4588

**Rose, Thomas Hartley.** Ordained June 12, 1988; 2nd degree, May 21, 1989. Serves as Pastor of the Ivyland New Church in Ivyland, Pennsylvania. Address: 851 W. Bristol Road, Ivyland, PA 18974

**Roth, David Christopher.** Ordained June 9, 1991; 2nd degree, October 17, 1993. Serves as Pastor of the New Church of Boulder Valley, Boulder, Colorado. Address: 3421 Blue Stem Avenue, Longmont, CO 80503

**Sandström, Erik Emanuel.** Ordained May 23, 1971; 2nd degree, May 21, 1972. Teaches part time in the Academy of the New Church Theological School and does traveling pastoral work for the General Church in Connecticut and elsewhere. Address: PO Box 717, Bryn Athyn, PA 19009

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**Schnarr, Grant Ronald.** Ordained June 12, 1983; 2nd degree, October 7, 1984. Serves as Assistant Pastor of the Bryn Athyn Society in Bryn Athyn, Pennsylvania. Address: PO Box 277, Bryn Athyn, PA 19009

**Schnarr, Philip Bradley.** Ordained June 5, 1996; 2nd degree, May 31, 1998. Serves as Director of the Office of Education. Address: PO Box 743, Bryn Athyn, PA 19009

**Silverman, Raymond Joel.** Ordained June 6, 1984; 2nd degree, June 19, 1985. Serves as Chaplain and Assistant Professor of religion in Bryn Athyn College. Address: PO. Box 717, Bryn Athyn, PA 19009

**Simons, Jeremy Frederick.** Ordained June 13, 1982; 2nd degree, July 31, 1983. Serves as Pastor of the Bryn Athyn Society in Bryn Athyn, Pennsylvania. Address: PO Box 277, Bryn Athyn, PA 19009

**Smith, Lawson Merrell.** Ordained June 10, 1979; 2nd degree, February 1, 1981. Serves as Pastor of the Kempton Society in Kempton, Pennsylvania, and Principal of the Kempton New Church School. Address: 171 Kunkles Dahl Road, Kempton, PA 19529

**Synnestvedt, Louis Daniel.** Ordained June 6, 1980; 2nd degree, November 8, 1981. Teaches in the Kempton New Church School; serves as Visiting Pastor to northern California. Address: 151 Vole Hollow Lane, Kempton, PA 19529

**Tshabalala, Njanyana Reuben.** Ordained November 29, 1992; 2nd degree, September 18, 1994. Serves as Pastor of the Balfour Society, South Africa. Address: PO Box 851, Kwa Xuma, 1867, South Africa

**Walsh, Garry Brian.** Ordained May 27, 2001; 2nd degree, September 8, 2002. Serves as Pastor of the Washington New Church Society in Mitchellville, Maryland, and Principal of the Washington New Church School. Address: 11910 Chantilly Lane, Mitchellville, MD 20721

**Waters, Gerald Gilbert.** Ordained March 17, 2002; 2nd degree October 17, 2004. Serves as Visiting Pastor to the Howick, Natal Group, the Midlands and Zululand Groups in Kwa-Zulu, and is Executive Vice President of the Corporation of the General Church in South Africa. Address: 9 Chiltern Gardens, 39 Pitlochry Road, Westville, 3630, South Africa

**MINISTERS**

**Blair, Charles Edmund.** Ordained May 28, 2006. Teaches in the Academy Boys School and is Housemaster of Stuart Hall. Address: PO Box 707, Bryn Athyn, PA 19009

**Borketey-Kwaku, Jacob Borteye.** Ordained, May 18, 2003. Serves as Pastor to the Teshie Circle, Ghana. Address: PO Box TNE 1278, Teshie-Nungua Estates, Accra, Ghana, West Africa.

**Dubé, Jerome Bhelukuyise.** Ordained June 5, 2005. Serves as Minister to the Clermont Society in South Africa. Address: Private Box 1164, New Germany 3620, South Africa

**Ferrell, Michael Eugene.** Ordained June 5, 2005. Serves as Assistant to the Pastor of the Washington New Church Society in Mitchellville, Maryland. Address: 320 New Oak Lane, Bowie, MD 20716

## DIRECTORY OF THE GENERAL CHURCH

**Fitzpatrick, Daniel.** Ordained June 6, 1984. Unassigned. Address: 925 Whitlock Ave., Apt. 2217, Marietta, GA 30064

**Frazier, Glenn McKinley.** Ordained May 28, 2006. Serves as Assistant to the Pastor of the Pittsburgh New Church, Visiting Minister to Erie, Pennsylvania, Charlotte, North Carolina, and Northern Ohio. Address: 206 Beech St., Pittsburgh, PA 15218

**Frazier, Scott Innes.** Ordained May 28, 2006. Teaches in Bryn Athyn College and does translating work for the General Church. Address: PO Box 717, Bryn Athyn, PA 19009

**Guerra, Vinicius Reis.** Ordained November 16, 1997. Assists the Rev. Andrew Heilman with preaching and other duties in the Sociedade Religiosa "A Nova Jerusalém" (Fatima) in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Address: Rua Domingos Meireles, 292-F, Vila Nova Campo Grande, 23.070-500 Rio de Janeiro, RJ Brazil

**Mkhize, Sibusiso Protus.** Ordained May 25, 2003. Serves as Minister in Empangeni, South Africa. Address: Box 16932, Eshowe, KwaZulu-Natal, 3815, South Africa

**Nobre, Vicente Henrique Rabelo.** Ordained May 28, 2006. Serves as Minister to New Church in Sao Paulo, Brazil. Address: Avenida Luiz Jose Sereno, Apto. 34 Bloco 3, Jardim Ermida 2, Jundial – SP, CEP 13.212-210, Brazil

**Paek, Sung-Won.** Ordained May 27, 2001. Continues to further his studies in educational administration. Address: PO Box 686, Bryn Athyn, PA 19009

**Xaba, Langalibalele Abraham.** Ordained August 27, 2006. Serves as Minister to the Alexandra Society in South Africa. Address: P/Bag 511, Eshowe, 3815, South Africa.

**Schorran, Paul Edward.** Ordained June 12, 1983. Unassigned. Address: 631 Old Philly Pike, Kempton, PA 19529

### AUTHORIZED CANDIDATES

**Eshun, Ekow.** Address: PO Box 717, Bryn Athyn, PA 19009

**Souka, Eric Messan.** Serves as leader of la Nouvelle Eglise in Togo. Address: BP 61202, Lome, Togo

**Zatthey-Agboga, Godwin** Address: PO Box 717, Bryn Athyn, PA 19009

### NON GENERAL CHURCH MINISTERS SERVING GENERAL CHURCH GROUPS

**Abuga, Samson Mogusu.** Serves as Minister/Evangelist in Nairobi, Kenya. Address: PO Box 6567, Ronard Ngala Road, Nairobi 00300, Kenya

**Dole, George.** Serves as Pastor to the Church of the New Jerusalem in Bath, Maine. Address: 876 High St., Bath, Maine 04530-2423

**Keyworth, Richard.** Serves as Pastor to the Auckland Circle, New Zealand. Address: 15 Dunkirk Road, Panmure, Auckland 1007, New Zealand

**Nicolier, Alain.** Ordained May 31, 1979; 2nd degree, September 16, 1984. Serves as Pastor to group in Bourguignon, and Evangelist for French-speaking West Africa. Address: Bourguignon, Meursanges, 21200 Beaune, France

**Rangi, Khalid Obiri.** Serves as Minister/Evangelist in Kisii, Kenya. Address: c/o General Church of the New Jerusalem, PO Box 3959, Kisii 40200, Kenya

#### RETIRED

**Acton, Alfred, II.** Ordained June 19, 1964; 2nd degree, October 30, 1966; 3rd degree, May 16, 1999. Address: PO Box 306, Bryn Athyn, PA 19009

**Buss, Peter Martin.** Ordained June 19, 1964; 2nd degree, May 16, 1965; 3rd degree, June 1, 1986. Bishop Emeritus of the General Church. Travels to Australia, South Africa, and other countries on the request of the Executive Bishop. Address: 950 Pendleton Ave., Longmont, CO 80501

**King, Louis Blair.** Ordained June 19, 1951; 2nd degree, April 19, 1953; 3rd degree, November 5, 1972. Bishop Emeritus of the General Church. Address: PO Box 512, Bryn Athyn, PA 19009

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**Asplundh, Kurt Horigan.** Ordained June 19, 1960; 2nd degree, June 19, 1962. Editor, *New Church Life*. Address: PO Box 26, Bryn Athyn, PA 19009

**Burke, William Hanson.** Ordained June 7, 1981; 2nd degree, August 13, 1983. Address: 2465 Spring Harbor Dr., Cumming, GA 30041

**Childs, Geoffrey Stafford.** Ordained June 19, 1952; 2nd degree, June 19, 1954. Address: PO Box 550, Bryn Athyn, PA 19009

**Cole, Robert Hudson Pendleton.** Ordained June 16, 1963; 2nd degree, October 30, 1966. Address: PO Box 356, Bryn Athyn, PA 19009

**Eubanks, W. Harold.** Address: 516 US 280 West, Americus, GA 31709

**Goodenough, Daniel Webster.** Ordained June 19, 1965; 2nd degree, December 10, 1967. Serves as Visiting Pastor in the eastern portion of the northwest United States. Address: PO Box 748, Big Horn, WY 82833

**Heinrichs, Daniel Winthrop.** Ordained June 19, 1957; 2nd degree, April 6, 1958. Address: 9115 Chrysanthemum Drive, Boynton Beach, FL 33437-1236

**Heinrichs, Willard Lewis Davenport.** Ordained June 19, 1965; 2nd degree, January 26, 1969. Serves as Visiting Pastor in the central United States. Address: 7358 Mt. Sherman Rd., Longmont, CO 80503

## DIRECTORY OF THE GENERAL CHURCH

**Howard, Geoffrey Horace.** Ordained June 19, 1961; 2nd degree, June 2, 1963. Address: 128 Boyle Way, Summerville, SC 29485

**Jungé, Robert Schill.** Ordained June 19, 1955; 2nd degree, August 11, 1957. Serves as Visiting Pastor to Baltimore, Maryland, Society. Address: 9212 Quaker City Road, Kempton, PA 19529

**McCurdy, George Daniel.** Ordained June 25, 1967; Recognized as a priest of the New Church in the second degree July 5, 1979; received into the priesthood of the General Church June 9, 1980. Serves as Visiting Pastor to Harleysville, Pennsylvania, and to Lake Helen and Jacksonville, Florida. Teaches sixth grade religion in the Bryn Athyn Church School. Address: PO Box 707, Bryn Athyn, PA 19009

**Nemitz, Kurt Paul.** Ordained June 16, 1963; 2nd degree, March 27, 1966. Serves as a translator for the General Church. Address: PO Box 164, Bryn Athyn, PA 19009

**Nicholson, Allison La Marr.** Ordained September 9, 1979; 2nd degree, February 15, 1981. Address: 1 Somerset Place, Topsham, ME 04086

**Nobre, Cristóvão Rabelo,** Ordained June 6, 1984; 2nd degree August 25, 1985. Serves as a translator for the General Church. Address: Rua 13, 800, Bairro do Farol, 45990-000 Alcobaca, Brazil

**Pendleton, Dandridge.** Ordained June 19, 1952; 2nd degree, June 19, 1954. Address: PO Box 278, Bryn Athyn, PA 190-09

**Riley, Norman Edward.** Ordained June 14, 1950; 2nd degree, June 20, 1951. Recognized as a priest of the General Church January, 1978. Address: moving from the United Kingdom to the United States

**Rogers, Norbert Bruce.** Ordained January 12, 1969. Serves as a translator for the General Church. Address: PO Box 277, Bryn Athyn, PA 19009

**Rose, Frank Shirley.** Ordained June 19, 1952; 2nd degree, August 2, 1953. Serves as Visiting Pastor to Twin Cities Group, Minnesota. Address: 9233 E. Helen Street, Tucson, AZ 85715

**Sandström, Erik.** Ordained June 10, 1934; 2nd degree, August 4, 1935. Address: Apt. B 108, PO Box 550, Bryn Athyn, PA 19009

**Sheppard, Leslie Lawrence.** Ordained into 1st and 2nd degrees, June 7, 1992. Address: 35/56 Dunmore Tce., Auchenflower, 4066, Queensland, Australia

**Smith, Christopher Ronald Jack.** Ordained June 19, 1969; 2nd degree, May 9, 1971. Address: 741 Old Philly Pike, Kempton, PA 19529

**Stroh, Kenneth Oliver.** Ordained June 19, 1948; 2nd degree, June 19, 1950. Address: PO Box 629, Bryn Athyn, PA 190-09

**Taylor, Douglas McLeod.** Ordained June 19, 1960; 2nd degree, June 19, 1962. Address: 2704 Huntingdon Pike, Huntingdon Valley, PA 19006

**Thabede, Ndaizane Albert.** Ordained August 29, 1993; 2nd degree, March 2, 1997. Address: 303 Corlett Drive, Kew, 2090, South Africa

**Weiss, Jan Hugo.** Ordained June 19, 1955; 2nd degree, May 12, 1957. President of New Church Outreach. Address: 1020 Marina Drive, Placentia, CA 92870

In addition to the specific assignments listed for some of the retired clergy above, several retired priests travel regularly to serve as visiting pastors/preachers where needed.

### SOCIETIES AND CIRCLES

#### *Society*

**Alexandra, South Africa**

**Atlanta, Georgia**

**Balfour, South Africa**

**Baltimore, Maryland**

**Bath, Maine**

**Boulder, Colorado**

**(New Church of Boulder Valley)**

**Boston, Massachusetts**

**Boynton Beach, Florida**

**Bryn Athyn, Pennsylvania**

**Buccleuch, South Africa**

**Campo Grande, Brazil**

**Chicago, Illinois**

**Cincinnati, Ohio**

**Clermont, South Africa**

**Colchester, England**

**Detroit, Michigan**

**(Oak Arbor Church)**

**Diepkloof, South Africa**

**Durban, South Africa**

**Freeport, Pennsylvania**

**Glenview, Illinois**

**Hurstville, Australia**

**Impaphala, South Africa**

**Ivyland, Pennsylvania**

**Kempton, Pennsylvania**

**Kitchener, Ontario, Canada**

**(Carmel Church)**

**Kwa Mashu, South Africa**

**La Crescenta, California**

**(Los Angeles)**

**London, England**

**(Michael Church)**

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**Note:** In addition to societies and circles, there are groups of General Church members in various geographical areas that receive occasional visits from a priest. This information is published in *New Church Life* periodically in a listing of General Church Contacts for Worship and Classes (most recently published in October, 2006).

## *Announcements*

### **BAPTISMS**

**Dinnan, Emma Champalle**  
—At Yarmouth, Massachusetts, July 9, 2006 (born March 29, 2004), daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Gerard Dinnan (Jocelyn Benz), Rev. George D. McCurdy officiating.

**In, Ms. Ellen Detwiler**—At Glenview, Illinois, September 17, 2006, Rev. Mark D. Pendleton officiating.

**McPherson, Cynthia Mary Ann George** (Mrs. Ronald Joseph McPherson)—At Perth, Australia, September 10, 2006, Rev. Frank S. Rose officiating.

**Phan, Kayla Grace**—At Perth, Australia, September 10, 2006 (born July 6, 2006), daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Tuan Cong Anh Phan (Verity Jane Smuts), Rev. Frank S. Rose officiating.

**Pieritte, PSI John Anthony**  
—At Ali-a-Salim, Kuwait, August 12, 2006, Rev. Martie Johnson, Jr. officiating.

**Reynolds, Mr. Patrick Allen**—At Glendale, California, October 1, 2006, Rev. J.

Clark Echols, Jr. officiating.

**Schrenk, Allison Grace**—At Gulfport, Mississippi, October 8, 2006 (born August 17, 2006), daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Brandon Shepard Schrenk (Amy Lynn Bean), Rev. Martie Johnson, Jr. officiating.

**Smith, Scarlet Sylvia**—At Elkins Park, Pennsylvania, October 15, 2006 (born July 5, 2006), daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Daric Edward Smith (Tara Wynifred Soneson), Rev. Mauro S. de Pádua officiating.

**Synnestvedt, Lucy Mae**—At Bryn Athyn, Pennsylvania, October 22, 2006 (born November 26, 2005), daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jeffrey King Synnestvedt (Stephanie Jean Moore), Rev. Prescott A. Rogers officiating.

### **CONFIRMATIONS**

**Brooks, Kerri Lynne**—At Ivyland, Pennsylvania, September 22, 2006, Rev. Thomas H. Rose officiating.

**Gladish, Laura**—At Laurel

Hill State Park, Pennsylvania, August 11, 2006, Rev. Nathan D. Gladish officiating.

### BETROTHALS

**Cole-King, John Lawson Cole and Alexandra King**—At Bryn Athyn, Pennsylvania, October 7, 2006, Rt. Rev. Louis B. King officiating.

**Cole-King, Nathan Cole and Vera King**—At Kempton, Pennsylvania, October 15, 2006, Rev. Andrew J. Heilman officiating.

**Mergen-Smith, Eric Paul Mergen and Reagan Lynne Smith**—At Cannon Beach, Oregon, September 23, 2006, Rev. Martie Johnson, Jr. officiating.

**Pitcairn-Odhner, James Clark Pitcairn and Irene Wendy Odhner**—At Bryn Athyn, Pennsylvania, October 2, 2006, Rev. John L. Odhner officiating.

### MARRIAGES

**Carro-Bell, Christopher Al Carro and Sarah Dossey Bell**—At Brooklyn, New York, July 8, 2006, Rev.

Reuben P. Bell officiating.

**Glover-Greenwold, David Glover and Anne Louise Greenwold**—At Colchester, England, June 24, 2006, Rev. Matthew L. Genzlinger officiating.

**Groff-Green, Mitchell Jordan Groff and Hayley Elizabeth Green**—At Bryn Athyn, Pennsylvania, September 20, 2006, Rev. Thomas H. Rose officiating.

**Mergen-Smith, Eric Paul Mergen and Reagan Lynne Smith**—At Bryn Athyn, Pennsylvania, October 14, 2006, Rev. Martie Johnson, Jr. officiating.

**Posey-Friesen, Matthew Morel Posey and Emily Merle Friesen**—At Bryn Athyn, Pennsylvania, September 23, 2006, Rev. Thomas H. Rose officiating.

### DEATHS

**Carswell, Mr. Arne**—At Upper Darby, Pennsylvania, September 5, 2006. 57.

**Egelhult, Astrid Elisabet Anderson** (Mrs. Fritz Egelhut)—At Sweden, November 17, 2004. 89. (Delayed report.)

**Rhodes, Mr. Leon Starkey**  
—At Bryn Athyn, Pennsylvania, October 6, 2006. 90.

**Schnarr, Margaret Louise Lenz** (Mrs. Maurice John Schnarr)—At Goderich, Ontario, Canada, September 17, 2006. 100.

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