



ILLINOIS CHURCH OF GOD

# LINK

RICK WHITTER, ADMINISTRATIVE BISHOP

June, 2021

CONNECTING LEADERS FOR  
FELLOWSHIP, MENTORING,  
VISION, AND SUPPORT

[www.illinoiscog.org](http://www.illinoiscog.org)

Illinois summers are hard to mistake. The weather turns hot and humid. The trees are fully leaved and the corn fields turn a beautiful, deep green. The days are long and the nights are loud with the sounds of nature. In a few weeks, we'll notice the lowering of evening temperatures and the shortening of daylight hours. The leaves will start to transition into lovely Autumn colors and a chill will return to the air.

We all can identify the changing of the seasons. Other ways we distinguish seasons include sports, television shows, and studying the stars as the position of Earth adjusts in relation to the sun. Of course, agriculture is deeply impacted by seasons. Plowing, sowing, reaping and time to allow the ground to lie fallow are all necessary and important farming seasons.

Solomon said, "To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven." (Ecclesiastes 3:1) It seems that God has provided times and seasons for us, so that we may more effectively navigate life on this earth.

But are we astute enough to recognize spiritual seasons? We may think of Resurrection season around Easter and, of course, Christmas is a favorite season for many. In the Church, we enjoy Campmeeting season and General Assembly time is very important. But spiritual seasons are not dictated by the calendar, and therefore are more difficult to ascertain.

Repentance can be a season. Revival is generally noted by increased fervency for a while. Many times, church growth comes in spurts. Unfortunately, not all ministry seasons are positive. We've all experienced seasons of falling away, waning interest in the church and seasons of conflict.

I believe that God wants us to recognize that there are specific times that He desires to do special and unique things among us. We must learn to read the signs of the spiritual seasons. Temperature and humidity are not good indicators of a spiritual season. We can't identify on the calendar when a special spiritual season arrives.

So, what spiritual season are we in and what should be our response?

- This is a season of great spiritual need – so **this is a season to seek the Lord!** Many people are confused and conflicted. Believers must pray fervently for a move of God across our land.
- This is a season of division – so **this is a season for us to unify!** Folks are divided by race, politics and economics. Christians must become one in Christ and must lay aside anything that separates us.
- This is a season of Biblical illiteracy – so **this is a season of the Word!** Few people in our communities know and believe the Bible. The Church must teach, preach and exemplify the Scriptures, now more than ever.
- This is a season of falling away from Church – so **this is a season to commit!** Unfortunately, many see no reason to be a part of the church family. Even some Christians are abandoning the worship gatherings. You and I must lead the way in dedication to the house of the Lord and to corporate worship. We must let it be known that the Church is more than a building, it is the body of Christ coming together to minister the Gospel.
- This could be the season of the Rapture of the Church – so **this is the season to be ready!** Let's do all in our power to make sure that those we love are prepared to be with the Lord.

Don't miss this season. This time is designed by God for the purpose of reaching the world for Him. It is filled with challenges and opportunities. Let's make the most of it!

**Let's Recognize the Seasons!**

*Bishop Rick Whitter*







From beginning to end, the 2021 ILCOG Camp Meeting was nothing short of spectacular. Our theme for this year's gathering was "The Church on Mission". The entire week was a continual refreshing and reminder of our purpose as the Church. Each service was filled with anointed worship that prepared our hearts for the Word. We were blessed with four powerful and inspirational messages. Dr. J. David Stephens opened the week by reminding us that we are still the chosen body of Christ. On Thursday morning, Pastor Joe Dobbins challenged us to dream bigger and trust God for more. Thursday night, our Administrative Bishop, Rick Whitter brought a word entitled "Redeeming Crisis", and encouraged us that though we have walked through a great crisis, we serve the God who can redeem the crisis. Lastly, our Youth & Discipleship Director, Daniel Maples concluded the week of services with the reminder that "There Is Still More". Though we have faced great pressure, we are still standing and God has more for the Illinois Church of God. Friday morning we had the opportunity to gather for our Minister's Picnic. This was one of the highlights of Camp Meeting. Leaders from all across the state of Illinois were able to sit around tables and have much needed fellowship that has been greatly missed. This was truly a Proverbs 27:17 moment. We are believing that the monumental week we experienced at Camp Meeting this year is only the launching point of what is to come in our state. We pray that the same passion, expectation and anointing we experienced during such a memorable week will be manifested in your local congregations. We are praying for you as you continue to serve faithfully, and strive to be **The Church On Mission!**

# STATISTICS

## Tithe Breakers

Danville-The Church of  
The Almighty God

\$1,251.00

Wood River-  
Restoring Hope

\$3,108.00

## New Members

Bethalto

7

Thompsonville

2

	April	On Campus	Off Campus	Morning Worship	May Missions	May Rebuilding Walls
Alton, Beltline Christian Center- <b>R. Todd Shaw</b>	\$ 7,789.00	0	0	89	\$ 150.00	\$ 41.32
Alvin- <b>Dan R. Hunt</b>	12,558.42	0	0	95		100.00
Anna- <b>Philip Rexing</b>	680.00	4	0	8		
Benton, New Life- <b>R. J. Joplin</b>	21,236.40	0	10	120	80.00	
Bethalto- <b>Jacob Skelton</b>	57,430.65	124	0	267		267.00
Bloomington, New Beginnings- <b>Aaron L. Stine</b>	5,080.00	23	10	62	10.00	62.00
Bourbonnais, Worship Center- <b>Rick D. Sexton</b>	4,730.00	0	0	82		
Brookport- <b>Charles D. Tate</b>	20,581.57	50	0	123	20.00	500.00
Cahokia- <b>Larry Ridenour</b>	6,675.00	0	0	43	45.00	25.00
Cambridge- <b>Troy Sullivan</b>	331.00	0	20	22	20.00	
Carterville-	449.00	0	0	5	1,350.00	
Carmi, New Beginnings- <b>Kenny Rager</b>	5,981.00	54	0	85		
Carrier Mills- <b>Jonathan Stevens</b>	1,636.55	12	349	33		50.00
Centralia, New Destiny- <b>Nathaniel LeCrone</b>	1,931.50	0	0	15		
Champaign- <b>Christopher Smithey</b>	13,435.02	0	38	50	50.00	
Chauncey- <b>Dwayne R. Sovdi</b>	6,785.20	0	0	0		50.00
Clay City, Transformation- <b>Thomas Cody</b>	2,190.00	9	0	29		
Clinton- <b>Mark Cooper</b>	4,081.90	18	0	36		
Collinsville, Solid Rock-	642.46	0	0	0		
Columbia, East Bridge Fellowship- <b>Larry Ridenour</b>	2,250.00	0	0	22	25.00	25.00
Danville, Church of the Lord Almighty-	1,251.00	0	0	18		
DeKalb, Cathedral of Praise- <b>Brandon Nelson</b>	16,750.66	0	0	0		
East Alton, Flowing River- <b>R. Todd Shaw, Interim</b>	85.00	4	0	14		15.00
Eldorado- <b>Brian Barrett</b>	7,985.10	15	0	30	150.00	70.00
Equality- <b>Peggy J. Winters</b>	2,882.00	94	16	42	10.00	55.90
Fairfield- <b>Chris Vandergraph</b>	3,800.00	25	215	45		
Galesburg, Oasis- <b>Sherman Jones, Jr.</b>	2,043.20	40	63	16		
Geneseo, Ebenezer- <b>Jerry W. Bosworth</b>	680.00	0	0	5		
Granite City, <b>Michael Mayberry</b>	6,108.00	0	0	25	10.00	
Harrisburg, Land Street- <b>Paul J. Taylor</b>	1,516.00	15	7	11		
Herrin, Park Avenue- <b>Daniel Maples</b>	4,166.00	80	213	53		53.00
Honey Comb- <b>Harold E. Miller</b>	8,333.54	41	0	32		100.00
Kincaid- <b>Vance Massengill</b>	12,191.65	44	0	86		125.00
LaSalle, Living Word- <b>Cres Rios</b>	2,078.00	12	59	17		40.00
Lawrenceville- <b>Thomas Cody</b>	6,692.00	9	0	29		30.00
Lincoln- <b>Mike Lake</b>	805.00	0	0	17		
Logan- <b>Rick Fowler</b>	8,032.38	45	0	70	20.00	
Manteno- <b>David R. Hanners</b>	4,163.00	10	6	30	45.00	
Marion- <b>Jarrold Barton</b>	500.00	0	0	20		15.00
Marion-All Nations- <b>Bruce Fox</b>	12,476.49	4	0	46		
McLeansboro- <b>Terry Hall</b>	2,473.00	163	707	93		
Mt. Vernon, Harlan Road- <b>Michael Campbell</b>	8,363.00	0	0	65		65.00
Mt. Vernon, LifePointe- <b>David Gregg</b>	4,265.64	0	24	40		
Norris City- <b>Charles Waggoner</b>	4,536.01	21	0	17	20.00	17.00
Paris- <b>Christian White</b>	2,431.00	18	20	30		
Pekin, Lighthouse- <b>Rick Hill</b>	8,862.55	42	0	125		30.00
Peoria- The Lord's Table- <b>John Miller</b>	3,051.00	20	4	20		
Plano- <b>John Todd</b>	3,024.81	0	0	35		
Ridgway, Soul's Harbor- <b>Jason Sork</b>	1,837.00	70	12	14	20.00	
Robinson, Westside- <b>Jake Popejoy</b>	1334.00	4	0	7	25.00	
Rochelle- <b>Moises Serrano</b>	1,510.00	0	0	10	10.00	
Salem- <b>Brian Mixon</b>	4,680.00	0	0	27	10.00	
Sesser- <b>Walter Rexing</b>	8,098.00	0	0	4		
Shawneetown- <b>Randy Vaughn</b>	1,050.00	0	0	0		
Taylorville, Faith Community Worship Center- <b>Jerry L. Thorpe</b>	3,952.42	17	12	46		
Thompsonville- <b>Brian Mixon</b>	10,390.00	40	0	83		100.00
Washington-Restoration Chapel- <b>Matt Smith</b>	2,835.00	28	0	29		
Waterloo, New Beginnings- <b>Matt Smith</b>	7,970.00	15	0	37		
Wayne City- <b>Jeremy Cline</b>	795.00	0	0	40		
West City- <b>Harol Whitlock</b>	8,497.73	0	0	50		
West Frankfort, Southpoint- <b>Tod W. Parchman</b>	9,702.36	38	0	51		51.00
Wood River-Restoring Hope- <b>Cory Kendall</b>	3,108.00	0	0	85		





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*The peace of God,  
which transcends all understanding,  
will guard your hearts & minds.*

Philippians 4:7

