

# COGA NEWS



## WHAT'S IN THIS MONTH'S ISSUE

- Making Room For God
- Upcoming Events
- A Little Something to Laugh About



## MAKING ROOM FOR GOD

*Bishop Cecil Reid*

**“Be still, and know that I am God.” —Psalm 46:10,**

September is a month of full calendars. School begins, routines return, meetings resume, and activities that slowed down during the summer quickly pick up again. We may find ourselves moving from one responsibility to the next, grateful for the structure but also wondering where the time went.

In the middle of this busyness, September gives us an important spiritual question: Are we making room for God?

Making room for God does not necessarily mean adding one more demanding task to an already crowded schedule. It means noticing where God is present in the ordinary moments of our lives. It means learning to pause, listen, and receive instead of constantly rushing to accomplish the next thing.

Jesus often withdrew from the crowds to pray. He knew that serving others required time apart with the Father. If Jesus needed moments of quiet, we should not be surprised

that we need them too. Prayer is not an interruption to our real lives; it is one of the ways God gives our lives direction and strength.

This month, making room for God might look different for each person. For one person, it may be reading a short passage of Scripture before beginning the day. For another, it may be taking a quiet walk and thanking God for all you see and what he's done. Someone else may need to turn off the phone, TV, computer or any other device to give full attention to prayer or family. Another person may find God's presence while serving at church or visiting someone who is sick or lonely.

Making room also applies to our congregation. Churches can become so focused on programs, maintenance, and planning that we forget the purpose behind it all. Our ministries exist to help people encounter Christ and grow in faith.

Making room for God also means making

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room in our hearts. We may need to release resentment, fear, or the need to control every outcome. We may need to admit that our strength is limited and allow others to help us. We may need to trust that God is working even when we cannot see immediate results.

As September unfolds, may we not simply fill our calendars.



May we fill our days with awareness of God's presence. Let us create space for prayer, worship, friendship, service, and rest. When we make room for God, we discover that God has already been making room for us—with grace

that welcomes us, love that sustains us, and hope that carries us forward.

*So tell me, will you be making room for **Him**?* ↗

### FEAR NOT!

Discover what the Scriptures teach about fear and the children of God.  
Learn more in the new book by Bishop Cecil Reid

Available on Amazon



## UPCOMING EVENTS

### SEPTEMBER

TBD

### OCTOBER

- 9th – 13th > Southern District Convention

Find more information on [www.cogainc.org](http://www.cogainc.org)



## A LITTLE SOMETHING TO LAUGH ABOUT

- Prayer meetings: where “just one quick prayer” occasionally becomes a fellowship event.
- A church fellowship dinner is the only place where bringing “a little something” can feed 40 people.
- September is a great month to turn over a new leaf—and attend Bible study.
- September is when the calendar says fall, but the thermometer says, “Not yet.”
- Church committee meetings: where “let's pray about it” often means “let's table it for six more months.”
- The longest committee meeting begins with, “We'll just take a few minutes.”
- The pastor said the sermon would be brief. The congregation is still waiting for that miracle.
- Sunday school is back in session, and the students are ready to teach us patience.

September



HAPPY  
LABOR  
DAY

FALL

