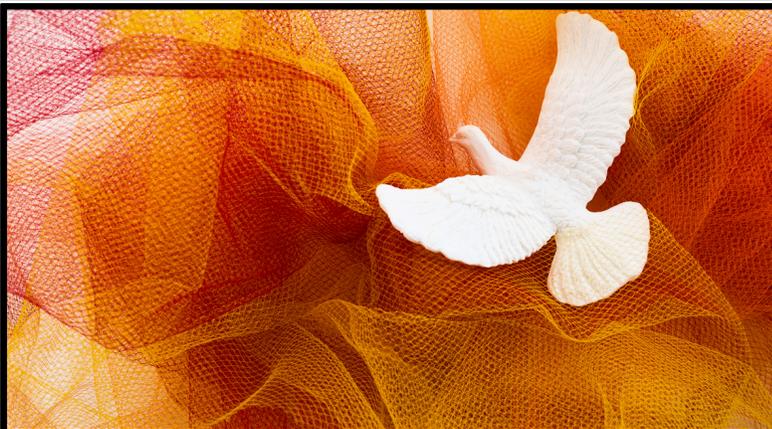


COGA NEWS



WHAT'S IN THIS MONTH'S ISSUE

- From Upper Room to Living Room
- Upcoming Events
- A Little Something to Laugh About



From Upper Room to Living Room *Making Room for the Spirit at Home*

Bishop Cecil Reid

May is full—Mother's Day, finals, graduations, and Pentecost preparation. It's a month of celebration and fatigue, juggling emotions and events. Amid the pressure, we're invited to pause, breathe, and welcome the Spirit's peace into our hearts and homes.

"But he said to me, 'My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.'"

— 2 Corinthians 12:9

Too often, we think of Pentecost as a church event—a powerful service, a time of worship, maybe a sermon about fire and boldness. But Pentecost is far more than a memory. It's an invitation to make room for the Holy Spirit not just in sanctuaries but in living rooms, kitchens, and daily routines.

Pentecost wasn't just a moment—it was a movement. What happened in the upper room on that day in Acts 2 wasn't meant to stay there. The fire, the wind, the languages—it all poured outward. The Spirit that fell on the disciples wasn't for a one-time encounter, but for a lifetime of empowerment, transformation, and testimony.

The early church didn't leave the Holy Spirit behind at the altar. They broke bread together,

prayed in homes, and welcomed the Spirit into every corner of their lives. Acts 2:46 says, "They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts." Their homes became holy ground.

In today's world, carrying Pentecost into your living room may look like:

- **Praying with your family before the day begins, not just on Sundays.**
- **Letting worship music fill your home—transforming chores into moments of praise.**
- **Asking the Holy Spirit for wisdom during family conflict or parenting stress.**
- **Creating space for quiet—so God's voice isn't drowned by constant noise.**

If your home is where your faith feels weakest, you're not alone. But Pentecost reminds us: God is willing to meet us where we are. The Spirit didn't wait for perfect conditions—He came to a room full of ordinary people simply willing to wait, pray, and say yes.

As families today, we are called to continue what was started in that room. Pentecost isn't just for the church stage. It's for the couch where your kids snuggle, the kitchen table where grace is said, and the bedroom where tears are cried in prayer.

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Prepare for Mother's Day and Pentecost:

This May, as we celebrate both **Mother's Day** and preparations for **Pentecost**, let's recognize the sacred work done in homes. Mothers, fathers, and spiritual mentors often carry the fire of Pentecost through whispers, patience, meals, discipline, and joy. You may never preach from a pulpit, but if you invite the Spirit into your living room, you're living out Pentecost more powerfully than you know.

Let your home be a continuation of the upper room—a space where heaven still touches earth, and the Spirit is always welcome.

To our Graduates:



Congratulations on reaching this powerful milestone! As you step forward into a world filled with both promise and uncertainty, remember this—your worth is not defined by your title, your salary, or the size of your success, but by the One who created you with purpose.

God has equipped you not just with knowledge, but with wisdom, grace, and faith. "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding" (Proverbs 3:5). You won't always know the next step—but you never walk alone.

Whether you're pursuing higher education, entering the workforce, or discovering new passions, let your heart remain rooted in Christ. Seek Him first, and He will direct your path. The world may celebrate achievement, but heaven celebrates obedience, humility, and love.

Carry compassion into your career. Let Christ be your worship and guide. Be bold in truth and gentle in spirit. God doesn't just call the qualified—He qualifies the called. And He is calling you.

Go into this next season with courage. Walk in faith. Shine brightly.

You are not only graduating—you are becoming.



UPCOMING EVENTS

MAY

SE NW District Convention & AYPU Retreat
May 10th > Happy Mother's Day!

JULY *Theme: "Beholding His Glory!"*

2025 Annual Church Growth Conference
July 14th-18th

Come ready for a blessing!

Find more information on www.cogainc.org



A LITTLE SOMETHING TO LAUGH ABOUT

- May: When the Holy Spirit and the humidity both show up strong.
- May is when Sunday naps feel biblically justified.
- Spring cleaning: because even your faith closet has clutter.
- Mothers: God's original multitasking disciples.
- Behind every great kid is a mom saying, "Did you wash your hands?"
- Moms: Heaven's way of saying "Don't make me come down there."
- Moms have a hotline to heaven—and they use it!
- Mother's Day: When you realize how much she did and how little you thanked her.
- Graduates, go into the world... but stay in church!
- Graduation Sunday: Where the applause is loud and the prayers get louder.
- Graduation: when the real tests begin—without a study guide.

