

WAGF CONNECTION



SEPTEMBER 2023

PAGE 02

GREETINGS

PAGES 04-05

CHURCH PLANTING COMMISSION

MISSIONS COMMISSION

PAGES 06-07

THEOLOGICAL COMMISSION

MM33 INITIATIVE

PAGES 08-11

ASIA PACIFIC AG FELLOWSHIP UPDATE

2023 AG WORLD CONGRESS



AN INTERACTIVE PUBLICATION



From the World Assemblies of God Fellowship Office

By Rev. David Mohan, Acting Chairman

It is a great joy to again greet you through this newsletter. As we prepare for the upcoming World Assemblies of God Congress in Madrid, Spain, October 12-14, I would like you to prepare your national leaders and believers to come and be a part of the celebrations. We can't wait to meet you in person and celebrate the goodness of our God together.



We had a powerful time of prayer and worship in August at the Global Concert of Prayer, Fires of Revival, organized by Dominic Yeo. We joined with believers from across the world and experienced a great move of God.

The Assemblies of God was born out of revival. This was because our former great leaders had done amazing ministry to sustain these revivals. But in the later days, people have slowly moved into

normalization. Let us not live in the traditional way of conducting our churches and worship. Let us move forward and live a life of prayer to see a great revival in this decade. I believe that God has given us a great vision to fulfill. That is why we modulated the MM33 strategy, which will be launched at this Congress.

Jesus showed us the perfect prayer model through His life. First, in His prayer model, we must give glory to our Lord. That is what he taught us when he said, "Hallowed be thy name." Romans 11:36 says, "For from Him and through Him and for Him are all things. To Him be the glory forever! Amen." What an amazing way to sum up the entirety of who God is. "From Him" means He is the architect of all things; "Through Him" means He is the administrator of all things; and "to Him" means He is the aim of all things. So, whatever we do, it should be done through Him, and the glory must go to Him. In our church worship, it is not the electronics and programs that exalt the Lord. It is sincere praise to God in Spirit and Truth that brings glory and honor to Him alone.

Second, in Jesus' prayer model, He showed us that we must pray for others. Luke 11:5-6 says, "Then Jesus said to them, 'Suppose you have a friend, and

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

David Mohan

Acting Chairman

1445 North Boonville Avenue

Springfield, MO 65802-1894

Phone: 1-417-862-2781

Fax: 1-417-863-6614

Email: Chairman@WorldAGFellowship.org

Dominic Yeo

Secretary

Rey Calusay

Ricardo Castillo

Lazarus Chakwera

Yong Mok Cho

Doug Clay

Michael Dissanayeke

David Di Staulo

Rick DuBose

Juan Carlos Escobar

Iliafi Esera

Eduard Grabovenko

Marco Hofmann

Machiel Jonker

Marek Kaminski

Nam Soo Kim

Philip Kitoto

Peter Kuzmic

Gordon Lebelo

Younghoon Lee

Esko Matikainen

Greg Mundis

Sergio Navarrete

Jude N'gouwa

Ong Sek Leang

Honoré Daplex Ouenchist

Victor Pavlovski

Jimmy Salazar

Dikran Salbashian

John O. Smith

José Wellington

David Wells

Timothy Yeung

Greetings *continued*

you go to him at midnight and say, “Friend, lend me three loaves of bread; a friend of mine on a journey has come to me, and I have no food to offer him.”” Through this parable, Jesus asks us to give to the friend without thinking twice, which means we must also pray for others without ceasing. Most of our churches are concentrated on their own needs, but we must change our focus to be on the needs of others. Our church focus must shift to missions and praying for our nation.

Last, Jesus’ prayer model shows us that we must pray consistently and persistently. Luke 11:9, “Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you.” To see a great revival, we must persistently fast and pray. The Azusa Street Revival and other national revivals came out of persistent prayer. When we see the lives of William Seymour, Evan Roberts, and Charles Finney, we see how they prayed continuously, which resulted in great revivals.

I encourage you to pray more, pray for others around you, and to pray persistently to glorify our God.

Once again, I want to invite all our readers to join us in Madrid in October 12-14, 2023 for our World Assemblies of God Congress. See you in a month.

Welcome to
WORLD ASSEMBLIES OF GOD
CONGRESS

Six years have passed since the last Assemblies of God World Congress in Singapore in 2017. Now, the current moment that humanity is living offers a unique window of opportunity so that as the largest and most influential Pentecostal movement in the world, we determine to meet and position ourselves as that light that needs to rise and shine.

During October 12-14, in Madrid, we will celebrate our IX World Congress of the Assemblies. *It will be a historic event to prepare us for a decisive decade until the year 2033, when the Church will celebrate 2000 years of history.*

The Assemblies of God in the world have a voice that must be raised. We are a force to be united. We have a vital essence that must be manifested and, of course, we share a history that deserves a great feast of gratitude and praise that none of our leaders and workers can miss.

Do not miss it! We are waiting for you in Madrid, Spain.

OCTOBER 12-14
MADRID, SPAIN

CALLLED TO INFLUENCE
SHINE!

AD
Asambleas de Dios de España
FEDERACIÓN

WORLD
ASSEMBLIES OF GOD
FELLOWSHIP

WORLD ASSEMBLIES
OF GOD CONGRESS

WAG 33

A Message From
WAGC 2023 ORGANIZATION

Church Planting Commission

By Church Planting Commission Leadership Team

The Church Planting Commission leadership team is excited about what the Lord has in store for the next decade of church planting. We believe that through this God-inspired vision, we will see a growing revival and the birth of thousands of great churches that make Christ's name known. Let's rally together and change the world for Christ.

In collaboration with MM33, the Church Planting Commission has been implementing its Strategic Adaptive Plan. This vision consists of five initiatives that aim to help support and grow church planting activity across the national Fellowships through 2033 and beyond. Over the past year, there have been exciting developments that will be launched at the World Assemblies of God Congress in Madrid, Spain, this October 2023.

The Commission has begun the development of a Church Planting White Paper, which aims to synthesize the denomination's historical and theological foundations of church planting, including historical perspectives and modern contexts. The Research Initiative has also been instrumental in gathering data to determine the baseline number of churches globally. Simultaneously, the Platform Initiative has collaborated with the Coalition of the Willing (COTW) to provide a secure platform (iShare) to track the location and number of churches in each region.

As we look forward to this exciting season of growth and multiplication, we celebrate the incredible work God is already doing across

regions. CEPI, Latin America's Church Planting Strategic Commission, focuses on raising and training church planters within the region. Over the last year, they successfully trained 1,000 new church planters, and their target for 2023 is to train an additional 1,200. Additionally, in Europe, representatives from 23 European nations gathered in Madrid for the MM33 Leader Summit, aiming to foster collaboration and develop strategies around church planting within their respective countries. Eighteen European countries have set numerical goals to grow by 7,196 churches collectively over the next ten years. In Africa, the MM33 expression, titled the Revival Fire Commission, aims to contribute 300,000 churches to the MM33 vision by 2033. Over the next ten years, the Church Planting Commission has committed to assist in sponsoring regional church planting conferences throughout Africa each year.

If you want to learn more about the Church Planting Commission and how to get involved, we invite you to join the Church Planting Commission Pre-Congress Meeting. The meeting will occur on October 10, 2023, from 2:30 p.m.-5:30 p.m. in Madrid, Spain. Click the <https://onehope.typeform.com/to/KtgWqHan> link to register.

We are filled with great anticipation for the amazing things the Lord is preparing us for as He continues to grow His Church. May He continue to fill us with wisdom and guidance as we depend on Him in these efforts.



Missions Commission

By Rev. Brad Walz, WAGF Missions Commission Chairman

Missions Commission Best Practices

For many years, the WAGF Missions Commission had four core purposes. They are:

- Encourage every member of the WAGF to have a Mission Sending Structure.
- Encourage focus on Unreached, Unengaged People.
- Build a foundation of Intercession.
- Encourage and facilitate collaboration and networking protocols between all members of the WAGF and Networking with missional people of like mind and heart.

In 2018, they committed to a fifth core purpose:

- Encourage “best practices,” rooted in core missiological principles both as a reinforcement for traditional senders and a guide for new emerging senders.

In 2019, we named a task force, which met in January 2020 in London (right before the outbreak of Covid), to work on 15 different themes. Out of that meeting, two new task forces were named, and the work was divided into three areas:

- Missions Theology Foundations
- Best Practices for the function and administration of Missions Sending structures/agencies
- Best Practices of Missions Engagement among WAGF councils and churches

These task forces met in June and July 2022. The final work of these groups was sent out last year. We also organized

sections of the 6th World Missions Congress in Colombia (September 2022) and the 1st “Sender’s Summit” in Minnesota, on May 31, 2023, around these three focuses. We are grateful for the three parts to be translated into Spanish and Portuguese, with a French version being worked on. As well, the three parts are packaged in an attractive book format, which is available as a PDF on the WAGF website (<https://worldagfellowship.org/Missions/Best-Practices>). I will also bring copies with me to Spain in October.

AGWM's New Leader

On August 2, The General Council of the Assemblies of God (USA) elected John L. Easter as AGWM executive director, replacing Greg Mundis, who is retiring. AGWM has about one-third of the world missionaries of WAGF churches. Because of their impact for over 100 years, they play a huge role in world evangelism. Let us pray for John as he begins his tenure on October 1. Many of you will get a chance to meet him at future events.

Spain, Kenya, and Minnesota

I look forward to seeing you in Spain soon. The Missions Commission will have a roundtable of several world leaders.

The 7th World Missions Congress will be held in Nairobi, Kenya, October 8-10, 2024.

The 2nd “Sender’s Summit” will be held September 22-26, 2025, in Alexandria, Minnesota, USA.



Theological Commission— *Strength Needed to Live in the Present Age*

By Joseph Dimitrov, Ph.D., WAGF Theological Commission, Chairman

Some time ago, the Holy Spirit put this thought in my heart: **“Jesus’ going back to the Father was relational; Jesus’ current absence is relational; and Jesus’ return for His church will also be relational.”**

Before He was arrested and crucified, Jesus sat with His disciples and, in a very intimate way, revealed to them what His departure to the Father meant for Him and His disciples. He transparently revealed His feelings, ultimate love for them, and sadness over the act of the one who would betray Him. (John 13-17)

After His resurrection, Jesus spent 40 days with His disciples, revealing to them the principles of the Kingdom of God. (Acts 1)

His return will be as relational as His departure. Paul said that at His return, we will be in His company again, but this time we “will be with the Lord forever.” (1 Thessalonians 4:17) Jesus used the parable of the ten virgins to explain the nature of His coming. He presented this event in the context and imagery of the Jewish marriage custom—one of the most relational events in the culture of that nation. (Matthew 25:1-13)

But what about His current absence? Jesus took care of this as well. He said that He will not leave us alone like orphans. (John 14:18) Jesus did not intend for us to be relation-less while He is with the Father.

“And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever—the Spirit of truth.” (John 14:16-17)

The Holy Spirit is as relational as Jesus. “But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all the truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come.” (John 16:13)

Out of this relational aspect springs all the teachings in the Epistles concerning the person and work of the Holy Spirit in us. Let’s list three of them containing this relational truth:

- “And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.” (Ephesians 4:30)
- “Do not quench the Spirit.” (1 Thessalonians 5:19)
- “Be filled with the Spirit, speaking to one another with psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit.” (Ephesians 5:18-19)

We do not live our Christian lives in a relational vacuum. The Spirit and the bride are together until the end of the Book of Revelation. They both speak the same language and have the same cry toward Jesus. John says, “The Spirit and the bride say, ‘Come!’” (Revelation 22:17).

The church that is tightly connected to the Spirit of God is the church that overcomes the world! This relationship provides the strength that we need today.



MM33—Ready or Not, It's Happening!

By Rev. Dominic Yeo, WAGF Secretary and Chairman of MM33 Taskforce



The prophecy that you believe in will come to pass. I am not referring to a “name it, claim it” theology. But here is a truth: When a prophetic word comes from the Lord, and His people lay hold of it by stepping out in faith and action, we then see this word come to pass.

Isaiah 55:11 reminds us that the Word of the Lord “...will not return to [Him] empty, but will accomplish what [He] desires and achieves the purpose for which [He] sent it.”

It's exciting to hear about the General Councils from different nations committing to plant their 100, 200, and 500 new churches. Some even say they will be doubling the number of churches by 2033.

Rev Hanook, who leads a church in Pakistan, heard about MM33. He said, “I am moving forward with this vision to plant 100 churches in Pakistan and also wherever God open doors to extend His kingdom.” In May this year, he successfully established their first international church in Dubai—UAE.

Australia set a goal to plant 500 churches, and by the six-month mark, they had planted 34 churches. While we rejoice with the churches that have been planted, we also rejoice with the seed of faith that some are stepping out in. In Brunei, with a vision to plant 10 churches, 10 families have come forward to sponsor the church planting initiatives. Since then, they have seen three families joining the church plant.

Every church counts and every family counts. It is beautiful seeing how households are laying hold of the MM33 vision and doing their part to see the fruition of God's Word—*1 million churches by 2033*.

The Europe and Asia Pacific regions conducted their second MM33 summit. Many more nations came to hear about MM33 and indicated



Peter Chin



Timothy Yeung



Robert Walu



Wayne Alcorn



Ong Sek Leang



Iliafi Esera

Participating members signing the MM33 covenant.

their commitment to plant churches and see revival in their nations. The two regions exchanged ideas and gave out tokens of reminders to participants on sowing their Seed Story. This collaboration shows that together as the World AG Fellowship, we can do more together—so God's prophetic word will not return to Him void.

This October, MM33 will officially launch. What does this mean for us? It is the starting flag from the Spirit of the Lord for us to take His Word and run with it. With greater partnerships and sharing of strategies, I believe we will see an acceleration of growth and salvations happening across the nations. Get ready. It is happening very soon.



ASIA PACIFIC
ASSEMBLIES OF GOD
FELLOWSHIP

EVERY SEED HAS A STORY

***but only the ones that get planted
get to tell theirs.***

*The seeds in our hands have the potential to change our world.
Will you be a Seed Sower for God's Global Expansion?*

WHAT WILL YOUR SEED STORY BE?

- ☐ Churches Planted
- ☐ Missionaries Sent
- ☐ Leaders Trained
- ☐ People Saved

*"A farmer went out to sow his seed...produces a crop,
yielding a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown"
Matthew 13:1-23 (NIV)*



HIS MANDATE. OUR MISSION.

'SOMEONE PLANTED THE CHURCH YOU GOT SAVED INTO, AND SOMEONE WILL BE SAVED INTO THE CHURCH YOU WILL PLANT'



 [AOGGB.COM/CHURCH-PLANTING](https://aoggb.com/church-planting)
 CHURCHPLANTING@AOGGB.COM



Every seed has a story, but only the ones that get planted get to tell theirs.

The seeds in our hands may just have the potential to change someone's world – but it's only when the seed goes into the soil that the story begins to take shape.

PLANT ME

This card is 100% recycled paper containing poppy seeds. When planted and nurtured, the poppies will remind you that we stand on the shoulders of giants!



1. Soak the card in water for 1-2 hours



2. Cut into pieces and bury into a pot of damp compost.



3. Place somewhere warm and sunny, and water daily without letting it dry out.



4. Once seedling appear within 7-10 days, be careful not to over-water





2023 World Congress— Seven Reasons to Participate in the IX World Congress

By Rev. Juan Carlos Escobar, Chairman of the IX World Congress and President, Spain Assemblies of God

There are just over two months until the IX World Congress of the Assemblies of God in Madrid, one of the world's leading capitals for celebrating Congresses and events. Thousands of leaders have already signed up from over 90 nations, and many more will continue to register.

We know it is a great challenge to attend a Congress that involves an investment. However, it is important to consider why it is worth participating in the Congress, Shine! Without a doubt, it will result in one of the most important events of the beginning of the 21st century. I want to share with you seven main reasons for you to come to Madrid.

- It is a global, strategic Congress for the Assemblies of God. This event has a very prophetic connotation and is focused on leadership; Therefore, it will be an excellent opportunity for the spiritual revitalization of leaders and pastors who will be present.
- The World Congress will have more than 40 speakers with strong leadership in their countries and the world. Their testimonials and messages will not leave anyone indifferent. They will participate in 12 workshops, four panels with 16 speakers, five plenary sessions, ten



sermons, and many other interventions that will complete a very enriching program.

- Praise times will contribute to experiencing unforgettable moments in the presence of God. We will have a band with

2023 World Congress *continued*

excellent musicians and singers, a gospel choir, various Christian artists, and several special participants that will lead us to unforgettable times.

- Inside Shine, the first NextGen Leadership Congress will also be held. This will undoubtedly contribute to making it the most intentional intergenerational event so far.
- The launch of the MM33 (His Mandate, Our Mission) Vision at our Congress will be one of the most significant events at a global level for the next ten years. Being part of this vision will bring a strong impulse to the fulfillment of the Great Commission and meet the need to seek a new global awakening in the Assemblies of God.
- Ministries from all over the world will exhibit their projects at their stands. You will receive inspiration regarding hundreds of useful ideas to enrich your ministry.
- Responding to a call for unity to seek the Lord together will undoubtedly open the heavens over our lives and our movement. Being intentional about being together will cause a break in the air that will allow us to experience a strong and transforming impact in our lives but, above all, it will please the heart of God (Psalm 133:1).

We recommend that you visit our website to find the details of the Congress, discover the different services, the program's content, and how to request additional information.

We will be waiting for you in Madrid from October 12 to 14. Be a part of history and join the thousands participating in the Global Congress of the Assemblies of God.

I encourage all the leaders of the Assemblies of God worldwide to come to Madrid for the Congress, Shine! We are sure that God has a plan for every moment, and we want to hear it, experience it, and share it with the world.