

## Vol. 3 Issue 3-Conference on Practical Christianity—March 2008

### Rev. Gloria Alexander is awarded Vote of Confidence . . .

By a majority vote of members of the Board of Directors of the Conference on Practical Christianity Rev. Gloria Alexander is awarded a Vote of Confidence for her work as Chairperson of the Ordinations Committee.

During her tenure as Chairperson she has been observed as a person well qualified to do all things particular to the Ordinations Committee. Rev. Gloria is perceived to be a person of high moral judgment, superior ethics and has shown exemplary pursuit of a quality ordination program. It is for these things she is deemed to be well qualified to hold the position of Chairperson of the Ordinations Committee.

Rev. Gloria holds a Bachelor's Degree from University of Florida and a Master's of Divinity in Theology from Fillmore Seminary. She continually seeks more knowledge and understanding of her Spiritual Nature and encourages those around her to do the same.

We are fortunate to have such a person in our organization and look forward to many more years of her leadership as she facilitates the work of the Ordinations Committee.

Rev. "Glo," as she like to refer to herself is available for workshops and speaking engagements throughout our Spiritual community. You may contact her through the website of the Conference.

Thank you Rev. Gloria Alexander and highest blessings in all you do.

### Rev. Teny Rule Fisher resigns . . .

Rev. Teny Rule Fisher resigned, during the month of February, as a member of the Board of Directors of the Conference on Practical Christianity. During her time of service Rev. Teny brought to the table innovative ideas, attention to the application of Principle and a focus on details that kept us on the right path. Rev. Fisher will be greatly missed but the good news is that she and her husband Charles Fisher will remain members of the Conference. Their consciousness will be well received as a part of the fabric that holds our ideals together as we are about the work of serving God. Look for Rev. Fischer in your area as she travels with her ministry.



### Rev. Phillip Fischer joins the Board of Directors . . .

We welcome Rev. Phillip Fischer to the Board of Directors of the Conference on Practical Christianity. Rev. Phillip will be taking the seat vacated by Rev. Teny Fisher. Rev. Fischer lives in Rome, Georgia.

Rev. Phillip Fischer is an ordained Independent Unity Minister and is founder of two Unity Churches where he served as their minister over a twelve year period. Rev. Fischer has been Certified in Hypnotherapy since 1981 and is rated a Master Teacher of Hypnosis. We are excited to have Rev. Phillip bring his consciousness to the Board of Directors.

You may contact Rev. Fischer through the Conference website.

### **Please Note:**

Barbara Hudson is now temporary Treasurer.

Please forward your membership renewals, dues and tithes to the following address:

Barbara Hudson,  
Treasurer—CPC  
13196 South Ash St  
Claremore, OK  
74017

### Contact Information

Headquarters:  
Conference on  
Practical Christianity  
17 S. Pearl St.  
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**1-800-939-2023**  
**913-871-0935**

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Treasurer  
13196 South Ash St  
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**(918) 342-6833**

*"We fairly sizzle with zeal and enthusiasm to do the work that is ours to do."*  
Charles and Myrtle Fillmore

**Easter**--The awakening and raising to spiritual consciousness of the I AM in man, which has been dead in trespasses and sins and buried in the tomb of materiality.

**resurrection**--The restoring of mind and body to their original, undying state. This is accomplished by the realization that God is Spirit and that God created man with power like that which He Himself possesses. When man realizes this, his mind and body automatically become immortal. "If the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwelleth in you, he that raised up Christ Jesus from the dead shall give life also to your mortal bodies through his Spirit that dwelleth in you" (Rom. 8:11). The word resurrection also suggests that there has been a falling short of the divine standard; therefore, the necessity of being restored and revived. Through resurrection man becomes an inhabitant here and now of "a new heaven and a new earth" (Rev. 21:1).

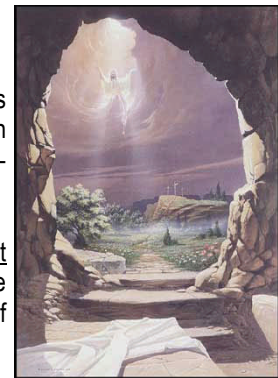
Jesus was raised from the dead. He overcame death in the body. "For since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead." Physical death is not necessary. "We all shall not sleep, but we shall all be changed" (I Cor. 15:21, 51).

The power of the resurrection is the Christ. "I am the resurrection, and the life" (John 11:25). This resurrection is not of the future, "but hath now been manifested by . . . our Saviour Christ Jesus, who abolished death, and brought life and immortality to light" (II Tim. 1:10).

Christ, absolute Principle, the God-idea man, is the true resurrecting power and life in each of us here and now. Jesus resurrected His body through the spiritual I AM dwelling in Him. The resurrection takes place in us every time we rise to Jesus' realization of the perpetual indwelling life that is connecting us with the Father. A new flood of life comes to all who open their minds and their bodies to the living word of God.

Once again Charles Fillmore has elegantly defined a term often misunderstood except by metaphysics.

Please read [Keep a True Lent](#) by Fillmore. It is the ultimate definition of the theology of Charles and Myrtle Fillmore.



## News from Fillmore Theological College

by Rev. Donald Hudson

All of my life I have been in constant search for knowledge and Truth. No matter the twists and turns of the paths, I have discovered the value of backtracking through previously studied books and ideas. Although the words are the same I have realized the freshness of the ideas due to change in me and my level of spiritual maturity.

I invite all Truth students to do the same. No matter what we have studied, what we have thought of, what we have taught or to what Truth we have been exposed there is a whole new world of understanding that awaits us.

The apostle Paul wrote to Timothy, "Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." 2 Timothy 2:15

Practical Christianity is not simply a belief system but it is a way of life. We are better able to embrace God as we begin to gather knowledge and we gather knowledge through study and research. It is, therefore our obligation to commune with God in meditation and prayer and to study our texts in research and learning. *It is when we are in the learning stage that we contribute more to those around us by simply gaining understanding and living that same understanding.*

Did you know that you can take any course at Fillmore Theological College for only \$39.95 plus texts and in some cases the texts are free?

With our new "Chat-Line" on the Conference website there are an infinite number of possibilities for Spiritual discussion as well as workshop and class opportunity. How exciting life has become for all of us.

<http://www.fillmorecollege.com>

It's amazing that when the world pushes us to our knees we are in perfect position to pray.

**Professional Member Quarterly Report  
2007**

Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Minister: \_\_\_\_\_

Board President: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # of Board President: \_\_\_\_\_

No of Sunday Services     Other Services

Weddings                       Christenings

Memorials                       Workshops

Hospital Visits                 Classes

You are blessed for all you do.

Tithe Enclosed? Amount: \_\_\_\_\_

Thank You.

You are appreciated.

Please mail to:

**Due Now**

Treasurer—CPC

13196 South Ash St— Claremore, OK 74017

## God Said NO!

I asked God to take away my habit.

God said, "No."

***"It is not for me to take away, but for you to give it up."***

I asked God to make my handicapped child whole.

God said, "No."

***"His spirit is whole, his body is only temporary."***

I asked God to Grant me patience.

God said, "No."

***"Patience is a byproduct of tribulations; it isn't granted, it is learned."***

I asked God to give me happiness.

God said, "No."

***"I give you blessings; Happiness is up to you."***

I asked God to spare me pain.

God said, "No."

***"Suffering draws you apart from worldly cares and brings you closer to me."***

I asked God to make my spirit grow.

God said, "No."

***"You must grow on your own, but I will prune you to make you fruitful."***

I asked God for all things that I may enjoy life.

God said, "No."

***"I gave you life, so that you may enjoy all things."***

I asked God to help me LOVE others, as much as He loves me.

***"AAAAH." Said God, "Finally . . . you have the idea."***

Contributed by Rev. Marty Copelin



## Join Today . . .

**Application: Conference on Practical Christianity**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

General Membership                      \$60.00

Professional Membership                \$95.00

Independent Unity Minister              \$95.00

Organizational membership              \$125.00

Mail, Along with Check to:

Treasurer—CPC

13196 South Ash St— Claremore, OK 74017

## Fillmore Theological College

David N. Elkins, author of "Beyond Religion: A Personal Program for Building a Spiritual Life Outside the Walls of Traditional Religion" wrote "Authentic spirituality awakens the soul, reconnects us with the sacred, and fills us with the passion of life. Spiritual development is not about religious rituals and practices; it is about waking up to the wonder of life." Spiritual development is not a one-time event but is a perpetual process throughout our lives. Fillmore Theological College is dedicated to the Spiritual development of its students by providing a forum for individuals and groups to learn and share both knowledge and experience. Awakening to Your Life Purpose, Christology A Biblical, Historical, and Systematic Study Of Jesus and Foundations For Centering Prayer And The Christian Contemplative Life are just some of the courses you will find at Fillmore Theological College. Come join us as a student, mentor, or group and let's grow together.



Rev. Don Hudson



## Code of Conduct . . .

Rev. Phillip Fischer has been appointed to chair the Committee on Member Code of Conduct.

Rev. Fischer and his committee will establish a Member Code of Conduct to be presented to the Board of the Conference on Practical Christianity for review and possible revision.

Ideally the Committee will never have to convene but in case the occasion arises we must, as an organization, be prepared.

Rev. Phillip has belonged to a number of organizations that have a Code of Conduct in place. We can expect him and his committee to draw from existing material to help frame that which will apply to our organization.

We pray that Rev. Fischer and his committee will experience the mighty power of the Holy Spirit in all of their work.

We thank Rev. Fischer for stepping up to take on this project and to see it through to completion.

We see a copy of the finished product along with CPC By-Laws being sent to all new members as they join the Conference.

## New Department . . .

Barbara Hudson, Treasurer for the Conference on Practical Christianity and Rev. Nancy Smith, Treasurer for Fillmore Theological College have agreed to and are in process of establishing a Central Accounting Department.

The purpose of the Central Accounting Department is to insure accurate accountability of all finances for both organizations. With the Central Accounting Department in place a member, in good standing, could, at anytime call for a report of finances.

The accounting instrument to be used is QuickBooks Pro. Past experience has shown this to be an accurate and professional presentation of an organizations financial records.

We are excited that Barbara Hudson and Rev. Nancy Smith are taking pro-active steps to bring about a professional and accountable approach to the finances of both the Conference on Practical Christianity and Fillmore Theological College.

All membership renewals, tithes and gifts to the Conference on Practical Christianity are to be sent to:

Treasurer—CPC

13196 South Ash St— Claremore, OK 74017

All tuition gifts and tithes to Fillmore Theological College are to be sent to:

Treasurer—FTC

13196 South Ash St - Claremore, OK 74017

### Go FIGure

A little boy opened the big and old family Bible with fascination, and looked at the old pages as he turned them. Suddenly, something fell out of the Bible, and he picked it up and looked at it closely. It was an old leaf from a tree that had been pressed in between the pages.

"Momma, look what I found!" the boy called out.

"What have you got there, dear?" his mother asked.

With astonishment in the young boy's voice, he answered: "I think it's Adam's suit!"

Our statement of purpose, of the Conference on Practical Christianity, implies a belief that our God is the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob and is the original cause and source of everything. We further proclaim that Jesus Christ is our way-shower and it is His teachings that form the foundation of our way of life we call "Practical Christianity." The co-founders of the Unity movement, Charles and Myrtle Fillmore provide guidelines and leave a legacy of study and of thriving in this wonderful life God has given us.

The purpose of the study of God is to help cause a closer relationship between the individual and the Creator. The purpose of the study of the life and teachings of Jesus Christ is for us to learn to apply Principle to our everyday life yielding a better way of life and of adherence to the two commandments given us by Jesus.

We learn about God by an in depth and consistent study of the Holy Bible. (We gain understanding and strengthen our personal relationship with God through prayer and meditation.) We learn about Charles and Myrtle Fillmore by study of their writings and, in particular, an attempt to grasp their theology and philosophy as set forth in the book, Keep a True Lent, by Charles Fillmore.

Central to our quest for understanding is the teachings of Jesus Christ. If you recall, Jesus taught by four methods:

1. Miracle—Performing feats of healing by asking the Father, by giving thanks and by intense faith.
2. Precept—Providing Spiritual food for thought and contemplation which leads to Spiritual maturity and understanding.
3. Example—Showing by the way He lived His life, through a deep knowledge, that He was here to serve God by showing us how to serve one another. Jesus gave us the example of how to stand solidly on Principle by defending Truth at all costs and, at the same time, demonstrating a gentleness, kindness and unconditional love never before revealed and by,
4. Parable—An earthly story with a Spiritual meaning of Truth. There are 64 parables told by Jesus Christ.

*"I will open my mouth in parables, I will utter things hidden since the creation of the world." (Jesus)(Mat.13:35, Ps.78:2)*

We must seek to discern just what the teachings of Jesus Christ are; what Christ based teachings means and how we apply these Truths to our daily lives. This is what we mean by Practical Christianity.

First we must study the Scriptures and discover all of the

Truths given by Jesus and at the same time we must look beyond the obvious (metaphysics) for the Truths not apparent. This is the excitement of our study. To delve into the Word and to bring forward those Truths that speak to us and then we put these Truths to work and as we *get understanding* we leap back into the Word for more of the infinite supply of Truth and right thinking (righteousness) provided by the grace of God.

## Spiritual Food . . .

Let your moderation be known unto all men. The Lord is at hand.

Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.

And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things.

Philippians 4:5-8

## School Lunch . . .

The children were lined up in the cafeteria of a Catholic elementary school for lunch. At the head of the table was a large pile of apples. The nun had posted a note on the apple tray: "Take only ONE. God is watching." Moving further along the lunch line, at the other end of the table was a large pile of chocolate chip cookies. A child had written a note, "Take all you want. God is watching the apples."

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I didn't know if my granddaughter had learned her colors yet, so I decided to test her. I would point out something and ask what color it was. She would tell me, and always she was correct. But it was fun for me, so I continued. At last she headed for the door, saying sagely, "Grandma, I think you should try to figure out some of these yourself!"

## Study the Parables . . .

**Parables** -the term translates the Hebrew word "mashal" a term denoting a metaphor, or an enigmatic saying or an analogy. In the Greco-Roman rhetorical tradition, however, "parables" were illustrative narrative examples. Jewish teachers of the 1st cent. made use of comparisons in narrative form to clarify scripture. As used in the Gospels, the "parable" not only denotes metaphors, analogies, and enigmatic statements, but also short illustrative narratives. In Jesus' parables, the speaker compares an observable, natural, or human phenomenon to the Kingdom (i.e. the rule) of God. Some of these challenge and mystify or even attack the hearer. Other parables are allegories. The major themes of the parables of Jesus include the contrast between the old and new age now dawning in the ministry of Jesus; the necessity of radical decisions; the gradual but sure growth of the Kingdom of God on earth; God's way of relating to people; and God's invitation for people to enter his Kingdom.

### Parables that teach about the Kingdom of Heaven

[The Tares and the Wheat](#) (Matthew 13:24-30; 36 43)

[The Mustard Seed](#) (Matthew 13:31-32; Mark 4:30-32; Luke 13:18-19)

[The Leaven](#) (Matthew 13:33; Luke 13:20-21)

[The Hidden Treasure](#) (Matthew 13:44)

[The Priceless Pearl](#) (Matthew 13:45-46)

[The Fishing Net](#) (Matthew 13:47-50)

[The Christian Scribe](#) (Matthew 13:52)

### Parables that Teach About Christian Character

[Salt Without Taste](#) (Matthew 5:13; Mark 9:49-50; Luke 14:34-35)

[The Light](#) (Matthew 5:14-16)

[The Tree And It's Fruits](#) (Matthew 7:16-20; Matthew 12:33-35; Luke 6:43-45)

[The Plank And The Speck](#) (Matthew 7:3-5; Luke 6:41-42)

[The Dogs And Pigs](#) (Matthew 7:6)

[The Great Physician](#) (Matthew 9:12-13; Mark 2:17; Luke 5:31-32)

[The Bridegroom's Friend](#) (Matthew 9:14-15; Mark 2:19-20; Luke 5:33-35)

[The Unmerciful Servant](#) (Matthew 18:23-35)

[The Two Sons](#) (Matthew 21:28-32)

[The Lamp](#) (Mark 4:21-25; Luke 8:16-18; Luke 11:33-36)

[The Two Debtors](#) (Luke 7:41-43)

[The Good Samaritan](#) (Luke 10:25-37)

[The Barren Fig Tree](#) (Luke 13:6-9)

[The Arrogant Guest](#) (Luke 14:7-14)

[The Unprepared Builder](#) (Luke 14:28-30)

[The Master And His Servant](#) (Luke 17:7-10)

[The Good Shepherd](#) (John 10:1-18)

For a complete list of Parables by category visit :

<http://www.riversideapostolic.com/spiritualgrowth/biblefacts/parables.html>

## Children's Letters to God . . .

**Dear God,** Instead of letting people die and having to make new ones, why don't You keep the ones You already have now? Jane.

**Dear God,** Are You really invisible or is it just a trick? Lucy.

**Dear God,** Thank You for the baby brother, but what I prayed for was a puppy. Joyce.

**Dear God,** I went to this wedding and they kissed right in the church. Is that OK? Neil.

**Dear God,** My brother told me about being born but it doesn't sound right. They're just kidding, aren't they? Marsha.

**Dear God,** I didn't think orange went with purple until I saw the sunset You made on Tuesday. That was cool. Eugene.

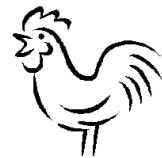
**Dear God,** I read the Bible. What does begat mean? Nobody will tell me. Love, Allison.

**Dear God,** Maybe Cain and Abel would not have killed each other if they had their own rooms. That's what my Mom did for me and my brother. Larry.

## Why Did the Chicken Cross the Road?

Heisenberg:

Because the chicken is moving very fast, you can either observe the chicken or you can measure the chicken, but you cannot do both.



Newton:

Chickens at rest tend to stay at rest. Chickens in motion tend to cross the road.

Oscar Wilde:

This chicken problem has many depths, but all of them are equally shallow.

Nietzsche:

If the chicken gazes too long across the road, the road will also gaze into the chicken.