

# COGA NEWS



## WHAT'S IN THIS MONTH'S ISSUE

- A Season of Renewal, Gratitude, and Growth
- Upcoming Events
- A Little Something to Laugh About



## A Season of Renewal, Gratitude, and Growth

*Bishop Cecil Reid*

***Step into renewal—God is making all things new in you. Celebrate the strength, love, and faith that can shape generations. Live with purpose today to build a legacy that lasts tomorrow and seasons to come.***

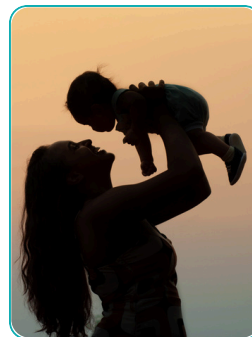
***“Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.”***

***— 2 Corinthians 5:17***

As the month of May unfolds, we find ourselves surrounded by signs of renewal. Flowers bloom, trees regain their fullness, and the days stretch longer with light. Creation itself seems to echo a quiet but powerful message: new life is always possible. This is a beautiful reminder for us as believers that no matter the season we have walked through, God is always at work bringing restoration and growth.

Spiritually, May invites us to pause and reflect on what God may be renewing within us. Perhaps it is our faith that needs refreshing, our prayer life that needs rekindling, or our trust in Him that needs strengthening. Just as the earth responds to the changing season, we too are called to respond to God's ongoing work in our hearts.

One of the special highlights of May is Mother's Day—a time set aside to honor and appreciate the women who have nurtured, guided, and loved us. Mothers, grandmothers, spiritual mothers, and caregivers all reflect a unique aspect of God's love. Their patience, sacrifice, and unwavering support often mirror the compassion and grace that God shows to His children.



Motherhood is not without its challenges, and this day can bring a mix of emotions for many. Some celebrate with joy, while others reflect with longing, grief, or remembrance. As a church family, this is an opportunity for us to extend love and support to one another. Whether through a kind word, a prayer, or simply being present, we can embody Christ's love in meaningful ways.

The Bible frequently uses nurturing imagery to describe God's care for us. Just as a mother comforts her child, so God comforts His people. This comparison reminds us that the love we celebrate on Mother's Day is deeply rooted in the character of God Himself. It is patient, enduring, and full of grace.

*Continue on page 2*

May is also a wonderful time to recommit ourselves to growth—not just physically or seasonally, but spiritually. Consider setting aside intentional time each day to read Scripture, pray, or simply sit in quiet reflection. Growth does not happen overnight, but small, consistent steps can lead to lasting transformation.

As a church, we are growing together. Each act of kindness, each prayer lifted, and each moment of service contributes to a stronger, more unified

body of Christ. Let this month be one where we actively seek opportunities to encourage one another and build each other up.

Let this May be a season of renewal in your life. Find joy in the simple beauty around you, strength in God's promises, and peace in His presence.

And as we celebrate Mother's Day, may we honor the love that has shaped us and reflect that same love to others.

### To our Graduates:



Congratulations to all our graduates! Your hard work, perseverance, and faith have brought you to this important milestone. As you step into a new season of opportunity and purpose, may God continue to guide your path, strengthen your heart, and bless your future abundantly. We celebrate your achievement and pray for continued success!



## UPCOMING EVENTS

### MAY

May 10<sup>th</sup> > Happy Mother's Day!

### JULY *Theme: "Fear Not" Serving Without Fear*

2026 Annual Church Growth Conference  
July 13th-17th

*Come ready for a blessing!*

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



## A LITTLE SOMETHING TO LAUGH ABOUT

- Mom's favorite phrase: "Ask your father." Dad's favorite phrase: "Ask your mother."
- May reminds us that even flowers need rain before they bloom.
- Mothers teach us love, kindness, faith, and where everything in the house is located.
- Spring cleaning is just discovering things you forgot you owned.
- Mothers know how to whisper in church while sounding louder than a microphone.
- Every mother has said at least once: "I'm not asking again."
- Nothing spreads faster in church than the phrase: "There's food in the fellowship hall."
- Moms can spot mischief faster than security cameras.
- Nothing says "May" like trying to guess if it's too early to turn on the air conditioner.
- Graduation: the moment students trade homework stress for adult stress.
- Behind every graduate is a family asking, "So when are you getting a job?"

