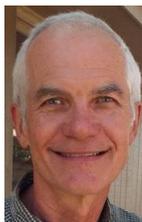


From the DS



I have a few regrets from my time as lead pastor at River of Life Alliance Church – times where God was speaking to me, but I didn't follow through. One big regret was that in 15 years of pastoral ministry, I never invited anyone from our leadership team to accompany Lyn and me to General Council. As I have sat in Council sessions listening to the speakers, seeing our international workers (both those returning from overseas fields and new workers being sent), and hearing the heart of the Alliance leadership, I left those sessions excited for what God is doing in and through our denomination.

Comparable to sending someone on a short-term missions trip to experience firsthand the work of the Lord on an international field, sending church leaders to General Council gives them a glimpse into the scope of Alliance ministries both in the States and internationally. I encourage you and your church board to prayerfully consider sending both pastoral staff and other church leaders to Council this year in Columbus, Ohio, May 30–June 4. To register for Council, review the Council schedule and speakers, click on the following link: [2017 General Council](#).

With that said, I would also like to remind you that in the year General Council is held, the MidAmerica District conducts an “abbreviated” **District Conference** during a District hosted event at Council for the primary purpose of approving the annual budget. This year Conference will take place during our District breakfast on Friday morning, June 2. The option to register for this breakfast can be found in the Council link above.



Please pray for this time the greater Alliance family gathers together, rejoicing in what the Lord has done and anticipating all that He desires to accomplish through us.

Rob Storey
District Superintendent

A few reminders regarding accredited Council representation:

Accredited Council Delegates: Official Workers and Lay Delegates

An accredited delegate is permitted to participate in business debate and has voting privileges. Corresponding delegates do not. All official workers are automatically eligible to attend Council as an accredited delegate. Every accredited Alliance church is permitted to send at least two lay delegates to Council. If the voting membership (as reported in the most recent annual report of the church) is 150 or more, another lay delegate may be sent for each additional 100 voting members. Lay delegates are to be appointed by the church governing board and authorized as delegates by the board secretary. Lay Delegate certificates will be emailed to eligible churches.

New this year: Accredited Proxy Delegates

For the first time in 2017 certain members of the Alliance family will be able to vote for The Christian and Missionary Alliance (C&MA) president without attending General Council. Voting is done by proxy. A proxy voter for president is someone who will not attend Council and otherwise qualifies as an accredited delegate as described in the C&MA Bylaws, Article VI, Section 6.2.A. If you register as an accredited proxy voter you will receive detailed instructions following registration. The last day to register as an accredited proxy voter will be April 28, 2017. [Register here](#) to be an Accredited Proxy Delegate.