

ASSEMBLIES OF GOD NEWS SERVICE

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ASSEMBLIES OF GOD COUNCIL OPENS TODAY IN ORLANDO

ORLANDO—The 53rd General Council of the Assemblies of God, representing nearly 3 million members and adherents in the U.S., opens today at the Orange County Convention Center (North/South Hall). Approximately 30,000 persons are expected to attend the meetings.

Inspirational meetings for adults and youth, with simultaneous programs for children, will begin at 7 p.m. tonight at the Convention Center. Business sessions where delegates will elect officers, hear reports of church ministries, and adopt resolutions begin Wednesday, August 5 at 9 a.m. and continue through Friday, August 7.

Dr. George O. Wood, general superintendent (chief executive) for the church since 2007, will be the keynote speaker for tonight's evening rally. Other speakers throughout the week are Jay Mooney, Assemblies of God national youth director (Wednesday youth rally); Herbert L. Cooper, Jr., pastor of People's Church in Oklahoma City (Thursday); and Dick Brogden, Assemblies of God missionary (Friday).

A combined prayer/communion service is scheduled for Thursday morning beginning at 9 a.m. Ministers who have died during the past biennium also will be honored in that service.

Hundreds of exhibits highlighting resources for churches and congregations will be open throughout the week at the Convention Center. Luncheons will focus on various ministries of the church and evening receptions are scheduled after the services for alumni of the church's 19 colleges and seminary.