

FLORIDA GENERAL BAPTIST CONGRESS OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Palm Beach County Convention Center

650 Okeechobee Blvd.
West Palm Beach, FL 33401

2026 CURRICULUM AND FACULTY

Monday through Thursday - July 27 to July 30, 2026

Dr. Carl Johnson, Convention President
Dr. Venita Timpson, State Director
Rev. Toby T. Philpart, Congress President
Dr. Brett Snowden, Congress Dean

Theme

"The Challenge to Change: Serving the Present Age with an Unchanging Gospel"

Scriptural Reference: 1 Chronicles 12:32, Romans 12:1-3, 2 Corinthians 10:12-18

MORNING CLASSES

8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

CERTIFIED CHRISTIAN EDUCATORS PROGRAM – MONDAY-THURSDAY

PHASE I

Course Number and Title: 1007 – Survey of the Old Testament

Course Instructor Rev. Benjamin H. Parrott, Sr.

Course Description: This course will survey the Old Testament. This survey will include a general overview of the divisions, time periods, places, events, people, and archaeology of the Old Testament.

Location: 1C

Capacity: 48

PHASE II - ELECTIVE

Course Number and Title: CCE-1 - Leading Through the Storm: Faithful
Leadership in Times of Crisis (NEW)

Course Instructor Dr. Robert Spooner

Course Description: In seasons of uncertainty and upheaval, strong, Spirit-led leadership is more vital than ever. This session equips church and ministry leaders with biblical principles and practical tools to navigate crisis with wisdom, resilience, and grace.

Participants will explore strategies for making difficult decisions, maintaining organizational stability, and addressing the spiritual, emotional, and practical needs of their communities. Through real-world insights and scriptural grounding, leaders will learn to communicate with clarity, inspire hope, and remain steadfast and visionary—even in the most turbulent times.

Location: 1D

Capacity: 67

TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY

Course Number and Title: FG26-1 – The Priority of Discipleship

Course Instructor

Rev. Jeremiah Robinson

Course Description: The primary purpose of the Church is discipleship. While our mechanics, methodology, and even the medium of delivery may change, the mission and mandate of the Church have not. Discipleship is the church's essential, central mission and evidence of our commitment to fulfilling the Great Commission. You grow your church by growing the people; you grow the people by increasing their commitment to discipleship.

Location: 1E

Capacity: 67

Course Number and Title: FG26-2 - Jump Starting Evangelism

Course Instructor

Rev. Quovadis Thomas

Course Description: In an era when many pastors and churches ignore declining baptism rates and shrinking church rolls, this workshop is designed to facilitate dialogue and offer practical strategies for building a culture of evangelism.

Location: 2A

Capacity: 71

Course Number and Title: FG26-3 – Prophetic Clarity in Polarized Times

(NEW)

Course Instructor

Dr. Zachary Royal

Course Description: This course explores how Black churches can sustain a bold and faithful prophetic witness amid today's politically charged climate. Grounded in the legacy of Black prophetic preaching, the speaker will present theological and practical frameworks for engaging with issues of justice without being co-opted by partisan agendas. Participants will examine strategies for addressing contemporary concerns with moral clarity, cultivating spiritual courage, and fostering unity in divided times.

Location: 2B

Capacity: 71

Course Number and Title: FG26-4 – From Maintenance to Mission: Empowering Small Churches for Growth and Impact (NEW)

Course Instructor **Dr. Rolous Frazier**

Course Description: This transformative class equips leaders of small churches to shift from an inward-focused mindset to a dynamic, outward-facing ministry. Through engaging dialogue, practical exercises, and shared experiences, participants will explore the hallmarks of a healthy church culture and discover strategies for fostering visionary leadership, active discipleship, and innovative outreach. The course emphasizes cultivating a growth mindset and empowering congregations to embrace their God-given potential. Attendees will leave with actionable tools to redefine their church's identity and mission—igniting a renewed passion for community engagement and global impact through the love of Christ.

Location: 2C

Capacity: 71

Course Number and Title: FG26-5 – Ethics and Impact: Navigating AI in a Human-Centered World (NEW)

Course Instructor: **Rev. Demetric Ford**

Course Description: This course offers a comprehensive exploration of the ethical, practical, and societal dimensions of artificial intelligence (AI). Participants will examine the responsibilities and challenges involved in designing and deploying AI technologies, with a focus on fairness, transparency, accountability, and human dignity. Through case studies, interactive discussions, and real-world applications, students will gain the tools to critically assess AI systems and contribute to their development in ways that promote justice, equity, and the common good.

Location: 2D

Capacity: 71

Course Number and Title: FG26- 6 - Financial Freedom: Preparing for Retirement With Confidence (NEW)

Course Instructor **Dr. Derek Williams, OH**

Course Description: This course empowers participants to take control of their financial future and build a clear path toward retirement. By using practical strategies to eliminate debt, master budgeting, and make informed investment decisions, students will gain the tools needed to reshape their financial trajectory. Whether you're just starting to plan or catching up later in life, this course offers a roadmap to long-term stability, peace of mind, and a retirement you can look forward to.

Location: 2E

Capacity: 71

YOUNG ADULT DIVISION (AGES 18-35) – RECLAIMING THE MILLENNIAL GENERATION

Course Number and Title: FG26-7 – Reaching the Next Generation: Engaging Gen Z and Alpha with Purpose (NEW)

Course Instructor Rev. Justin Monroe

Course Description: Are you finding it difficult to connect with today's youth? Generation Z and Alpha bring fresh perspectives, digital fluency, and evolving expectations that challenge traditional approaches to ministry. This course offers a deep dive into their values, behaviors, and communication styles, equipping leaders with practical strategies to build trust, foster engagement, and speak to their hearts. Participants will explore innovative methods for discipleship, digital outreach, and relational ministry—empowering churches to cultivate meaningful connections with the next generation.

Location: 2F

Capacity: 71

MM1 – Pastors and Ministers and Ministers' Wives Division - 8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

Dr. Gaston Smith, Coordinator

Dr. Jamila Jackson, Dr. D.K. Bolden, Sr., and Dr. Alphonso Jackson, Sr.

Location: 1F

Capacity: 95

CHILDREN'S DIVISION (AGES 5-11) INSTITUTE – 8:00 A.M. – 10:00 A.M.

Children's Instructors: Ms. Diane Williams, Ms. Angela Roberts

BLACK HISTORY PROJECT - TEACHING OUR HISTORY

Location: TBD

YOUTH DIVISION (AGES 12-17) INSTITUTE - 8:00 A.M. – 10:00 A.M.

Youth Facilitators: Rev. Darryl Edwards, Sister Shajuan Edwards, Minister Reginald Woods, and Rev. Trulia Thompson

BLACK HISTORY PROJECT - TEACHING OUR HISTORY

Location: TBD

AFTERNOON CLASSES

2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

CERTIFIED CHRISTIAN EDUCATORS PROGRAM – MONDAY-THURSDAY

PHASE I

Course Number and Title: 2011 – Baptist Doctrine

Course Instructor Dean Frankie Handsborough

Course Description: This course will examine with simplicity and clarity the basic teachings of the Baptist faith. Explore each doctrinal position and the basis for each doctrinal position taught in the class.

Location: 1C

Capacity: 48

PHASE III

Course Number and Title: 1079 – Survey of John

Course Instructor Dr. Gloria Thrower

Course Description: This course will focus on the fourth gospel and its uniqueness. Identify the specific features that characterize John's gospel and distinguish it from the Synoptic Gospels, with emphasis on John's writings and the ministry of Jesus Christ.

Location: 1D

Capacity: 67

PHASE IV

Course Number and Title: 6013 – Organizing the Church for Christian Education

Course Instructor Dean Annie Showers

Course Description: This course will focus on the various administrative and organizational skills needed to organize the Christian education department. Emphasis is placed on structure, leadership, and staffing needs for Christian education.

Location: 1E

Capacity: 67

PHASE IV - ELECTIVE

Course Number and Title: **CCE-2 – Teaching the Word: Innovative Strategies for Christian Educators (NEW)**

Course Instructor: **Mrs. Virginia P. Hayes, FL**

Course Description: This comprehensive course equips Bible study leaders and Sunday school teachers with cutting-edge strategies to elevate Christian education. Grounded in research-based pedagogy, participants will explore adult learning theories, master digital presentation tools, and discover creative resources that enrich biblical instruction while maintaining theological integrity. Emphasis will be placed on practical applications of educational technology, interactive teaching methods, and practical assessment techniques that promote deep spiritual growth across diverse learning styles and generational contexts.

Location: **2A**

Capacity: **71**

TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY

Course Number and Title: **FG26-8 – How to Redesign, Rebuild, and Restore Your Church's Youth and Children's Ministry- Hybrid Church is Here to Stay!**

Course Instructor **President Cecelia Pittman**

Course Description: The global pandemic has presented an excellent challenge for ministry leaders who serve and support children's and youth ministries worldwide. We have all been challenged to redesign, rebuild, and restore our ministries. This session will cover the details and logistics to help children and youth leaders understand the hybrid model (offering both online and in-person options) as part of the redesign, rebuilding, and restoration of their ministries for today and beyond.

Location: **2B**

Capacity: **71**

Course Number and Course Title: **FG26-9 – A Conversation on Mental Health and Ministry**

Course Instructor **Dr. Cheryl Coleman**

Course Description: Mental Health and Ministry can be polarizing when forced to choose between them. As leaders in the church and community, it is essential to understand how mental health and ministry intersect. In this class, participants will discuss mental health and ministry, and how one's understanding—or lack thereof—can affect themselves and the community they serve.

Location: **2C**

Capacity: **71**

Course Number and Title: FG26-10 – Kingdom Men (NEW)

Course Instructor: Rev. Kenneth Johnson

Course Description: *Kingdom Men* is a discipleship course designed to equip Baptist laymen to live as faithful, godly men under the lordship of Jesus Christ. Rooted in Scripture and shaped by a biblical understanding of the Kingdom of God, this course calls men to embrace their identity, responsibility, and mission as Christian leaders in their homes, churches, workplaces, and communities.

Location: 2D

Capacity: 71

Course Number and Title: FG26-11 – Kingdom Women (NEW)

Course Instructor: Mrs. Gloria Simmons

Course Description: *Kingdom Women* is a discipleship course designed to encourage and equip Baptist women to live faithfully under the reign of Jesus Christ. Grounded in Scripture and shaped by a biblical understanding of the Kingdom of God, this course invites women to embrace their God-given identity, calling, and influence in every season of life. The course addresses practical areas such as spiritual disciplines, relationships, stewardship, perseverance through trials, and faithful witness in the home, church, workplace, and community.

Location: 2E

Capacity: 71

YOUNG ADULT DIVISION (AGES 18-35) – RECLAIMING THE MILLENNIAL GENERATION

Course Number and Title – FG26-12 – Bridging Generations: Ministry Strategies for a Multigenerational Church (NEW)

Course Instructor: Rev. Alphonso Jackson, Jr.

Course Description: In today's diverse church landscape, fostering unity across generations is more vital than ever. This workshop equips ministry leaders with practical strategies to engage individuals under 40 who seek relevance, authenticity, and digital connection, while honoring the wisdom, experience, and spiritual depth of those over 60. Participants will explore approaches to intergenerational discipleship, inclusive worship planning, and collaborative leadership models that strengthen the entire church body. The goal: to build bridges of understanding, cultivate mutual respect, and create a thriving community where every generation feels seen, valued, and empowered.

Location: 2F

Capacity: 71

MM1 – Pastors and Ministers and Ministers' Wives Division

Dr. Gaston Smith, Coordinator

CLASS - 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Location: 1F

Capacity: 95

CHILDREN'S RALLY REHEARSAL – 2:00 P.M. – 4:00 P.M.

Location: TBD

CLASS – 2:00 P.M. – 4:00 P.M. - Location: TBD

YOUTH RALLY REHEARSAL – 2:00 P.M. – 4:00 P.M.

Location: TBD

CLASS – 2:00 P.M. – 4:00 P.M. - Location: TBD