

Eastern Regional Conference

**Service of
Ordination**



Churches of God

General Conference

**April 27, 2021
Worship – 6:30 PM
Service – 7:00 PM
Exponential Church
Harrisburg, PA**

Ordinands

Douglas Eugene Coldsmith, Jr.

James William Franklin

John Howard Gill

Christina Noel Gray

Gary Edwin Hornbaker

Brent Donald Mangus

Joseph Michael Stopyra

Robert E. White

The Order of Worship

*Worship Music (6:30)	Exponential Worship Team
*Opening Prayer	Pastor Stefanie DiFrancesco
*Call to Worship	Pastor Stefanie DiFrancesco
Scripture Reading	Pastor Rachel Neely-Pletcher 1 Peter 5:6-11
Introduction of Speaker	Pastor George Jensen
The Message	Pastor Lawrence Metzler “Living the Call”
The Presentation of the Ordinands	Pastor George Jensen
Charge to the Candidates	Pastor Donald Snyder, President

Do you believe that in seeking the office of the Christian Ministry you are influenced by a sincere love for God and your desire to promote His glory in the salvation of people?

I do believe.

Do you believe that the doctrines of the Word of God as taught by the Churches of God, General Conference are correct and true?

I do believe.

Are you willing to subscribe to these doctrines, to teach them, to defend them against every attempt to minimize their value, guarding and teaching against those things which cause division in the Church and dedicating all your powers to build the church you serve as pastor?

I am willing.

Do you promise to fully cooperate in carrying out all the rules and regulations, and to support all the agencies and enterprises of the Eastern Regional Conference and the General Conference?

I do promise.

If, for any cause, the Conference should deem it proper to recall your Certificate of Ordination, do you promise to deliver the same upon official request?

I do promise.

Should you determine that you can no longer publicly affirm the doctrines of the Churches of God, or fully adhere to the authority of the Churches of God, will you voluntarily surrender your credentials and resign your pastorate?

I do promise.

The Words of Dedication by the Ordination Candidates

I promise to be zealous and faithful in maintaining the truth of the Gospel and the peace of the church against whatever persecution or opposition may arise; to be faithful and diligent in the exercise of all private and personal duties which become a Christian and a minister of the Gospel. I will endeavor to adorn the profession of the Gospel ministry with holy consecration, and to walk with exemplary piety before the flock over which God shall make me overseer; I will “study to show myself approved unto God, a workman, unashamed, rightly dividing the Word of Truth,” and to cooperate with the Eastern Regional Conference and the General Conference in carrying out the work of the church.

The Prayer of Ordination

Pastor Don Snyder

Presentation of Bibles and Certificates

**Pastor Dave Anderson
Pastor Mark Hosler**

The Words of Authority

Pastor Donald Snyder, President

By the authority vested in me, as President of the Eastern Regional Conference, and with the assistance of my fellow pastors, I hereby confer upon you, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, the authority to perform the sacred offices of the Gospel ministry, according to the teachings of the Word of God, and to administer the ordinances as taught by the Churches of God, General Conference.

May Almighty God, who has given you the will to avow all these things, also grant you the strength and the power to perform them that He may accomplish the good work that He has begun in you, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

May God fill you with the Holy Spirit for the office and work of a minister in the Churches of God now committed unto you by the authority of the Conference.

Benediction

Pastor Dave Williams

About Our Speaker

Our speaker for tonight's service is Pastor Lawrence Metzler. Pastor Lawrence serves as the Lead Pastor of Grand Point Church, a multi-campus church in the Eastern Region Conference, Churches of God. He previously served Providence Church in Lancaster County for 14 ½ years as his first ministry calling. Pastor Metzler has served on the ERC Ad Council, the CGGC Ad Council and is the current president of the Churches of God, General Conference Administrative Council. He studied at Lancaster Bible College (B.S) and Dallas Seminary (Th.M.) in preparation for pastoral ministry and has earned a Doctor of Ministry in Executive Leadership from Denver Seminary. Lawrence is married to Penny (Schock) Metzler and they have three children and eleven grandchildren. Close to his heart is raising the next generation of leaders to know and serve the Lord, advancing His kingdom in our rapidly changing culture.

The Ordinands

Douglas Eugene Coldsmith, Jr. Doug was raised in Shippensburg, PA. Doug began his relationship with Jesus Christ in high school. During his first year at Shippensburg University, he experienced a call into ministry. He transferred the following year to Huntington College (University) in Huntington, IN where he graduated in 1998 with a Bachelor of Science in Youth Ministry. He began ministry as a youth pastor, serving in two churches and a church planting initiative. Following his last youth ministry experience, Doug followed a call for a season to lead a church plant, which eventually led to his connection to Grand Point Church (Chambersburg). He served as a volunteer leader at Grand Point in a variety of roles (Children and youth ministry volunteer, guest speaker, small groups coordinator, and elder) before joining the staff at Grand Point in 2016 as Discipleship Director. Doug lives in Chambersburg, PA with his bride, Cressa, and their two sons, Caleb and Coby.

James William Franklin. James was born in Columbus, Ohio to former missionaries Bill and Jan Franklin. He grew up in the Cleveland suburbs and rural Franklin County, PA. At the age of 14, James accepted Christ after a showing of the "Jesus" film at Upper Strasburg Bible Church. He met his future wife Shawna at Lebanon Valley College in 1996 and they were married in 2002. They have been members of Calvary Bible Church in Hanover and Plainfield First Church of God in Plainfield. They have one son, Adam, and three daughters, Emalie, Brenna, and Caroline. Together, they make their home in Newville, PA.

Before entering the ministry, James worked in various jobs including retail sales, food service, manufacturing, and even served as an Active-Duty member of the U.S. Army for just under five years. His hobbies include singing, playing music, history, watching movies, and spending time with family. His biggest spiritual influence is his father Bill who always set a great

example of faithful prayer, godly living, and a passion for studying the Bible on a daily basis.

James graduated from Chambersburg Area Senior High School in 1996. He earned a Bachelor of Arts in Music/Vocal from Lebanon Valley College in 2000 and a Master of Divinity from Winebrenner Theological Seminary in 2019. James enlisted in the U.S. Army in 2010 where he served as a Chaplain Assistant at Fort Benning, GA and Fort Drum, NY. He transitioned to the Army Reserve in 2014 where he has served as a Religious Affairs Specialist for several units in Pennsylvania and New York. James served as the Worship Leader and Director of Discipleship Ministries at Plainfield First Church of God from 2015-2020, and as the Director of CROSSFIRE Interchurch Singles Ministry from 2018-2019. In 2020, while on a 10 month deployment, James was the worship leader at the JTF Chapel in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba for 3 months after the previous leader's deployment had ended. He is currently pursuing Clinical Pastoral Education, starting an Internship with Wellspring in May and a Residency with the Veteran's Administration in the fall. He hopes to become a Chaplain either in the field of healthcare or in prison ministry.

John Howard Gill. John was raised in Upper Manhattan and the South Bronx of New York City. It was on a Friday night that he decided to walk down to Yankee Stadium where a controversial religious figure was holding a rally. He had no interest in seeing him but admission was free. Yankee Stadium had just undergone a major renovation and he wanted to see what it looked like. When he arrived at the Stadium, he found that Christians surrounded it talking to everyone who entered, handing out tracts and praying with people. He quickly left the area. Across the street was a stage set up in the middle of the track field and a band was playing live music. It was a Christian band. He sat on the bleachers a good distance away enjoying the music until a school mate named Richard Johnson walked up and sat down. Little did he know that his school mate had become a Christian and he began to witness to John. They prayed together and John asked Jesus into his life.

That began a journey that would be more than he could ever imagine. He began attending his friend's church, The Brooklyn Tabernacle. There he learned all about Jesus and even sang in the choir. After a few years he went with a friend to observe a youth meeting because he was thinking about joining the BT Youth Ministry. Hanging out with him, several of the youth started talking with him and suggested that he join, because they found it easy to open up to John. He joined and for many years was a youth leader dealing with the most troublesome inner city kids. He did street ministry and even joined a street choir.

Relocating to central PA because of a job, John attended the sister church of BT called Harrisburg Tabernacle. Once again he was part of the ministry team there singing in their choir, working with youth and teaching Bible classes.

When that church closed its doors, he began a journey looking for another congregation to plug into and found Light of Hope Community Church, (a non-denominational fellowship) because they were offering the PMA (Pennsylvania Ministry Association) program, (their version of Ministry Training). John took part because he was hungry to know more about God. After many years of ministering behind the scenes, teaching youth Bible classes and leading worship. John was asked by the senior pastor to become his associate pastor. He turned him down – twice.

When John was working for Paxton Ministries, he walked into Christ Community church to deliver a package. There he met an African minister who was in the lobby. When he saw John, he said “You’re a Pastor”. “No I’m not,” John replied. “Yes you are” he insisted. That stuck with John and when Pastor Jim asked him for the third time to become his associate he said yes. He served in that role for 10 years. When the pastor left John and his wife Gladys searched for a new church family.

Pastor Larry Hale had been a part of Light of Hope at one time, so John knew him but knew nothing about Glenvale or the Churches of God. After attending at Glenvale Church for a couple of years Larry suggested that John meet with the credentialing committee. John was approved to receive a license and he co-labored alongside Larry in the role of an associate pastor. His love of youth kicked in and through the grace of God, Glenvale launched the TUG Young Adults group (for those 18 – 30 years old). Pulling young people off the streets of Harrisburg or the green lawns of suburbia spreading the gospel, loving the most challenging and seeing the Holy Spirit transform people’s lives is the center piece of any pastoral heart.

John has traveled a long road to get to where he is today and you’ve only read a small portion of his story...to God be the glory.

Christina Noel Gray. Christina’s theological education started with the Pastoral Training Institute through Winebrenner, followed by a transfer to the Ministry Training Institute with the Eastern Region. The Lord afforded her the privilege to serve in women’s and children’s ministry, as well as participating in a church planting opportunity within the Assemblies of God. From 2016 to 2019 she served in an outreach ministry role at Mt Pleasant Church of God, as she completed pastoral training. The Lord has led Christina to serve in a pastoral position alongside God ordained, gifted leadership with House of Bread and TCC Ministries in Adams County, PA.

The Lord brought Christina and her husband Jeff together in 1992. They have been entrusted with four children, one beautiful newly-wed daughter, and 3 handsome young men. They have enjoyed the honor and adventure of home schooling their kids in rural apple country on the outskirts of Gettysburg, PA. Christina and Jeff enjoy spending time outdoors in creation and experiencing every aspect of music.

In summing up her call to ministry, Christina shares this verse- *“I, having come to you, brothers, did not come according to excellency of speech or wisdom, proclaiming to you the testimony of God. For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and Him having been crucified. And I was with you in weakness, and in fear, and in much trembling. And my message and my preaching were not in persuasive words of wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, so that your faith might not be in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God.”* 1 Corinthians 2:1-5

Gary Edwin Hornbaker. Gary loves people and has a heart for discipleship. His favorite verse is 2 Timothy 2:2, “and the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable men who will also be qualified to teach others.” The ministry of presence and encouraging others is his heart, personal philosophy, and practice. It permeates his training and equipping of others. Gary attended Lancaster Bible College and completed some MTI courses. Gary has served in full-time ministry for thirty years including nine months in Haiti and over 24 years with Joy El Ministries.

Gary and Joyce have been married 37 years. God has blessed them with four grown children and eleven grandchildren. Gary enjoys time with family, travel, missions, sports, reading, and personal growth.

Brent Donald Mangus. Brent Mangus felt a call to the ministry when he was thirteen years old, and he began pursuing that call almost immediately. At age 14 he started preaching in nursing homes and occasionally at his church. In 2006, he earned a Bachelors Degree in Bible with a focus on Pastoral Ministries. Immediately following his college graduation, Brent moved to Maine where he was a Youth Minister for nine years. In 2015, Brent enlisted in the Maine Army National Guard and began pursuing Army chaplaincy. In 2017, Brent transferred to the Pennsylvania Army National Guard and continued to pursue his M. Div. at Evangelical Seminary in Myerstown, PA. Brent became a commissioned officer and a chaplain candidate in October 2018, and he became the acting chaplain for the 1-108th Field Artillery Battalion headquartered in Carlisle, PA. He will graduate with his M. Div. from Evangelical this May.

Brent became a member of Grand Point Church in September 2017, where he became involved in the church's Celebrate Recovery ministry. In January 2020, Brent took over as the Ministry Leader of Celebrate Recovery at Grand Point where, even through the challenges of COVID, the ministry has been influential in seeing many people find freedom from their hurts, habits, and hangups.

Brent is the grateful husband to Deidra Mangus, and he is the grateful father and step-father to 5 boys (Kaden, Kolby, Chase, Weston and Josiah) and 1 girl (Kalea). Brent would like to give a special thanks to the unflinching support of his wife, his parents, Dan and Karen Mangus, and his three siblings, Brannon, Dani Brook, and Bryce. Brent would like to publicly

acknowledge the support from and ministry mentoring from Pastor Lawrence Metzler, Pastor Doug Coldsmith, and Pastor Charles Yost.

Joseph Michael Stopyra. Joseph Stopyra was born July 20, 1978 in Chambersburg PA. His parents are Andrew Stopyra and Janet Buterbaugh. Because his father was in the Army he moved a lot. He graduated from Shippensburg Area High School in 1997. Joseph came to God at Roxbury Holiness Camp in the summer of 8th grade and felt the call for full time service to God. After high school he ran from church and God. Joseph met his wife Amy in 2004. They started attending Chambersburg First Church of God and got married on April 5, 2005. During a men's group meeting, the leader asked Joseph "if he was done running yet". Shortly after that he was laid off from his job. He enrolled in the Pastoral Training Institute of Winebrenner Theological Seminary. He received his diploma in 2015.

Joseph and Amy have three children, Ivy Cook, Joseph Jr. and Joy. Sometimes their family includes other children as Joseph and Amy are foster parents. They have one grandson, Liam. He served as a bi-vocational Pastor of Blue Mountain Church of God, beginning in 2015. He works at Chambersburg waste paper driving roll off trucks.

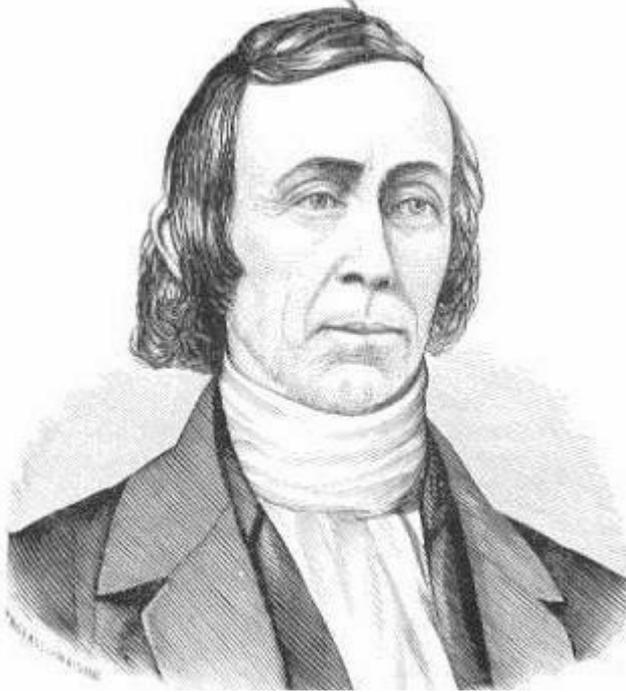
Robert E. White. Bob White was born May 17th, 1969 and grew up attending the Lutheran Church with his family. Bob married April Weiman June 26, 1999 at the Fairmount Community Church in NY where they served in Children's Ministry and Bob chairing the Facilities Board.

Bob has been in the hotel business for nearly 30 years. While attending the Vineyard church in Auburn, NY, in 2010 Bob sensed his call to ministry and subsequently completed a pastoral internship there.

Bob holds an Associates in Computer Science, a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration with a Minor in Finance, a Certificate of Biblical Leadership from the Vineyard Institute, and several Hotel Leadership certificates. Bob recently became a certified Younique coach. Bob and April are Financial Peace Coordinators where they have found a passion for helping people learn God's ways of handling money since 2011.

Bob lives in Mechanicsburg with his wife April and daughter Grace. Bob currently serves as Pastor of Congregational Development at Turning Point Church in Mechanicsburg where he and his family have attended since 2013. Bob enjoys teaching and preaching and has a real passion for serving and helping others connect and take next steps in their faith journey. Bob is also employed as a Regional Manager for Hospitality Asset Management Company.

When Bob is not working managing hotels or at Turning Point Church you can often find him in upstate NY at his Mom's camp fishing and kayaking and spending time with his family.



**John Winebrenner
1797-1860**

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