

FLORIDA GENERAL BAPTIST CONVENTION, INC.
CONGRESS OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION
FORTY-NINTH ANNUAL SESSION

CONGRESS 2026
PROGRAM GUIDE



UNSHAKEN
Standing on the Rock in Shifting Times

Psalm 46:1–3 • Psalm 62:2–8 • Luke 6:46–49 • Matthew 16:18–19 • 2 Corinthians 1:7

JULY 26–30, 2026

Hilton West Palm Beach • Palm Beach County Convention Center
West Palm Beach, Florida

Supporting the vision of
Rev. Dr. Carl Johnson, Convention President



YOUR OFFICIAL COMPANION

Welcome to Congress 2026

Welcome to the Forty-Ninth Annual Session of the Florida General Baptist Convention Congress of Christian Education.

It is our joy to welcome you to West Palm Beach, Florida, for Congress 2026.

This Program Guide has been thoughtfully prepared to serve as the official companion to your Congress experience. More than a schedule of events, it is designed to help you navigate the week, celebrate our Convention's ministry, strengthen your understanding of Christian education, and fully engage in every opportunity for worship, learning, fellowship, and leadership development.

THIS YEAR'S THEME Unshaken: Standing on the Rock in Shifting Times

USE THIS GUIDE TO

- Navigate daily worship experiences, schedules, and special events.
- Engage Christian Education courses and leadership-development opportunities.
- Discover experiences for children, youth, young adults, pastors, and ministry leaders.
- Connect with community partners, fellowship opportunities, and Congress leadership.
- Capture insights and practical next steps to strengthen ministry after Congress.

CONGRESS LEADERSHIP

Convention President: Rev. Dr. Carl Johnson

Congress President: Rev. Toby T. Philpart

Congress Dean: Dr. Brett Snowden

State Director of Christian Education: Dr. Venita Timpson

EVENT SNAPSHOT July 26–30, 2026 • Hilton West Palm Beach and Palm Beach County Convention Center • West Palm Beach, Florida



PURPOSE

Congress 2026 Goal

Congress 2026 exists to support the vision of Convention President Rev. Dr. Carl Johnson by:

IMPACTING THE CLERGY

Strengthening pastors, ministers, Christian educators, and ministry leaders through biblical instruction, practical training, and spiritual encouragement.

IMPROVING THE CONVENTION

Helping churches establish stronger cultures of Christian education, discipleship, leadership development, and collaboration.

INCLUDING CHRIST IN EVERY ENDEAVOR

Ensuring that every class, every partnership, every worship experience, every ministry initiative, and every decision reflects the Lordship of Jesus Christ.

OUR PRAYER

Our prayer is that you will leave this Congress...

- More equipped than when you arrived.
- More encouraged than when you arrived.
- More connected than when you arrived.
- More committed to Christian Education than when you arrived.
- And more determined than ever to strengthen your church through the transforming power of God's Word.

OUR CONGRESS DECLARATION

WE GATHER to worship • to learn • to serve • to strengthen one another • to equip the Church • to advance the Kingdom • above all, to glorify Jesus Christ.

“Planning Today. Equipping Tomorrow. Preserving the Vision for Future Generations.”





WITH GRATITUDE

Dedication

This Program Guide is respectfully dedicated to every pastor...
every Christian educator...

Every Sunday Church School teacher... every ministry leader...every volunteer...

every servant... and every church that believes the teaching of God's Word remains
essential to the life, health, and future of the Church.

It is dedicated to the churches of the Florida General Baptist Convention whose faithful
commitment to Christian education continues to strengthen disciples, develop leaders,
transform communities, and advance the Kingdom of God.

It is further dedicated to those faithful pioneers whose vision, sacrifice, and
unwavering commitment established a foundation upon which future generations
continue to build.

May we never take for granted the privilege of teaching God's Word.

May we never lose our passion for making disciples.

May we never cease equipping the saints for the work of ministry.

And may every generation build faithfully upon the foundation laid by those who came
before them.

“One generation shall praise Your works to another and shall declare Your mighty acts.”

Psalm 145:4
TO GOD BE THE GLORY.



A CONGRESS DEDICATED TO GOD

The Congress President's Prayer

"Commit your works unto the Lord, and your thoughts shall be established."

Proverbs 16:3

Heavenly Father, with grateful hearts, we pause before You, acknowledging that this Congress belongs to You. Thank You for the privilege of serving Your Church through the ministry of Christian Education. Thank You for the pastors, churches, leaders, teachers, volunteers, students, sponsors, and partners who have answered the call to labor together for the advancement of Your Kingdom. Lord, before a single class is taught, before the first worship service begins, before the first registration is processed, and before the first word is spoken, we dedicate this Congress completely to You.

OUR PETITION May every decision honor You. May every lesson glorify You. May every partnership reflect Your love. May every conversation build unity. May every act of service demonstrate the heart of Christ. Give us wisdom beyond our experience. Vision beyond our imagination. Courage beyond our fears. Humility—beyond our accomplishments. Unity beyond our differences. And excellence in everything we do.

Strengthen every pastor who has grown weary.

Encourage every ministry leader carrying heavy responsibilities.

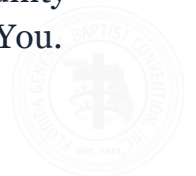
Inspire every Christian educator to teach Your Word with passion and conviction.

Ignite within every student a greater desire to know You and faithfully serve Your Church.

Bless our Convention President, Rev. Dr. Carl Johnson, as he continues to lead with vision, integrity, and unwavering faith.

Bless every Convention officer, auxiliary leader, district, church, and ministry represented throughout this Congress.

Bless our dean, faculty, instructors, worship leaders, musicians, volunteers, community partners, and every servant whose work often goes unseen but never unnoticed by You.



**PRAYER CONTINUED**

May This Congress Glorify You

Protect every traveler. Strengthen every family represented. Provide for every financial need. Grant favor with our community partners and sponsors.

Surround this Congress with Your divine protection and allow Your presence to be felt in every classroom, every meeting room, every worship service, every fellowship gathering, and every conversation throughout the week.

May lives be transformed. May churches be strengthened. May leaders be equipped.

May disciples be developed. May the lost come to know Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior.

And may the Florida General Baptist Convention leave this Congress more united, more equipped, and more committed than ever before to advancing the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

AS WE GATHER

As we gather under the theme,

“Unshaken: Standing on the Rock in Shifting Times,”

help us to stand firmly upon Christ, our sure foundation, trusting that no challenge is greater than Your power and no season is beyond Your sovereign care.

WE DECLARE We declare that this Congress will glorify You. We dedicate this Congress to You. And we ask that everything accomplished here will point people to Jesus Christ.

For Yours is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever.

In the mighty and matchless name of Jesus Christ,

Amen.

REV. TOBY T. PHILPART • CONGRESS PRESIDENT





WHAT WE BELIEVE

Our Philosophy of Christian Education

*“Study to show yourself approved unto God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed,
rightly dividing the word of truth.”*

2 Timothy 2:15

We believe that Christian Education is not simply a department of the Church.

It is the culture through which disciples are developed, leaders are equipped, churches are strengthened, and Christ is made known. Christian Education is more than teaching lessons. It is the intentional process of forming lives through the transforming power of God's Word. It is where faith is nurtured. Character is developed. Leaders are equipped.

Families are strengthened. Churches are renewed. Communities are impacted.

And disciples are sent into the world prepared to live for Jesus Christ.

In a rapidly changing culture, the Church must remain firmly anchored in biblical truth while intentionally preparing every generation to faithfully live, serve, and lead.

For this reason, the Congress of Christian Education exists to partner with pastors and churches by providing sound biblical instruction, practical ministry training, leadership development, and meaningful opportunities for spiritual growth. Our desire is not merely to conduct another Congress. Our desire is to cultivate a lasting culture of Christian Education throughout every church represented within the Florida General Baptist Convention. We believe healthy churches are built by healthy disciples.

Healthy disciples are developed through intentional Christian Education.

Therefore, we remain committed to teaching God's Word, equipping God's people, strengthening God's Church, and advancing God's Kingdom.

OUR CONVICTION

Christian Education is not merely a ministry of the Church...

It is the culture through which disciples are developed, leaders are equipped, churches are strengthened, communities are transformed, and Christ is made known.

We are convinced that healthy churches are built by healthy disciples, and healthy disciples are developed through intentional, Christ-centered Christian Education.

Therefore, we remain steadfast in our commitment to teaching God's Word, developing God's people, strengthening God's Church, and advancing God's Kingdom for generations to come.

THE FOUNDATION Healthy churches are built by healthy disciples, and healthy disciples are developed through intentional, Christ-centered Christian Education.



WHAT WE PROMISE

Our Commitment

As pastors, Christian educators, ministry leaders, volunteers, churches, and servants of Jesus Christ, we make the following commitment:

- We commit to glorify Christ in everything we do.
- We commit to faithfully teach and rightly divide the Word of God.
- We commit to strengthen pastors, ministry leaders, and Christian educators.
- We commit to cultivate a culture of Christian Education within every church.
- We commit to intentionally making disciples of every generation.
- We commit to pursue excellence with humility and integrity.
- We commit to steward every resource entrusted to us for the glory of God.
- We commit to building meaningful partnerships that strengthen our churches, our Convention, and our communities.
- We commit to encourage innovation while remaining anchored in biblical truth.
- We commit to leave the Florida General Baptist Convention stronger than we found it.
- We commit to support the vision of our Convention President by impacting the clergy, improving the Convention, and including Christ in every endeavor.

Above all, we commit ourselves to the Lordship of Jesus Christ, recognizing that apart from Him we can do nothing.

OUR CONGRESS DECLARATION

WE WILL teach God's Word. • equip God's people. • strengthen God's Church. • impact our communities. • advance the Kingdom of God.

“And we will remain Unshaken—standing on the Rock in Shifting times.”





SECTION TWO

EXPERIENCE CONGRESS 2026



WORSHIP • LEARNING • FELLOWSHIP • LEADERSHIP • SERVICE

“And they continued steadfastly in the apostles’ doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers.”

Acts 2:42

For five days, pastors, churches, Christian educators, ministry leaders, youth, young adults, and families from across the Florida General Baptist Convention will gather for one purpose:

TO WORSHIP GOD.

TO STUDY HIS WORD.

TO STRENGTHEN HIS CHURCH.

TO DEVELOP DISCIPLES.

TO ENCOURAGE ONE ANOTHER.

AND TO RETURN HOME BETTER EQUIPPED FOR KINGDOM SERVICE.

Congress 2026 has been intentionally designed to provide experiences that inspire worship, strengthen leadership, encourage fellowship, cultivate Christian Education, and prepare God's people to faithfully serve in these shifting times.

As you turn the page, we invite you to experience everything Congress 2026 has to offer.

WELCOME TO THE JOURNEY.



PLAN YOUR WEEK

Congress at a Glance

Five Days • One Purpose • One Unforgettable Experience

SUNDAY • OPENING CELEBRATION

The Journey Begins

- Congress Registration Opens
- State Bible Bowl Competition
- Opening Celebration Worship
- Christian Comedian
- Voices of Virtue First Lady Concert

Sunday sets the tone for an unforgettable week of worship, fellowship, and celebration as we officially launch Congress 2026.

MONDAY • LEADERSHIP, LEARNING & FELLOWSHIP

Choose Your Experience

- Christian Education Courses
- Annual Golf Fellowship
- State Oratorical Competition
- Congress Activations — new for 2026
- Summer Board Meeting
- RESURGE Worship Encounter

Monday is intentionally designed to build relationships, strengthen leaders, and encourage meaningful fellowship throughout the Convention.

SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE Whether you come to worship, learn, teach, fellowship, or simply be encouraged, there is a place for you at Congress 2026.

“Experience Congress. Strengthen the Church. Stand Unshaken.”



**PLAN YOUR WEEK**

Congress at a Glance

TUESDAY • CHRISTIAN EDUCATION DAY**Equipping Leaders for Effective Ministry**

Morning Glory • Christian Education Classes • Children's & Youth Congress • Pastors' & Ministers Institute • Dean's Annual Address • Johnson/Robinson Institute • Lunch & Learn • Evening Worship

Tuesday focuses on practical ministry, biblical teaching, leadership development, and spiritual renewal.

WEDNESDAY • HERITAGE, LEADERSHIP & COMMUNITY**Celebrating Our Heritage. Strengthening Our Future.**

Morning Glory • Christian Education Classes • Arthur Jackson Jr. Memorial Hour • Black Heritage Presentation • Lunch & Learn • Community Night • Congress President's Annual Address

Wednesday celebrates our rich heritage while challenging us to lead courageously into the future.

THURSDAY • COMMISSIONING DAY**Leaving Better Than We Came**

Morning Glory • Christian Education Classes • Dr. Mack King Carter Memorial Hour • Lunch & Learn • Children's & Youth Rally • Closing Celebration • Striking of the Gavel

Thursday is a celebration of what God has done throughout the week and a commissioning to return home prepared to strengthen our churches and communities.

FEATURED THROUGHOUT THE WEEK

30+ Christian Education courses and certified educator programming
Children's Congress, Youth Congress, and special institutes
Morning Glory, daily worship, and the RESURGE Worship Encounter
Golf, Lunch & Learn, Congress Activations, and Community Night
Leadership addresses, competitions, and fellowship across the Convention

NEW FOR CONGRESS 2026 Opening Celebration • Christian comedian • Voices of Virtue concert • Congress Activations • daily Lunch & Learn • complimentary youth breakfast and lunch • expanded community partnerships





DAY ONE

Sunday • July 26, 2026

OPENING CELEBRATION*The Journey Begins.**“I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the Lord.”***Psalm 122:1****TODAY’S PURPOSE**

Today we officially gather as the Florida General Baptist Convention Congress of Christian Education to worship together, celebrate together, and prepare our hearts for a transformational week of Christian Education. Our prayer is that every attendee arrives with expectation and leaves inspired by what God is about to do throughout Congress 2026.

TODAY’S HIGHLIGHTS

- Registration Opens
- State Bible Bowl Competition
- Opening Celebration
- Christian Comedian
- Voices of Virtue First Lady Concert

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

TIME	PROGRAM	LOCATION / DETAILS
4:00 PM	Congress Registration	Main Ballroom Hallway • Oceana Ballroom Registrar: Lady Sonjia Philpart
6:15 PM	State Bible Bowl	Coral Ballroom • Level One Presiding: President Cecilia Pittman
7:15 PM	Opening Celebration	Christian comedian Brother Rod Z • Voices of Virtue First Lady Concert

FEATURED EXPERIENCE Voices of Virtue is a new Congress 2026 evening celebrating worship, encouragement, and Christian sisterhood through music and ministry.

REMINDER • Registration continues throughout the week. Visit the Registration Center for class changes, information, and assistance.





DAY TWO

Monday • July 27, 2026

LEADERSHIP • LEARNING • FELLOWSHIP*Choose Your Experience.**“As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another.”***Proverbs 27:17 (NIV)****TODAY'S PURPOSE**

Today marks the official beginning of the educational experience of Congress 2026. Through Christian Education classes, fellowship opportunities, leadership development, and innovative learning experiences, we are intentionally creating environments where pastors, ministry leaders, educators, youth, and church members can grow together.

Whether in the classroom, on the golf course, during Congress Activations, or in worship, today is designed to strengthen relationships, sharpen leadership, and prepare us for greater Kingdom service.

TODAY'S HIGHLIGHTS

Christian Education courses • Golf Fellowship • State Oratorical Competition • Congress Activations • Summer Board Meeting • RESURGE Worship Encounter

DAYTIME SCHEDULE

TIME	PROGRAM	LOCATION / DETAILS
7:00 AM	Congress Registration	Oceana Ballroom C • Level 1
8:00-10:00 AM	Christian Education Courses	Palm Beach County Convention Center
8:00 AM	Annual Golf Fellowship	Palm Beach National Golf Club 7500 St. Andrews Road Liaison: Dr. Steven Caldwell
10:00-Noon	State Oratorical Competition	Oceana Ballroom A & B Coordinator: Brother Jacques Durand, Jr.
10:15-11:45 AM	Congress Activations	Choose an interactive experience for refreshment, encouragement, and growth.
2:00-4:00 PM	Christian Education Courses	Palm Beach County Convention Center

NEW FOR 2026 Congress Activations invite every generation to choose a hands-on experience designed to refresh, challenge, and inspire.



**MONDAY CONTINUED**

Choose Your Experience

PRAISE & PILATES • FOR WOMEN

A spirit-filled morning of movement, wellness, and worship designed to refresh body and soul.

ESSENCE OF YOU • FOR WOMEN

Create a custom fragrance while celebrating the uniqueness of God's design for your life.

ROOTED IN ROYALTY • FOR EVERYONE

Celebrate faith, culture, and heritage by creating meaningful African-inspired jewelry.

GROW & FLOURISH • FOR EVERYONE

Experience the peace of horticultural therapy through floral design and creative expression.

IRON SHARPENS IRON • FOR MEN

Fitness, fellowship, accountability, and encouragement for men seeking spiritual and physical strength.

THE MEN'S DEN • FOR MEN

Dominoes, cards, chess, checkers, conversation, and brotherhood—open throughout the day.

LEADERSHIP & EVENING SCHEDULE

TIME	PROGRAM	LOCATION / DETAILS
3:00 PM	FGBCI Summer Board Meeting	Oceana Ballroom C & D
7:00 PM	RESURGE Worship Encounter	Oceana Ballroom A & B RESURGE Choir • Presider: Congress Vice President • Coordinator: Minister Reginald Woods

FEATURED EXPERIENCE Monday lets every attendee customize the Congress experience—classroom, golf course, activation, fellowship, or worship—while building relationships and strengthening leadership.

REGISTRATION CENTER • Class changes • Course information • Event registration • Volunteer opportunities • Congress information





DAY THREE

Tuesday • July 28, 2026

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION DAY*Equipping Leaders for Effective Ministry.*

“Study to show yourself approved unto God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.”

2 Timothy 2:15**TODAY’S PURPOSE**

Christian Education is the heartbeat of the Church.

Today is dedicated to equipping pastors, Christian educators, ministry leaders, teachers, and disciples through sound biblical instruction, transformational worship, and practical ministry training. Every class, every workshop, every address, and every worship experience has been prayerfully designed to strengthen churches by strengthening those who lead and serve them. Our prayer is that every participant leaves better equipped to teach God's Word, disciple believers, and advance the Kingdom of Jesus Christ.

TODAY’S HIGHLIGHTS

Morning Glory • Christian Education Classes • Children's & Youth Congress • Pastors' & Ministers Institute • Dean's Annual Address • Johnson/Robinson Institute • Lunch & Learn • Evening Worship

MORNING SCHEDULE

TIME	PROGRAM	LOCATION / DETAILS
7:00 AM	Congress Registration	Cypress A • Level 1
7:00-7:50 AM	Youth Breakfast Stations	Complimentary breakfast for Congress Youth Messengers
7:30 AM	Finance Office Opens	Cypress B • Level 1 Director: Dr. Quinten Woods
7:45-9:45 AM	Christian Education Courses	Palm Beach County Convention Center
Morning	Special Institutes	Johnson/Robinson Institute • Pastors' & Ministers Division • Children's & Youth Congress
9:55 AM	Morning Glory	Worship and spiritual preparation
10:10 AM	Worship Perspective	Reflection before the Dean's Hour

**TUESDAY CONTINUED**

The Dean's Hour

Dean's Eighth Annual Address • 10:15 AM

Join pastors, educators, faculty, students, and ministry leaders as we gather for the Dean's Annual Address—a celebration of Christian Education, scholarship, leadership, and vision for the future.

FEATURED PROGRAM

Processional: Dean's Staff, Faculty, District Deans, and COPP Graduates

Special greetings from Congress leadership and partner institutions

Dean's Love Offering

Dean's Annual Address

Recognition of COPP Graduates

Invitation to Christian Discipleship

Closing remarks

AFTERNOON & EVENING

TIME	PROGRAM	LOCATION / DETAILS
Lunch	Lunch & Learn	Coral Ballroom A & B Housing Trust Group • Mr. Brian Finney
Lunch	Complimentary Youth Lunch	New Bethel Missionary Baptist Church 911 9th Street, West Palm Beach
1:50–4:10 PM	Afternoon Classes	Practical ministry instruction across multiple disciplines
6:30 PM	Johnson/Robinson Institute Annual Address	Director: Rev. Dr. Gaston Smith
8:00 PM	Evening Worship	Johnson/Robinson Institute • Pastors' & Ministers Division • Children's & Youth Congress

FEATURED EXPERIENCE The Dean's Annual Address is the academic and spiritual centerpiece of Congress—a celebration of Christian Education, excellence, scholarship, leadership, and vision.

**REMINDER • Come ready to learn. Come ready to grow.
Come ready to be transformed.**





DAY FOUR

Wednesday • July 29, 2026

HERITAGE • LEADERSHIP • COMMUNITY*Celebrating Our Heritage. Strengthening Our Future.*

“One generation shall praise Your works to another and shall declare Your mighty acts.”

Psalm 145:4

TODAY’S PURPOSE

Today we celebrate the rich heritage of those who paved the way while embracing the responsibility of preparing the next generation of Christian leaders.

Throughout the day we will honor faithful servants, celebrate the legacy of Christian Education, strengthen relationships with our community partners, and hear the vision that will continue to move the Florida General Baptist Convention forward.

This is a day of gratitude, inspiration, leadership, and renewed commitment to God's work.

TODAY’S HIGHLIGHTS

Morning Glory • Christian Education Classes • Arthur Jackson Jr. Memorial Hour • Black Heritage Presentation • Lunch & Learn • Community Night • President’s Annual Address

MORNING SCHEDULE

TIME	PROGRAM	LOCATION / DETAILS
7:00–7:50 AM	Youth Breakfast Stations	Complimentary breakfast for Congress Youth Messengers
7:45–9:45 AM	Christian Education Courses	Palm Beach County Convention Center
9:00 AM	Congress Registration Opens	Cypress A • Level 1
9:00 AM	Finance Office Opens	Cypress B • Level 1 Director: Dr. Quinten Woods
Morning	Special Institutes	Johnson/Robinson Institute • Pastors’ & Ministers Division • Children’s & Youth Congress
9:55 AM	Morning Glory	Worship and spiritual preparation
10:10 AM	Arthur Jackson Jr. Memorial Hour	A time of remembrance and worshipful reflection



WEDNESDAY CONTINUED

Heritage, Vision & Community

CONGRESS THEME PRESENTATION

“Unshaken: Standing on the Rock in Shifting Times”

Presenter: Dr. Thomas Jackson, Assistant Pastor, New Mt. Olive Baptist Church, Fort Lauderdale, Florida

Psalm 46:1–3 • Psalm 62:2–8 • Matthew 7:24–27

PROGRAM SCHEDULE

TIME	PROGRAM	LOCATION / DETAILS
Late Morning	Black Heritage Presentation	Presented by Rev. Darryl Edwards
Lunch	Lunch & Learn Series	Coral Ballroom A & B Ensure Financial • Brother Glenn Jones
Lunch	Complimentary Youth Lunch	New Bethel Missionary Baptist Church 911 9th Street, West Palm Beach
1:50–4:10 PM	Afternoon Classes	Christian Education, workshops, and practical ministry training
Evening	Community Night	The Congress President’s Annual Address

COMMUNITY NIGHT HIGHLIGHTS

Community recognition and special greetings

President’s Love Offering

Congress President’s Third Annual Address

Invitation to Christian Discipleship and adoption of the President’s Address

Special recognition and closing worship

FEATURED EXPERIENCE Community Night celebrates the relationships, partnerships, and shared commitment that strengthen our churches, impact our communities, and advance the Kingdom of God.

REMINDER • Honor the legacy of faithful servants by preparing those who will serve after us.





DAY FIVE

Thursday • July 30, 2026

COMMISSIONING DAY*Leaving Better Than We Came.*

“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations... teaching them to observe everything I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always.”

Matthew 28:19–20

TODAY’S PURPOSE

Every Congress must eventually end.

But the mission of Jesus Christ never ends. Today we celebrate what God has accomplished throughout the week while commissioning pastors, Christian educators, ministry leaders, churches, and disciples to return home prepared to strengthen their congregations and faithfully advance the Kingdom of God. Congress concludes...

COMMISSIONING TRUTH Congress concludes. The mission continues.

TODAY’S HIGHLIGHTS

Morning Glory • Christian Education Classes • Dr. Mack King Carter Memorial Hour • Lunch & Learn • Children’s & Youth Rally • Closing Celebration • Striking of the Gavel

MORNING SCHEDULE

TIME	PROGRAM	LOCATION / DETAILS
7:00–7:50 AM	Youth Breakfast Stations	Complimentary breakfast for Congress Youth Messengers
7:45–9:45 AM	Christian Education Courses	Palm Beach County Convention Center
Morning	Special Institutes	Johnson/Robinson Institute • Pastors’ & Ministers Division • Children’s & Youth
9:55 AM	Morning Glory	Final morning worship and spiritual preparation
10:10 AM	Dr. Mack King Carter Memorial Hour	Honoring a pioneer of Christian Education



THURSDAY CONTINUED

Closing Celebration

AFTERNOON & EVENING SCHEDULE

TIME	PROGRAM	LOCATION / DETAILS
Late Morning	Featured Preacher / Teacher	Dr. Kelon Dukes
Lunch	Lunch & Learn Series	Center for Health Promotion • Dr. Dwight Reynolds
Lunch	Complimentary Youth Lunch	New Bethel Missionary Baptist Church 911 9th Street, West Palm Beach
1:50–4:10 PM	Afternoon Classes	Final educational sessions of Congress 2026
7:00 PM	Children's & Youth Rally	Celebrating the faith, gifts, creativity, and leadership of the next generation
Closing	Official Closing of Congress 2026	Closing Celebration • Striking of the Gavel

OFFICIAL CLOSING

As we conclude the Forty-Ninth Annual Session of the Congress of Christian Education, we celebrate God's faithfulness throughout the week and look with great anticipation toward the future of Christian Education within the Florida General Baptist Convention.

CONGRESS IS OFFICIALLY ADJOURNED The work of Christian Education continues.

CONGRESS CHALLENGE

Before leaving Congress, prayerfully identify one practical step you will take to strengthen Christian Education within your local church during the next ninety days.

"Small, faithful actions today produce lasting Kingdom impact tomorrow."





LEARN • GROW • LEAD

Morning Courses

*Certified Christian Education and elective learning • Part One***1007**

Survey of the Old Testament

CERTIFIED CHRISTIAN EDUCATORS • PHASE I

Rev. Benjamin H. Parrott, Sr.

Monday–Thursday • 7:45–9:45 AM
Room 1C • Capacity 48**CCE-1**

NEW

Leading Through the Storm: Faithful Leadership in Times of Crisis

CERTIFIED CHRISTIAN EDUCATORS • PHASE II ELECTIVE

Dr. Robert Spooney

Monday–Thursday • 7:45–9:45 AM
Room 1D • Capacity 67**FG26-1**

The Priority of Discipleship

MORNING ELECTIVE

Rev. Jeremiah Robinson

Tuesday–Thursday • 7:45–9:45 AM
Room 1E • Capacity 67**FG26-2**

CANCELED

Jump Starting Evangelism

MORNING ELECTIVE

Dr. Carl L. Washington, Jr., NY

Tuesday–Thursday • 7:45–9:45 AM
Room 2A • Capacity 71**FG26-3**

NEW

Prophetic Clarity in Polarized Times

MORNING ELECTIVE

Dr. Zachary Royal

Tuesday–Thursday • 7:45–9:45 AM
Room 2B • Capacity 71**FG26-4**

NEW

From Maintenance to Mission: Empowering Small Churches for Growth and Impact

MORNING ELECTIVE

Dr. Rolous Frazier

Tuesday–Thursday • 7:45–9:45 AM
Room 2C • Capacity 71

Course information reflects the July 10, 2026 Curriculum and Faculty listing. This directory presents titles, faculty, rooms, and capacities only.





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Morning Courses & Institutes

Electives, young adult learning, and division institutes

FG26-5

NEW

Ethics and Impact: Navigating AI in a Human-Centered World

MORNING ELECTIVE

Rev. Demetric Ford

Tuesday–Thursday • 7:45–9:45 AM
Room 2D • Capacity 71

FG26-6

NEW

Financial Freedom: Preparing for Retirement With Confidence

MORNING ELECTIVE

Dr. Derek Williams, TN

Tuesday–Thursday • 7:45–9:45 AM
Room 2E • Capacity 71

FG26-7

NEW

Reaching the Next Generation: Engaging Gen Z and Alpha with Purpose

YOUNG ADULT DIVISION • AGES 18–35

Rev. Justin Monroe

Tuesday–Thursday • 7:45–9:45 AM
Room 2F • Capacity 71

MM1

Pastors, Ministers & Ministers' Wives Division

MORNING INSTITUTE

Dr. Gaston Smith, Coordinator • Dr. Jamila Jackson • Dr. D.K. Bolden, Sr. • Dr. Alphonso Jackson, Sr.

7:45–9:45 AM
Room 1F • Capacity 95

CHILDREN

Children's Division Institute • Ages 5–11

CHILDREN'S CONGRESS

Ms. Diane Williams • Ms. Angela Roberts

7:45–9:45 AM
Room Coral Ballroom A, B, D & E

YOUTH

Youth Division Institute • Ages 12–17

YOUTH CONGRESS

Rev. Darryl Edwards • Sister Shajuan Edwards • Minister Reginald Woods • Rev. Trulia Thompson

7:45–9:45 AM
Room Coral Ballroom A, B, D & E

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LEARN • GROW • LEAD

Afternoon Courses

*Certified Christian Education and elective learning • Part One***2011****Baptist Doctrine**

CERTIFIED CHRISTIAN EDUCATORS • PHASE I

Dr. Ricki GardnerMonday–Thursday • 1:50–4:10 PM
Room 1C • Capacity 48**1079****Survey of John**

CERTIFIED CHRISTIAN EDUCATORS • PHASE III

Dr. Gloria ThrowerMonday–Thursday • 1:50–4:10 PM
Room 1D • Capacity 67**6013****Organizing the Church for Christian Education**

CERTIFIED CHRISTIAN EDUCATORS • PHASE IV

Dean Annie ShowersMonday–Thursday • 1:50–4:10 PM
Room 1E • Capacity 67**CCE-2**

NEW

Teaching the Word: Innovative Strategies for Christian Educators

CERTIFIED CHRISTIAN EDUCATORS • PHASE IV ELECTIVE

Mrs. Virginia P. Hayes, FLMonday–Thursday • 1:50–4:10 PM
Room 2A • Capacity 71**FG26-8****How to Redesign, Rebuild, and Restore Your Church's Youth and Children's Ministry—Hybrid Church Is Here to Stay!**

AFTERNOON ELECTIVE

President Cecelia PittmanTuesday–Thursday • 1:50–4:10 PM
Room 2B • Capacity 71**FG26-9****A Conversation on Mental Health and Ministry**

AFTERNOON ELECTIVE

Dr. Cheryl ColemanTuesday–Thursday • 1:50–4:10 PM
Room 2C • Capacity 71

Course information reflects the July 10, 2026 Curriculum and Faculty listing. This directory presents titles, faculty, rooms, and capacities only.





LEARN • GROW • LEAD

Afternoon Courses & Institutes

*Electives, young adult learning, and division programming***FG26-10**

NEW

Kingdom Men

AFTERNOON ELECTIVE

Rev. Kenneth Johnson

Tuesday–Thursday • 1:50–4:10 PM
Room 2D • Capacity 71**SPECIAL**

NEW

Kingdom Women

AFTERNOON ELECTIVE

Mrs. Gloria Simmons

Tuesday–Thursday • 1:50–4:10 PM
Room 2E • Capacity 71**FG26-12**

NEW

Bridging Generations: Ministry Strategies for a Multigenerational Church

YOUNG ADULT DIVISION • AGES 18–35

Rev. Alphonso Jackson, Jr.

Tuesday–Thursday • 1:50–4:10 PM
Room 2F • Capacity 71**MM1**

Pastors, Ministers & Ministers' Wives Division Class

AFTERNOON INSTITUTE

Dr. Gaston Smith, Coordinator

1:50–4:10 PM
Room 1F • Capacity 95**CHILDREN**

Children's Rally Rehearsal & Class

CHILDREN'S CONGRESS

Class location to be announced

1:50–4:10 PM
Room Rehearsal: Coral Ballroom A, B, D & E**YOUTH**

Youth Rally Rehearsal & Class

YOUTH CONGRESS

Class location to be announced

1:50–4:10 PM
Room Rehearsal: Coral Ballroom A, B, D & E

Course information reflects the July 10, 2026 Curriculum and Faculty listing. This directory presents titles, faculty, rooms, and capacities only.





QUICK REFERENCE

Course Finder

Course number, title, room, and capacity at a glance.

MORNING • 7:45–9:45 AM

Course	Title	Room	Cap.
1007	Survey of the Old Testament	1C	48
CCE-1	Leading Through the Storm: Faithful Leadership in Times of Crisis	1D	67
FG26-1	The Priority of Discipleship	1E	67
FG26-2	Jump Starting Evangelism	Canceled	71
FG26-3	Prophetic Clarity in Polarized Times	2B	71
FG26-4	From Maintenance to Mission: Empowering Small Churches for Growth and Impact	2C	71
FG26-5	Ethics and Impact: Navigating AI in a Human-Centered World	2D	71
FG26-6	Financial Freedom: Preparing for Retirement With Confidence	2E	71
FG26-7	Reaching the Next Generation: Engaging Gen Z and Alpha with Purpose	2F	71

AFTERNOON • 1:50–4:10 PM

Course	Title	Room	Cap.
2011	Baptist Doctrine	1C	48
1079	Survey of John	1D	67
6013	Organizing the Church for Christian Education	1E	67
CCE-2	Teaching the Word: Innovative Strategies for Christian Educators	2A	71
FG26-8	How to Redesign, Rebuild, and Restore Your Church's Youth and Children's Ministry—Hybrid Church Is Here to Stay!	2B	71
FG26-9	A Conversation on Mental Health and Ministry	2C	71
FG26-10	Kingdom Men	2D	71
SPECIAL	Kingdom Women	2E	71
FG26-12	Bridging Generations: Ministry Strategies for a Multigenerational Church	2F	71

Registration Center Visit the Registration Center for class changes, course information, event registration, and assistance.

MORNING
7:45–9:45 AM

AFTERNOON
1:50–4:10 PM

VENUE
Palm Beach County Convention Center





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CAUCUS**
Chair Emerita

A Greeting from Congresswoman Lois Frankel

Dear Pastors, Delegates, Clergy, and Friends of the Florida General Baptist Convention,

On behalf of the people of Florida's 22nd Congressional District, it is my great honor to welcome you to West Palm Beach for the 49th Annual Session of the Congress of Christian Education.

We are proud that you have chosen our community to host this historic gathering. For nearly half a century, this Congress has stood as a beacon of faith in action equipping leaders, strengthening families, and carrying hope into communities across Florida and our nation. The ministry you advance does not stay within the walls of the church; it feeds the hungry, mentors the young, comforts the grieving, and calls each of us to a higher standard of service and love.

I have long admired the faith community's power to unite people across every divide, and I remain steadfast in my commitment to standing alongside our churches and faith-based organizations as partners in the work of compassion, justice, and opportunity.

As you gather in worship, fellowship, and study this week, may you find your spirits renewed, your bonds deepened, and your purpose strengthened. I wish you a truly blessed and successful convention, and I hope you experience the warmth and hospitality that makes West Palm Beach shine.

With gratitude and warm regards,

M

Lois Frankel
Member of Congress
Florida's 22nd District



EXPLORE WEST PALM BEACH

Discover the Flavors

A visitor dining guide near the Palm Beach County Convention Center.

Discover the FLAVORS of WEST PALM BEACH

A VISITOR DINING GUIDE NEAR THE PALM BEACH COUNTY CONVENTION CENTER

LOCAL FLAVOR. WARM HOSPITALITY. MEMORABLE EXPERIENCES.

SUPPORT LOCAL. TASTE THE CULTURE.

AFRICAN AMERICAN & SOUL FOOD	CARIBBEAN & ISLAND CUISINE	DOWNTOWN FAVORITES	INTERNATIONAL CUISINE	FINE DINING & SPECIAL OCCASIONS
1 OFF THE BONE BBQ Award winning BBQ with ribs, chicken, and classic Southern sides. 1510 N.潭潭路 Ave 561-454-6142 @offthebonebbq 7 min	1 VILLAGE JERK CENTER Authentic Jamaican food with jerk chicken, curry goat, soups & more. 3711 45th St 561-937-7944 @villagejerkcenter 7 min	THE CHEESECAKE FACTORY American favorites, an extensive menu & famous cheesecake. 651 Okeechobee Blvd 561-852-8838 @thecakefactory.com 3 min	1 HAVANA RESTAURANT Authentic Cuban cuisine 24 hours a day! 4881 S Dixie Hwy 561-847-6199 @havanarestaurant 12 min	1 RUTH'S CHRIS STEAK HOUSE Classic steaks & exceptional hospitality. 651 Okeechobee Blvd 561-574-2544 @ruthschris 3 min
2 GEORGIA MAE'S SOUTHERN SOUL FOOD Comfort food made from the heart. Try the famous soul food! 1024A Okeechobee Blvd 561-847-4078 @georgiamaesoul 8 min	2 SUMMER DOWNS BAR & GRILL Jamaican & soul food in a laid-back setting with great music. 517 25th St 561-243-7458 @summerdowns 6 min	2 TRUE FOOD KITCHEN Healthy, seasonal dishes with vegetarian & gluten-free options. 700 S.潭潭路 Ave, Ste 112 561-345-2105 @truefoodkitchen 6 min	2 QUEEN OF SHEBA Ethiopian cuisine in a unique & memorable dining experience. 716 N.潭潭路 Ave 561-514-0418 @queenofsheba 6 min	2 BN ROOFTOP RESTAURANT Elegant rooftop dining with beautiful views. 541 Okeechobee Blvd 561-805-2389 @bn.com 4 min
3 EAT N' CAKE CUPCAKERY & CAFE Southern favorites, hearty breakfasts & delicious homemade desserts. 622 7th St 561-255-5459 @eatncake 5 min	3 KINAM CARIBBEAN CUISINE Authentic Haitian dishes made with love. 1709 Belford Rd 561-776-8793 @kinamhaitian 8 min	3 IL BELLAGIO ITALIAN RESTAURANT Classic Italian cuisine with a beautiful patio. 700 S.潭潭路 Ave 561-459-4145 @ilbelagio 5 min	3 MESTIZO FUSION CUISINE Peruvian fusion with local flavors & fresh seafood. 201 Clematis St 561-833-3444 @mestizobeach 5 min	3 HARRY'S BAR & RESTAURANT Prime steaks, seafood & expert service. 221 Clematis St 561-833-7444 @harrysbar 5 min
4 MARIE'S WAFFLES & SEAFOOD Famous for chicken & waffles, seafood platters & Southern comfort. 1691 45th St 561-434-3270 @mariesrestaurant 7 min	4 JUCI PATTIES Jamaican patties, island drinks & more. Multiple locations 561-410-7038 @jucipatties 4 min	4 CITY CELLAR WINE BAR & GRILL Steaks, seafood & an award winning wine list in潭潭路 Square. 700 S.潭潭路 Ave 561-354-0271 @citycellar 6 min	★ LOCAL FAVORITES HAMBURGER HEAVEN No. 1 in Fla. Just great burgers, shakes & local brew. 1014 N.潭潭路 Avenue 561-833-1713 @hamburgerheaven 13 min THIS IS IT CAFE A local gem serving homestyle comfort food with a Caribbean twist. 1205 45th St, Ste 6 561-833-8913 @thisisitcafe 7 min	4 SPRUZZO Rooftop Mediterranean restaurant at The Beach. 251 N.潭潭路 Ave 561-655-4000 @spruzzobeach 6 min
5 MR. MACK'S ISLAND GRILL Famous for jerk chicken, soups & island sides. 710 S.潭潭路 Hwy 561-648-1432 @mrmacksbbq 6 min	5 ADRIENNE'S PIZZABAR Gourmet pizza, pasta & a vibrant atmosphere for all. 1101 45th St 561-833-8913 @adriennes 7 min	5 HULLABALOO Gourmet favorites, craft cocktails & live music. 517 Clematis St 561-833-1800 @hullabaloo 6 min	NEED ASSISTANCE? VisitWestPalmBeach.com 1-800-554-7256 @VisitWestPalmBeach #WpBEats	YOU ARE HERE Palm Beach County Convention Center Map showing Okeechobee Blvd, Clematis St, and the Convention Center location.

PROVIDED BY

New Bethel MB Church WPB FL
HOST CHURCH

VISITOR TIPS

- Most restaurants offer takeout & delivery.
- Reservations recommended for dinner.
- Uber/Lyft widely available.
- Parking garages located throughout downtown.

DOWNTOWN WEST PALM BEACH

PALM BEACH COUNTY CONVENTION CENTER
650 Okeechobee Blvd
West Palm Beach, FL 33401
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561-366-3000

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DINING TIP
Support local, taste the culture, and confirm current hours before traveling.

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SOUL FOOD

CARIBBEAN

DOWNTOWN

INTERNATIONAL

FINE DINING

LOCAL FAVORITES

NEAR. FAR. ALWAYS PALM BEACH.





DINE AROUND THE CITY

Restaurants at a Glance

Twenty-four nearby options organized by dining style.

African American & Soul Food

- Off Tha Bone BBQ
- Georgia Mae's Southern Soul Food
- Eat'N Cake Cupcakery & Café
- Maree's Waffles & Seafood

Caribbean & Island Cuisine

- Village Jerk Center
- Simmer Down Bar & Grill
- Kinanm Caribbean Cuisine
- Juci Patties
- Mr. Mack's Island Grill

Downtown Favorites

- The Cheesecake Factory
- True Food Kitchen
- Il Bellagio Italian Restaurant
- City Cellar Wine Bar & Grill
- Hullabaloo
- Adrienne's Pizzabar

International Cuisine

- Havana Restaurant
- Queen of Sheeba
- Mestizo Fusion Cuisine

Fine Dining & Special Occasions

- Ruth's Chris Steak House
- RH Rooftop Restaurant
- Harry's Bar & Restaurant
- Spruzzo

Local Favorites

- Hamburger Heaven
- This Is It Café





THE CONGRESS COMMISSION

Now We Are Sent

We have gathered. We have worshiped. We have learned. We have fellowshiped.
We were inspired. Now we are sent.

RETURN HOME PREPARED TO STRENGTHEN YOUR CHURCH.
ENCOURAGE YOUR PASTOR.
DEVELOP DISCIPLES.
TEACH GOD'S WORD.
SERVE WITH EXCELLENCE.
ADVANCE THE KINGDOM.

YOUR NINETY-DAY COMMITMENT Prayerfully identify one practical step you will take to strengthen Christian Education within your local church during the next ninety days.

STAND UNSHAKEN.



SESSION / EXPERIENCE

KEY INSIGHTS



FROM INSPIRATION TO IMPLEMENTATION

My 90-Day Action Plan

CONGRESS CHALLENGE Identify one practical step you will take to strengthen Christian Education within your local church during the next ninety days.

THE OPPORTUNITY I SEE

THE FIRST ACTION I WILL TAKE

THE PEOPLE I WILL INVITE

THE RESOURCES OR SUPPORT I NEED

MY TARGET DATE

HOW I WILL MEASURE PROGRESS

“Small, faithful actions today produce lasting Kingdom impact tomorrow.”





FLORIDA GENERAL BAPTIST CONVENTION, INC.

CONGRESS 2026

CONGRESS OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

"God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble."

Psalm 46:1

UNSHAKEN

Standing on the Rock in Shifting Times

JULY 26–30, 2026

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