

# THE CONGRESS

*The Official Newsletter of the National Sunday School & HYM Congress*



## IN THIS ISSUE

**HOW CHURCHES CAN  
HELP LOCAL SCHOOLS**

**KERRY J. ALLEN  
SCHOLARSHIP  
HIGHLIGHT**

**CHILDREN & YOUTH  
ACTIVITIES**

**COCHUSA CONGRESS  
UPDATES & INFO**

## COCHUSA to ATL ... well Dunwoody, GA

Look out Dunwoody, the Church of Christ (Holiness) USA is on the way.

From every direction, we are gathering as a body of faith to worship, fellowship, grow, and develop at our Annual National Convention. And just like every year, your National Congress has not held back in preparing for your arrival. During our time of prayer, we have sought to determine a way to best serve you and prepare so that the Lord might minister in each session. Regardless of age, you will have life changing experiences that promise to bless you.

Warning!!! Come rested... because we have so many wonderful opportunities planned for you that you will need all the energy you can hold. When you hit the ground on Thursday evening and attend our Annual RBW Fellowship Banquet to our Saturday evening worship service, and everything in between, the Congress Session has it for you. The entire congress team is here and ready – so come on... We are looking forward to seeing you in July 2024 in the ATL!



*President Frederick Taylor*



# 2024-25 NATIONAL CONGRESS THEME: The CALL to Courageous Living

**Theme Scripture:** Matthew 16:24

**Theme Song:**

Strong Man Bound, Hymn #191

**Bible Quiz:** I, II, and III John

More information available @ [www.cochusacongress.org](http://www.cochusacongress.org)

YOU ARE INVITED TO KICK IT FOR  
**CHILDREN'S**  
CONVENTION (6-12)

**SEEKERS IN SNEAKERS**  
DISCOVERING THE ONE TRUE GOD

Matthew 6:33 - Seek the Kingdom of God above all else, and live righteously, and he will give you everything you need. (NLT)

**SCAN ME** CASUAL ATTIRE AND YOUR FLYEST SNEAKERS

**FRI** 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM  
**19**  
**JULY**

FOR ANY QUESTIONS, CONTACT ALEXIA JENKINS  
AT [COCHUSAACONGRESS@GMAIL.COM](mailto:COCHUSAACONGRESS@GMAIL.COM)  
RSVP BY USING QR CODE

**KINGDOM KIDS KORNER**  
Ages: 3-5

Thursday, July 18th: 6pm - 10pm  
Friday, July 19th: 9am - 5pm  
Saturday, July 20th: 9am - 11am

**For additional information:**  
[COCHUSATripleK@gmail.com](mailto:COCHUSATripleK@gmail.com)

**\*\* Children Must Be Potty Trained \*\*\***

Hosted by Southeastern Diocese



## Friday's Speaker: Pastor Arlandis D. Powell

Elder Arlandis Powell lives and breathes his faith daily in what he acknowledges as a living testimony, "For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ." Shortly after giving his life to the Lord, serving the Lord, and spending time with Him, Powell felt the calling on his life to share the Gospel to a dying world.

June 2003, Powell delivered his first sermon which proved to be a testament of God's grace and plan for his life. Born and raised in Oakland, CA, he was an active member of Emmanuel Church of Christ (Hol.) USA, where he served in various positions.

Powell relocated to Mississippi in August 2005 where he attended Westley Bible College and received a double degree in Pastoral Ministry and Theology, in May 2008. While in Mississippi he became a member and served on the ministerial staff at New Lake COCHUSA, in Jackson, MS under the leadership of former pastor Elder Eddie Brown. In 2012, Elder Powell relocated to Memphis, TN where he attended Mid-American Baptist Theological Seminary. While there, the Lord called him to become pastor of Christ Temple COCHUSA. He served in that capacity for 4 ½ years.

The Lord then placed in Powell's spirit to return to his "home" in CA. He serves as the pastor of Zion Temple COCHUSA and has been there since 2017. He also holds the position as the District Chairman of the Northern District of the Western Diocese. Elder Powell is married to the love of his life, Sis. Tameka Farr-Powell. They have started this beautiful journey, on August 27, 2022.

Elder Powell has a unique teaching and preaching style that engages and challenges the listeners to make significant and lasting personal life changes. He is a gifted teacher and is a well sought-after dynamic preacher who preaches the message of salvation, deliverance, and renewal.



## Congress Music Rehearsal Schedule



### Thursday, July 18th

2PM - Praise Team Rehearsal

3PM - Congress Choir Rehearsal

10PM - Congress Choir Rehearsal

### Friday, July 19th

9PM - Congress Music Rehearsal

### Saturday, July 20th

6PM - Congress Music Rehearsal

### Children's Choir Rehearsal

Held during the COCHUSA Children's Convention and Saturday morning



# Kerry J. Allen Scholarship Recipient: Mr. John McDonald



"As I reflect on how the KJA Scholarship has influenced my journey throughout my undergraduate years, I am truly awestruck by the profound impact it has had. I can sincerely attest that without this scholarship, my collegiate experience would have been fundamentally different. The KJA Scholarship opened doors for me, enabling me to join a fraternity that paved the way for numerous experiences, including access to additional scholarships, valuable networking opportunities, job prospects, and invaluable leadership development.

The support provided by the KJA Scholarship extended far beyond academic pursuits, proving instrumental in easing financial burdens associated with daily life, from covering essential expenses like meals and unexpected car repairs to simply allowing me to savor the college experience to its fullest.

It's remarkable to contemplate that five years have passed since my college graduation, yet the enduring impact of the KJA Scholarship remains present. Post-graduation, I embarked on a new journey, enrolling in Allstate's Leadership Development Program. This rotational program was designed to cultivate versatile leaders through diverse experiences across various organizational domains. Building on this foundation, I pursued and successfully attained my Master of Business Administration from Howard University. Today, I serve as a management consultant at Accenture, where I am dedicated to empowering our clients to realize their long-term strategic objectives and aspirations.



WEDNESDAY, JULY 17TH	FRIDAY, JULY 19TH	SATURDAY, JULY 20TH
11:00 PM <b>YAM Led Prayer Room</b>	7:00AM <b>Morning Prayer Service</b>	6:30 AM <b>Zumba Class</b>
<b>THURSDAY, JULY 18TH</b>	10:45AM <b>YAM Workshops</b>	10:00PM <b>YAM Outing</b>
10:30 PM <b>COCHUSA Fashion Show</b> <i>in collaboration with KJA Scholarship Board</i>	6:00PM <b>Family Feud</b>	*The YAM Game Room will be open nightly after evening service starting Thursday-Saturday.
	7:00PM <b>YAM Evening Service</b>	
	12:00AM <b>Midnight Jam Session</b>	

Stay tuned to the Congress Instagram page (@cochusacongressofficial\_) for more details!



KJA SCHOLARSHIP & YAM PRESENTS

# COCHUSA

**FIRST WIVES CLUB**  
The First Ladies of COCHUSA

**CASKET SHARP**  
The Young Adult Ministry of COCHUSA

**ANOINTED & APPOINTED**  
The Bishops, Pastors, Ministers & Deacons of COCHUSA

**GONE WITH THE WIND FABULOUS**  
The Women of COCHUSA

**BORN READY**  
The Children of COCHUSA

## HITS THE RUNWAY

IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE RBW BANQUET

**JULY 18, 2024**

Contact  
Nedra Allen-Jones: 501.731.1926  
Malika Wilson: 601.214.6008

Donations for the KJA Scholarship will be accepted during this time.



FRIDAY, JULY 19TH | 3PM

## 2024 MAUDE L. CONIC Choral Festival

**DIOCESE SELECTIONS DUE MAY 31ST**

Choral Festival Coordinator:  
Ashley Swain-Miller  
ashleycswain@hotmail.com



YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY PRESENTS

ZUMBA

## ZUMBA EXERCISE Class

Ciarra Eglin Instructor  
Spencer Castillo Co-Instructor

**SATURDAY, JULY 20, 2024 | 6:30AM**

DON'T FORGET YOUR EXERCISE CLOTHES AND SHOES!



YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY PRESENTS

# YAM WORKSHOPS

**FRIDAY, JULY 19, 2024**

Atlanta, GA



**WORKSHOP 1**  
**10:45 AM**

"Living Courageously in a Whole New World: College Conversations"

**WORKSHOP 2**  
**12:15 PM**

"Saved & Single: A Christian Dating Experiment"

# Friday Convention Workshop Guide

## Workshop #1: Make it Make Sense: Communicating to a Generation that didn't Grow Up with David and Goliath

In this session you will gain the necessary tools for teaching the word of GOD in a simplistic and applicable way to Youth, Young Adults, and the Unchurched.

## Workshop #2: Married to the Community: Developing impactful relationships beyond the 4 walls of the church

In this session you will hear practical lessons and examples from a church who has been able to increase their impact by investing into their community.

## Workshop #3: Revive us Again: Reenergizing Leaders and Excitement within Your Church and Ministries

In this session you will learn how to prevent ministry from becoming a burden and reinitiating the fire within your leaders and volunteers.

## Workshop #4: Courageous Conversations: Sharing your convictions without turning people away from Jesus

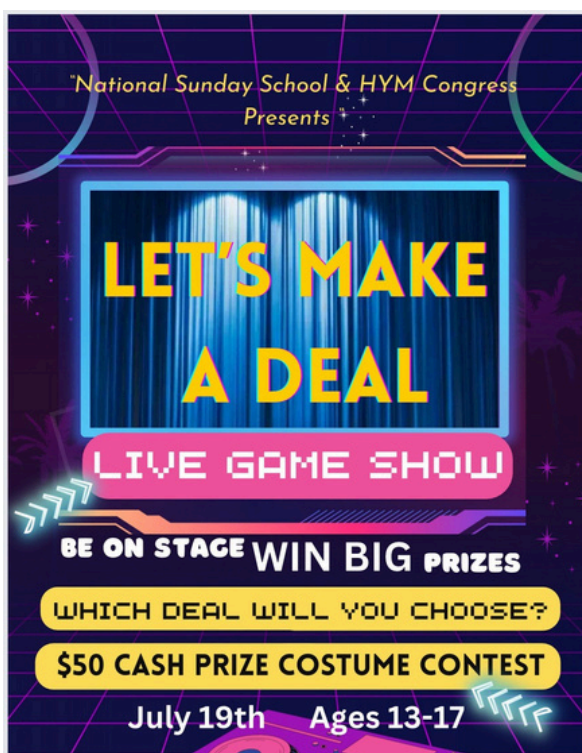
We are all inundated with news and information and because of this, it is harder for the church to avoid certain hot button topics. In this session you will discover tools on how to compassionately address topics such as gender, politics, and sexuality without comprising the message of the gospel.

## Workshop #5: The Good, The Bad, The Blessing: Taking advantage of A.I. and technology

This workshop is designed to introduce you and help you better understand certain apps other technological tools that can be beneficial to your church

**COCHUSA Health Fair** - sponsored by the M.R. Conic Foundation

Come learn and be empowered!





# The SCHOOL Needs the CHURCH!

by Amy Henley



Amy Henley is the Assistant Principal at KIPP Morial Primary

A great principal cannot lead a successful school without a key ingredient - quality teachers. Results from Educators for Excellence Voices from the Classroom 2023 Survey found four major things that teachers want. They want leaders to examine factors for retention and recruitment, increased salaries, provide better benefits, and more respect for their profession from society.

As a school leader, raising the teacher's salary and providing better benefits was outside of my locus of control. What I could control was how I valued them and respected them as educators and people. One way I did that was through our master schedule; giving them a longer lunch and planning period. I also fed them on days when they had to stay past contractual hours for school events. These small gestures meant something to them. With COVID money drying up, school leaders may not have additional funds in their budget to show appreciation for their teachers in the same way.

## This provides a wonderful opportunity for local churches to step in!

Each month your church could provide monthly treats as a thank you. Treats can be as simple as donuts and orange juice or fun and fancy like an ice cream bar to welcome them back or a hot chocolate bar when winter arrives. Your church could also sponsor a catered lunch or dinner for holidays. If supporting the school is too much, consider adopting a first year teacher or a teacher who is new to your city. Additionally, you can ease their pockets by supporting the children. Churches can adopt families for the holidays or provide uniforms and school supplies to families in need.

If your church does not have the funds to support, you can always give the gift of time. If the school allows visitors, volunteer for lunch or recess duty. Make copies for a teacher or replace bulletin boards. Come in weekly for story time and give the teacher a 15-20 minute break on a Friday!

Most importantly, pray for them without ceasing! Educators are passionate and invested, but as we commonly say among each other, "Baby, we tired!"

If you need a curated list of treats from August - May, speak to anyone on your local school leadership team or feel free to reach out to me for ideas!

NATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL  
& HYM CONGRESS

Operation  
**GIVEBACK**

MAKING AN IMPACT IN ATLANTA, GEORGIA

Thursday **JULY 18TH** 8:00AM

Must be 13+ to participate | Scan QR code to RSVP by July 1st



# First Church Cares: Houston, TX

by Mary Hooker

First COCHUSA-Houston, under the leadership of Elder Rodney E. Magee prayed for opportunities to serve our church community; not just an annual event where we conducted our 'churchly duties' for the community; but for services we could provide that would make a genuine and lasting difference.

In 2018, we began an alliance with John E. Codwell Elementary School of the Houston Independent School District; which is near First Church and has over 400 PreK - 5th grade students, 50 teachers, and staff.

First Church joined the Community Council; a community partnership that works with the school; we met with Codwell's Wraparound Resource Specialist (who involves the community for the betterment of the student); and we attend the school's Shared Decision-Making Committee meetings.

In our initial meeting, the principal identified the greatest need was toiletries. That is where we started.

However, we noticed the teachers really needed uplifting. We felt if the teachers were supported, the students would be the beneficiaries. We prayed about funding and sustainability. In February 2022, we applied for and were awarded a COCHUSA Local Church Evangelism Grant. We immediately began serving the teachers at Codwell.

Each Monday, we provide a Teacher Care Cart. The Cart is placed in the teacher's lounge and contains hot breakfast sandwiches, fruit, Granola bars, popcorn, juice, water, and other snacks and a prayer card. Teacher Care Crew members are present to greet the staff and offer words of encouragement. Prayer requests are taken and prayed for prior to leaving the school; and prayed for during Sunday service.

The Crew of volunteers consists of retirees, members working full time, and college students. First Church also participates in activities throughout the school year; including Literacy Week, Open House, Fall Festival; any opportunity to interact with parents and students.

This 2023-2024 school year, we expanded our 'reach' by providing extra sets of much needed and requested uniforms.

The Teacher Care Cart is funded by generous member donations, monetary pledges of friends, the COCHUSA Evangelistic Grant and the Mustard Seed Foundation. We can truly attest to 'all that we've needed, His Hand has provided.'

We pray that our Light at Codwell will be a positive influence in the lives of the students, parents, and staff. Our prayer is to continue this service at Codwell and expand to middle and high schools in our church community. We are determined to make a difference.





COCHUSA NATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL & HYM CONGRESS PRESENTS

## MAUDE CONIC FINE ARTS & CRAFTS 2024

BRING YOUR CREATIONS

ALL ENTRIES ARE WELCOMED  
CABINETRY/ SEWING/ POTTERY/ DRAWINGS/ PHOTOGRAPHY/  
BAKING/ ETC.



ENTRIES ARE DUE AT THE FINE ARTS AND CRAFTS ROOM BY 10:00 AM FRIDAY (JULY 19TH)

ALL AGES WILL BE JUDGED

\*ON SATURDAY, JULY 20, 2024, WE WILL RECOGNIZE PARTICIPATES AND AWARDS WILL BE GIVEN\*

QUESTIONS? EMAIL [COCHUSAFINEARTS@GMAIL.COM](mailto:COCHUSAFINEARTS@GMAIL.COM)

4355 ASHFORD DUNWOODY RD, ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30346

RAINER B. WILSON FELLOWSHIP BANQUET

# 2024 GRADUATES FORM



Email your video submission to [rbwcochusa@gmail.com](mailto:rbwcochusa@gmail.com) **773-370-1724**

### VIDEO REQUIREMENTS

Record in landscape view | Do not record music in the video | Email completed video

### VIDEO MUST HAVES

Name, Diocese, Level of graduation, Institution, Local Church, Major, goals, hobbies, anticipated degree and or anything you would like us to know.

For additional information | Lisa Willis, Graduate Coordinator

## SATURDAY NIGHT OUTING!

National Sunday School & HYM Congress PRESENTS

# THE 2024 Official CONGRESS STYLE GUIDE

Friday Night: **YAM Night** | Saturday Morning: **“Rep Your Diocese”**  
 Wear All-White or Off-White | Wear your Diocese T-Shirt

Saturday Night: **Congress Official Night**  
 Wear Uninterrupted Black



**Attractions**

*Georgia Aquarium  
World of Coca-Cola  
Atlanta Botanical Garden  
Six Flags Over Georgia  
Zoo Atlanta  
College Football Hall of Fame*

**Arts**

*Alliance Theater  
Fox Theatre  
Center for Puppetry Arts*

**Parks & Trails**

*Centennial Olympic Park  
Piedmont Park  
Atlanta Beltline  
Silver Comet Trail*



**Museums**

*Martin Luther King Jr Historic Site  
Center for Civil & Human Rights  
Atlanta History Center  
High Museum of Art  
Fernbank Museum of Natural History*

**Sports & Games**

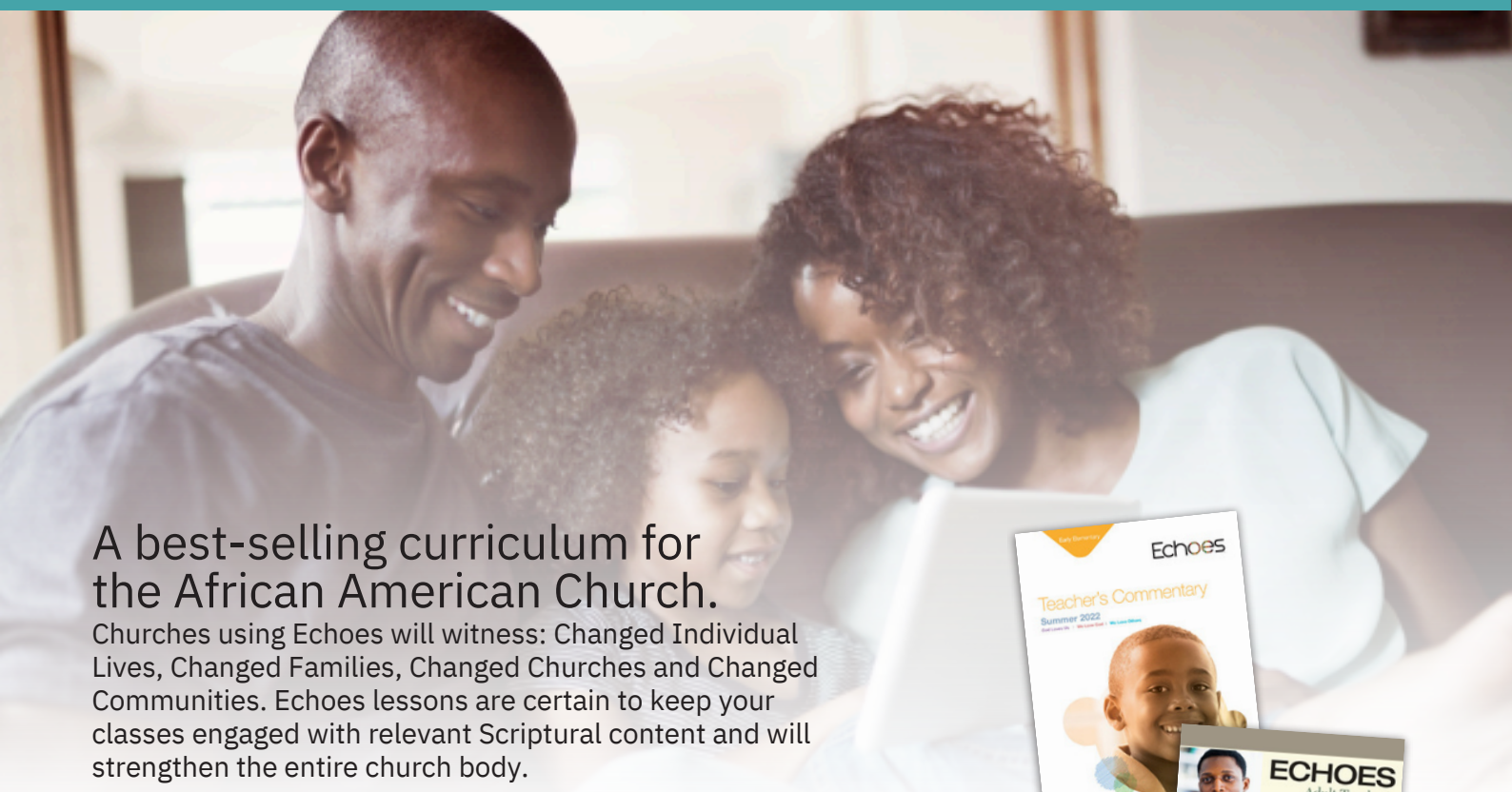
*Atlanta United FC  
Atlanta Braves  
Dave & Busters  
Main Event*

**Food & Shopping**

*Ponce City Market  
Krog Street Market  
Atlantic Station  
The Battery Atlanta  
Perimeter Mall  
Lennox Mall*



*transforming lives together*



## A best-selling curriculum for the African American Church.

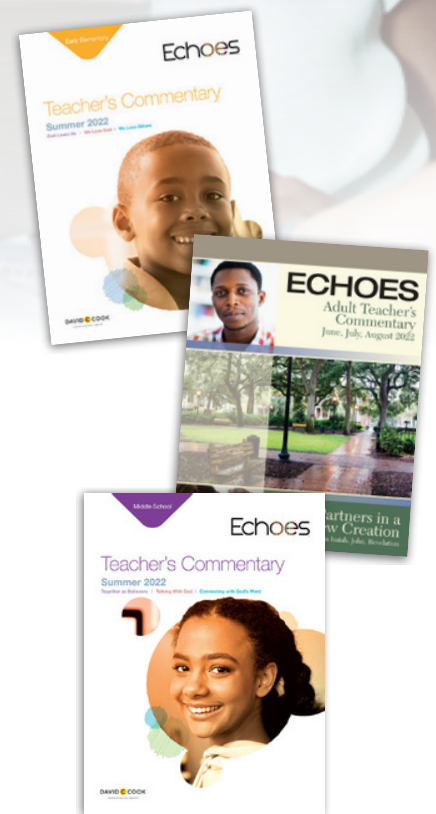
Churches using Echoes will witness: Changed Individual Lives, Changed Families, Changed Churches and Changed Communities. Echoes lessons are certain to keep your classes engaged with relevant Scriptural content and will strengthen the entire church body.

### Echoes Features:

- Bible-based lessons
- Quarterly Sunday School Superintendent's Handbook
- Free weekly resources on [RealLifeDownloaded.com](http://RealLifeDownloaded.com) to add optional relevancy to lessons
- Quarterly Highlights in Black History features
- Ministry tips, ideas, and quick references to assist teachers with lesson preparation
- All Generations (toddlers – Adult) will grow together

### Additional David C Cook Ministry Resources:

- Best-selling Commentaries, including Standard Lesson Commentaries
- Women's Ministry materials
- Pastor/Leader's Resources
- Small Group/Large Group studies
- Digital and Print resources



**Standard Lesson Commentaries, available in KJV or NIV translation.**

To learn more about Echoes, Learning Resources, and our Church Support Program, please visit [DavidCCook.org/echoes](http://DavidCCook.org/echoes) or contact your representative Sharon Gilbert at [Sharon.Gilbert@davidccook.org](mailto:Sharon.Gilbert@davidccook.org).