

GREAT LAKES CONFERENCE

OF THE EVANGELICAL COVENANT CHURCH



April 19-20, 2024

Annual Celebration

Faith Covenant Church

35415 W. 14 Mile Rd, Farmington Hills, MI

48331



Faith Covenant Church - Farmington Hills, MI

Any member of a GLC church is welcome to attend the celebration. **Only** church elected delegates may vote at the Saturday business meeting. The workshops, banquet, worship service, and the business meeting are open to all.

Paul Robinson will help lead us in worship on Friday. He is the Executive Minister of the newly formed **Serve Locally** for the ECC. From June of 2019 to October 2023, Paul served as the Executive Minister of **Love Mercy Do Justice**. His combined experience in ministry, business, nonprofit management, and leadership development spans 30 years.



Many Members, One Body

*For just as the body is one and has many members,
and all the members of the body, though many,
are one body, so it is with Christ.*

1 Cor 12:12

Digital brochure and online registration available at:
www.greatlakes.cc



Welcome from Mike Rice - Lead Pastor at Faith Covenant Church



On behalf of the Faith Covenant Church family in Farmington Hills, Michigan, I'm excited to welcome you to the GLC Annual Celebration in April of 2024. The Annual Celebration provides congregants, delegates, pastors, conference staff, and more with a chance to connect with one another, to celebrate what God has done over the last year, and to dream about what He might do in the year to come. As I've attended the GLC Celebration at other churches in the past, I've often appreciated seeing and hearing how God has been at work in places beyond the Faith community that I'm privileged to be a part of.

Faith Covenant Church is honored to be the church that will provide a context for that to take place for you this year. We are looking forward to you joining us in April for what we anticipate being a great time of fellowship, worship, and planning. I hope to see you then!

Invitation from Superintendent - Garth McGrath



It is my privilege to invite the churches of the Great Lakes Conference to send pastors and delegates to this year's Annual Celebration taking place at Faith Covenant Church in Farmington Hills, Michigan, April 19 and 20, 2024. During our time together, we will celebrate the work God did in and through our churches in 2023 and look forward to how God will be working in and through our churches in 2024. An important component of our time together will be conversations among our delegates about the mission priorities of our local churches and how those priorities can help shape the mission direction of the Conference as a whole in the years ahead. In addition, we will worship

together and be equipped for ministry. We will also hear about progress being made in church planting, missional vitality, leadership development, and outreach. We will give thanks for the lives and communities that are being touched and transformed by the power of the gospel in and through the ministry of Great Lakes Conference churches. Additionally, we will consider a budget that will fund our current mission priorities and elect wise, skilled, gifted, and spiritually mature women and men to serve on our Conference Board. Through-out the gathering, delegates will have the opportunity to connect with other lay leaders and pastors in our sister churches – to encourage them and be encouraged by them. I look forward to greeting your delegates to celebrate our partnership in God's mission field known as the Great Lakes Conference.

Many Members, One Body



WORKSHOP DESCRIPTIONS

1. It's All About the Local Church: How and Why the Evangelical Covenant Church Works the Way It Does;

Led by Donearl Johnson and Jody Eidnes

This workshop will feature a brief history of the Evangelical Covenant Church, an overview of congregational polity, and the ECC's present organizational structure from the perspective of the local church. The local church is the heart of the ECC and it is out of a gathering of local churches that the ECC originated.

2. Know Your Church's Purpose, Set Direction, Stay the Course; Led by Alan Forsman

"For want of a skillful strategy the people are lost. Victory is the fruit of long planning." Proverbs 11:14 Much has changed and is changing. Where do we go from where we are, to God's preferred future? Do we have a sense of God's preferred future? This workshop will focus on helping churches know their purpose, set direction, and stay the course. We will draw from Biblical material, Christian authors, and respected management literature. Because what got you here won't get you there, it is critical for us to pray, consult scripture, define reality, discern the future, and work together following Christ and living out His priorities in our communities.

3. Seven Systems for a Fruitful Church; Led by Alan Tumpkin and Alex Rahill II (One session w/break)

A system is an organizational habit. Each one of us utilizes systems in our daily lives in order to function well. Did you know that the church, the body of Christ, flourishes because of certain organizational habits? In our time together we will explore the necessary systems to ensure a fruitful, missional church.

4. Being A Lighthouse: Maximizing your Ministry Impact in your Community through Sharing your Facility; Led by Rob Hall

Most church buildings sit empty 70-80% of any given week. If we believe that our buildings are tools for our ministry, how do we intentionally leverage ways to increase the amount of time our buildings are active each week? In this session we will explore both the pros and cons of sharing your facility with other like-minded ministries and not-for-profits. Time will be given for participants to think specifically about what partnering with another ministry would look like in their facility.

5. The Dynamics of a Healthy Church Chair — Lead Pastor Relationship; Led by Garth McGrath

The Church Chair and Lead Pastor of the local church both play significant roles in the leadership of the local Church. When they work well together and pull in the same direction, the church is more likely to flourish than if they do not. This workshop provides insights and practical tools that lead pastors and church chairs need to work well together in order to help their church advance the mission of God in their community effectively. The workshop is intended for current lead pastors and church chairs who did not participate in the 2023 Church Chair Training Event. (Session A for pastors and session B for church chairs.)

6. How to Maintain Church Unity in an Election Year; Led by Paul Robinson and Justin Bowers

The government established on Christ's shoulders is intended to be like none other. As members and citizens of Christ's Kingdom we are called to live our lives in a way that distinguishes us as his children and disciples. The election season is fraught with increased opportunities for division, fracturing, and strife. How can we, irrespective of our political leanings, reflect a Christlike posture that fosters unity rather than disunity, honor, and respect instead of contempt? This workshop will survey the challenges before us and offer up some practical strategies to honor our unity in Christ above our temporal allegiances.

7. Emotional Health and Contemplative Spirituality: Essential Elements for Deeper Transformation in Learning to Love and Live Like Jesus; Led by Marcie Rahill

In these days of isolation, divisive politics, racial tension, family breakdown, conflict nationally, internationally, and personally, it is more imperative than ever that the church is equipping people to love like Jesus. Knowledge as a primary discipleship tool isn't producing transformed followers of Christ. There is an intensive need for deeper emotional health and contemplative spirituality. The combination of these two not only brings a rich, authentic, trans-formative personal encounter with God, but when embraced, will change the culture of our families, our churches, and hopefully the world. Join us as we explore the deep discipleship journey of emotional and spiritual health, and discover tools to equip us as leaders and equip our churches to be healthy communities shaped by the love of God as we encounter the challenges ahead in 2024.



To register and pay online for any portion of the GLC Annual Celebration, go to www.greatlakes.cc and click on the link for the 2024 GLC Annual Celebration.

- Fill out one form per person.
- Fill in personal information at the top.
- Choose to register as **one** of the following:

GLC Delegate Only - Voting representative chosen by church - includes workshops and GLC Annual Meeting.

Ministerial Association and GLC Delegate - Pastor chosen by church as delegate - includes MA meeting, workshops, and GLC Annual Meeting.

Ministerial Association Only - For pastors - includes Ministerial Association meeting and workshops.

GLC Participant Only - Includes workshops and attendance to the GLC Annual Meeting - does not include delegate packet or voting rights.

Virtual/Online Option - The workshops are not available to be viewed online. Registering for the MA meeting and/or as a GLC delegate, **only** registers you for the meeting(s) and the worship service.

Anyone can join the worship service Friday evening and/or purchase a ticket to the Friday evening banquet.

- Determine whether you are an “early bird” registrant.
(Early bird - Register before March 22nd)
- Choose the workshops you will attend for each session.
- Choose meals - meal sign-up deadline is Monday, April 10th.
- Add up the registration fees and the cost of any meals and place total at the bottom of the page.
- Enclose registration form and payment to:

Great Lakes Conference
21840 W. Nine Mile Rd.
Southfield, MI 48075
248-595-8098

Or you may pay on our website - www.greatlakes.cc
Prices are slightly higher online to cover credit card fees.

Please fill out one form per person

Name			Cell Phone #
Street			Email
City	State	Zip	Church's name and city

Registering as:

	Online/Virtual Before 03/22	Online/Virtual After 03/22	In Person Before 03/22	In Person After 03/22
GLC Delegate Only	<input type="checkbox"/> \$60	<input type="checkbox"/> \$75	<input type="checkbox"/> \$70	<input type="checkbox"/> \$90
Ministerial Meeting & GLC Delegate	<input type="checkbox"/> \$75	<input type="checkbox"/> \$95	<input type="checkbox"/> \$85	<input type="checkbox"/> \$115
Ministerial Meeting Only	<input type="checkbox"/> \$20	<input type="checkbox"/> \$30	<input type="checkbox"/> \$30	<input type="checkbox"/> \$50
GLC Participant Only- Includes Workshops	Not Offered Virtually		<input type="checkbox"/> \$15	<input type="checkbox"/> \$20

Workshops Friday, April 19th

Registration Fee Total

Meals (order by 04/10)

Not Attending Workshops

Pick One Workshop from Each Session

Session A 1:30-3:00 Session B 3:15-4:45

- | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 1. It's All About the Local Church |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 2. Know Your Church's Purpose, Set Direction, Stay the Course |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 3. Seven Systems for a Fruitful Church (one class w/break) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 4. Being A Lighthouse |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 5. Pastor/Leader Relationships |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 6. How to Maintain Church Unity in an Election Year |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 7. Emotionally Healthy Spirituality |

- No Meals
- Friday Lunch \$6.00
- Friday Banquet \$15.00
- Saturday Lunch \$9.50

Meal Total

- Gluten Free Vegan
- Vegetarian
- Food Allergies? _____

Registration Fee and Meal Total

Make checks payable to Great Lakes Conference or you may pay online www.greatlakes.cc



FRIDAY SCHEDULE

9:00am - 12pm	Ministerial Association Annual Meeting
12:15pm - 1:15pm	Lunch
1:30pm - 3:00pm	Workshops- Session A
3:15pm - 4:45pm	Workshops- Session B
5:00pm - 6:15pm	Dinner
6:30pm - 7:45pm	Ministry Planning Cycle
8:00pm - 9:15pm	Worship Service

SATURDAY SCHEDULE

7:15am - 8:15am	Church Chair Breakfast
8:30am - 12:30pm	GLC Annual Meeting
End of meeting	Boxed Lunch To Go

HOW MANY DELEGATES SHOULD YOUR CHURCH SEND?

Member congregations shall be entitled to representation as follows: congregations up to 100 members, two delegates; congregations with 101 to 200 members, three delegates; congregations with 201 to 300 members, four delegates; congregations with 301 or more members, five delegates.

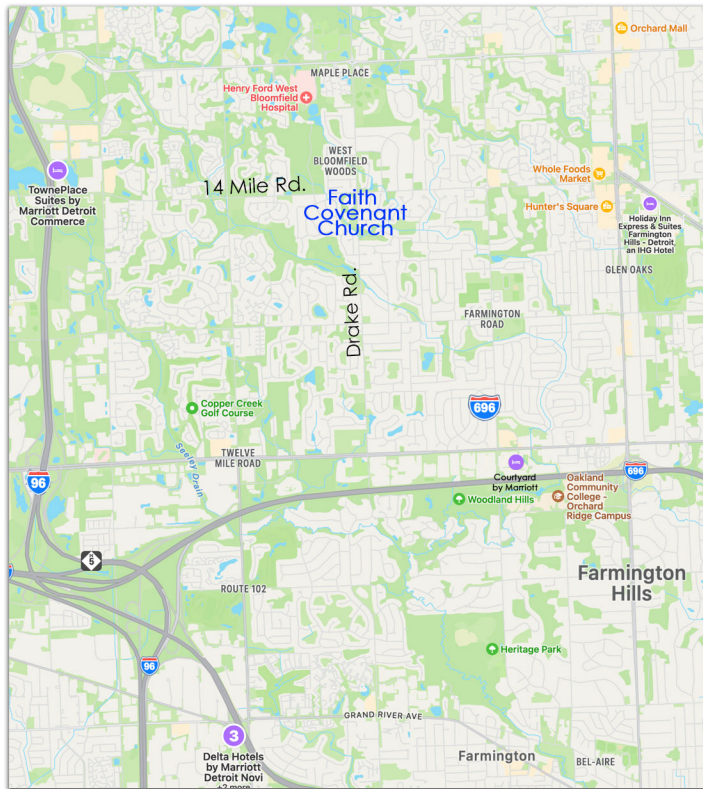


PLACES TO STAY:

Faith Covenant Church has secured a block of rooms at these nearby hotels. When calling to book, please let them know you are with the Faith Covenant Church group. These rates are good from 04/17-04/20. If you would prefer to book online, please go to our website -

www.greatlakes.cc

and you will find the appropriate links there.



HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS & SUITES

32769 Northwestern Highway,
Farmington Hills, MI 48334
248-538-9100.
\$129/night

TOWNE PLACE SUITES

199 Loop Rd.
Commerce, MI 48390
248-669-3200
\$129/night

DELTA HOTELS

37529 Grand River Ave.
Farmington Hills, MI 48335
248-653-6060
\$129/night

COURTYARD BY MARRIOTT

33043 Hamilton Court
Farmington Hills, MI 48334
248-516-1400
\$134/night

The celebration will be held at

Faith Covenant Church

35415 W. 14 Mile Rd.

Farmington Hills, MI 48331

248-661-9191

office@4fcc.org

www.4fcc.org





Many Members, One Body

All GLC church attenders are invited to the GLC Annual Celebration. While only church elected delegates may vote at the Saturday business meeting; the workshops, banquet, the worship service and the business meeting are open to all. Please share this brochure with your staff and lay leaders.

Mail in registration
or register online at
www.greatlakes.cc



www.greatlakes.cc



info@greatlakes.cc



fb.com/greatlakesecc



[@greatlakesECC](https://twitter.com/greatlakesECC)

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