

IPHC 30th General Conference

The International Pentecostal Holiness Church General Conference was held at the Mobile Convention Center, Mobile, Alabama, on July 15-17. Over 1200 voting delegates from around the world gathered for the quadrennial conference.

Bishop James Talmadge Gardner was elected to the office of General Superintendent and Presiding Bishop. Gardner was born in South Africa as the son of IPhC missionaries. He is the first IPhC General Superintendent born outside the United States. A graduate of Emmanuel University and Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Gardner has served the IPhC in various roles, including Discipleship Ministries Executive Director from 2005-2012, and World Missions Ministries Executive Director from 2012 to his recent election as General Superintendent. Gardner is married to Stephanie and they have three grown children and one grandchild. They reside in the Oklahoma City area.

Elected to serve as IPhC Vice-Chair is the Dr. Terry Tramel. Tramel is an anointed preacher and writer in the IPhC. He is a graduate of Southwestern Christian University and the Assemblies of God Theological Seminary. He has taught at Southwestern Christian University and most recently served as Director of Global Outreach and Leadership Development in IPhC World Missions Ministries. Tramel and his wife Becky reside in the Oklahoma City area.

The IPhC adopted several significant changes to the general church structure. The primary changes were that the General Conference elected two General Church executives (Gardner and Tramel), rather than four. The General Superintendent will recommend appointments to two offices to the IPhC Council of Bishops. The two offices are the newly created Church Ministries, which combines Evangelism and Discipleship, and World Missions Ministries. The delegates voted to keep the three four-year terms in one office on the general church level.

The General Conference recognized and honored the service of General Superintendent Doug Beacham and his wife Susan. Beacham was General Superintendent for fourteen years (2012-2026) with two additional years due to the retirement for health reasons of Bishop Ronald Carpenter, Sr. in 2012, and an extra year in 2021 due to Covid-19 concerns when the General Conference was postponed for year to 2022. Dr. David Wells, President of Pentecostal and Charismatic Churches of North America (PCCNA), addressed the delegates on July 15th. Beacham assumes the office of President of Pentecostal and Charismatic Churches of North America in August, 2026, and Dr. Wells assumes the office of chair of PCCNA at that time.