



2025 JAMES EARL MASSEY CENTER FOR COMPELLING PREACHING

Created in January of 2024 through a \$1.25 million dollar grant from an Eli Lilly Endowment, the James Earl Massey Center for Compelling Preaching has been created to serve the Church of God (and like communes) in three specific areas:

- **Workshops to Engage:** The Center will provide leadership for conferences (single day events), workshops (two-day events), or clinics (weeklong intensives focused solely on preaching). We have revived the National Preaching Clinic that Dr. Massey led for years and will host the NPC every year in June at AU.
- **Coaching to Equip:** In the last half of 2025 we will institute 6-month preaching cohort groups with a mentor from the Center staff. These small groups will concentrate on helping local pastors and staff members to improve their preaching skills.
- **Research to Understand:** Beginning this year, we have begun to identify members of our constituent groups (and others in like communes) to do research on the state of preaching using some group (NACOG, Concilio, CWC, Pastor's Fellowship, etc.) as a research source to answer the question, *“What is the state of preaching? What are the needs? What are the strengths and weaknesses? What can be done to improve preaching with the Church of God Movement and like communes?”*



HONORING DR. JAMES EARL MASSEY

- Former dean of the Anderson University School of Theology and Christian Ministry.
- Named one of the most influential preachers of the last half of the 20th century by Christianity Today in 2006.
- On-air voice of the Church of God broadcast, “The Christian Brotherhood Hour.”
- Authored 18 books, three of which were textbooks on preaching.
- Provided editorial leadership for Christianity Today and The New Interpreter’s Bible.
- Served as senior pastor of the Metropolitan Church of God in Detroit from 1954 to 1976.
- Served as a missionary educator in Jamaica from 1964 to 1967.
- Served as the Dean of Chapel of Tuskegee University.

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