

From the Pastor

On Sunday, January 8, 2017 the Administration of the church conducted a webinar for the worldwide ministry to give the details of 2017 strategic plan, operations plan and the budget. The strategic plan contains the issues that must be addressed in the coming year. The operations plan details how those strategic issues will be addressed. And, of course, the budget details the projected income and expenses that will be anticipated during the year as those issues are addressed.

The following contains the introductory comments that Mr. Franks gave to the Ministerial Board of Directors (MBOD) before he presented the various plans and budget for their approval. The members of the MBOD had received copies of the plans and budget a couple weeks before their meeting in December so they could review the details.

“The Church of God, a Worldwide Association, was incorporated on Dec. 23, 2010, in the state of Florida. January 2017 will begin our seventh year of operation. We have been in our Allen offices since March of 2012, just over four and one-half years, and our current lease ends in May of 2017. In November of 2016 we informed our landlord that we will exercise the extension clause in our lease providing us with an additional year. Our new lease agreement now runs through May 31, 2018. This gives us an additional 12 months to establish (either purchase or build) our own office, eliminating the need for leasing thereafter.

We are leasing 8,184 square feet of space for our headquarters operation in Allen. Our monthly lease payment is \$13,000 or approximately \$150,000 a year.

2016 has been a very good year in all areas. Our financial condition is strong, our Media department is expanding, our international work is growing and Ministerial Services is developing new ministers to replace those who are retiring this next year and in the foreseeable future. During the 2016 Feast of Tabernacles we had our highest attendance since COGWA began.

As far as our finances go, at the lowest point of the year our cash balance was over \$2 million, which is equal to more than 10 weeks of income. Our bank balance on Dec. 31, 2014, was \$2.7 million. Our bank balance on Dec. 31, 2015, was \$3.1 million. We predict that our cash balance will rise to approximately \$3.5 million by the end of this year (2016). Our income has continued to increase each year at a rate of 3 percent to 5 percent. We project that this year will be in that range as well.”

In evaluating our progress the physical progress is much more easily quantified than the spiritual progress (which is much more important). The reports will deal heavily with statistics. But, what is most important is the spiritual growth and development of God’s people as we seek to become sons and daughters in whom God is well pleased. We will see more of the details of the reports in the weeks to come.

	Victoria	Corpus Christi	Harlingen
Sunset Today in:	5:51pm	5:55pm	6:00pm
Sunset Friday 1-20	5:56pm	6:00pm	6:04pm

Church of God South Texas

Victoria - Corpus Christi - Harlingen



January 14, 2017

Victoria

Sermon: Steve Moody

Corpus Christi

Split Sermon: Mark Monsivais

Split Sermon: Arnold Mendez

Harlingen

Sermonette: Orlando Mascorro

Sermon: Michael Watts

“Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. And if we know that He hears us, whatever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we have asked of Him.”

1 John 5:14-15

Announcements and Schedule

Sabbath 1/14	Regular locations and times for Corpus Christi, San Antonio, Harlingen, and Victoria.
Sabbath 1/21	Regular locations and times for Corpus Christi, San Antonio, Harlingen, and Victoria. Mr. Moody will be in Corpus Christi. Mr. Gatley will be in Victoria. Mr. Chapman will be in San Antonio. Mr. Gonzalez will give the sermon in Harlingen.

FOI Ghana Camp Project - Summer of 2017

Foundation Outreach International and the Church would like to announce an opportunity for up to four young adults to serve in mid-August in the West African country of Ghana. Ideally, we would like two young adult men and two young adult women from the Church of God, a Worldwide Association, who are interested in serving on the activity staff at our teen/youth camp in Ghana in summer of 2017. This project will be a total of 12 to 14 days in length.

We recommend you visit the FOI website (accessible from the COGWA member website). If you are seriously interested in any of these unique service projects, please pick up copies of both the fact sheet (which details requirements, dates and costs) and the ATTACHED FULL application. Note: Please submit this FULL APPLICATION (available at the information table or attached to this email). DO NOT submit the short, interest application from the website. The deadline for applying is April 7, 2017, so get your application in soon!

If you have any questions, feel free to contact Tom Clark at thomas.clark@cogwa.org, or Doug Horchak at doug.horchak@cogwa.org.

Dallas - Fort Worth 2017 Spring Holy Days Dinner and Dance

On April the 15th, the Sabbath during the Days of Unleavened Bread, the Fort Worth congregation will again be hosting a combined Sabbath Service for the Dallas and Ft Worth congregations at the beautiful Marriott Solana Hotel in Westlake Texas (near the DFW Airport).

Later that evening, we will have a full 3 course dinner served and then dance to a live band as we celebrate the Festival together. The hotel has

agreed to hold their pricing to what they did for us in 2014.

All rooms will be \$99.00 a night and include a full complementary buffet breakfast for 2 and the meals will be a choice ranging from \$34. to \$39. depending upon the entree chosen. As this is during the Feast Days, it is an appropriate use of 2nd Tithe if you so choose.

Please hold the date and add it to your calendars. Full details on reserving a room, meal selections and reservations will follow by the end of January.

2nd Annual Corpus Christi Goose Island State Park Campout

On the weekend of Friday February 24th through Sunday February 26th the Corpus Christi congregation will be hosting their 2nd annual Goose Island State Park Campout. Goose Island State Park is located about 10 miles north of Rockport, TX. We are planning on having a group meal together on Friday evening and also a Sabbath meal together. The Corpus Christ congregation will be supplying the main course and drinks for the Sabbath meal. We ask that those joining us for the meal please bring side dishes, and desserts.

Weekend activities will include a Sabbath Bible Study, campfire fellowship, and a telescope star/planet viewing party after the Sabbath ends.

Last year we had about 70 participants from 4 different church areas, this year we are hoping to host many more. This will be a great activity for hiking, biking, fishing, and fellowshiping. Please go to the Corpus Christi COGWA website where an announcement is posted and the handout and map can be downloaded and printed out.

If you have any question feel free to contact Arnold Mendez, Sr. Email: arnold.mendez@cogwa.org Cell number: 361-442-8144

Upcoming Activities: Dates to Remember

San Antonio Potluck: The next potluck is scheduled for January 14

Harlingen Bible Study & Potluck: The next Bible Study/potluck is scheduled for January 28.

Corpus Christi Bible Study & Brown bag: The next Bible Study/brown bag is scheduled for February 11.