

From the Pastor

As I reported last time the administration of Cogwa held a webinar on Sunday, January 8 for as many of the worldwide elders who were able to connect. During this webinar the various members of the administration (Messrs. Franks, Horchak and Kilough) gave a summary of the highlights of the Strategic Plan, the Operations Plans and the Budget for the coming year (2017).

Many statistics were given to show the growth that has occurred. Since Cogwa's beginning on December 23, 2010 (when there were no bank balances) the first year ended with an income of about \$8 million and a bank balance of \$1.6 million on December 31, 2011. Five years later (at the end of 2016) the income was a little over \$12 million with a bank balance of \$3,865,773 on December 31, 2016. The annual income had increased 50% though there has only been a modest increase in members (or, those listed as connected with Cogwa).

In 2011 the income had come 100% from members. In 2016 the income is now 13% from coworkers—those who are not connected with or members of Cogwa. Coworkers are those who have become involved in the Work through the LHT website. The number of unique visitors per month now averages over 900,000 per month. To understand: no matter how many times a person may log onto the site in a month, they are still counted as only one unique visitor. There are individuals that log onto the site multiple times a month—even some who log onto the site many times per day.

Mr. Franks listed three strategic issues that will be addressed this year. They are:

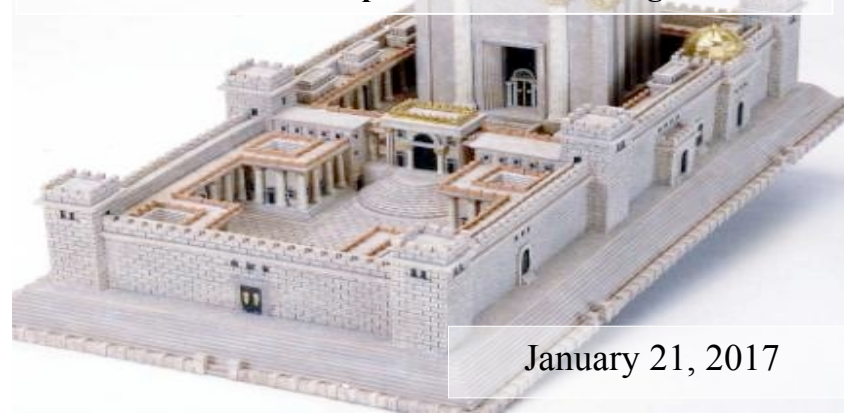
- Facility development—The Ministerial Board of Directors (MBOD) has resolved to find and purchase land for a new office facility. Once land is procured a facility will be build. The expense involved is to be kept in line with the price of leasing a facility (currently and in the future—we know the current lease price will rise after this current lease expires in the current facility).
- Leadership Development and Training—This involves the following:
 - 1 Focused Mentoring Program (FMP)
 - 2 Christian Leadership Training Program (CLTP)
 - 3 Pastoral Training
- Media Expansion—In the past year there have been 730 people who have contacted a pastor through their contact with the LHT website. We are seeking to continually improve the site and its contents.

Please continue to pray for all of these areas. We will not succeed unless we are truly committed to seeking God's will and guidance in all that we do.

	Victoria	Corpus Christi	Harlingen
Sunset Today in:	5:57pm	6:01pm	6:05pm
Sunset Friday 1-27	6:02pm	6:08pm	6:10pm

Church of God South Texas

Victoria - Corpus Christi - Harlingen



January 21, 2017

Victoria

Sermon: David Gatley

Corpus Christi

Sermonette: Arnold Mendez
Sermon: Steve Moody

Harlingen

Sermonette: DVD
Sermon: Gilbert Gonzalez

“Finally, brethren, pray for us, that the word of the Lord may have free course [literally – may run] and be glorified, just as it is with you.”

1 John 5:14-15

Announcements and Schedule

Sabbath 1/21	Regular locations and times for Corpus Christi, San Antonio, Harlingen, and Victoria.
Sabbath 1/28	Regular locations and times for Corpus Christi, San Antonio and Victoria. Mr. Moody will be in Victoria and San Antonio. Mr. Mendez will be in Corpus Christi and Harlingen.

Guest Speaker from Allen, TX

On Sabbath, February 18, 2017 Dr. Ralph Levy, an instructor for Foundation Institute in Allen, TX, will be the guest speaker in San Antonio. We look forward to his visit.

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. Again, the date is April the 15th – the Sabbath during the Days of Unleavened Bread.

Upcoming Activities: Dates to Remember

San Antonio Potluck: The next potluck is scheduled for February 11

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.

Corpus Christi Goose Island Campout: is scheduled for February 24-26. There will be no local Sabbath services, they will be held at the campout.