

From the Pastor

Mr. Franks has encouraged us all to fast before the Passover and the Spring Festival season. Fasting before the Passover is always a good practice if we approach fasting as God would want us to.

We read in Isaiah 58:3-11 what God says about fasting and what He looks for in the heart of those who fast. We should not fast to get something from God “to make your voice heard on high.” (Isaiah 58:4) Nor, should we fast to appear pious (appear righteous) before others “Is it to bow down his head like a bulrush, and to spread out sackcloth and ashes?” (Isaiah 58:5)

However, if we fast in a way that is pleasing to God, God says, “Then your light shall break forth like the morning, your healing shall spring forth speedily and your righteousness shall go before you; the glory of the Lord shall be your rear guard. Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer; you shall cry, and He will say ‘Here I am.’”

What is the key attitude that should be in our mind as we fast that will guarantee that God will hear us? When we read verses 6-7 we can glean the fundamental attitude and spirit that God wishes to see in us. The approach is to get the mind off of the self—to be concerned for others and their needs.

Please remember God has given us all free will. With this free will we can choose one of two paths to live. We can choose either the path of self—doing what is right in our own eyes. Or, we can choose the way of seeking to live to please God—living by the way that is right in God’s eyes.

When we fast what we are doing is literally denying the self—denying the urge to satisfy our own desires. Instead we are fasting for the purpose of seeking God, His help, and a better understanding of His ways—the way He wants us to be.

When we fast with a right spirit and attitude, we are showing God that the way of self is not more important to us than loving Him and seeking His ways for others and ourselves. We are showing that what is really important is building a relationship with Him. We fast because we want to draw close to Him and build the relationship with Him that He wants us to have. This is the attitude we should have when we fast—we really want to draw close to Him.

	Victoria	Corpus Christi	Harlingen
Sunset Today in:	6:20pm	6:22pm	6:25pm
Sunset Friday 2-24	6:24pm	6:26pm	6:29pm

Church of God South Texas

Victoria - Corpus Christi - Harlingen



February 18, 2017

Victoria

Sermon: Jack Hendren

Corpus Christi

Sermonette: Arnold Mendez
Sermon: Steve Moody

Harlingen

Sermonette: Watts
Sermon: Arnold Mendez

“Now the Spirit of God came upon Azariah the son of Oded. And he went out to meet Asa, and said to him: ‘Hear me, Asa, and all Judah and Benjamin. The Lord is with you while you are with Him. If you seek Him, He will be found by you; but if you forsake Him, He will forsake you.’”

2 Chronicles 15:1-2

Announcements and Schedule

Sabbath 2/18	Regular locations and times for Corpus Christi, San Antonio, Harlingen, and Victoria. San Antonio will again be meeting in the Family Life Center.
Sabbath 2/25	Regular locations and times for Victoria, Harlingen, and San Antonio. Corpus Christi services will be held at the Goose Island State Park.

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.

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.

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.

There is a handout that is available on the information desk (or from the pastor), which contains more information. Or you may go the Corpus Christi COGWA website where an announcement is posted and the handout 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

Prayer Requests and Updates

From David Treybig, pastor Austin, TX:

Ian Neal was released from the hospital this afternoon and is now completing the remainder of his recovery at home. Thanks again for your prayers for Ian.

Upcoming Activities: Dates to Remember

San Antonio Potluck: The San Antonio potluck will be this Sabbath, February 18, in conjunction with Dr. Levy's visit

Victoria Potluck and Bible Study:

We are planning to have a potluck and Bible Study (after the potluck) on March 11 in Victoria.