

From the Pastor

In Paul's first letter to the church of God at Corinth we know he speaks a great deal about the Passover and the Feast of Unleavened Bread. We believe this letter was written during or not long before the Feast of Unleavened Bread. From 1 Corinthians 5:7 (KJV) we believe that the letter was meant to be read to the Corinthians during the Feast because Paul wrote the phrase, "as you are unleavened."

We know he was not speaking about their spiritual condition for in the first part of his letter he speaks a great deal about their sins. He was speaking about their condition in their homes where they had removed the leaven.

He also uses a word which only he uses. He uses this word to refer to the Corinthians and their spiritual condition. The Greek word is phusioo. Danker's Lexicon defines this word as "to cause to have an exaggerated self-conception, puff up, make proud."

Paul is the only one to use the word and it occurs six of the seven times he uses it in 1 Corinthians. Phusioo is translated as "puffed up" in every place it is found in the writings of Paul. The only place outside of 1 Corinthians the word is found is Colossians 2:18.

Paul uses the word six times in 1 Corinthians to refer to the wrong attitude of the Corinthians. Therefore, when he said in 1 Corinthians 5:7 "as you are unleavened" he truly was not speaking of their spiritual condition.

The first four places phusioo is found are 1 Corinthians 4:6, 18, 19; and 5:2 leading up to his statement in 1 Corinthians 5:7.

The other two usages give some important instruction. 1 Corinthians 8:1 records, "Now concerning things offered to idols: We know that we all have knowledge. Knowledge puffs up, but love edifies [builds up]. Arrogance and pride seek to inflate the self (and put others down); whereas, real love seeks to praise and build up others and not the self.

This agrees with the last place Paul uses phusioo which is 1 Corinthians 13:4 "Love suffers long and is kind; love does not envy; love does not parade itself, is not puffed up."

Real love is not stuck on itself. Real love—real outgoing concern for the happiness and well-being of others—is what our Father wants to see growing in us—His future sons and daughters.

	Victoria	Corpus Christi	Harlingen
Sunset Today in:	7:54pm	7:54pm	7:54pm
Sunset Friday 4-21	7:57pm	7:57pm	7:57pm



April 15, 2017	April 17, 2017 LDULB
<u>Victoria</u>	<u>Victoria</u>
<i>Sermon:</i> Steve Moody	<i>Sermon:</i> Steve Moody
<u>Corpus Christi</u>	<u>Corpus Christi</u>
<i>Sermonette:</i> DVD <i>Sermon:</i> DVD	<u>&</u>
<u>Harlingen</u>	<u>Harlingen</u>
<i>Sermonette:</i> Orlando Mascorro <i>Sermon:</i> Michael Watts	<i>Split Sermon:</i> Michael Watts
	<i>Split Sermon:</i> Arnold Mendez

"And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing." 1 Corinthians 13:2

Announcements and Schedule

Sabbath 4/15	Regular time and locations for Victoria, Corpus Christi, Harlingen, and San Antonio. Mr. Moody will be in Victoria and San Antonio. The message in Corpus Christi will be a DVD. Mr. Watts will deliver the sermon in Harlingen.
Monday April 17 Last Day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread	Corpus Christi: Combined with Harlingen at 1:00 p.m. at the St. Paul United Church of Christ – Mr. Mendez/Watts Victoria: Regular time and location – Mr. Moody San Antonio A.M.: Regular location 10:30 a.m. – Mr. Chapman San Antonio P.M.: 2:30 p.m. – Mr. Moody
Sabbath 4/22	Regular times and locations for all three congregations. Mr. Moody will be in Corpus Christi. Mr. Hendren will be in Victoria. Mr. Treybig will be in San Antonio. There will be a DVD in Harlingen.

2017 Camp Applications

The COGWA Youth Camps team is happy to announce that on March 1 the application system opened to begin taking 2017 applications. We will once again be using the COGWA Portal system, but we encourage everyone to start the process by reading the article titled “Camp Application System” on the main page of the camp website (<http://camps.cogwa.org>). There are some specific points we would like you to be aware of before you begin your application.

We think you will find that applying via this new system is faster and simpler. As mentioned in the article, much of your information is retained for subsequent years’ applications and needs only to be reviewed (and edited if changes are needed).

For your convenience, here is a direct link to the article with further explanation and additional information: “Camp Application System.”

Camp Lone Star from Ken Giese

Lone Star Preteen Camp is scheduled for June 11-14. We are pleased to announce that Camp Lone Star will be returning to Messiah’s Ranch (messiahsranch.org), near Bryan and College Station.

Our application process is up and running, plus it is easier to use than our previous system. We are hoping to welcome 100 campers this year and we would love to have your preteens as well as any teen or adult staff volunteers join us. You can apply at <http://camps.cogwa.org>. Thanks for your help and have a wonderful week!

Festival registration

Festival registration opens on April 16, 2017, at 9 a.m. Central time. We ask that ALL COGWA households please complete the online Festival registration—whether attending in the U.S. or internationally. If adult members in one household are attending different sites, they will need to register individually. We also ask that those NOT attending please register as well—this gives us more accurate figures for planning.

Beginning at 9 a.m. Central time on Sunday, April 16, members can begin accessing the <http://feast.cogwa.org/> web page for Feast registration. The email address of the registrant will be used to identify that person’s or family’s registration account. After accessing the COGWA Feast web page, simply click on the “REGISTRATION” tab and begin the process. All registrants will receive an email verification immediately after completing the first step of registration. To complete the process, simply access that email, click on the link provided and finish your Festival registration. Members without Internet access should be assisted by their local Festival adviser.

Upcoming Activities: Dates to Remember

San Antonio Potluck: There will be a picnic lunch style meal on the Last Day of Unleavened Bread between services.

Corpus Christi and Harlingen: Combine for services in Corpus Christi on the Last Day of Unleavened Bread. Services at 1 PM covered dish social to follow.