From the Pastor

We have begun observing the first feasts of God with the Passover and this Sabbath with the Feast of Unleavened Bread. Being human (as we are) it is too easy for these feasts to become routine and for us to lose sight of the incredible meaning revealed by these days.

These feasts reveal the major steps God is taking to offer humanity the awesome opportunity to become actual sons and daughters in His own family (2 Corinthians 6:17-18). This is a powerful passage when we grasp what it is saying. We need to meditate on this passage often with prayer and even fasting asking our Father to open our minds by His Spirit to see with eyes that truly can see what He is offering us.

As we covered before the Passover we must be committed in heart to changing our lives – to live up to the covenant we made with God at baptism.

God, the Father, and His firstborn Son, Jesus Christ, both love us deeply. They want us in their family. Please grasp and understand that. They are deeply concerned about us. They know what we face in this life. As we have covered many times already, God has promised, as Paul was inspired to write in Romans 8:28:

“And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose.”

Whenever, we go through trials in this life we need to remember this promise from God.

The Passover reminded us of what the Father and the Son were willing to do to show their love for us.

The Feast of Unleavened Bread should remind us how we should live – understanding their love for us.
Announcements and Schedule

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<th>Passover 4/21</th>
<th>Passover services: All are scheduled for 8:00 p.m. in the regular locations.</th>
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<td>Sabbath/Holy Day 4/23</td>
<td>Regular locations and times in all areas as on the regular weekly Sabbath, which is the First Day of Unleavened Bread.</td>
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Feast of Tabernacles Registration:
Feast registration opens on April 24, 2016, at 10 a.m. Eastern time. To enable us to have the online registration process run smoothly, we have changed the date of U.S. Festival registration to Sunday, April 24. We ask that ALL COGWA households please complete the online Festival registration process—whether you are attending in the U.S. or internationally. We also ask that those NOT attending the Feast please register as well—as this gives us more accurate figures for planning. Members without Internet access will be assisted by their local Festival adviser.

Beginning at 10 a.m. Eastern time on Sunday, April 24, 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” button and begin the process. This first step will set up your registration portal account—unless you already have one. Those of you who registered for either the Young Adult Leadership Weekend in February OR our COGWA Youth Camps for 2016 will already have your email and password set. You do not need to set up another account.

After completing that first step, all registrants will then receive a confirmation email almost immediately. To complete the registration process, simply access that email, click on the link provided and finish the Festival registration (site selection, volunteer information, etc.) for you and each member of your household. Please be sure to complete the sections asking about “special needs,” if any exist.

We also encourage all of our members to consider how they might wish to SERVE at the Feast, as this information will be requested as part of the registration process as well.

Last Day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread:
Services on the last Holy Day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread will be at the regular time (10:00 a.m.) in Victoria on Friday, April 29 at the regular location. Corpus Christi will be on Friday, April 29 at the regular location. However, the time of services will be at 2:00 p.m. Harlingen will be combining with Corpus Christi for services and all will enjoy a covered dish social after services end.

Upcoming Activities: Dates to Remember
Passover will be held Thursday evening, April 21. Service will begin at 8:00 p.m. Please arrive between 7:45 and 7:55 p.m.
The Night to Be Much Observed will be held Friday evening, April 22. More details at services.
The First Day of Unleavened Bread service will be held in the regular Sabbath location at 10:00 a.m. on the Sabbath, April 23 in Victoria and Harlingen and at 3:00 in Corpus Christi
Last Day of Unleavened Bread on Friday, April 29. Please see announcement above.