

**From the Pastor**

On Sunday, May 15 the COGWA administration conducted a webinar for the ministry to bring us up to date with the news of the Work since we will not have a conference in Allen this year. Below is the schedule of the webinar:

- 3 p.m. Jim Franks—Introductory Comments/State of the Church
- 3:30 p.m. Clyde Kilough—Media: Preaching the Gospel
- 4 p.m. Doug Horchak—Ministerial Services
- 4:30 p.m. Leon Walker—International Update
- 4:50 p.m. Britton Taylor—Treasurer’s Report
- 5:10 p.m. Jim Franks—Concluding Comments

Obviously 2½ hours of information cannot be covered in such a short space so only the highlights or main emphasis can be given.

Mr. Franks explained that the state of the Church is very positive. Since monetary conditions are one of the few areas that can be quantitatively measured, Mr. Franks gave a brief overview of the state of the Church’s finances. In January 2016 the Church’s bank balance was at \$3,000,000. This was after one of the three high water marks of each year’s budgeted income (December). The other two high water marks of the year are the incomes from the Spring Feasts and then the Fall Feasts.

Traditionally, over the decades of church operation, it is understood that yearly bank balances are at their lowest in the month before the Fall Feasts. As an organization we are working to have a bank balance (reserves) of eight to ten weeks of expenses (roughly \$2,000,000) in the bank at the lowest part of the year. It is believed that we will reach this goal this year. The Work wants to be good stewards of the income God blesses us with. We are very grateful to God for the blessings He has given to His people and the spirit of giving (generosity) shown by His sons and daughters.

We have also noticed that as a result of the public proclamation of the gospel there has been a noticeable increase of income from coworkers. Though worldwide attendance has been steady the income continues to climb. Year to date income is up over 10% compared to the budget while expenses are running around 4% less than what was budgeted. And, as we have covered recently, the response to our efforts in proclaiming the gospel has been very encouraging.

Mr. Franks emphasized the message Paul recorded in Ephesians 3:14, 20-21:

“For this reason I bow my knees to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ... Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think according to the power that works in us, to Him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen.”

We have seen the abundance with which God has blessed us. God has called us in this age to do His Work. We will only succeed if we rely on Him and His power and not our own.

More next time.

	<b>Victoria</b>	<b>Corpus Christi</b>	<b>Harlingen</b>
Sunset Today in:	8:15pm	8:14pm	8:13pm
Sunset Friday 5-27	8:19pm	8:18pm	8:16pm



**Victoria**

*Sermon:* Steve Moody

**Corpus Christi**

*Sermonette:* DVD  
*Sermon:* Arnold Mendez

**Harlingen**

*Sermonette:* DVD  
*Sermon:* Arnold Mendez

“So he answered and said to me: ‘This is the word of the LORD to Zerubbabel: Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit,’ says the LORD of hosts.”

Zechariah 4:6

## Announcements and Schedule

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<b>Sabbath 5/21</b>	Regular locations and times for Corpus Christi, San Antonio and Victoria.
<b>Sabbath 5/28</b>	Regular locations and times for Corpus Christi, San Antonio, Harlingen, and Victoria. Mr. Moody will be in Corpus Christi at the home of Jay and Sue Hensley. Mr. Hendren will be Victoria and San Antonio. Mr. Gonzalez will deliver the sermon in Harlingen. Mr. Mendez will be in Houston North and will be giving a split sermon; Mr. Larry Roybal will give the second split sermon.

### **Feast of Tabernacles Housing Reservations:**

Festival housing reservation can begin on May 23 at 10:00 a.m. **in the time zone of the site you are planning to attend.**

Housing reservations for those who qualify for special needs (Please see your festival adviser to see who qualifies for special needs.) may begin on May 15.

The Victoria, British Columbia Feast site will be handled as a U.S. Feast site. This means that you will not need special permission from the Feast site coordinator to attend. Attendance will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis up to the capacity of the Feast site.

### **Upcoming Activities: Dates to Remember**

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**San Antonio Potluck:** June 4, 2016

**Harlingen Potluck and Bible Study:** June 11, 2016 (the Sabbath before Pentecost).

**Pentecost:** Sunday, June 12, 2016