

# Church of God, awa-East Texas & Ruston

## Announcements • May 31, 2014

Ken Treybig, Pastor

Phone: 903-844-9246

Web sites: <http://cogwa.org>, <http://easttexas.cogwa.org> Friday Sunset: 8:21 p.m. (ET), 8:11 p.m. (R)

**East Texas: 708 E Broadw ay,  
Gladewater – 2:30 p.m.**

Song Leader – Daniel Elliott

Pianist – Kathy Treybig

Sermonette – Gordon McCarty

Sermon – Ken Treybig

**Ruston: Holiday Inn Express,  
Ruston – 1 p.m.**

Song Leader – John Ivey

Pianist – Vicky Morton

Sermonette – Johnny Callender

Sermon – Video

### General Announcements

#### Graduation Reception

We will have a reception honoring this year's high school graduates **today** after services.

#### Ministerial Conferences

This year there will not be an international conference. Instead there will be smaller regional conferences. One was already held in California and two begin this Sunday—in Dallas and St. Louis. Your prayers for God's inspiration and guidance, as well as protection while elders and their wives travel would be deeply appreciated.

#### Ruston Bible Study

Ruston will meet at 12 noon on June 14 for a shorter service. That will be followed by a light potluck lunch and a Bible

Study. Be sure to mark your calendar!

#### Pentecost

Pentecost is on Sunday, June 8, and we will have two services—10:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. at our normal locations. East Texas will have a potluck lunch between services.

#### Pentecost Holy Day Offering

In just over one week we will be celebrating the annual Feast of Pentecost. Each holy day has its unique message, reminding us of God's plan of salvation for all mankind. One of the unique aspects of our traditional observance of these holy days is the giving of a special holy day offering. In Deuteronomy 16:10 God said through Moses, "Then you shall keep the Feast of Weeks to the LORD your God with the tribute of a freewill offering from your hand, which you shall give as the LORD your God blesses you."

Through the years, the generosity of God's people in giving these holy day offerings has provided a significant portion of the Church's annual income, and we would like to thank you in advance for your loyal support and diligence in following God's instructions.

Since most of you will be preparing your holy day offering prior to the day of Pentecost, we wanted to give you a few quick reminders that will help us in processing your offering.

1. Wherever possible, please use the blue envelopes provided by the Church.

2. Please remember to write your personal donor envelope number beneath the date in the upper left-hand corner of the envelope. (Your personal donor envelope number was printed on your annual receipt.)

3. Please be sure your complete name and address are printed on the front of the envelope. (Yes, this is important even if you write your donor envelope number as requested.)

4. Most areas will process the offerings locally, so checks should be made out to: COG—East Texas.

5. The envelope should include **only** your holy day offering for Pentecost. Including any additional items makes processing much more complicated, so please **do not include** tithes, offerings for other holy days, notes, etc., in the envelopes.

6. Please clearly write the amount of the offering in the lower right-hand corner of the

#### Elders – Here to serve you

Ken Treybig, Pastor – (903) 844-9246

Frank McCrady – (903) 845-6882

Melton McNeely – (903) 769-3394

Leon Walker – (903) 636-4928

Scott Hammer – (903) 845-5189

Les McCullough – (903) 636-5585

John Trotter – (903) 636-4515

envelope, and then seal the envelope. This will help us make sure your offering is secure and you receive credit for it on your annual receipt.

7. Since we are always instructed to give according to God's blessings to us, we would also like to ask your prayers in advance upon the offering—that it will be given in the right spirit, that it can be used effectively, and that God will bless His people for their cheerful giving just as He has promised.

Thank you for your help and support.

### **Potluck on Pentecost**

There will be a potluck meal between services on Pentecost. Please bring two of the following food items: meat dish, vegetable dish, salad, or dessert. Also, be sure to label your serving dishes. Thanks for your help!

### **Midweek Bible Study**

We will have a midweek Bible Study and finger foods lunch Wednesday, June 11, at 11 a.m. at the Gladewater Hall.

### **“Friday Night Live”**

The next “Friday Night Live” Bible study will be Friday, June 20. To connect, go to <http://members.cogwa.org/fnl/>.

### **Festival Assistance**

Each year many faithful brethren contribute extra funds from their festival tithe so that other needy members can receive the financial assistance they need to attend the Feast of Tabernacles. Last year these generous contributions enabled over 250 people to attend the Feast who would have been un-

able to attend otherwise. The Church recognizes its responsibility to see that those contributions are distributed fairly and equitably.

If you have no tithable income or if you have faithfully saved your festival tithe and will still not have sufficient funds to attend the Feast this year, we will be happy to help where we can. If you think you will need additional funds to be able to attend the Feast this fall, please contact our local Festival advisers Mr. Eric Case (East Texas), Mr. Chris Teague (Ruston), or your pastor to get a *Festival Assistance Member Information* form. Complete the form and return it as soon as possible. (All information on the form will be treated as confidential.)

Ministerial Services has asked us to have all assistance applications turned in by June 29, so please pick up the form and return it to your congregation's Festival adviser or your pastor as quickly as possible.

Again, Festival financial assistance is available for those who do not have a tithable income and for those who do not have adequate funds to attend the Feast even though they have faithfully saved their festival tithe.

### **Excess Festival Tithe**

Through the years many of us have seen and experienced a variety of ways in which God has fulfilled His promises to bless those who faithfully tithe. While some members have little or no tithable income, the generosity of their spiritual brothers and sisters has enabled hundreds to share in the blessings

of the Feast of Tabernacles each year. On their behalf, we wish to extend a warm “Thank You!” to those who have shared their abundance.

Once again this year we will be able to provide financial assistance to those brethren who would be unable to attend the Feast without help. Government regulations permit charitable organizations to provide a modest amount of financial aid to those in need so they can share in this kind of religious activity. Therefore, we have established policies and procedures that allow the Church to legally, fairly, and equitably provide this special benefit to members who qualify.

To accomplish this, your help is important. If you are able to contribute excess festival tithe to be used to help your brethren attend the Feast, please begin sending in those funds to the Church mailing address in Dallas. You may include those funds with regular tithes and offerings if you wish – just be sure to indicate how much you wish to designate for this special purpose. The correct mailing address is:

COGWA  
PO Box 731480  
Dallas, TX 75373-1480

Thank you in advance from the many who will be able to enjoy the Feast of Tabernacles this year as a result of your generosity in sharing the blessings God has given you.

### **Tithe of the Tithe**

Years ago the Church of God established a tradition of asking members to contribute a tenth of their festival tithe – known as a “tithe of the tithe” – to the

Church to cover the many expenses incurred in providing so much of what we enjoy at the Feast. These expenses include hall rent, office equipment, audio and video equipment, decorations, activities, etc. Since all of us benefit from these items, it is appropriate that we contribute a portion of the festival tithe we have saved to meet those expenses. If you are unable to contribute a full tenth of your festival tithe but would still like to help out, all such contributions are still appreciated.

If you send a contribution to the Church mailing address in Dallas to help meet these Feast expenses, please label it “tithe of the tithe” so we will know your intent. You may include those funds with regular tithes and offerings if you wish – just clearly indicate how much you wish to designate for this purpose. The correct mailing address is:

COGWA  
PO Box 731480  
Dallas, TX 75373-1480

Again, thank you for your generosity in helping to make the Feast special for all of us.

### **Camp Registration**

Hey everyone, it's just about camp time. The registration deadline for many camps is this weekend, May 31!

As a reminder (one which your confirmation email message will point out), registering online only *starts* the process. We still need you to mail the appropriate camp director(s) a current photo of yourself, the signed signatures and releases document (remember, parents must also sign for any camper or staff applicant who is a minor) and the check for any fees.

These must be received by the camp director before he can finalize your acceptance at camp. We're eager to see lots of accepted campers and staff members, so browse on over to <http://camps.cogwa.org>, complete your online registration and mail back the needed documents!

### **Special Staff Needs**

We still need a few specialized staff members for a couple of our camps. The Sequoia (California) teen camp is in need of a nurse and possibly a certified lifeguard. If you have the necessary credentials and would like to help by giving of your time in a majestic setting in the Sierra Nevada Mountains, please register now! As well, the Chattahoochee preteen camp in Georgia is also in need of a certified lifeguard.

### **Camp Scholarship Assistance**

To enable as many campers as possible to attend this year, we are once again offering partial tuition scholarships to any who need the financial help. We can only provide assistance to those attending one camp—typically the closest one. If this would help you be able to attend this summer, please contact the camp director and ask him to send you the scholarship form.

### **Envoys**

Mrs. Gladys Harkins gave us some old Envoys she'd like to share with anyone who would like them. They are from the years 1961, 1962, 1966, 1969, 1972, 1973, 1974, 1980. Please let the Treybigs know if you'd like any of them. Any not taken we'll offer them to others via Facebook.