

Church of God, awa-East Texas & Ruston

Announcements • July 4, 2020

Ken Treybig, Pastor Phone: 903-714-3684

Web sites: <http://cogwa.org>, <http://easttexas.cogwa.org> Friday Sunset: 8:31 p.m. (ET), 8:22 p.m. (R)

East Texas: 24345 County Rd 3107, Gladewater – 2:30 p.m.

Song Leader – Mark Benton

Pianist – Kathy Treybig

Sermonette – John Flynn

Sermon – Ken Treybig

Ruston: Country Inn & Suites, Ruston– 1 p.m.

Song Leader – Johnny Callender

Pianist – Johna Barnette

Sermonette – Chris Teague

Sermon – Scott Hammer

General Announcements

Garage Sale Work Party

Mrs. McCullough is donating a lot of furniture for the Church fundraiser that Rochelle Boyce is organizing for the end of July, and we need to move a lot of items to the back area of Vital Earth's office facility. We need volunteers to move it on Sunday, **July 12**. We have several 16' flatbed trailers lined up but need as many volunteers as are willing to help. Please plan to meet at her house at **9 a.m.** and bring dollies, tools, straps and as many blankets as you may have to help us be sure we protect the furniture during the move.

If you can help, please let John Flynn know **today**, and let him know what you are able to bring to help with the move.

Virtual Teen Camp

All aboard the S.S. Virtual Teen Camp Program! We are

pleased to announce that we will start taking applications at 9 a.m. Central time on Sunday, July 5. The link to applications will be available from the top of the camp website home page: camps.cogwa.org/. We welcome applications from any teenager who is interested in embarking on a weeklong virtual expedition (beginning on **Sunday, July 26**) to learn what it means to be firmly anchored in God's Word.

Please note: Since we will be collecting personal contact information for minors, we must also have the contact information for a parent or guardian to obtain a release for that information.

There will be four regions to select from during the application process: West, Central, Southeast and Northeast. Each camper should apply for a first and a second option since we are limited in the size for each group. The program will feature daily Compass Checks, Christian Living classes, a Bible Q&A, online activities and, of course, opportunities for fellowship.

Since we know some of our teens have summer jobs, a link to the Compass Checks will be sent each day over social media along with a daily Bible verse and a reminder of what's coming that evening. Christian Living clas-

ses, the Bible Q&A and fellowship opportunities via Zoom breakout rooms will be available each evening at times that are convenient based on each group's time zone. To cap off the week, we will be webcasting an "end of camp" Sabbath service on the Sabbath of Aug. 1, starting at 12 noon Eastern (9 a.m. Pacific).

"Deck hands" needed

Just as we would if we were hosting an in-person camp, we are asking for "all hands on deck!" We are particularly in need of experienced young adult camp staff members. If you are interested in assisting with the day-to-day operations of the virtual program—working with technology, acting as a breakout room moderator, assisting with social media postings, etc., we encourage you to submit a staff application and mark your area(s) of preference. We acknowledge the contributions camp personnel have made in the experiences of our campers, and we appreciate in advance your willingness to serve.

We look forward to "sail-ebrating" good times with all of you!

Virtual Preteen Camp

The Virtual Preteen Camp (VPC) will begin this Monday, July 6. Don't forget to register

Elders – Here to serve you

Ken Treybig, Pastor – (903) 714-3684

Melton McNeely – (903) 769-3394

Scott Hammer – (903) 738-5367

John Trotter – (903) 636-4515

if you haven't already done so. The registration link is on the camp website at the end of the list of preteen camps.

Services

Remember the hymnals are put away so if you want to use a hymnal, please bring your own. We will **not** have snacks or offer water, tea, or coffee.

If you are not feeling well, as has always been our request, please do not come. Services will still be webcast, or you can tune in via the phone hookup.

HQ Member Reminder

Dear Brethren,

We are very encouraged that a growing number of our COGWA congregations in the United States have begun in-person Sabbath services for the first time in many months. What a wonderful blessing—one for which we thank God!

However, along with the blessing of meeting together for services also comes our responsibilities during this period of pandemic.

We want to remind each member of our collective duty as God's people when we come together on the weekly Sabbath to worship God and see one another. In the guidelines for returning to services (which your pastor shared with you), we gave everyone the choice of whether or not to wear a face covering to services, and noted the CDC recommends churches encourage their use. However, we also asked everyone (regardless of whether or not he or she wears a face covering) to be aware of two other responsibilities:

The first is regarding symptoms of illness. While we have always asked our members to

not attend services if they show symptoms of any sickness, it is imperative during this time that you simply stay home if anyone in your family is symptomatic of illness—particularly those symptoms associated with COVID-19.

The second is the responsibility to practice the 6-foot social distancing at services, as most authorities agree that this is the most effective protocol for mitigating any possible spread.

However remote we may believe our chances of contracting COVID-19 might be, it is important and appropriate that we remember and fulfill these personal responsibilities when attending services in the weeks ahead.

We fully understand the urge to hug, shake hands and have closer contact with one another at services—it's a natural desire in such a situation! However, we ask everyone to honor the need to keep that 6-foot social distance between each other and families while at your local Sabbath service.

As we do our best to comply and work together during these unique times, we will better ensure a safer and less stressful environment for all of our brethren. We look forward to the day in the future when these temporary restrictions will be lifted.

May you all have a wonderful Sabbath day!

Google Form

Each week a link to a Google form will be emailed to everyone asking you to fill in whether you plan to attend services the next Sabbath so we can better plan our seating arrangements and ushering responsibilities to stay

within the state guidelines for church services.

Please be sure to watch for an email each week with the link **and respond ASAP** or at least by Wednesday, which is a big help to our ushers.