

# Church of God, awa-East Texas & Ruston

## Announcements • July 17, 2021

Ken Treybig, Pastor

Phone: 903-714-3684

Web sites: <http://cogwa.org>, <http://easttexas.cogwa.org> Friday Sunset: 8:28 p.m. (ET), 8:19 p.m. (R)

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

Song Leader – Jonathan Stoner

Pianist – Kathy Treybig

Sermonette – Rod Gehrke

Sermon – Ken Treybig

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

Song Leader – Steve Barnette

Pianist – Johna Barnette

Sermonette – Chris Teague

Sermon – Scott Hammer

### **General Announcements**

#### **Church Fundraiser**

Our garage sale to raise funds for our Local Activity Fund went very well on Thursday. There was a steady stream of customers, which is always good. We're praying it went well on Friday as well. Thanks again to Rochelle Boyce, everyone who contributed, and those who volunteered their help.

#### **Camp Protocol Update**

We have now completed five very enjoyable preteen camps. After one camp, we had a number of campers and staff members test positive for COVID-19. We are extremely grateful that most had no or only minor symptoms, and no one needed to be hospitalized. We are now well past that camp, so it appears the outbreak after our first camp was an anomaly.

However, out of a desire to do our best to encourage safety at our longer teen camps that are coming up soon, the camp team is making a few updates to our 2021 COVID-19 Protocols, in addition to making some procedural updates at our camps.

If you are planning to attend any of our camps in the remaining part of 2021, please go to [camps.cogwa.org/covid/](https://camps.cogwa.org/covid/) and read the latest updated protocols.

Camp Sequoia (Teen) in CA begins this Sunday, ending a week later. We will have four straight weeks of our teen camps plus one preteen camp and would appreciate your prayers for God's blessings and protection.

#### **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.

We are once again approaching the time when we will need 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, we are now ready to ask those who wish to contribute their excess Festival tithe (to be used to help their brethren attend the Feast) to begin sending in those funds. You may include those funds with regular tithes and offerings if you wish—just be sure to indicate how much you are designating for this special purpose.

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 custom of asking members to voluntarily 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

#### **Elders – Here to serve you**

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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 seems appropriate that we all 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, all such contributions will still be appreciated.

If you send a contribution 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 are designating for this purpose.

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

### **Feast of Tabernacles—We NEED Volunteers!**

Are you excited to serve this year at God’s Feast of Tabernacles? We are looking for more volunteers for all areas at all Festival sites. If you have yet to volunteer, we ask that you please take a moment as soon as possible to follow the steps below. We appreciate your service—it makes the Feast go so much smoother.

Please go to your COGWA portal at <https://portal.cogwa.org> and sign in with your username and password.

To volunteer for all areas except music service, select the gear button next to your Feast registration info then:

- Select the orange “Volunteer for Service & Music” button

- On the “Service Area & Music Volunteering” page, click on “Edit” next to your name.

- Under the “Service Area 1” select the area you wish to volunteer for and then provide information about how you’ve served in this area for prior Feasts.

- You can select up to three service areas.

To volunteer for music service:

- Select the orange “Volunteer for Service & Music” button.

- On the “Service Area & Music Volunteering” page, click on “Edit” next to your name.

- Under Music Service, click in the gray box that says “Click here to select talents.”

- Choose your musical volunteer section (e.g. “Vocalist” = Choir).

- Choose your singing range.

- Select any other music opportunities you may wish to help in.

After you have finished, select the green “Update Service & Music” button at the bottom of the page.

Thank you again for finding the time to do this now. It greatly helps those organizing the Feast.