



ANNOUNCEMENTS

for May 8, 2020

Parkersburg & Morgantown, WV and Athens, OH

Greetings everyone:

I hope everyone is doing OK during this difficult time. If you need help please feel to call me or email. Local Sabbath Services tomorrow start at 10:30 AM as usual. We will continue to have webcasting until June 6th. On that date normal Sabbath Services are scheduled to start at the normal time for Morgantown and Athens-Parkersburg. We plan to follow the guidelines for meetings.

On Wednesday, I had the my cataract surgery. Everything went well. It was something new to wear a face mask when entering the surgery center.

A Bible Study is scheduled for Wednesday, May 13th at 7:00 PM. It will be webcast with the same instructions as below for the local Sabbath Services.

Thanks to everyone for your support and encouragement. The offerings on the Holy Days were more than last year!

Tomorrow, Greg Travers is scheduled to give the sermonette and Josh Travers is scheduled to lead songs. Services are scheduled to start at 10:30 AM. See below for more instructions about hooking up for the webcast.

On Monday, May 11th anyone attending the FOT can make reservations at your feast site. Check with your local advisor if you have any problems.

See below for more announcements. Mr. Franks member letter is in the attached file.

Have a great Sabbath!

Bill Jahns

http://parkersburg.cogwa.org/uploads/2020-03-March_Calendar.jpg

http://parkersburg.cogwa.org/uploads/January--March_2020_Speaking_Schedule_Final.pdf

http://parkersburg.cogwa.org/uploads/Completing_Registration_Instructions.pdf

http://parkersburg.cogwa.org/uploads/Member_Letter_May_6_2020.pdf

LOCAL ANNOUNCEMENTS 05/08/2020 Sunset: Parkersburg: 8:26 PM

CHURCH INFORMATION – Church of God, a Worldwide Association has a website where you can get the latest information.

Donations can be sent to: Church of God a Worldwide Association, P.O. Box 731480, Dallas, TX 75373-1480

Local donations can be sent to: Church of God, Parkersburg, P.O. Box 181, Davisville, WV 26142

WEB SITE – Parkersburg, Athens and Morgantown have their own website which can be accessed for the schedule, announcements and other information. The URL is: <http://parkersburg.cogwa.org/>

PRAYER REQUESTS – See the information table for the latest prayer requests.

LOCAL SABBATH WEBCAST FROM COGWA & PHONE HOOKUP INFORMATION

Time: 10:30 AM May 9, 2020

WEBCAST INSTRUCTIONS

Online meeting ID: jahnsy1

Join the online meeting: <https://join.freeconferencecall.com/jahnsy1>

Telephone: 725 735-9529 No code needed

SABBATH SERVICES

Time: 1:00 PM, May 9, 2020

From McKinney

Dial-in Number: 605-472-5473, and the participant code is 130095

You can access the webcast from headquarters simply by going to COGWA.TV.

No password is necessary. It will also be available on your ROKU channel

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Weekly Update – May 7, 2020

Plans for resuming Sabbath services

As announced last week, May 30 is the first date we plan to have congregations in the U.S. resume meeting for weekly services. Pastors have been given the principles to guide the decisions as to when and how to start meeting together again and will convey those to the members in their congregations. Circumstances vary from place to place and country to country, of course, so the opportunities to begin meeting together will likewise vary widely.

Feast of Pentecost

We will again be webcasting one service from headquarters on the Feast of Pentecost, Sunday, May 31, for congregations in the U.S. Local congregations may have an additional service as long as it does not conflict in timing with the headquarters webcast. Of course, brethren anywhere else in the world are welcome to join us. The holy day offering will be collected in the same manner as during the Feast of Unleavened Bread.

Sabbath services in May

- On May 9, 16 and 23 we will continue webcasting a full Sabbath service from headquarters at 12 p.m. Central Daylight Time. You can access the headquarters webcast simply by going to cogwa.tv (no password necessary) or your [Roku](#) channel. We will also be providing simultaneous translations in [Spanish](#) and in [French](#) (also available on cogwa.tv (and [Roku](#))).
- Whether or not to have a headquarters webcast on May 30 has not yet been determined. We will have a webinar for U.S. pastors on Monday, May 11, in which we will discuss this question, and we will make a decision based on their feedback.
- Congregations that are hosting webcasts have their information posted in alphabetical order on cogwa.tv. If your church area is not listed, contact your pastor to receive information about your local webcast.

Office reopening

The Church office officially reopened on Tuesday, May 5, following the guidelines issued by the governor of Texas. Some employees 65 and over or who have an underlying health conditions have opted to work from home for the time being. If you need to talk with anyone at the office, please call 972-521-7777. If the person you are seeking is working from home, you will be redirected to be able to reach them.

Important Festival registration update

Some members have registered for their Feast site, but have not completed the process by providing the names of family members and volunteer information, which helps us with our planning.

The FOT registration includes two steps: 1) **FOT Registration** to register the household and 2) **FOT Household Attendees** to set up the household members who will be attending the site. In some cases, some completed step one, but *missed step two*—the FOT Household Attendees step—and thus do not have any household members set up. The attached document shows how you can add household members to your registration, if you have not already done so.

If you have not yet registered, we do ask that all COGWA households, whether attending in the U.S. or internationally, complete the online Festival registration. Three U.S. Feast sites—Park City, Tucson and Orange Beach—are now closed due to having reached capacity.

If adult members in one household are attending different sites, you will need to register individually. We also ask that those not attending please register as well by selecting NOT ATTENDING as their site choice. This gives us more accurate figures for planning.

You can register by clicking on the “Registration” button at feast.cogwa.org. (Or you can go directly to portal.cogwa.org/acct if you already know where you want to attend.) The email address of the registrant will be used to identify that person’s or family’s registration account.

COGWA Youth Camps update

For the past several weeks our camp directors have been monitoring the conditions that might affect our ability to hold COGWA Youth Camps this summer. Many factors affect our ability to host these camps, including facility availability, social-distancing requirements, group-size restrictions and registration numbers—not to mention the safety and welfare of our children and staff members.

As a result, we have determined that it is necessary to cancel our five preteen camps scheduled to take place during the month of June—Camp Lone Star in Texas, Camp Sequoia (preteen) in California, Camp Chattahoochee in Georgia, Camp Cherokee in Arkansas and Camp Lebanon in Minnesota. While it is disappointing, we feel that this decision—made out of an abundance of caution—is best for these early camps. In lieu of the full camp experience, COGWA Youth Camps will develop online activities and classes (by early July) that will help fill that gap left by missing out on this summer camp program.

At this juncture we are still planning to operate all of our teen camps, which run from late July through mid-August. We also are still planning for our preteen Camp Arrowhead in Ohio, which is scheduled for August.

We hope you will do your best to encourage our preteens and help them find positive outlets for their energy and enthusiasm this summer. We will continue to monitor the situation and inform you of any other changes with the remaining camps.

COGWA Youth Camps video

The COGWA Youth Camps 2020 video presentation that was played during the headquarters webcast on April 11 is now posted on the [CYC web page](#). We hope everyone will tune in to view this short but encouraging seven-minute video about our youth camps and plans for this coming summer.

Foundation Institute currently accepting applications

We are still planning to begin our next year of classes at Foundation Institute as scheduled, on Aug. 23. If you have been considering attending Foundation Institute next year, we encourage you to submit your application as soon as possible.

You can download and mail your application, or you can complete and submit it online. Start the process either way by going to the Foundation Institute website (foundationinstitute.org) and clicking on the “Apply Now” link at the top of the page. Further details about the program and its costs are also available on the Foundation Institute website.

It is important that your application be submitted by May 31, and sooner if possible. This allows us to ensure we have adequate student housing available. Applications submitted after that date may still be considered, but we cannot guarantee housing.

Foundation Institute is a full nine-month immersion program in God’s way of life. Classes cover the entirety of the Bible along with such special classes as Principles of Christianity; Comparative Religion; Fundamental Beliefs of the Church of God, a Worldwide Association; and Service in the Church. This coming year we are planning to introduce a new course: Modern History of the Church.

The education at Foundation Institute is unique and unavailable anywhere else. We look forward to receiving your application and having you join us for what promises to be an exciting year ahead.

2020 Foundation Institute Continuing Education summer seminars

Because of the ongoing COVID-19 crisis, the administration of the Church, together with the Foundation Institute faculty, has decided to cancel the two Continuing Education seminars scheduled for June 8-12 and July 13-17.

Rights to privacy

The Church’s long-standing policy is that pastors should not share prayer requests about any member’s health situation unless the member who is ill gives specific permission and makes such a request. Federal law (HIPAA) also prohibits this for a number of people in various professions. We urge all members to be mindful of that guideline as well. Even though we are well-meaning, we should respect people’s right to privacy and their right to be the first to disclose their personal health information at the time and in the manner of their choosing. This is especially applicable during this time of uncertainty with COVID-19. If there is a situation where some confusion or uncertainty exists on the part of the member and/or pastor, the pastor is encouraged to contact Ministerial Services for advice.

Festival registration update: As we announced last week, we have three Feast sites that are now closed: Park City, Utah; Orange Beach, Alabama; and Tucson, Arizona.

For those who have yet to do so, we strongly encourage all of our members to register as soon as possible, as this assists us in our Festival planning.

Completing your Festival registration: Some members registered for their Feast site, but have not completed the process by providing the names of family members and volunteer information, which helps us with our planning.

The FOT registration includes two steps: 1) **FOT Registration** to register the household and 2) **FOT Household Attendees** to set up the household members who will be attending the site. Some members have registered for their Feast site, but missed completing the FOT Household Attendees step and do not have any household members set up. The attached document shows how you can add household members to your registration, if you have not already done so.

Feast of Tabernacles housing reservations: Those going to U.S. Feast sites can begin making housing reservations on Monday, May 11.

Sabbath service webcast—May 9: This will be our ninth Sabbath to hold remote services. Services will be webcast live on cogwa.tv from the Church office in McKinney, Texas, and will begin at 12 p.m., Central Daylight Time. For those calling in, the dial-in number is **605-472-5473**, and the participant code is **130095**.

Announcement:

Graduating High School Seniors WE NEED YOUR BIOS!

We would like to feature all of our high school graduates in the July/August *One Accord*.

Please provide the following information for your bio plus a quality, high-resolution photo by **June 1**.

- Graduate's name.
- Parents' or guardians' names.
- Congregation and pastor's name.
- High school accomplishments.
- Church activities/hobbies/interests.
- Plans after graduation.

Also include a phone number and email address we may use to contact you if need be. Please give your bio and photo (conforming to biblical standards of dress and hair length) **to your congregation's reporter or pastor by June 1**.

Thank you!
