

Announcements August 8, 2020

Please read the following in full during the announcements on the Sabbaths of Aug. 8 and 15.

CONFIRMING FEAST REGISTRATION;

The year 2020 has been a tremendous challenge that none of us could have foreseen. The impact of the pandemic has presented us with obstacles we never could have imagined. However, with God's help, we've been able to meet those challenges and move forward.

Now, with less than eight weeks until the Feast of Tabernacles, we've come to understand that none of the Feast sites outside of the United States will be able to host American members this year. Those brethren from the U.S. who have registered for the Caribbean; France; Quebec; Victoria, B.C.; the U.K.; South Africa; the Philippines; Australia; New Zealand; and other international site will need to change their plans.

It also looks as if all of our Latin American sites will only be able to host the Feast for brethren from their own countries—tourists from outside will not be allowed.

We are preparing all of our sites to make the necessary changes and adjustments to hall attendance and meeting protocols, as required by state and local COVID-19 orders. Yet we realize that some of our brethren within the United States are wanting to reduce their domestic travel, as well.

Because of these changes in international travel and restrictions within the United States, we know that many of you are having to change your Feast travel plans for 2020. As a result, we **need your assistance** so that we can provide the safest environment for God's people to keep the Feast this year.

On **Sunday, Aug. 16, an email** will be sent to all U.S. members who have registered for the Feast. The email will include a link to a three-question survey for you to confirm your plans for observing the Feast this year. We ask that all members complete the survey before midnight, Wednesday, Aug. 19.

One of the questions you will be asked is whether, due to concerns about travel, etc., you and your family now desire to attend your local assigned site. Please know that even if your local assigned site is currently "closed," you still can choose that option.

Since the impacts of the COVID-19 virus have been changing from week to week, we are doing our very best to prepare for keeping the Feast at the 11 regular and satellite sites throughout the U.S. The plan for keeping the Feast at these various sites includes the component of offering live webcasting of services for days when members may not be able to attend in person.

It is very important that each member/registrant complete this survey. The data generated from this email survey will provide needed information to ensure our members have seating available when they attend in-person services. Therefore, as a registered Feast attendee, it is imperative that you fill out this survey when you receive it.

Because we will need this information very soon, we ask that you complete the survey by **no later than Wednesday, Aug. 19.**

Thank you very much for your kind help.

LAPTOP/TABLET ACCESS FOR MEMBERS AT THE FEAST SITES:

It is important that all of our members have a laptop or tablet they can use to access the webcasts from their hotel or condo during the Feast. We would like to encourage our pastors and Festival advisers to ensure, as best they can, that all members have access to a device for viewing services during the Feast on the days when they will not be attending in person. It should be noted that each webcast will also be available on Roku, as well as directly through the new smartphone app that we will have available to the membership in advance of the Feast.

VIRTUAL TEEN CAMP MATERIAL AVAILABLE:

Last week (July 26 to Aug. 1), we conducted our COGWA Virtual Teen Camp (VTC) as was mentioned during last week's In Accord. We have received requests for the classes and programs that were presented from parents of teens who were unable to participate for various reasons. As a result, we are making all of the recorded video presentations available—the daily Compass Checks, daily Christian Living classes and even the “end of camp” online Sabbath service. Interested members can now access these presentations at camps.cogwa.org/vtc.

VIRTUAL CHILDREN'S FEAST CHOIR

Dear Families of Preteen Children,

While we will be unable to have a live, in-person children's choir at the Feast of Tabernacles this year, we would still like to provide an opportunity for the children to sing and offer special music to God and His people. We plan to do this through the Virtual Children's Choir!

We would like to invite all children between the ages of 5 and 12 to participate in the Virtual Children's Choir. Our plan is for the final product to be played for special music one day at all of our U.S. (and some international) Feast sites this fall.

In order to participate, parents will need to video record their children singing the song. We will be singing “Firmly Anchored,” written by Church members Judy Troyer and

Emily Smith. This is the song that many children learned during Virtual Preteen Camp this summer.

Complete instructions for participating in this project, along with music, lyrics and rehearsal files, can be found by logging onto the Virtual Children's Choir page here: [Virtual Children's Choir](#) and typing the password **FOTmusic2020**

We hope that many of our families will take advantage of this unique opportunity and add some joy to our Feast of Tabernacles celebration!

MOVING RALEIGH EQUIPMENT

The last date for us to meet in this building will be August 15th. We will begin meeting at the other Point Church located at 1503 Walnut Street Cary NC 27511 beginning on Sabbath of August 22. Services will continue to be at 1:30pm

The date/time for moving all our equipment and belongings from the Apex location to the Cary Church location has been set at 11:30am on Sunday, August 16. If you would like to help load up the truck, please arrive at that time. We will then transport all our equipment to the Cary location. We are only permitted to have the time between 1:00pm and 2:00m on Sunday to unload and secure our items in the storage cabinets there. If you plan to participate in this, please see Julius AungMin after services today.