

Announcements March 11, 2023

UPDATE ABOUT TRAVIS SHAVER – HICKORY CONGREGATION:

Most of you know Travis Shaver was told he would not be able to keep his job with Firestone in the Concord, NC region because of not being available for work on the Sabbath. Travis submitted a letter from the Church, but was initially told he would be fired if he didn't report to work on the next Sabbath. It didn't work out that way.

Firestone has offered him a different location that is 5 minutes close to home, with a promotion, and a pay raise, and he will be able to have Saturdays and most Sundays off. Travis has accepted the offer. Travis and Amanda would both like to thank everyone for their prayers and would like to request continued prayers for this transition to take place as smoothly as possible.

FAMILIES GLORIFYING GOD WEEKEND IN TWIN CITIES

From Larry Solomon, pastor, Twin Cities & St. Cloud, MN; Eau Claire, WI & Fargo, ND:

We are excited to invite our Church family, young and old alike, to the annual Families Glorifying God Weekend, April 7-9, 2023, in the Twin Cities, Minnesota. Our theme this year is "Be Still and Know That I am God," from Psalm 46:10. Join us for Sabbath services, seminars, food, fun and fellowship! This year we are happy to have guest speaker Mike Hanisko and his wife, Zelda, joining us.

For our family activity on Sunday, please join us at WhirlyBall Bloomington! Experience something new and exciting with WhirlyBall. Jump in a bumper car and take on your friends in a fast-paced game combining basketball, hockey and lacrosse. If that doesn't get your adrenalin pumping, then take your friends over to laser tag or take them on in bowling.

Please **register by March 31!** Go to <https://buytickets.at/cogwatwincities/869182> and enter the access code **FGGW23** to register and to buy tickets for the dinner and activity.

We hope to see you there!

FOI ISRAEL DIG PROJECT

Greetings from McKinney, Texas!

Foundation Outreach International and the Church would like to announce an opportunity for up to 10 people to participate in an educational archaeological dig project in Israel. We are looking for volunteers from the Church of God, a Worldwide Association, who would be interested in experiencing an archaeological dig and visiting Jerusalem and the surrounding areas. The dig portion of the trip will be three weeks in July. Participants will be gone for a total of 23 days.

If you are **seriously interested** in this unique service project, please pick up copies of the **fact sheet** (which details requirements, dates and costs) and the **application**. The application deadline is **March 31, 2023**, so get your application in soon!

FOI will host an information Zoom call on March 20, 2023, at 7 p.m. Central time. (The meeting will also be recorded and made available online.)

If you have any questions about this project or would to attend the information session, contact FOI at support@foundationoutreachintl.org.

Thank you all very much!

CHURCH OF GOD, A WORLDWIDE ASSOCIATION JOB OPENING – VIDEO PRODUCTION

The Media department of the Church of God, a Worldwide Association, has an immediate opening in video production. Information was emailed to everyone earlier this week. If interested, please see Mr. Kelley for additional information.

OPENINGS AVAILABLE FOR FOUNDATION INSTITUTE CONTINUING EDUCATION SESSION 2

Pastors, please announce March 11, 18 and 25.

There are still openings available for Session 2 of the FI Continuing Education Program, which will run from July 24 to 28, 2023. If you are interested in attending, registration will be reopened from March 17 to 27 at foundationinstitute.org/continuing-education.

EAST TEXAS 70TH ANNIVERSARY

We are nearing the deadline to register for the event celebrating the 70th anniversary of the congregation in the Big Sandy area! These events don't come around very often, and you must register by **Sunday, March 26!**

The location is The Summit Club at 700 Judson Road, on the north side of Longview, Texas. Services will start at 3 p.m., dinner will be at 6 p.m., and the dance will run from 7:45 (just after sundown) to 10:30 p.m.

The club is open every day for its members, but we need to know how many to set up for in the event room—for services, the meal and the dance—so it's crucial for everyone to register, whether it's for just services, for services and the meal, for services and the dance, or for whatever your preferences are. **If you plan to attend any part of the event, we need you to register!**

We are soliciting photos—from anywhere we can get them—of the history of the people of God in this area. Please click the link on the website to upload them ASAP, so we can prepare a slideshow to highlight the unique history of God's people in this area of the country.

Here's the link to the website with specifics: <https://www.etx70th.com/>.

We would love to see you there!

PASSOVER INFORMATION

Raleigh – Tuesday, April 4th 7:45pm at Church Hall

Greensboro – Tuesday, April 4th 7:45pm at Gate City Vineyard Church 204 S Westgate Dr., Greensboro

Hickory – Tuesday, April 4th, 8:00pm at Comfort Inn; Exit 128; Conover

FIRST DUB:

Raleigh – Thursday, April 6th, 1:30pm at Church Hall

Greensboro – Thursday, April 6th, 1:30pm at Church Hall

Hickory – Thursday, April 6th, 1:30pm at Comfort Inn, Exit 128; Conover

LAST DUB:

Raleigh & Greensboro combined: Wednesday, April 12th, 10:30 & 2:30 at Community Arts Center; 633 Corrigedor Dr. Mebane

Hickory and Asheville combined; Wednesday, April 12th, 10:30 & 2:30 at Hickory Church Hall (Marketplace Church)

RALEIGH – NTBMO

Based on the interest, we have secured the Panther Branch hall in Garner for the NTBMO on Wednesday, April 5th. Before the meal, the children will perform a short skit about Israel leaving Egypt.

We will have a sign up list for 1 more week, until Mar 11th, as we will have to limit capacity to 65. Those in the Raleigh congregation will be given first priority. If there is still space after Mar 11th, we can include other church areas. Many of you have already notified Mr. Kelley of your interest, but that was only to determine if we had enough interest. Now, we need you to sign up.

Beef and lamb dishes will be provided. We will have follow up lists later for secondary dishes like vegetables, salads, and deserts. The Panther branch allows wine and beer so you can bring your own. Beer has to be in cans.

Donations are welcomed for the meat dishes.

The sign up list is on the information table. More details are to follow

“We plan on having a dessert table for the Night to Be Observed (April 5th), please bring your favorite unleavened desserts to share. There will be a sign up list for the desserts starting next week. If you have any questions, please see Gail Iacobucci

NTBMO – EVERYONE ELSE

For those of you not attending the group meal in Raleigh, please be sure you have either been invited or go ahead and invite others to your small group

Hickory and Greensboro are not having a large group gathering, but you are asked to form small private groups on your own. Now is the time to be finalizing those plans. Please be thoughtful to consider our widows and others who may be living alone. We want to be sure everyone is included and has the opportunity to have an enjoyable NTBMO with others.

COOKIE SWAP ON FIRST DUB IN RALEIGH:

“We are planning a unleavened cookie swap on the first day of Unleavened Bread, April 6th. We will also be packing boxes of cookies for our shut ins. Please bring you favorite unleavened treats for our shut ins, as well as to share with one another. To go containers will be provided for you to take them home. . If you have any questions, please see Gail Iacobucci.”

BE SURE TO WATCH THIS NEW SERIES OF FI CLASSES

Mr. Doug Johnson has begun his series of classes on Church History focusing on the last 200 years. This is an extremely important class for everyone to watch, but especially our younger folks who did not live through the Mr. Armstrong era of the Church. This class brings out how the Church migrated from Europe to the United States and then how Mr. Armstrong came into contact with the Church. The class will then take us step by step from the 1920's up till the current day. Please do not miss taking advantage of this opportunity to enjoy and learn from a class on Church History.

CHECK INFO TABLE

Please don't forget to check the information table for print-outs of various announcements and the weekly blog. **Also remember we have cards to sign for those who are on the prayer request list.**

FOR HICKORY - GREENSBORO:

The sermon today will be one of the required quarterly sermons that come from Headquarters. It is entitled "Choose Life" and will discuss the fairness of God in giving us all an equal choice to Choose Life. It will be presented by Cogwa Treasurer, Britton Taylor.

RALEIGH PHONE HOOKUP:

Raleigh Phone Hookup – If you ever have to miss Sabbath services you can call in to a central number and connect to the live phone hookup via FreeConferencing.com. At 1:30 pm you need to dial the conference number and then enter the participant access code, and that should connect you. The dial-in number is: **(667-770-1428)** The participant access code is: **539955#**. If you have any questions please contact Julius AungMin.

RALEIGH ZOOM VIDEO CONNECTION

Meeting ID: 862 858 5810

Passcode: cogwanc (all lower case)

Link to join is below:

[Join our Cloud HD Video Meeting](#)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8628585810#success>

ACCESSING OUR LOCAL MEMBERS WEBSITE

The website is:

<http://greensboro.cogwa.org/>

Then you will see a small place in the upper right hand corner of the page to enter in a user name and password:

Login: nc_member

Password: (see Mr. Kelley).