

## **Announcements August 5, 2023**

### **ANNOUNCEMENT FOR THE MEMBERSHIP**

#### **From Jim Franks**

On Tuesday, Aug. 1, the Ministerial Board of Directors approved my nomination of David Myers as the new operation manager for Ministerial Services. Doug Horchak will continue to oversee both the U.S. ministry and the international ministry until the changeover, which will probably occur after the Feast of Tabernacles.

When Doug Horchak became the operation manager for the international work, he recommended three men, one of whom was Dave Myers. However, I decided to do my own analysis before settling on one name.

Since our Constitution and Bylaws require a minimum of 20 years of pastoral experience for the operation manager for Ministerial Services, there are a number of ministers who currently do not qualify. I was also interested in choosing a younger man rather than one who would be of retirement age in the next few years. While there are several qualified men in this older category, I felt it would not be fair to put someone who was very close to retirement in the position of moving and taking on a new job.

After praying and fasting about each possible choice, I came back to the three recommendations that were given to me by Doug Horchak. After getting input from the MBOD, I contacted and spoke individually to 20 ministers about the possible choices. This included the seven members of the MBOD, the three administrators in the office, various members of the MS team, neighboring pastors and a few pastors that contacted me personally.

After all the input and discussions, I narrowed my choice down to Dave Myers. When asked if he was willing to take on this new job, he told me that he and Pam would be willing and would move to McKinney as soon as possible—most likely after the Feast of Tabernacles. I then proposed Dave Myers as my selection to the MBOD, and he was unanimously approved. We look forward to welcoming them to Texas!

Ministerial Services will very soon be announcing a replacement for Dave Myers as pastor of the Cincinnati-Dayton, Ohio, and Indianapolis, Indiana, congregations

### **BRANSON FEAST AUDITORIUM**

On Monday evening the Branson, Missouri, area was hit by very strong thunderstorms with 65-70 mph winds. There was quite a bit of damage, including significant damage to the Yakov Smirnoff Theatre. The roof was damaged severely, resulting in very serious water damage inside the theater. As a result, it is possible that repairs will not be completed before the Feast this year.

We are currently working to find a possible replacement venue for the Yakov Smirnoff Theatre. We have several leads and are quite confident we will find a satisfactory venue.

The Feast is still eight weeks away, and we will be monitoring the work on repairs to the Yakov Theatre even while we are arranging for a replacement, should that be necessary. Please pray that God will bless us with a quick repair of the Yakov Theatre or with a good replacement facility.

### **SPIRAL BOUND HYMNALS HAVE ARRIVED**

For those of you who indicated a few months ago that you would like to have a replacement pianist/song leaders spiral bound hymnal, they have finally arrived. Mr. Kelley has them in Raleigh today and will continue to keep some with him until everyone who needs a spiral bound hymnal has one..

### **SONG LEADER AND OPENING/CLOSING PRAYER TRAINING SESSIONS**

Mr. Arnold Burns will be conducting a short training session in Hickory today for those of you involved with song leading and also those who give opening and closing prayers 10 minutes after services in the back room. The opening/closing prayer session will be conducted first and then we'll focus on song leading training.

This session will be repeated in Greensboro on Sabbath of August 19<sup>th</sup> with Mr. Burns.

### **ROANOKE FAMILY WEEKEND**

The dates for our next Roanoke Family Weekend (formerly Chatham Family Weekend) is November 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup>. We are changing the name to Roanoke Family Weekend since Roanoke is the host congregation and our venue is changing this year.

We will be meeting at the Pigg River Community Center for this year's event. The address is: **2410 S Main St, Rocky Mount, VA 24151**. (not North Carolina)

Mrs. Tranquada is going to reserve a block of rooms at a discounted rate at a nearby Holiday Inn Express and Suites.

If you will be attending this weekend and would like to reserve a room, please let me know that so that we can estimate how many rooms to ask for. Also, do you prefer a room with a king bed or two doubles/queens? You can contact Larry Lambert at [larry.lambert@cogwa.org](mailto:larry.lambert@cogwa.org)

This weekend is becoming a favorite with Bible studies, sermons, youth classes, good food, a family dance and novelty Olympics on Sunday. It is a wonderful opportunity for good fellowship.

### **YOUNG ADULT LEADERSHIP WEEKEND 2024**

Save the date! Our next Young Adult Leadership Weekend is scheduled to be held at five regional locations (California, Georgia, Missouri, Ohio and Texas) next winter over Presidents' Day weekend. A team of young adults will be working on helping us devise a theme and topics to address. We'll have more details after the Feast of Tabernacles this fall. Meanwhile, save Feb. 17-18, 2024, for what will prove to be a weekend of spiritual enrichment and fun!

### **RALEIGH POTLUCK**

Our next potluck will be next Sabbath, August 12th. Our theme for this potluck is Caribbean so please bring your favorite Caribbean foods and plan to have a relaxing afternoon of food and fellowship.

Some suggestions: Jerk Chicken, Caribbean Beef Patties, Goat Curry, Rice and Peas, etc., or google Caribbean recipes and try something new.

### **FEAST VOUCHER – LAST TIME FOR THIS ANNOUNCEMENT**

As a reminder, the latest letter sent out from Mr. Jim Franks also contained four holy day offering envelopes and a pocket calendar. Printed on the back side of the letter is your voucher to receive the new book, *Five Tools for Spiritual Growth*, and the 2024 wall calendar. These will be distributed at the Feast of Tabernacles in the continental U.S. this fall. It is very important that you keep this voucher to claim your book and wall calendar.

If you did not receive this letter or have mistakenly disposed of it, please contact the headquarters office at 972-521-7777 or send an email to [greg.mccloud@cogwa.org](mailto:greg.mccloud@cogwa.org).

You should secure these in a place where you know you won't forget them when you go to the Feast.

If you are unable to attend the Feast, or going to a location outside the continental US, DO NOT give your voucher to someone else to pick up for you! Please contact your Pastor and your book and calendar will be ordered by the Pastor and distributed later at services, or brought to you. The book and calendar are limited to one copy per household.

I believe I have accounted for most everyone, but it would be good to check with me to be sure I have your name.

### **As a reminder...YOUR 2023 FESTIVAL ADVISORS**

Raleigh – Wesley Wood

Greensboro – Roger Robertson

Hickory – Mike Dial

If you have any questions or problems with any Festival issue including housing or transportation, please don't hesitate to contact your local Festival advisor.

### **FAMILY DAY VOLUNTEERS REQUESTED**

We are seeking volunteers to help out with various tasks at Family Day at the Feast in Greenville. Mr. Kelley is in charge of the event this year and we are hoping to make it a very enjoyable event for everyone. There are opportunities for everyone including teens and senior citizens. (Note – seniors can assist while being under the pavilion). If you could help for any period of time on Monday, October 2, that would be very much appreciated. Please text, call or email Mr. Kelley.

### **HICKORY ANNOUNCEMENT – LUNCHEON AT BARBARA SPROUSE HOME:**

Mark your calendars for Sunday, August 20th! Barbara Sprouse is inviting everyone to come over to her home for a summer luncheon. Plan to bring your favorite picnic foods, sides, desserts, and drinks for sharing. Plates, cups, napkins, and cutlery will be provided. There will be a grill made available for anyone who wishes to use it. Please plan to arrive around 12noon and we'll eat at 12:30pm. Barbara asks that you bring a lawn chair if you wish to sit outside or a folding chair for indoors as she is limited to both.

This is a perfect opportunity to spend time with your church family for quality fellowship. Games of all types are a welcome addition to the fun! Please see Barbara for details and to advise if you will be able to attend.

### **TIER 2 DONATIONS**

Two times a year, we make an announcement to you about donations to the local church Tier 2 fund. To clarify again, these funds are basically for funding our snacks and church socials. Here is a listing of what Tier 2 funds are to be used for:

Sports programs and gym rentals:

Uniforms:

Youth Activity Programs:

Flowers for funerals of non-member(s) that do not attend services:

Church Social Items:

Church Snack Items:

Additional recreational or programs directed by pastor:

So since we don't have sports programs and uniforms, the funds are almost exclusively used for snacks and socials of which we have frequently.

Typically we only have a very few members donate to Tier 2 and we sincerely appreciate those donations. However, since we all enjoy the snacks and socials, it is appropriate for all of us to make a donation, even if it is only a few dollars. Small amounts combined together would fulfill all our requirements for the year.

So, please consider giving a small donation to the Tier 2 fund of your local church treasury. Funds can be sent to your local treasurer. They are tax deductible, and you will receive a receipt next January.

### **NEW HICKORY FOI PROJECT ANNOUNCED:**

From Amanda Shaver and Diane O'Brien

Kintegra Behavioral Health is a company based out of Gastonia, North Carolina. They place mental health therapists within grades K-12. Newton-Conover is a small school system within Catawba County that serves low-income families who often cannot afford basic school supplies. Amanda Shaver works in one of these schools, Shuford Elementary, and would like to assist with donations by providing students with basic school needs.

Today is the first day for back-to-school donations. If you have any donations, please place them in the labeled box on the designated table. *THERE IS A LIST OF NEEDED ITEMS AVAILABLE ON THE INFORMATION TABLE.* This project will run through August 26th. At the end of August, a designated time and place will be picked for volunteers to help pack donated items in bookbags. If you think you might like to be a volunteer, please see Amanda Shaver. If you have any questions about this project, please contact Amanda Shaver or Diane O'Brien.

### **CHOIR MEMBERS NEEDED**

Mr. Bill Braswell is seeking volunteers to sing in the choir for the Feast of Trumpets in Mebane this year. If you are interested in receiving the information, please contact Mr. Braswell directly, or contact Mr. Kelley. In order for the choir to be successful we really need some additional volunteers.

**GREENSBORO** – This is especially directed to you. Mr. Braswell has selected a very nice chorale piece that will really be uplifting for the brethren on this special Holy Day. We really need more of our members to participate in the choir for the Holy Days.

### **MEN'S CLUB**

The next Men's Club will be held shortly after services today in Raleigh, and in Hickory and Greensboro on August 12. The topic of discussion will be setting the best example possible as a member of God's Church. How do we do that?

## **LADIES CLUB – HICKORY & GREENSBORO**

Ladies Club will be held shortly after service in Hickory on August 12th. The topic of discussion will be “Your Spiritual Calling! What does it mean to you?”

The topic in Greensboro on August 12<sup>th</sup> will pattern after the Men’s Club topic of how to set the best example possible as a member of the Church.

## **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.**

## **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](#) or

<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: