



Bentonville, Van Buren and Mena, AR

April 4, 2020

Speakers

Local Webcast – 9:30 am
Webcast from Headquarters – 12:00

Upcoming Events

April 7th – Passover observance – evening
April 8th – Night To Be Much Observed
April 9th – First Day Unleavened Bread
April 15th – Last Day Unleavened Bread

Sunset time is for Alma, Arkansas	
Sunset tonight	7:41 pm
Sunset next Friday	7:45 pm

Announcements

Local Services: Bentonville, Van Buren and Mena: We will be webcasting services locally tomorrow at 9:30 am. You may go to cogwa.tv which will take you to the main page. There is a link at the top of the page to Headquarters webcasts, and if you scroll down to Bentonville you can find our local webcast. We plan to be up and broadcasting by 15 minutes prior to services beginning.

Headquarters Weekly Update – April 2, 2020

Sabbath services—April 4, 11, 18 and 25

- Beginning April 4, we are encouraging every pastor who can to webcast to his congregations. He will inform members in his areas of his webcast time.
- As of April 2, there are 21 church areas scheduled to webcast in the afternoon and 19 scheduled to webcast in the morning.
- Congregations that are hosting webcasts will have their information posted on cogwa.tv by Friday evening.
- We will also be webcasting a full Sabbath service (hymns, sermonette or split sermon, announcements, sermon) at [12 p.m. Central](#) Daylight Time from headquarters on cogwa.tv and [Roku](#).
- All local services will be held either before or after the webcast from headquarters, so there will be no scheduling conflict.

Passover—April 7

- Passover services should be live webcast, if possible, in each congregation and/or region by the local pastor, beginning shortly after sunset. The pastor will inform members in his areas of time and connection details.

- As a backup (in case there are problems with webcasting), each pastor will inform members how to download in advance a video of the Passover service and will also make sure everyone has written instructions for taking the Passover at home.

Feast of Unleavened Bread—April 9

- First holy day services from headquarters at [12 p.m. Central](#) Daylight Time on [cogwa.tv](#) and [Roku](#).
- In regions where, because of the time difference, it is not feasible to log on to the webcast from headquarters, pastors will plan how to provide local services and will notify members in those areas.

Feast of Unleavened Bread—April 15

- Last holy day services (one service only) from headquarters at [12 p.m. Central](#) Daylight Time on [cogwa.tv](#) and [Roku](#).
- If pastors desire to webcast a second service locally, that is certainly permissible, as long as it does not conflict with the time of the headquarters service. We believe that under these unusual circumstances, having one service is not inappropriate on the last holy day of Unleavened Bread.

Sabbath services in May

Just this week U.S. President Trump extended the “social distancing” advisory through the month of April, and we have certainly learned in the last few weeks that everything is quite unpredictable in this situation. But we will soon be making contingency plans for May and will be prepared for continuing as we are or making applicable changes. We will keep you informed.

Holy day offerings

For U.S. members: Instructions regarding the holy day offering are available [here](#). For members outside the U.S.: Each region is responsible for determining how to best collect the offering, and pastors will communicate that to the members.

FI Summer Continuing Education Registration: We announced over the last two weeks that the registration for this summer’s Foundation Institute Continuing Education classes would take place last Sunday.

With the rapidly changing situation today, we will delay that sign-up until a later date. We will announce a new sign-up date in the future, as conditions permit.

Thank you for your understanding.

COGWA Youth Camps (reminder): With the current COVID-19 restrictions, many have asked about our plans for our CYC summer camps. Our COGWA camp directors in the United States have been in contact with the facilities that we rent to check on our booking reservations. Our first camp is now 11 weeks away.

It is our hope and prayer that by the time our camp dates arrive, all activities will be able to go forward, and “social distancing” will be a thing of the past. At this point in time, we are planning for all of our camps to go forward as scheduled. Of course, if federal, state or local restrictions continue into late spring or summer, we will have to reevaluate at that time.

In the meantime, we strongly encourage campers and staff to *apply for U.S. camps now*, as normal. If an unforeseen situation arises where a camp has to be canceled, we can easily *refund your tuition*. But, due to the current uncertainty, we suggest that you *not* purchase airline tickets at this time.

Camp Application System Opens: For the past several months, we have been working toward a new application system for COGWA Youth Camps that will integrate with our database system. We are now happy to announce that the system will open at 10 a.m. Central Daylight Time on Sunday, March 15, at which time you can start applying for our 2020 camps.

You will start at the same place you've always gone—the COGWA Portal. When you log into the account, you will see the CYC application notice at the bottom left of your screen. To this point, everything will look the same. However, when you click on the “Apply” button, you will notice things starting to change.

The instructions in the blue box above your list of household members will be much larger with a lot more detailed instructions. We encourage you to read everything in that blue box **very carefully!** You will note several important points, including the following highlights:

- There are new forms spread across several pages and very little will be “pre-populated” (automatically filled in), so you will have to enter a lot of information for each household member this year.
- However, once you have entered that information for an applicant, applying for a second camp will be very quick. Whatever you entered will pre-populate any subsequent 2020 camp application—for that applicant.
- Please note, this will apply for **each household member individually.**
- This system will require you to upload a photo with **each application,** so you will need to have handy a recent full-face digital photo (taken within the last three months) to upload with each application.

We understand this will take a little more time this year, but it will allow us to pull that data into our new system to be able to pre-populate additional applications. The system is new, and though we have tested it extensively, it is quite possible that we may need to make a minor tweak here or there. Once we have this year's data and are comfortable with how the system is working, we will be able to address how much we can pre-populate forms for everyone next year.

We appreciate your patience in working with this new system. If you have any trouble or questions, you can contact us at registration@cogwa.org, and we'll be happy to assist you.

Church Administration

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