



*Bentonville, Van Buren and Mena, AR*

*August 15, 2020*

Speakers		
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Upcoming Events
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Van Buren	Sermonette: <i>In Accord</i>	
	Sermon: Tom Clark	
Bentonville	Sermonette: Walter McGowen	
	Sermon: Dennis Fultz	
Mena	Sermonette: <i>In Accord</i>	
	Sermon: Tom Clark	

Today – Regular services – all three  
Congregations!

Sunset time is for Alma, Arkansas	
Sunset tonight	8:07 pm
Sunset next Friday	7:59 pm

Announcements
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**Fall Holy Days:**

→**Survey - 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.**

→**In-person attendance at U.S. Feast sites:** We plan to offer in-person services *every day* during the Feast at most U.S. Feast sites. However, a *few* sites (Orange Beach, Myrtle Beach and possibly one or two

others) will likely require that in-person attendance be *alternated every other day*. For these sites, the worst-case scenario for all members would be attending one in-person service on both the first holy day and the Last Great Day and then, for the remaining six days, alternating between attending in person and viewing the webcast from one's accommodations. This means all attendees will have at least five occasions during the Feast when they will be able to attend in-person services. And at all of our remaining sites, we plan to offer in-person services *every day* during the Feast.

→**Fall holy day offerings:** The COVID-19 pandemic has affected just about every aspect of our lives, including how the Church has collected and processed the annual holy day offerings. We prefer, of course, to collect a congregational offering as we have always done in past years, but unfortunately, this is an unusual time.

For safety reasons, and because of regulations imposed at several of our Festival locations, it is our plan to handle the holy day offerings for fall festivals (Feast of Trumpets, Atonement, the Feast of Tabernacles and Last Great Day) as we did those for the first three holy days this year—except that we will also have a box on the information table on the holy days for members who wish to give their offering at services.

We will have an offertory message as usual, but we will not physically collect the holy day offering as we have in prior years. We ask that you give your offering by one of the following options:

- Donate online (by eCheck or by credit card) at [members.cogwa.org/donate/](https://members.cogwa.org/donate/).
- Donate through the mail to: COGWA, P.O. Box 731480, Dallas, TX 75373-1480
- Donate online by your bank's bill pay.
- Donate by placing your offering in the donation box that will be provided at the information table prior to and after services on the holy days. Please use your blue envelope with your name and address on the outside.

We appreciate your understanding and cooperation during these unusual and difficult times.

→**No U.S. members traveling overseas:** Due to travel restrictions in most countries, we are asking all of our U.S. members to cancel any plans for attendance at an international site, and confirm their intentions to attend within the United States. Most airlines and accommodations will offer vouchers or full refunds in the event they booked their travel and hotels already.

*Attending church services:* Due to the COVID-19 protocols, we are reminding the brethren that all of our meeting halls will be set up for social distancing in seating. Depending on the site one is attending, this might require alternating in-person attendance at the hall and viewing the live webcast service from their accommodations on days when they won't be able to attend in person.

→**Webcasting at all sites:** As we have shared with the members in the recent past, all of our U.S. Feast sites will provide live webcast services throughout the Feast. This will enable those who are unable to attend services on any day to access the service via the Internet on the COGWA webcast.

→**Laptop/tablet access for members at the Feast sites:** It is important that all of our members have a laptop or tablet or smartphone they can use to access the webcasts from their hotel or condo during the Feast. If you will not have access to one during the Feast, please let Mr. Clark or your Feast Advisor (Dennis Fultz and Bill Gossett) know and we will try to make sure there is someone you could get together with to webcast if needed at your Feast site.

**Virtual Children's Choir:** 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!

## Church Administration

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