

TIDINGS

AUGUST, 2022

VOLUME LXXVI NUMBER 8

From the Heart of the Superintendent



Glenn & Betty Beaver
Superintendent

From Generation to Generation

It is important for every generation to have their own revelation and experience with the Lord. Each generation will build on the foundation which previous generations have laid. Today the body of Christ is standing strong on the shoulders of those who have gone before us. We are reaping the benefits of the work and example of their labors.

One of the concerns I have is that our generation does not repeat the tragedy of the generation who followed Joshua, Judges 2:10, "And also all that generation were gathered unto their fathers: and there arose another generation after them, which knew not the Lord, nor yet the works which he had done for Israel." This verse expresses two major things which we must share with those who come behind us. The next generation must **know God** and they must **know of the wonderful works of God**.

We must teach the next generation to not only know God from an intellectual perspective but to also have a personal relationship with Him on a daily basis. This relationship is maintained through various activities. First of all through regular communication with God. This is accomplished through extended times of prayer and meditation on the Word of God. In the information overload of our society to-

day, there must be a priority given to our intentional time spent in the presence of the Lord. Times like Joshua experienced in Exodus 33:11 after Moses left the Tent of Meeting, Joshua did not depart from the Tent. Walter Harvey who is an Executive Presbyter of the General Council, representing Ethnic Fellowships, wrote regarding this verse, "Joshua lingering behind in the tent of meetings raises some questions: Why did Moses take Joshua; Could Joshua hear Moses' conversations with God; Why did Joshua want to stay behind; Did Moses instruct him to stay; Was it training time for his future leadership; Was he getting familiar with the voice of God; Was he simply captivated by God and desired to know Him, like Moses; Had God captured His heart, and he couldn't get enough?" All of these questions and more are summed up in the fact that Moses was passing on to the next generation the importance of spending time in building a relationship with our Heavenly Father.

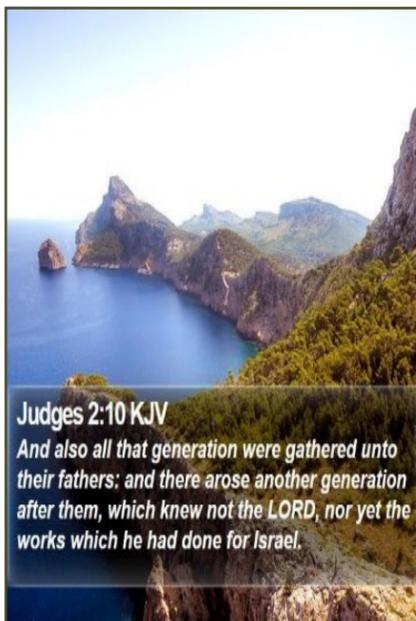
Secondly, we must show the next generation the necessity of being empowered by the presence of the Holy Spirit. Someone said, "Every generation has a next generation!" If we are going to invest properly in the next generation we must show them how to walk in the power of the anointing of the Holy Spirit. I recently heard our General Superintendent, Doug Clay, state during the Commissioning Service of 88 new World Missionaries, "The anointing is supernatural assistance to help you do what you can't do on your own!" We all face challenges which can only be solved through the power of the anointed presence of the Holy Spirit. We must walk in such a way as to not only teach but show the next generation that the Holy Spirit's anointing is still alive and working in the world. Remember the old saying, "Actions speak louder than words!"

Thirdly, we must plan for a future which we will never witness. Rick Dubose our Assistant General Superintendent says, "A God size dream

Glenn R. Beaver

always requires more than one generation!" Noah preached to his generation but built for the next generation. Paul instructed Timothy in his second letter, chapter two verse two, "And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witness, (of previous generations), the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also (the next generation)." One commentary stated, "The leaders of the church in Ephesus had deserted because of the persecution of Nero and Paul was instructing Timothy pick a new group of leaders and pour himself into them." When servant-leaders fail to pour themselves into the next generation it disrupts the plan of God for the ongoing of the work of the Kingdom. Now is the time for us in our present generation to pour ourselves into the next generation and show them how to do the same for the generation which is coming behind them.

Let it not be said of our generation, "When we are gathered unto our fathers, there arose another generation after us, which knew not the Lord, nor yet the works which He had done for the followers of Christ!"

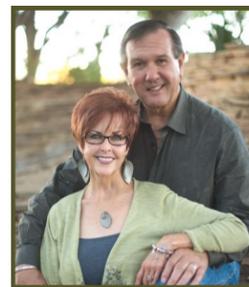


Judges 2:10 KJV
And also all that generation were gathered unto their fathers: and there arose another generation after them, which knew not the LORD, nor yet the works which he had done for Israel.



District Secretary/Treasurer

Offended: Part 1 Matthew 11:1-6



Billy & Bettye
Nickell

I'd like to invite you to step with me into the tunnel of time as we travel back 2000 years to a dungeon in the fortress of Machaerus in the mountains near the Dead Sea. It's a dark and a depressing place where faith is tested, dreams are challenged, hope is lost and where careers are terminated and ministries die a slow death. This is the prison of Herod Antipas of Galilee, the son of Herod the Great. Herod Antipas had paid a visit to his brother in Rome. During that visit he seduced his brother's wife. Upon returning home he dismissed his own wife and married the sister-in-law whom he had lured away from her husband. No, Herod is not the

person who languishes in this dungeon of darkness, though he deserves to be in prison for his actions, but oddly enough the person incarcerated is not an adulterer or a thief like Herod. The prisoner is a fire-breathing, anointed prophet of God, John the Baptist. Jesus said of him, "I tell you the truth: Among those born of women there has not risen anyone greater than John the Baptist; yet he who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he" (Matthew 11:11 NIV). This is the forerunner of the Messiah who publicly proclaimed, "I am the voice of one crying in the wilderness, Make straight the way of the Lord." This is he who announced, after baptizing Jesus in Jordan, "Behold the Lamb of God which taketh away the sin of the world." He was the Billy Graham of his day! Scripture records people traveling to Jordan from every city and village in Israel to hear this great preacher of truth. The future seemed so promising for John until he publicly rebuked Herod for his adulterous relationship with Phillip's wife. That landed him in prison and eventually led to his execution. Come closer so you can see into this hell-hole of a prison where John now lives. If you look just right you can see a tiny slither of light cast upon this man of God. There he sits clothed in a ragged raiment of camel's hair and a leather girdle about his loins; His voice is silent, his countenance has fallen and his demeanor has changed. Things have not gone the way John the Baptist thought they should go and he is offended! In fact, he now questions the ministry of Jesus and in the midst of his uncertainty he sends two of his disciples to Him with a directive. They are not curious spectators they have come under the mandate of their mentor, John, with only one question for Jesus, "Are You really who You say You are or should we be expecting someone else as the Messiah?" That's not the rhetoric one expects from a man who has held a leading position in the religious arena, yet when people get offended their attitude and activity often noticeably changes. Jesus responds to John's disciples by telling them to go tell John what they have seen and heard, "The blind receive sight, the lame walk, those who have leprosy are cured, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the good news is preached to the poor" (Matthew 11:5 NIV). Jesus then adds the following words in verse six, "And blessed is he, whosoever shall not be offended in me (KJV). The NIV says, "Blessed is the man who does not fall away on account of me."

We've all been there at one time or another. Each of us have tasted the bitter fruit of offense, and while we tend to make excuses and play it down, each of us have also been guilty of offending others, sometimes knowingly and other times unintentionally. James 3:2a says, "For we all often offend" (Darby's New Translation). Offenses come in different shapes and sizes. Some are the result of a rude or an inconsiderate remark, a deed of unkindness, an oversight, gossip, slander, rejection, contention, broken confidence, abandonment or abuse, just to name a few. In His parable of the sower and the seed, Jesus addressed this matter of offence in Matthew 13:20-21. He shows what people often do when they're offended, "The one who received the seed that fell on rocky places is the man who hears the word and at once receives it with joy. But since he has no root, he lasts only a short time. When trouble or persecution comes because of the word, he quickly falls away" (NIV). Where the NIV says, "he quickly falls away," the King James says, "he is offended." Jesus indicates by the message He sends to John via his disciples that John is offended. The word offend, in its

root, signifies, "to hit against or stumble over, to be displeased, indignant, displeased." John loved the Lord but because of offense he was hitting on something that would not budge. He's come against something in the journey of life that is tripping him up causing him to stumble and he is displeased, displeased, and offended! Here is the first of three things for us to consider regarding offenses.

The doorway of offense: How do offenses get inside the hearts and minds of Christians? We've all met negative, angry, bitter, dysfunctional, cold, indifferent and even suicidal people and wondered, "How did they arrive at such a state?" At one point in life they laughed and displayed a pleasant disposition and demeanor, only to live life now as an empty shell. John the Baptist did not die a crusty old man. He remained true to God, but here we see him offended.

Often, offense comes in the form of **misunderstood difficulties**. Life is not always fair and sometimes things happen we can't explain or understand. Such was the case of John the Baptist. More than one writer says the ministry of John was somewhere from six months to a year. Imagine how it must have been for John after having hundreds and thousands come to hear him until without warning his life was abruptly altered by being thrown into prison and not for just a few days! None of this was mentioned by Gabriel when he related to Zacharias in Luke 1:15-17, "For he shall be great in the sight of the Lord, and shall drink neither wine nor strong drink; and he shall be filled with the Holy Ghost, even from his mother's womb. And many of the children of Israel shall he turn to the Lord their God. And he shall go before him in the spirit and power of Elias, to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the disobedient to the wisdom of the just; to make ready a people prepared for the Lord" (KJV).

Another doorway where offense finds entry is **unfulfilled expectations**. I believe John contended with a more than a few unfulfilled expectations. Possibly he expected Jesus to come and deliver him from Herod's prison. "If He can raise the dead, cleanse the leper and calm the storm, surely He can speak the word that will get me out of this dungeon," but that didn't happen. One would think John may have expected Jesus to come at least once and visit him in prison, but we have no record of Jesus ever going to see him. "Why wouldn't He come? We're related! I thought He loved me!" That's how the human mind reasons when things don't go as we expect. Writers say that by the time John sent his two disciples to Jesus in Matthew 11, he had been in Herod's prison for at least six months, probably more. This was not how John thought it would end.

Another doorway where offense gains entry into the heart is, **unexplained delays**. More than one believer has dropped out of the race of faith because things didn't happen as quickly as they expected. Go with me to the banks of the Jordan River and listen as John preaches concerning what he believes will soon take place. John was a preacher of judgement with a message of repent or perish. I get the impression he believed Jesus would soon come on the scene and clean house. "In those days John the Baptist came, preaching in the Desert of Judea and saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is near" (Matthew 3:1-2 NIV). Later in his warning he announced, "The ax is already at the root of the trees, and every tree that does not produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor, gathering his wheat into the barn and burning up the chaff with unquenchable fire" (Matthew 3:10, 12 NIV). Some writers say John, much like others, expected Jesus to overthrow the Roman Empire that ruled Israel at the time. Now John sits in a filthy dungeon and from his vantage point it could have seemed all of his preaching was in vain because certain things he foretold did not come to pass during his lifetime. Successful leaders understand **unexplained delays** are part of life's journey. **Misunderstood Difficulties, Unfulfilled Expectations and Unexplained Delays do not have to bring offense!** Jesus says, "And blessed is he, whosoever shall not be offended in me." One commentator says that means, "Blessed is he who does not get upset at how I run my business." (To be continued)

Director of Church Ministries



Why Attend Church in Person?

Since the Covid lockdown, many have stopped attending church services in person, claiming that they can be just as fulfilled watching services online. Thankfully, when most churches were forced to suspend in person services, technology allowed them to keep in touch with their flock. I've heard more than one minister express concern that many of their people are still not coming back to church. My suspicion, that people opting to view services online rather than attend church in person, has more to do with convenience rather than Covid. The writer of Hebrews offers the following instructions to the church, **"And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching"** Hebrews 10:24-25 NKJV). I would like to offer five reasons why attending church in person is so important.



Tracy & Cara Lynn McWilliams

- 1. Encounter.** There is something that happens when God's people meet that cannot be replicated by staying home and watching services online or on TV. God's Word assures us that His presence will always be a reality when His people gather in His name (Matt. 18:19-20).
- 2. Engagement.** When you go to church, not only do you encounter God, but you also engage with fellow believers. You learn about the needs of brothers and sisters and are motivated to minister to them and pray for them. The writer of Hebrews uses the expression, **"not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together."** Occasionally, my wife will buy a piece of furniture and it will be delivered in a box. Inside the box you will usually find a booklet of information along with the following caption: "Some assembly required." Before being assembled, all the parts are present, but are not very useful by themselves. It's only as they are connected to the other parts, they reach their fullest potential. The same thing is true regarding the church. For the church to be everything that God intended for it to be, each member must serve in their spot for which they were designed.
- 3. Encouragement.** I heard about a guy who woke up one Sunday morning and announced to his wife that he would not be going to church that day. His wife chided him and said, "You get up and get ready for church." The man replied, "Nobody at that church likes me and they couldn't care less if I'm there or not." Once again, his wife insisted that he get ready for church. The man finally said, "I'll go if you give me one good reason." His wife replied, "I'll give you one good reason why you have to go to church, because you are the pastor." Every pastor can probably identify with this poor fellow. Sometimes just showing up encourages others towards love and good deeds.
- 4. Evangelism.** When you attend church regularly, you have a natural venue to invite lost people to join you and learn about Christ. It is amazing how much more edifying a church service becomes when someone, who does not know the Lord, sits by your side. Attending church also testifies to the world what our priorities are. When people pass by the church on Sunday morning and see your car parked outside it reminds them of where they should be. To say you are a Christian and yet never attend church is as foreign as someone professing to be a golfer but they never go to the golf course. Church attendance slowly and quietly testifies to the world which side you are on.
- 5. Expectance.** This is perhaps the greatest reason why we should attend church...the Bible Commands it. I say, "Crank up the music, let's have church!"

Ministers

Transferred Out:

James Pomeroy, (O) Arkansas

Available for Ministry:

Gene Benningfield	806.456.2029
Emilio Bustamante	432.385.5626
Larry Boyd	806.778.7677
Kelly Breckenridge	806.787.0355
Eric Brooks	940.473.1297
Danny Brown	806.577.3580
Brad Froese	806.928.2815
Margie Gonzales	806.282.0534
Byron Jones	432.258.3873
Mike Matheny	806.200.9959
J.C. Owen	432.254.8629
Jerry Pollard	806.330.0969
David Sasse	806.300.8717
Marcus Tanner	903.330.1560
Justin Unwin	806.220.3200

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West Texas Bible Institute

August 13, 2022

Certified: AG History, Missions & Governance

Licensed: Leadership Skills

Ordained: Church Admin, Law & Finance

September 10, 2022

Certified: Intro to Pentecostal Doctrine

Licensed: Eschatology

Ordained: Pastoral Ministry

Registration Deadline: August 19

Juntos ~ Together

West Texas and Plains & West Texas Districts

Agosto 9, 2022 ~ August 9, 2022



Rev. Dennis Rivera
Orador Especial ~ Guest Speaker
Director Nacional
de Relaciones Hispanas ~
National Hispanic
Relations Director



Rev. Ezequiel & Carolyn Pecina
West Texas & Plains
Superintendente



Rev. Glenn & Betty Beaver
West Texas
Superintendent

7:00pm, Martes, 9 de Agosto, 2022 ~ 7:00pm, Tuesday, August 9, 2022

Equipo de Alabanza ~ Praise & Worship Team
de Southwestern AG University ~ from Southwestern AG University

Iglesia Anfitrión ~ Host Church

First Assembly of God

100 West Wadley Avenue, Midland, Texas

Pastores Titulares ~ Lead Pastors

Mike & Sandi Hanks



ERIC HOFFMAN
National STL Director



SEPTEMBER 11-16, 2022



NICK, ALICIA,
NASH, & ANNA

Need more info about
our events?
WWW.WTXNEXT.COM
has everything you need!

Pastors,
First things first...We continue to praise God for you and your church's giving to STL and BGMC in 2021. Combined, 2021 was our largest giving year ever in our District's history. Over \$274,000 was given to STL and BGMC. To God be the glory!

However, we had some challenges at the STL/BGMC Banquet at District Celebration this year.
BGMC: #1 - All giving plaques were wrong. #2 - Our top ten giving list for BGMC was wrong.
STL: #1 - A portion of the trophies were broken in shipping. We did not discover the broken trophies until unpacking at District Celebration. #2 - Several churches did not receive proper recognition.

Please accept my sincerest apologies. I own all of the mistakes.

Rest assured, all BGMC and STL giving numbers have been thoroughly checked by multiple people at both the National and District level. All giving numbers are confirmed and correct. I have created safeguards to limit these types of challenges moving forward. I am available to discuss any questions you might have.

This Tidings contains the CONFIRMED and CORRECT top ten lists for 2021. Over the next few weeks, we will begin shipping out corrected plaques to all churches impacted by the mistakes.

Thank you for grace. And most importantly, thank you for giving to Speed the Light and Boys and Girls Missionary Challenge!

Nick

FINAL 2021 STL NUMBERS

1. Harvest Christian Center - El Paso, TX: **\$81,789.34**
2. Calvary Assembly of God - Midland, TX: **\$17,880.33**
3. First Assembly of God - Plainview, TX: **\$15,500.00**
4. Christian Life Assembly of God - Lubbock, TX: **\$12,313.00**
5. First Assembly of God - Midland, TX: **\$12,300.00**
6. First Assembly of God - Lubbock, TX: **\$10,608.91**
7. Brownfield Christian Life - Brownfield, TX: **\$7,772.00**
8. Grace Christian Center - El Paso, TX: **\$5,300.00**
9. Lighthouse Assembly of God - Snyder, TX: **\$5,050.00**
10. First Assembly of God - Odessa, TX: **\$5,002.00**

FINAL 2021 BGMC NUMBERS

1. First Assembly of God - Plainview, TX: **\$15,500.00**
2. Harvest Christian Center - El Paso, TX: **\$13,612.47**
3. Calvary Assembly of God - Midland, TX: **\$13,533.08**
4. CenterPointe Church - Muleshoe, TX: **\$5,000.00**
5. Brownfield Christian Life - Brownfield, TX: **\$4,425.00**
6. Harvest Church - Perryton, TX: **\$3,095.01**
7. First Assembly of God - Odessa, TX: **\$3,000.00**
8. First Assembly of God - Lubbock, TX: **\$2,378.64**
9. Pleasant Valley Assembly of God - Amarillo, TX: **\$1,952.79**
10. First Assembly of God - Midland, TX: **\$1,795.00**



PANTRY PILE ON

SPONSORED BY WTX WOMEN

Goods will be delivered to PHCH in Oakwood, TX on August 26. If you're interested in helping with the delivery, please, contact Christina at the phone numbers or email addresses listed above.



INSTRUCTIONS

- Items to shop for are listed on the wtwomen.com events section and will be mailed to all churches by July.
- Pack them (except gallon cans) in boxes or storage tubs
- Take items to a drop-off site on one of the days listed below
- If you can't shop, send donations marked PHCH to the District Office (PO Box 64778 Lubbock, TX 79464) by AUG 12

DROP-OFF DATES

- | | |
|------------|--------------------------------------|
| WED | AUG 3 / AUG 10
9:00 AM - 4:00 PM |
| THU | AUG 4 / AUG 11
9:00 AM - 4:00 PM |
| FRI | AUG 5 / AUG 12
9:00 AM - 12:00 PM |



DROP-OFF SITES

AMARILLO
FIRST FAMILY CHURCH
6101 S. Bell
806.353.9803
Contact: Tammy Myers

LUBBOCK
DISTRICT OFFICE
6502 126th Street
806.792.5835
Contact: Cara Lynn McWilliams

MIDLAND
FIRST ASSEMBLY OF GOD
100 West Wadley
432.684.4613
Contact: Sandi Hanks



MEN'S CONFERENCE

2022 "COURAGEOUS"
THEME: 1 KINGS 2:1-2

Lubbock
AUGUST 19-20
CHRISTIAN LIFE
ASSEMBLY
5917 66TH ST.

Speakers:

BOBBY GARCIA BRAD SMITH
JARED MIDDAGH RALPH SANCHEZ
ROB MELTON PHIL MCGECHIE

El Paso
AUGUST 26-27
GRACE CHRISTIAN
CENTER
820 N. RAYNOR

Special Saturday session for
Lead pastors/Staff pastors

Friday Morning activities:

Lubbock - 9 AM

4-MAN GOLF SCRAMBLE
MEADOWBROOK GOLF COURSE
\$160/TEAM

DISC GOLF TOURNAMENT
STARTER SETS AVAILABLE-\$12

BOTH EVENTS LOCATED AT:
601 MUNICIPAL DRIVE

El Paso - 11 AM

PASTOR/STAFF LUNCHEON
LOCATION TBA

Conference Schedule:

Friday:
BANQUET AND
EVENING RALLY - 7 PM

Cornhole Tournament
AND
4ORE Golf (Lubbock only)
9:30 - 11:30 PM
\$15/person - Pay upon arrival at conference
+ tee boxes reserved
Up to 6 guys per tee box
Must register for 4ORE Golf by August 12

After
PM Service

Saturday
BREAKFAST AND
MORNING RALLY - 9 AM
DISMISSAL - 11 AM

No registration fee for this event. Expense offering will be received.

Register your team for golf scramble
or group for 4ORE Golf at

pmcge@sbcglobal.net or text 918-541-8882

WEST TEXAS DISTRICT COUNCIL
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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Upward in Worship • Inward in Discipleship • Outward in Evangelism



Around West Texas



In your time of Loss
We express our sympathy to the family of Peggy Hawthorne Richardson. Peggy peacefully arrive in the presence of the Lord on July 15, 2022. She is the wife of the late Dennis Richardson. She served alongside her husband in ministry as Lead Pastors at First AG, Stinnett. Please remember her family and friends during this time of grief.

Prayer Requests: Cara Lynn McWilliams, upcoming surgery; Annette Newberry, rehabilitation and future chemo treatments; Jannetta Fairbanks, full recovery from Covid; Ann Slaton, (wife of the late Robert Slaton, former West Texas District Superintendent), medical issues; Becky Nenstiel, a new brain tumor has been diagnosed; Kari Brown, another large lesion has been found on her liver; Kathleen Stafford, neuropathy; Regina Gonzalez, (Co-Lead Pastor, First Assembly of God, Plainview), medical issues and Ankylosing Spondylitis (an autoimmune disease); Chuck & Judy Redger, complete healing and return of energy; Charlotte Boyd, Alzheimers; Rey Rodriquez, Muscular Dystrophy; George Mullins, stroke; Cliff Houghton, autoimmune disease, asthma; Patsy Anderson, (mother of Kevin Anderson), heart issues; Sue Stevens, (mother of Darla Anderson), Dementia; Brenda Van Hoose, Ankylosing Spondylitis (an autoimmune disease); Perry Shuffield, healing & strength; and Mylinda Wood, ALS.

Masters Degree

Roberto (Bobby) Garcia received a Masters of Theology Degree from Dayspring Theological University. Bobby and his wife Lupe serve as Lead Pastors at Grace Christian Center, El Paso. Congratulations for this accomplishment!

