

TIDINGS

OCTOBER, 2022

VOLUME LXXVI NUMBER 10

WEST TEXAS DISTRICT ASSEMBLIES OF GOD

6502 126th Street, P.O. Box 64778

Lubbock, TX 79464-4778

Phone: 806.792.5835 Fax: 806.799.1753



West Texas AG District Officiary

GLENN R. BEAVER

Superintendent

grbeaver@sbcglobal.net

NELSON GONZALEZ

Assistant Superintendent

pastornelson@plainviewfirst.org

BILLY D. NICKELL

Sec/Treasurer

fantastic1316@gmail.com

SECTIONAL PRESBYTERS

Kevin Anderson, Danny Williams, Raymond Mizelle

Nick Hester, Mike Hanks, Bobby Garcia

HONORARY PRESBYTER

Tom Lakey

TIDINGS EDITOR

TRACY MCWILLIAMS

tracy.mcwilliams@sbcglobal.net

Please notify editor of any change of email address.

Web site: westtexasag.org

Upward In Worship, Inward in Discipleship, Outward in Evangelism



From the Heart of the District Superintendent

Missions: Going and Sending, Romans 10: 14-15



*Glenn & Betty Beaver
Superintendent*

In Romans 10:14-15, the Apostle Paul writes these words about missions, going and sending, "How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? And how can anyone preach unless they are sent? As it is written: 'How beautiful are the feet

of those who bring good news!'" Paul possess four questions: **1)** How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed?; **2)** How shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard?; **3)** How shall they hear without a preacher?; and **4)** How shall they preach, except they be sent?

Consider the results of our world missionaries over the last fifteen years. Worldwide every 54 seconds one new believer is added to the church, every 76 minutes one new minister is enlisted, and every 81 minutes one new church is planted. To God be the glory! Presently in the fellowship of the Assemblies of God we have 1,857 career missionaries and 783 missionary associates for a total of 2,640 missionaries on the field. There are 53.7 million constituents across the globe yet there is still much work to be done. The late Loren Triplett, AGWM Executive Director once said, "We do not measure ourselves by our success. We measure ourselves against the unfinished task."

Not everyone can go to a distant land and be a missionary but everyone can help send those who are called to go. It is not one or the other it is both, going and sending!

Let us consider the aspects of **Missions/Going**. Matthew and Mark both record the words of Jesus about **going**. In Matthew 28:19-20, "Therefore **go** and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." And in Mark 16:15, "**Go** into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation." Thankfully, God, through the voice of His Holy Spirit, is still calling people to go. Are you willing to go? Do you sense the voice of the Holy Spirit saying to you go?

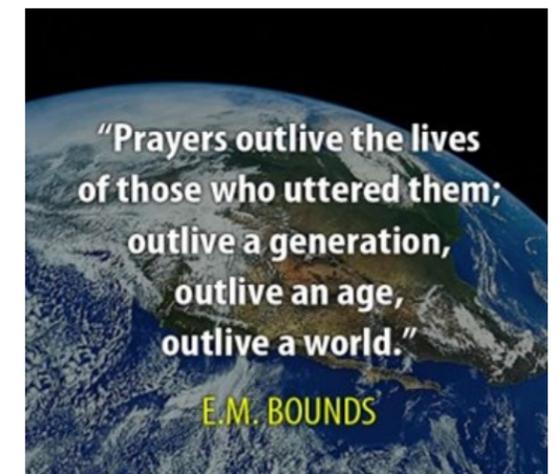
The story is told of Marco Polo, the grandson of Genghis Khan. He was the Mongolian general and statesman, Kublai Khan. In the 1200's he conquered China and became the first emperor of the Mongol dynasty. Few men impressed him. However, the Venetian explorer Marco Polo did, during a visit to Mongolia. As Marco Polo spoke to Khan about the claims of Christ, he responded in this way, "Please send me 100 learned Christian men who can teach us of this wonderful way." Marco Polo tried to find these 100 men, but only found

two who were willing to go! During their trip to China, they grew weary and turned back. Of the 100 missionaries Khan wanted, there was no one willing to go! As a result General Khan, turned to Buddhism! Think of the far-east with its billions of people. What could have happened if just 100 anointed followers of Christ would have said, "I will go?" There are missionaries today who serve in Mongolia because they have answered the call to go. Are you willing to go? Not everyone can go to a distant land and be a missionary, but everyone can help send those who are called!

Now let us consider the aspects of **Missions/Sending**. We must keep in mind that if we are not called to go, we are most certainly called to send. Luke records the words of Jesus on this subject in Luke 10:2, "The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field." We may not be called to go, but we can all be involved in sending. We can be involved in sending by giving to the support of missionaries. We can be involved in sending by making a faith promise to missions. As the church, we are involved in sending our missionaries in two ways, first of all by praying. As we pray for our missionaries we are helping to **send them** and **keep them** on the field. Often there are reports of someone sensing the need to pray for a missionary only to discover later that they were facing some challenge in their work during that same period of time. Everyone can help send those who are called!

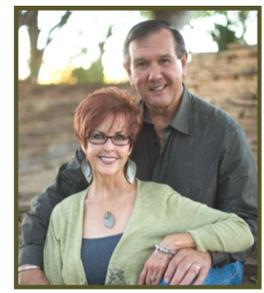
We are instrumental in sending by our giving. As we faithfully give of our resources we are sharing in the labors of the missionary. We must check our priorities as to how we are using our God given resources. Not everyone can go to a distant land and be a missionary but you can go to your neighbor, you can share the message of gospel with your co-worker, and you can share the love of God with your family members.

As Luke records, the call of the Master is clear, if we are not called to go, we are most certainly called to send! As senders we have two very important duties, pray and give! Our West Texas missionaries are worthy of our continued prayers and financial support!



District Secretary/Treasurer

You Can Get There From Here: Part 1, 2 Kings 7:1-16



Billy & Bettye Nickell

There's a saying I heard years ago that I have come to appreciate and understand; "You never know what you can do until you try to undo what you've done." From the White House to the poor-house, we've all found ourselves becoming more familiar than planned with broken dreams, dead-end pursuits and sorrow. At the launch of our journey none of us noticed on the GPS route that our travels in life would take us to the juncture of Rejection Boulevard and Depression Avenue, yet we've all been there, and some are there now. While you may be on the backside of nowhere traveling the road of, "if it weren't for bad luck I'd have no luck at all," God has made a way for you to relocate from the problem to the provision, from the disaster to the deliverance, from the famine to His fullness, and from the oppression to His divine overflow! Your location matters not! The Good News is, you can get there from here! Our Omniscient Travel Agent is renown for leading His own from the pit of despair and the prison of bitterness to the palace of prominence and provision! He delights in delivering us from situations we have created, to our own chagrin, as well as orchestrated attacks from the enemy. There is life beyond financial reversals, marriage issues, ministry challenges, health problems and emotional wounds and you can get there from where you are today! The story is told of a young couple enthralled with each other out riding on a Sunday afternoon, never noticing the time. After leisurely driving from one backroad to another they came to their senses and realized they needed to be back in town, however, they did not have a clue as to their present location. Seeing a farmer working on his fence they stopped and asked, "Sir, where will this road take us?" to which the farmer replied, "Anywhere you want to go."

This was the discovery of four lepers in the midst of a famine. The setting is Samaria, which had been besieged by King Benhadad and his Syrian army. The enemy's blockade had created a devastating famine, causing the people of Samaria to resort to eating their own children. "And a great famine came to Samaria. They besieged it until a donkey's head was sold for eighty shekels of silver, and a fourth of a kab of dove's dung [a wild vegetable] for five shekels of silver" (2 Kings 6:25 Amplified.) At the center of the disaster were four men who had been expelled from the city and forced to live at the entrance of the city gate due to their physical condition. Not only did they suffer from malnutrition, they had an incurable disease, yet these were the agents God used to bring deliverance from the scourge of starvation. Here are two of five things that changed famine to fullness.

An Accurate Assessment: "Now four men who were lepers were at the entrance of the city's gate; and they said to one another, Why do we sit here until we die? If we say, We will enter the city-then the famine is in the city, and we shall die there; and if we sit still here, we die also" (2 Kings 7:3-4a Amplified). We have no record of these four lepers being gifted or talented men. Nothing is said in Scripture of them having graduated from seminary, yet these **outcasts accurately assessed their condition.** "We're going to die, whether we stay here at the gate or if we somehow can get back into the city. We've gone as far as we can go here." Accurately assessing where you are is always a prerequisite for advancing to your miracle. A common propensity of human nature is to blame others, excuse ourselves, deflect and try and justify the problem, rather than accurately assessing. From the Garden of Eden to present day it continues to be the go-to for many. German poet, playwright, novelist, scientist, statesman, theater director, and critic, Johann Wolfgang von Goethe, said, "There is nothing so terrible as activity without insight." Ignaz Semmelweis, a 19th century Hungarian doctor, is remembered for making a life-changing accurate assessment in 1847. While working at Vienna General Hospital's maternity clinic, after graduating from medical school, he became fixated at the number of high maternal mortalities in one of the wards. In the area staffed by physicians and

medical students, 13 to 18 percent of new mothers were dying of a mysterious illness known as the childbed fever, or puerperal fever, while the area staffed by midwives averaged about 2 percent of women dying of the fever. The discrepancy seemed a mystery until Semmelweis assessed the difference of one insignificant thing between the midwives and the doctors. The midwives washed their hands before, during, and after deliveries while the doctors did not. Following the death of a fellow doctor, dying of what appeared to be childbed fever after cutting himself with a scalpel that had been used during an autopsy of one of the women, Semmelweis realized the same contaminated hands were also delivering babies, infecting patients with bacteria. Using that information, he began requiring anyone examining a woman in the labor room to wash their hands in a chlorinated lime solution before entering, especially those who had just touched dead bodies. Within months, the maternal mortality rate dropped to 1 to 2 percent, matching that of the women in the midwives' ward, due to an insignificant change in hygiene, a fact many doctors refused to accept. **You Can Get There From Here!**

An Announcement of Purpose: "So let's go over to the camp of the Arameans and surrender. If they spare us, we live; if they kill us, then we die" (2 Kings 7:4b NIV). That was their plan of action! After accurately assessing their circumstances they determined they would not take it sitting down. In their case they did not form a study committee or pay a consulting firm to tell them what to do, though both can be very helpful. The choices were obvious, "Stay here and die, or go to the camp of the Syrians and risk being killed." Little did they know their plan of action was inspired of God as recorded in Proverbs 21:1. It seemed like a shot in the dark to them, but God was at work in their **announcement of purpose.** God always has the plan, whatever the situation, yet seldom does the picture become clear prior to accurately assessing the situation and determining to make change. David announced, "Thou wilt show me the path of life" (Psalm 16:11a KJV). The same writer also states, "he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake" (Psalm 23:3b KJV). The readers of this monthly periodical are familiar with the record of the three Hebrew young men who refused to bow before the gold image of Nebuchadnezzar in Daniel 3. Nebuchadnezzar offered them two options - bow or burn. Upon refusing to bow, the king went into a rage and ordered the furnace be made seven times hotter. The soldiers who threw them into the fire died from the intensity of the heat, yet these three men suffered no harm. The fire had no power upon their bodies, nor was the hair of their head singed; neither were their garments scorched or changed in color or condition, nor had even the smell of smoke clung to them. I believe the miracle of the fourth Man making His appearance in the furnace happened **when they announced their purpose!** Heaven continues to wait for the people of God to announce their purpose! We do not know if God will use the butcher, the baker, or the candlestick maker, but we can announce with confidence what the Spirit speaks in the Word! **Announce your purpose** by declaring, "If God be for me, who can be against me!" Shout with assurance, "Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ." You can get there from here! Give God something to work with by **announcing your purpose** based on His Word! Even the world understands this truth! On May 25, 1961, President Kennedy stood before Congress and delivered a special message on urgent national needs, asking for an additional \$7 billion to \$9 billion over the next five years for the space program, proclaiming, "this nation should commit itself to achieving the goal, before the decade is out, of landing a man on the moon." Impossible, yet on July 20, 1969, two U.S. astronauts did something no one had ever done before. Wearing bulky space suits and backpacks of oxygen to breathe, Neil Armstrong and Edwin "Buzz" Aldrin became the first human beings to walk on the moon, eight years and almost one month after the president's announcement of purpose! This is your day to accurately assess the matter that matters, and this is your day to make your announcement of purpose, under the direction of the Holy Spirit. **You Can Get There From Here!** (To be continued.)

Director of Church Ministries

The Man, The Mat, and The Miracle



Tracy & Cara Lynn McWilliams

"Now a certain man was there who had an infirmity thirty-eight years. When Jesus saw him lying there, and knew that he already had been in that condition a long time, He said to him, 'Do you want to be made well?'" (John 5:5-6). In this story, Jesus meets up with a crippled man at the pool of Bethesda in Jerusalem. We are told that he had been in his present condition 38 years. Apparently, this pool served something like a health spa because there was a great number of people gathered who were sick, blind, lame, and paralyzed. The pool of Bethesda was about 20 feet deep and roughly the size of a football field. While verse 4 is omitted in some of the more modern translations of the Bible, it serves to identify for us why all these people were assembled. They believed that once a year an angel of the Lord would come stir the waters and the first one to get into the water would be healed. Ironically, the name Bethesda means "House of Mercy," but it had become a place of misery. It was probably a place that most people avoided; however, Jesus was willing to go to the most unpleasant places, looking for broken people. Jesus engages this crippled man and asks him what seems to be an odd question, **"Do you want to be made well?"** I can only imagine what this man must have been thinking, "Well, duh! Why do you think I'm here?" But watch this! Jesus asks this man a "yes" or "no" question, but the man gives an essay as to why he cannot be healed. Maybe Jesus' question is not as obvious as we think it is. If this guy got healed, his life would change drastically. If he got healed, he would no longer return to the pool again. He would have to make some new friends. Maybe the biggest change of all, he would have to forsake the life of begging and go get a job. Every blessing of God comes with the burden of responsibility to steward it. Many people want relief from their current situation, but they don't want to have to change their lifestyle. I recently read that more than 500,000 people undergo a coronary bypass graft every year. However, the relief that it provides is often only temporary. Dr Edward Miller, Dean of John Hopkins University School of Medicine stated, "If you look at people after a coronary-artery bypass graft two years later, 90 percent of them have not changed their lifestyle." Sometimes churches desire to see their situation turn around, but they don't want to change. It's been said that the last seven words of a dying church are, "We've never done it that way before!"

Now Jesus asks this man to do something that in the natural was humanly impossible, **"Rise, take up your bed and walk"** (Vs. 8). This man had to initiate his walk. Obedience always precedes miracles. Naaman had to dip in the Jordan River 7 times. The woman with the issue of blood had to fight her way through the crowd to get close enough to touch the hem of Jesus' garment. The miracle occurred when this man exercised his faith and obeyed the command of the Lord. Faith is belief with legs on it. This miracle created a firestorm among the Pharisees because it took place on the Sabbath. They were more concerned over the mat than they were the man or the miracle.

Ultimately, this man is a picture of people who have been crippled by sin. Jesus didn't come just to be a Great Healer. He came as the Great Savior. What good is the healing of one's body if their soul is not whole? Jesus is God's remedy for man's spiritual disability. In the end, Jesus wasn't just offering to make this man's body well. He was offering to make his soul whole. Jesus can turn your burden into a blessing. He can turn your paralyses into your purpose. He can turn your mat into a miracle.

Churches West Texas Bible Institute Ministers

New Pastors:
Odessa, Cornerstone Worship Center
 Josue & Audrey Maldonado

October 15, 2022
Certified: Ministerial Ethics
Licensed: Theology of Missions

November 12, 2022
Certified: Spirit Empowered Churches
Licensed: Conflict Resolution
Registration Deadline: October 21.

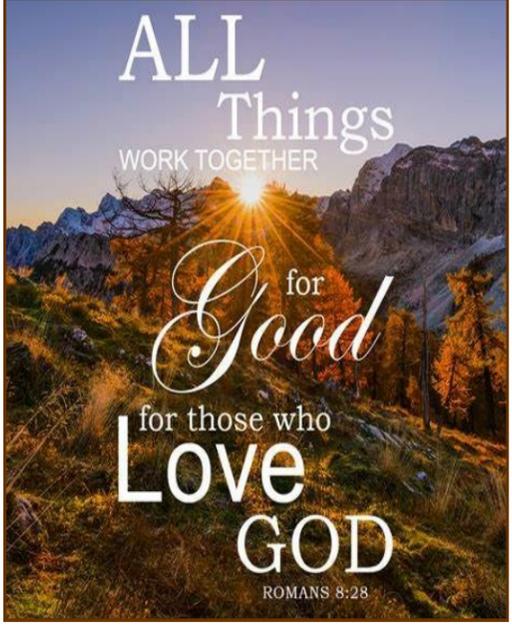
Transferred Out:
 Orlando Lopez (O) West Texas & Plains
 Erica Saviano (O) Minnesota

Newly Credentialed:
 Gerardo Vargas, Jr. (CM)

Credential Change:
 Joshua Beaty (L)

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





LEGACY 2.0 CAMPAIGN BANQUET TOUR



Glenn R. Beaver, Speaker
West Texas
District Superintendent

<u>East Plains Section</u>	Saturday, October 29 Roaring Springs, Full Gospel Fellowship	10:00am
<u>Pecos Section</u>	Tuesday, November 1 Odessa, First Assembly of God	7:00pm
<u>El Paso Section</u>	Saturday, November 5 El Paso, First Assembly of God	9:00am
<u>North Plains Section</u>	Monday, November 7 Amarillo, First Family Assembly of God	7:00pm
<u>South Plains Section</u>	Tuesday, November 8 Brownfield, Christian Life Assembly of God	7:00pm
<u>West Plains Section</u>	Monday, November 14 Lubbock, Christian Life Assembly of God	7:00pm

Meal is complimentary to ministers, spouses and church leadership.

WTX WOMEN

Fall Update



Christian Sattesahn
Women of Purpose
Director

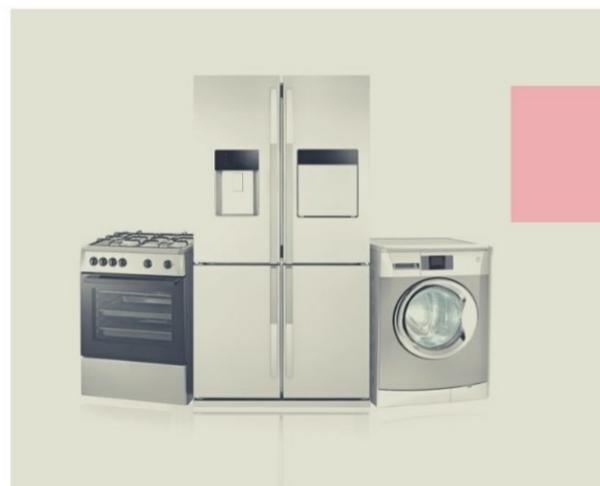


PANTRY PILE ON

Thank you for your generous donations to the Pleasant Hills Children's Home Pantry Pile On. Because of your generosity, we were able to restock their bare pantry shelves!

GIRLS MINISTRY

Several girls from WTX were able to earn their "My Epic Adventure" badge by attending the Girls Ministry Sleepover on September 16-17. They learned all about suiting up with God's Armor.



LIFE

Because of your faithful giving to the LIFE fund, the WTX Women were able to bless 2 WTX missionary families with appliances after theirs had broken down!

YTH CON 2022

Nov. 18-19



COST \$55

LOCATION: CHRISTIAN LIFE LUBBOCK
5917 66TH ST. Lubbock, TX



NICK, ALICIA,
NASH, & ANNA

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



Phil McGechie
Men's Ministry
Director



Helping men be
who God wants
them to be in
the home,
church, and
marketplace.

Drive 360/Men's Conference 2022 is in the books!

Our theme this year was "Courageous" taken from 1 Kings 2:2 that instructs us to "take courage and be a man." Men from all over the district came together for great food and fellowship at both locations but most importantly, I praise the Lord for our time in the Word and in the altars spending time in God's presence.

Thank you to this years speakers: Jerad Middaugh, Brad Smith, Bobby Garcia, Ralph Sanchez, and Rob Melton. They all did a fantastic job encouraging our men. Thank you to Cullen Williams (Lubbock) and Payton Smith (El Paso) for leading us into the presence of God in worship. On Saturday morning in each location, I had the privilege of speaking to all the ministers and leaders.

If you weren't able to join us, I look forward to seeing you at HAMR in February and the Drive/360 Men's Conference next August.

Drive/360 2022 Attendance - 198 (Lubbock - 97; El Paso - 101)



CAMP SEASON 2022...

CAMPERS	MONITORS	STAFF
745	167	81

25 West Texas AG Churches
20 Non-West Texas AG Churches
(3 other AG Districts + Non-Denominational)

368 Accepted Jesus
308 Rededicated to Jesus
164 Called to Ministry
394 Filled with the Holy Spirit

We are still continuing to praise the Lord for such an INCREDIBLE camp season! We had the most campers attend Youth and Kids Camp this summer that we have seen in the last 6 years!! Thank you Jesus. We are excited to see how the Lord moves and grows our camp and district in the coming years. Please join us in praying over the 2023 camp season as we prepare and cast vision for next year!



WEST OF FIFTIES

OCT. 10-13, 2022

Roaring Springs Camp
and Retreat Center

Registration Fee: \$75

Please contact John and Sue
Murdoch for more information.



Speaker: Jon Barnard



COMING UP

Fire Bible Sunday

November 20, 2022

Pinewood Derby

February 11, 2023

High Altitude Men's Retreat

February 16-18, 2023

Light For The Lost Tour

March 13 - 21, 2023

Drive/360 Men's Conference

August 18-19, 2022 - Lubbock

August 25-26, 2022 - El Paso

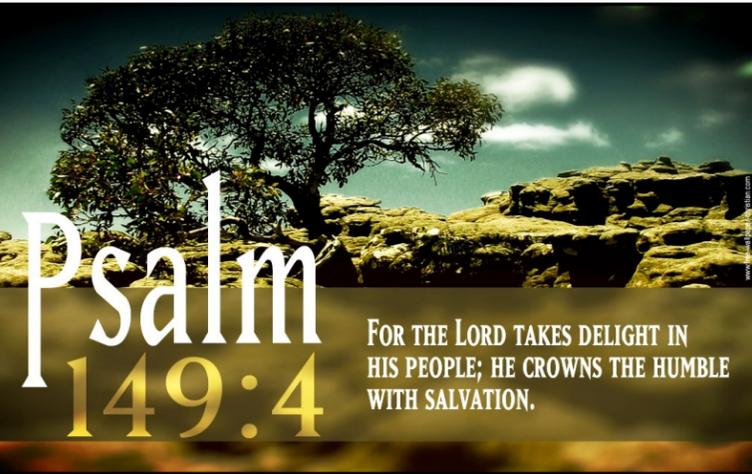


Around West Texas



We express our sympathy to the families of Jerry Hines and Barbara Sue Lee. Jerry Hines is the father of Lance Hines (Mindy) and is the grandfather of Tyler Hines (Nicole). Jerry entered into his eternal reward on September 9, 2022. Barbara Lee is the mother of DeShawna Johnson (Jamie), and the grandmother of Katelyn Garcia (Joseph). Barbara stepped into the presence of the Lord on September 18, 2022. Please be in prayer for these families during their time of sorrow.

New Baby: Truett Anson Craig was born into the family of Rob and Mariah Craig on September 21, 2022. Rob and Mariah are appointed US Missionaries to Chi Alpha, Texas Tech. He was welcomed into the family by his big brothers Lincoln and Ivo and all the Texas Tech Chi Alpha family.



Prayer Requests: Jill Brown, (Danny Brown), fell and broke leg resulting in surgery and rehab; Vance Mitchell, Covid; Edith Storz, (wife of the late Johnny Storz), spine surgery; Annette Newberry, rehabilitation and future chemo treatments; Becky Nenstiel, complete healing of cancer; 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 Dystropy; 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.

Senior Minister Highlight

Rev. R.V. Luna

Rev. R. V. Luna, a former West Texas Pastor and Presbyterian (and avid Tidings subscriber/reader) recently visited the West Texas District's new facilities on his first trip back to Lubbock in several years. Bro. Luna and his late wife, Lorene, served Pastorates from the 1950's through the 1970's in Muleshoe, Andrews and Lamesa before returning to North Texas where they retired after a long-tenured pastoral ministry in Garland.

Bro. Luna was recognized at a recent North Texas District Council for 70 years of ordained ministry. Yet another honorable distinction, Bro. Luna is one of a shrinking number of WWII Navy Veterans. On September 19th he celebrated his 99th Birthday!



Teen Challenge Adult Centers of Texas 2022 Annual Banquet

Saturday, October 8th

Doors open at 5:30 PM

- ∞ *Inspirational Testimonies from former Teen Challenge Graduates*
- ∞ *Live Music from True-Lite Christian Fellowship and the Teen Challenge Choir*
- ∞ *Fantastic BBQ Dinner by Teen Challenge Catering*

Sponsorships:

Platinum	\$10,000
Gold	\$5,000
Silver	\$2,500
Corporate	\$1,000

Tickets — \$50
Table of 10 — \$400

**Midland County
Horseshoe Arena**
2514 Arena Trail. Midland. TX. 79702



Register at:
teenchallengeadult.com
Or Call:
(432) 687-0348

**Our Online Silent Auction Starts
September 1st and Ends Banquet
Night.**

32auctions.com/teenchallengeadult2022

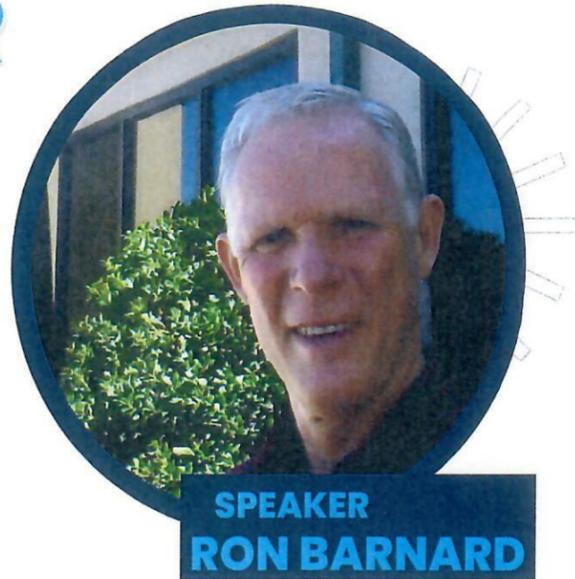
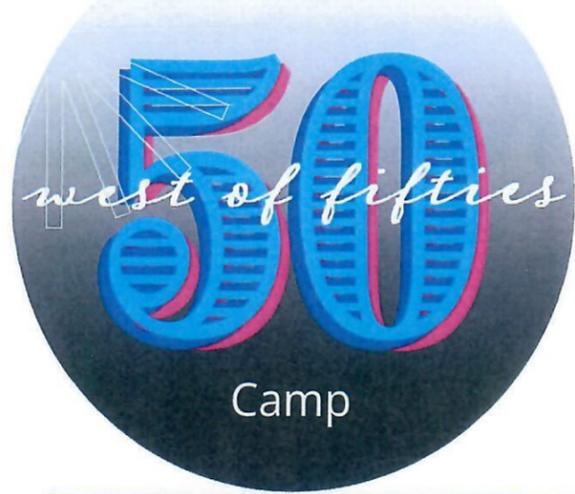
Ask us about our RAFFLE

...“Never will I
leave you; never
will I forsake you.”

Hebrews 13:5



COME JOIN US FOR



**MONDAY,
OCTOBER 10TH -
THURSDAY,
OCTOBER 13TH**

**ROARING SPRINGS
CAMP AND RETREAT
CENTER**

REGISTRATION: 2-4 PM

- BRING**
1. Bedding (queen size bed or twin)
 2. Favorite table games
 3. Dessert to share

"CAN'T WAIT"

Singing - Preaching - Games - Snacks - Laughing
- Fellowship - Rest - Great Food - New Friends
Every Person Counts!



West of 50's Registration

Name: _____
Address: _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Cell Phone: _____

**\$75.00 PER PERSON!
PAY THE DAY OF
CAMP**

Mail this form to: John Murdoch

Christian Life Assembly of God
5912 66th St
Lubbock, TX 79424

**Or call Sue Murdoch
at 806-470-6359**