

TIDINGS

MARCH, 2023

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WEST TEXAS DISTRICT ASSEMBLIES OF GOD

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Upward In Worship, Inward in Discipleship, Outward in Evangelism



From the Heart of the District Superintendent

He Gets Us!



*Glenn & Betty Beaver
Superintendent*

In recent months there have been ads on television with the caption **"HE GETS US!"** I thought these ads were very good to cause people to think about Jesus. I recently attended a briefing where I learned about a significant opportunity from Gloop, an online connection which is being promoted by our General Superintendent, Doug Clay. As I listened and considered how this could be effective here in West Texas, the Lord reminded me of Acts 2:46-47 (J. B. Phillips Translation), "Day after day they met by common consent in the Temple; they broke bread together in their homes (KJV, house to house), sharing meals with simple joy. They praised God continually and all the people respected them. Every day the Lord added to their number those who were finding salvation." Through the various avenues of technology available to us today, we must take advantage of the endless possibilities of reaching every house in our communities with the gospel of Christ.

The **HE GETS US** ads are the most extensive faith-based multi-media campaign in American history. The ad campaign focuses on "raising the relevancy and respect of Jesus." Through videos, TV ads, billboards, and other forms of media, **HE GETS US** aims to help people consider how Jesus can relate to their personal experiences and hear about his life and message. There were actually two ads that ran during this year's Super Bowl which reached over 100 million viewers.

HE GETS US is leveraging Gloop to help churches connect to the campaign and access resources that drive more engagement with their communities. Now they are opening up the opportunity for our West Texas churches to partner and engage people talking about these ads. The campaign is fully funded by generous donors making it accessible for our churches to participate at **no cost**.

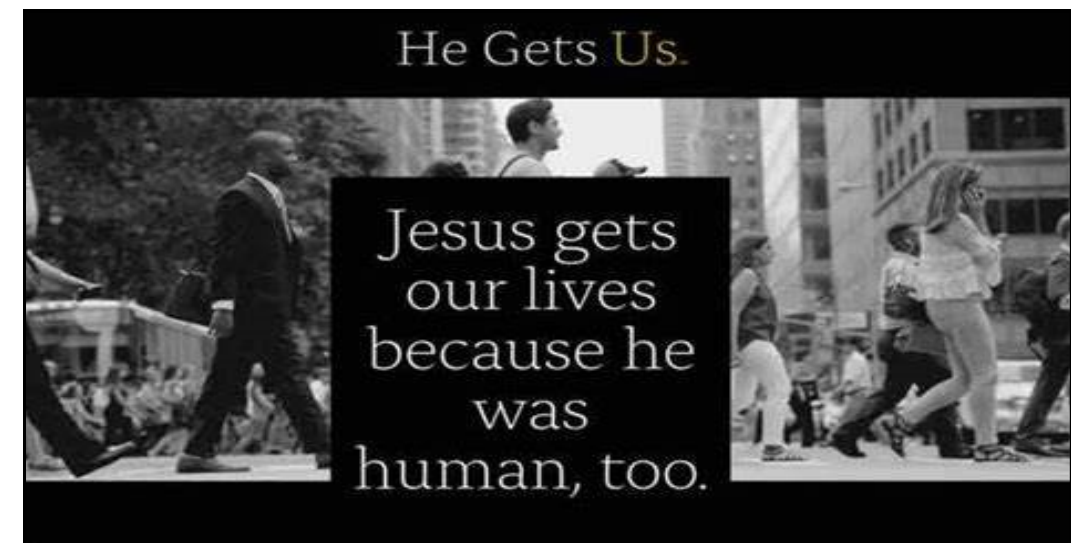
Again it is all free, and the ads will exponentially increase in the next few months, so I wanted to get you briefed on what's coming and share how our West Texas churches can be involved.

One of the visionary goals of Doug Clay is to see a healthy church in every community marked by spiritual and numerical growth. As Superintendent Clay states in the video link below, which I encourage you to watch, "This campaign is, Theologically Accurate, Rooted in Scripture and has Cultural Literacy."

This campaign has the potential for our churches to be involved in the greatest evangelism we have witnessed in modern times. Please take the time to copy and paste this link in your browser and listen to this wonderful opportunity for taking the gospel from "house to house" in all our West Texas communities: <https://hegetsuspartners.com/ag>

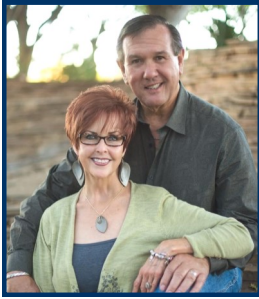
You have one more opportunity to learn about this evangelism campaign by joining a Zoom Call with myself and Stuart Putnman, a representative from Gloop on **Monday, March 6, 7:00 pm**. I will be emailing all our West Texas Pastors the Zoom link on Friday, March 3. Plan now to join us and let's see what God will do as we work together to bring our communities of faith together and believe together for an incredible work of evangelism.

HE GETS US: "For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost" (Jesus).



District Secretary/Treasurer

Being About The Father's Business, Luke 2:41-52



Billy & Bettye
Nickell

Luke has the unique distinction of being the only New Testament writer who was not a Jew. Paul identifies him in Colossians 4:14 as, "Luke, the beloved physician." It was Luke who also wrote the book of Acts, and for the most part Luke's gospel was written to Gentiles. Students of Scripture believe his gospel is the easiest of the four to read. More than any other gospel writer, Luke gives a special place to women. Each morning every male Jew would give thanks to God that he'd not been made "a gentile, a slave or a woman." Luke gives emphasis to the many women who ministered to Jesus, as well as those who received ministry from Him. This gospel is sometimes called the Universal gospel because of the insight he gives concerning Jesus Christ being for all people without distinction.

The text for this devotion tells of two accounts of Jesus being in the Jewish Temple, with the first of the two being when Joseph and Mary presented Him to God, or dedicated Him. It was also the occasion for Mary's purification. Dr. Luke records the second time being when Jesus was twelve. Scripture shows He was in Jerusalem with His parents for the Passover. "Every year Jesus' parents went to Jerusalem for the Passover festival" (Luke 2:41 NLT). We are not told of His Passover participation, but the Jewish law required every Jewish adult male who lived within 15 miles of Jerusalem to attend. Above and beyond the requirement it was the aim of every Jew in the world to attend at least one Passover in Jerusalem in course of their lifetime. When a Jewish boy

turned twelve he became a man. At that time he became what was called a son of the law, and at 12 it was required he take on the obligations of the law. At the conclusion of Passover, which lasted for seven days, the masses from all around returned home in caravans. Writers say women would often leave Jerusalem before the men, due to them traveling slower, and the men would meet up with them at evening at the place of encampment for the night. The fact of Jesus not being in the company of either Mary or Joseph was not due to carelessness. Joseph probably thought Jesus was with Mary and Mary figured He was with Joseph, or they could have assumed He was with other children and their parents in another part of the caravan, which was common in that culture. It was not until that evening when they realized Jesus was not in their company, moving them to return to Jerusalem the following day to search for Him. Scholars say it was the custom of the Sanhedrin to meet the public in the Temple court to discuss, in the presence of all who would listen, religious and theological questions after the conclusion of Passover. It was here that Joseph and Mary found Him. "Three days later they finally discovered him in the Temple, sitting among the religious teachers, listening to them and asking questions. All who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers (Luke 2:46 NLT). This was the setting where Mary said to Him, "Son, why have you done this to us? Your father and I have been frantic, searching for you everywhere." The answer Jesus gave her reveals important things we need to see concerning Joseph, Mary, Jesus and His earthly mission. "Why did you seek Me? Did you not know that I must be about My Father's business?" (Luke 2:17 NKJV). Those are the first recorded words of Jesus in the New Testament. The literal rendering is, "Did you not know that it is necessary for me to be in the things of My Father?" While more could be brought to light germane to this occasion, prudence would have us to see what Jesus did while being about His Father's business.

His was the business of revelation. Why did Jesus come in human flesh and live among us for 33 years? Some would say, "He came to save the lost." Others would answer, "To destroy the works of the devil." While both answers are correct, the bigger reason Jesus condescended to human flesh was to reveal God to man! The four hundred-plus years prior to Him coming as a babe in a manger were marked with spiritual death and darkness. By the time He launched His public ministry things were in a religious mess! The Jewish religious leaders had reduced a person's relationship with God to a long and exhaustive list of rules and regulations. In the Dake Annotated Bible he gives a summary of each book just after the last verse of the chapter. Here is his summary and theme of Malachi beginning with this statement: "Accusations from God and denials from Israel that He is righteously accusing them of evil. There are fourteen statements of accusations from God and ten rebellious answers from Israel." It is understandable why the harshest and most threatening words of Jesus in the gospels were not to prostitutes and tax collectors of the day, but to the religious leaders of Israel. Then as now, people desperately needed a clear revelation of God! We hear Him announcing in Matthew's gospel, "All things have been entrusted and delivered to Me by My Father; and no one fully knows and accurately understands the Son except the Father, and no one fully knows and accurately understands the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son deliberately wills to make Him known" (Matthew 11:27 Amplified). If we are to be about the Father's business, we must do as Jesus did and share an anointed revelation of God.

His was the business of reconciliation. The word reconcile is defined in the dictionary as, "restore friendly relations between." Reconcile comes from a word that means, "bring together." Paul addresses the reconciling of man to God in more than one of his letters. "And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation" (2 Corinthians 5:18 KJV). When we could not come to Him, He came to us to reveal God and reconcile lost man to Him! Because Jesus made the business of His heavenly Father priority-one, we now are heirs of God and joint-heirs with Christ! His efficacious work has made us sons and daughters of a thrice holy God! We now can enter His throne with boldness knowing He will answer our petition! Our spirit cries Abba Father because Jesus restored friendly relations between God and us! We are no longer servants but friends of God! When Adam and Eve sinned they immediately sought to hide from the Creator, knowing their actions had placed them at enmity with Him. Six thousand years later man knows in his heart-of-hearts he is not right on the inside! In Romans 1 Paul teaches the heathen have creation and conscience to speak to them of God, making them without excuse! If we are to be about the Father's business, it behooves us to be instruments of reconciliation by telling the lost, "What a Friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and griefs to bear."

His was the business of restoration. Revelation pulls back the curtain and shows one and all the true nature of God. It opens the eyes of the heart as to Who He Is! Reconciliation then brings the sinner, the backslider, and the Christian who has miserably failed to this wonderful God and facilitates the loving friendship between God and man. But restoration takes things to the next level. Though man is now in good standing with God, the ravages of sin leave cruel marks as reminders of foolish decisions of the past. The narrative of some, even in the church, is, "though you are saved, some things can never be restored," but Scripture shows otherwise! While writing to backslidden Israel about their present and future servitudes to Babylon, the prophet Joel speaks words of comfort promising restoration, "And I will restore to you the years that the locust hath eaten, the cankerworm, and the caterpillar, and the palmerworm, my great army which I sent among you. And ye shall eat in plenty, and be satisfied, and praise the name of the LORD your God, that hath dealt wondrously with you: and my people shall never be ashamed. And ye shall know that I am in the midst of Israel, and that I am the LORD your God, and none else: and my people shall never be ashamed" (Joel 2:25-27 KJV). Amazingly, only God can "restore to you the years!" For Jesus, the Father's business was about **revelation, reconciliation, and restoration!** That should be our business as well.

Director of Church Ministries

When Your Back Is Against The Wall



Tracy & Cara Lynn
McWilliams

"So the Egyptians pursued them, all the horses and chariots of Pharaoh, his horsemen and his army, and overtook them camping by the sea beside Pi Hahiroth, before Ball Zephon" (Exodus 14:9 NKJV). Sooner or later, we will all face a situation when we feel like our back is against the wall. God had supernaturally delivered the children of Israel from the clutches of Egyptian slavery. After 400 years of being in bondage the people of God are finally free. They must have thought that it would be nothing but sunshine and roses from here on out. However, approximately 17 days into their journey, the children of Israel encounter a big brick wall, known as the Red Sea.

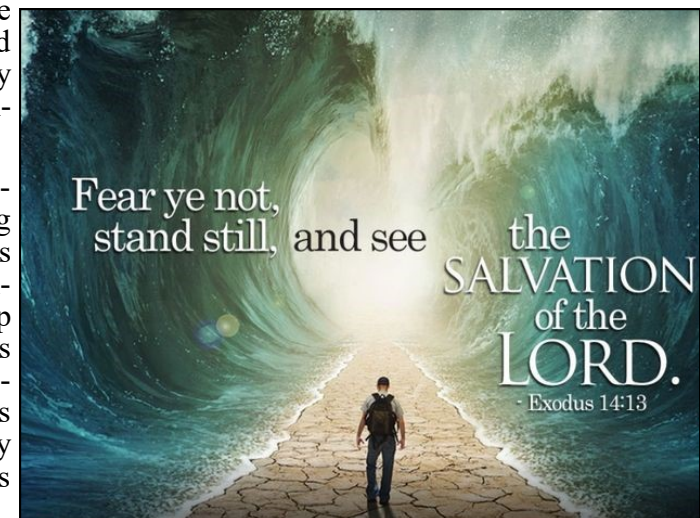
The Red Sea can be identified as **The Problem**. Being a Christian does not insulate you from the problems of this sin cursed world. Someone has said, "Being a Christian is not about being on a luxury ship. It is about being on a battleship." The most direct route from Egypt to the Promised Land would have been about 150 miles and would have taken less than two weeks to traverse. God often shows us the final destination, but He purposefully withholds all the detours that we will take along the way. God's detour seemed to lead them to a dead end. They were closed in by mountains on each side, the Red Sea in front, and Pharaoh coming up behind them.

Their problem now turns to **The Panic**. **"And when Pharaoh drew near, the children of Israel lifted their eyes, and behold, the Egyptians marched after them. So they were very afraid, and the children of Israel cried out to the LORD. Then they said to Moses, "Because there were no graves in Egypt, have you taken us away to die in the wilderness? Why have you so dealt with us, to bring us up out of Egypt"** (Exodus 14:10-11, NKJV). They went from singing, "What a Mighty God We Serve" to why did God bring us out to the desert only to die? They were not only questioning Moses' leadership, but they questioned God's character. While the children of Israel were speaking words of fear, Moses was speaking words of faith.

While Israel had given in to panic, God had given Moses **The Plan**. In verses 13-15, God through Moses gives Israel three directives. **First Directive: Fear Not!** Depending on which translation of the Bible you use, there are 366 verses that deal directly with fear. Fear is when we can't see God thru our circumstances. Faith is when we see our circumstances thru God. **Second Directive: Stand Still!** Standing still does not mean that we are just standing around twiddling our thumbs. We are praying, fasting, reading God's Word, and seeking His face. When you don't know what to do, know where to go. Stand still, stay with God, and don't get ahead of Him. If you will stand still and stop trying to figure how to do it in your own strength, you will see the salvation of the Lord. When you come to the end of what you can do, you will discover what God can do. **Third Directive: Move On!** On one hand God tells them to stand still. On the other hand, He tells them to move on. Now which one does He want us to do? We are to do both. We are not ready to move forward until we have first stood still to hear the voice of God and get our marching orders. Moses didn't presume to know God's will. Standing still has to do with the calming of our mind, will and emotions to hear the voice of God. Once we have heard God's voice, we must move out in faith regardless of how we may feel at the time. Faith is in your feet, not your feelings. Faith is not really faith until it is acted upon.

Now we come to **The Phenomenon**. God parted the Red Sea and the children of Israel crossed over on dry ground (Exodus 14:19-22). Gladys Aylward, missionary to China more than fifty years ago, was forced to flee when the Japanese invaded Yangcheng. But she could not leave her work behind. With only one assistant, she led more than a hundred orphans over the mountains toward Free China.

In their book, *The Hidden Price of Greatness*, Ray Besson and Renalda Hunsicker tell what happened. "During Gladys' harrowing journey out of war-torn Yangcheng, she grappled with despair as never before. After passing a sleepless night, she faced the morning with no hope of reaching safety. A 13-year-old girl in the group reminded her of their much-loved story of Moses and the Israelites crossing the Red Sea. 'But I am not Moses,' Gladys cried in desperation. 'Of course, you aren't the girl replied, 'but Jehovah is still God!'" When Gladys and the orphans made it through, they proved once again, that no matter how inadequate we feel, God is still God and we can trust Him.





Around West Texas

Churches

Open Church List & Relaunch Opportunities

Childress, First Assembly of God

Contact: Marilyn Jesse
P.O. Box 1077, Childress TX 79201
Phone: 940.585.7027

**Dalhart, First Assembly of God

*Pampa, New Life Assembly of God

*Sunray, Assembly of God

Contact: Kevin Anderson, Presbyter
P.O. Box 511, Stratford, TX 79084
Phone: 806.922.2840

*Plains, First Assembly of God

Contact: Danny Williams, Presbyter
1801 CR 151, Snyder, TX 79549
Phone: 325.575.2861

**Spur, First Assembly of God

Contact: Raymond Mizelle, Presbyter
408 Broad Way, Roaring Springs,
TX 79256 Phone: 806.422.1092

*Imperial, Assembly of God

Contact: Mike Hanks, Presbyter
100 West Wadley, Midland, TX 79705
Phone: 432.528.8592

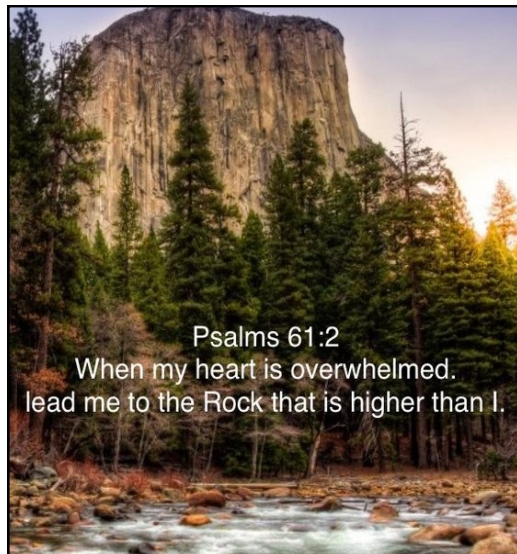
*Whiteface, Living Water Fellowship

Contact: Glenn R. Beaver
P.O. Box 64778, Lubbock, TX 79464
Phone: 806.792.5835

*District Affiliated Church

** Relaunch Opportunity

AGUSM Chaplain, Duane Gryder is in need of the donation of a 16' or 14' enclosed tandem axle trailer with a back door ramp. If you have or know of someone who has this type of equipment and are willing to donate it to the ministry, please contact Duane Gryder at, duane@deserthighway.org or call 432-557-8417.



Psalms 61:2

When my heart is overwhelmed,
lead me to the Rock that is higher than I.

West Texas Bible Institute

March 18, 2023

Certified: Intro to Theology

Licensed: Evangelism

Ordained: Corinthian

Correspondence

April 22, 2023

Certified: Old Testament Survey

Licensed: Prison Epistles

Ordained: The Pentateuch

Deadline to register for April classes is March 31. Contact Tracy McWilliams for more information.

Ministers

Transferred Out:

Gene King (Ordained) North Texas

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



We express our sympathy to the families of **Marvin Gilbert, Suzanno Carrillo Sr, Susan Rockafellow, Teddy Teeter and Donald Alvis.**

Marvin Gilbert stepped into the presence of the Lord on January 27, 2023. Marvin and his wife **Rosie** are both credentialed ministers with the West Texas and they served for many years as world missionaries and later taught doctoral students at the Assemblies of God Theological Seminary and at Southwestern Assemblies of God University in the Doctor of Ministry program.

Suzano Carrillo Sr passed from this earth on January 27, 2023. He is the father of **Suzano Carrillo Jr** who along with his wife **Jennifer** serve as Lead Pastors at First Assembly of God, El Paso, Texas.

Susan Rockafellow stepped into heaven on February 6, 2023. Susan is the mother of **Renee Tilley** who serves along her husband **Barry Tilley** as Lead Pastors at Living Word Church, Lubbock where Susan was a much loved member.

Teddy Teeter entered into eternal rest on February 13, 2023. Teddy was a credentialed minister with the West Texas District and along with his wife **Louise** served as Lead Pastors at First Assembly of God, Olton for 29 years.

Donald Alvis passed into the presence of God on February 13, 2023. Donald is the father of **Donna Carnagey** who is a credentialed minister with the West Texas District. Donna and her husband **Todd** have served in various ministries at First Assembly of God, Lubbock.

Please be in prayer for these families as they grieve the passing of their loved ones but also rejoice for them as they are now in the presence of the Lord.

Prayer Requests: **Luther Foster**, is now at home with Hospice care; **Becky Nenstiel**, complete healing from cancer; **Sondra Bocchieri**, (retired World Missionary and daughter of Kay Stafford), full recovery from a heart attack and surgery; **Kay Stafford**, full recovery from a stroke; **Myllinda Wood**, (sister of Tracy McWilliams), ALS; **Annette Newberry**, dementia; **Regina Gonzalez**, medical issues and Ankylosing Spondylitis (an autoimmune disease); **Chuck & Judy Redger**, complete healing and return of energy; **Charlotte Boyd**, Alzheimers; **Rey Rodriguez**, Muscular Dystrophy; **George Mullins**, recovery from a 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); and **Perry Shuffield**, healing & strength.

West Texas Assemblies of God 2023 Spring Tour



North Plains Section
Speaker: Kevin Anderson Presbyter
Monday, April 3, 7:00 pm
San Jacinto AG, Amarillo
Cost of Meal: \$15



East Plains Section
Speaker: Raymond Mizelle, Presbyter
Tuesday, April 4, 7:00 pm
Full Gospel Church, Roaring Springs
Meal is Complimentary



South Plains Section
Speaker, Danny Williams, Presbyter
Monday, April 10, 7:00 pm
First AG, Seagraves
Cost of Meal: \$10



West Plains Section
Speaker: Nick Hester Presbyter
Tuesday, April 11, 7:00 pm
Christian Life AG, Lubbock
Cost of Meal: \$10



Pecos Section
Speaker: Mike Hanks, Presbyter
Friday, April 14, 7:00 pm
First AG, Midland
Cost of Meal: \$15



El Paso Section
Speaker: Bobby Garcia, Presbyter
Saturday, April 15, 10:00 am
Grace Christian Center, El Paso
Cost of Meal: \$12



FASHIONED
CREATED FOR PURPOSE



Christian Sattesahn
Women of Purpose
Director



WTX WOMEN OF PURPOSE
SPRING
CONFERENCE

\$55

SATURDAY, APRIL 1, 2023

10:00 AM - 3:00 PM

INCLUDES LUNCH & CUSTOM HAT

PLAINVIEW FIRST ASSEMBLY

1300 N INTERSTATE 27

PLAINVIEW, TX 79072

REGISTER BY MARCH 11TH

www.wtwomen.com/events



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BGMC!

2022
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STL

BGMC
\$93,735.00



WTXNEXT GEN MINISTRIES GAVE A TOTAL
OF \$166,115.49 TO MISSIONS IN 2022!

WTXNEXT STL PROJECTS

STL PROJECTS 2022

STEVE & SHERI
WOODWARD

\$45,000

NEW STL TRUCK



Please contact us to find out how you can give towards this project
(800) 796-6836 | wtxnext@gmail.com

STL PROJECTS 2022

JONATHAN &
AUDRA

\$70,000

NEW STL VAN



Please contact us to find out how you can give towards this project
(800) 796-6836 | wtxnext@gmail.com

STL PROJECTS 2022

CHRIS &
CAREY

\$10,000

NEW STL
MOTORCYCLE



Please contact us to find out how you can give towards this project
(800) 796-6836 | wtxnext@gmail.com

ROARING SPRINGS CAMP UPDATES



For those of you we have yet to meet, our names are Anthony, Amy, Amelia, and William Castro. We have been honored to be the Camp Managers for a little over a year now. We're excited to share our heart with you guys, and rejoice together in what the Lord is doing through RSC. During 2022, the camp hosted:

- Six retreats
- Five camps
- Four work weeks
- and one wedding

We are so excited to see what the Lord has in store for 2023!

February updates

- We are excited to announce that high-speed, unlimited Wi-Fi is now available in the cafeteria!
- A changing table is being installed in the cafeteria women's bathroom to help create a more comfortable environment for parents and kiddos.
- We were honored to host about 65 people during the Walk to Emmaus event this month.



Youth Camps '22



2023 Banquet Tour



Rick Allen
National LFTL Director
Banquet Speaker



Serving begins at 7:00 pm
Banquets conclude at 8:30 pm



Phil McGechie
Men's Director

Date	Section	Location
March 13	El Paso	Grace Christian Center El Paso
March 14	Pecos	Calvary Assembly of God Midland
March 16	South Plains	Lighthouse Assembly of God Snyder
March 17	East Plains	Full Gospel Church Roaring Springs
March 20	West Plains	CenterPointe Church Muleshoe
March 21	North Plains	First Family Church Amarillo