

PENTECOSTAL
CHURCH OF GOD

S O U T H W E S T T E X A N

MARCH 2011

B L E S S I N G O F F A S T I N G

FYI

- **DISTRICT BIBLE CONFERENCE MARCH 7-9**
- **Joe Cheesman recovering from bypass surgery.**
- **Martha Woelke recovering from bronchitis & mini-strokes.**
- **Lee Ramey battling lime disease.**
- **Pastors: complete & return ALCR asap.**
- **Send General Convention assessment (\$40 per church) to district office.**
- **Help Parkmans with cost of emergency flight home.**
- **Needs in Bolivia: Pampa - roof \$2,000, soundsystem \$1,000; Amboro - parsonage \$4,000, tile \$1,700. A team come to Bolivia. Chile & Uruguay are open!**

Several churches in SW TX have declared extended fasts. Some start the new year seeking God for a mighty outpouring in the months ahead. The benefits are numerous and testimonies abound of breakthroughs. JN

January was a month that many went on a fast and declared it a cleansing month. One of the 86 references to fasting in the Bible is Matthew 6:16. Jesus said, "Moreover, when you fast..." indicating that there is a time when we should fast.

Fasting is not going on a hunger strike to force the hand of God.

Daniel fasted until God sent an answer (Daniel 1:8, 12-15). Jehoshophat proclaimed a fast when the enemy was approaching. Even the wicked city of Nineveh believed God and proclaimed a fast. God saw their works and their city was spared.

Isaiah 58:6-8 gives us a three-fold promise: *Is not this the fast that I have chosen? to loose the bands of wickedness, to undo the heavy burdens, and to let*

the oppressed go free, and that ye break every yoke? 7) Is it not to deal thy bread to the hungry, and that thou bring the poor that are cast out to thy house? when thou seest the naked, that thou cover him; and that thou hide not thyself from thine own flesh? 8) Then shall thy light break forth as the morning, and thine health shall spring forth speedily: and thy righteousness shall go before thee; the glory of the LORD shall be thy reward.

These verses proclaim the benefits of fasting:

1. Thy light shall break forth as the morning - fasting will open our mental faculties to understand God's Word. We live in a world of darkness and need God's light to help see things as they really are.
2. Thine health shall spring forth speedily - medical science tells us that fasting is not near as deadly as feasting. Our foods are filled with artificial ingredients and acids that poison our bodies. Fasting allows the body to rest as we

cleanse it from receiving good toxins.

3. Thy righteousness shall go before thee - people who will discipline themselves to fast will discipline themselves in other things. Paul even speaks of fasting to help marriage relations (1 Corinthians 7:5).

Fasting is not going on a hunger strike to force the hand of God. It is a way of expressing our sincerity and hunger for God. May God bless those of you that have fasted in your efforts for Him. May others declare a cleansing month and fast so they too can benefit.

Fasting is a time to increase prayer output and Word intake.

Let's all remember that during our time of fasting, we should increase our prayer output and our Word intake so that our spirit man grows stronger and healthier.

Billy & Gail Sanders



2010 WORLD MISSIONS/MINISTRIES GIVING REPORT

The **World Missions** Yearly Report - 2010 shows Southwest Texas in the National Awards as the **First** District Giving Per Church at a \$3,232.44 average; and Southwest Texas was **Fourth** in the Nation overall with \$129,297.51. Attractive plaques were received in the district office in recognition of your missions support.

In the Regional Local Church Awards, New Life Outreach, Pleasanton, Pastor Richard Hagood was **First** in Central Region with \$28,591.00; and was **Second** in the Nation for Giving in 2010. Coastal Bend Family Worship Center, Aransas Pass, Pastor Bob Jayne was **Seventh** in the Nation for Giving 2010 with \$13,480.50.

Certificates will be awarded at Bible Conference for the Top Three in the district for 2010 World Missions giving. They are: **First Place** in District, New Life Outreach, Pleasanton \$28,591; **Second Place** in District, Coastal Bend Family Worship Center, Aransas Pass \$13,480; **Third Place** in District, Trinity Chapel, Austin \$9,752.

Southwest Texas was 4th in the Nation in giving to PCG **World Ministries**. Local Churches report listed New Life Outreach, Pleasanton as 6th in the nation and Coastal Bend Family Worship Center, Aransas Pass placed 8th (also, Trinity Chapel, Austin #32; Trinity Christian Center, Beeville #33; River of Life Worship Center, Luling #42)

"IT'S SETTLED" OFFERINGS—EQUAL SACRIFICE, NOT EQUAL GIFT

One church and four ministers, already listed, sent in additional offerings last month. The love and support of all who are listed to the right is acknowledged with gratefulness, but where is everyone else? The majority has left it up to the faithful few to carry the exhausting load. Something's not right when half of the churches and two-thirds of the ministers have not given to help close the door on debt (ranch related). It's going to take all of us to get the job done. JN

\$10,000 Coastal Bend Family, Aransas Pass
\$5,500 Gospel Lighthouse, Smithville
\$3,000 Trinity Church, Cuero

\$1,000 Victory Christian, Hamilton
\$1,000 New Life Outreach, Pleasanton
\$1,000 Austin Revival Center
\$1,000 Victory Chapel, McGregor
\$500 Trinity Chapel, Austin
\$650 North Pointe, Copperas Cove
\$200 Full Gospel Assembly, SanAngelo
\$300 Abundant Life, Victoria
\$200 De Leon Christian Fellowship
\$100 Full Gospel Assembly, Waco
\$100 River of Life, Luling
\$100 Calvary Temple, Gatesville
\$100 Agape Fellowship, Ingleside
\$100 Trinity Christian Center, Beeville
\$100 SWTX Women's Ministry
\$25 Open Door Christian, San Antonio
\$25 West Texas Christian, Carlsbad

\$1,220 John/Marilyn Norvell
\$1,210 **Robert/Sherri Thomet**
\$1,000 Billie Sue Thomas
\$1,000 Ronald Bowden
\$750 **Dan/Delores Chapman**
\$650 **Les/Pansy Crawford**
\$600 Al/Jean Creel
\$500 Jason/Becky Norvell
\$500 Eileen Jayne
\$500 Melvin/Rosalee Clearman
\$300 Tim Baylor
\$250 Bill Pierce
\$250 Billy/Gail Sanders
\$250 Rick/Roberta Lasly
\$250 Phil/Darlene Hurst
\$200 Kenneth Mills
\$200 Aletha Webb

\$100 Robert Martin
\$100 Jim Moore
\$100 Aaron Jayne
\$100 Gilbert Donald
\$100 Jack/Margie Davis
\$100 Salomon Avila
\$100 Louise Hardt
\$100 Harold/Deborah Irvin
\$100 Bruce/Carol Cessna
\$100 Rachel Valencia
\$60 **Michael Cass**
\$50 Rob/Suzanne Turner
\$50 Carlton/Mitzi Wetherell
\$25 Elton/Judy Cody
\$10 Mylon Avery
\$10 Hank Cannon
 Thank you for giving.

WILLING RATHER TO BE PRESENT WITH THE LORD (2 COR 5:8)

Rev. Delmar Summers passed away Friday, February 18. Born April 29, 1934 in Winfield, KS, Brother Summers started preaching at age 17, evangelized for 11 years where he met



the love of his live, Barbara. He moved to Waco in 1964 and pastored for 38 years while taking missionary trips. He retired from his 11 year pastorate in McGregor, June 2010. A respected and deeply loved ordained PCG minister, Brother Summers preached faith. 40 years ago he tied the marriage

knot for John Norvell and Marilyn Butler. He is survived by his wife of 58 years, Barbara; son, Derrall; daughter, LeNae; 8 grandchildren, 8 great grandchildren (and 4 on the way). Rev. Bill Daughtry and Rev. Curtis Jones officiated; Bishop Norvell assisted at graveside.



Hazel Parkman was loved by all. The precious mother of our missionary David Parkman passed away at her nursing home residence in Beeville, February 8. David and Paula returned home from the Philippines; Bishop Norvell officiated the services.

YOUTH MINISTRIES – DYD JASON NORVELL - WWW.SWTTYOUTH.COM

We missed those who did not make it to the February **Youth Rallies**. Many have commented, "I remember when Youth Rallies used to be packed out and youth used to be excited." So, lets all get involved and make this youth program the very best it can be. Hope to see you next time.



(\$15 per entry) need to be in our office by Monday, March 7. Afterward, the fee goes up to \$25 per entry. All registration forms are due no later than Monday, March 14. Divisions: Young Adult 19-35, Teens 13-19, Kids 6-12. Even if you have no one competing, come support and help your youth find out what all the

excitement is about. Now, Kids who win advance to **National Talent Expo** in Dallas, June 22-24. With 2011 Summerfest so close, lets get as many SW Texans there as possible. Copperas Cove and Rockport are competing in Bible Quiz! We are going to be having a regional **Connect Tour** in April. We will be going to a park or gym in a city between the sections. **Austin & Waco/Temple** are Friday, April 1; **Brownwood & San Angelo** are Saturday,

April 2; and **San Marcos, San Antonio & Corpus Christi** are Saturday, April 9. Lets come together and make an impact. Plan for **Summer Camp** at Lost Pines in Warda. **Senior Camp** is ages 13-19, July 28 - August 2 for \$75. **Junior Camp** is ages 8-12, August 3 - 6 for \$60. Increasing both camps by a day each only increased prices by \$10. We are trying to make it more about winning and reaching youth and children and less about trying to raise funds.

Our next event is **District Talent Expo**, Saturday, March 26 at San Marcos HQ. Registrations

RITE OF PASSAGE - THE FATHER IS THERE

Do you know the legend of the Cherokee Indian youths' Rite of Passage? His father takes him into the forest, blindfolds him and leaves him alone. He is required to sit on a stump the whole night and not remove the blindfold until the rays of the morning sun shine through it. He cannot cry out for help to anyone. Once he survives the

night, he is a man. He cannot tell the other boys of this experience, because each lad must come into manhood on his own. The boy is naturally terrified. He can hear all kinds of noises. Wild beasts must surely be all around him. Maybe even some human might do him harm. The wind blew the grass and earth, and shook his

stump, but he sat stoically, never removing the blindfold. It would be the only way he could become a man! Finally, after a horrific night the sun appeared and he removed his blindfold. It was then that he discovered his father sitting on the stump next to him. He had been at watch the entire night, protecting his son from harm.



We, too, are never alone. Even when we don't know it, God is watching over us, sitting on the stump beside us. Just because we can't see God, doesn't mean He is not there.

I.M. SCHEDULE

- February 28 - San Angelo**
Full Gospel Assembly
- March 1 - De Leon**
De Leon Christian Fellowship
- March 2 - Killeen**
Glad Tidings
- March 3 - Austin**
Trinity Chapel
- March 4 - Lockhart**
Faith Chapel
- March 5 - Rockport**
New Beginnings

ANTI-FREEZE

Operation Antifreeze at New Beginnings in Brownwood includes coat and blanket drives, as well as offering a free meal and a warm place to stay on freezing nights.



WM MEMO

Reminder for local Women's groups: Please get your group registration in to the District Office ASAP so we can get pertinent information in your hands. Thank you and Bless you for your quick response. Let's make this a record year! *Marilyn Norvell, director Women's Ministries*

DALLAS IN JUNE

Make plans now to attend **General Convention** in TEXAS! Hotel info and registration forms are available online or in February Pentecostal Messenger. Also, the district is required to pay convention assessment of \$40 per church. Asking each church to send \$40 to the District Office to help cover this expense.

www.swtx-pcg.org

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WORDS OF WISDOM

"Who is a wise man and endued with knowledge among you? let him shew out of a good conversation his works with meekness of wisdom."

James 3:13

NUGGETS OF TRUTH

"For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though, He was rich, yet for your sakes He became poor, that ye through His poverty might be rich."

2 Corinthians 8:9

THE STRANGER

A few years after I was born, my Dad met a stranger who was new to our small Texas town. From the beginning, Dad was fascinated with this enchanting newcomer and soon invited him to live with our family. The stranger was quickly accepted and was around from then on.

As I grew up, I never questioned his place in my family. In my young mind, he had a special niche. My parents were complementary instructors: Mom taught me good from evil, and Dad taught me to obey. But the stranger... he was our storyteller. He would keep us spellbound for hours on end with adventures, mysteries and comedies.

If I wanted to know anything about politics, history or science, he always knew the answers about the past, understood the present and even seemed able to predict the future! He took my family to the

first major league ball game. He made me laugh, and he made me cry. The stranger never stopped talking, but Dad didn't seem to mind.

Sometimes, Mom would get up quietly while the rest of us were shushing each other to listen to what he had to say, and she would go to the kitchen for peace and quiet. I wonder now if she ever prayed for the stranger to leave.

Dad ruled our household with certain moral convictions, but the stranger never felt obligated to honor them. Profanity, for example, was not allowed in our home... not from us, our friends or any visitors. Our longtime visitor, however, got away with four-letter words that burned my ears and made my dad squirm and my mother blush. My Dad didn't permit the liberal use of alcohol. But the stranger encouraged us to try it on a regular basis. He made cigarettes

look cool, cigars manly and pipes distinguished.

He talked freely (much too freely) about sex. His comments were sometimes blatant, sometimes suggestive, and generally embarrassing.

I now know that my early concepts about relationships were influenced strongly by the stranger. Time after time, he opposed the values of my parents, yet he was seldom rebuked... and never asked to leave.

More than fifty years have passed since the stranger moved in with our family. He has blended right in and is not nearly as fascinating as he was at first. Still, if you could walk into my parents' den today, you would still find him sitting over in his corner, waiting for someone to listen to him talk and watch him draw his pictures.

His name? We just call him 'TV'.

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

Lee Ramey	3
Sidney Vannoy	11
Vardieman Hopkins	13
Bill Daughtry	17
Jason Norvell	18
Timothy Baylor	20
Ronald Bowden	20
Bobby Dickey	31

ANNIVERSARIES

Mr & Mrs Les Crawford	17
Mr & Mrs Jim Boatright	21
Mr & Mrs Rick Schmidt	21
Mr & Mrs Robert Jayne	25

MINISTERS ON CALL

Gus Chupe, Seguin
(830) 386-0101

Les Crawford, Beeville
(361) 358-5499

Ray Keasler, Granite Shoals
(830) 798-4019

Jim/Melissa Ogden, San Angelo
(325) 212-8689

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