

## Preparing for the Feast of Tabernacles and the Year Ahead

**It's time to start finalizing your plans to be at the Feast of Tabernacles, while at the same time - begin preparing for the upcoming year following the Feast**

We've all heard the phrase, "you have to crawl before you walk." Looking at the first half of the year for Ministries International it appears God has allowed us to take our first step. Let me explain.

Ministries International was formed in 2006 with the love and support of just a few congregations and ministers. Most people don't realize it, but for the most part, those congregations were independently aligned, but through a cooperative effort chose to pull their gifts and talents together and formed a joint outreach. While at the same time, those congregations have not had to give up their individuality.

The church does not run as a hierarchy, but rather, it is constituted to operate through the New Testament example of the ministry serving as equals, not one man authority or rule. God's word tells us there is safety in a multitude of counselors.

These two concepts: first-independence and alignment, and second, the equality of the ministry has positioned us in a unique way to preach the gospel and grow the church; more specifically, the "ecclesia," the body of Christ. These two concepts are vitally important to understand in the development of the work, it is Biblically aligned and operated.

### Filling a Very Important Need

Historically we can see that God used the means available via the vehicle available during that time in history. The printing press and the printing of the Bible. Then came radio, and the word went over the air. As as television came on the scene, God used that vehicle in ways of getting His word out that could not have ever been possible before that time. The age of the internet has now pushed even the limitations of television to the side. Never before in the history of man has the means been available as it is now to preach the gospel unto the world. To that end, we began to lay down the foundation for our first outreach.

### God's Unchanging Word

On Sunday July 4th we completed production and went online with our very first program. A humble beginning to say the least. I wrote to you in the last newsletter how incredibly intimidating it was to do. Additionally there were some lighting and technical problems that had to be over come. Despite the difficulties, let me share with you some startling and powerful first fruits.



On the set of God's Unchanging Word.

### Encouraging Statistics

After just two weeks of officially being online, we have received the following astonishing statistics:

3905 visitors, Hits: 41,856

The responses came in from 48 countries, and just over 300 cities in the U.S.

Even more surprising was that with in a matter of just a few hours, we were receiving request for materials from Australia, England, Canada, and various places around the U.S. Before the first official day online we even received a request from an individual who wanted to know if there was a congregation she could attend where she lived in North Carolina.

*NOTE: If you've not seen the program, you can find the program at [www.gucw.org](http://www.gucw.org). For those of you who may not have internet access, when we have them produced we will be placing them on DVD's that will go out with the sermon DVD's.*

### Outreach Following the Feast

God willing, during my update of the work I am hoping to share with all of you some ideas and ways to help share the program, and, God willing - begin to lay the ground work for bringing in new potential members into God's Family.

### Joint Cooperating Efforts with Independent Congregations.

Over the past couple of years we've been blessed to be able to work with the Church of God congregations that are independently operated. This past year we have been blessed with more and more contacting us to use our materials and they often play our DVD's. This is an honor and a blessing we have not taken lightly.

A common concern that usually arises from conversations from those churches is their concern of fulfilling an outreach. We all understand that there must be a fulfillment of the two parts of the commission; preach the gospel unto the world, and making converts.

We believe that through a cooperative effort, God's Unchanging Word we may be able to fill that void. It has long been needed. I plan to go into more detail about this concept, as well as sharing plans

and objectives for promoting the program at each of the four U.S. Feast sites. I am sure you may have many questions; hopefully I will be able to answer them.

*Note: If you are unable to attend, we will be broadcasting the update live on Saturday Sept. 25 from the Auburn, IN site. 10:00 ET, 9:00 CT. You will find it at [www.thecogmihalifax.org](http://www.thecogmihalifax.org). (This is a joint effort with the MI fellowship and the COGMI Halifax congregations to bring the Feast to those unable to attend.)*

## FEAST PREPARATIONS

We have a very special surprise for everyone attending the Feast with us this year. While I was in PA, Mr. Mark Rusinko opened the first day with special music that moved all of us attending. I sat there with tears as I listened to the composition of God's Holy Word put to music in a very special way.

He actually chooses passages from the Bible and puts his musical talents to the interpretation of, and in many cases actual wording from the scriptures.

Mark and the COGMI have teamed up to bring you a CD of just some of his wonderful music. This year we will be giving everyone who registers at the Feast a copy. Be sure to register to get your copy.

## Feast Fund Raiser

This past year we have begun to see a serious increase in responses that have resulted in people being added to the mailing list. In fact, we have seen the increase in request for DVD's grow by about 25%. This is a positive and a blessing to the church. However, this has caused an increase on an already tight budget, as mailings and postage have increased. If God continues to bless our new efforts of "God's Unchanging Word" as we have witnessed from the initial outreach, we will continue to see the cost rise, as requests continue to increase.

### CORRECTION FOR PHONE NUMBER FOR BRANSON FEAST SITE

Please note the correct Phone number for the Best Western Inn in Branson, MO site is: 417-338-2141

### Choir Forming for Myrtle Beach

We are trying to form a Festival Choir in Myrtle Beach this year. Individuals who would like to sing, please consider signing up. We will be singing two numbers. The music is relatively easy and should not take too long to learn. Even if you do not "read music" and would like to sing please consider joining us. You will be able to learn the music by ear. After contacting us, the sheet music will be sent to you along with a CD of the songs.

Please contact Mark Rusinko for information:  
Phone number: 609-581-2646  
Email: [Rusinkomark@aol.com](mailto:Rusinkomark@aol.com)

To help offset the rising cost of God's Work, we have a special fund raiser Feast promotion. We are in the process of creating a special DVD-Packet that will feature all five of the "Satan's Most Wanted" series. This series has brought in more responses than anything else we've ever offered, with the exception of the "Two Seeds, The Rise of Islam." The Most Wanted packaged series will have a special professional appearance. Since it is the policy of COGMI not to sell anything, they will be available absolutely "FREE." It is our hope that those who may pick up a copy or two will be inspired to help with a tax deductible donation. They will make great Feast gifts to friends and loved ones, and to have available to lend to someone who may show interest in God's Holy Word.

If you haven't made your plans for the Feast - it's time to get busy, get serious, and it's time to get going; less than two months ahead. Many thanks to all who have been supporting the church. Hopefully all of you will be able to be at God's Feast of Tabernacles.

Sincerely,



Tom Kerry

## Available at the Feast 2010



# 5-DVD SET



1767 Stumpf Blvd. Gretna La. 70056  
504-367-2005  
[www.thecogmi.org](http://www.thecogmi.org)