



West Texas Assemblies of God

Ministry...Upward in Worship • Inward in Discipleship • Outward in Evangelism

Triadings

Official Organ of the West Texas District Council of the Assemblies of God

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Superintendent's Report by Robert G. Slaton

ADVERSITY AND SUCCESS

The following article was sent to me by Chaplain David Causey. I trust it will bless and encourage you as it did me.

Though born to poverty in 1844 Germany and orphaned when he was but two years old, Karl Benz dreamed of success. But throughout his formative years and early adulthood the signposts of a prosperous way were nowhere to be found. There was only hardship and adversity.

Karl showed promise as a student, but following graduation he proved unsuccessful and unhappy in a series of professional endeavors: locksmith, draftsman, locomotive designer, scales designer, bridge-builder, and both iron- and sheet metal-manufacturer.

None of these jobs was fulfilling. Karl's true passion was the development of a "horseless carriage." He earned a patent in 1876 for a gasoline-powered internal combustion engine. He went on to gain patents for a speed-regulation (acceleration-braking) system, ignition system, spark plugs, water radiator, gear transmission, clutch, carburetor, and axel-pivot steering – all the components of his

dream. But poverty still hounded Karl, and he and his wife Berta spent many years penniless, barely able to eat.

Then, in 1885 things began to come together – particularly for his "motor wagon." His "motor wagon" was the first automobile in the world, for which he earned a patent in 1886 and began to market later that year.

This was not the end of Karl Benz's days of adversity. His "under-powered" invention required many refinements. Gasoline, at the time, was only sold in small quantities as a cleaner and only by pharmacies. Sales remained disappointing for more than a decade. He had to abandon the first car-manufacturing company he founded when the German banks forced him to merge with other companies. But his persistence through affliction paid off. To this day name and legacy of Karl Benz is synonymous with cutting-edge technology in automobile manufacturing.

And, as it turned out, all those unfulfilling jobs paid off as well. For, through them all, Karl Benz was unwittingly gaining the accumulated technological knowledge and skills that would all

converge in the making of the first automobile.

We all yearn for success and hunger for some sign of God's blessing on our lives. If our way prospers, we conclude that "the Lord is with us." But if detours, roadblocks, bumps and hills mar our happy journey, we immediately question God's presence and blessing upon us.

But we shouldn't forget those famous words from the Scripture - "the LORD was with Joseph" – apply to the worst of Joseph's trials, in slavery, in obscurity, and in prison (Genesis 39:2, 21, 23). And as Joseph looked back on all those hardships and undesirable jobs, he could conclude, "What others intended for evil, God intended for good" (Genesis 50:20). Karl Benz could have said the same thing. His hard knocks and unfulfilling occupations ultimately resulted in his success. It will be the testimony of every faithful child of God. For what we so often call "curses" and "bad omens" are in reality the very tools and building blocks through which God will accomplish His will and purpose in us. They are blessings in disguise.

West Texas Assemblies of God SCHOOL OF MINISTRY



MONDAY NIGHT'S SESSION—7:00 P.M.
LOGOS BIBLE SOFTWARE
Presentation & Training
Advanced Technology for Eternal Truth



TUESDAY **Holy Spirit Seminar**

Ervin Asiatico, Speaker

9:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m.

This seminar is designed to equip you, your pastoral staff, and church in becoming more successful in praying people through to this glorious experience.



SUBJECTS COVERED

- * What the Bible Teaches Concerning the Baptism of the Holy Spirit
 - * The Baptism in the Holy Spirit—
Is it optional or a command of the Lord?
 - * Answers to your questions concerning the Holy Spirit
 - * Why You Need the Holy Spirit Baptism
- * The various depths of growth after the initial Baptismal experience
 - * Why people fail to receive the Baptism in the Holy Spirit

SCHEDULE

Monday—September 14
7:00 pm—Welcome & Logos Training

Tuesday—September 15
8:30 am: Fellowship/Coffee/Donuts
9:00 am—noon: Session 1
12:00 noon: Lunch provided by the district
1:00—4:00 pm: Session 2

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Please dress casual and comfortable
for all sessions.

A nursery will be provided.

Budget for the School of Ministry—\$3,500
A free-will offering will be taken.



Glenn R. Beaver
Secretary-Treasurer

Secretary-Treasurer & Director of Church Ministries

When Trials Come!

Jesus said in John 16:33, "I've told you all this so that trusting me, you will be unshakable and assured, deeply at peace. In this godless world you will continue to experience difficulties. But take heart! I've conquered the world" (The Message).

We all face difficulties and challenges from time to time but the faithfulness of God is a strength and comfort which gives us the courage to press on. The following devotion is an excerpt from the Bible Soft program by Charles Spurgeon.

"Stand Still, and See the Salvation of the Lord," Exodus 14:13

"These words contain God's command to the believer when he is reduced to great straits and brought into extraordinary difficulties. He cannot retreat; he cannot go forward; he is shut up on the right hand and on the left; what is he now to do? The Master's word to him is, **stand still**. It will be well for him if at such times he listens only to his Master's words, for other and evil advisers come with their suggestions. Despair whispers lie down and die, give it all up. But God would have us put on a cheerful courage, and even in our worst times, rejoice in His love and faithfulness. **Cowardice** says retreat, go back to the worldling's way of action, you cannot play the Christian's part, it is too difficult. Relinquish your principles. But, however much satan may urge this course upon you, you cannot follow it if you are a child of God. His divine fiat has bid thee go from strength to strength, and so thou shalt, and neither death nor hell shall turn thee from thy course. What, if for a while thou art called to stand still, yet this is but to renew thy strength for some greater advance in due time. **Precipitancy** cries do something. Stir yourself, to stand still and wait, is sheer idleness. We **must** be doing something at once, we must do it so we think, instead of looking to the Lord, who will not only do something but will do everything. **Presumption** boasts if the sea be before you, march into it and expect a miracle. But **faith** listens neither to **presumption**, nor to **despair**, nor to **cowardice**, nor to **precipitancy**, but it hears God say **stand still** and immovable as a rock it stands. **Stand still**, keep the posture of an upright man, ready for action, expecting further orders, cheerfully and patiently awaiting the directing voice and it will not be long ere God shall say to you, as distinctly as Moses said it to the people of Israel, **go forward**."

On the occasion of Jesus feeding the five thousand as recorded in John 6, He challenged His disciples to **prove him**. Someone said that the word **prove** means to test, purify as metal is in fire. So the next time difficulties come, do as Jesus said, prove Him, test Him, just as metal is purified in the fire, even so, our relationship with Jesus will be proven true. Be tested and found faithful and come out on the other side purer than ever.

Jesus himself encourages us to face difficulties, not by listening and reacting in doubt, but by **standing still** in faith and moving forward as He directs. When difficulties come take courage friends and "**see the salvation of the Lord.**"

I John 5:4 states, "**For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith.**"

MINISTER RECORDS

Newly Credentialed:

Sergio Urrutia, Certified Minister

Credential Change:

Karel Cantrell, Certified Minister

Transferred In:

Larry Gilliam (CM) Arkansas

CHURCH RECORDS

Church Closed:

Amarillo, Salt & Light

Church Opened:

El Paso, Iglesia Buenas Nuevas
(Good News Church), Juan Lucero,
Pastor

AVAILABLE FOR MINISTRY

Gene Benningfield	806.456.2029
Simon Beteta	432.689.0966
Ismael Bihl	432.263.2097
Kelly Breckenridge	806.787.0355
Harry Coons	432.955.0697
Paul DeWolfe	806.934.2082
Larry Gilliam	903.826.9605
Rick & Tori Mitchell	806.241.1259
Z.A. Myers	806.216.0252
J.C. Owen	432.550.5804
Forest Srader	505.628.8650
Todd & Angela Starnes	806.771.8887
Marcus Tanner	903.330.1560
Kevin Vander-Plas	806.797.5972
Steven Villines	503.551.9610

BIBLE INSTITUTE OF WEST TEXAS

Courses for August 22, 2009

Certified Ministry Level:

AG History, Missions, and Governance
Facilitator, Neil Unwin

License Level:

Leadership Skills

Facilitator, Manny Castro

Ordination Level:

Pastoral Ministry

Facilitator: Glenn R. Beaver

Courses for September 19, 2009

Certified Ministry Level:

Relationships and Ethics in Ministry

Facilitator, Glenn R. Beaver

License Level:

Introduction to AG Missions

Facilitator, Jannetta Fairbanks

Ordination Level:

Advance Ministerial Internship

Facilitator, Tom Lakey



ASSEMBLIES OF GOD TIDINGS

Glenn R. Beaver, Editor

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**Chris and
Carey
Murdoch**
District Youth
& CE Director



Camp was a huge success this year!
Thanks to all our volunteers for making it a great year!



In their own words...

"I asked Jesus into my heart and it worked!" —Marcos, Kids Camp
 "It was the best week I had in my whole life!" —Jamie, Kids Camp
 "He saved me!" —Eliana, Kids Camp
 "I now understand the preacher's teaching and I have been closer to God!" —Isabel, Kids Camp
 "God healed the hurt that I've been holding in for a long time!" —Brianna, Youth Camp
 "I experienced the realness of my Jesus like never before!" —Amanda, Youth Camp
 "I found Jesus calling me to reach the nations and people!" —Stephen, Youth Camp
 "If God can stop me from smoking, tame the anger, etc., He can heal you, too!" —Ryan, Youth Camp
 "I got a lot of pain I had to let go, and I let it all go!" —Kayla, Youth Camp
 "I'm now to become a missionary!" —Katie, Youth Camp
 "I had a lot of anger and pain in me, but God set me free!" —Tiffany, Youth Camp
 "Cleansing!" —Enviene, Youth Camp
 "I was completely healed from my addiction to nicotine!" —Jason, Youth Camp
 "I got called to be a missionary and I was flowing over with the Holy Spirit!" —Brady, Youth Camp

2009 Camp Totals

617-Campers
(An increase of over 100
from last year!)
147-Staff & Coaches
(All volunteers from our
West Texas churches!)

111-Salvations
161-Rededications
137-Holy Spirit filled
175-Refilled
28-Called into ministry

*Look what the Lord
has done!*

AIM 2009 Many saved; lives changed!

"We worked with Living Stone AG in Del Rio. Pastor Martin Seca and the staff of Living Stone were amazing to work with. The church is so evangelistic that it is no wonder they are running over 500. Our students were trained in personal evangelism and led many to the Lord. The students and leaders said they would never be the same. I would highly recommend a trip to Del Rio to see the great things going on at Living Stone!"
— Chris Murdoch, DYD

"My kids lives will never be the same! They came home from Del Rio on fire like never before. In our first youth service following the trip, the Spirit fell as I have never witnessed in my entire ministry. I wouldn't miss the next AIM trip for the world!"
— Russell Chandler
Youth Pastor, First Family AG Church, Amarillo

2nd Annual Youth & Children Workers' Conference
October 9-10, 2009
Roaring Springs Camp & Conference Center

WOMEN'S MINISTRIES



Recently our family took a trip to the gulf. Our four year old granddaughter had been asking us for two years to take her to the beach. The expression on her face as she saw the sandy beaches and vast body of water was priceless. Watching her experience for the first time building a sand castle and swimming in the ocean was a memory we will never forget. I am reminded that in life we are privileged to experience many first time events. I have now been challenged to never lose the sense of wonder and the childlike gratitude when I am having a "first" in my life. The next time you take the plunge to do something you've never done, see something you've never seen or go somewhere you've never been; try a little of that childlike sense of anticipation and wonder. It will keep you young at heart.



Becky Nenstiel
Women's Ministries
Director

Thank You

The response to the Pleasant Hills Children's Home missions project was awesome! Pictures and report to follow in a later publication.

Your gift of love is greatly appreciated.

Women's Ministries Retreat

October 16 & 17

*The Intentional Woman –
Intentional in Relationships*

Cost \$40.00 – *Does not include hotel*

*Speaker: Arlene Allen
National Women's Director*



MEN'S MINISTRIES

WEST TEXAS DISTRICT

MEN'S RETREAT – AUGUST 14–15

SPEAKER: TOM GREENE

National Men's Ministries Director

Mark Stripling
Men's Ministries
Director



Roaring
Springs Camp
"Ready Now"

- Friday Night and Saturday: \$75.00. Includes Friday steak dinner, Big Country Breakfast and lunch on Saturday. Thursday Night: Add \$25.00 (No meals until Friday night, bring your own for Thursday breakfast and lunch)
- Dads and Grandpas, bring your teenage sons and grandsons.
- 4 Man Scramble Golf at Roaring Springs Ranch, 11 AM Friday. Cost: \$30.00 Includes green fee/ cart. Get your own team or be assigned on site.
- Skeet Shoot Friday at 3 PM. Bring box of clays, gun, shells.
- Ribeye steak dinner Friday at 6:30 pm. (You must RSVP by Tuesday, the 11th)
- Service starts around 7:30 PM. Saturday breakfast at 8 AM.
- Activities include disc golf, ladder golf, washers, paintball, 3 on 3 basketball late Friday night, pistol range, 4 wheelers (bring yours). Bring dominoes, cards, etc. and a favorite dessert for late Friday night fellowship. Or just sit and do nuthin' but ree-lax.
- Register early to get double occupant rooms in the 200's and 300's.
- Bring linens, pillow, towel, toiletries, Bible, games, guns, etc.
- Dismiss after lunch on Saturday. Stay as long as you want Saturday afternoon for more skeet shooting, 4 wheelers, etc.

... People to People ...

25 YEARS OF FAITHFUL SERVICE



Lubbock First AG honored Pastor Tom & Melvina Lakey for 25 years of faithful service to the church on July 19. A lovely banquet type service was given in appreciation for their years of ministry. Robert Slaton was the guest speaker. Bro. Slaton also honored them for their years of

service to the district. Bro. Lakey has served in many areas and continues to serve. He served as secretary/treasurer and now serves as assistant superintendent, chairman of the CPR committee, general presbyter, and board member of Southwestern Assemblies of God University and Pleasant Hills Children's Home, etc. Melvina has served as assistant Women's Ministries director for many years and continues to bless us all with her musical talents on the piano and organ.

Assemblies of God World Missions: Over 80 men and women were commissioned for service in countries all over the world at the 51st Annual Commissioning Service, July 2, in Springfield Missouri. National Director of World Missions John Bueno presented the new missionaries and Doug Clay, General Treasurer, gave the charge. West Texas missionary Greg Beggs was one of the special speakers during the Missionary Renewal.

WEST TEXAS DISTRICT COUNCIL OF THE ASSEMBLIES OF GOD

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Prayer Needs: *Rebecca Barton* (Perryton First) has been diagnosed with rheumatoid arthritis. Because tests show it is actively damaging her joints and bones, the doctors are aggressively treating her with chemotherapy. *Sue Murdoch* (Lubbock Christian Life) is recovering from surgery for a malignant tumor on her colon. The tumor was contained and she will not have to undergo chemo. *Marsha McNeely* underwent extensive breast cancer surgery June 25. In a biopsy they found tumor cells in one lymph gland. They ask that we pray for God's divine intervention, sustaining grace and wisdom and direction for them and the doctors. *Pastor Damon Akins* (Dumas First) is recovering from kidney stones surgery; *Pastor Judy Wooten* (Abernathy) has been diagnosed with fibromyalgia. *Alene Esch* has suffered several strokes and is a nursing home in Alpine. *Florence Van Hoose* is in a nursing home in Crosbyton. These folks are depending on our prayers. **With Christ:** Rosie Gilbert's father passed away. Wanda Elliott's memorial service was at Christian Life, July 18. Please remember the loved ones during this time of bereavement.

Pleasant Hills Children's Home is looking for a happily married couple to work two weeks on and one week off with abused, abandoned, needy & neglected children. Benefit package includes salary, housing & utilities, medical & dental insurance, retirement & reimbursement of moving expenses up to \$500 with receipts. Contact Harry or Martha Thomassen @ 903.389.2641 or send resume to PHCH, P.O. Box 1177, Fairfield TX 75840. *Note: Financial support is being affected by the economy. Offerings can be sent to the address above.*

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