

Changing the world, one heart at a time.



## Time to Refocus by Larry Watrous, President

Well friends, we were snowed out of our first meeting of 2025. Better times are coming. However, there's a lot going on this month for you to get connected and involved with!

The first thing on our calendar is Bible study to be held at the home of Chaz and Catherine on Tuesday, February 4. It's a potluck activity. So - if you can come, please bring something we can munch on and invite a friend!

The next thing on our calendar is the Run for the Son event at The Woodlands Black Bear Diner, Located at 8821 Metro Park Blvd.. Shenandoah. It is scheduled for Wednesday, February 12 from 6 am to 9 pm. We will fundraise 20% for the RFS ministry. Please share the flier with your friends, co-workers, and neighbors! They are excited to have us and it's а great opportunity to minister to the restraunt staff too!

On February 18th we have our monthly CMA chapter meeting at McKenzie's from 7 pm to 9 pm. I hope you all will be there as we have a lot to cover.

And near the end of February - 21 st and 22 nd, we have Seasons of Refreshing in Victoria Texas. This is a great event.

If you've never been to Seasons, you need to get it on your calendar.

Hotel accommodations in Victoria are not that expensive. The food in the area is really good. The Seasons program is excellent and a time of renewal and refocusing. There is also training for officers and all members. It's a good time to meet people and to reunite with friends from the past.

For those who will be in town, we the Messengers have signed up to participate in the Go Texan parade scheduled for February 22. The parade runs from 1 PM to 3 PM. This is an opportunity to support our local community and for our community to know we are here!

The day before the parade we will receive information on where we are to assemble and at what time. We have seven positions that we can fill. If we have more that's OK, if we have less - well I guess that would be OK too. We do need someone to fly our flags. If you have a three-wheeler be sure to let me know.



Ride Safe Friends! Larry Watrous, President, Conroe

Messengers 362

#### Calendar Wiz

# MESSENGERS BIBLE STUDY & POTLUCK DINNER

02/04/2025 at 6:00 pm 7027 Casita Dr. Magnolia, TX

# BLACK BEAR DINER RFS DINE TO DONATE

02/12/2025 - 6 AM TO 10 PM 8821 Metropark Dr, Shenandoah www.BlackBearDiner.com

#### **MESSENGERS MEETING**

02/18/2025 Eat 6 / Meet 7 pm (RFS, 6 pm) McKENZIE'S BBQ 1501 N Frazier St., Conroe

#### **SONIC BIKE NIGHT**

02/27/2025 @ 7 PM 14625 Hwy 105, Montgomery

#### **SEASONS OF REFRESHING**

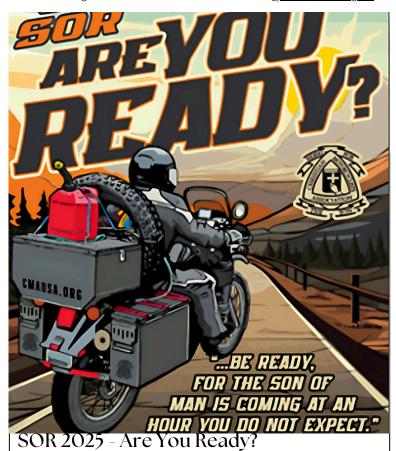
02/21-22/2025 Parkway Church <u>4802 John</u> <u>Stockbauer, Victoria, Texas</u>

## **GO-TEXANS PARADE**

02/22/2025

#### **TEXAS MILE**

03/20-23/2025 Chase Field Industrial Complex 2745 Byrd Street, Beeville Conroe Messengers #362 Facebook: <u>@conroemessengers</u> 02/2025. Page 2



This year's Seasons of Refreshing will be a refocusing on our motivation for ministry. By carefully examining Jesus' parable of the wedding attendants, we will explore how CMA can continue to "make our-selves ready" for our Savior's return.

Our chapter is being recognized for our efforts with Run for the Son and our dedication to this ministry. Gary & Paula Teel, Area Reps, request that our chapter commit to attending both days of Seasons.

#### CMA South East Texas Seasons of Refreshing: February 21 - 22, 2025

Parkway Church, <u>4802 John Stockbauer, Victoria,</u> Registration Form:

https://www.cmasetx.com/SOR%202025%20Registration.pdf

FEE: \$10, Non-CMA: Free

#### **SCHEDULE:**

FRIDAY February 21st

12 Noon: Registration Opens 1:30pm—5pm: Officer Training

6:45pm—9pm: Evening Praise & Worship
• President's Commissioning

9pm– Fellowship Social SATURDAY February 22nd

7:30a: Doors Open (Coffee & Donuts)

7:45a: Registration Opens

8:00a-Chapter, RFS Lead Meeting 9:00a—4:00p—Praise & Worship

National Evangelist, Steve Brackeen

#### RFS Auction at Seasons

This year will be an auction with funds going to RFS. Place something for auction or buy or both!



We are an army that is called to pray and seek God for wisdom and strength as we move forward in sharing the truth of God's love to the motorcycling community. Each year, CMA sets aside the 1st Sunday in March to pray on specific topics: vision and direction for our local chapters, wisdom for our state and national leadership, and wisdom and vision for our Board of Directors. We gather to seek God in the places we live to pray for God's touch upon our land as we surrender ourselves to His will.



## Need for Speed! The Texas Mile!

The Texas Mile timed speed event over a One Mile course for both "cages" and "bikes" returns to Beeville this March!

CMA will provide a ministry tent and help at the entrance collecting entrance fees, and the timing trailer. We will help at the starting line and timing booth. We will have CMA Services on Sunday morning, everyone is welcome by sponsor and guests alike. We need 20 to 25 volunteers with each working a 4 hour shift each day. All CMA volunteers will be served lunch and dinner on Friday, Saturday and Sunday. There will be camping spots for your RV's and tents, must be self-contained.

**DATE**: March 20, 21-23, 2025

**LOCATION:** Chase Field Industrial Complex

2745 Byrd Street, Beeville Texas 78102.

MORE INFO: Meredith Jordan, Call: 361-290-1046

Email: <a href="mailto:stswarearep@gmail.com">stswarearep@gmail.com</a>

VOLUNTEER SIGN

https://www.cmasetx.com/tm2025.html

UP:



## VP Corner: What I learned about giving Thanks by Rod Booher

I want to take a quick moment to talk about one thing that made a tremendous difference in my life years ago which I still apply in my life today. That one thing is to give God praise and thanks for all things that happens in life. Scripture tells us to be thankful.

- Oh give thanks to the Lord, for He is good, for his steadfast love endures forever! Psalms 107:1
- Always giving thanks for all things in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to God, even the Father -Eph. 5:20
- Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God - Philippians 4:6
- Enter His gates with thanksgiving and His courts with praise. Give thanks to Him, bless His name -Psalm 100:4
- Oh, give thanks to the LORD, for He is good! For His mercy endures forever – Psalms 136:1
- Through him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name - Hebrews 13:15
- And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose - Romans 8:28
- In everything give thanks; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus - 1 Thessalonians 5:18

To praise God is to express our acceptance of something that God is permitting to happen. It is not easy when things are difficult or bad. So to praise God for difficult situations, as sickness or disaster, means literally that we accept its happening, as part of God's plan. We can't really praise God without being thankful for the thing we are praising Him for (which is difficult at times). And we can't really be thankful unless we believe that an omnipotent, loving Father is working for our good. Praising, then, involves both gratitude and joy that God is keeping His Word to work good through everything. In addition, it also means that we are accepting the fact that God is responsible for what is happening and will always make it work for our good.

We don't necessarily understand the why. Our understanding gets us into trouble when we try to figure out why and how God brings certain circumstances into our lives. We can never understand why and how God does

something. This is the basis of our praise. God wants us to know that He loves us and that He has a plan for us. And we know that all that happens to us is working for our good if we love God.

I had difficult time as a teenager and learned that I needed to thank God for all things, even all the difficult and tough things that I had been through. **Initially I did** not feel like it, and it was not easy bu I continued

thanking God even though I did not feel like it. This meant thanking God all for all those things that I was unhappy with in my life. This included the death of my father (which occurred when I was 11 years old, the oldest of five children), my mother's moved to a small town in Canada, and the high school I attended. After high school I started to run with the wrong crowd, hit some rough times and God finally got a hold of me. Through some of those difficult times, I read a few books, Power in Praise being one of them, and began to thank God for all of the life events that had happened to me. As I began this new life, God started to heal me and restore me as I thanked Him for all things. It was freeing. I was released, from the past, as I understood that God was my Father and He is a good God.

Life has lots of difficulties. However, we know that we are God's creation, that God really loves us, that God is always with us and that He is our Father, and we can always thank him for being good to us no matter the situation.

"Don't judge each day by the harvest you reap but by the seeds that you plant."



#### Ride in the Go Texan Parade!

It's the 60th Annual Go Texan Parade in **downtown Conroe** and the Messengers are riding! Let Larry know if you will ride. More information about line up times and location to come! See Larry about more info.

DATE: Saturday, February22, 2025



## Run for the Son Mini-Story of Impact: Missionary Maria Wangari-Kenya

"Go into all the world and preach the Good News to everyone. Anyone who believes and is baptized will be saved." - Mark 16-17 NLT is the guiding command that CMA embraces through Run for the Son and in partnership with like minded organizations. When you donate to RFS, you are part of preaching the Good News to everyone around the world! The tools and resources, including motorcycles and other modes of transportation provided to preachers and missionaries is a tremendous help in sharing Jesus! The resources we take for granted in the US, many countries do not have access to! The support and encouragement provided help inspire those in undeserved areas in spreading the Word and inspires them in knowing that others are praying for them and this mighty commission!

Share this! to RFS!

"I pass my greetings to CMA & MVI in the name of our Lord Jesus. The purpose of this letter is solemnly to thank you for the motorcycle I received on March 26, 2023. Upon receiving the gift, I knew that the Great Commission to Samaria and the rest of the world had been made easier. Yes, be confident that CMA in partnership with MVI's mission and vision of making the missioner's work easier and setting the Good News accessible to many will be realized. I sincerely pray that the Lord, who sees the good deeds done in secret, rewards you openly. It is not in vain; you will eventually reap a hundred-fold in due season. Receive my sincere gratitude. Amen. Regards,

-- Missionary Maria Wangari-Kenya"





Conroe Messengers #362 Facebook: <u>@conroemessengers</u> 2/2025 Page 5



## Annual Blessings of the Bikes & Chili Cook-off

In January, the Messengers hosted our 8th annual Blessings of the Bikes & Chili Cook-off at the Woodlands Harley-Davidson. The purpose of our day was to reach out to the biker community, to let them know we are here for them, provide an opportunity to pray with them and share Jesus. In addition, a friendly Chili Cook-Off took place raising \$175 for the winning Chapter's Run for the Son donation! Donations for the baked snacks raised just over \$100 for the Messengers Run for the Son. Thank you to our judges, chili entries, all who were ready to pray, and coordinators! It was a good day.





## CMA SCR Challenges - 3N1, 5N1, 8N1

Three Challenges with the goal to get to know new people in the South Central Region by attending Seasons of Refreshing and State Rallies! When completing the Challenges and providing the correct documentation, you'll earn a unique Patch to show off what you've accomplished! And what do you have to do to earn this patch?

For all of them, you must attend Seasons and our local State rally. Take your picture with State leadership at each event, and take a picture of your name on the registration form. After that, the 3N1 includes 2 additional state rallies, the 5N1 includes 4 additional state rallies, and the 8N1 includes ALL of the state rallies in the South Central Region.

Forms for each challenge is uploaded in <u>Files on the Messengers Facebook Page</u>. Questions? Call Jeff Miller at (785)737-3930 or email 3N1scr@gmail.com.





#### God's Promises by Chaz Johnson, Chaplain

In the Bible, God promises us many things. These are just a few of his promises to his people that he loves and cares for. "And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus." – Philippians 4:19

He is always with you. God is with us all the time, whether we realize it or not. He promises to always stand by our side no matter what. He will never leave us of forsake us. In the good times and the bad, he will be with us. We will never be alone because we always have him by our side as long as we believe in him. ""If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." - Joshua 1:9

He will renew your strength. Whenever you are feeling weak, either physically, mentally or spiritually, God will be with you and help you renew your strength. He heals the sick and wounded. Lean on him and ask him for help and he will be more than happy to help you. All you have to do is call on him. "But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint." - Isaiah 40:31

He has a plan for you. God has a plan for all of us, even when we feel like our lives are falling apart, he is still faithful and still has a plan. Sometimes our life has to fall apart for better things to build. We may not understand the plan that he has, but he knows what he is doing and we have to trust him. "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." - Jeremiah 29:71

He will open doors. God will bring us new opportunities, new people and new experiences into our lives. He will bring us new things that will help us grow to be the people that we are meant to be. He will close doors in our lives, but that just means that he will open new ones. Trust in his plan and that he will bring new opportunities. "But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well." - Matthew 6:33

**He will give us strength.** God promises to give us strength. If we go to him in the hard times when we are feeling weak, he will renew our strength, but we have to ask for his help. If we lean on him, he will help us. He will give us the mental and physical strength that we need to get through. Take life day by day and lean on God for help. "I can do all this through him who gives me strength." - Philippians 4:13

We will have eternal life. God promises us that if we believe in him, he will give us eternal life with him in heaven. If we commit our lives to him, he will give us eternal life. We will be able to live with him in heaven where there is no pain, suffering, sadness or sin, as long as we commit our lives to him, believe in him and trust in his plan for us.

\*From Kennedy Lane at Grand Canyon University

#### Prayer Requests & Praise

Jeannette -Dealing with Hospice Care for Aunt who now passed away in January.

Joy - Aunt passed away in January.

Mary - requested special prayer.

Jeremiah - motorcycle was stolen praying for it's quick and safe return.

Russell - prayer for healing.

Judy - for healing of an injured foot and is in a boot.

Judy & Theresa - father Coys' health.

Theresa - friends Charlotte and Bonnie have cancer, James has health concerns.

Larry - Praise that shoulder surgery recovery is going well, continue to pray for healing.

Phil - hospice is being sought. Son is seeking kidney donor and his daughter might be a match.

Gary & Paula - Niece, Carly struggling with emotional issues. Cousin, Mark dealing with cancer.

Those recovering from the winter conditions in the south, fires in the west.

Prayer for the USA & President Trump

Those struggling financially.

Praise God for 50 years of Christian Motorcyclist Association Ministry



## Learn about God's Ride Plan

<u>cwausa.org/resources/</u> <u>therideplan</u>





#### Anxiety! by Catherine Johnson, Secretary

Anxiety often feels overwhelming, whether from life's pressures, global uncertainty, or personal challenges. But Jesus offers us a way forward: to trust in God's love and provision.

Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat; or about your body, what you will wear. For life is more than food, and the body more than clothes. -Luke 12:22-23

Luke 12, Jesus reminds us that if God cares for the ravens, who neither sow nor reap, He will certainly care for us. Anxiety comes from misplaced energy, focusing on what we can't control. Instead, Jesus invites us to trust His abundant provision.

Often, anxiety stems from not recognizing our worth. Jesus teaches that we are far more valuable to God than birds or flowers, which He sustains. When we truly believe we are seen and loved by our Creator, we find peace. This truth is for all of us —God's love remains steadfast, no matter our past or present.

Culture often tells us there's not enough—success, resources, approval. But Jesus reveals God's limitless capacity. He provides for both our physical needs and deepest longings. Shifting our focus from self-reliance to seeking His kingdom replaces scarcity with abundance. When we trust God, He provides all we need.

True peace isn't the absence of struggles but God's presence in them. Psalm 94:17-18 says, "If God hadn't been there for me, I never would have made it... your love, God, took hold and held me fast." Let this truth anchor you.

Trusting God begins with reflecting on scriptures that affirm your worth and surrendering your worries to Him in prayer. Focus on seeking His kingdom, trusting He will provide, and let your faith be a source of peace for others. In His love, you'll find true freedom and lasting peace.

God's love never fails. When we trust Him, we move from fear to freedom, from anxiety to peace. Today, embrace His care and provision.





#### Matters of the Heart by Joy Booher, Treasurer

Psalm 51:10 "Create in me a clean heart, oh God, and renew a right spirit within me." David cried out to God for forgiveness and God heard him. God can forgive us, but we need to ask for His righteousness for our sinfulness.

I Samuel 16:7b "Man looks on the outward appearance, but God looks on the heart." God sees our thoughts and knows the motives of our hearts.

Ezekiel 36:26 "I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh." God compared rebellious hearts to stone...hearts unwilling to repent, obey him, love others, and love God. In this verse God promises to give us a heart that responds to His Spirit and follows Him.

Have you ever seen a gravestone with a poignant epitaph for the person buried there? Perhaps it read, "Devoted Mother" or "Beloved Wife". What would you want etched on your tombstone? **What epitaph do you think would best summarize your life?** 

In Acts, we discover how history remembered King David. In a sermon presented to a primarily Jewish audience, Paul made reference to David, who was known to the group. Paul declared that God called David "a man after My own heart". What does that mean to be a person after God's own heart? For David, it required an intimate relationship with the Lord (Psalm 64:1, 6-8). This entails more than a regular routine of rote prayers and church attendance. Such intimacy is based upon a desire to grow closer to the Father. What would it take us to be described as people who are after God's heart? Which activities would need to be removed from our lives? What would we need to add? Let's ask Him to help us to make changes and make this the goal of our lives. (Let's) offer (y)our bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God – this is (y)our true and proper worship."

Give Me your heart, give Me your heart, Comes the sweet whisper from heaven above. From this dark world, He would draw us apart, Speaking so tenderly, Give Me your heart.



#### Celebrations!

#### **BIRTHDAYS**

2/3 - Terry Strack

2/4 - Stephanie Hitchcock





## Where Are My Skills? by James "Russell" Rhodes, Road Captain

The author of this article explains what happens when not able to ride for an extended period of time. Sometimes we lose some of the things we were taught and have learned over the years of riding and need to brush up so here's some great tips from *Motorcycle Tourer*.

"I haven't been able to ride my bike much over the last year or two. Heading out this morning, I was surprised at just how much my riding skills had diminished over the last year or so. I used to be refined, polished, and confident. Today I was wobbly, uneasy, and nowhere near as competent as I used to be.

It was about time I went back to basics to think about what was important when riding a motorcycle. And as well as the obvious stuff, I was struck by just how many motorcycle riding tips and tricks we pick up as our experience grows – stuff we were never told about (or warned about) when we were learning. So when I got home, I started to write down all the things I've learned over the years. And as a result, here are several motorcycle riding tips and tricks! Some are for new riders and some for experienced riders. Either way, they will make you the best rider you can be."

Most People Aren't As Good As They Like To Think They Are! If I'm being honest, there have been times in my riding career when I've been hit with bouts of impostor syndrome. I used to be an advanced riding observer and a motorcycle riding instructor. But there were occasions when I would question my own riding abilities. Now you may or may not be the same. But there are times when most people think they're a good rider. They'll be out riding with friends, and they'll think they are the more skilled motorcyclist. They'll think they're faster, smoother, more advanced, and quicker to act and react. But don't let that fool you. Most people aren't as good a rider as they think they are. If you're a new rider, you have a lot to learn. And if you're an experienced rider, I guarantee you'll have a tonne of bad habits you've picked up over the years.

Motorcycle Riding Tips & Tricks: Do An Advanced Riding Course. Don't be one of those people who doesn't try to improve after passing their test. Your learning on two wheels will never come to an end. Do the BikeSafe course. Have your riding critiqued by a Class 1 Police motorcyclist. Put your ego away for the duration of the course, and dedicate your time to becoming a better, safer rider.

Do An Off-Road Course Or A Track Day. Even if you plan on never racing or going off-road, I would still highly recommend doing an off-road course or a track day. Many places offer beginner experiences for less than the price of a night out. You'll realize that having the back tire slide out on gravel isn't the end of the world. You will be surprised at what motorcycles and tires are capable of. But more importantly, you can take what you learn in an off-road or track setting and use it on the road. If nothing else, you'll have a brilliant day out. And I guarantee you'll leave with more confidence than what you started with.

Practice Slow Speed Maneuvers. Okay, I'm not saying you need to replicate your Mod 1 test and ride around cones all day. But go to a big car park early on a Sunday morning. Practice slow riding. Get reacquainted with balancing your throttle, clutch, and rear brake. Practice u-turns and figure-of-8 turns. If you lack confidence in the physical handling of your bike, use this time to push your bike between parking bays or get it on and off the center stand. Want to make it more fun? Take a buddy and support each other so you don't drop your bike whilst practicing.

We'll continue with more tips next month.



#### Volunteer at MotoGP Austin 2025

Gear up for sport bike racing at The Circuit Of The Americas in Austin with a Grand Prix facility with a 5.513km track! CMA will be ministering and needs volunteers! Commit to a Gear Check shift to receive a wristband to enter the race track facility during your free time that day. Sunday is the big race day and has a critical need for help at the Gear Check Stations. Come volunteer to be a part of this dynamic ministry to racing sport bikes!

**DATE:** March 28 - 30, 2025

LOCATION: 9201 Circuit of the Americas Blvd, Del

Valle, TX 78617
SIGNUP ONLINE:

https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0848AEAA29A

1F49-54033457-motogp#/



# CONBOE MESSENCERS #362 CHRISTIAN MOTORCYLISTS ASSOCIATION

#### **History of CMA**

The original brainstorm for such an organization occurred in 1972 when Herb Shreve and his teenage son purchased their first motorcycles. It was not until 1974 when the need for a new organization began to be realized. Herb attended his first motorcycle rally and saw a massive crowd of motorcyclists who did not know Jesus Christ as their personal Savior. In fact, many had never heard the Gospel message.

The realization of such a great need prompted Herb to share his vision with a couple of Christian friends. Together, they began to pray. Herb became more and more convinced that God wanted a Christian organization dedicated to reaching motorcyclists with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. In the spring of 1975, he put action to his prayers. An attorney was contacted, and a nonprofit charter was applied for and approved. The waiting was over. The Christian Motorcyclists Association (CMA) was born.



cmausa.org



<u>Message</u> Us on Facebook! @conroemessengers Want to be a <u>CMA Member</u>? Want to learn more about <u>Run for the Son</u>?

Want us to come to your organization?
Need someone to pray with you?
Let's connect! <u>Contact us</u> or drop by
one of our Chapter Meetings.

