The Christian
COURIER

Post Office Box 1342
Modesto, California 95353

Published Monthly, by Brethren of the Church of Christ

JANUARY-FEBRUARY, 1973

Well, another year has passed and gone into history with its happiness and sorrow. Some plans, made a year ago, have been fulfilled, while some have gone astray because of circumstances.

We of the Courier staff have not always succeded in everything as we would have liked to. However, to a great extent we have been the victems of circumstance. Sometimes the paper has been late: articles and news were slow coming in. Sometimes there was no Courier: we did not receive enough material to print. We truly hope that 1973 will see a much more favorable climate for the paper.

December started out poorly and ended worse. Illness and death delayed our printing. January started out just about as bad: we had to order some parts for the machine and that took some time. Finally, there has been something called the London Flu.

Oh, well, we're back at the keyboard and hope it's for a long time uninterrupted. We have some good articles and lots of news from the brotherhood.

Also, all of you folks, be thinking about your meeting dates. We have some and some are in process at the present time. Let us know and we will pass the word along as we get the news.

In our March issue we will have a financial report which will bring us up to date at this point. We want to take this opportuniey to thank each and every individual who has taken time and has contributed of time and money to the publication of the Courier. Time and space will not permit mention of each individual, but please be assured that your efforts are being channeled into only one effort; the Courier. Also, be assured that we will continue to do our best to further the Lord's cause in every place.

J D Logan

Since it has been some time since the last Courier we have two reports from some of the brethren. We will publish them all.

GLENWOOD (PORT ORCHARD), WASHINGTON

Dear Brethren:

Just a note to let everyone know how things have been at the Glenwood Church of Christ.

The last part of June, we enjoyed having Evart and Becky Forsman, Errol and Earlene Forsman, and Charley and Kathey Burt from Lorenzo, Texas. They were here for almost 2 weeks and we surely enjoyed them.

About three weeks after they all returned to Texas, Evart and Beckey came back here yo work for about two months. They left again in September, taking our mother, Maggie Forsman with them. We surely do miss them as they had increased our number by almost half.

We also had the good fortune of seeing the Roy Snodderlys here one Sunday. They stopped on their way back to California after spending some time in Canada. We wish they could have been here longer.

At various times there have been visitors from Yakima all year long. Their help and support is greatly needed and appreciated.

We are happy to have Sis. Wes Orendorf and the boys Kep, Wayne and Carl back from Tennessee, where they spent the summer. There was much rejoicing Oct 8 over the baptism of Wayne Orendorf. He is 16 and already taking part actively in the church worship. He is sure to be a big asset to the Lord's work.

We are sorry that the time is coming when Sister Hopkins will be returning to her home in Sentinel, Okla. She has been here visiting her daughters, Sis. Dorothy James, and Sis. Viva James for the summer..

We are few in number here but we are striving as the Bible teaches. We surely enjoy and appreciate any visitors who can be with us.

Yours in Christ, Ellis Forsman, for the Glenwood Church of Christ at Port Orchard, Washington.

January 16, 1973
All are doing well here at the Glenwood Church of Christ.

We have received many visitors, mostly from the congregation in Yakima. All assistance we have here is muchly appreciated. Once in a while we see new faces from people in the Port Orchard vicinity; some of whom have been here to bring visiting relatives who are looking for a Church of Christ. We hope to see more of them.

We are happy to have my mother, Maggie Forsman, home from an extended visit of 3½ months in Lorenxo, Texas; San Antonio, Texas; and Alburwuerwue, New Mexico. She has been visiting some of my brothers down there.

Wayne Orendorff has been a big help to us here at Church. He was baptized last fall and has been doing very well since. He is the son of Wes and Robbye Orendorff of Renton, Washington.

All that can come are invited to attend our Gospel meeting this summer. We are planning on having a two (2) weeks meeting covering the last week of June and the first week of July. This covers the 4th of July holidies. Earl Howe, of Lorenzo, Texas, will hold the first week for us, and the last week will be open for guest speakers every night. We have already received early responses from a number of families wishing to be here from all over the West Coast and some from the Southern States. There is plenty of camper and trailer space, besides plenty of room in our homes. We are hoping also to rent a local hall where possibly some can bed down on the floor. This can also be used for everyone to get together for at least one meal a day at one location. We are also planning on having group discussions on topics that anyone wishes to be discussed.

A great time can be had by all; so set your vacation time early and plan to be here at the Glenwood Church of Christ for our 2 week camp meeting. This will also give you a chance to visit the Pacific Northwest. See you this summer.

Yours in Christ, Ellis Forsman, For the Glenwood Church of Christ, Port Orchard, Washington

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YAKIMA, WASHINGTON

Just a few lines to let all know everything is going very well so far as I know. We recently went through a good revival with Brother Claud Perigen the speaker from Bellflower, Calir. We enjoyed it very, very much the good turn out each night. It showed the

people were interested in the word of the Lord.

Why shouldn't we be interested ? it has to do with things that pertain to life and godliness. It saves, Jas 1: 21; it sanctifies, John 17: 17, it cleanses, Eph 5: 26; it begets, Jas 1: 18; it gives light, Psa 119: 105; it gives understanding, Psa 119: 130; and we are ultimately judged by it, John 12: 48. How can one deal carelessly with anything that carries with it all these benefits ?

But what should we do with it ? We should preach it, 2 Tim 4: 2; hear it, Acts 15: 7; receive it, Jas 1: 21; obey it, Heb 5: 9; keep it, Luke 11: 28; and not add to it, Rev 22: 18-19. I am sure that with these fine references to the word of the Lord, we are going to give to it our best and most sincere study.

A Brother in Christ, E J Loveland,
Yakima, Washington.

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BELLFLOWER, CALIFORNIA

The congregation here is doing about as usual. Had a few sick with the flu this winter, but other than that we've had good attendance. Bro and Sis Geo Meadows not able to be with us much because of poor health and the distance they have to travel.

We've had several visitors with us since our last report, among them, Sis Way of Modesto and her grandson, Jerry Cook and wife, Donna, who moved here. We're real happy to have them with us. Bro Roy Snodderly spoke for us last Sunday. Bro Hunt was guest speaker once, also Bro Dick Taylor of Lakeside. We're happy to have all visitors. Roxie Adams, Bernice Cavin, Edna Ferguson, and the Dayton Clouses and Brother England. J L Jared and daughters with their granddaughter were with us recently.

The Al Ways have a brand new little son named Alfred Lee Way. Needless to say, the twins are thrilled. If anyone passes this way, please drop in for services with us at 9914 Arkansas Ave., Bellflower.

Claud Perigen.

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SPRINGFIELD (EUGENE), OREGON

Just a quick note from the church at Eugene-Spring-

field. In September, we were happy to have Bro and Sis Bill McCay, Teri, friend Wayne, and Sis Pheobe McCay down for Sis McCay's first great grandchild's wedding. Brother McCay preached for us Sunday and Sis Arcy Peevy came back into the fold.

In Oct, we were happy to have Sis Way of Modesto visit us a couple of Sundays.

A few weeks back, Sis Florence Price, of Junction City fell and broke her hip. She is now home from the hospital and will be in a cast till January. I am sure Sister Price would love to hear from the Brothers and Sisters in Christ. Her address:

Mrs Florence Price,
675 West 14th Ave,
Junction City, Oregon, 97448.

In Christian love from the Springfield, Oregon congregation.

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YUMA, ARIZONA

Dear Christian Friends:

Much has happened since we wrote last. In June Bro Horace Orendorff married two young Christian couples in Somerton church. Sister Karen Wilcher and Bro Billy Martin were married at the same time her cousin, Sister Louise Lytle and Brother Tony Brister were married.

Some of our young people went to Oklahoma with Bro Donald Dabbs. We are very thankful for his efforts as Sister Carol Lynn Dye, her brother, Brother Dan Dye and Brother Mike Wilcher were baptized back there. Mike is Bro and Sis Marvin Boling's fourth child to be baptized.

Visitors coming to Yuma from the east should take warning. The freeway is at our doorstep. You now approach Yuma from the east instead of the south side of town.

Bro and Sis Horace Orendorff made a grand tour of Texas, Arkansas and Oklahoma in September. "Sure wish we could have visited a week every place and seen the other half of the people, those we missed. We sure appreciate the fine Christian hospitality" they said on their return.

Brother Orendorff spoke at Lorenzo, Stillwell, and Barron. This is the best time of year to visit Yuma.

In Christian love, the Church that meets at Yuma.

VENTURA, CALIFORNIA

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

Our little church in Ventura has been doing many things these past few months.

In August, a group of twelve members here joined about eighteen other members from congregations of Yuma, Bellflower, Lakeside, and Aztec, N. M. and rented a large motorhome to hold a meeting in Stillwell, Oklahoma. While we were there twelve young people were baptized and about six others came foreward for prayers. People from Texas, Arkansas, and other parts of Oklahoma came to meet with us there.

During this past month we've had two new members added to our Ventura congregation, making a total of sixteen communion taking members. One was a young lady, Jeanette Edwards, the other a young man, Pete Stocks.

Also this month six members from our congregation and I went to Yuma and we enjoyed ourselves very much. While there, I preached at both Yuma and Somerton. We came back through Lakeside and visited with the Johnsons who were doing fine.

We have also had some visitors this month; Bro and Sis Bill Taylor from Bellflower and Bro and Sis Dick Taylor from Lakeside.

Another bit of news is the engagement of my two daughters, Celesta, to Bro Charlie Johnson, and Donna, to Bro John Lyons. The couples will be married in a double wedding performed by Bro Elmer Hunt on Saturday, February 10, hopfully, this coming year.

This concludes the news from Ventura congregation, We send all our love and we invite those coming by to stop and visit us.

Yours in Christ, Donald Dabbs.

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BARON, OKLAHOMA

Dear Brethren:

Speaking for the brethren at the Baron Church of Christ, may you have peace and love from God, our Father.

The church here is doing fine at this time. There is no illness I know of among the brethren here. Brother

Bobby Gardenhire had an operation a while back but is doing much better now.

Brother Jim Bryant has moved from Akin, Oklahoma to Klamath Falls, Oregon. We visited the Akin Church last Sunday and it is doing fine. There are many young brethren there and an occasional visit will help them in their struggle.

For the Baron Church of Christ.

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KLAMATH FALLS, OREGON

Beloved:

We have moved from Akin Oklahoma to Klamath Falls Oregon. I thank God for our safe trip and good fortune upon arrival. We are now settled in our home and invite any of the brethren travelling this direction to stop and visit with us, whether day or night. Also, regardless if we are home or not, my home is your home. We love you and you are welcome.

The Church at Akin, Oklahoma is doing very well. The younger Brothers there have baptized two since we left. These are, Sis Janet Haddox and Bro Bobby Edwards. There are twelve teenage Brothers and Sisters meeting at Akin. The work they are doing, some of us older Brothers should be doing also.

Too many of us have a tendancy to sit back and do exactly like the Pharisees. We become stiff-necked as our Lord said. We sit around debating the Word of God, whether this is right or that, and in doing this, we become self righteous, forgetting that if we have not love one for another we become lost, because love is the fulfilling of the law. Rom 13: 8-10.

Now! if we love someone, would we drive them out of the church because we believe a heresy and do not even have scriptures to proove the think we believe ?

Do not misunderstand me; if the scriptures say something that is right, but as a young Christian (not a young man) I have had Bros. in the church to tell me things that were not in the Word of God. (this is heresy)

If you love someone, do you hurt them ? If they have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine, do you have the right to drive them from the Kingdom of God ?

Paul said that some are weak and because of the

ay they were raised, think eating things offered to idols s wrong. Does this make eating these things wrong ? o! But Paul said if eating meat offended my Brother, shall not eat meat.

If you love someone, you will not offend him, but ill teach him with patience, understanding that you lso were once in sin and as a babe in Christ, you were nce weak and ignorant of the word of God. Also, what akes you or me smarter than anyone else ? Jas 1: 5 says hat each of us have the same right to the wisdom of God. lso, John 17: 22 in the prayer that Christ prayed that e be one: we are one only if we are the same. But if his congregation or that has a different interpretation f certain scriptures, is this oneness ? Just a few things or us all to think about.

With brotherly love, Jim Bryant.

ur address is: 1616 Derby St., Klamath Falls, Oregon.

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BROKEN BOW, OKLAHOMA

ear Brethren:

I will write again the news here at Broken Bow. don't know why, but we haven't had any news in the pa- er for a long time, so will bo back to last April. We ave baptized 9 into Christ since last April; my wife's aughter and son in law and 3 of their children; then ne of my boys and his wife. Later, Bro. Buckner's boy rom up state. And just last week, another one of my on in laws came into the church, for all of which we are ery thankful to the Lord. The praise goes to God for is glory!

Now some sad news again. Bro V H Rollins of Devol, klahoma, a brother to the late Ben F Rollins, of Modesto, alif., passed away and was laid to rest at Devol. I ent to and conducted the funeral Saturday, the 20th of anuary. He was the leader of the church at Randelett, klahoma. He will be missed by all that knew and loved im!

The church here is still growing a little at a time nd we are thankful. The glory all to God in the Church f Christ Jesus!

or the Church at 210 North Park Drive,
Broken Bow, Oklahoma. By Lloyd Treat.

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UR CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL THE NEW MEMBERS OF CHRIST'S ODY THROUGHOUT ALL THE CONGREGATIONS!

YOUR WORK OF FAITH

1 Thess 1: 1-4, "Paul and Silvanus, and Timotheus, unto the church of the Thessalonians which is in God, the Father and in the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace be unto you and peace, from God our Father, and the Lord, Jesus Christ.

We give thanks to God always for you all, making mention of you in our prayers.

Remembering without ceasing your work of faith, and labor of love, and patience of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ, in the sight of God and our Father. Knowing, brethren beloved, your election of God.

We notice here that Paul gives thanks to God for the Church of the Thessalonians. He also remembers their work of faith, labor of love, and patience of hope. Paul ia pleased with the church of the Thessalonians. We can use the same word that they had and if we will do what the word says, the church will still be pleasing.

Paul says in 1 Cor 11: 1, "Be ye followers of me, even as I also am of Christ. The things that are pleasing to Christ are pleasing to Paul. Therefore, when Paul is pleased with the Church of the Thessalonians, we can be sure, if we do the same things, Christ will also be pleased with us.

In Matt 3: 16-17; "And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water: and, lo, the heavans were opened unto him, and he waw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon him: And lo, a voice from heaven, saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased."

It was after that righteousness was fulfilled that God said, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased." Reading in verse 15, Jesus says, Suffer it to be so now: for thus it becometh us to fulfill all righteousness."

Remember, brethren! without faith it is impossible to please God. Heb 11: 6

Marion Warford, P O Box 238, Westville, Okla.

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BLOOD AND BAPTISM

We learn from Heb 9: 22 and Acts 2: 38 that both blood and baptism have their part in remission of sins. We read in Heb 9: 19 how Moses took blood and water and

sprinkled both the book and all the people. 1 Jno 5: 6 speaks of Jesus, "this is he that came by water and blood." Verse 8 says, "There are three that bear witness on earth; the spirit, the water and the blood."

Jesus said, man must be born again. This new birth happens through these three witnesses. The spirit is the word; 1 Peter 1: 23 speaks of being born by the word of God. (He came by water and blood.) In water, he commanded to baptize the believers, Matt 28: 19. Peter said in Acts 2: 38, Repent and be baptized everyone of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins"etc.....

Blood: "Forasmuch as the children were partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil."

The people and the vessels in the Old Testament were purified by water and blood. Jesus also came with water and blood, that he might purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works. He purchased the church with his own blood, Acts 20: 28. He gave himself for the church, that he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word, Eph 5: 25-27.

The spirit is the word, John 6: 63. So here we have the three witnesses, the spirit, the water, and the blood.

We read in Gal 3: 26-27, "For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus, for as many of you as have been baptized into Christ, have put on Christ." Christ died for our sins, and was raised again for our justification. Rom 6: 3 explains that when we are baptized into Jesus Christ, we are baptized into his death. Therefore, we are buried with him by baptism into death, also risen with him from baptism to walk in the newness of life, for he that is dead is freed from sin.

Rom 6: 8, "Now if we be dead with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with him. 1 Peter 3: 21 explains "..Not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God." So to be buried with him in baptism is an answer of a good conscience toward God. He has obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered him, Rom 6: 17-18.

What form of doctrine was it? "That if thou shall confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shall believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead,

thou shall be saved." Rom 10: 9. This is explained in Romans the 6th chapter and in the example, Acts 8: 35-39. It is God's will that we must be buried with him by baptism into death. We must be dead with him in this manner before we can live with him.

We read in Mark 7th chapter how the scribes and the pharisees had laid aside the commandment of God, and hold to the traditions of men. This is being done in our day even. Men lay aside the word of God that says "buried with him in baptism". They lay aside the New Testament pattern and hold to traditions of men.

We know that baptism by spirnkling or pouring is not a burial, for they neither go down or come up out of the water as it shows in the pattern. (Acts 8: 35-39)

"Beware! of traditions of men," Col 2: 8, and Jesus said, "Howbeit in vain do they worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of me," Mark 7: 7.

"Jesus Christ, the same yesterday, today, and forever," Heb 13: 8-9. If Jesus Christ is the same forever, and 1 Peter 1: 25 says, "The word of the Lord endureth forever, and this is the word which by the gospel is preached unto you", the doctrine of Christ is the same forever; it still teaches the same baptism! Verse 9 warns, "Be not carried about with strange doctrine, and it does not teach to baptize by sprinkling or pouring.

"So speak ye and so do, as they that shall be judged by the law of liberty." James 2: 12. And in 1 Cor 1: 10, "That ye all speak the same thing, that there be no divisions among you." The Gospel of Christ teaches that baptism is a burial. So we must speak the same thing; we must speak of baptism as a burial.

Jesus warns, "By thy words thou shall be justified, by thy words thou shall be condemned." Matt 12: 37 We read in Acts 19th chapter how some had to be re-baptized, baptized according to the Apostles' teaching before it was acceptable in heaven. (Paul did not lay his hands on them before.) And Jesus said in Jno 17: 20 that he will pray for them also which shall believe on him through their word. (Apostles' teaching)

Heino Stolnake,
Yakima, Washington.

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MODESTO, CALIFORNIA

Brethren:

We in Modesto have been blessed by the Lord for the past months in many ways. Our weather has been extremely inclement for the winter so far with much rain and our most deadly enemy, dense fog. However, it all hasn't been bad: some days have been sunny.

Many have been prevented from attending services from time to time because of this. We hope it is past for good by now.

Sister Alice Weakley has been quite ill and under the doctor's care most of the winter, but at last word was improving some.

Sister Mae Johnson is still under the doctor's care at the present.

Sister Fern Logan underwent surgery in December and is now at home recovering. We hope and pray for a fast recovery for all of those of our number who are ill. (Indeed, we pray for the recovery of ALL our brethren, wherever they may be.)

Our Brother F H Logan passed away December 20 and was buried December 23 at Hughson, Calif. He was in his 83rd year.

Brother Logan will be missed by those who knew him and had worked with him. He had been in ill health for some time.

We are planning to have Brother Sammy Boen, of Mundrow, Oklahoma for a meeting in June, if the Lord permits. We will try to arrange it so that it follows the letting out of school and preceeds the meeting in Port Orchard, Washington.

We hope that we will not always have news of sickness, but it seems that we have been having our share this winter.

Our prayers are with all our brethren everywhere, that they will prosper and the word of the Lord will abound to his glory in every way.

Yours, in Christ,
The Church of Christ in Modesto, Calif.