GOSPEL NEWS COURIER

Published Monthly, by Brethren of the Church of Christ
EDITOR,
ROY L. SNODERLY P. O. Box 97, La Habra, California

LA HABRA, CALIFORNIA, SEPTEMBER, 1961

TO THE BRETHREN

I would like to take this opportunity to write you a few lines concerning the GOSPEL NEWS COURIER. This paper, published in Southern California, has the backing and the approval of myself and all the church members in this area. Many of you from time to time have expressed a desire for such a paper and we also feel that there is a great need for this means of keeping in touch with each other.

But in reading the paper these last three months, I have failed to see any news from many of the known congregations. Nor have I seen articles from those who are our leaders, our preachers and evangelists. We need many more to make this paper the success it should be in the future. You know we are very much interested in news from each congregation, and I know each congregation is interested in reading good articles from those who can write. Let us hear from you now. Don't wait until someone dies but write about visitors and new babies, marriages, meetings, new babes in Christ, buying or remodeling of meeting houses or any thing of interest to all. Let the paper hear from you and then others will hear of you through the paper. Send a regular news letter each month.

Let each and every one put their efforts behind the GOSPEL NEWS COURIER and make a church paper out of it and not let it become a failure as so many have in the past because of lack of co-operation on the part of you brethren.

CLAUDE PERIGEN,

8743 East Artesia Blvd., Bellflower, California

- U N I T Y -

The Church of Christ today is divided into many factions and divisions and subdivisions.

Certainly the Lord is not pleased with his people in a divided state, as the Bible condemns division. We are all to speak the same things, and be no division. (I Cor. I:IO)

We should always strive to keep the unity of the spirit in the bond of peace. (Eph. 4:3)

CAN THERE BE UNITY?

The answer is YES. How can there be unity?

I. By all speaking the same thing. (I Cor. I:IO).

2. By all speaking as the oracles of God. (I Pet. 4:II)

3. By all walking by the same rule. (Bible). (Phil. 3:I6)

4. By all preaching the same gospel. (Gal. I:8-9).

The Churches of Christ agree on conditions of salvation. Faith. (Heb. II:6). Repentance. (Acts I7:30). Confession. (Acts 8:37). Baptism. (Acts 2:38).

But the division is on the "work and worship."

To assemble on the first day of the week. (Acts 20:7)

Yes, they agree;

To pray when they assemble. (2 Thess. 5:I7).

Yes, they agree;

To sing praises to God. (Col. 3:I6; Eph. 5:I9).

NO. Some add instrumental music.

To teach; one speaking at a time, and that a man. (I Cor. I4:3I).

NO. Some add Sunday School.

The Sunday School was founded by Robert Raikes, I780 A. D.

It is too young to be New Testament teaching.

Communion. (I Cor. IO:I6; Matt. 26:26; Luke 22:I9).

One loaf, one cup, juice of grapes.

NO. Some use a plurality of cups, some use strong wine.

Some do not break the bread for the purpose to qualify it to signify the body of Christ.

Giving. On every first day of the week (I Cor. I6:2) as we have been prospered.

NO. Some will have a collection every time they assemble, even through the week, and some will demand a

certain amount, or pledges.

If we will follow the teaching of the word of God, division will cease, and unity will prevail.

The Lord prayed for unity, or oneness. (Jno. I7:20-2I)

PAUL FERGUSON.

L.E T T E R S

Dear Bro. in Christ: I will try to get a letter written this evening. We went to Goree to a 58th. wedding anniversary open house Sunday. It was the Felix Franklins. He is very weak, and he nor she were able to go to church Sunday. Ida Gregory, a one time member of the church here is very low in a hospital in Lubbock. I believe all the faithful at Seymour, Abilene and Lorenzo are well. There was a man at church last Sunday who is a member of a cups or a non-bread breaking group in Lubbock. He came here once before and we gave him a copy of the Gospel News Courier. When he came back, we gave him another copy and he said he wanted to help. He wrote a check for $I0:00 for us to send to you. My husband is also sending a check. I don't know where this man gets his mail, but he lives I4 miles south of Lorenzo. I do all the writting for Howard and I am not very prompt sometimes. In Christian love,

THE HOWARD STUDERS, Lorenzo, Texas.

I wish more of you women would write news, for it seems your husbands don't have time after a hard days work. Let us hear from you sisters in Christ. EDITOR.

Here at La Habra, we have had many of our number absent because of the flu that is going around. Many are also on vacation, although I hope not from the work of the Lord, and we have had many visitors with us. Bro. Tom Broadway of the Bellflower church and his family was with us 2nd. Sunday in July and he preached at the morning services.

I was unable to attend and hear a very good sermon. Why? We swapped with him and I preached for the church at Bellflower.

ROY SNODERLY, Editor,

P. O. Box 97, La Habra, California.

Just a word from the Church of Christ on Bohannan Mountain just west of Huntsville. We were all made glad last 4th. Sunday to have Bro. W. E. Daniels come our way, also his companion, who has not been able for some time to make the trip. Also Bro. Willie Ferguson was able to be at church a few Sundays ago. May God's richest blessings rest upon this grand old Christian warrior in time of trouble is our prayer. Bro. Otto Laney is in the hospital at Huntsville. He underwent surgery the 15th. May God grant him a speedy recovery for the church needs his helping hand. Inclosed you will find a small donation for the paper. We like the paper fine. Keep it on the solid rock.

If gay crowds lure you and your faith grows weak, turn and read Psalms 84.

From the church on Bohannan Mountain, Huntsville, Ark.

GEO. VANDERPOOL.

Dear Bro. Snoderly: We have been receiving the Gospel News Courier regularly each month at the West Side Church of Christ in Lorenzo from Bro. Howard Studer, as this is our regular meeting place, although we live in Ralls which is just 10 miles away. However, the last two issues have been sent directly to us at Ralls.

After receiving the August issue. page six, we thought it wise to send notice of this error. Since we and the Bobby Loftis family that live at Ralls, meet in Lorenzo, we can receive our copies at church. You can stop the expense of mailing to us direct and maybe send the paper to someone less fortunate than us. We enjoy reading the Courier each issue, as we learn more about other people, and read of the happenings at other churches, as well as good gospel teaching of which none of us ever get too much.

We are all well here at this time, and hope this finds you the same. Keep up the good work. Yours in the love of the TRUTH, EARL HOWE and femily, Box 155 Ralls, Tex.

Grants Pass, Oregon. Dear Brother in Christ: I am happy to have this opportunity to report on the behalf of myself and the congregation at Cave Junction, what news there is, and send a donation for the support of

the paper. The Gospel News Courier is received here with gladness and interest. In order to help out on the cost of sending out the paper, it will be alright to take Sam Mickey's name off the list, as he can receive a copy of the paper from those sent to the church at Rex Mickey's address. We can use about ten copies each month. I also would like to have my name listed with those brethren who are opposed to carnal warfare. I have been in full support of this position for sometime. The church here is moving along nicely at present, with attendance on the increase, with some outside interest being shown. Shortly after the paper was started, one Lord's Day I baptized one, and one came back into the fold, for which we greatly rejoiced.

I would like to find out if articles sent into the paper for publication, should be typed, or is it alright to just write them? I plan to send some before long, the Lord willing. Any letters or articles that I write to you, feel free to correct, print or withhold as you see fit. Yours in Christ,

From the Church of Christ, in Cave Junction, Oregon.

HARRY WEGLEY

Handwritten or typed is alright, just write to us each month if possible. EDITOR.

We enjoyed having these visitors this past month and hope they enjoyed meeting with us; Mr. & Mrs. Donald Taylor and children of Ventura; Linda Franklin, granddaughter of Bro. Geo. Meadows; Mr. & Mrs. Kelly and grandaughter and mother from Modesto congregation; our neighbors, Mr. & Mrs. Willis Brown and daughter. Also Bro. & Sister Paul Ferguson of La Habra, California congregation; Bro. & Sister Stanley Niemczyk and daughter, Stana; Bro. & Sister Earl Broadway and son Bill, of Yuma, Arizona. We understand the Broadways' are moving to Bellflower. We welcome them.

Born to Vern and Francis Broadway, a daughter, Trena Joanna. We wish to congratulate them.

CLAUDE HERIGEN,

8748 East Artesia Blvd., Bellflower, California.

L E T T E R S

Dear Bro. Snoderly: I finnally received the Courier after some delay. If you will forget Floydada when you send it and send it to Crosbyton it will not cost but five cents, but when it goes to Floydada it costs ten cents to get to me. I have been in Crosbyton about ten months now. Well, we three are still in regular attendance, although others promise to come but do not. Some few let on to be interested but don't ever prove to be. I sometimes wonder if it is our own fault that others do not come, but the Bible says some shall depart from the faith in the last time, so I have noticed it more and more lately than I used to. I wonder if it is because we don't teach enough.

I'll send a little help for the paper along once in a while. As ever, Your brother in the one blessed faith,

R. H. PEEL, Crosbyton, Texas.

It is possible that we have the wrong mailing address for many of you as we did for Bro. Peel. If this is so, please send us ycur correc mailing address to;
ROY SNODERLY, P. O. Box 97, La Habra, California.

Dear Bro. Snoderly: I received the paper some time ago and I enjoyed reading it very much.

I think the paper will be an encouragement to all congregations. Some of the members are sending a donation to the paper. We can use eight copies here. We all wish you great success. Our place of worship is at I06 I5th. Street, West Sacramento, California. We welcome all to worship with us here. In Christ,

ERVIN G. LOWERY

505 Smilax avenue, Bryte, California.

We had the pleasure of meeting Bro. Lowery while we lived at Chico, California, one sunday at Roseville where his son-in-law lives and worships.

We also heard him preach and if first impressions are of any value, I wil say that he is a capable preacher and leader.

THE EDITOR.

R E A D, T H I N K, S T U D Y

Please for a moment, think back to the time when you was baptized. Do you remember that wonderful day when you had complied with the law of God, the steps of becoming a Christian, and was born into the family of God? Did you feel as though a great burden had been lifted from your shoulders? There was, and you was exalted above any condition, position, or office that man could ever bestowed upon you.

You, there in that moment, was purified through the obedience of a command given unto us many years ago through the grace of the living God and there you became a member of that great family of God, a CHRISTIAN.

Baptism is symbolic of the death, burial, and ressurrection that our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ underwent at the climax of his life and purpose here upon earth. He lived a life of purity even though He was tempted by many alluring things even as we are tempted today. He withstood these temptations and came through his trials faultless to offer himself as a sacrifice, pure and unblemished, that you and I could have our sins blotted out when we were added to the church, his body, through obedience to the gospel. All through the letters of the New Testament we find words of encouragement and correction, pleading and begging Christians to refrain from Worldly pleasure that would keep them from entering heaven. Are you as zealous, sincere, humble and appreciative of the fact that you are a Christian as you were on that day you came forth from the waters of baptism to walk in that newness of life, a child of God? Are you? If not, why not? James speaks of the uncertainty of our lives "as a vapour that appears for a short time then fades away." We never know when we will be called from this life to meet our maker. Yes, I am writing to you young Christians as well as to the old. Unless the word of God that we all have access to, builds up our character, fashions our conduct, and lifts our whole life unto things above, then our baptism, our purification, our addition to the family of God will be of little value to us or to others around us. Are you a

Christian indeed? Then grow in grace, love, and knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ who is seated on the right hand of God. How? Through studying the word of God, the Bible, not the doctrines of men. READ, THINK, AND STUDY the scriptures with this one found in Matthew II:28-30, "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn of me, for I am meek and lowly in heart; and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

Yours in Christian love,

TOM BROADWAY.

5208 Ademmoor Ave., Bellflower, California.

We here at Bellflower, California, have been redecorating our building and getting ready for Bro. Harry Dye of Yuma, Arizona, who is going to hold our meeting, starting October 29th. and ending November 5th. Brother Dye is a young preacher coming to us very highly recommended. Visit with us in our services Lord's Day at 10:30 A. M. and again at 6:00 P. M. Also be with us in our forthcoming meeting if possible, and if not possible, remember us all in your prayers.

CLAUDE HERIGEN.

8748 E. Artesia Blvd., Bellflower, California.

We received the following card after we had completed last month's printing;

Dear Bro. Roy: We arrived home safely last night. We had a wonderful trip and enjoyed meeting all you fine people so much. Write us sometime and come by and visit us sometime.

THE JIM LOFTIS FAMILY.

Box 718, Lorenzo, Texas.

We sure would like to take you up on that invitation. Maybe some day we can. THE EDITOR.

We wish at this time to thank all who have contributed news letters and articles. Also all who have donated financially. Your support in this effort to spread the word of God is needed now with news, articles and finances.

THE EDITOR