

The Christian Courier

September, 2016

Send correspondence to:
6718 Santa Fe Dr, Lubbock, TX 79407
Ph: 206-948-3597
E-mail: editor.christiancourier@gmail.com
Web: http://chuchofchristonecup.org

How Does the Christian Influence This World?

"Let your light so shine before men,
That they may see your good works,
And glorify your Father which is in heaven."
(Matt. 5:16 KJV).

The World Can Be Divided into Two Kinds of People

First, there are the believers who in the Beatitudes are called blessed (*makárioi*), indwelt by God because of Christ (Matt 5:3-12). They are the people who realize their spiritual helplessness, show sorrow over sin, and who are meek (or balanced between extremes), hungry for God's righteousness, merciful, pure in heart, peacemakers, ridiculed, persecuted, or slandered because of Christ. Jesus compares them to salt and light.

The other group consists of the unbelievers of this world. They are proud, self-sufficient, and do not understand their own unrighteousness before a Holy God.

The Believer Influences the Unbeliever by What He Is, Not by What He Has

Christ did not say, *"You have salt and light to dispense," but rather "Ye are the salt. Ye are the light of the world"* (Matt 5:13-14). The believer's very presence in the world acts as salt and light, preventing corruption and exposing error.

Being blessed means having God's nature within (2 Peter 1:4). Because of Christ, the believers are no longer "fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind, nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners" (1 Cor 6:9, 10). Rather, they "are washed . . . sanctified . . . justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God" (1 Cor 6:11). Indeed, they are "a peculiar people" (Titus 2:14) who are observed by unbelievers. The word translated "peculiar" is *perioúsios* which means "who

constitute His possession." It is the difference in their character which distinguishes them.

The adjective *makários* (blessed) means not only indwelt by God because of Christ, but also being fully satisfied. Having obtained peace with God through Christ, the believer is more fulfilled than if he had all the world as his possession (Matt 16:26; Mark 8:36; Luke 9:25). Seeing the believers' contentment despite poverty and physical suffering, the unbelievers are amazed (2 Cor 6:10). It may even cause them to see their own lack of spiritual security in spite of worldly goods (Rev 3:17).

The Believer Must Interact with This World of Corruption and Darkness in Order to Act as Salt and Light

Just as salt is derived from the earth, so every believer is to remember that he is earthly, *epígeios* (2 Cor 5:1). However, in Christ he becomes *"free from the law of sin and death"* (Rom 8:2). Thereby, he acts as a preservative in the decaying world around him. Should he lose his Christ-likeness, *"his savor"* (Matt 5:13), he would no longer be of any use.

Likewise, the believer is light because Christ is the *"light of the world"* (John 8:12). He can only reflect Christ's light. Therefore, Jesus admonishes him, *"Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven"* (Matt 5:16). One day the total universe, *kósmos* (John 8:12), will be completely transformed by Christ. The believer's life should manifest the beginning of that transformation.

(A short sermon that could be expanded on and used by one of our brothers)

In Christian Love.
Stanley Goodwin, Graham, Texas
Newcastle Church of Christ



Cards and Letters

Comanche, OK

I hope this finds you all doing well. We are few in number.

We have had a lot of sickness but all are doing better and able to attend church, and are earnestly contending for the faith which was once delivered to the saints as we read in Jude.

Here is a small contribution to The Courier.

In Christian love,
Harold Don Taylor

Gleed, WA

Dear Church Family,

Well it's back to school for all the children. Let's remember to keep all our children in our prayers for they are our future. We pray for all the teachers and parents who are teaching children.

I don't have any updates other than from Shawna about Troy so I am forwarding her update.

God Bless.

The King Family

Update on Troy.

On June 13th Troy Solomon was in a near fatal fall from a skylight. He was working on the ceiling at his work place when he fell backwards through a skylight, 23 feet below to concrete. He was airlifted to Harborview Trauma Hospital in Seattle. He spent 2 weeks in ICU trauma and then moved to acute care for a few more weeks. He underwent four surgeries. He was very critical and we truly believe he survived these injuries because of the prayers he received. Troy went back to Yakima to a full time nursing/rehab unit where he still resides. Troy's spirits are good. However with each day he is getting homesick. He goes back to Harborview on Sept 21st for a follow up with his surgeon. We are praying he is released to bear weight so he can start therapy on walking again. Please continue to pray for Troy, his road to recovery is still a long one. We are hoping to have him home sometime the end of October or the beginning of November.

Troy Solomon
C/O Good Samaritan Health Care Center
702 N 16th Ave Rm 506
Yakima WA 98902

Thank you.

Love, The Solomon's

Glenwood, WA

To All our Brothers & Sister's in Christ,

We have been busy upgrading, painting and repairing the church building in readiness for next summer's meeting here. Giving our building a needed facelift. Hope all will come; we have several RV sites with power and water. Meeting will be 9th thru the 14th of July, 2017.

Recently Bro. Leal & Sis. Alicia Pabilona have moved up here from Sacramento area and we are pleased to have them worshipping with us.

Hope all is well; we keep you all in our prayers.

In Christian Love,

Bro. Greg Stacy

Lorenzo, TX

Greetings from Lorenzo, TX:

Our gospel meeting with our guest speakers Bro. Bill McCay and Bro. Roger Walkingstick this past summer is over. The meeting was a huge success and we thank them and all of the visitors that attended out meeting.

For the most part everyone at Lorenzo is doing fine with the exception of Sis. Earlene Jared who is still in a fight with cancer and has

been unable to attend church services; she is under the care of hospice. Her cancer has been getting worse and she has been in and out of the hospital. Bro. Jerry McCay had recent hernia surgery on his stomach. His extreme pain is over but now he is dealing with soreness. Sis. Nell McCay & Sis. Reba White are both still having trouble with pneumonia. Sis. Nell McCay had 6 recent falls & has been placed on hospice care at the care facility where she is staying. Bro. Evart Forsman had an angiogram on Sept. 19th to study if any blockage is in his heart as he is not getting enough oxygen through it. The blockage is minimal and will be treated by medication rather than surgery. Please keep these in your prayers.

Bro. Bill Jared was a recent visitor to be with his wife Earlene.

Bro. Matt Matlock is currently looking for another vehicle as his other car was totaled when another car turned into him on the highway. Bro. Matt was not seriously injured for which we are very thankful.

Bro. Ellis & Sis. Lynell Forsman went to San Diego a few weeks ago to attend the wedding of their granddaughter, Sis. Leah Shepherd. Leah is the daughter of Bro. Matt & Sis. Kelly Shepherd. She married Steve Mollohan.

As soon as the wedding was over, Bro. Ellis & Bro. Evart Forsman traveled to Olalla, Washington, to attend the funeral service of Sandra Kay Elder, who is their niece.

While there they received word that Bro. Matt Shepherd was in the hospital at Vancouver, WA, with a major heart attack, so they decided to spend some time there awaiting the surgery. The doctors performed a stent and three bypasses during the surgery. Matt is recovering well at this time.

In Christian Love,

The Lorenzo, TX, congregation

Newcastle, TX

Dear Brother and Sisters in Christ:

It has been many months since we wrote to the paper about the congregation here. Personal report: Judy and I celebrated our 50th wedding anniversary the 24th of June, our kids gave us a party on the 25th. We had a wonderful time with many friends and relatives coming to help us celebrate.

Paul and Chrystal Warford came with their family (our adopted Grandchildren). They stayed over till Sunday, Brother Paul delivered a GREAT sermon titled "THY KINGDOM COME" - I so hope all of you have the opportunity to here this sermon, as it was very clear and informative and as always, Brother Paul did a GREAT job.

For the most part all of our members are in good health, the normal aches and pains of an older membership. A shoulder replacement, a couple of different colon surgeries, and of course the cataract surgeries.

Over the last year or so the congregation here has had the GOOD (Thank You Lord) fortune to gain eight additional members. We are so excited about this, as it almost doubled our size. In this addition we gained four song leaders and two good speakers. WE ARE SO THANKFUL AND EXCITED to have the addition! We welcome **all** of you to visit us anytime at "The Newcastle Church of Christ".

Most of you have heard about me getting into a fight with my table saw, I did not win. I THANK God and His grace for giving my surgeon the skills to reattach three of my fingers. As my doctor and I were talking about this, he said "I'm good aren't I?" He said God given him

the skills to be a GREAT surgeon, but **only He – (God)** can make us heal.

I am here to tell you how "GREAT GOD IS" - it is amazing to observe the healing power of GOD. Hopefully with God's grace and help, in six months to a year I will be able to return to my woodworking shop and confront my table saw. I know it is "The Champ" and I will remember that.

In Christion Love,

Bro. Stanley Goodwin

Graham, Texas

Newcastle Church of Christ

PS: I have begun to work in the shop a little, (Thank You Lord)

Pleasant View, OK

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

We are all doing well here except the aches and pains that come with getting older.

Gail Hall was added to the Lord's church on June 19th. We are so glad to have her as part of our church family.

We were saddened by Bro. Jerry and Sis. Wynetta McCay not getting to make it up for our meeting. Glad they are doing better. Our Labor Day meeting was a success with good attendance each night. Thanks to all that attended. We had visitors from several congregations: Lorenzo, Ringgold, Broken Bow, Pine Mountain, and Baron. Bro. Jack Warford spoke Friday and Saturday night and Bro. Larry Pollan spoke on Sunday morning. We had singing Sunday afternoon. We had lots of wonderful food! Please mark your calendar for next year on Labor Day weekend.

Please stop in and visit us when you can. Sunday morning service is at 10:00; Wednesday evenings we meet at 6:00 for bible study or singing.

Bro. Gerald Buckner

Church of Christ

At Pleasant View, OK

Yakima, WA

July 21st

Dear Brethren,

Well, our 2016 Gospel Meeting is now in the past. In retrospect, I think that we should return to the old title of "Revival". I truly believe that both the locals, as well as the visitors, are revived with an occasion such as this. I know I am.

We had good, solid preaching, the singing was great, the food was tasty & the fellowship was wonderful. This year the weather was great as well. There was an abundance of young people from one year old to teenagers, which bodes well for the future of the church.

I won't list our visitors, as I might leave someone out. We had four good sermons by Brother Terry Warford of the Glenwood, WA, congregation, one by Brother Jerry McCay of Lorenzo, TX, one by Brother Dennis Davis of Yuma, AZ, & four by Brother Kurt Harper of Waterford, CA.

Our visitors represented eight congregations from seven states. We were blessed by getting together with old friends and getting better acquainted with newer friends. Being here in the Northwest I realize that we are quite a distance from most congregations. We are very grateful for all who are willing to come and be with us. All in all I would say that we had a successful Revival. If any of you are ever in the Yakima Valley please come by and visit with us. If you are here over Sunday, come worship with us. All are welcome. If you are here during the week, come visit with us. It is truly great to get together with our Brethren.

Yours in Christ,
Bro. Bill McCay Sr.

August 21st

Dear Brethren,

Well, our summer is rapidly passing by, although, the temperature is still in the mid to high 90's.

We thank the Lord that our travelers are home safely from their different trips, especially those who attended the Lorenzo, TX meeting. They had a very long trip. We are happy that Christy and Sam were able to fly to Lubbock to attend a few days of the meeting. These meetings are a good way to meet so many of our brethren as there are usually several who have attended from other congregations across the country.

Michael, Kay, and I were able to attend Al Burtis' 85th birthday celebration in Modesto a couple of weeks ago. All of their family were there except for a grandson who is a fireman and had to work that day. It was quite a gathering. We all met at Chevy's for lunch after church services. I was very happy to attend services at Waterford and visit with the brethren there. Al is doing quite well after the installation of his pace maker, but Charlotte is still having problems with her hip.

We had quite a scare a few weeks ago as my son-in- law, Rick Walsh, had been having some chest pains and shortness of breath. He had an angiogram that showed a 90% blockage in one of his arteries that required a stent to be inserted. He is doing very well now for which we again praise the Lord. While we are thanking the Lord for all our blessings. We have heard that Bro. Bruce Cummins is also doing better after his cancer treatment.We have also heard that Bro. Troy Solomon, from the Gleed congregation, is making a steady recovery from his 25 foot fall. Truly, God is good.

Jason, Kimberly, Emma and Drew Wintersteller have been visiting us for the last couple of weeks and we are always happy when they can come visit from their home in Ohio. (Kim is my granddaughter). While they were here, Mike and Kay took their new travel trailer and Paula Edmondson took her motor home with all the grandkids down to Hood Park on the Snake River for a few days – continuing the tradition Veda and I started with our pick-up and camper and then our motor home. I know that I, as well as our grand kids, have many great memories of those days.

We in Yakima would welcome any of you who might come this way to stop and be with us anytime of the week as well as Sunday. Please keep us in your prayers as we do you. As the scripture tells us, "The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much."

Yours in Christ,
for the Yakima congregation.
Bro. Bill McCay, Sr.

No report received yet on the last Delta, CO, meeting.



News From Abroad

Harlingen (July 4th)

Appreciated brothers:

We always are praying so that the Lord blesses you and all the brothers in the church.

Thank you very much for your participation in the predication of the gospel and in the edification of the brethren.

During this month we had much activity among the churches in Mexico with the purpose of preaching the gospel to many religious people. The work is difficult but with the help of the Lord we went forward and each day we have new people that are interested and some obey and are converted to become Christians.

The congregations are composed of poor brothers and with the collaboration of some brothers during this month we delivered 100 bibles and 200 song books in different congregations in Mexico.

The evangelists continue traveling a week of each month visiting different places and with the support of you we can send for gasoline and food expenses during those days.

I comment that we continue working with the new church in San Fernando, Mexico, and each week a brother of the church in Matamoros, Mexico, visit to help in the predication of the gospel.

In the new church in Refuge City (June 18) we had 3 new baptisms and the congregation continues to grow.

Also, in the new congregation of Cardenas Sabinal the brothers of the church at Rio Verde travel each Thursday and Sunday to preach to these new brothers.

I send photos of: baptisms in Refuge City Congregation

Your brothers in Christ,

Evangelists in Spanish

Harlingen (August 2nd)

Dear brethren in Christ,

I greet you cordially in the name of Christ hoping that when this letter arrives you may be enjoying good health along with your family and brothers in the faith.

I desire to comment that during July we had activities among the churches in northern Mexico, and the Lord helped us to confirm in the faith new Christians and also we had baptisms in the church at Matamoros, Mexico.

In the city of Matamoros we continue to evangelize and we achieved new contacts with people that accepted studying the scriptures.

Also, we visited the new church in San Fernando and the brothers are very animated and continue evangelizing.

During the month of August we will visit again Tampico City to continue studying with some people that are interested in the truth.

The information from Guatemala is that the evangelist brothers continue visiting the churches and working in the evangelization and had new baptisms.

In Colombia the brothers inform us that they continue preaching and the churches are firm in the faith.

I sent photos of the new baptisms in Matamoros, Mexico.

Your brothers in Christ,

Evangelists in Spanish

Harlingen (September 3rd)

Dear brethren in Christ:

I inform you on the churches in different places and the work done by preaching the gospel in Mexico, Guatemala , Colombia, and also the work that we are making in Northern Mexico and in Southern Texas

The brothers and evangelists in Guatemala continue preaching in the nearby areas of the city and have study meetings in different places; also they comment that they had some baptisms. In the church in Santa Rose City, the evangelist expired that was preaching in this area.

In the area of Coatepeque City, Guatemala, the brothers preach to several nearby places and are new Christians .

In Colombia, the evangelist in Pereira City inform us that there are new baptized persons in other small city; it is possible that a new congregation is established in this area.

In Mexico, we continue work in different places and all brothers are very animated .

During this month we preaching in new congregation in San Fernando during two days each week

In Brownsville, TX, we continue work and the church is growing and the brothers very animated in the work of the Lord.

I send photo of the new church San Fernando .

This month has been a month of encouragement.

I hope God will continue to bless you in everything

Evangelists in Spanish.

Report From Bro. Caleb in Eastern Tanzania

September 2nd

Brethren,

Many greeting to you in Jesus name. I do well, struggling hard for the kingdom of God in this town, being independent.

Just to involve you some sickness of my mama who begotten me in Kigoma, who is a Christian, was immersed on October 10th, 2010; she is sick from Hemorroid, the enlargement of veins of the rectum. I had asked her to come to Arusha for some medication from June, have been attending medication to the hospital, here, but today I am out of budget for her Theater (? - possibly clinic) for she hasn't recovered. I am asking for $500 to enable her get medication, i.e. Theater.

Will appreciate so much to meet your help, but very sorry for inconvenience

Thank you for understanding

In Him,

Bro. Caleb Timothy

September 11th

Asante sana ("Thank you very much") for the recent AID for my Mama, my heart real feeling warm, for she is going to attend medication to the Hosp. AGAIN , I appreciate so much. May the lord bless you, Amen

In Him

Bro. Caleb Timothy

Report From Bro. Sadat in Western Tanzania

June 26th

I came yesterday from Mwanza (Saturday) in order to conduct the worship. I left my wife in the hospital, and on Monday I will be traveling to Mwanza to see how she is doing.

When I left there, she started to talk a little bit, whispering some words; but the worst part the doctors have tried their best to cut the place and rejoined it again.

The second problem that has occurred is that as the baby was found dead, one side of the womb is also rotten. On Tuesday doctors are going to clean it and treatment of that part is to be made. Now the amount that I was told by the doctors here that would cover treatment cost was less than expected. Before I left the hospital, the surgeon told me that in order for Agrippina to get full treatment $1000 is required because of the second part that is rotten. And remember, I am not allowed to sleep in the hospital; I have to get a place to sleep. But if it was a man they would allow me to sleep. I can recall the same situation of my wife is like that of Kachege's wife which caused her death.

But I thank God that she is talking by whispering words, and I am told that she should not eat much.

Before I got the donation from believers there, I had used amount of $900 which was the donation of some people here and myself. But now I'm empty handed and the one you send is almost finish, now I still need $1000 to those who will be willing and, yes, I know that there is no money in the Missionary account.

(I sent $1000 for Agrippina's aid on June 27th, but Sadat missed seeing the message I sent him concerning this. He did not see the message until July 2nd. - Ellis)

To God be the Glory.

Bro. Sadat

July 2nd

We must respect and thank God as it's called today. Here, Agrippina is somehow doing fine except that she still feels pain on the wounds that she has. The doctors did the last cleaning of the wounds before I left to Geita yesterday in order to conduct the worship on Sunday.

As I told you before that the estimation the doctors did here was not correct and we delayed taking her to the hospital by that time because we didn't have funds, but when I got the donation from the Christians one side of her womb was already rotten and thus it needed its expense.

I don't know money status right now, but I was suggesting that before you leave for the Delta meeting on the 14th if there is money you send it so that I may pay the hospital expenses because it forced me to borrow some money to cover the second problem that occurred in her womb. We also have to go and finish up with the registration in Dar. Otherwise, keep on praying for the work here and my family so that my wife gets well soon

In Him, Bro. Sadat

July 8th

Agrippina has been discharged from the hospital today but she still has wounds which are painful; I will be taking her next week for the checkup. Thanks to those who offered their prayers and donation to make it possible.

I still need your prayers on behalf of her.

Your fellow Servant in the Kingdom,

Bro. Sadat

August 2nd

Brethren,

I left home on Saturday, July 16th, to go to Arusha then Dar and came back home on 27th last month. The reason for going through Arusha, there were some documents which I wanted to take from some brethren. I took them with me to the Ministry of Home Affairs, the registrar of society and they have received our documents but there were some short comings, they wanted us to present the supportive letter from a known denomination like Catholic or KKKT. The lawyer told me that these are the core denominations that the government considers or knows. However, I was astonished when one of them said all the Churches or Societies that are going to be registered must have a letter from two denominations because they are known by the government.

One of the lawyers, a lady, told me that those are the denominations that they know and that if any society want to be registered must have a supportive letter from them. She went on to tell me that the rules have been changed by the newly elected president, when he told them that there should now be the registration of Societies until the end of August or as the government will give the instruction because they are doing some changes to the workers.

It has to be understood that the laws of this country right now are different from other countries like Kenya and Uganda. As the lawyer passed through the Church constitution after I have presented it to them, one of the things they saw was sending money to two different zones with different accounts. As they came across this, they refused and said that there have to be just one account either for the church or for one of those core leaders, and on this we are three in that constitution. But all in all some of our documents were received, but I came with some papers so that I may correct before I take them the end of this month. Nevertheless, we hope things will go well because if not so then they wouldn't receive our constitution, but the only thing they saw and commented was the issue of two accounts for two different zones. But my worry on this is that the same situation which happened to the previous account we had will happen again. Suppose we open one for the church. Because it will be formed by the same signatories that were on the previous. We have to pray that God will help us make the right decisions on this. I will scan these papers which they gave me when I go to the internet cafes and send them to you because that is where there is scanner. Ellis, I will also send you the expenses on Friday after I have calculated the amount.

In Christ's fellowship,

Bro. Sadat.

August 25th

REGISTRATION EXPENSES: $1000

Transportation from Geita to Mwanza, Mwanza to Arusha, Arusha to Dar, Dar to Arusha, Arusha to Mwanza, Mwanza to Geita: $350

Hotel for ten days: $300

Food for ten days: $250

Lawyers: $60

AGRIPPINA'S TREATMENT: $ 2600.
Surgery and all the processes was = $1750
Medicine: $300
Transportation Geita to Mwanza and back: $17
Food for two weeks: $300
Hotel: $200

August 25th

Concerning the registration, we had a Constitution written in English but when I took the documents to the Home Affairs, they refused it and wanted it in Kiswahili. I was told this after I went to Dar on 26th this month. Now I have one in Kiswahili after I have translated it. I was told that sending money to two different accounts will cause chaos, but instead they advised that if the Church has no account, the money may be deposited into a personal account temporarily while we are working on the church account. Now, we are working on having the Church account and we are looking for other officers in order to avoid what happened on the previous account.

May God's will be done.

Bro. Sadat.

September 5th

There is a Jehovah's Witness group in Mpanda, this is Southern part of the country near Mbeya. These people read the Church articles in the website and they were curious and wanted me to visit them. I planned to pass through there as I go to Dar taking the constitution in Kiswahili and talk to them. I don't know where they got the website and my contacts. As I said, when I was required to change the constitution in Kiswahili, I borrowed $500 in the middle of August which took me to Dar then back. Now if it may deem fit to you and if we can get $200 to make to $1000 you send it so that we pay the debts and travels.

Bro. Sadat.

September 6th

I forgot to tell you yesterday that I took Agrippina to Mwanza because the places that were rejoined, some stitches were loose and so there were three holes. Now we are back home.

Bro. Sadat.

September 11th

We had an earthquake yesterday and at least 17 people were killed and more hundreds injured in Bukoba and Mwanza. It passed through where I stay but we are safe. (I sent Sadat the following message: "You mentioned an earthquake in Mwanza. I remember all of the huge boulders there with the houses among them. How is the church there doing? As well as your relatives that live on these hills?")

In Christ,

Bro. Sadat

September 14th

The earthquake started from Bukoba (Northwestern area of Lake Victoria in Tanzania) and along through the town we stay (Geita, Southwest of Lake Victoria), then to Mwanza (Southeast of Lake Victoria). It affected Bukoba and Mwanza thoroughly. Many houses are damaged and many people have died, some of them losing places to sleep and the government has closed some damaged schools. I was even told that some houses for the brethren are gone, remember while we were there some were baptized in Kyaka area (near Bukoba).

In Mwanza, we know that the church building is up the hills and it also got damaged plus my relatives that are staying up the hills. These two places the government has provided the aid but it's not a full support, especially to the members of our Lord's church. Some schools have been closed by the government to let those that lack

houses have places to stay in. Church members need help plus my relatives there. It was a magnitude 5.7 which struck on Sep 11th. If you want to view the pictures, login "the earthquake in Tanzania."

Bro. Sadat

September 19th

I have not been on my computer for two days because I have been traveling.

I left home last Monday to Mpanda and stayed there for five days, then I left Mpanda on Saturday to Mbeya in Southern Tanzania, and I arrived in Dar es Salaam yesterday on the 18th. I met these two people but one of them left for work. He is working far from Mpanda. I remained with one of them, whom we discussed with several things like the church, and he asked, "Why are we calling ourselves the Church of Christ?" We opened the bibles and got the answers there. These two are from Mbeya, but they are working in Mpanda. As I was leaving, one of them decided to go with me to Mbeya because it is their home. Probably, Lord willing, the church may be started there. It is far away from Mwanza or Geita, but after they organized themselves, something good may come out from there. They also promised to go and tell their leaders.

Concerning the earthquake, the church building in Mwanza was shaken and I'm told that one side of the wall had fallen. The one who died I don't know exactly know his name, but my source told me that as he was running, he was hit by the falling debris. One of my relative's house is gone and was injured.

I also got a report from Bukoba that one of those whom we baptized, his wife, and two children died as the quake started; they were running when they got hit. His name is Alex Felix. Several homes are gone; many people died and many more were injured. Right now, the government has offered them a place to sleep in the school buildings. We ought to pray for Tanzania so that the church and God's people can be safe.

I will be in Dar for four or five days again, waiting to visit the Ministry of Home Affairs on Tuesday. They are working for only three day a week. Now I will be stranded here in Dar; the $500 you sent is almost finished; I have left only $100. I need $400 to get me out of here, if possible.

Attached are the pictures at Bukoba and Mwanza of the earthquake, and one of the person I visited, John Joseph.

Bro. Sadat

Report From Kenya

July 27th

Glad to greet you in the mighty name of our lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

I hope all is well with you. As for me sometime I wake up feeling well and sometime on a particular day I wake up feeling so weak and unwell, you see as far as blood pressure is concerned it is quite unpredictable on how one will wake up next day. But all in all I continue with medicines and prayers. Despite the sickness Gods work continues well.

Last Sunday we had visitors to Barut congregations. Two youth leaders came from Ronda, one old man called Helix Manyura came all the way from Nairobi to meet me and the church at Barut. We also received one young woman who after hearing and learning some truth promised to come back and will continue to

worship with us Brother Benjamin also came with another person who also promised to stick with us. God willing we are baptizing the two this week before Sunday.

Felix lives in Nairobi around Embakasi. This place is very near to Jomo Kenyatta International Airport in Nairobi Kenya.

He was very much impressed and interested with the truth that is taught by the church of Christ. He is willing to be converted.

I have attached some pictures to this letter. The person wearing the tie is Manyura.

Bro. John Kombo

August 6th

I am so grateful to you for the donations towards me and my son for medication expenses.

However, as I had reminded you I still see the doctor every week on Wednesday. Sometimes the blood pressure is somehow normal or bit higher. On Wednesday this week August 3rd it was 165/88. The doctor said it should read 127 or below. He prescribed some medicine for me to purchase.

Brethren, you have done what you could to help me to come out of the danger I was in when the illness started. God bless you very much. My wife and the entire family are also so much grateful. It would have been very difficult for them to afford to pay for the medicines which are very expensive. It is not known what the doctor will say on September 28th. This is the date when I will know whether to continue with the same drugs or change or discontinue with drugs. This is because it takes time and depends on the lifestyle, for example the diet stress, fatigue, etc. right now I don't eat salted food, no sugar, no red meat etc. Please continue to help with whatever you can afford. Thank you very much.

Bro. John Kombo

August 12th

Greetings in the mighty name of our lord and savior Jesus Christ. Hope it is well and fine with you. I have not heard from you for some time now. I am used to and love hearing from you. You promised to update us on the outcome of your journey and the missionary meeting, I am sure you are preparing to send us the report. We met with Laban this month on August 9-11.

He came to Nakuru. We discussed more about the problem of building the church. Barut and Matundu congregations are the most affected. We are only reminding you since we have already written to you concerning these matters. I gave to brother Laban the "church growth" lesson or article which I had prepared for him to go and teach the other congregation at Kakamega and Busia.

We also agreed to plan to visit Ndhiwa in Nyanza and Busia in Western Kenya to see how those congregations you visited are getting on. We would not like them to die. We desire to know if they are following the doctrine of "one cup"

Brother Laban bought enough of Lord's grapes juice for the congregations. After Laban had left to go back to Kakamega, Brother Martin Alumbiri from Shikunga called through the phone. He told me that they have already organized a seminar on August 26th. They would like me to be there to teach and perhaps supporting the meeting with some food would take $ 200

I have not heard from Sadat for some two weeks now. I hope his wife Agrippina is doing well from the illness. Have been continued to pray for her.

Your Brother in Christ,

Bro. John Kombo

August 20th

Glad to great you once again in the Mighty name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. However, I am so sad to inform you that my grandson Bryton Manguya is dead. He passed on from this life on Thursday, August 18th. I am just preparing to be there on the burial day.

As I had informed you that there will be a gospel meeting at Shikunga new congregation on August 25-27.

So after the burial of my grandson I will proceed to the meeting. I will also try to see Laban at Matundu church where I would wish to meet some orphans like Patrick and others. I had written to you about the meeting and its expenses - $ 200.

We had travelled to Nairobi to work on the renewal of the church certificate. There were many people but we were given an appointment date on September 25th.

Attached to this letter is baptismal certificate which I designed for the "one cup" churches in Kenya. There is also dedication cards for the children of our members of the church. In Kenya, a child cannot get a birth certificate and chance in schools without a dedication card form the church. Each certificate cost 50 KSHS (50 cents) to print. I printed 100 and gave some to Brother Laban and I intend to give others when we print enough.

Pass our greetings to all churches over there.

Your brother in Christ,

Bro. John Kombo

August 25th

Thank you very much for your being concerned and consideration toward my problems for the loss of my grandson, Bryton. We buried him on Monday August 22nd. I then proceed to Bro. Laban's place where he has arranged a meeting for one day with brethren there. On Tuesday I proceeded to Shikunga for the meeting which ends on Sunday, August 28th. But the official opening of the meeting is tomorrow, August 26th. As you requested I need $400 to cover all expenses. Thank you God bless you very much.

Your brother in Christ.

Bro. John Kombo

September 6th

I went to see Bro. Benjamin Rono in the hospital at Kericho. He is right now receiving treatment from the doctors for injuries received from a car accident. He is sounding well.

I also went to comfort his family at Kedowa where I spent a night. I came back today Tuesday, the 6th.

I have attached to this letter the picture of the car he was driving at the place of accident.

Thank you.

God bless you.

Bro. John kombo

September 12th

Glad to greet you this morning in the name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. I hope it is well and fine with you and everyone here as far as your life in the Lord is concerned. Yesterday we had a very good service there at Barut church. The sermon was "Our purpose is to Glorify God" (Romans 1:20-21, 30). We discussed and looked into three questions that every Christian must ask himself every day:

- Where did we come from?
- What is our purpose?
- Where are we going? The sermon was so interesting and helped the church to know and understand everyone's responsibility to our creator.

Bro. Benjamin Rono's injuries are doing well in so far as concerning he sustained during the road accident. He was doing very good work with his car. When he bought the car he promised to use it for the Lord's work. He used it to ferry some people from Kedowa to Nakuru every Sunday. He had introduced about four people to the Lord's church; one of them a former counselor and follower of Catholic denomination; he was converted to the Lord's church by being baptized. We used the car to transport people to the place of baptism where there is much water. We are waiting to see if the insurance company is going to compensate him; pray for him please. He might be leaving the hospital soon.

Your brother in Christ

Bro. John Kombo

P.S. On September 28th is the day my doctor would tell me what is next as far as the state of my health is concerned. Meanwhile it is not bad but I continue to see the doctor every Wednesday and continue to take medicines.

Report From Bro. Julius Wandera in Uganda

July 21st

We are traveling tomorrow to Congo congregation where bro Munduwabu is a preacher. We shall have two days seminar at this congregation. They had requested four days, but due to limited resources we are to have two days, then other two days we shall be at Thako congregation where Bro Philip Lebu is a preacher. Thako is the congregation near Congo boarder; this is one of the congregation you visited, and on that day souls obeyed and baptism was done by Bro. Sadat and the late Bro. Dickson.

We need your prayers for this trip, and that we pray that the word we are going to share with brethren be fruitful to edify each other.

Thank you for the labor in the Lord's vineyard.

Yours, Bro. Julius Wandera

August 1st

Thank you for the effort in helping the orphans and also the needy Christians; we say thank you very much "Webale muno" is the equivalent of "Thank you very much".

We are attaching the photos of the pupils in their uniform.

August 3rd

Hope this find you well, brother. The Congo brethren need to register at the Provincial government of Congo; so I humbly request to help them get temporary permit it needs 100 U.S. dollars.

(We sent the money for this – Ellis)

Thank you,

Julius Wandera

September 2nd

We are doing well. The Lord's work is continuing to be enlarged. We appreciate your efforts and the efforts of all the brethren. Through their efforts, the gospel preaching in Uganda and the Congo (as well as other parts of Africa) are very effective with many souls obeying the gospel.

I request you to consider Lumino Town Church of Christ. It was the first church to be converted on your first trip to Uganda, and formerly we were meeting at my home until one brother who volunteered and offered us land and

we processed legal ownership so we owned this land for the church. We have bricks; something should be done because the town council is on our neck that if we are not able to develop our land we should sell it.

Thanks,

Yours, Bro. Julius Wandera

September 9th

My kid is admitted at the hospital he is on oxygen please pray for him. Brother, help some money to pay medical: $100 is needed

Thank you ,

Yours, Bro. Julius Wandera

September 19th

My kid is recovering. Thank you for the help.

Kindly receive the following from the Congo:

THAKO, CONGO, CHURCH OF CHRIST ACTION PLAN 2016-2026

INTRODUCTION:

We the Christians of Thako Church of Christ thank the Supreme God for the gift of life and guidance during this sorrowful time of losing our relatives and friends in this country DRC. We again thank Him for showing us and directed us to our brothers in Christ in our neighboring country Uganda, who have supported us spiritually and materially during the beginning of our church here in DRC Congo.

- Thako Church of Christ is neighboring Kithoma Church of Christ in Uganda, who have always been inviting us to attend their internal and external seminars that empowered and improved our ability to know the true living God and his plans for salivation.
- Thako church of Christ started in 2009 and is situated at Uganda-Congo border in the slopes of Mt. Rwenzori. It started under many cups until 2013 when it corrected its worship and started partaking the Lord's Supper under new testament order.
- It was started by two brothers who used to attend seminars and Bible study in Kithoma Church of Christ. The two brothers there formalized and preached the word of God to many people in Congo, whom God selected a few to be his followers.

ACTIVITIES

- Home to home Bible study.
- Sunday services.
- Self-help projects
- Need identification.
- Monitoring and Evaluation

ACHIEVEMENTS

During our voluntary struggles to achieve our goals, we have obtained the following achievements:

- We have mobilized 20 more members to our Lord's church.
- Continuous preaching and Bible study.
- Solved some domestic problems emanating in our community.
- The quarterly donation from our brothers abroad.
- Temporary structure for the church.
- Selected a leading committee as:
  - Munduwabo Kambale Preacher
  - Munganga Bindu Secretary
  - Paluku Kasutama Treasurer
  - Deo Kikama Adviser

CHALLENGES

- Insecurity in our country is leading to immigration of our members from rural to urban area for good settlements.
- Lack of material support like Bibles to use during our evangelization and pastoral work.
- A lot of cultural beliefs and home remedies that lead to low spiritual harmony and turn up in many churches.
- Ill health and poverty due to across border issues.
- Lack of medical services nearby that leads to increase of mobility and mortality rate, especially the young infants.

VISION

A spiritual, healthy, and poverty-free community.

Goal: Working with and empowering the community to grow spiritually, health, and self-reliance for livelihood development.

OBJECTIVES

- To ensure the word of God reaches everybody.
- Ensure health and sanitation for livelihood development.
- Fight against domestic violence and other related problems through seminars, and pastoral work.
- Ensure self-help and development skills through trainings.
- Ensure church land is procured and church constructed by the year 2026

September 19th

Below is the summary of the work plan. We kindly request you to view our work plan and this should not discourage you because we are not saying that we need this work plan at once, but any contribution either in partly or anything available at the time it will be of use. **(I have been supplied with the entire, detailed work plan for both of these areas – Ellis)**

Construction of Lumino church building:

- Wall construction: 8,510,000 ugshs = $2836 U.S. dollars
- Roofing the building: 7,520,000 ugshs = $2507
- Plastering the building: 8,740,000 ugshs = $2913
- Doors, windows, painting: 4,849,000 ugsh = $1617
- Total for construction 29,619,000 ugshs = $9873

Below is the general budget for the school:

- 17,375,000 ugshs = $5792
- Kithoma, Uganda church needs 8,700,000 ugshs = $2900
- Thako, Congo needs 10,000,000 ugshs = $3333
- Pader trip to a newly established congregation 900,000 ugshs = $300
- Buying a printer with duplex printing 1,000,000 ugshs,=$333
- Two congregations need taplets (? - possibly toilets) 14,000,000 ugshs = $467
- Four days seminar Total cost 5,00,000 ughs = $1667:
  - Renting public address system
  - Food – lunch, supper
  - Accommodations for both preachers and all members from far places
  - Printing teaching notes, sermons, and more song books

Thanks, Bro. Julius Wandera

Report From Jesca in Uganda

September 9th

Join us in praying for 11 church people who got a severe accident when a truck they were on rolled down the valley when they were on the way from the burial of two church people who died of malaria. They were over 30 people on the truck but the 11 are in critical conditions in the hospital where we rushed them as soon as we got them from the place where they got in the accident. May God have mercy on them so that they get healed!!

Jesca

Report From Liberia

July 12th

Brethren, here is my evangelistic trip made to Monrovia, Montserrado County from June 17-28, 2016. At first, I met with the brethren of the ELWA Road Church of Christ and visited the homes of some brothers and sisters, encouraging them in the works of the church and not to stay away from the assembly. On Sunday, June 19, the brethren came together in the assembly with the total attendance of 18. I was then given the opportunity to teach and preach to the congregation. During the Bible study time, I taught on the topic, "The Fulfillment of The Old Testament", taken from the text of Matthew 5:17, 18.

My Sermon topic was, "The Seven Water Tests," from the text of Exodus 14:11-22. Here are some pictures sent of the ELWA Road church of Christ. Secondly, on Sunday, June 26 I worshiped with the Chocolate City Church of Christ in Gardnesville, Montserrado County.

During the Bible study time of the congregation, Bro. Paul D. Gueh taught on the topic, "Is The Church Jesus Built Only One Church? Taken from the text of Matthew 16:13-20; Ephesians 2:11-22.

I, Bro. J. Abednego Suahgba, preached on the theme, "You And Your Congregation". The text of This Message was 1 Corinthians 12:12-26.

The worship attendance was in the total of 28 brothers and sisters in Christ.

Some pictures are also sent along with this email concerning the Chocolate City Church of Christ.

Again, thank you very much for sending the amount of $250.00 dollars which I received on Saturday, July 9, 2016, respectively.

May God richly bless you and the brethren in all your good efforts applying for the growth of the Lord's work in Liberia.

In Christian Love,

Bro. J. Abednego Suahgba

September 7th

Here are my reports for the months of July and August, 2016, on the field of edification of the Lord's churches of Christ in Liberia.

My trip of edification taken to Monrovia, Montserrado County from July 15-18. At first I met with the brethren of the ELWA Road Congregation and visited the homes of some brothers and sisters, encouraging them in the works of the church and not to stay away from

the assembly on Sundays. On July 17th, the brethren came together in the assembly in total attendance of 16. Brother Charles A.C. Joe taught the congregation during Bible study on the topic, "Angelology," from the text of Psalms 103:20.

I, Brother Suahgba was appointed to preach, and I preached the topic, "Don't Waste It," taken from 2 Corinthians 4:16-18.

The next one was done from August 5-8 at the ELWA Road. On Sunday, August 7th, the topic of, "We Must know God As Our Creator," text was, Gen.2:15-17. This was taught by Bro. Richard Garsayneen. The preacher at the time was my son, Jonah Dors Suahgba who preached from the topic, "God Means What He Says," from Gen. 24:26-27. The attendance during this worship service was 18.

Again, I also spent most of my times with the Central Buchanan Church of Christ, being very busy on the field of visiting the weak and sick brethren as well as preaching in the assembly and teaching through the one hour radio program on Sundays.

Brother Forsman, many thanks to you and the brethren of the Lorenzo Church of Christ for sending me the Video Diskette which I received on August 22, 2016 respectively. We have already watched it on the video and saw how you carried out your worship services but we did not see the entire congregation as they sing and do the rest of the worship activities. However, we appreciate the one seen by the congregation here and therefore, we would like to do ours and send it to you for your observation whether we are of the same manner with you in worship services. If in case of any error within our worship services, then we will appreciate your concern and correction if any.

Therefore, we will appreciate any financial assistance from you that will carry us successfully through the process.

I would also like to thank you again very much for the support which you are sending. It has always enabled me to go about in many places working together with brethren in edifying congregations of the Lord's church in Liberia. I am really at the loss of words to describe the level of love you have shown and continue to demonstrate to me through the assistance for the growth of the Lord's work in this country of West Africa. May the Almighty God crown your effort with grand success in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

May God bless you.

In Christian Love,

Bro. Suahgba

Brethren,

As you can read, there are huge financial needs in the missionary fields of Africa: Health concerns, mission branch expenses, government legal issues, orphanage support (government required), earthquake damage, etc. in every country. Your help is needed, if you can. — The Editor

In Loving Memory of
Sis. Louise S. Markham

Mother and Grandmother, Sis. Louise S. Markham passed away on May 10th, 2016, at 81 years of age. She was baptized into the body of Christ on Juine 10th, 1963, in Grass Valley, CA. Partially due to the influence of her beloved mother-in-law, the late Dorothy (Bedingfield) Sage, who introduced her to the Church of Christ. She was a member of the Gleed congregation for many years. Before moving to Washington in 1980, she went to the Indian Springs congregation in California. She was born and raised in Socorro, NM, before moving to California where she raised four of her six children. She will be missed by her children, grandchildren, great and great-great grandchildren.

With Christian love,

Bro. Jim & Sis. Kathy Lamb, Gleed congregation

1



2



3



1 - Refuge City Congregation in Mexico
2 - New church at San Fernando
3 - Orphanage in Uganda with new uniforms (Required by the government for every student in every school)

4



5



6



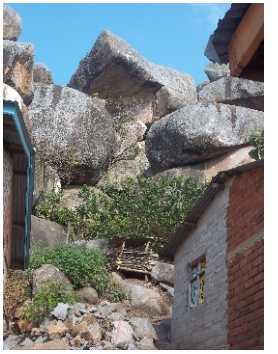
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8



9



Earthquakes in Lake Victoria region of Tanzania

4 - At Bukoba
5-9 - At Mwanza
8 - When I was in Mwanza I visited Sadat's relatives a number of times in this house.
9 - This is what it looked like before the quake when I was there (house is on the right).

10



11



12



13



10 - Houses in rocks at Mwanza (means city in the rocks) before quake hit.
11 - Church building at Bubo, Uganda, needs a lot of work.
12 - Church in Congo.
13 - Caleb with his mother on his right who is sick.

Bulletin Board

Meetings

July 9-14, 2017	Glenwood, WA	TBA
July 16-23, 2017	Delta, CO	Family Camp Meeting
Sept. 1-3, 2017	Pleasant View, OK	TBA

Marriages

Steve Mollohan & Leah Shepherd	Vancouver, WA	August 12, 2016

Baptisms

Gail Hall	Pleasant View, OK	June 19, 2016

Passings

Louise S. Markham	Gleed, WA	May 10, 2016
Bryton Manguya	Kakamega, Kenya	August 18, 2016

Prayer of Faith for those in need

Laban Ambogo's family	Matundu, Kenya	Malaria
John Kombo	Nakuru, Kenya	Diabetes & high blood pressure
Newton Kombo	Nakuru, Kenya	Many injuries; hit by motorcycle
Benjamin Rono	Nakuru, Kenya	Automobile accident injuries
Caleb Timothy's mother	Arusha, Tanzania	Hemorrhoid treatment
Agrippina Sadat	Geita, Tanzania	Stomach surgery & recovery
Several church members	Uganda	Truck accident injuries
Julius Wandera's son	Uganda	In hospital; on oxygen
Jay & LaWanda Durham	Broken Bow, OK	Surgery, illness, falls
Tony Schell	Cedaredge, CO	Heart irregularities
Connie Bryant	Delta, CO	Paralysis from a fall; in a nursing home
Carol Bauer	Gleed, WA	Needs liver transplant
Robert Farley	Gleed, WA	Severe back pain recovering from neck surgery
Pauline Holloway	Gleed, WA	Uterine & cervical cancer
Gene McKinney	Gleed, WA	Diabetes & heart problems
Troy Solomon	Gleed, WA	Broken bones from fall; many severe injuries
Jeannean McSwane	Glenwood, WA	Severe infections, pain, blood clots, & falls
Otto & Mariella Alvarez	Harlingen, TX	Dangerous travel
Eunice Jared	Hillsboro, OR	Heart problems
Mary Peyton	Hillsboro, OR	Alzheimer's
Evart Forsman	Lorenzo, TX	Angiogram
Earlene Jared	Lorenzo, TX	Lung & cancer issues & treatments
Jerry McCay	Lorenzo, TX	Macular Degeneration; hernia operation
Nell McCay	Lorenzo, TX	Falls & pneumonia (96 years old)
Reba White	Lorenzo, TX	Pneumonia
Retha Morris	Pleasant View, OK	Fighting Parkinson's disease
Gerald Buckner	Stilwell, OK	Cancer in remission
Reba Morris	Stilwell, OK	Severe kidney complications & Lupus
Matt Shepherd	Vancouver, WA	Heart attack & triple bypass surgery
Al Burtis	Waterford, CA	Radiation treatment for cancer
Bill McCay, Sr	Yakima, WA	Macular Degeneration & age
Cinde McCay	Yakima, WA	Fighting Parkinson's
Rick Walsh	Yakima, WA	Heart blockage / stent installed
Alice Davis	Yuma, AZ	Lower back pain & advanced age
Florence Fuller	Yuma, AZ	Fighting throat cancer, diabetes, & Alzheimer's
Iris Stewart	Yuma, AZ	Heart problems

And all those who are aging or in nursing homes.

The Christian Courier
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Lubbock, TX 79407