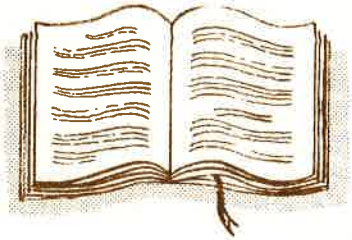
The Christian Courier



Send all correspondence to: 9914 Arkansas, Bellflower, California 90706

NOVEMBER 1982

"AS COLD WATERS TO A THIRSTY SOUL, SO IS GOOD NEWS FROM A FAR COUNTRY"
Prov. 25:25

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LOCO, OKLAHOMA

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

We at the Loco, Oklahoma congregation are doing very well. We realize that our negligence is the reason why Bro. Al Way had to write a letter to all of us. Let's try to do better.

Our meeting this summer was inspiring and enjoyable, with Brother J.L. Jared doing the speaking. We had one baptism, Pam Lewis, daughter of Don and Linda Lewis. We also had with us, Sis. Eunice Jared, Bro. and Sis. Vernon Roarke, Paula McCay and children for the entire meeting. We also had many others attending throughout the week.

My parents, Leola and I spent the weekend attending the Goshen, Arkansas meeting, with Bro. Claud Perigen speaking. We heard four good sermons and enjoyed the christian fellowship with everyone.

Howard Taylor
Loco, Oklahoma congregation

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"Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it."

Matt. 7:13-14

OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA

Dear Brethren:

The church at Oklahoma City sends greetings to all the faithful. We regret that it has been so very long since any word has come from our midst. We hope and pray to remedy that shortcoming. It is always good to hear the news from other churches and hope to regularly add to the news from henceforth. We really appreciate the work of the editors and everyone else involved in the effort of putting the Courier out every month.

We in Oklahoma City are small in number and realize that we must let other brothers and sisters know that we are still laboring in the work of the Lord. Death has taken many of our members in the past few years and even though we miss them, we know that their work is over and ours is still at hand.

Any member or non-member who wishes to come and worship with us when they are in the Oklahoma City area, our address is: 645 S.E. 11th in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. We met at 10:30 A.M. each Sunday. We welcome each and every one of you.

With love from the Oklahoma City Church of Christ,
Roger Walkingstick

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GOSHEN, ARKANSAS

Greetings from the Goshen Church of Christ:

We here at Goshen are doing fairly well. We have had some sickness here, but are doing better now. Sister Edna Ferguson was sick and in the hospital, but is home now and doing better.

The meeting we had here Oct. 3-10 with Brother Claud Perigen of Bellflower, California was really uplifting for all of us. We had good turn-outs almost every night. Brother Claud brought us nine very good lessons from God's word. We had one sister, Cathy Taylor, come forward for the prayers of the Church. We also had visitors from two Oklahoma congregations. Brother Jim Brown from Baron and the Taylors of the Loco congregation.

We need more of these kinds of meetings to spread God's word. For as Christ says in Matthew 28:18-20, "And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, all power is given unto me in heaven and in earth - Go ye therefore and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever - I have commanded you: And, Lo, I am with you always,

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even unto the end of the world. Amen."

So with that thought, I'll close. If any of you are in our area, please come and worship with us. We will be very glad to have you.

With Christian love,
Paul N. Auslam, Jr.

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HUMBLE, TEXAS

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

We here in Humble, Texas are all fine. Thank God for this. We have some good news, Brother John Bedingfield is out of the hospital and is able to come to church. We all thank God. Brother Bedingfield gave us all quite a scare. Some of the Brothers and Sisters went to the church Saturday, Oct. 9th to pour the sidewalk. We all had a good time working and fellowshipping. We had a big lunch. (Lots of fun to be with your Brothers and Sisters.)

Sister Ruth, our son Donald and Myself went to Bryan, Texas this past weekend the 16th and 17th of October and spent Saturday with Brother and Sister Stanley Goodwin, we enjoyed ourselves and we loved to talk about the Bible with them. Then we went on to Duncanville, Texas and spent Sunday with the church there. We were sure glad to see that all the members were O.K. except for Sister Warren Scott and we pray that she will be O.K. soon. While we were gone, we heard that Brother Roy Dabbs talked Sunday morning and Brother Steve Eldridge talked Sunday night and did a good job. This makes us really proud of them.

We here in Humble are still planning a meeting this coming year, but it is still in the planning stage. We will let you know when we are sure, who and when it will be held. We enjoy the paper very much and are looking forward to it again.

Yours in Christian love,
Bro. Donald Dabbs, Humble, Texas

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YUMA, ARIZONA

Peace be with you from the Church that meets in Yuma, Arizona. We have lots of wonderful people meeting here. Hope you get to meet with us soon.

Al and Betty Jones went to Texas and returned in October. Sister Childress is still in a nursing home. She is always glad to have visitors. We have had several visitors from other places and some of our members have had the opportunity to visit other congregations and encour-

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age all of us.

Bill and Verda Nelson are back from the mountains near Payson. How nice they can miss some of the hot weather. Speaking of weather, Yuma is heading into the beautiful weather season. You all come!

In Yuma, we are starting a new bit of write-up of the people who attend church, so they can see how much we appreciate them.

One of our first stars is Arzella Renick. She came from Oklahoma in the 1940's with Brother Jack and attended the church in Somerton as long as the church building was there. He was a beautiful singer too.

Sister Arzella says she has no hobbies but anyone who has tasted her vinegar pie knows she can cook. She has always been ready and willing when somebody needs care. She raised two children, Percival, who lives in northern Arizona and Joyce Morris, who lives close to Yuma. She had nine grandchildren and thirteen great-grandchildren.

Shawna Kelly attends church regularly. She is in the fifth grade and likes to roller skate and help cook. She was born in Arizona and has lived here most of her life. She is Sister Arzella's eldest great-grandchild. She is going to be as good a singer as her grandmother. Watch this space for future stars!

The Orendorff family really appreciated Brother Tony's help at the funeral of Jean's mother. It was his first effort and he did well. The members of the family who do not attend Church were all impressed by the strong spirit of support.

Brother Robert Morris and Sister Nora Scott had a family reunion. They were very happy to have all five brothers and two sisters together for the first time since 1940.

By the time you read this, our meeting for Thanksgiving will be history but I can tell you from here it was a success.

The Orendorffs have another telephone number if you want to put it in you little black book. (602) 782-6444. We hope you can come see us. We need you. You need us too.

Love from the church that meets in Yuma, Arizona.

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"Ye have heard that it hath been said, Thou shalt love thy neighbour, and hate thine enemy. But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you; That ye may be children of your Father which is in heaven: for he maketh his sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust."

Matt. 5:43-45

CEDAREDGE, COLORADO

Dear Ones in Christ:

Again thanks to the editors for a job well done. We enjoyed reading all of the news from other congregations.

Most of us here are well except for colds, we are having a lot of rain and nice weather for Colorado. Bro. Ken Baldwin is out of the hospital after 3 weeks in for pneumonia. He is gaining his strength back slowly and able to be back with us at church. So we all pray that he will soon be well and feel like preaching one of his good sermons to us again. We have had quite a few visitors and appreciate them coming and helping us. Bro. and Sis. Henry Oliver from Almogardo, New Mexico congregation; Bro. and Sis. Frank Ridlon; Bro. and Sis. J.D. Johnson from Aztec, New Mexico congregation; Bro. and Sis. John Shepherd from Payson, Arizona congregation; Bro. and Sis. Bill Nelson from Yuma, Arizona congregation; Bro. and Sis. Skip Berry and their three children from Craig, Colorado; Bro. and Sis. Ron Herbert with their daughters and grandson from Glenwood Springs, Colorado; Sis. Debbie Wilkerson and her two girls from Nulca, Colorado. Thanks to all of you for being with us. We are a very small congregation and appriciate any of you that can come and worship with us.

Bro. Jack Padgett and Bro. Tom Clothier is bringing some very heart warming sermons. Both boys are new at giving lessons but are doing a great job. Bro. Matt Padgett is also doing a great job helping with singing and prayers; he is so willing to do his part. We are proud of all of our young men that are trying so hard to do the Lord's work.

Please keep in mind the Big Spruce camp meeting at Cedaredge, Colorado, June 25th thru July 7, 1983. It's Free! So plan to come bring a car load, share expenses and enjoy the fellowship along the way. It has been announced it will be the 20 year homecoming and we need all of you to be here. If someone from each congregation could let us know how many from each congregation that are planning on coming; it would sure help us to plan for food, rooms, etc. Are you bringing your own housing, R.V.'s, tents, campers, etc? How many will need rooms at the camp grounds? We have dorms for the young people, but need to know how many to expect so we can plan accordingly. If you can, please let us know as soon as possible. We can also use your support in keeping the camp meeting going each year and keeping it free. Your donations will be appreciated by all. It costs quite a bit for food and to rent the church camp. Without your financial support we can not have the church camp each year. We can not do it alone. It is your camp meeting and ours so if we all work together, it doesn't put all the load on one congregation. Please help plan the camp meeting. We need your help. Call or write any suggestions you may have. That would make it even better.

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Or if one or more congregation would like to get together and help plan the meeting each year, it would be greatly appreciated by all of us here at Happy Hallow Church. Just let us know what your plans are, so we can buy the food you want and have everything ready for your plans. One of the rules of the camp grounds is NO SHORTS PLEASE. Let us hear from you.

God bless and keep you in his loving care. Remember us in your prayers.

In Christian love,
Happy Hallow Church of Christ
P.O. Box 188
Delta, Colorado 81416
(303) 874-4581

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ROLL, ARIZONA

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

As you know, our congregation here in Roll, Arizona has been meeting in Bro. Melvin Lytle's home, until we could find a place to build a building. We have found some land here in the valley which would be a good place to build a church building. We have talked with the Brothers in Yuma, and they have agreed to buy the land for us. They did this out of christian love and we here at Roll, thank them very much. They not only helped us financially, but they also said they would help us in putting the building up. We can use all the manual labor we can get since we will be doing the work ourselves, but we also need your financial help. So we are asking for your help. We would like to get the building up and finished as soon as we can but we need your help to make this happen.

One last bit of good news is that Bro. and Sis. Bill Martin have been blessed with a baby boy, Jeffrey Scott, born Sept. 20, 1982.

Pray for us and we pray for all.

In Christian love,
Tony Brister for the Church of Christ
Rt. 1 Box 71-B1
Roll, Arizona 85347

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"Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven."

Matt. 7:21

YAKIMA, WASHINGTON

Dear Christian Friends:

We have had a beautiful fall in Yakima. The colors on the fruit trees have been exceptional this fall, both with the fruit and the beautiful leaves.

We do have news even though we didn't write for the past Courier. We had one added to Christ's body, Bro. Fred Sanford, we are happy to have him. Christ needs all the workers he can get. Also we have a new member who has been meeting with us some time now, Sis. Joyce Crowell from Broken Bow, Oklahoma. Joyce is a grandaughter of Bro. Treat. Welcome Joyce!

Our hunters this year have been well blessed. They have gotten seven deer this season between 8 or 10 hunters.

On a less happy note, Bro. Bob Lamb was in the hospital for several days with lung problems, but is home now. Also our Grammy Mack had an accident while riding in a trailer house, she has some bad bruises and is in the hospital for a few days. Our prayers are with them. We miss you. We enjoyed reading news from some we haven't heard from in a long while.

We still have dinner at the church the 1st Sunday of every month, with a business meeting in the afternoon. This being November, we are having a Thanksgiving dinner Sunday, wish you could all be here.

As we reflect back over the year, we've had a busy one. We have made several improvements on the church grounds. We have had many wonderful Christian friends visit, a good meeting with Bro. and Sis. Sammy Boen. Have had good times and sad times as every family experiences. This past year many miles have been traveled by members from here, with His arm safely guiding, and all in all he has blessed us well.

We're looking forward to 1983 and our meeting with Bro. Homer Bryant of San Pablo doing the preaching (Lord willing). It will be July 31st. We're praying for a good meeting in Yuma, wish we could all be there. Our love to all there for your effort.

All in Yakima sends their love to the Brotherhood.

In Christian love,
Bill and Veda McCay

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"For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit."

1 Cor. 12:13

BELLFLOWER, CALIFORNIA

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

I recently closed a meeting at Goshen, Arkansas Oct. 3-10. Outside interest was good, with many friends and some from other churches in attendance. One came forward for the prayers of the Church. We had the privilege of staying with Ernest and Maysil Buchanon and enjoyed their wonderful hospitality. We also visited with many of the Brothers and Sisters and families in Arkansas.

When we returned home, we left for Sacramento to visit my Sister-in-Law, who had just lost her husband, and my twin brother.

November 14, Howard and Nell McCay were with us. Howard gave us two good sermons. Al Way and family were in Modesto that Sunday visiting their daughter and son-in-law.

We plan to attend the Yuma camp meeting Thanksgiving weekend.

We need the prayers of all the faithful.

In Christian love,
Claud Perigen

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DUNCANVILLE, TEXAS

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

We here at Duncanville are enjoying every Lord's Day service. We always have good teaching and we like to try to sing. On the week-end of October 2 Brother Jack and Sister Margaret Scott went to Plainview to see his sister and on in to Ralls, Texas where his mother Sis. Maud Scott is in a rest home. Then they went to Lorenzo, Texas for church Sunday. October 10th Sister Ruth and Brother Donald Dabbs and their son surprised us with a welcome visit. Brother Dabbs preached a good sermon. Sister Forrest Francis Sr. and her son met with us on the 17th and on the 31st of October. They are a big help to us when they are here. Brother and Sister Jack and Margaret Scott were gone again the weekend of October 24. They went to Paris, Texas for their grandson's wedding and went to church at Broken Bow, Oklahoma. We are always glad to hear from other churches. Warren and Linda Scott and their children, Jack, Randy and Jimmy made a trip to the Houston area and visited friends and relatives there. We have also had some visitors. Lola, Dean and Jessica Sicking were here one Sunday. Margaret, J.T. and John David Beckman came twice. We are always glad to see all of them. Everybody's presence along with those who come regularly are very encouraging to us. Brother Toodler and Sister Jo Goodwin visited their son, Stanley and his family in Bryan, Texas on one weekend. Sister Linda Scott was

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ill on October 17th and couldn't come to church. We missed her.

We enjoy having news from all the churches. Everything you do is interesting to us. Be sure to stop by and worship with us when you are in the Dallas/Fort Worth area. We are at the corner of Cockrell Hill Road and Wheatland Road. If you need help call 298-3952 or 298-1804. Both Brother Dan Teague's numbers.

In Christian love,
Duncanville, Texas congregation

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YAKIMA, WASHINGTON

Dear Brethren:

In the past few weeks, we have been saddened by news of the death of several of our christian brethren. Whenever a soldier of Christ dies we who remain feel the loss. On August 26th we in Yakima suffered such a loss. Brother Vernon Roarke died on that day. He had been in the hospital in Seattle for several weeks before his death. Our sympathy goes out to his wife, Geneva, and to his children and grandchildren.

While I am saddened by the loss of a good friend, I do not mourn for Vernon and other christian friends that die. I would like for each of us to consider what the Lord says about death. Maybe in doing so we can help ease the burden of the death of a loved one.

In Eccl. 7:1 Solomon says, "A good name is better than precious ointment; and the day of death than the day of one's birth." We are always extremely joyous when we hear that a loved one has a new baby. So why can't we also be happy when we know that a christian has died. We live for only one reason. That reason is to prepare ourselves for death. We are all going to die. Paul tells us that he was looking forward to dying because then he would be with Christ - Phil. 1:20-24. The important thing is we must be ready for death. 2 Tim. 4:6-8, "For I am ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith. Henseforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness." David said.... "Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me." So if we can be confident of our position before God, there is no reason to fear death.

Psalms 116:15, "Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints." If the Lord is pleased when a christian dies; do we have the right to be displeased? When a christian dies he or she has conquered Satan. We should be happy about this. When a christian dies his work is over. Rev. 14:13, "And I heard a voice from heaven saying

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unto me. Write, Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: Yea, saith the spirit, that they may rest from their labours; and their works do follow them." So the best thing that can happen to a christian is death.

I hope that no one gets the idea that I think the death of a loved one is not hard. A year and a half ago I lost my grandmother. It hurt very much. I cried many tears. In fact, I still shed tears if I think about it for very long. But I do not mourn for her. My tears are for myself, the loss that I feel. My tears are because I didn't spend more time with her when she was alive. But I am confident that death was a blessing for her. As David said in 2 Sam. 12:23, "he shall not return to me...." I know that I shall go to her.

We love all of you and wish we could be with you more often than we are. We do hurt when any of our brethren lose loved ones. I hope these thoughts can help in some way.

Yours in Christ,
Richard Johnston for the
congregation in Yakima, Washington

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WHAT IS GOD WRITING ABOUT YOU?

THUS SAITH THE LORD

Gal. 6:7 "Be not deceived God is mocked: For whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap."

1 Tim. 5:24 "Some men's sins are open beforehand going before judgment, and some men they follow after."

Rev. 20:12 "And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened and another book was opened, which is the book of life and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books according to their works."

Rev. 20:15 "And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire."

-Gerald Brockman

GOSPEL PLAN OF SALVATION

THUS SAITH THE LORD

FAITH: Heb. 11:6 "But without faith it is impossible to please him; for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him."

REPENTANCE: Acts 2:38 "Repent, and be baptized everyone of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins"

CONFESSION: Rom. 10:10 "For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation."

BAPTISM: Mark 16:16 "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned."

STAND STEADFAST: 1 Cor. 15:58 "-be ye steadfast unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord."

-Gerald Brockman

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THE GOSPEL

THUS SAITH THE LORD

Gal. 1:9: "As we said before, so say I now again, If any man preach any other gospel unto you than that ye have received, let him be accursed."

Gal. 1:11: "But I certify brethren that the gospel which was preached of me, is not after man, For I neither received it of man neither was I taught it, but by the revelation of Jesus Christ."

-Gerald Brockman

1983 MEETINGS

Bellflower, California	June 12-19	Dan Ross
Delta, Colorado	June 25-July 7	Camp
Yakima, Washington	July 31-August 7	Homer Bryant

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BAPTISMS

Pam Lewis of Loco, Oklahoma

Fred Sanford of Yakima, Washington

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Bro. and Sis. Bill Martin of Roll, Arizona have been blessed with a baby boy, Jeffrey Scott, born Sept. 20, 1982. Congratulations to the proud new parents!!

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Dear Christian Friends:

We thank you so very much for your wonderful support in sending in your news letters. There's still a lot of folks out there that we haven't heard from. Won't you please share your lives with us? We need you and hope you need us.

We haven't had much feed back on our letter concerning the articles in the paper. PLEASE let us know what your opinion is.

Remember --- plan your 1983 meeting early. Let us know the dates, and we'll get them in the paper.

Let's get the good news out to the world so others can share the joy we have in Jesus Christ.

We love you, pray for us.

The Editors

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"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."

Matt. 11:28-30