The Christian Courier



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

DECEMBER 1982

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

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SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

Our Dearly Beloved and Treasured Family in Christ:

God bless you for remaining steadfast friends to us as we get about to see you from time to time, or hear of your unperishable labor in the faith. To you who are supplied with his riches and have the backing of his power, how happy you are to serve in this great kingdom! Recently some of the members here travelled long distances and were with brethren in California and Yuma, Arizona for that meeting over Thanksgiving and found that God's love in people is just as alive now as ever before. As we all see our world corrupt all the more, we should value these gatherings all the more. The christians really need to open up and be honest with one another, and account each other not as a social group, but rather a friend with the same endeavor in the spirit. As the writer of this letter, I can say that we are having struggles here in Seattle. There is an enemy attack on us directed at splitting us apart from the unity of God and ourselves. We're fighting this attack in the form of worldly compromises, disbelief, negativeism and a whole gamut of related pollutions. You see why our time together is so important - it is the closest thing to heaven on earth when that body is together and determined to be committed to Christ. It is then that the world can see that light on the hill and want to become a part of it. We live in a town where there are a million people within a half-hour drive, and we have reached so few. This is one congregation that needs to radically extend its faith and quit taking the tremendous blessing and power of God for

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granted.

Other than this, our Bro. Ellis Forsman fell from the side of a house and broke his wrist and elbow and is now about halfway thru the required time to wear a cast. There are no serious prolonged illnesses here now. Recently we took up studying about different people in the scriptures during our mid-week Bible study, and it has been very comforting to us to find how God dealt with those who trusted in him, in spite of their failures.

May God love you, in spite of yours. Pray for your brethren.

Your fellowservants in Christ
at Seattle, Washington

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DUCANVILLE, TEXAS

The Church at Duncanville is getting along well. We had a singing practice at the house of Bro. Warren and Sis. Linda Scott on November 3rd. We had a good time. We have had several visitors through the month of November. On Nov. 7, Sis. Forrest Francis and her son were here. We always enjoy seeing them and talking to them. On Nov. 14th, Bro. and Sis. Henry Oliver of Alamagordo, New Mexico met with us. We were glad to know that they meet in Alamagordo so if you are ever by there, look them up. Also Bro. Andy Barnes and his wife Darla and chilren, Robin and Heather of Comanche, Oklahoma visited us that day and Bro. Andy brought us a lesson. They usually meet at Randlette, Oklahoma or at Loco, Oklahoma where there are congregations. On Nov. 21, Brother Jimmy and Sis. Jetta Loftis came with Bro. and Sis. Goodwin. They are good singers and we enjoyed singing with them at church and then in the afternoon we met again for singing. On Nov. 28, Bro. Larry and Sis. Debbie Rollins and their children, Melody and Jason visited us on the way home from their Thanksgiving trip. Bro. Larry gave us a lesson. We were glad to see them again.

So, we feel that it has been a good month. Meet with us if you ever can at the corner of South Cockrell Hill Rd. and Wheatland Rd. in Duncanville. Phone: (214) 298-3952 or 298-1804.

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HUMBLE, TEXAS

Dear Bro. Al and those in Christ:

We are very proud to hear that you have gotten the new machine. We sincerely hope that you enjoy it and can put it to good use.

Bro. and Sis. Bob Eldridge and family along with Sis. Ross from

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Stilwell, Oklahoma came by and paid us a very nice visit. We enjoy their company very much.

I wanted to let you know that Sis. Ruth and I have a new address and phone number. Our new address is: 5723 Loddington Dr., Humble, Texas 77346. And our phone number is (713) 852-7706. All those coming through this way give us a call and if you can, come and visit with us.

Yours in Christian love,
Donald Dabbs and family

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HUMBLE, TEXAS

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

This finds my wife and me back home after a glorious week at the Yuma meeting. We would like to use a little space in the paper to express our thanks and appreciation for the wonderful work of the Church at Yuma, in hosting one of the best meetings that I have ever attended. I am sure that others who attended will also want to report on this meeting, and to praise the church there for their love and hospitality, that was shown to all. For us, it was a wonderful reunion with many dear ones that we had not seen for many years, and an opportunity to meet many of our younger brothers and sisters from different congregations. This was a real joy for us.

I have fininshed talking by telephone with Bro. and Sis. Ed Tate of the New Castle, Texas congregation, and they report that all is well with them. This is a faithful and steadfast Church, that has kept the faith for many years, with very capable and charitable leadership. We hope to visit and worship with them in the near future.

Our attendance at Humble was a little below normal yesterday (Dec. 5) due to minor illness, but we pray that all will be back with us next Lord's day. We always welcome any visitors who might be passing our way.

We received the November issue of the paper yesterday, and enjoyed it very much. My wife and I were glad to meet our editor, Bro. Al Way and his family at the Yuma meeting. They are all working to give us a paper that brings us closer together. Let us pray that unity, grace and faith may continue to abound.

With Christian love,
J.W. Bedingfield of the
congregation at Humble, TX

CEDAREDGE, COLORADO

Dear ones in Christ:

We really enjoy reading all of the news letters from the different congregations. All of us here in Colorado are well at the present time, and enjoying beautiful weather. Lots of snow in the mountains but here in the Valley it's nice. We have 40 to 50 degrees temperature most of the time in the day. We are happy to announce that Terry and Debbie Wilkerson and their three children, Mike, Tressa, and Misty have been transferred back to Cedaredge. We are very happy to have them back home and meeting with us again. Welcome home Terry, Debbie and family. Keith Wilkerson and his finance Patty Billeter have been meeting with us regularly, thanks Keith and Patty, keep up the good work. We appreciate you kids.

We have dinner at the church one Sunday out of every month, to celebrate all of the birthdays of the month. We meet Sunday morning at 10:30 - Sunday evening at 6:30 and Wednesday evening at 6:30. Any one coming our way please stop and stay a day or so and visit and worship with us. Our homes are always open to all, anytime.

1983 is almost here, so start planning to come to the Big Spruce camp meeting June 25 - July 7.

May God bless you all and remember us in your prayers.

In Christian love,
The Happy Hallow Church of Christ

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FORT BRAGG, CALIFORNIA

Dear Brethren:

We here at Fort Bragg are still meeting in our home and doing as well as can be expected. Our four grown children and a grandson meet with us most of the time, for which we are truly thankful. We greatly enjoy our occasional visitors.

Bro. Way, I agree with your ideas on the paper. Many of us are too lazy to even write to the Courier, much less write to each other, so this leaves the Courier as our only means of keeping in touch with one another. Then when we plan a vacation we frantically dig out old copies of the Courier to see where congregations are located.

Please keep up the good work. You are appreciated, even if I, and possibly some others are lazy about letting you know it.

Your Brother in Christ,
Elmo Brown
19601 Noyo Acres Drive
Fort Bragg, CA 95437
707/964-0106

LORENZO, TEXAS

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

We here at Lorenzo wish to say hello and extend our prayers to all. We have not written in quite a while; but receive the Courier with great joy. We are always anxious to read how our Christian body is doing across the land. We have been blessed with good health; with the exception of colds and flus here and there. We hope that this blessing of good health finds many others.

A couple of families here have grown. Becky and Evart Forsman have taken into their home two nephews, and Errol and Earlene Forsman have taken in a young girl from Arizona. We all offer our encouragement and prayers for taking on such heart warming tasks and welcome Chris, Richard and Melissa.

We would invite anyone who is coming close to our area to feel free to stop and meet with us.

Keep us in your prayers and we'll keep you in our hearts.

With Christian love,
Lorenzo congregation

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BELLFLOWER, CALIFORNIA

Dear Christian friends:

There are not words to describe our feelings for the congregation at Yuma. We had a wonderful time over Thanksgiving week. We left encouraged and uplifted by the fellowship we enjoyed.

We appreciate having visitors, Wayne and Amy Orendorff and children on November 21. Wayne gave us a good lesson. Robert and Ellen McCay were here on December 5 and Robert gave us a fine lesson. Howard and Nell McCay were among our visitors also on December 5. Howard gave us a fine sermon also.

Let us all try and do more for our Lord in the year just ahead.

Please pray for us,
Claud Perigen

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YUMA, ARIZONA

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

Greetings from Yuma. We are happy to report that our first camp meeting was really a success. We are so thankful so many were able to attend. We had a good crowd throughout the week and heard so many good

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sermons. The speakers were Brothers Robert McCay, Port Orchard, WA; Howard McCay, Yakima, WA; John Bedingfield, Deer Park, TX; Claud and Jerry Perigen, and Al Way, all of Bellflower, CA; Wayne Orendorff, Seattle, WA; Tony Brister and Billy Martin, Roll, AR. Besides these and their families, those attending from other places were Doris Jared of Bellflower, CA; Laurence and Angie Orendorff of Phoenix, AR; Robbie Orendorff of Encinitas, CA; Harry and Lou Dye of Parker, AR; J.D. Johnson of Aztec, NM; Charlene Broadway of Rogue River, OR; Christy Lytle and friend Shawna of Camp Verde, AR. All the Bro. and Sis. from Roll, AR were able to come most of the time. We want to thank each and every one for their presence and help. Also thanks to all who helped in the kitchen and prepared the food. We really learned a lot and hope to learn more as we plan to have this each year. If the Lord wills, in 1983 it will be Nov. 20-Nov. 27. We hope everyone will plan to come.

During the meeting, there were 2 who asked for prayer. And as always, when you hear so many good sermons all of us are uplifted. It's so good for Christians to get together. If any of you has never attended a camp meeting, you don't know what you are missing. So try to make it to one.

Bro. James Morris is at home now, after surgery on his leg in Tucson. It's good to have him and Lois back to church. Sis. Charlene Broadway is still in Tucson where her mother is still in critical condition. Sister Virgie Childress is still in a rest home. Sister Betty Jones has had some back problems. Last week she was sent to Phoenix for some tests. Let us all remember the sick and those in sorrow when we pray.

If anyone is coming this way anytime, come and worship with us. We meet at 10:30 A.M. and 7:00 P.M. on Sundays and 8:00 P.M. Wednesdays. If you need information call (602) 726-4575 or (602) 782-6444.

God bless you all,
Robert Morris, Yuma, AR

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AZTEC, NEW MEXICO

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

I look forward to receiving the Courier each month. To know what other Christians are doing, what's going on at other congregations.

A new Church building planned at Roll, Arizona; great news. One has to know that the true Church of Christ is alive and growing. A church at Oklahoma City - Super - And I would not have known about it if I hadn't read it in the Courier. Regret I didn't know 2 months ago as we were in Oklahoma City and would have enjoyed visiting.

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My point is this: We need the Courier to tie all true Churches of Christ together. We don't need articles: scriptures from the Bible rewritten or explained thru the Courier. No matter how good his intentions, if a writer makes an error, or an editor makes an error, and one believes that error?? Brother Al Way's letter in the September 1982 issue about being in the middle is on target. We gather on the 1st day of the week to study and do the Lord's will. This is the way it should be.

Frank Ridlon
Aztec, New Mexico

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BROKEN BOW, OKLAHOMA

Dear Brethren:

We here at Broken Bow are about as usual. We have some that are sick and some that keep the house of the Lord going. For which we are thankful. We are few in number and seems as though we can't do much about it, but we are glad to hear from the others that are doing good. It seems like the days of Noah are here as Jesus foretold and as Peter, Jude, Paul and others told us about would come. So just keep working and praying for all and maybe the Lord will bless us with eternal life.

As far as the articles, I think and others I have talked to think we should have the word taught as well as news. We like to study God's word for that is what will judge us in the last day.

Sincerely,
Lloyd Treat

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AZTEC, NEW MEXICO

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

We at the Aztec congregation are doing fairly well. We are happy to see the Courier become strictly a news letter.

Since our last letter, Sister Doris Ridlon was admitted to the hospital but is well now. Also, Emmit Noyes suffered a light stroke but is much better.

In our last letter we failed to mention some exciting news. Marc Bixler and Marlene Lawerence were baptized in June. They have announced their engagement and plan to be married this coming summer. Lee Reeves of Aztec and Trina Boffman of Albuquerque were married July 17. Also joined in marriage last summer were Eric Locke and Roberta Bixler, both

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of Aztec.

Several of our members enjoyed traveling last summer. Brother and Sister J.D. Johnson visited friends and relatives in Oklahoma and are presently in California. We expect them home soon.

In Christian love,
Aztec Church of Christ

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1983 MEETINGS

Bellflower, California	June 12-19	Dan Ross
Delta, Colorado	June 25-July 7	Camp
Yakima, Washington	July 31-August 7	Homer Bryant
Yuma, Arizona	Nov. 20-27	Camp

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BAPTISMS

Marc Bixler of Aztec, New Mexico

Marlene Lawerence of Aztec, New Mexico

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Congratulations to Lee Reeves and Trina Boffman and also to Eric Locke and Roberta Bixler. Both couples were united in marriage last summer. May you find much love and happiness in your years ahead.

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I asked Jesus,
"How much do you love me?"
And Jesus answered,
"This much."
And he reached out his arms
and died.

-Anonymous