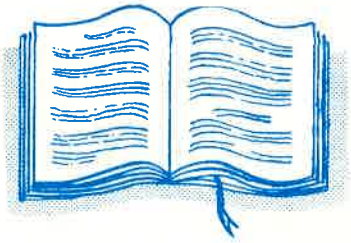
The Christian Courier



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

FEBRUARY 1983

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

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HUMBLE, TEXAS

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

This has been an eventful month for us. In Jan, we learned that Bro. Ray Bishop, a dear old friend and brother was in the hospital at Olney, Texas. His wife was also ill at the same time. On January 15th, Bro. and Sis. Lowery, and my wife and I drove up to visit them. Bro. Bishop is past ninety years old, and is just as strong in the faith as when I first met him many years ago. We have since learned that both he and his wife are better and were able to attend church again. We thank God for His mercy and care. While we were up there, Bro. Lowery preached a fine sermon on "The Valley of Decision" at the New Castle congregation on Sunday morning. We all enjoyed the fine hospitality of all the faithful there, but especially Bro. and Sis. Ed Tate and Bro. and Sis. Wade Fikes. That afternoon we drove to Duncanville, and I preached there at the evening service, where we enjoyed a good visit with old friends, relatives, and brothers and sisters in Christ. We spent the night with Bro. and Sis. Jack Scott, and then back home on Monday with many fond memories and muchly strengthened by our association with the faithful at these two congregations.

Brother Stanley Goodwin and I have just returned from seeing our dear Sister Janice Herbert laid to rest at Delta, Colorado. Our deepest prayers and sympathy go out for this fine family at their great loss. Let us also pray for our dear Bro. and Sis., Ken and Verlie Baldwin. Bro. Kenneth is in poor health but seemed to be improving. It was indeed a sad occasion to loose this dear Sister in her prime, but the great outpouring of love and kindness by both family and the Church caused

many of us to return home stronger in the faith, and perhaps better Christians than before. We pray God's riches blessings on this bereaved family.

We had visitors from Alamogordo and Weed, New Mexico last Sunday. My wife and I celebrated our 47th wedding anniversary on February 6th. We ask the prayers of all the faithful for the congregation at Humble. Brethren, we all need to pray more for one another and to visit and strengthen one another.

With Christian love,
J. W. Bedingfield

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DUNCANVILLE, TEXAS

Dear Brethren:

The Church at Duncanville is getting along all right. We had several visitors in January and we enjoyed them all. Al and Kay Bostic and their girls, Brandy and Amber came on January 9th with Warren and Linda Scott. They are neighbors of theirs. We hope they come again.

In the late afternoon of January 16th, Brother John Bedingfield, his wife, Pearl and their daughter, Pauline and her husband, Cotton Lowery met us at the church as they came through and Bro. John preached us a good sermon.

On January 23, Sister Martha Platt and Sister Margaret Beckman and her husband J.T. Beckman and their son, John David met with us and we enjoyed having them here with us again.

On January 30, Brother Andy Barnes and his wife, Darla, met with us. They had shown chickens the week before at the Fat Stock Show in Fort Worth. Brother Barnes gave us a lesson. We welcome visitors - look us up if you come this way. We are at the corner of Cockrell Hill Road and Wheatland Road. Phone number is 298-3952.

From the Duncanville,
Texas congregation

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EDITOR'S NOTE

To those who have written me personally, I will, Lord willing, answer each of your letters - please be patient with me. It seems there aren't enough hours in a day or days in a week to get everything done.

-Al Way

SAN PABLO, CALIFORNIA

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

We send greetings to all from the congregation here in San Pablo, California. All is well with us and we are doing fine. We have some new people meeting with us. Martha Wyatt and her two daughters Barbara and Patty. We hope and pray that they will soon become members of the Body of Christ.

Brother Mike Brockman has been away hauling wood for some time now. He is up north in Chico, California each Sunday and brings down his load of wood to sell during the week. Sis. Charlotte Brockman and their children do come often, and we do miss Bro. Mike and look forward to having him meet with us again.

We heard that Bro. Sage in Grass Valley was very ill and asked for the prayers of all the brethren everywhere. Let us pray for him and each and every one that is in dire need. Please pray for his family too, especially in this hour of need.

We are looking forward to our 3-day meeting in September, the 3rd, 4th, and 5th (Labor day weekend). It is only a short meeting but a lot can be accomplished in three days, especially in a good work such as this.

My family and I are looking forward to the meeting in Yakima, Washington this July 31 through August 7, 1983. I have been asked to hold that meeting. I feel there are others more qualified than I am, but I will do my best to preach nothing but the Gospel of Jesus Christ, giving God the honor, praise and glory. We wish everyone could make it to that meeting. If you can, plan your vacation so you can be with us at Yakima or at San Pablo. Thank all of you that have written to the Christian Courier. It is so good to hear from some of the brethren that I have never heard from before. Your letters and news are greatly enjoyed.

In Christian love,
Homer Bryant
San Pablo, California

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"Whosoever believeth that Jesus is the Chist is born of God: and every one that loveth him that begat loveth him also that is begotten of him. By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God, and keep his commandments. For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous."

I John 5:1-3

WATERFORD, CALIFORNIA

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

We here at the Waterford congregation are doing fairly well, except for a few of our members being away from us due to illness. Sis. Pat McKinney was home sick one Sunday, but was back with us the next. We're glad it wasn't too serious and glad she is back with us now. Sister Fern Logan has gone to Gig Harbor, Washington to be with her daughter, Sister Patricia Foundation, and her family while Patricia recovers from surgery. Our prayers are with them and we hope to see Sis. Logan back with us soon. Sister Norma Frago is back in the hospital with a very serious illness. We would like to ask the prayers of our brothers and sisters in Christ for Sister Frago and her family at their time of need.

We have been blessed this month with a visit from Bro. Homer Bryant and his family. We are always happy to have them as well as other visitors with us helping in our service to the Lord.

May God bless you all.

In Christian love,
Brother Troy Morse for the
Waterford congregation

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BROKEN BOW, OKLAHOMA

Dear Brethren:

We here at Broken Bow were made happy last month when Bro. Lloyd Allgood and his family and Bro. Morris came to be with us over the weekend and we wish this would happen more often. It helps to have some of the brethren drop in for a visit. The Church here is about as usual. We have some sick folks and quite a few older people which don't feel good all the time but we thank God for what we have and the strength they show in the Church. I wish the Lord would bless us with a few more members. Then everybody would take more courage and cheer up each other more. The winter here has been real nice for this country and we hope it will continue to be. We like to hear from the brethren everywhere. We invite any who will come worship with us.

Yours in Christ,
Lloyd Treat for the
Broken Bow congregation

SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

To our dear brothers and sisters in Christ:

Many blessings to all of you from the Father of lights. He has been astoundingly gracious to us in our trials, both in our strengths and weaknesses, and that loving nature has kept us drawn to him in these past months.

We have been studying thru several of the stories of particular people in the Bible. One man of God we have just finished reading and discussing about is the prophet, Elijah. We find God remaining true to his word back then, just as now and forever, with great integrity. One principal impressed on this writer is the fact that we are made clean thru his word.

In order to make sure you all have a current phone number to reach us in Seattle, the Bro. Ellis Forsman's: 241-7493 or Bro. Wayne Orendorff's: 772-0323.

Our hearts are enlarged toward you all and our doors into our homes are open for good. Keep fighting the good fight of faith!

Bound together in his love,
The Church at Seattle

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GRANTS PASS, OREGON

To all in the household of Faith:

I am writing what seems such a small amount of news here in Grants Pass, Oregon. I thank the Lord for the few faithful that still meet here, and for helping us all in fair health at the present time. We are indeed thankful for Dick and Marie Henny and Mabel Bumgardner, who have driven every Lord's day so many miles to church for so many years, being steadfast, a virture that the Lord does not forget. We are glad to have Sister Charlene Broadway back home again as she was gone about three months taking care of her mother until she passed away with cancer which was a tiring and heart breaking ordeal for her and a lonely one for Bro. Tom Broadway having to stay here. I am always eager to read the news about my brothers and sisters in Christ and when I read of those good meetings, such as the one in Yuma, Arizona, even though I can not be there in person, I am happy for all those that can.

Before closing, here is a thought from the Orgonian news: "If you were arrested for being a Christian would there be enough evidence to convict you?" Let's hope so, for someday the Lord will claim his own. Remember to always pray for all in the household of faith.

Bro. Harry Wegley

BIBLE CAKE

1 cup of Judges 5:25 (last sentence)

2 cups of Judges 6:20

6 Jeremiah 17:11

½ cup Judges 4:19 (last sentence)

Put 4½ cups I Kings 4:22 (second sentence)

into sifter

Add 2 teaspoons Amos 4:5 (1st sentence)

Pinch of Leviticus 2:13

Sift all dry ingredients into first mixture,

stirring well, then add-

2 tablespoons I Samuel 14:25

Stir again, then add-

2 cups Mahum 3:12

1 cup Numbers

2 cups Samuel 30:12 (second line)

Season to taste with II Chronicals 9:9

Stir all together and bake in a deep pan at 275 degrees for 3 to 4 hours.

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"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

"THE TOUCH OF THE MASTERS HAND"

'Twas battered and scarred, and the auctioneer
Thought it scarcely worth his while
To waste much time on the old violin,
But held it up with a smile.
"What am I bidden, good folks," he cried.
"Who'll start the bidding for me?"
"A dollar, a dollar"; then, "Two! Only Two?
Two dollars, and who'll make it three?"

"Three dollars, once; three dollars, twice;
Going for three ---" But no...
From the room far back, a grey-haired man
Came forward and picked up the bow;
Then wiping the dust from the old violin,
And tightening up the loose strings,
He played a melody pure and sweet
As a caroling chorus sings.

The music ceased, and the auctioneer
With a voice that was quiet and low
Said: "What am I bid for the old violin?"
And he held it up with the bow.
"A thousand dollars, and who'll make it two?
Two thousand! And who'll make it three?
Three thousand one, three thousand twice,
And going, and gone!" said he.
The people cheered, but some of them cried:
"We do not quite understand.
What changed its worth?" Swift came the reply:
"The touch of a master's hand."

Now many a man with life out of tune,
All battered and scarred with sin,
Is auctioned cheap to the thoughtless crowd,
Much like the old violin.
A "mess of pottage", a "glass of wine"
A game - and he travels on.
He is "going" once, "going" twice,
He's "going" and almost "gone".
But the Master comes, and the foolish crowd
Never can quite understand
The worth of a soul and the change that's wrought
By the touch of the Master's hand.

1983 MEETINGS

Bellflower, California	June 12-19	Dan Ross
Delta, Colorado	June 25-July 7	Camp
Port Orchard,Washington	July 24-31	Ken Harper
Yakima, Washington	July 31-August 7	Homer Bryant
Modesto,California	August 14-21	Jerry Perigen
San Pablo, California	September 3, 4, & 5	Camp

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BAPTISMS

Greg Stacy of Port Orchard, Washington

Peggy Stacy of Port Orchard, Washington

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DEATHS

We are saddened by the death of a young sister in Christ, Janice Herbert of Delta, Colorado. Our prayers go out to her family and loved ones that the Lord will comfort and strengthen them in their time of need.

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EDITOR'S NOTE

We want to thank all of those who have supported the Courier in any way, and a special thanks to the few who support each month with their news. There is a close division with news only versus news and articles in the Courier, with a larger percentage for news only. For the present we will continue with news only, however, in fairness to those also wanting articles, we will look for a way to do so. We will not print anything and everything. We truely believe no one would submit a article knowing it was not the truth, but there are some articles written in all honesty and sincerity that do more damage than good to the Church. We feel, as editors, we do have a responsibility and we will try to live up to that responsibility and at the same time be fair to all. Needless to say, not an easy task. Pray for us and continue to send in your suggestions.

In Christian love,
Jerry Perigen and Al Way