| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Bob Stacy | Glenwood, WA | Fighting cancer |
| Otto Alvarez | Harlingen, TX | Dangerous travel & financial hardship |
| Mariella Alvarez | Harlingen, TX | Dangerous travel & spinal problems |
| Joan Boling | Lorenzo, TX | Heart problems & swollen legs |
| Brenda Casarez | Lorenzo, TX | High blood pressure, eye problems |
| Borden Mullens | Lorenzo, TX | Fighting cancer |
| Joseph Davis | Mesa, AZ | Thyroid surgery & radiation treatments |
| Laverne (Nene) Harper | Penn Valley, CA | Broken hip & surgery |
| Robert Fuson, Jr. | Pleasant View, OK | Spinal Bifida |
| Reba Morris | Pleasant View, OK | Serious Lupus |
| Renee Seaton | Pleasant View, OK | Automobile accident injuries |
| Ashley Ditch | San Angelo, TX | Recovering from Coma |
| Jackie McCay | Spokane, WA | Intestine surgery |
| Christine Burkhart | Springdale, AR | Health issues & financial need |
| Gerald Buckner | Stilwell, OK | Stage III Anaplastic Large Cell Lymphoma |
| Lawanda Durham | Tiner, OK | Serious health issues |
| Cinde McCay | Yakima, WA | Fighting Parkinson's |
| Florence Fuller | Yuma, AZ | Fighting throat cancer, diabetes, & Alzheimer's |
| Jean Orendorff | Yuma, AZ | In nursing home |

And all Those who are traveling to meetings this summer.

## Baptisms

| | |
|---|---|
| Kaytlind Hall | Of Stilwell, Oklahoma |
| Jaycee Soap | Of Stilwell, Oklahoma |
| Danielle Sam | Of Stilwell, Oklahoma |
| Joseph Matlock | Of Lorenzo, Texas |

If you have any updates or corrections to this list, please email me at editor.christiancourier@gmail.com so I can keeps this list current.





# The Christian Courier

## July, 2011

**Send correspondence to:**
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**Ph: 806-778-0437**
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## UNTO THY NAME GIVE GLORY

The 115th Psalm is a wonderful passage of scripture, which we offer for your enjoyment and study today. It is inspiring. It contrasts the power of God's ways with the vanity of the world. It promises help, protection and blessing from God if we will trust Him and walk in His ways. It concludes with praise.

Let us go step-by-step through this psalm. We find within it aids to living our Christian lives under the New Testament, as well as comparisons between the obstacles they faced then and what we face in the world today. And so this Old Testament Psalm still gives us valuable lessons that we can apply under the New.

Psa. 115:1 introduces the psalm with praise, focusing our minds immediately upon our God. "Not unto us, O LORD, not unto us, but unto thy name give glory, for thy mercy, and for thy truth's sake."

God is what is important in our lives. We need to remember that every day when we first get up, and focus on Him all day. He is number one. We need to honor and serve Him always.

Even under the New Testament we need to be sure to praise and glorify Him. In the 14th chapter of Acts, when the people wanted to honor Paul and Barnabas as gods, they put an immediate stop to it, and tried to turn the people to the true God. Acts 14:14-15. "Which when the apostles, Barnabas and Paul, heard of, they rent their clothes, and ran in among the people, crying out, And saying, Sirs, why do ye these things? We also are men of like passions with you, and preach unto you that ye

should turn from these vanities unto the living God, which made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and all things that are therein:". Likewise the angels serving God instruct us to praise and worship only Him. Rev. 22:8-9. "And I John saw these things, and heard them. And when I had heard and seen, I fell down to worship before the feet of the angel which shewed me these things. Then saith he unto me, See thou do it not: for I am thy fellowservant, and of thy brethren the prophets, and of them which keep the sayings of this book: worship God."

Our works as well as our words should be to God's glory, not our own. In Matt. 15:14-16, Jesus said. "Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid. Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven."

But notice that the author in Psa. 115 was not just dedicating his own life to God's glory instead of his own. He was specifically asking God to glorify His own name. "…unto thy name give glory." And in John 12:27-28, when Jesus asked God for the same thing, God assured us that He has glorified His Name, and will continue to do so. "Now is my soul troubled; and what shall I say? Father, save me from this hour: but for this cause came I unto this hour. Father, glorify thy name. Then came there a voice from heaven, saying, I have both glorified it, and will glorify it again."

The last part of Psa. 115.1 gives two reasons for God to glorify His Name: "…for thy mercy, and for thy truth's sake." Mercy and truth are not values in conflict. They work together, need each other, and are found together constantly in scripture. Psa. 85.10 reads. "Mercy and truth are met together; righteousness and peace have kissed each other." Likewise today the New Testament scriptures instruct us to use them both. They are not at odds. Heb. 12:14. "Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord:". Jam. 3:18. "And the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace of them that make peace."

The rest of the psalm details many reasons why glory belongs to God.

The next section contrasts the power of God with the vanity of the world. Note that our specific struggles are different today. Their struggles were with idolatry. Our biggest battles today are with those who do not believe in God, or who want to worship Him their own way instead of His. But our solution is the same as theirs – to trust in the true and living God.

Psa. 115:2-9. "Wherefore should the heathen say, Where is now their God? But our God is in the heavens: he hath done whatsoever he hath pleased. Their idols are silver and gold, the work of men's hands. They have mouths, but they speak not: eyes have they, but they see not: They have ears, but they hear not: noses



# BULLETIN BOARD

## Meetings

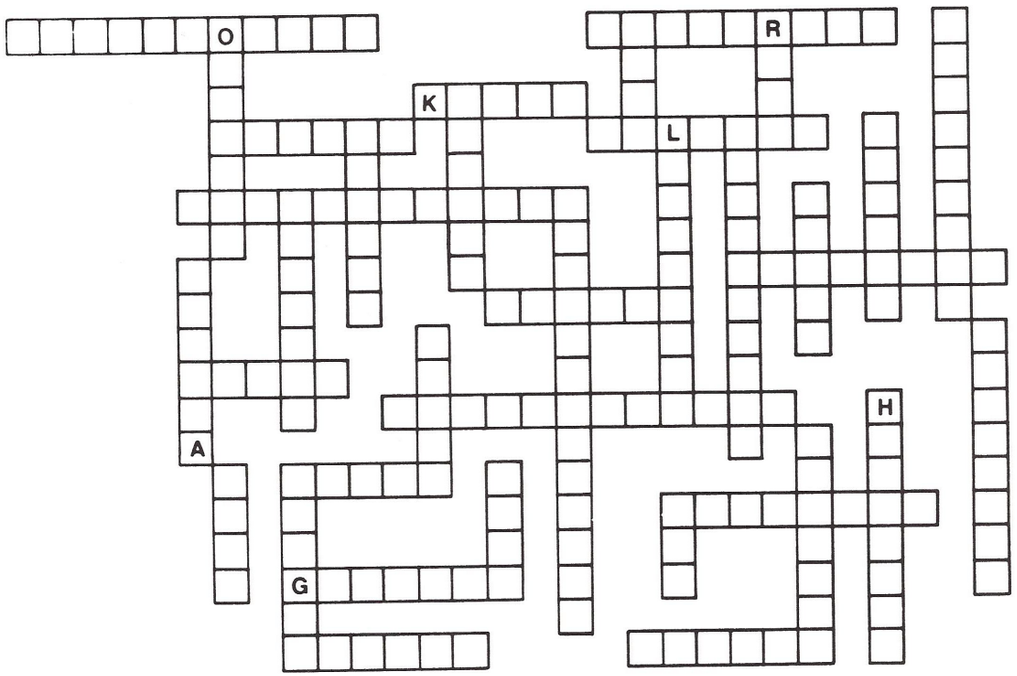
| | | |
|---|---|---|
| July 24-28, 2011 | Glenwood, WA | Bro. Dennis Davis |
| July 29-Aug. 2, 2011 | Yakima, WA | Guest speakers |
| August 3-7, 2011 | Gleed, WA | Bro. Rick and Bro. Chris Carter |
| September 2-4 | Stilwell, OK | Bro. Roger Walkingstick |

## Prayer of Faith for those in need

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Sue (Bixler) Dodge | Aztec, NM | Stoke(2), Heart Attack & Diabetes |
| Jackie Brown | Baron, OK | Serious lung problems |
| Jim Brown | Baron, OK | Lung infection |
| Jake Hollan | Baron, OK | Lip cancer |
| Jack Warford | Baron, OK | Skin cancer |
| Darlene Warford | Baron, OK | Low sodium |
| Doyle Wilson | Baron, OK | Severe headaches |
| Synda Swain | Bellflower, CA | Arthritic problems |
| Al Way | Bellflower, CA | Heart problems |
| Minnie Davis | Broken Bow, OK | In nursing home |
| Jay & LaWanda Durham | Broken Bow, OK | Surgery, illness, falls |
| Ruth Johnson | Broken Bow, OK | In nursing home |
| Louise Brister | Citrus City, AZ | Health issues |
| Lou Dye | Citrus Ciry, AZ | Health issues |
| Tony Schell | Cedaredge, CO | Heart irregularities |
| Ericka Ferguson | Clinton, NJ | In prison |
| Lynn Iker | Duncan, OK | Heart Surgery |
| Amber Jones | Comanche, OK | Surgery on both feet |
| Carol Bauer | Gleed, WA | Fighting cancer |
| Robert Farley | Gleed, WA | Severe pain |
| Don Hammett | Gleed, WA | Fighting cancer |
| Gene McKinney | Gleed, WA | Diabetes problems |
| Stephanie McKinney | Gleed, WA | Back pain |
| Tracy Mouritsen | Gleed, WA | Fractured tibia |
| Ellen McCay | Glenwood, WA | Severe aching joints - age |
| Jeannean McSwane | Glenwood, WA | Severe infections, extreme pain, & life threatening blood clots |

# OLD TESTAMENT FILL-UP

Use the letters that are given to help you fill in all the Old Testament books listed below. Better use a pencil — you may have to move some books around before you get them all in the correct places!




GENESIS
EXODUS
LEVITICUS
NUMBERS
DEUTERONOMY
JOSHUA
JUDGES
RUTH
SAMUEL
KINGS
CHRONICLES
EZRA
NEHEMIAH
ESTHER
JOB
PSALMS
PROVERBS
ECCLESIASTES
SONG OF SOLOMON
ISAIAH
JEREMIAH
LAMENTATIONS
EZEKIEL
DANIEL
HOSEA
JOEL
AMOS
OBADIAH
JONAH
MICAH
NAHUM
HABAKKUK
ZEPHANIAH
HAGGAI
ZECHARIAH
MALACHI



have they, but they smell not: They have hands, but they handle not: feet have they, but they walk not: neither speak they through their throat. They that make them are like unto them; so is every one that trusteth in them. O Israel, trust thou in the LORD: he is their help and their shield."

Today, instead of those worshipping idols, one of the loudest groups raging against God are atheists. I can't look at any part of God's creation without being awestruck at the incredible design. Design requires a Designer. It is as simple and true as that. Heb. 13:4. "For every house is builded by some man; but he that built all things is God." Those who choose to not believe that plain truth do so mainly because they don't want to follow His rules. Psa. 14:1. "The fool hath said in his heart, There is no God. They are corrupt, they have done abominable works, there is none that doeth good."

Believing in God our Creator and Lord, why would we worship and serve God any way but the way He directs? Yet it happens all around us. Jesus asked this question in Luke 6:46. "And why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say?"

Like Israel in those days, today we overcome through trusting in the Lord, II Tim. 1:12. "For the which cause (preaching the gospel, verse 11) I also suffer these things: nevertheless I am not ashamed: for I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day."

The next section of our study continues this thought of trusting in God, and gives us several reasons to trust in Him. Psa. 115:10-16. "O house of Aaron, trust in the LORD: he is their help and their shield. Ye that fear the LORD, trust in the LORD: he is their help and their shield. The LORD hath been mindful of us: he will bless us; he will bless the house of Israel; he will bless the house of Aaron. He will bless them that fear the LORD, both small and great. The LORD shall increase you more and more, you and your children. Ye are blessed of the LORD which made heaven and earth. The heaven, even the heavens, are the LORD's: but the earth hath he given to the children of men." Let's note a few things out of this passage.

First, when we read about the house of Israel here, understand that the church is the Israel of today. Rom. 2:28-29. "For he is not a Jew, which is one outwardly; neither is that circumcision, which is outward in the flesh: But he is a Jew, which is one inwardly; and circumcision is that of the heart, in the spirit, and not in the letter; whose praise is not of men, but of God."

We have good reason to fear the Lord, as directed here. Jesus said in Matt. 10:28. "And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell."

But our writer also pointed out that our God with this great power is working on our behalf. Three times in verses 9-11 of Psa. 115, he pointed out that God is our help and shield. Verse 11 reads. "Ye that fear the Lord, trust in

the Lord: he is their help and their shield." He goes on to say that God has blessed us, is blessing us, and will continue to bless us. Likewise we continue to read of His great blessings in the New Testament scriptures. Phil. 4:19. "But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus."

God is all-powerful, and is on our side. Repeating the beautiful thought of Psa.115:15, "Ye are blessed of the Lord which made heaven and earth."

The last two verses of Psa. 115 tell us that even though some don't praise the Lord, we will. Psa. 115:17-18. "The dead praise not the LORD, neither any that go down into silence. But we will bless the LORD from this time forth and for evermore. Praise the LORD."

I'm reminded of the song "We're Marching to Zion". Sure, there are those who refuse to sing, and that's sad because they truly are dead. But let them refuse if they want. Don't let their refusal or even their persecution stop us from singing God's praise. Heb. 13:15. "By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name."

I hope this study has been beneficial to all. This wonderful psalm shows us God's power and help, so that we should trust in Him and not let this world bring us down. Let's close by re-reading the first and last verses of the psalm.

Psalms 115:1. "Not unto us, O LORD, not unto us, but unto thy name give glory, for thy mercy, and for thy truth's sake." Psalms 115:18. "But we will bless the LORD from this time forth and for evermore. Praise the LORD."

In Christian love, Bro. Terry Warford

6020 South Cedar Street

Tacoma, WA 98409

turtle64@wamail.net



# News from Abroad

African Update – July

Greetings from East Africa,

This last month, we have traveled visiting digressive congregations (and a few loyal ones) in western Kenya and the areas near Nairobi, Kenya. Then we visited three loyal congregations at Utegi, Tanzania, before heading to Dar es Salaam to take care of some legal paperwork involving my Visa and visit with a brother with whom we had previously contacted when we were in Arusha. That completed, we drove to southwestern Tan-



Labor Day weekend, September 2-4, with Brother Roger Walkingstick of the Oklahoma City congregation. Everyone is welcome to come and enjoy fellowship and excellent preaching. Also, Brother George Morris baptized three young ladies lately: Kaytlind Hall-June 19, Jaycee Soap-June 26th, and Danielle Sam-June 29th. We are very excited that our congregation is growing.

Now for the not so good news. In January, I changed a flat tire on my daughter's pick-up and a few days later by shoulder began to hurt. I thought I had pulled a muscle. I went to four doctors and a chiropractor before discovering that I have Stage III Anaplastic Large Cell Lymphoma. I'm now taking chemotherapy treatments and living with my daughter Chris and her family, until I can stay alone again. I would like to thank everyone for their prayers, cards, visits, and financial support during this time. Please continue to keep me in your prayers and may God bless you.

Brother Gerald Buckner

Church of Christ at Pleasant View

Stilwell, OK

## Citrus City, AZ

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

It has been a while since we last wrote. We hope that this message finds all well. We are sending a short note to let everyone know that we here at Citrus City are still meeting on Sunday mornings, even though our numbers are small. We are sending a donation to help with the expenses of the Courier. We thank those of you who take the time and effort in writing and preparing this newsletter. We send our love and prayers to all.

Citrus City Church of Christ.

**From the Editor**

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Greetings from *The Christian Courier* staff. We wish to thank all who have taken the time to write letters and articles to *The Courier.* We are now out of articles for future papers and would really appreciate some more. We would also like to encourage any of you, who have news from your home Congregation, or any of the many meetings that are going on this summer to feel free to write to us. We are always in need of good news from around the country.

On another note, the funds for *The Courier* are pretty low at this time. We did receive a couple of checks since last month. Thank you very much! The cost to put out one edition of *The Courier* is about $650. If anyone is receiving the paper that doesn't really want it, please let us know so we can take you off our mailing list. We want everyone who wants it to receive it. Also, one of the Technically savvy Congregations in Oklahoma has informed us that they plan to start printing the 10-15 copies, that they need, themselves in order to lessen our burden. Any other Congregation wishing to pursue this, need only to let us know. We will help you overcome any technical issues. The online version of *The Courier* at http://churchofchristonecup.org/Publications.html is preformatted for printing on legal size paper. Thank you again for all your support.

meeting and her mother's birthday.

***Happy Birthday*** Nell McCay....91 and a real sweetheart. She is a true treasure from the Lord to us who have had the pleasure of her in our lives!

We had a great thing happen during the meeting. Joseph Matlock was baptized. He is already proving himself to be a helping member of our congregation. Glory to God!!

We have a new family that has moved here from the Canton Ga. Congregation. David and Brannon Marsh, with their 3 children Kara, Mackinzie, and Deacon. We are really glad they are now with us.

I hope all have been keeping up with Ellis Forsman and Otto Alvarez on their wonderful works in foreign country's. They have both helped on adding to the Church of Christ in lands that are both extremely harsh in living and HUNGRY for the Lord. They both need financial help to carry on this work. This is just a suggestion. We at Lorenzo have set up specific dates that the contributions for those days go to those causes. Any help to them is really going to the best of causes.

We here at the Church of Christ in Lorenzo, salute you and pray for you. In Christian Love.
The Lorenzo congregation.

## Duncan, OK

Just an update on the article I had in the April Courier about my sister, Lynn Iker's, medical condition. She had 33 mini-strokes in a little over a year. The doctors finally figured out that they were caused by two small holes in her heart that were letting blood clots go to her brain. I put in my article that she was scheduled for surgery in June, but her strokes suddenly got a lot worse and more frequent, so they did surgery on April 5th. We were thinking they were going to do open heart surgery, but they went in through a vein in her leg and got the damage patched. She was in pretty bad shape during her ordeal and recovery, and all this time she only missed two Sundays at Church. A lot of the time it took a person on each arm to half drag her into the Church building and get her seated. She insisted on coming to Church because she didn't want to miss the communion service.

How many of us would go to Church if we were in that bad of shape. Lynn is doing real well now. The surgery was a success. Of course the strokes left permanent brain damage, but it could have been a lot worse. She has all her strength back and her emotions together so she isn't potty mouthed anymore. Her main problem now is financial. She hasn't been able to work in over a year. When she went down from making 70 thousand dollars a year as a RN to Zero, it was a big shock to her system. I believe that money problems contributed to some of her strokes. God knows that she needs financial help. If anyone would like to send her a check, I'm sure He will notice…[snip]

Don Lewis

Lynn Iker

Rt 1 Box 135

Duncan, OK 73533

## Stilwell, OK

It has been some time since I last wrote to the courier so I will try to do so now. I have some good news and some not so good news. First for the good news: I would like to announce our fall meeting. It will be



zania to meet with brethren there at their several requests.

Our first visit in western Kenya was at Simbembe. They have consented to giving up their individual cups. Then we visited an old friend of Boaz' near Simbembe who is a non-bread-breaker and he assented to us visiting his congregation in August.

Next, we went to Matundu, Kenya. At each meeting that is set up wherever we go, representatives from neighboring congregations are invited to our meetings. So far every representative has wanted us to speak at their congregation as well. So we are scheduling meetings at those congregations for when we return to Kenya and Uganda in August. In the meeting at Matundu, Kenya, we had a representative that had started 15 congregations in Western Kenya. These were digressive churches. He told me even though he was an old man and did much teaching himself for years that he was taught many things he did not know. He handed me the addresses of the 15 congregations and wants them to be given the same things he learned here. Boaz has added them to the schedule on our return trip in August. That list is now longer than that of this trip. The congregation in Matundu was multiple cups, fermented wine, and used a drum with their singing. They are throwing away their multiple cup trays and their drum and are switching to pure grape juice. Of all the congregations we have spoken to, we have gotten 100% results of the congregations changing their communion with 0 dissention from anyone. We now have two congregations that were using native drums that have stopped. I can't believe the response we are getting! Boaz thinks that by the end of a year we will far exceed 100 congregations with the response we are getting; he thinks we will reach 100 in 6 months. Those of the non-bread-breaking group are lining up, as well as those who use multiple cups. Boaz told me that Pentecostal groups have heard about us and want to hear what we have to say. There was a young woman baptized at Matundu.

Then we headed toward the region southeast of Nairobi, called Machakos and visited two digressive congregations of multiple cups, converting them, and established another congregation where some women were stranded when their digressive congregation moved. Two young men will be working at this congregation with the occasional aid of two older men from separate congregations 30 miles or more distant. One of these young men was baptized while we were there plus a young woman. We have scheduled a visit to another congregation in August (a preacher heard the messages while visiting one of the other congregations and wants the same message delivered to his congregation).

Then we returned to Tanzania where we visited the three loyal congregations in Utegi; one is in town, another five miles outside of town and the third is ten miles outside of town. None of them have cars; in fact, very few people in this part of the world do.

As I write this we are in Mbeya, located in the southwestern part of Tanzania. We are here at the multiple requests of a brother, Samuel Mwakasungula of the Iyunga Church of Christ, who saw our website. Some of you have received his email. We visited in his home Saturday night along with a visiting preacher from another congregation. After services we had a discussion, and this brother had already studied our website and changed their practice of using multiple cups in the communion; consequently, they lost most of their congregation. He wants us to return at a future date and try to help get them back. This brings our congregation count to 25 in East Africa. We need to return to Dar es Salaam to finish some additional legal paperwork that is scheduled for Monday, so we left Mbeya as soon as possible after services today (Sunday). This is a 12 hour drive. When we leave Dar es Salaam it is another 950 miles back to Bunda. We also have some visits to do in the Arusha area. We may possibly hit those on the way back to Bunda; if so, that will make it a longer trip, but less than if we had to go there after first going to Bunda.

We will discuss this during our trip to Dar es Salaam from Mbeya.

We have had a lot of problems with the car, mostly because of the bad roads. Much of the problems have to do with overheating, tires, brakes, alignments, and tie rods, plus the accident before we left Dar es Salaam the first time. Consequently, this has been costing a lot more than we figured. That is Satan's doing, for the work of the Lord has been great.

Remember, a bank account has been set up at Wells Fargo Bank for your support (Account number 8891458054). Checks can be made out to "African Mission" (the bank's name designation for this project of working with groups of people in Africa for account purposes) and sent to % Ellis Forsman, 6718 Santa Fe Dr., Lubbock, TX, 79407, or deposited directly at your nearest Wells Fargo Bank.

Written in Christian love,
Ellis Forsman



One new and two established congegations at Machakos, Kenya



Congregations at Matundu, Kenya; Sibembe, Kenya; and Utegi, Tanzania






# Cards and Letters

## Chico, CA

Dear Courier Staff,

As usual I'm not finding what I thought was a special account designation for Brother Forsman. Hence I'm using your address, knowing you will post this check properly.

My prayer is that God will give you success in your efforts to spread His word and support those other brethren who do.

I do appreciate your publication. The articles are encouraging even the second and third times read. May God keep us all in His care.

Eunice Bentz

[Thank you, Sister Eunice, and all others who have chosen to help. You can go to any Wells Fargo bank and deposit under "Christian Courier – African Mission, account # 8891458054"

Love,

Lynell Forsman]

## Lorenzo, TX

Hello Brothers and Sisters in Christ. We here at Lorenzo are all doing pretty well health wise. A few minor issues, but those are on the mend. We do thank the Lord for these blessings.

We just completed our meeting, and again this year, we had a great gathering. The numbers were down a little, but the fellowship was outstanding! Roger Walkingstick was our primary speaker, with guest speakers to assist throughout the week. Roger did not disappoint with his presentations. Very good lessons, that keep you in tune with God's word. Brother Walkingstick carried most of the load during the week. Brother Frank Chadwick from the Georgetown, Texas Congregation, presented a couple of lessons, and I can tell you this man is so full of knowledge. You can tell he has been studying the scriptures for about ½ a century. Stan Goodwin from the New Castle, Texas Congregation rounded out our guest speakers with one lesson.

Again our numbers were down, but we did have guests from around the country. Dennie and Suzie Davis from the Yuma Congregation, were here for the entire meeting. Keith and Patty Wilkerson from Cedaredge, Co. Their son Doug from New Mexico along with his girlfriend, Laural also were in attendance for the opening Sunday. Doug and Phillis Ferguson brought Tiffany and Kayla from Broken Bow, Oklahoma. They graced us with their presence for part of the week. Larry and Maxine Polin from the Ringgold, Texas Congregation, were able to attend for part of the meeting. And of course our speakers and spouses, Roger and Jan Walkingstick, Stan and Judy Goodwin, and Frank Chadwick were here.

Oh, and also, we had a *RESIDENT GUEST* from Washington state. Lynell Forsman flew in for the