The Christian Courier

August, 1995

Send correspondence to: 1034 S. 140th St., Seattle, WA 98168
Writers are responsible for their own articles.

Kneeling In Prayer

When we pray, we pray to God through our mediator, Jesus Christ. Due to man's sinful nature, we need to do this. We should therefore, humble ourselves when we pray to God.

Speaking of Jesus in Philippians 2:9-10, Paul said, *"Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth."* Yet how many times is prayer offered and a lot of knees don't bow? Notice, this says every knee should bow, not just those who feel like it. I'm sure you will feel better if you get in the habit of kneeling in prayer. Consider how Jesus humbled himself. Are we too good to bow our knees when we pray? Can't we humble ourselves that much?



We read in Psalms 95:1-6, *"O come, let us sing unto the Lord: let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation. Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving, and make a joyful noise unto him with psalms. For the Lord is a great God, and a great King above all gods. In his hand are the deep places of the earth: the strength of the hills is his also. The sea is his, and he made it: and his hands formed the dry land. O come, let us worship and bow down: let us kneel before the Lord our maker."*

Some will say, "Let us stand while we pray." I ask you, is this humbling oneself to stand? When you stand, you raise yourself to a higher plane than you were when you were sitting. Some will say, "Let us bow our heads while we pray." Well, it isn't the head we are told to bow, it's the knee.

Jesus knelt down when he prayed. We read in Luke 22:41, *"And he withdrew from them about a stone's cast, and knelt down and prayed."*

Stephen knelt down when he prayed, as we read in Acts 7:60, *"And he knelt down and cried with a loud voice, Lord lay not this sin to their charge."*

Peter knelt down when he prayed. In Acts 9:40, we read, *"But Peter put them all forth and kneeled down, and prayed."*

Paul knelt down when he prayed. We read in Acts 20:36, *"And when he had thus spoken, he kneeled down and prayed with them all."* And again, in Acts 21:5, *"And when we had accomplished those days, we departed and went our way; and they all brought us on our way, with wives and children, till we were out of the city: and we kneeled down on the shore, and prayed."*

Some might say, "Well, I can show you a verse where it reads about standing to pray." Yes, we do have a verse where it does; and that verse is Mark 11:25. Here we have Jesus speaking when He says, *"And when you stand praying, forgive, if ye have aught against any, so that your Father also which is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses."* But notice, it was after this that Jesus was highly exalted and given a name which is above every name.

There is coming a time when all will have to bow their knee. We read in Romans 14:11, *"As I live, saith the Lord, every knee shall bow to me."* This is taken from Isaiah 45:23.

When King Solomon dedicated the temple, did he stand, or kneel? Let us read from 1 Kings 8:22, "And

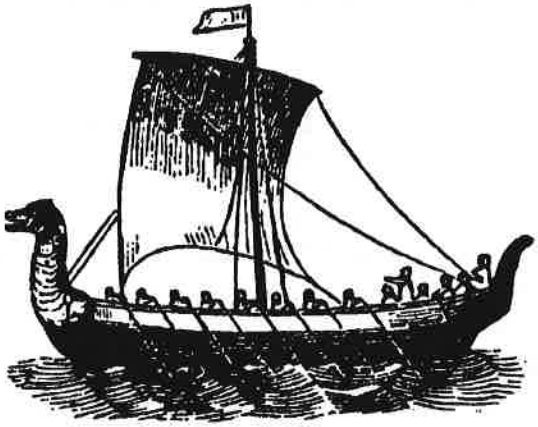
Solomon stood before the altar of the Lord in the presence of all the congregation of Israel, and spread forth his hands toward heaven."

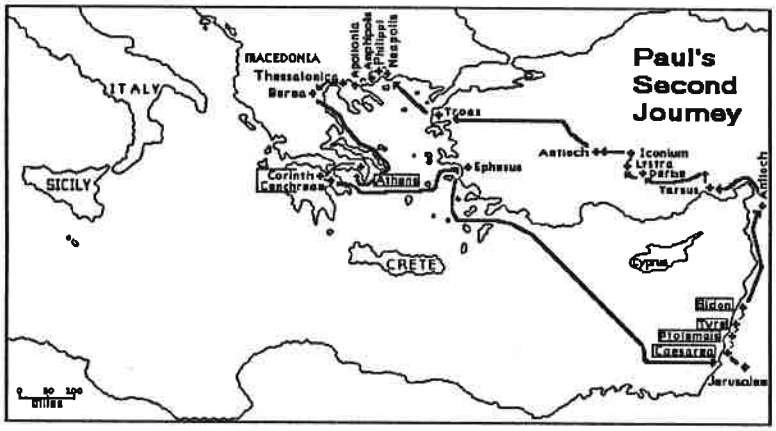
This would seem to indicate Solomon was standing when he prayed. Let us read verse 54 where it tells of the end of Solomon's prayer: *"And it was so, that when Solomon had made an end of praying all this prayer and supplication unto the Lord, he arose from before the altar of the Lord, from kneeling on his knees with his hands spread up to heaven."*

J. L. Jared
4153 Noon Ave. NE
Keizer, OR 97303

A thought-provoking study. Let us hear from you, brethren, if other positions are acceptable.
— the Editors

THE TRAVELS OF PAUL — SECOND JOURNEY





Return to Galatia

At Paul's meeting in Jerusalem with the Jewish Christians he discovered his efforts to establish churches in Galatia had been undermined by a Judaiser group of Christians who had followed him there. After sending a letter ahead to these brethren, exhorting them to remain faithful to his teachings, Paul set out with Silas to revisit them, and confirm that they were still faithful (Acts 15:40-41). Barnabas and John Mark went to the region of Cyprus, and possibly a little further north.

When they came near to Derbe and Lystra, one wonders whether Paul had thoughts of the stoning he had received there on his first journey (Acts 14:9). His earlier efforts there, however, were not a failure, as he found a few faithful brethren; the most noted being that of a young lad, Timothy, who has adorned much of Paul's writings (Acts 16:1-2). Timothy's mother, Eunice, was a Jewess convert to Christianity; but his father was a Greek. Paul had heard a very good report of them from the brethren not only at their home town of Lystra, but also at Iconium, a city Paul traveled through twenty miles earlier.

Timothy was a very devout and dedicated Christian. Paul was very impressed with his faith, and decided to take him on his journey (vs. 3). Because it was well known by the Jews that Timothy was the son of a Greek, Paul circumcised him; not by command, but because of convenience. Paul fought as hard as anyone against the idea of circumcision as a requirement of Christianity. He simply eliminated an obstacle in gaining the Jew to Christianity (1 Cor. 9:20-21).

In every city Paul revisited he delivered the message which was formulated and decreed at Jerusalem concerning circumcision and other matters (vs. 4). Having been freed from the confusion caused by the Judaisers, the churches prospered spiritually and numerically (vs. 5). However, this notion of keeping things of the Mosaic Law was never completely dead, as it raised its ugly head time and time again.

Having completed their revisiting of the established churches in Asia, they departed into new regions to establish new ones. They went north into Phrygia instead of going east, as the Holy Spirit had forbidden them to speak the word in Asia (vs. 6). Perhaps the reason for this was that Paul was needed in Macedonia (vs. 9-10), and a trip east was not in Christ's plans for Paul, or there may have been others already working in that region.

As they continued north they neared Mysia, and planned to go northeast into Bithinia, but the Holy Spirit

forbade them from doing so. Instead they went west to Troas (vs. 7-8.

There Paul received a vision in the night of a man over in Macedonia beseeching him to come over and help him (vs. 9-10). Immediately, Paul knew the direction he was to go, and promptly departed for Macedonia. Whether Luke was with Paul prior to Troas is unknown, but he was with Paul, Silas, and Timothy on this trip to Macedonia.

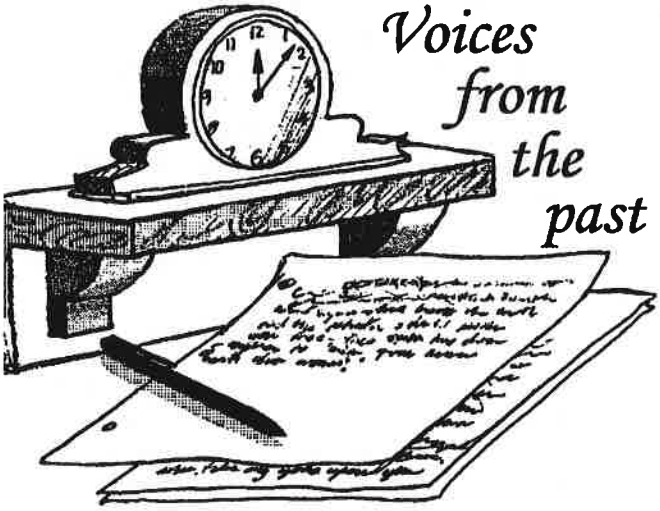
They sailed from Troas, and set a course to Samothrace, and the day following to Neapolis, and from there to Philippi, a city of Macedonia.

Next article: Philippi.

Written in love of the truth,

Ellis Forsman
1034 So. 140th St.
Seattle, WA 98168

Unity of The Spirit



In a previous article in our study of the unity of the Spirit, we learned that we must have unity of the word to have unity of the Spirit. We also learned that unity of the Spirit must be in the bond of peace. In this second article on unity of the Spirit, I would like for us to study the Scriptures in regards to some of the things which are essential to the keeping of the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

First, we will notice a statement by Jesus when he was praying to the Father in regards to his disciples. *"Neither pray I for these alone (disciples), but for them also which shall believe on me through their word; that they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me."* (John 17:20-21). One might ask how were the Father and Son one, and that question is essential for us to know if we are one as Jesus prayed for. *"For I came down from heaven not to do mine own will, but the will of him that sent me."* (John 6:38). The Father and Son were one in will, or mind. They were of the same mind, and of the same judgment. They were one in mind and purpose. Question; Can we be thus minded? Certainly, or Jesus would have never prayed for it. If we will just cast away our own thoughts and fleshly lusts and set our minds to do the will of the Father in heaven, and we will then be one as Jesus prayed for and have the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

Now suppose we come this side of the cross for further information. *"Now I beseech you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you; but that ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment."* (1 Cor. 1:10). There it is folks, just as Jesus prayed for it in John 17:20-21. If each and everyone that has been baptized into the body of Jesus Christ; (Gal . 3:27), would incorporate into his everyday life 1 Corinthians 1:10, we would have the oneness Jesus prayed for, and the unity of the Spirit Paul admonished the Ephesian brethren to endeavor to keep. *"For who hath known the mind of the Lord, that he may instruct him? **But we have the mind of CHRIST**."* (Emphasis mine) (1 Cor. 2:16). Christ had a mind to do the will of the Father, no more, no less. When we are thus minded, we will have the mind of Christ, and the oneness He prayed for and the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

Here are some of the things necessary to the unity of the Spirit. No. 1: Cast away the lust of the flesh, lust of the eyes and the pride of life, (1 John 2:16). No. 2: *"For where envying and strife and every evil work."* (James 3:16). If we allow the lust of the flesh , lust of the eyes and the pride of life to take over, then we have envying, strife and every evil work. We must free ourselves of envying and strife if we are to have unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

Now in conclusion, I offer two more scriptures to help us maintain the unity of the Spirit. *"For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts your thoughts."* (Isaiah 55:8-9). *"Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding:"* (Prov. 3:5). If we can seek out and know the depth and full meaning of those last two scriptures, it will make it easier to keep the unity of the Spirit.

Written in the spirit of meekness and love of the truth.

W. E. Daniels, Stilwell,OK

Cards and Letters



San Pablo, CA

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Greetings to all from the San Pablo congregation. Yes, it has been a hot one. We pray that everyone has not suffered too much in this hot spell. Many have lost livestock, etc....and worse, many elderly have lost their lives across the country. Let us pray that this heat wave will not continue.

We were blessed with visitors this Lord's Day: Brother and Sister Gene and Pat McKinney from Yakima, WA, were here. Brother Gene gave us many scriptures to contemplate in his sermon, "Search the Scriptures." Brother and Sister Gerald and Natalie Brockman and their children, Monica and Heather, also were here. Brother and Sister Mark and Tammy Perigen were here with their children, Stephen, Kalya, and Chelsea. Brother and Sister Eric and Lillian Smith and their children, Garret, Levi, and Elecia, visited us July 9, 1995. We had lunch after services this Lord's Day. We are looking forward for the return of everyone. We just love to have a full house.

Sister Pat Freeman was not able to attend the services. We pray that she will be able to attend soon. Brother Jack Cooper's eyes are worse, and we ask for the prayers of everyone for him, and for Sister Mable, too. This is a trying time they are going through. Their granddaughter, Kathern Ann, has had a terrible time with diabetes most of her life, and needs our prayers, because she is real sick. We thank you for your prayers for our son, Richard Bryant. Your prayers have been answered, and we thank our Father in heaven for His mercy, and for His bountiful love.

We need to watch and pray for the new babes in Christ, also. Let us help them all we can.

Yours in Christ,
Homer Bryant
1273 Plumleigh Lane
Concord, CA 94521-3410
(510) 682-2600

Bellflower, CA

A week has passed since our Gospel meeting ended. We were blessed with ten scriptural, uplifting lessons given to us by Brother Bob Eldridge of the Baron, OK, congregation.

Bob and his wonderful wife Shirley brought with them their daughters Kayla, Jana, and Wendy. Wendy's friend, Robbie Lawson, also came with them. Thanks so much Bob for sharing God's Word and your family with us.

I'll try to list visitors who helped us out: Jackie White; her son, Dustin; niece, Amanda Wilson; nephew, Blake Kelly (all from the Baron area); Charlotte, J.R., and Angela Brockman; Clif, Wanda, and Larry Brockman; Gerald, Natalie, Monica, and Heather Brockman; Darla and Aaron LaFaye; Earlene, Chris, and Kim Forsman.

We thank each of you who came from near and far. The week went by so fast, it seems we didn't get to visit much.

Thanks to all the ladies for the wonderful meals you provided.

Take time out of your life to attend one or more of the gospel meetings this year. You'll be glad you did.

We heard very sad news from Bob and Shirley that shortly after their return home they received word that Amanda Wilson's father had been killed in a construction accident; he was 29 years old. We hurt for them and sorrow in their loss.

Seeing the uncertainty of tomorrow, let us all live today for Christ. If you don't know Jesus as your personal Saviour, won't you accept His invitation to come unto Him? Don't put it off; don't wait. The day of the Lord for you and I draws near.

Come and visit if you're in our area.

Our love to all,
Brother Al Way

Lorenzo, TX

Dear ones,

We returned yesterday from the Delta Camp Meeting. It was a good meeting, and a very large crowd. It's always so good to see all our brothers and sisters in Christ.

While we were there, they surprised us with a 50th Wedding Anniversary party.

I would like to take the opportunity (of the Courier) to "thank" everyone there. We appreciated it so much, and we will have wonderful memories! Hopefully for another 50th. Ha.

We love you all, and always remember us in your prayers.

Jimmy and Jaetta Loftis

North San Juan, CA

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The congregation here at North San Juan is doing fine health-wise. Cleo Sump, who we reported earlier as a candidate for a liver transplant, has been stabilized with medication, at least for the moment. We all thank the brotherhood for their prayers.

On a sadder note, our Brother and Sister Andy and Pat Jordan and family have been forced to move, and is having a hard time finding a place. We hope and pray that they find a place close enough to continue meeting with us. They could use some prayers.

On July 9th, Robert Arthur Bernstein laid his past to rest in baptism; and the Lord added him to the church. We can all rejoice with him.

No other news for now.

In Christian love,

North San Juan Congregation

Cedaredge, CO

Camp Meeting News

Many thanks go out to each one of you who attended our 31st Annual Camp Meeting.

Thanks for your donations, and your wonderful help. It could not have been the successful Camp Meeting it was without all of you.

Mark your calendars for next year: June 29th to July 8th, 1996.

Jimmy and Jaetta Loftis celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary with us this year. They have been coming to the Camp Meeting for 31 years, and bringing their families. Becky, Diane, Carolyn, and Sharon, and their families were here to help celebrate.

They were surprised with a large 50th wedding anniversary cake, baked and decorated by Debbie Newman. The cake had two antique candle holders and candles on each side, and a matching antique picture frame for their picture taken at the celebration from the 1995 Camp Meeting.

Russell and Reba Morris from Stilwell, Oklahoma sang three beautiful songs to them while they were cutting their cake and getting pictures.

We also celebrated ten birthdays with a large birthday cake, baked and decorated by Debbie Newman. Pictures again were taken of the July birthday celebration and the 6 baptized. This all took place Friday evening after services in the dining room.

On Thursday evening after services, we all went on a hay ride.

On the 4th of July after services, there was a bonfire, singing, and fireworks.

There was singing in the dining room after services most every evening.

There was Bible study several times through the week. Also, the young men brought a beautiful service of their own. The older brethren and sisters sat in the back and joined them in singing. The young men did their own services; they did a great job.

There were two field trips: We formed a caravan and went to Ouray and Box Canyon, took lunch, and had a really good time. One day they hiked to Grand Mesa and played in the snow. Some older ones drove to Grand Mesa to see the snow and beauties of God's creations.

There were six young people baptized Wednesday evening under the Big Spruce tree at the Big Spruce Church Camp:

1. Julie Ferguson, Broken Bow, OK; parents: Doug and Phyllis Ferguson.
2. Kenneth Randy Buckner, Stilwell, OK; grandparents: Gerald and Wilma Buckner.
3. Jamie Berry, Duluth, GA; parents: Skip and Pam Berry.
4. Trevor Barker, Lorenzo, TX; parents: Sharon Moore and Terry Barker.
5. Matthew Matlock, Payson, AZ.
6. Misty Walker, Cedaredge, CO.

There were three who came forward for prayers. It was a great feeling to see all six of these young people join the Family of God, and start their Christian walk of life. Thanks again to all of you who came. We hope you will all come back next year, and bring someone with you.

For you who didn't get to come, we hope you can be with us next year, June 29th to July 8th, 1996. Please mark your calendars **NOW**.

May God bless you all. Our love and prayers go out to all of you.

The Happy Hollow Church of Christ
Cedaredge, CO 81413

Just over the hill is a beautiful valley, but you must climb the hill to see it.

Not Growing Old

They say that I am growing old,
I've heard them tell it times untold,
In language plain and bold –
But I'm not growing old.
This frail old shell in which I dwell
Is growing old, I know full well –
But I am not the shell.
What if my hair is turning gray?
Gray hairs are honorable, they say.
What if my eyesight's growing dim?
I still can see to follow Him
Who sacrificed His life for me
Upon the cross of Calvary.
– Author unknown

Long-Time Visitors Celebrate Anniversary

Jaetta and Jimmie Loftis of Lorenzo, TX, were surprised during an evening gathering at the recent week-long Church of Christ Camp Meeting.

Their 50th anniversary was an occasion to celebrate. The two were married on July 28, 1945, in Seymour, TX. They have four daughters, one son, and eighteen grandchildren. Four daughters and nine of the grandchildren were at camp this year to take part in the celebration.

"We began attending the local sessions in the Cedaredge area thirty-one years ago and have attended almost every year since that time," said Jaetta. "Our family started coming here when the children were small. One of our daughters met her (now) husband at camp. We like meeting church members from other parts of the country and have made many friends here." Big Spruce Camp holds many happy memories for Jaetta and Jimmie Loftis.

Precious Memories

***It Is Written*, August, 1955.** Bro. L. M. Starnes, Springfield, OR, gave their meeting address, and how they worshipped. Sis. Vestal McKinney wrote that she enjoyed reading the paper very much, and included the names of others to whom she wanted the paper sent. Bro. N. E. Kellums, Texas City, CA, wrote that he was looking for a loyal church near Temple City. Bro. R. C. Clements reported the deaths of Sis. Colen Nolen, Ft. Bragg, CA; and Bro. Ed Stout (address not reported).

***Gospel News Courier*, August, 1965.** (Combined with July's issue).

***The Christian Courier*, August, 1975.** The Chico, CA, congregation reported on their meeting with Bro. Howard McCay of Yakima, WA. Bro. N. E. Bergstrom, Gardendale, TX, reported that Tina Barker was baptized during their meeting. Bro. Mike McCay, Yakima, WA, wrote concerning Bro. Bob Lamb's heart operation; Sis. Evelyn Lamb's surgery; the birth of Jim Lamb's baby boy, Jimmy; the engagement of Sis. Cheryl Roby to Tony Hackert; the announcement of their meeting with Bro. Jerry Perigen, and the deaths of Brothers Ted Loveland and his brother Elza Loveland. The San Pablo, CA, congregation reported the baptism of Larry Beaver, and Sis. Freeman asked for the prayers of the church. The Modesto congregation reported on their visitors; the move of Bro. and Sis. Burris from Texas to Modesto, CA; the illnesses of Sis. Jewell Cadwell, Sis. Mae Johnson, and Bro. and Sis. Bert Weakley; and the heart attack of Sis. Lula Way. Bro. Lloyd Treat, Broken Bow, OK, reported that they had a good meeting with Bro. Charley Burt, Lorenzo, TX.

***The Christian Courier*, August, 1985.** Bro. Billy Richardson, Kenton, OK, reported on their meeting with Bro. J. L. Jared. Bro. Terry Warford, Baron, OK, wrote about their successful meeting with Bro. J. W. Bedingfield; the baptism of Bret Brown; and the surgery of Bro. David Brown for collapsed lung. Bro. Homer Bryant, San Pablo, CA, told of his trip to the Bellflower, CA, meeting; his visit to Sis. Alice Weakley in the convalescent hospital on her birthday; the birth of David Wayne Meadows Jr. to Bro. and Sis. David and Nancy Meadows; and the announcement of their meeting with Bro. Tom Broadway. Bro. Mark Perigen, Bellflower, CA, reported on their meeting with Bro. Clif Brockman, of Chico, CA..

In Loving Memory

Stanley Berry

Brother Stanley Berry, age 33, passed from this life at the hospital in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida, on July 22, 1995. Brother Stanley had suffered from Multiple Sclerosis for a number of years. He was the son of Brother Frank and Sister Doris Ridlon, and the grandson of Sister Myra Dabbs, all of Aztec, New Mexico. He also leaves four brothers and three sisters. He had served four years in the Air Force. He was laid to rest at Cedar Hills Cemetery.

We first knew Stan as a young, enthusiastic Christian when his family moved to Yakima, Wash. Over the years, we saw him at various meetings as long as he was able to attend. Among our fondest memories are of him swinging with Brother Wayne Orendorff and the other kids at Stilwell Park during Brother Howard McCay's meeting in 1975. They were singing *"I'll Fly Away,"* and the whole park rang with those young voices. He had a beautiful voice, and he loved to sing his Lord's praises. Now the voice is stilled, but his suffering is finished, and we rejoice at his reward.

In Loving Memory

Dennis Wilson

We were saddened to learn that Bro. Dennis Wilson, age 29, of Stilwell, OK, was killed in a construction accident on Tuesday, July 11, 1995 in Liberty, MO.

He is survived by his wife, Laura; two daughters - Amanda, age 10 and Amber, age 6; his parents, Doyle and Sue Wilson, and many friends, family and loved ones.

A trust fund has been established to help the family with financial necessities. Anyone interested can send donations to:

Dennis Wilson Trust Fund
Bank of Commerce
Stilwell, OK 74960

Dennis was a true and good friend who will be much missed.

Name Changes

Sometimes people in the Bible did not keep the names they were given at birth. After each name below, write the Bible character's other name.

1 Hadassah_____(Esther 2:7).

2. Sarai_____(Genesis 17:15).

3. Belteshazzar_____(Daniel 1:7).

4. Jacob_____(Genesis 32:28).

5. Saul_____(Acts 13:9).

6. Mara_____(Ruth 1:20).

7. Abram_____(Genesis 17:5).

8. Simon_____(Matthew 4:18).

9. Zaphnath-paaneah_____(Genesis 41:45).

10. Azariah_____(Daniel 1:7).

BULLETIN BOARD

Meetings

Aug. 6-13	Sea-Tac, WA	Jim Brown
Aug. 18-20	Yakima, WA	Eric Harper
Aug. 20-27	Aloha, OR	Mark Perigen
June 29-July 8, 1996	Cedaredge, CO	Camp Meeting

Baptisms

Julie Ferguson	Broken Bow, OK	July 6, 1995 (at Delta Camp Meeting)
Kenneth Randy Buckner	Stilwell, OK	July 6, 1995 (at Delta Camp Meeting)
Jamie Berry	Duluth, GA	July 6, 1995 (at Delta Camp Meeting)
Trevor Barker	Lorenzo, TX	July 6, 1995 (at Delta Camp Meeting)
Matthew Matlock	Payson, AZ	July 6, 1995 (at Delta Camp Meeting)
Misty Walker	Cedaredge, CO	July 6, 1995 (at Delta Camp Meeting)
Robert Arthur Bernstein	North San Juan, CA	July 9, 1995

Prayer of Faith for those in need

Darrell Wilson	Baron, OK	Heart surgery
Emma Williams	Baron, OK	Neck & hip surgery
Gene Barrett	Baron, OK	Back surgery complications
Scottie Gardenhire	Baron, OK	Eye put out
Erelene Chessman	Bellflower, CA	Fighting cancer
Vincent Johnson	Bellflower, CA	Bound to wheelchair
Lloyd Treat	Broken Bow, OK	Back trouble
Debbie Newman	Cedaredge, CO	Major cancer surgery
Jack Morris	Ft. Collins, CO	Recovering from open heart surgery
Jack Wood	Hornbeck, LA	Severe heart attack
Andy & Pat Jordan	N. San Juan, CA	Needs to find a place to live
Jack Cooper	San Pablo, CA	Eye problems
Mable Cooper	San Pablo, CA	Trying times
Kathern Ann	San Pablo, CA	Diabetes
Jerry Barker	Stilwell, OK	Leukemia
Barbara Bumgardner	Yakima, WA	Fractured vertebrate
Phil Bumgardner	Yuma, AZ	Severe lung problems
Ruth Duncan	Yuma, AZ	Back pain

Passings

Dennis Wilson	Stilwell, OK	July 11, 1995 (29 yrs)
Stanley Berry	Ft. Lauderdale, FL	July 22, 1995 (33 yrs)