



The Christian Courier

September, 2017

Published by the Church of Christ in Lorenzo, TX

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“I Am The Light”

“Again thereafter Jesus spoke to them, saying I am the light of the world; he who follows Me shall not walk in the darkness but shall have the light of life.” (John 8:12) Jesus comes in the world darkened by sin and its power and he brings light to the right place. Jesus by becoming man brings Gods light to the world to help us in our search for meaning, our hunger for hope and our need to find purpose in life. Jesus is the light he calls Himself thus because of what light does. For example light reveals God in His Holiness.

“God is light and in Him there is no darkness at all...” (1 John 1:5). One of the functions of the light is that it reveals things as they are. When we shine a light on something, we can clearly and distinctly see its character or nature. Jesus is the light that reveals the nature and character of God Himself. God is pure, clean, unspoiled, and perfect. Jesus reveals God’s Holiness and reflects that nature to the world. Now as we seek purpose and meaning, we have a clear direction

for what a good and holy life should be. Jesus reveals to us the standard of right and wrong which God wants us to follow.

“For you were formally darkness, but now you are light in the lord; walk as children of light.” (Eph. 5:8). Paul speaks of the light and its impact on our lives. We are to be as pure as God is pure. We are to live so that the light of God’s holiness will shine in us. Paul says later in Ephesians 5 that light exposes all things that is; it reveals what is pure and what is not. So we are to be careful we walk not as unwise men, but as wise. (Eph. 5:15). We are to conduct our lives with the realization that the purity of god will one day shine in our lives to reveal what we have been and how we have lived.

God bless every one of you who will read this article to continue in our daily struggle to become the light in this world of sin.

Bro. John Kombo

Barut Church of Christ, Nakuru, Kenya



Cards and Letters

Goshen, AR (June, 2017)

Dear Brothers & Sisters,

I hope each of you are feeling better and stay well.

I'm late with news from the Goshen, AR, church. We have had so much sickness in the church.

Bro. Ed Falkner was in the hospital for nearly a week. He was back at church last Sunday (June 11th), not feeling his best.

Bro. Varbie Vanderpool had a rare accident on Sunday before Memorial Day; his gun fell off his 4-wheeler, discharged, and took out the muscle and large artery between his wrist and elbow. He had it in ice several days before the doctors could save his arm. He has an artery and a muscle grafted from his leg. He is one man that God saved because he lost so much blood; it's a wonder that he didn't die. Thank God! The doctor said this week he will go to rehab.

Also, my husband, Norman, was in the same hospital at the same time as these other two. Norman has a very bad heart. The doctor put a pacemaker and defibrillator in to strengthen his heart which was beating 130 to 165 beats a minute. Not a thing stopped it. He's home now on medication for heart failure. He sleeps a lot. He says at times he feels like he's drowning. Please pray for these three men (we really need them) as well as for all the sick in the church.

Roger Smith has come back into the church. He is not well, but the church is happy for him. He had been away a very long time. Welcome back, Bro. Roger.

Thank you for all the news.

In Christian love,

Sis. Rachel Daniels Traxler

Lorenzo, TX

Hello Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

We here at the Lorenzo Church of Christ salute you in Christian love.

We have finished a very good meeting. This year we were blessed with great lessons and fellowship with Bro. Terry Warford from the Port Orchard, WA, congregation, along with Bro. Kevin Lamb, from the Gleed congregation. We had some really good messages presented and we received some great up lifting spiritually which are always needed.

Our attendance was down a lot this year. We had a few visitors through the week. And the quality was superior. The only way it could have been better was if YOU were there!

Bro. Kevin brought his wife, Haley, and his niece, Trinity, with him, along with that great little guy Jack Jack. By the way, a big congratulations is offered up to them! If you have not heard they are expecting number 2.

Sis. Terri Sue and Bro. Robert Fuson were able to come for a day and visit with us. They

also brought with them, Kaylena Warford. The girls are Bro. Terry Warford's daughters and Robert is his Son-in-Law who is married to Terri Sue.

Bro. Paul and Sis. Chrystal Warford, along with that really fun covey of kids they have, came and spent a few days at the meeting.

Bro. Dennis and Sis. Susie Davis were able to join us this year from the Yuma, AZ, congregation. They are such great people and we are always glad to have them.

Health-wise, we are as a general rule doing well now, we have had a rash of surgery's in the last few months. Bro. Larry Wood and Bro. Gene Boling have both had knee replacements. Sis. Jaetta Loftis had fallen and broken her hip. Her surgery went well. Sis. Angela Boling had surgery to remove a tumor and is recovering well. Also Sis. Reba White has been missed. She has a residence in an assisted living facility and has had a couple of issues also.

We have had a few members traveling to other meetings this summer. And now we are glad everyone is home. It seems so different when brothers and sisters are missing.

Although we did not receive a direct report from many of the meetings this summer, we know that the following were baptized during the Delta Family Camp Meeting: Shawna Solomon, Trinity Lamb, Kylie Warford, Michayla Harcrow, Laura Buckner, Sheena Boling, Cage Conditt, and Maddi Van Horn. Triston Bryant was baptized just before the Lorenzo meeting started.

Bro. Shiloh Boling had the great privilege of holding a weekend meeting in Stilwell, OK. By all accounts it was a really good meeting. He has developed quite nicely as a young leader and speaker.

We continue to support the African Fund and we encourage the other congregations to do the same! They are in such need over there and we have such bounty. The donations have been down this past year. The Lord wants us to help other Christians.

We do not want to forget Bro. Otto Alvarez. His work also is so wonderful. We really need to help wherever we can.

In Christian Love,
The Church of Christ, Lorenzo, TX

Yuma, AZ

I spoke to my Uncle Harry Davis this morning for an update on the Yuma congregation and he said that they are doing fairly well. My aunt Verda Nelson is having problems with a lot of pain in her knees and is having trouble walking. We do have the new addition to our congregation, Eli son of Rose and Austin Bryant. He is doing well, growing, and will be brought up in the knowledge of the Lord, so good to have young ones in the audience, to hear their noise and to watch moms and dads raising their children and going through the same things we went through. We are sadly losing Rose's Grandma and Grandpa as they are leaving Yuma and returning to Arkansas near the Fort Smith area. Anyone in that area would be
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blessed to have them in their congregation. We love them and will miss them very much.

I would like to mention our meeting for this year. The dates have been set for March 11th through March 18th, so if it is possible for you to set those days aside and be with us we would appreciate your attendance. It is a long way and often costly but the benefits of joining together with like-minded Christians is beyond any earthly problems. Remember MARCH 11 THROUGH MARCH 18, 2018. Keep us in your prayers as we keep you all in our prayers. Don't ever forget the power of prayer. My wife Susie and I appreciate the things that the congregations across this country have done for us

over the years and again this year. We had to cut back a little in our travel this year due to problems beyond our control. It was a great year for us while attending the meetings as we were able to travel a bit with my sister Diane and my brother-in-law Bruce since they were able to go for the first time. Any of you that met

them know that they are wonderful to be around and they enjoyed this year and are planning for more travel next year.

In Christian Love, Denny and Susie Davis and the Yuma Congregation.



News From Abroad

Harlingen, TX (July 4, 2017)

Dear brethren in Christ,
I greet you cordially in the name of Christ.

I inform you that during June we had several activities between some churches in Mexico with the participation of some evangelists and members of the churches.

In the new church of Cardenas we had two baptisms (Rose and Amanda Rodriguez). These new sisters received studies in their houses.

The brothers of the church in Green River are making work of evangelism and we have several people that received studies in their houses.

In the church in Matamoros we had several predications (i.e. topical studies) and we had a baptism. In the city of Brownsville, TX, we have studies in different houses on Wednesday and Friday,

and we hope that in short time new people will obey the gospel.

The new brothers in the church of Tapachula and Tuxtla Gutierrez, Mexico, I spoke two times in the week by telephone to instruct them in the scriptures using the studies and CD's that I sent.

A family in Colombia is living in the city of Bogota and they are beginning work of evangelization. I send printed studies also sufficient CD's to make this work.

I send photos of the new sisters in Cardenas and Matamoros, Mexico.

May the Lord bless and prosper you and your family and the faithful in the congregations.

Your brother in Christ,
Bro. Otto Alvarez and evangelists in Spanish

Harlingen, TX (Sept. 11, 2017)

Dear brethren in Christ,

I greet you in the name of the Lord hoping that you may be enjoying good health along with your family and brothers in Christ.

I comment that during August I worked with some churches of this area of the frontier. We had a series of

predications (i.e. topical studies) for 3 days with the church of San Jose and we had several persons that attended and have interest and we will continue working with these people.

Also, with the church in San Fernando we work the weekend presenting studies for the edification of brothers.

In Brownsville, TX, we have Wednesday studies for preparing to the brothers for the predication (topical studies) work. In Matamoros, Mexico, I have studies on Saturdays with some brothers and sisters for preparing of evangelization in this area.

I received information of some churches in Guatemala that the brothers continue strongly animated in the evangelization in different areas. Only, their preoccupation is interrupted because it is raining constantly and the brothers of the field have some problems because the agriculture is in bad

condition. These brothers are requesting that we support them because they are very poor. Please discuss this at your church meetings.

The brothers in Colombia inform me that they had three baptisms and the brothers Favio Gomez began to work and they gathered in their house with a group of 8 people in the city of Circasia. To this brother we begin in this month to support economically for transportation to visit some nearby places.

Receive a strong embrace and our desire of the Lord to bless all the brothers in the congregations.

I send a photo of baptisms in Guatemala.

Your brother in Christ, Bro. Otto Alvarez

Report From Liberia

July, 2017

Praise be to God for the your continued help of the growth of the Lord's works in Liberia and around the world. It is our prayer and hope that the Lord will be with you to bring these good effects into reality that will bring glory to Him our Heavenly Father.

Beginning with the Central Buchanan Church of Christ, I visited and encouraged 8 weak members, and also reached the homes of 4 brethren who were sick and prayed with them. The attendance there is very much increasing on Sundays.

On Sunday, July 16, a man by the name of Harris B. Johnson was converted and baptized at the age of 54. This brother is now with the Central Buchanan Congregation as a member of the Lord's church.

I have seriously been continuing the topics, "The Passover That Jesus Observed And, the Breaking of The Bread, "to this congregation and other congregations. Now, we at the Central Buchanan Church of Christ have already come to the obedience of the true teaching scripturally on Sunday, August 6, 2017. The breaking of the bread is set in order scripturally and will continue to the end of time.

It is our prayer and hope that the rest of the congregations here holding on to one cup will also scripturally set in order the breaking of the bread as I continually go from one congregation to another teaching this topic from the truth.

There are some photos sent as proof from this congregation that we have finally set it right scripturally.

May God bless you and the brethren.

In Christian Love, Bro. James Suahgba

August, 2017

My greeting comes to you and your family in the precious name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, and hope if reaches you on a good day for all of you brethren.

It was nice talking with you on the phone and I praised the Almighty God to hear that you and most of the brethren are far away from the flooding that is going on in Texas but however, there is a congregation in that place of devastation which you have not heard from.

We are in prayer with you for the safety of all you and every citizen of that land of the United States of America. Now it is our prayer and hope that the Lord,

Our Heavenly Father be with all of you and bring every destructive action to an end.

I visited eighteen (18) brethren of the Central Buchanan Congregation and encouraged them in the works of the church. I also visited the homes of 3 brothers who were sick and prayed with them and assisted them with some medications.

I did a personal evangelism with twenty-one (21) persons within two (2) communities of Buchanan City, Grand Bassa County. I am continuing the study of "*How To Become A Christian*" with these people in this month of September that help some to be converted.

The Central Buchanan Church of Christ is effectively growing in all services of the Ministry of

Christ .Here is the grand total attendance in the month of August is 78.

There was no evangelistic trip made by me from Buchanan but will begin it on September 8, 2017 together with Brothers Saturday Krangar, and C. Tero Trokon, and I will go into the interior parts of Buchanan which is Guehdyee, Central Little Kollah .

Brothers, I sent some pictures along with this email to show me and some of the brothers with Central Buchanan.

May the Lord bless you to keep on the good works within USA and around the world.

In Christian Love,

Bro. James Abednego Suahgba, Liberia

Report From Kenya

August 4th

I am always so grateful to God our Father who by the blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, we are united into one body to serve Him in love. Thank you very much for your help.

We are just few days away from the Election Day which is on 8th August 2017. As it has happened before whenever we in Kenya go to elections, there is violence and fighting. People die, properties are destroyed. It is during this time that Christians need to pray for God to intervene. We need your prayers too. We are all praying for peace to prevail throughout this period. Fortunately the government headed by the president has promised to provide enough security for the citizen of this country. We are happy with the promise. God bless Kenya and protect the church.

August 17th

You may recall that I wrote to you before we went to election in Kenya. I requested that you pray for us so that we would have peaceful elections in our country that we love very much. God answered our prayers; the elections went on peacefully especially

here at Nakuru. For those who were not satisfied have opted to go to court. This is according to the constitution of Kenya. All in all we still pray that God our Father will be in control of everything. When we attain all peace in every part of the country is when we would be able to travel from place to place to serve our Lord Jesus Christ.

September 5th

Glad to greet you in the mighty name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. I am happy today to write to you in order to inform you about what is happening at this end. We are all fine and well. We do communicate and exchange the information regarding the progress of the church from Brothers Sadat in Tanzania, Julius Wandera from Uganda, Laban Ambogo from Kakamega (Kenya) and Muteti from Machakos. All of the above brethren called me recently to update me of what they are doing. Everywhere there is positive progress as far as the work of the Lord is concerned.

Bro. Laban informed me of the meeting held at Sigalagala church. Most of those preachers who

attended greeted me through the Laban's mobile phone. It's good to hear the voices of the beloved brethren and sisters in Christ speaking to me. They all requested me to write to you and send their love greetings to you too.

Last Sunday (3rd September, 2017), I was invited to speak at Ronda Church of Christ congregation. This is one of the five congregations within Nakuru Town. They too have accepted "One Cup" doctrine. The sermon was about "I am the Light". I have in fact written an article on this topic and sent to you. Attached to this report are four pictures; showing me at Ronda with Bro. William Odhiambo the preacher at Ronda Congregation.

Brother Julius wrote to thank me for the article. "*I am the Light*". He says "many things have been happening in his life". We need to pray for him and help him to grow strong in faith.

I am living with a boy aged fifteen years old. His name is Brian Rono. He has mental problems and therefore hard to communicate well. The boy just came alone in my home, he can only say his own name, and that is all.

I took him to area chief and explained to him how the boy came to my home alone. The chief then tweeted the information in order to find out who the parents of the boy were. Fortunately, they were found, they live in Kericho, this is about 150 km from Nakuru. The father of the boy promised to come and take his son as soon as possible. But up to now, it is two weeks and yet he has not done so. The area chief told me to take the child to the concerned government department that deals with such children. I am planning to do that soon. But meanwhile he is still in my home. I find no problem in caring for him. This is part of our service to God.

Now, what is interesting is for the parents of the boy to delay to come and collect their son even after getting the information of where about of their son. The boy seems to have a problem known by the doctors as Autism. God gives us life so that we could do something better for others. We live because of others.

Bro. John Kombo
Barut Church of Christ, Nakuru Kenya

Report From Tanzania

September 15th

Brethren,

It is another chance that the Lord has given us to live in His presence under His almighty power. Hope all of us are fine and well wherever we are. And so I always pray that He continue to leave us in this life to accomplish the work that He has bestowed unto us.

We left home on August 7th to Tonyo whereby we had a meeting with some of the brethren. One of the things they mentioned was the lack of a teacher. One of them said that they have been wondering as to who can go and visit them. We looked for a person among them who will be able to teach them, and decided to buy them two tents and erect them. We had trouble even getting water in that village because of the drought that is now all over the country. We had \$300

which is now gone and we are empty and if there is any way to help us with \$300 once again it will be good. Will send you some photos when get back home (We did not receive these photos - Editor).

I wrote to you one time reminding you about going to Dar es Salaam and finish up our registration. When I was in Dar last time I handed them our constitution and what we were waiting for was a call from them. We need go to Dar and finish the registration.

Yesterday, I was talking with Bro. Caleb in Arusha and one of the thing that we touched was buying preaching equipment, and printer that we will be using in producing tracts so that people may know about our Lord and His church and by doing so many will follow what is right. There is a need of buying

preaching equipment so that many open air preaching can be done.

There is a great need to reach these people with the Word with a different approach before it's too late because that is our obligations. Places like Arusha,

mostly Caleb is struggling with different denominations especially Moslem; same here where I'm facing hard time from a Pentecostal group.

Your brother in Christ, Sadat.

Report From Uganda (Sept. 12th)

Last week I have been busy in door to door evangelism and going to visit our members who have been long without coming to worship and I found that some were becoming lazy and some were very busy in their gardens. I encouraged them, and some have come to service this Sunday. Really God speaks to His servants today. When I have opened my email I found Bro. John Kombo posted the article "Leaders And Procrastination. This message is to Uganda and Congo churches of Christ. May the Lord give his servant what is good.

Brethren, we need to have camera; this will be helping us in giving you updates, and also our brethren who are abroad can have a solid report. The camera costs \$120 USD.

We need also some help to buy a printer; this will help us in printing articles in our languages, printing baptism cards, song books, tracts, etc. This will cost \$400 USD.

We need to have a joint meeting for both Uganda and Congo churches. This meeting is needed to be held in Uganda. We have a number of items to be discussed, If possible, it will be a three days meeting only preachers, (leaders in each congregation) this will cost \$450 USD (break, lunch, supper, transport for preachers from far distances. This will include the Congo brethren), and if funds allow, we need Bro John Kombo and Bro. Laban from Kenya to join us in the meeting.

Thank you for the service in the Lord's vineyard.
Your's, Bro. Julius Wandera

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1 - 2 Pictures submitted by Otto Alvarez

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3 - 4 Geita, Tanzania, congregation where Sadat worships.
 5 - 6 Liberia

Editor's Note

Bro. Ellis & Sis. Lynell Forsman are in the process of moving to Lorenzo, TX. Please note the change of address for *The Christian Courier* as indicated on the front page of this issue (the email also indicated there remains the same). Use this address for ALL written letters, articles, news, donations, etc. to *The Courier* or to the African Missionary Fund. While this address is that of Bro. Jerry McCay, it will be permanent for the Forsman's and all things related to *The Courier*.

In Loving Memory of Harry Bryant Dye

Brothers and Sisters in Christ, I'm sure that all have heard the news of our brother Harry Dye from the Citrus City Church of Christ and his passing.

Brother Harry has been in my life since I was a child and in the lives of all the Yuma congregation. It started for me in the town of Somerton, AZ, where my beginning with the church was. A lot of memories from that group of brothers and sisters of whom Harry Dye and his wife Lou of many years were a major part, fellow shipping and spreading joy among the people that he associated with, good memories. Harry never seemed to



age like so many of us do. Harry Dye was one of the several that I could contact when I was in need of help spiritually and I called on him many times, there was no subject biblically that Harry couldn't give you an answer to, again a phone call to him was the best and easiest way for answers that I was unsure of. Harry was a builder for the Lords Church, always encouraging me and I'm sure that many others when the need arose would call on him. Harry would call or take me aside to show appreciation of my efforts at preaching and more than once would correct me if he felt I was in error. It

was wonderful for me always preaching on shaky knees to hear his encouragement. To have a man like Harry to lean on was an enormous benefit for any of us that were beginning in the church to keep us moving in the right directions. He will be missed, his knowledge of the bible and that telephone call to and from him will be missed. His memorial will be held on November 11 in order for family to be able to arrive. We thank the Lord for allowing the Yuma church to have this man in our lives for so long.

Harry Bryant Dye (88) was born January 5, 1929 left this earth on September 15, 2017.

He proudly served in the U. S. Navy on the USS T.E. Chandler, then went on to a 35 year career with APS. He retired from APS in January of 1987 as District Manager in Parker, AZ. After retirement, his passions were raising horses and spending time with family and friends. Harry never met a stranger, he was a friend to all. God was his guide in all he did.

He is preceded in death by his loving wife Mary Lou Dye.

He leaves behind his daughter Carol (Mike) Wilcher and son Danny (Cindy) Dye, and sister Jo Johnson. He was blessed with 9 grandchildren and 11 great grandchildren.

A Celebration of Life will be held on November 11th 10 am to 2 pm at the Church of Christ on Ave B, Yuma, AZ.

Bro. Denny Davis, Yuma, AZ

Bulletin Board

Meetings

March 11 - 18, 2018 Yuma, AZ Guest speakers

Baptisms

Rose Rodriguez	Cardenas, Mexico	June 28, 2017
Amanda Rodriguez	Cardenas, Mexico	June 28, 2017
Harris Johnson	Central Buchanan, Liberia	July 16, 2017
Triston Bryant	Lorenzo, TX	July 26, 2017
Shawna Solomon	Delta, CO	Camp Meeting July 16-23, 2017
Trinity Lamb	Delta, CO	Camp Meeting July 16-23, 2017
Kylie Warford	Delta, CO	Camp Meeting July 16-23, 2017
Michayla Harcrow	Delta, CO	Camp Meeting July 16-23, 2017
Laura Buckner	Delta, CO	Camp Meeting July 16-23, 2017
Sheena Boling	Delta, CO	Camp Meeting July 16-23, 2017
Cage Conditt	Delta, CO	Camp Meeting July 16-23, 2017
Maddi Van Horn	Delta, CO	Camp Meeting July 16-23, 2017

Births

Eli Austin Bryant Yuma, AZ
to Austin & Rose Bryant

July 22, 2017

Passings

Harry Dye Yuma, AZ

September 15, 2017

Prayer of Faith for those in need

John Kombo	Nakuru, Kenya	Diabetes & high blood pressure
Newton Kombo	Nakuru, Kenya	Many injuries; hit by motorcycle
Benjamin Rono	Nakuru, Kenya	Automobile accident injuries
Agrippina Alex	Geita, Tanzania	Problems during recovery of stomach surgery, UTI, Malaria
Sadat's girl, Wilkister Alex	Geita, Tanzania	Hit by motorcycle, has a broken leg, Malaria
Jay & LaWanda Durham	Broken Bow, OK	Surgery, illness, falls
Brent Berry	Canton, GA	Heart problems
Tony Schell	Cedaredge, CO	Heart irregularities
Debbie Wilkerson	Cedaredge, CO	Fighting cancer & back surgery
Ed Falkner	Goshen, AR	In hospital, not feeling well
Norman Traxler	Goshen, AR	Bad heart
Varbie Vanderpool	Goshen, AR	Gun accident, shot in arm
Carol Bauer	Gleed, WA	In hospital. Needs liver transplant
Robert Farley	Gleed, WA	Severe pain, recovering from surgery
Pauline Holloway	Gleed, WA	Uterine & cervical cancer
Ilene Thrush	Gleed, WA	Several strokes & heart issues
Jeannean McSwane	Glenwood, WA	Severe infections, pain, blood clots, & falls
Otto & Mariella Alvarez	Harlingen, TX	Dangerous travel
Eunice Jared	Hillsboro, OR	Heart problems, age related
Mary Peyton	Hillsboro, OR	Alzheimer's
Angela Boling	Lorenzo, TX	Brain surgery recovery
Gene Boling	Lorenzo, TX	Knee surgery recovery
Jaetta Loftis	Lorenzo, TX	Recovering hip surgery
Wynetta McCay	Lorenzo, TX	Severe coughing
Madeline Nemeč	Lorenzo, TX	Radiation for skin cancer
Reba White	Lorenzo, TX	Falls, Pneumonia, & other health issues
Jessica Chastain	Pleasant View, OK	Health issues
Reba Morris	Pleasant View, OK	Lupus & recent surgery
Retha Morris	Pleasant View, OK	Fighting Parkinson's disease, health issues
Jim Pollan	Ringgold, TX	Recovering from kidney surgery
Cinde McCay	Yakima, WA	Fighting Parkinson's
Tony Brister	Yuma, AZ	Chemo & fighting cancer
Alice Davis	Yuma, AZ	Lower back pain & advanced age
Harry Davis	Yuma, AZ	Prostate cancer
Iris Stewart	Yuma, AZ	Heart problems

All of those in Africa that fight malaria continually and all those who are aging or in nursing homes.

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