



# The Christian Courier

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## ANTICHRISTS

I've seen articles about "The AntiChrist" pop up several times on Facebook the past several months. It may be the same article or different, but it's about how to recognize the AntiChrist, so that we can then recognize the end of the world.

Brothers and Sisters, this whole doctrine is false on many levels. Please do not let it alarm you. We need to focus on fearing God, not any man.

The doctrine of "The AntiChrist" is in essence about one powerful ruler trying to end Christianity, which will signal the return of Jesus Christ. But let's read through the scriptures that talk about antichrists, and see what is truly taught.

All passages about antichrists are in the epistles of John. All but one are in 1<sup>st</sup> John, and the last one is in 2<sup>nd</sup> John.

The first passage is 1 John 2:18-19, "*Little children, it is the last time: and as ye have heard that antichrist shall come, even now are there many antichrists; whereby we know that it is the last time. They went out*

*from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would no doubt have continued with us: but they went out, that they might be made manifest that they were not all of us.*"

Notice a few things about this passage.

First of all, did you notice that I titled the article, antichrists, plural? John here in the first place mentioned, said there were many antichrists, not one. And there were many then while he walked the earth in the first century AD. It's just not referring to one boogeyman at the end of the world.

That leads to the second point about this passage. John said it is the last time, then, while he lived on this earth. The time from Jesus Christ on is referred to as the last days multiple times in scripture, including here in this passage about antichrists. We cannot look to some event or person as somehow signaling Christ's return. In fact Jesus Himself said that only God knows when

Jesus will return. Mark 13:32-33, *“But of that day and that hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels which are in heaven, neither the Son, but the Father. Take ye heed, watch and pray: for ye know not when the time is.”*

The third thing to notice about antichrists from this passage is that they were people who left the apostles - again, there in the first century. Many people who heard them believed and continued steadfastly in their doctrine, many rejected their words, and some received their words but fell away like these antichrists. The message to us is to continue in the apostles' doctrine.

The next passage about antichrists is further down in this same chapter. 1 John 2:22-23, *“Who is a liar but he that denieth that Jesus is the Christ? He is antichrist, that denieth the Father and the Son. Whosoever denieth the Son, the same hath not the Father: he that acknowledgeth the Son hath the Father also.”* Again, it's not talking about one dictator, but says that anyone who denies that Jesus is the Christ is antichrist. And goes on to say that to deny Jesus is to deny God.

The next passage about antichrists is in 1 John 4:3. Let's read verses 1-3 to see the context, *“Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world. Hereby know ye the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesseth that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is of God: And every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God: and this is that spirit of antichrist, whereof ye have heard that it should come; and even now already is it in the world.”*

This narrows things down even further. First the passage warns us to test things, because there are false doctrines and false teachers out there. Then John gives us several tests to use, the first of which is whether or not they confess that Jesus came in the flesh. So 1 John 2:22 tells us that those who deny Jesus are antichrist; and 1 John 4:3 says further that those who do not confess Jesus are antichrist.

The last passage about antichrists is 2 John, verse 7, *“For many deceivers are entered into the world, who confess not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh. This is a deceiver and an antichrist.”* Same point as in 1 John 4:3.

So, there are a grand total of 4 passages about antichrists, none of which describe an end-time dictator signaling Christ's return. One passage is specifically plural and all of them can and do apply to many people. Anyone who does not follow the apostles' teachings, who denies Jesus, or does not confess that Jesus came in the flesh is an antichrist.

So rather than to inspire us to fear some man, these scriptures really serve to warn us about false teaching, and to examine ourselves to be sure that we confess Jesus always, and serve Him by following the teaching that He gave through His apostles.

Let's close this article with 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.”*

Seeking to encourage in love,  
Bro. Terry Warford



# Cards and Letters

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## Glenwood, WA

We would like to welcome all to our gospel meeting August 5-12, 2018, with Bro. Larry Wood and Bro. Kevin Lamb preaching. At this point, Bro. Kevin will be preaching the first part of the week, with Bro. Larry finishing the meeting.

Sis. Ellen McCay has been moved from the hospital to the Life Fulfilled Adult Family home at 7309 – 97<sup>th</sup> Ave SW, Lakewood, WA 98498.

In Christian love, Glenwood, WA, congregation.

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## Goshen, AR (Apr., 2018)

Hello from Goshen, AR, congregation.  
Hope each and everyone is doing well.

We do need prayers for one another. Bro. Gary Hooper has been in the hospital for 4 days. The doctors are still doing testing, MRI, and CAT Scan. They believe he may have lung

cancer. Please remember his wife Thelma. This is really rough on her.

I'm late with our check for the paper. Everyone take care.

Love from

Church of Christ at Goshen, AR

Sis. Rachel Daniels Traxler

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## Goshen, AR (May, 2018)

Greetings from the Goshen, AR, congregation.

Our little group is small, but we are still meeting on Sundays at 10:30 a.m. Come and see us.

Most of our group have finally gotten past the flu season, so maybe we will have most of those that have been out a lot coming back and staying. Well, I think that we went from heaters to air conditioners this Spring. The last three days have

been just a little bit hot for May (89 – 90 degrees).

I believe you can remove Varbie Vanderpool, Lawanda Parks, Norman Traxler, and Phyllis Auslam from the prayer list. Phyllis' cancer is in remission. Thank God!

Enclosed find money for *The Courier*.

In Christian love,

Sis. Rachel Traxler,

Goshen, AR, congregation

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## Pleasant View Church of Christ, Stilwell, OK

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

It is time to write once again. I'm the worst about writing. Sister Reba Morris has had some

surgeries but is doing well. Everyone else is doing okay at this time. We just have normal aches and pains of getting older.

On January 11, 2018, Alastir Lynn Fuson came into the world at 8 lbs. and 12 oz. His proud parents are Jacob and Anna Fuson; grandparents are Robert and Christina Fuson. He is my great-grandson. Alastir made his first church appearance on January 14<sup>th</sup>. Our Labor Day meeting will be Sept. 2-5 at Stilwell and

continuing at Broken Bow on Sept. 6-9. Bro. Jim Lamb from Washington will be our guest speaker. Service will be at 10 am on Sunday morning and night services will be at 7:30 pm. Everyone is welcome anytime.

Bro. Gerald Buckner, Pleasant View Church of Christ, Stilwell, OK

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## Lorenzo, TX

Greetings Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

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

Recent visitors include Paul & Kevin Forsman, sons of Ellis & Lynell. They came from Seattle, WA, for a couple weeks in May to assist their parents in the modification of their home after they moved from Lubbock to Lorenzo, TX.

Most everyone is doing well with a few exceptions. Bro. Jimmie Loftus is struggling with weakness and has been absent at church services several Sundays. Sis. Leesa Boling had foot surgery, but is moving about with a walking boot.

Bro. Joseph Matlock graduated from high school. Congratulations to him!

Bro. Jerry & Sis. Wynetta McCay traveled to Brady, TX, for their granddaughter's graduation. Next week they will be in Pueblo, CO, for their grandson's graduation. Families really get spread out.

Be sure to make plans for our meeting this summer; July 25 – August 1<sup>st</sup>. Because of scheduling problems, this year's meeting will take place from Wednesday to Wednesday. Planned guest speakers are Bro. Jim Lamb and Bro. Jason Christianson, both of the Glead, WA, congregation. All are welcome!

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

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## Ringgold, TX

We rejoice in announcing Mick and Janice Boen are meeting with us and we really appreciate their fellowship. We are well and wish to ask everyone in our area to stop in and attend church with us and stay in our home. Maxine and I enjoyed the Yuma, AZ, Meeting and were thankful to be blessed with being able to be there. The fellowship, worshipping God in spirit and in truth, the food, and spending time with loved ones was wonderful. Maxine and I are planning, Lord willing, to travel to Cedaredge,

CO, and to all the meetings we can. My mother, Marie Pollan, is in a nursing home in Duncan, OK, and is struggling to recover from a broken hip. I ask everyone to remember her in your prayers.

We are sending a contribution for the Missionary Fund.

In Christ to all,  
Bro. Larry Pollan  
Ringgold, TX

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## Waterford, CA

Our meeting at Waterford, CA, is soon!!!!  
Have you made plans to come?

- June 21-24
- Dinner every evening

- Guest speakers
  - RV parking and lots of homes with room for guests
  - (209) 852-0229 – Kurt Harper
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## Yakima, WA

We have altered the dates for our meeting in Yakima this summer and wanted to let you know the new dates. The meeting will be the same week as announced before, July 8-15. The actual services will now be held starting Sunday, July 8th through Thursday, July 12th and then conclude Sunday, July 15th. There will be no services Friday or Saturday in order to let members attend a memorial service in Port Orchard Washington for Cary Stacy, son of Greg and Peggy Stacy of the Glenwood congregation.

We have had a trying winter but with also some happy news to report. Cinde McCay fell and broke her hip two days after Christmas. After hip replacement surgery she spent 30 days in rehab and was making good progress until just before being released she contracted a staph infection which required a second surgery to clean things out and then spent three weeks on infusion antibiotics. She is finally on the road to recovery from all that. Thank you all for your prayers.

In the good news category, we have celebrated the addition of two more baby girls to the congregation with a third expected next week. Paisley Lyn McCay was born to Mike and Jessica McCay on January 27th. Matthew and Sarah McCay added Magdalene Veda McCay to their family on February 5th. We are all thrilled with the addition of these beautiful, healthy baby girls!

Our third baby girl of the year arrived April 16<sup>th</sup>. Brady and Haley Lamb welcomed Presley Quinn Lyric Lamb into the family and we are thankful for her safe arrival.

We look forward to seeing some of you at the various meetings this summer and want to extend an invitation to all you that are able to visit us in Yakima.

Love to you all,

Bill McCay, Jr. for the congregation in Yakima, WA

Ps. Late news from the Glead congregation: Ron Widel and Zhiane (Nae Nae) were baptized on May 20<sup>th</sup> at the Glead congregation.

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## Yuma, AZ (May 8, 2018)

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

We are already in the month of May and the weather is threatening to get hot. We've had a week of 100° plus days but overall they have still been nice mornings and evenings. Our meeting

which was held in March is well behind us and we are back to our small group here in Yuma. I'd like to let everyone know how we are doing health wise here. We are mostly an aging group and the natural aches and pains that can be attributed to a lot of us.

My Uncle Harry Davis is having problems with his back but more than that the prostate cancer has returned and his PSA reading has gone up considerably. Sis. Alice is in the grasp of Alzheimer's and has been missing church quite a bit. Our worries are with her and do miss seeing her there. Aunt Verda is still contending with her knee problems and is walking very gingerly with the pain that she has. Robert and Debra are doing well as are Susie and myself. We have the cutest little guy that sits in the back with his mom and dad, Austin and Rose Bryant, and has really taken all of our hearts with his smiles. I was told that he now has three teeth and he is growing. We are proud of our little guy. We are missing my sister and brother-in-law since they are in Missouri visiting their son and his wife and family. Fred Cummings, their son, was taken to the ER a couple of days ago with chest pains and they have determined that he has congestive heart failure; that is fluid surrounding the heart. He also has a pulmonary problem with breathing. Keep him in your prayers. Diane and Bruce hopefully will be home in the next week or so.

Our meeting was a success, the numbers were not as high as in the past but the important thing is that we all had good times and heard many great sermons. Beginning on Sunday morning with Bro. Jerry McCay's lesson titled "The Missing Link". Sunday evening was delivered to us by Bro. Larry Pollan titled "As Jesus and God Are One". Larry and Maxine were able to spend the whole week with us this year now that he has retired. Monday night Bro. Ellis Forsman brought a lesson titled "Witness For The Lord". Our Tuesday evening came to us from Washington in the form of Bro. Jimmy Lamb and he titled it "You and Me". Bro. Jim is continuing on to Lorenzo to hold their

meeting and is sharing that meeting with His Son-in-law Jason Christianson. He is a fine up and coming preacher from the Selah church. Wednesday we called on one of our locals from Citrus City, Bro. Tony Brister, and he spoke to us of "Jesus On The Cross". Thursday we heard about "The Courage To Lead" from another Washingtonian, Bro. Bob Farley. Great to see that he is doing better with his pain management. We got to hear from Bro. Terry Wilkerson on Friday night, I kind of bugged him into doing a lesson and glad that we got to hear it. It was on "Forgiveness". Saturday evening we received a lesson from our young one, Bro. Austin Bryant on "We Will Glorify". Sunday morning it was requested that Bro. Robert Davis from our congregation give a lesson and he did a wonderful job as usual about "Revival". On our final evening it was with great delight that we got to hear from Bro. Gene Boling from Lorenzo and He spoke about "Remember Lot's Wife". It's been a while since we have heard Bro. Gene. We, as of right now, will begin planning for next year's meeting and our hopes are for another great meeting.

We loved seeing everyone that attended our meeting. Of course we missed those that were unable to make it and hopefully they will be able to return next year and many more. As I have mentioned, we do have in our congregation many that are afflicted by life and we ask for prayers for our ailing as we pray for our brothers and sisters from the many different congregations.

(Just in from Yuma) – Tammy Legan was baptized on May 11<sup>th</sup> by Austin Bryant.

In Christian love,  
Bro. Denny and Sis. Susie Davis  
for the Yuma Congregation.



# News From Abroad

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## Harlingen, TX (Mar, 2018)

Dear brethren :

I comment in that during this month we had several opportunities to preach the gospel in different places and we have the hope that during this year the Lord permit new Christians and also new congregations are established.

In the church in Brownsville, TX, we had new baptisms and the church is slowly growing. Also, we have some persons interested in continuing studying the scriptures.

In the place of the Norlas, Mexico, are working with some brothers of the area and we have the hope that a congregation will be established in this place.

In the city of Matamoros, we continue making the work of evangelization and we have several people that attend the studies in the houses and we think that some go to obey.

In the area of Southern Mexico (Yucatan) the brothers inform me that the churches are growing slowly and I have plans to travel very soon to that area to support the brothers in that work.

The brothers in Chiapas (Southeast Mexico) inform me of an increase of the numbers of persons that attend of the studies and, if the Lord permits, several persons will obey the gospel.

From Guatemala and Colombia inform me that the brothers continue the work of evangelization and have hope that the churches continue growing.

I send photo of new baptisms in Brownsville, TX.

Your brothers in Christ,  
Evangelists in Spanish.

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## Harlingen, TX (Apr, 2018)

Appreciated brothers:

I greet you cordially in the name of Christ hoping that you are enjoying good health.

I inform some of the activities in the churches in one area in Northern Mexico.

The brothers of the church in San Fernando had the inauguration of a small building so that the brothers may have a little bit of comfort to invite others to the meetings. Each Saturday and Sunday some brothers of the church in Matamoros travel two hours to help these new

brethren and to collaborate in the growth of the church.

Also, we visited the population of Padilla to encourage a recently converted family that live in that place and to help in the evangelization. We visit several families and there are doors opened to continue working.

Also, we visited Victory City with the purpose of encouraging two families that live there that had been separated from the faith and thanks to the Lord we are encouraged to continue

the Christian life and we will be continually visiting.

Also, we took advantage on the holiday days in Mexico to have studies, meeting with some brothers that help in the churches and also in the work of evangelization.

The evangelist brothers in Mexico, Guatemala, and Colombia write commenting that all the brothers in the congregations continue firm in the work of evangelization.

Your brothers in Christ,  
Evangelists in Spanish.

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## Report From Tanzania

### February 25<sup>th</sup>

Brethren,

The registrar is calling us back because they claimed that we have two registration papers. They said that the church of Christ has been registered with the same name, the church of Christ. Yet, this is the name we used when she was signing our paper and so they are confused and they don't know which is which. Nonetheless, they claimed that they have discovered that we lied to them at the time we wanted us to be registered; something that is not true. When they mentioned that there are two registrations under the name of Church of Christ, I recalled that she is referring to the multiple cups people because they also used the same name of the church.

The lawyer who worked and passed through our papers till the end also claimed the same thing. He said that there is a church which was registered under that name and they have passed through some copies and found this. He went on to explain that it is a criminal offense to have two certificates of registration under one organization or institution. However, according to him, he also insisted that we should go and give the explanation before them why two papers under the same organization and why do we own two copies of registration. If I don't go and explain to them I will be arrested because they say I lied to the Government of the Republic of Tanzania.

Personally, as I said above, I think they are referring to the registration of the many cups people because they also used the name Church of Christ; and the registrar fails to differentiate it with us. I will have to go and tell them what it is and explain to them what it is and what it's not or else they will arrest me as they have already warned me

Your brother in Christ, Bro. Sadat.

### March 7<sup>th</sup>

Brethren,

It was yesterday from 8 p.m. to 4 a.m. that Agrippina was complaining about her stomach and when it was 4 a.m. we rushed her to the hospital and the doctors said it is a miscarriage. I need your prayers. She is still in the hospital.

Bro. Sadat.

### March 27<sup>th</sup>

Brethren,

I went to Dar es Salaam on the 22<sup>nd</sup> and arrived the same day in the night. The following day, on the 23<sup>rd</sup>, I went to the registrar's office where we had a meeting with them. The meeting lasted until around 2 p.m.; they showed me a hand written paper that someone went there and claimed that Church of Christ Restoration doesn't exist and that we as a group that want the certificate on that name are frauds. After I was under arrest while they do investigation, after passing through our constitution which we had



given to the lawyer and the registrar, they found that we have been registered with Church of Christ Restoration and not Church of Christ. In the paper they showed me that a person claimed that the church that he knows of is those that use multiple cups.

On Monday yesterday, is when one officer came with the registrar and said to me that **the person was wrong and I was right**, so by the fact that I was right still they wanted me to be removed by a person living in Dar and he must have unremovable property that is the qualification of the person who would remove me plus amount of money not less than \$600. After that I requested them to give me my phone and contact Bro. Maxwell who came to the police station with his wife who brought me food. Maxwell gave them that money and they wanted him to sign that he have unremovable property and he gave them that money. They wanted a person who will remove me from the custody to have unremovable property thinking that I might run and nowhere they will get me, and if I run, the person who came to remove me may be arrested. They wanted me to report to them this morning and I did so, after that I took \$600 and gave back to Maxwell because he also borrowed from his friend so that he may come to release me. But he still helps me with medication because the doctors said that I have typhoid and U.T.I.

Not only that, they allowed us to use Church of Christ Restoration. Tbut that is what is on our constitution and which we have been registered on. The only thing that made them to arrest me was the letter they received from this person of which they didn't want me to know him in detail. However, I hope there will be no doubt concerning church name because they have known the truth.

Now, for your information, the ministry of home affairs are working together with police and they themselves are police. The African governments doesn't give back what is already

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in their hands. So they will not give the money back. It's gone. Tomorrow Bro. Maxwell is going to take me to the hospital again for more checkup. If anyone has not been in the custody, they should not long to be there. No one knew that I was arrested until yesterday and today when I called Bro. Maxwell and Bro. Kombo to write to you. I'm thankful for Bro. Maxwell because he is a brother indeed; he treats me like his blood brother but I will have to give back of what he uses.

I'm encouraged with Paul, the apostle, when he was detained in Rome, he counted it joyful for the sake of the church, and I'm happy for that. I am still alive; my soul exists, but my body is weak. Pray for me so that if it is His will I may be strengthened.

Your brother in Christ, Bro. Sadat.

## March 29<sup>th</sup>

Brethren,

I was admitted for two days at the hospital and I have been discharged to day.

Bro. Sadat.

## April 10<sup>th</sup>

As I explained before, that I was arrested and no one knew about it until I was released; I did not mention to you at that time that I was tortured on my knees, elbow and ankles. I was in much pain including Malaria and diarrhea. This is why when you send the money, I delayed to go and pick it up. I had no way because I couldn't walk or carry anything heavy.

I didn't travel back home until yesterday; I missed my family but I had no way out. I'm not sure who told the government lies about me [In another note from Sadat he said the government refused to tell him who made false reports about him and the church - Editor], but Satan has been defeated and the angels are rejoicing that I'm alive and the work of God is still growing. Again, I thank you for your prayers as a congregation and as individuals plus financial

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support. I may still need your help because I am not stable. I'm still feeling pain on my knees and ankles. Greet all the Christians and the Lorenzo church at large. If there is any question let me know.

Your brother in Christ, Bro. Sadat.

## **April 11<sup>th</sup>**

Brother, Ellis,

The reason I delayed to go and pick up the money early because I could not walk or do anything for my feet were sore and painful. When you wanted me to explain what they wanted and how it was, I could not explain all these. However, I strived to write to you, but I was in a really bad situation; I could not write anything at that time. I believe that nothing was broken but my right foot is painful and I will have to go and check the x-ray.

Your brother in Christ, Bro. Sadat

## **April 27<sup>th</sup>**

Ellis,

I appreciate you for your effort on making it possible. Thank you again I know that our God will make it possible.

Yesterday and today is not a good day for me because I could not walk because of much pain when I am on my feet. They did a small surgery and removed blood that clotted inside. Some of the tendons were also damaged.

Your prayers please. Bro. Sadat.

## **April 30<sup>th</sup>**

Brethren,

I greet you in the Holy name of our Lord Jesus Christ. I want to let you know that I need much of your prayers and for the saints among you.

I had a small surgery on my right foot the last two weeks, but they didn't do it right. After they were done, they tied the bandage around it which caused it to get rotten because the stitches were also loose. They have advised me to go to Mwanza at the designated hospital and redo it again.

I need your assistance as well but I don't know how much until I confirm.

Your brother in Christ, Bro. Sadat.

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# **Report From Kenya**

## **March 26<sup>th</sup>**

Bro. Ellis,

Happy to write to you and greet you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

I have not heard from you for some time now. But I hope all is well with you and yours. However, it has not been well for me for the last two weeks now. I went to see my doctor on Friday, who after he examined me, told me a different story apart from the high blood pressure and diabetes. He said my heart has grown a bit larger than its normal size, my feet had swollen, and there is a problem with my kidneys which

has caused my feet to swell. There is now a need to take a laboratory tests which will help the doctor to start the treatment of the new problems.

On Sunday (yesterday) I felt somehow better and went to church to worship. In fact I did preach and had no problem throughout the worship period till we completed at 1:30 p.m. On my way back home, I collapsed and dropped down. Bro. Benjamin Ronoh and one new person called Zakariah helped me up and took me home. In fact, it was our plan to go and baptize this man Zakariah at the nearby river (he will be baptized on Tuesday). I think the pressure went up due to

the revelation that I had again developed the other diseases above. Otherwise it was not as bad as it is now.

You have spent much to help me come out of my illness. It is my desire that one day I would write to you to say that I am now better, but the devil is really at it and doesn't want the Lord's work to continue well.

I told the doctor to prepare the report showing the cost then I will send I to you This is not good news. It is very bad.

I hope that soon my health will improve and we, together with other brethren: Bro. Laban, Bro. John Mbithi, and Bro. Situma would travel to Nairobi to renew the church certificate. We are supposed to do that at the end of the month, March 30<sup>th</sup>.

God bless you very much,  
Your brother in Christ,  
Bro. John Kombo

**April 4<sup>th</sup>**

Hello Ellis,

On Saturday I fainted again. I was just at home with my grandchildren who were helping me to feed the chickens which I keep. It was at 4 p.m. when I collapsed and dropped down. My son Charles and my wife Florence rushed me to the nearest clinic from where the nurse referred me to provincial General Hospital (P.G.H.). I stayed there one night and was allowed to go back after the doctor confirmed that the pressure had dropped down.

It was 2:01 when I reached there. My doctor who has been treating me did examine me and gave me the result of the examination which I have attached to this letter along with the one from (P.G.H.). If you can know a good doctor, who can read and perhaps tell you what problems I have as far as my health is concerned.

Because of what happened to me we delayed to go to Nairobi. We are travelling tomorrow, though I still feel so weak, but I'm travelling along with others who will be of great help to me. God willing, I will communicate to you after accomplishing the trip. We are not yet late till it is one month late.

Yours in Christ, Bro. John Kombo

**April 12<sup>th</sup>**

Bro. Ellis,

Happy to greet you in the mighty name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Thank you for praying for me, you and all brethren as you mentioned in your letter.

Right now I am waiting to go and meet Dr. Ogada next week on Monday April 16<sup>th</sup>. I had met him after coming out from Provincial General Hospital (P.G.H.) He gave me this date to see him. He is the only doctor at Nakuru who is specialized for the heart problem. I was told that my heart has grown bigger than its normal size and it's the main cause of the problem I am undergoing. The treatment cost is Ksh. 5,000 (\$50.00) for consultant fee then after I would pay Ksh. 20,000 (\$200.00) to do all the necessary requirements to facilitate the treatments

Yours in Christ, Bro. John Kombo

**ANNUAL MEETING HELD ON April 10<sup>th</sup>**

***(Evangelism Committee, KENYA)***

**AGENDAS:**

- Review of the previous minutes (Machakos)
- The renewal of the church certificate.
- The custodian of the certificate.
- Evangelism reports from all the regions.
- Church projects and development.

The meeting was opened by prayers from Brother, John Mbithi (Machakos)

## Previous Minutes:

Bro. John Mbithi reminded the meeting that Bro. Leonard Mutunga who was previously mentioned and discussed at Machakos meeting is no longer a member of the church and no one, including Bro. Ellis should pay any attention to him or even respond to his letters.

Bro. Laban requested to know whether we all have been following up and doing the work of the Lord as we planned. We should plan to have evangelism meeting from one region to another in order to learn what is happening and the progress of the church in each place. Also, this will assist in knowing each other fully. This time we came to meet at Nakuru because of our Bro. John Kombo's sickness; to meet him and pray together with his family. We could go no further to meeting when Ellis has not sent support.

### **The renewal of the church certificate:**

Already the renewal of the certificate has been done. The receipt will be collected after one month's time. This is from 2017-2018. According to the law of government every registered church should obtain a license to officiate over marriages and ceremonies of their members. The license is given by the office of the Attorney General on payment of Ksh. 27,000=\$267.

We agreed and appointed John Mbithi to be an official representative to do the work.

### **Evangelism Report**

Bro. John Mbithi pointed out that we need to have some speakers for the public meetings which we agreed to do whenever we have regional evangelism meetings. Everyone supported the idea.

Brethren, we should continue to work hard as far as meeting people to teach and restore the new testament of Christ. The unity, peace, and harmony should be upheld all the time that we remain together to serve our Lord Jesus Christ.

## Projects

We all agreed that in future we shall direct that one project per appointed time to be accomplished whenever there is funds available. We now would kindly request our brethren through Bro. Ellis to work out and support Bro. Laban and the congregation at Matundu to put up a church building. Meanwhile that is at Laban's house. Many members feel at home to meet at someone's home, said Laban.

Below are some of the sighted projects, so far as concerned;

- Church building at Matunda.
- Church building at Kola church.
- Poultry keeping at Naivasha church.

Bro. John Kombo said that the Barut congregation is very much grateful and thank the Lord and those brethren who contributed towards the purchasing of the church property for Barut congregation at Nakuru. We were able to go together to see the property of the church. We are happy and appreciate this great achievement for the church in Kenya. This is a good place which would be used in future for conferences. God bless all of you. Next meeting to be held at Kakamega.

Baptisms: Apart from one baptism at Nakuru on April 2<sup>nd</sup> Bro. Zacharia Kimani was baptized. No other was reported to the meeting

God bless all churches of Christ that use one cup,

Attached is a photo after meeting.

## April 18<sup>th</sup>

Dear Bro. Ellis,

Happy to greet you in the Lord Jesus Christ.

On Monday April 16<sup>th</sup> I went to see Dr. Ogada. This is the doctor who treats and deals with health problems like mine. I paid Kshs. 3,000 (\$30.00) for consultation fee. He said it is

true that my heart has grown bigger than its normal size. Therefore there is need for special treatment as soon as possible or else it will cause a major or fatal problem of which the result is death. In order to start the treatment I should pay Kshs. 30,000 = \$300. There are drugs and other things that must be purchased first. So I left without any treatment whatsoever. This is a private doctor, and private doctors everywhere are very expensive. I have always avoided them due to their expensive cost of treatment. Normally, sometime patients with heart problem from Kenya are taken to India for treatment. This costs millions of Kenya shillings. Those who can not afford end up in death.

Bro. Laban is preparing the orphanage report to be sent to Bro. Gerald.

I have attached two pictures taken on the day I was taken to Provincial General Hospital Nakuru.

NB. I still continue taking High Blood Pressure medicines and diabetic medicines. That is to say I am suffering from three different diseases.

Your brother in Christ, Bro. John Kombo

**May 1<sup>st</sup>**

Bro. Ellis,

Happy to write to you and greet you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Also, I wish to update you about my health at present. First, I thank God for His continued care and healing. I have always said that "The doctor treats but God heals" Secondly, I continue to thank you for your financial assistance towards the cost of my illness treatment. I have also been encouraged and faced the situation. I am happy now by hearing from you that Christians at that end are praying for me. As a Christian and like all others we face the sickness and death with hope. When our brethren die in Christ of course we shed tears but with hope, unlike non-Christians who shed hopeless tears.

May, 2018

Last night I read from the scripture, the following two verses: (Philippians 1:21; Hebrews 9:27). Paul's says, "For to me to like is Christ and to die is gain" For Paul to continue living, it would be a benefit for the church because Jesus was living through Paul. "To die is gain" Paul's martyrdom would benefit the cause of Christ in that faithfulness, even to death, would be a testimony to many others (Rev. 2:10; 6:9). To die would also be a gain to Paul, for he would be with the Lord. Hebrews 9:27. The illustration of the physical death of man illustrates what Jesus did on the cross for the salvation of man. As men die once, so He died once. The sacrifice is sufficient because He had to die only once in order to activate the redemption of God for the sins of men (Heb. 10:10, 12, 14).

However, I continue to see Dr. Ogada who is now dealing with the treatment of my heart of which he said it had grown larger than its normal size. I paid him the first fee of Kshs. 15,000 which is equal to \$150. I see him three times a week.

Brother Sadat called me yesterday. He said that he is getting treatments of the wounds that were caused by the beatings he received when he was locked in the cells of police at Dar-es-Salaam. God will help him to recover.

The seasonal rains in most parts of Kenya have caused a lot of havoc. Many lives and properties have been lost. Fortunately we have not received any report of the loss of lives of our fellow brethren; maybe the loss of properties which for sure I personally have not heard.

God bless you very much.

Bro. John Kombo

**May 8<sup>th</sup>**

Dear Ellis

I thank God and Jesus Christ our Lord. I thank Him for life I have till today.

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I have asked myself this questions several times, “Had it not been for your prayers (and many others), really what would have happened to me? Had it not been your financial help, what could I do?” To treat high blood pressure, diabetes, and heart problem or diseases is very, very expensive. To me it is very costly and I could just do nothing and remain there and die and go to be with the lord. I didn’t know that I would be still alive today. Many people in this country have died from the above diseases due to lack of money to pay for the treatments. Yesterday, my neighbor passed on and his body now is in the mortuary at Provincial General Hospital. We have been going to see the doctor together. Now He is no more.

I had preached the gospel about the church of Christ to him. He was a member of SDA (Seventh Day Adventist). He had promised to change to the church of Christ. Too bad he is gone before making the rational decision.

Now, this is what I would like to let you know, the cost of the treatment is always quite unpredictable. Anytime I go to Hospital there is new type of drugs to be purchased. As usual they are very expensive. Also there is always some kind of foods I am told to eat or not to eat, therefore the money you sent got finished. I can’t now tell you for sure how much I would need for the medicines. But whatever you will afford be it \$100 or \$200, please just send it because I am constantly on drugs till when I will be told that it is now ok.

I would appreciate any amount you sent. Other Brethren who are aware of my suffering

could also contribute what they can. Otherwise, “Let the will of God be done”.

Your Brother In Christ, John Kombo

**May 17<sup>th</sup>**

Bro. Ellis,

I have not heard from you for some time now since I sent you the report of the meeting at Nakuru. However you did help me and I really was grateful. I have also heard from Sadat concerning his health. We have been praying for him to get better. Bro. Julius writes to me occasionally to inform me about the church and the situation in Uganda. The latest was about his mother who got lost and was found alive. It was good to hear that.

I went to see the doctor yesterday (Wednesday) for checkup. He told me that I was to undergo some screening for the heart, kidney, and liver. They call it “dialysis”. This is a process to take place three times from now. Every time I go I pay about \$300=30,000 Ksh excluding transport to the hospital. I am so much worried of my health. I thought I would get better soon so that instead of spending money on my health, the money would go to the work of the Lord. I am also worried of Sadat’s health situation now. We wanted to go back to Uganda to help our brethren there. The high blood pressure occurs once after two weeks. I only feel very weak. Sometimes I am sometime unable to walk a long distance. For example, I must pay Ksh. 50 (\$0.50) for a motorcycle to take me to church every Sunday.

Yours in Christ, Bro. John Kombo

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## Report From Uganda

**Feb. 20<sup>th</sup>**

Dear brethren,

Thank you for the articles and scripture you sent to me when I requested. The prospect (the

preacher of the deliverance church), called me and told me on phone that he needs me to go to his home and have him baptized. I still need your help of encouragement and scriptures. We have

this appointment on Friday; please keep this work in your prayers for God to convict him continually until he is baptized.

Thanks you, Bro. Julius

## **Feb. 27<sup>th</sup>**

Our trip was successful. We baptized Bro, Wafula Patrick who has been a denominational preacher. Thank you for the support and the articles you sent to me.

I have received a call from Bro. Philips of Congo congregation telling me that his mother passed away and the burial is on Thursday this week. He needed me to attend the burial but I have no transport and I do not know if you have some money to help me in this trip.

Bro. Julius Wandera

## **Mar. 16<sup>th</sup>**

Bro. Ellis,

The brethren from Congo greeted you. They are doing good. I had no camera to give you some pictures, but they are continuing in the faith, We discussed about the church, how we can grow in number and spiritually, and we planned that at least every year to be having gospel meeting, for both Uganda and Congo. We estimated what it will cost. We found that in order to have annul gospel meeting we need about \$600. The brothers came up with an idea of keeping poultry, that at least every side to keep about 200 birds and this will cost about \$400 of which it will produce about \$1600 in the period of 4 months we should be able to pay transport for the preachers, and feeding and printing materials, and hiring public address systems, etc.

Thanks, Bro. Julius Wandera

## **Mar. 20<sup>th</sup>**

I have received a call from my wife concerning our kid, Ellis Wandera; his school teacher called that he is sick, and that they have taken him to the hospital. I do not know the cause, but please pray for him.

Bro. Julius Wandera

## **Mar. 21<sup>st</sup>**

Thank you for your prayers. I found he is normalizing, but he is under medication for malaria.

Bro. Julius Wandera

## **Apr. 20<sup>th</sup>**

We acknowledge the money you sent to us for the Lord's work. Thank you for the support. Through your efforts souls are evangelized, and the Lord's word is preached. It is my prayer and the prayer of all Christians in Uganda that God reward you abundantly.

This Sunday I received a call from Bro. Andrew that they had one baptism. We need your prayers for Bro. Okumu who was a member of a denomination called Elimu church.

Yours in Christ, Bro. Julius Wandera

## **May 1<sup>st</sup>**

My mom disappeared on Tuesday, last week. She has mental illness. I called some of the brothers to help me with prayers, and through these prayers we recovered her on Sunday after service.

Thank you everyone and I request that you continue to pray for her.

Bro. Julius Wanders

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# Report From Liberia

## February, 2018

Brethren, here are some evangelistic trips that I made in the month of February, 2018.

On February 2nd I went Tubmanburg, Bomi County, to the brethren of the Gbaluasuah Church of Christ. During my stay with the brethren, Bother Michael Momo and I visited 8 weak brothers and sisters and have them encouraged from the topic, "Apostasy", taken from Hebrews 3:12-19. We also visited 3 sick brothers and prayed with them to the Lord so that they will receive good health from our Heavenly Father.

On Sunday, February 4th, I worshipped with brethren and I was given the opportunity to preach. Therefore, I preached on the topic, "A Better Church Begins with Me", from the text of 1 Corinthians 12:20-26.

My second evangelistic trip was taken on February 15, to the brethren of the Kpah Town Church of Christ in Kpah Town, Rivercess County. This trip was taken by me and Brother Emmett Logan.

During this time of our being there, we went into 9 villages and studied with 40 persons on the topic: "How To Become A Christian", taken from John 6:44, 45; Romans 10:13, 14. We worshipped with the brethren on Sunday, February 18, 2018 and I taught during the Bible study on the topic, "The Church", from Matthew 16:13-19.

May God bless you all.

In Christian love, Bro. James A. Suahgba

## March, 2018

My precious greeting comes to you and the brethren in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus, the Christ and hope all of you are doing fine.

In the month of March, I personally studied with 6 non-Christians from the topic of "How to Become A Christian." Taken from the text of Romans 10:9-18.

I also visited 4 weak brethren and 1 sick brother of the congregation. I encouraged the weak brother and prayed with the sick brother.

However, a sister by the name of Janjay Whenyou at the age of 29 was baptized on Sunday, March 18, 2018 after the worship service. She is now member of the Lord's Church in Liberia and is working with the Central Buchanan Congregation in Grand Bassa County. A photo taken during her baptism is sent along this email.

May the Almighty God bless you and all the brethren in the United States of America.

In Christian Love, Bro. James A. Suahgba

## April, 2018

Brother, I made an evangelistic trip to the Gbalasuah Church of Christ in Bomi on March 30-April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2018. Brother Michael Momo and I visited seven weak brethren of the congregation and have them encouraged from the topic. "Is It Right to Stay Away From the Assembly on Sundays?" The text was Heb. 10:25. On Sunday, April 1, I worshipped with the brethren and preached on the topic, "Transformation of Our Life," taken from 2 Cor. 3:12-18. The attendance during this worship was 29.

The second evangelistic trip was taken on April 6-8, 2018 to the Debah Town, Glahyah Section, District # 3 of Grand Bassa County. On April 7 which was Saturday, we put 18 persons together and I conducted a study on the topic, "The Church", taken from the text of Matthew 16:13-18.



On Sunday, April 18, we worshipped together with the baptized converts and some visitors which brought us to the total attendance of 25. During the Bible Study, Brother C. Tero Trokon taught on the topic, “How Can One Become A Christian?” Taken from John 6:42-45.

I preached on the topic, “Let US Obey The Gospel,” taken from the text of 1 Cor. 15:1-4.

Here, after the worship services, 3 persons were baptized and they are:

- Sister Norah Chinchin-Age of 63 years
- Sister Wodoesaykpa Kpue-Age of 70 years
- Sister Te-gril Kpue-Age of 18 years.

This congregation is now called, Debah Town Church of Christ. It has the total membership of 9 brethren.

My third trip was again to this congregation on Saturday, April 14. On Sunday, April 15, we worshipped under some palm trees and we were 15 in attendance. During the Bible study, I taught on the topic, “Why Be In Christ?” from the text of 2 Cor. 5:17-21.

I also preached on the topic, “Which Church Was Established By Christ On Pentecost Day?” Text: Mark 9:1.

My 4th trip was to the same congregation, taken on Saturday, April 21 along with my wife, Ceedy Suahgba. On Sunday, April 22, we worshipped with the Debah Town Church of Christ under the palm trees. I taught on the Bible study, “Self-control,” from Acts 24:25. I preached on the topic, “Unity of The Body, The Church,” from John 17:20-23. The attendance during the worship service was 22.

Enclosed along this letter of report are photos of brethren of the newly established congregation. The minister for this congregation now, is Bro. Morris P. S. Gbadyu.

May the Lord bless you and all the brethren in the United States with all spiritual and physical blessings which are in Jesus, the Christ, our Savior.

In Christian Love,  
Bro. James A. Suahgba

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## *In Loving Memory Of Eunice Bentz*

Sis. Eunice Bentz, born October 5, 1921, passed from this life February 15, 2018, at home where she wanted to be, surrounded by her family. Her 96 year life began at Lathrop, CA, where she was born to Clifton (Dick) Brockman and the former Lilly Traeger. Later that year the family moved to Cohasset, then when she was 8, to Chico where she lived the rest of her life except for a year in Stockton to obtain a teaching credential. She taught high school, then married Levi (Lee) Bentz in June, 1947. They raised their family and dairy-farmed west of Chico. Hard work was the norm and they knew how to make a little go a long way. Lee died in 1982. Eunice continued to fill her summers with gardening and preserving and began quilting in the winter. She generously shared the abundance with family and friends. She is survived by their 6 children: Doug Bentz (Lauralee), Dennis Bentz, Lillian Smith (Eric), Keith Bentz (Joanne), Vernon Bentz and Elvin Bentz (Valerie). She has 14 grandchildren: Ryan Bentz (Emily), Mark Bentz, Bradley Bentz, Janelle Bentz, Garret Smith (Marcela), Matthew Bentz, Kristoffer Bentz (Tina), Victoria Johns (Virgil), Levi Smith (Kayla), Alicia Smith Pabilona (Leal), Melinda Bentz Kringle (James), Zachary Bentz (Lisa), Owen Bentz (Brittany will join the family in March) and Rachel Bentz. They have blessed her with eight great-grandchildren and 2 more are on the way. She is also survived by sister, Neva Adams and

brother Raymond (Juanita) Brockman. Brothers Willie Brockman, Charlie Brockman, and Clifton Brockman, Jr. (Wanda, surviving) predeceased her.

She valued Bible knowledge and education, including practical life skills and encouraged her family in all these areas. She was a member of the church of Christ, being baptized while in High School. She was able to attend services up to the Sunday before she died, having made it a priority in her life along with a daily walk with Christ.

A well-attended graveside service was held at 2:00 pm February 24<sup>th</sup> at Chico Cemetery. Bro. Gerald Brockman officiated.

Editor's Note: Apologies to all that it has been so long on this issue of the paper due to contractors & remodeling at our new house (new to us), etc. Thanks for all the letters and financial help for *The Christian Courier* and the African work.

Because of the volumn of material, no photos are included in this issue of *The Courier*. We will try to include them in the next issue of the paper.

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## Bulletin Board

### Meetings

June 21 - 24, 2018	Waterford, CA	Guest speakers
July 1 - 8, 2018	Gleed, WA	Mike Harcrow & Paul Warford
July 8-12, 15, 2018	Yakima, WA	Guest speakers
July 15 - 22, 2018	Delta Family Camp Meeting	Guest speakers
July 25 - Aug. 1, 2018	Lorenzo, TX	Jim Lamb & Jason Christianson
August 5 - 12, 2018	Glenwood, WA	Larry Wood & Kevin Lamb
Sept. 2 - 5, 2018	Pleasant View, OK	Jim Lamb
Sept. 6 - 9, 2018	Broken Bow, OK	Jim Lamb

### Baptisms

Wafula Patrick	Uganda	Feb. 25, 2018
Joshua Rodriguez	Yuma, AZ	Mar. 16, 2018
Janjay Whenyou	Liberia	Mar. 28, 2018
Zakaria Kimani	Nakuru, Kenya	Apr. 2, 2018
Okumu	Uganda	Apr. 15, 2018
Norah Chinchin	Debah Town, Liberia	Apr. 18, 2018
Wodoesaykpa Kpue	Debah Town, Liberia	Apr. 18, 2018
Te-gril Kpue	Debah Town, Liberia	Apr. 18, 2018
Tammy Legan	Yuma, AZ	May 11, 2018
Ron Widel	Gleed, WA	May 20, 2018
Zhiane Widel	Gleed, WA	May 20, 2018

## Births

Alastir Lynn to Jacob & Anna Fuson	Pleasant View, OK	January 11, 2018
Paisley Lyn to Mike & Jessica McCay	Yakima, WA	January 27, 2018
Magdalene Veda to Matthew & Sarah McCay	Yakima, WA	February 5, 2018
Presley Quinn to Brady & Haley Lamb	Yakima, WA	April 16, 2018

## Passings

Eunics Bentz	Chico, CA	Feb. 15, 2018
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### Prayer of Faith for those in need

John Kombo	Nakuru, Kenya	Diabetes, high blood pressure, enlarged heart
Agrippina Petro	Geita, Tanzania	Hospitalized for miscarriage
Sadat Silvester	Geita, Tanzania	Several injuries caused by torture, and typhoid & malaria
Rehema	Geita, Tanzania	Stomach operation
Brent Berry	Canton, GA	Heart problems
Tony Schell	Cedaredge, CO	Heart irregularities
Debbie Wilkerson	Cedaredge, CO	Fighting cancer & back surgery
Flo Faulkner	Goshen, AR	Passing of her husband
Gary Hooper	Goshen, AR	Possible lung cancer
Carol Bauer	Gleed, WA	Received liver transplant & cancer treatment
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
Gene Boling	Lorenzo, TX	Recovering from fall
Jimmie Loftis	Lorenzo, TX	Fever & weakness
Madeline Nemece	Lorenzo, TX	Radiation for skin cancer
Darrell Chastain	Pleasant View, OK	Kidney stones
Jessica Chastain	Pleasant View, OK	Health issues
Reba Morris	Pleasant View, OK	Lupus & recent surgeries
Retha Morris	Pleasant View, OK	Fighting Parkinson's disease, health issues
Marie Pollan	Ringgold, TX	Recovering from a broken hip
Cinde McCay	Yakima, WA	Fighting Parkinson's & broken hip recovery
Tony Brister	Yuma, AZ	Chemo & fighting cancer
Fred Commings	Yuma, AZ	Congestive heart failure
Harry Davis	Yuma, AZ	Back problems & prostate cancer
Alice Davis	Yuma, AZ	Alzheimer's
Verda Nelson	Yuma, AZ	Knee problems
Iris Stewart	Yuma, AZ	Heart problems

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

**The Christian Courier**  
**309 Monroe**  
**Lorenzo, TX 79343**

