



# The Christian Courier

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## Death's Doorway

Let's study for a short time about death – especially realizing that it is not an end but, as the title indicates, a doorway leading from one place to another. So this article is not just about death, but about the timeline of what to expect from this life to eternity.

There is certainly nothing new to be presented on the subject. Just a reminder meant to encourage and make us think. Psa. 90:12 says: “*So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom.*” That's our goal.

The beginning of the timeline is this life. There is much we can say about this life. In fact, we will say more at the end. But at the beginning what we want to notice is that this life is temporary. 1 Pet. 1:24 compares this life to grass or a flower. “*For all flesh is as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of grass. The grass withereth, and the flower thereof falleth away.*” Psa. 90:10 says: “*The days of our years are threescore years and ten; and if by reason of strength they be fourscore years, yet is their strength labour and sorrow; for it is*

*soon cut off, and we fly away.*” This 70-80 years was not a limit, but an average lifespan at the time, which seems to correspond to our average life expectancy today. Yet neither is it a promise. Eccl. 9:12. “*For man also knoweth not his time: as the fishes that are taken in an evil net, and as the birds that are caught in the snare; so are the sons of men snared in an evil time, when it falleth suddenly upon them.*”

With this life being temporary, something happens to complete and end this life. We know this event as death. In Rom. 5:12, we read that death came into the world by sin. “*Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned:*”

The thing is – death is just as temporary as this life is. It is not a wall that just ends this life. It is a doorway that leads from this grand adventure to something even better, if we are faithful to God.

If you think about it, a door does not stand by itself. It has to be a doorway - mounted by hinges to a structure that supports it. And the

frame that supports the doorway of death is a promise.

We have a promise of life after death. God has promised a resurrection of the dead when Jesus Christ returns. 1 Thes. 4:14-18. *“For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him. For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep. For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord. Wherefore comfort one another with these words.”*

When Christ returns, other things will happen. We read in 2 Pet. 3:10 that the world we live in now will be rendered uninhabited, and uninhabitable. *“But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up.”* Since this world will be burned up, there must be a different destination – more to come after the resurrection.

The first thing to come after the resurrection is the judgment, John 5:25-29. *“Verily, verily, I say unto you, The hour is coming, and now is, when the dead shall hear the voice of the Son of God: and they that hear shall live. For as the Father hath life in himself; so hath he given to the Son to have life in himself; And hath given him authority to execute judgment also, because he is the Son of man. Marvel not at this: for the hour is coming, in the which all that are in the graves shall hear his voice, And shall come forth; they that have done good,*

*unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation.”*

In Matt. 25:46 Jesus concludes a glimpse of judgment with these words. *“And these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal.”*

So notice the characteristics of this timeline:

- This life temporary
- Death temporary
- Resurrection one time event
- Judgment one time event

These lead to eternity, which by definition is forever. And as we read above, eternity has two possible destinations.

One possible destination, which is the one very much desired, is an eternity with God and Jesus in Heaven. We read in Matt. 25:34. *“Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world:”* 1 Pet. 1:4 gives this promise to the faithful. *“To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you,”*

We call the other destination hell. In Matt. 25:41 Jesus warned of the eternity and torment of this destination. *“Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels:”*

Our eternal destination will be determined by this one-time event of Judgment. This one-time Judgment will be based on what we do in this temporary life.

So what are we going to do with this life?

Let’s think about this seriously my friends. Since our eternal destination will be based on judgment of how we live this temporary life, what are we going to do with this life?

2 Pet. 3:11-12. *“Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation*

and godliness, Looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of God, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat?”

We should dedicate this life to living for eternal life, Matt. 6:19-21. *“Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal: For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.”*

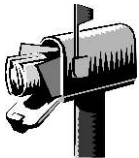
A huge part of what we will be judged on is how we treat people, as we read in the full end of the 25<sup>th</sup> chapter of Matthew (verses 31-46). Are we kind, helpful, and loving? Or not. Jesus reminds us in verse 40. *“And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me.”* So live our lives with the same love Jesus showed us, Eph. 5:2. *“And walk in*

*love, as Christ also hath loved us, and hath given himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweetsmelling savour.”*

Live our lives in faithfulness, faith, and hope. Phil. 1:6. *“Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ.”* 1 Cor. 15:58. *“Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord.”*

In summary, this lesson has been basically a timeline – offered as encouragement. While this life is temporary, so also is death, followed by resurrection and judgment, and an eternal home with God and Jesus Christ in Heaven if we are faithful in this life. Since our eternal destination will be based on judgment of this life, what are we doing with this life?

Offered in the Name of Jesus,  
Bro. Terry Warford



# Cards and Letters

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## Lorenzo, TX

Greetings to all our brothers and sisters,

This has been a strange spring with the spread of Corona Virus-19 and very bad weather with very strong winds, rain and hail.

Bro. Gene and Sis. Angela Boling are back to church after both experienced health problems. Bro. Jimmie Loftis has been getting weaker, and has been unable to go to church services. Leesa Boling went to Waco, TX, to be with Sable and Chloe (who had been in the

hospital). Bro. Evert Forsman has been getting worse, suffering the effects of declining health. Sis. Kim Matlock is recovering from knee surgery and Becky Forsman is scheduled for knee surgery Sept. 21<sup>st</sup>.

Bro. Jerry & Sis. Wynetta McCay recently visited the congregation at Ringgold, TX. They also traveled to Brady, TX, to be with family members. Bro. Ellis Forsman and Bro. Jerry McCay have been assisting Bro. Matt and Sis

Kim Matlock on the restructuring of their house. Bro. Ellis & Sis. Lynell Forsman traveled to Stilwell and listened to some excellent lessons delivered by Bro. Mike Harcrow. During this meeting Dylan Boyles was baptized on September 5<sup>th</sup>.

We were saddened upon hearing of the passing of Sis. Okja Way (May 2<sup>nd</sup>), Sis. Cindy McCay (May 12<sup>th</sup>), and Sis. Doris Ridlon (May 25<sup>th</sup>).

Joseph Matlock and Sarah Rerman announced their engagement; and Sarah celebrated her graduation at Texas Tech

University. Aleisha and Cody Heinzman announced their engagement and plans to wed Sept. 26, 2020..

We are happy to hear of the baptism of Landon Bryant at Glenwood on May 30<sup>th</sup>.

The Lorenzo meeting was July 12-18. The guest speaker was Bro. Eric Harper from Sacramento, CA. Eric's wife Lori accompanied him. It was great having them with us once again.

Yours in Christ from the Lorenzo, TX congregation.

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## Goshen, AR (July 28<sup>th</sup>)

Hello, you all, from Goshen, AR. We're called "Hot Spot" right now, with this virus. So far, we have stayed well, hoping the same for everyone in the church family. Yes, it has been a very rough time. We closed the church last Sunday in March. I couldn't believe it, for the first time since I was 6 years old that the church was closed.

My son, Mark Daniels decided the last part of June to open the church up. The first four Sundays we only had four people, that included my son teaching & Gary Hooper helping in the service. One week ago Venessa Vanderpool got Mark to pick her up. She is only 14, but will come when she can get a ride.

Paul Auslam came last Sunday. They are slowly returning. There are some that have a lot of fear. If God is willing, maybe by September we will have our group back.

The letter and paper made it to my hands June 26<sup>th</sup>. I had no idea that the paper was on the website. I can't use a computer and my son doesn't have a printer, so all I can say right now is send me 5 copies to cut extra mailage & we will share these with each other until they get closer to being half normal, if it ever does. I believe this was worse test of my faith. I wa so glad that Mark said, "Do we serve 'God' or our government? I'm opening church up. The rest can do as they want." So we called all the members to let them know; so they could decide what they felt comfortably doing.

I've got to go, so everyone take care.

In Christian love,

Sis Rachel Daniels Traxler  
20266 Mt. Olive Rd.  
Elkins, AR 72727

Editor's Note: We apologize for the delay of publishing this issue of *The Christian Courier*. Much has been going on that has caused a distraction especially with the effects of the Corona Virus-19 around the world and the flooding in East Africa. Also, there has been a lack of letters from the brethren in the United States.



# News From Abroad

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## Report From Harlingen, TX (May 18<sup>th</sup>)

Appreciated brethren:

I greet fraternally in the name of the Lord Jesus, and desire that you, your family, and brothers and sisters in the church have good health and care of the Lord.

I comment that the virus has caused some problems and two brothers (Matamoros, Mexico and Guatemala) are infected and still continue revival in the hospital.

I had the necessity to suggest to all the brothers that stopped to meet as groups that it was convenient during this time to meet in family groups to study the scriptures and to

celebrate the supper of the Lord in their houses and thank the Lord for not having health problems.

I have contacted all the brothers by telephone to encourage them to continue their Christian life. The evangelists continue working in different places and encouraged them to meet in their homes.

We have the trust of the Lord Jesus that God will take care of you and all Christians.

Thank you for your encouragement and prayers.

Your brother Otto Alvarez

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## Report From Harlingen, TX (June 23<sup>rd</sup>)

Brethren,

It is a pleasure for me to be able to write to you, hoping that all your family and the brethren in the church are in good help. Many thanks for your participation which is important for the preachers of the gospel.

I comment that during these times of the Corona Virus-19 the brothers in all places are only meeting with each family in their own houses. Thanks to the Lord, only one sister in Mexico and two brothers in Guatemala are sick with the virus, but in this moment are in good health.

During this time, I call each day to the brothers to encourage them in the faith and in the confidence in the Lord and also to continue

meeting in their houses. In Guatemala, some brethren are already meeting this way. In Mexico, the brethren still meet in their houses and some groups began to meet locally.

I continue the communication with the evangelists and they continue making the work in the houses of the brothers. I send photos of groups of the brethren meeting in their houses.

Thank you for all your participation with us in the work of the Lord in Mexico, Guatemala, and Colombia.

Thank you for your patience with my English.

Bro. Otto and Sis. Mariella Alvarez.



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## Report From Harlingen, TX (July 31<sup>st</sup>)

Brethren,

I inform you on work among the churches in Mexico, Guatemala, and Colombia.

I comment that during this time of Corona Virus-19 some brothers in these countries had health problems, but thanks to the Lord, at this moment we have good health. Also, during this time, we had the necessity to help with food and some money for poor brothers and sisters for their necessities.

I comment that during this time I had opportunity to visit brethren in Oaxaca, Mexico, in their new building and also baptism in Matamoros, Mexico.

Many brothers still continue meeting in their houses and some meet in the local church

buildings. We have the hope that very soon all the brothers will meet together and continue preaching the Word of God. The evangelists continue visiting the brothers in their houses supporting their continued work in the Christian life.

Thank you for your participation in the salvation of many souls and accomplish with the commandment to go preaching the gospel all over the world.

I hope God will continue to bless you in everything.

Your brother in Christ,  
Evangelists in Spanish

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## Report From Kenya

### (July 19<sup>th</sup>)

The trip to visit Total Junction (Londiani) congregations was good and successful. We left Nakuru early in the morning accompanied with Bro. Robert and my son Charles Nandwa who drove the car we hired as I told you. We did this in accordance to what Paul also instructed Titus *“For this reason I left you in Crete, that you should set in order the things that are lacking and designate elders in every city, as I had charged you”* (Titus 1:5). Titus was to continue those things in the establishment of the Cretan Church that were not in place when Paul left Crete. Bro. Ellis, when you were here you visited many places and established some congregations in Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda. If we cannot make a follow-up, those congregations will die physically and spiritually. But we are pleased to inform you that brethren in this particular place we visited are, so far, doing well as to

what you taught and we taught when we went back is concerned. They are following “One Cup” and breaking of the bread worship. We revisited the “Blueprint for Christ’s Church” and studied the Sanitation in Communion lessons that you had sent to me. I had reprinted for them more lessons and gave a copy to each congregation. Although they said that the lessons are difficult to understand and I should return there again and may translate for them in Swahili.

You may recall that I sent you a picture showing church building under construction. In fact this is the place we visited this time. They had not put up the roof, but now they have finished with roofing. What they requested you to assist them is purchasing of chairs which they don’t have. We could not meet in the building because there were no chairs. We met in Bro. Benjamin’s house instead. Attached to this report are pictures that

we took during our visit. We also prayed for the problem of the great disaster that Coronavirus pandemic has caused worldwide, much more in U.S. This has made the work of Our Lord Jesus Christ to slow down.

God bless you all and your families.

Your brother in Christ, John Kombo

**(Sept. 14<sup>th</sup>)**

Brethren,

I wish to update you on what is going on here in Kenya, as far as Corona virus pandemic is concerned. We get updated every day by the government's ministry of Health. They say it the graph is flattening, that is to say it is going down, and Yesterday 188 new cases out of 3,092 – samples tested are recorded in the last 24 hours. We resumed going to worship together in the church building and all is well. For example yesterday at Barut congregation we recorded about 29 in attendance. Out these, nine were new attendees who are yet to be baptized, but that will be done soon.

As far as other places or regions are concerned, I get information from Bro. Laban and Bro. John Mbithi on weekly basis. They are doing well. In Kakamega, they continued normally because coronavirus was not as bad as in Nairobi, Nakuru, and Mombasa. Laban is working very hard to spread the gospel by holding meetings from time to time. Bro. John Mbithi, together with Bro. Johnstone Muteti, continue well with the Lord's work. The flooding disaster is still bad in Nakuru and Naivasha where Lake Nakuru and Lake Naivasha have broken the banks. Pray for us. Food and other human needs in these places is the biggest problem so far.

Lastly, personally I continue fighting with High Blood Pressure and heart disorder problem. I continue seeing the doctor as instructed.

God bless you all and your families.

Your brother in Christ, John Kombo

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## Report From Kihoto, Kenya

Dear brethren,

Greetings in the name of our lord Jesus Christ.

As we have been telling you about the havoc that the heavy rains have been doing in our country. As we speak now, the Lake Naivasha has flooded and half of the village of Kihoto is in the water. Kihoto Church and the House of

Elder Thomas Situma is also in the waters. We don't know where we will get assistance from, the red cross or not, please we need your prayers,

Thank you,

For Kihoto Church of Christ,

Bro. Wilson Syengo

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## Report From Tanzania

**(Aug. 30<sup>th</sup>)**

Hello everyone. The congregations in Tanzania are doing well. There are increases in

numbers and spiritual growth has been taking place each month. It has been reported that in some places, there is sickness; Sis. Jane and Bro. James of Mpwapwa congregation are sick

three weeks now. They were hospitalized last month for the lack of blood, then discharged and after getting home they have not fully recovered. The Pandemic has destroyed things and brought them down. People were in lock down for so long and by this I mean economically. I believe that not only here in Tanzania but also around the globe.

We have the orphanage that we care for and up to May they were twenty one in number. James and Jackson (twins) died for malnutrition and their mother also died while she was giving birth. They are nineteen in number right now, and it needs more effort and volunteering to help them. Sometimes those that attend to them become discouraged, but some of us are encouraging them to continue helping the kids.

After the Covid-19 got low in Tanzania, we have been doing evangelism in other places. Last week, two of us were invited by Ramadhan. This is my longtime friend even before I met Ellis in 2012. We got the whole family waiting for us. During the teaching, his wife mentioned that one of the Adventist group once told them that it is sinful to eat animals that we keep at our homes, like cows, goat, etc. Because when they eat them it is sinful and that when they dies God will not allow them into heaven. I told them that it isn't true. The apostle Peter when he was in a trance he saw a sheet descending with full of animals and God told him to a rise and eat. *"And he became very hungry, and would have eaten but while they made ready he fell into a trance, and saw heaven opened, and a certain vessel descending unto him, as it had been a great sheet knit at the four corners, and let down to the earth: Wherein were all manner of four - footed beasts of the earth, and wild beasts, and creeping things, and fowls of the air."* (Acts 10:10-12). I went on telling them that there are those forbidding people to eat some food but the Bible denies

them, like the ones we read in (1 Tim. 4: 1-4). Hopefully, Lord willing, these family members and their neighbors will obey the gospel and I'm praying and hope that God will change the hearts of these people that has the Muslim's background to Christianity. Brethren, as I said above, we are growing spiritually but also in number and the only thing we are praying for in our daily basis is to get a place of worship. If the Lord could touch the hearts of individuals who can help us get a place, it will be good and the good God will bless them. We are going into the Spring, starting from September where there will be much rain and when it comes to situations like this, we become uncomfortable. Sometimes it can rain in the morning and so force us to evacuate to a remote place, but all of us can't fit in. We know that the Pandemic has affected every country economically, but we pray that God may provide us with a house of prayer. Most people that we teach ask where we worship. It is hard to direct somebody that we are in a brother's house or under the tree. It's true that the first century Christians worshiped in people's houses, but now days, it is hard to do so because people believe in seeing church buildings. Will we convert them and gather them under the tree or in a house while the number is growing?

We are praying that our God may keep all the loyal believers of the Lord's church away from the Pandemic and now we hear of the hurricane Laura. All these are the calamities that tempt us but we will not fall. God bless you all.

## **(Sept. 12th)**

I'm doing well with my family except that I got a phone call from home that my grandmother's health is terrible. I was told that she is gnashing her tooth and I'm worried that she may die very soon because she is 98 years



old. Please pray for her so that God's will be done.

I would like to tell you this ahead of time. On Oct 10<sup>th</sup> we shall be going to do the church paper work in Dar before the general election in Oct 28<sup>th</sup>. The trip will require us to have \$800. I thought it better to inform you ahead of time.

Lastly, I need to go to see my grandmother. I'm told that she is in a coma. If I can get \$250 it will be good.

Katoro church of Christ, Geita - Tanzania.  
Your brother in Christ, Sadat.

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## Report From Uganda by Jesca Nakiwu (Sept. 11<sup>th</sup>)

Dear brethren,

The walls of the latrine are getting finished. We pray God provides for the remaining money so that we can purchase roofing materials and for finalizing the finishing. Time is running out too fast, that we were given by the district health team.

However, if by God's Mighty abilities you can afford to help with some more funds for food to the child headed families, the elderly and the chronically sick people, please do so because food is becoming a very big problem to such rural poor thus causing some to die of starvation. This is very heart breaking because I do my best to supply to get them free medicines and they lack food to eat before taking medicines!! We are trusting God to make a way to save lives. Amen!!

Today I have received a call from the corn milling manager that our food is ready so we can pick it up if we have the time and balance. As you well know the balance is \$260, I request if you can add to make 300\$ when sending so

that I may have some for gas(fuel) to go pick the food and bring it at the church.

I have told him that we highly appreciate his care and being responsible but am going to give him a feedback after hearing from you!! He is giving me (Jesca) 10kgs free of charge for being a faithful servant to God's rural poor!! Am very humbled with this offer indeed. Am very sure God has given me a special share already for the rest of the food not for me, it is for brothers and sisters in Christ in our region!! Hallelujah..... Amen!!

Thank you so much with all who are contributing to save lives here. We are very much humbled by all your efforts, love, and care. Be blessed always because you're much a blessing to all of us here!!

I will go tomorrow with two Church elders to pay off the balance and to pick up our food so that we bring to our church and share it amongst us all!!

Love you bunches  
Yours in Christ, Sis. Jesca Nakiwu

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## Report From Uganda by Bro. Julius Wandera

(Aug. 1<sup>st</sup>)

My mom is critical ill. She is hospitalized. She is too weak and she has no sign of walking.

I need your help however I am not sure if there is anything in missionary account but I plea that anything at your disposal will be of great help.

In Uganda we are still under lockdown (churches, schools, and public gatherings). The president is expected to open churches in September in his national address, however with strings attached: i.e. churches with qualified preachers at least with theology certificate and registration certificates. I plea for your assistance in registration process. It was initially told you that we have a choice of three ways of registration. I request you to kindly help me with \$500 (registration and transportation) to certify registration process.

Waiting for your response in this great matter.

Yours, Bro. Julius Wandera

When all is done I will send you a copy of the certificate of the church registration.

**(Aug. 30<sup>th</sup>)**

Receive our sincere gratitude and prayers. We are doing well except for a few cases, Sis. Ajiambo Donatina, is admitted to the hospital for throat surgery.

About Covid-19, it's still a threat for Ugandans, death toll is increasing again. We also experienced a number of other calamities i.e. flooding, famine, sickness etc. We have written to you for help and indeed you stood with us. Thanks for the effort.

Church Registration is in process but albeit slow because of Covid-19, but when everything is done I will send you a copy of the certificate. I am going back to registrar's office on Monday (tomorrow).

About evangelism, we do door to door both to our brethren and Christian prospects. We have appointments with one denomination

(freedom church), the topic we are to discuss is worship, Lord supper, and baptism.

We request for this quarter:

\$600 for evangelism, food, and sanitizer for the church.

\$200 Medical help for Sis. Ajiambo.

\$700 to extend our church land. This land is next to our church and if we do not buy it we will have no road to our church because we pass through this plot to our premises.

Thank you.

Bro. Julius Wandera

**(Sept. 9<sup>th</sup>)**

Attached is our registration certificate. Thank you for your help .

Yours, Bro. Julius Wandera



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# Report From Liberia

The speakers and their topics at the Central Buchanan Church of Christ in the month of June through August are as follows:

June 7, "Have Faith in Christ", Bro. Emmett Logan; June 14, "Why There Are Many Denominations". Bro. James A. Suahgba; June 21, "The Owner Cares", Bro. James A. Suahgba; June 28, "Are You Looking Without Christ?", Bro. Emmett Logan; July 5, "There is Something Remained", Bro. David Robert; July 12, "Have Met Jesus?", Bro. David Robert; July 19, "Be Re-connected", Bro. David Robert; July 26, "Ask Yourself", Bro. Emmett Logan; Aug. 2, "Christ's Power", Bro. James A. Suahgba; Aug. 9, "How Can One Have Salvation?", Bro. James A. Suahgba; Aug. 16, "Don't Hide It", Bro. David Robert; Aug. 23, "God Knows The True Worshipers", Bro. David Robert; Aug. 30, "What Is Your Choice", Bro. Emmett Logan.

## June Report

My greeting comes to all the brethren in the precious name of our Savior Jesus Christ and hope all of you are good in health through our Divine Protector, the Almighty God. Thank you Brother, I would like to tell you thank you very much for sending me a donation for our evangelistic work for the Lord.

My dear brethren, since the Covid-19 break out in Liberia, we are facing a lot of restrictions and high cost of living. Due to this, I have not been going from congregation to congregation, however, I have started this month of July. However, Bro. Emmett and I did community evangelism and was able to convert one lady and man, and they were baptized on June 25, 2020. They are:

- Elizabeth James-42 year old
- Abraham Joseph -54 years old

They are members of the body of Christ, the church. The Central Buchanan Church of Christ is effectively growing in all services of the ministry of Christ, together with other congregations in the Republic of Liberia.

Now, Bro. Emmett and I have decided to go through the process of going from congregation to congregation and edify the brethren. Therefore, please remember him and help him to stand firm with me in the ministry.

May God richly bless you in all your good efforts for the growth of all the churches of Christ in Liberia.

In Christian love,  
Brother Suahgba

## July Report

Dear Brethren,

My heartfelt greetings to all the brethren and hope the Lord is with all of you as you go through His divine protection from the Corona Virus.

Brother, though we are under restriction due to the Corona Virus, the Lord is with us and I have started going from congregation to congregation in order to edify the brethren that are with us in the truth, the whole oracle of God.

Therefore, on Sunday, July 12, Bro. Emmett Logan and I went to the brethren of the Dehbar Town Church and I did the Bible study teaching on the topic, "The Fulfillment of the Old Testament." Text: Mathew 5:17,18, Luke 24:44, 45.

Here, Brother Emmett preached on the topic, "Who Did You Choose?" This was taken from the text of Joshua 24:15-20. He also conducted the Lord's Supper while I also did the song leading. The worship attendance was 40.

I would like to take this time to remind you please, about the minister of ELWA Road Church of Christ in Monrovia by the name of Bro. Jonah Y. Dors. He is very sick. In the hospital he was tested and told that he is infected with Malaria and Typhoid Fever, but does not have money required to go under medication. The total amount required is \$275.00. He is still sick and needs to be treated. Through your assistance, which I appeal that you please do it for him.

Thank you very much for your consideration in Christly love. May the Lord bless you and the brethren in the United States.

In Christian love,  
Bro. Suahgba

## August Report

Dear Brethren,,

I am greeting you in the precious and holy name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and hope almost all of you are doing well.

Brethren, the Corona Virus is still in action in Liberia and suddenly people are dying in almost every county including the Grand Bassa County where we are. However, none of our

brethren have encountered this virus yet, but others are seriously sick from different diseases.

Because of this virus in Liberia, we are now living under a high cost of living. The price of every commodity is high and has brought a great suffering on many of us in Liberia. However in this condition, we would appreciate any assistance from you and the brethren that will help with needs of most of our brethren in need.

The Dehbar Town Church of Christ is planning a Gospel Meetings which will be held in December of this year, 2020. All congregations of the Lord's church in Liberia will get together for the gospel meetings. I will send you the schedule this week. I am also due to meet the ELWA Road Church of Christ on Sunday, September 6. [Editor's note: They have asked Bro. Ellis several times to come, but he has to choose between the cost of going and assistance for food & medicine in several countries. Please pray with us about this.]

May God bless all the brethren.

In Christian Love,  
Bro. Suahgba

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## In Loving Memory of Cynthia McCay



Cinde McCay, 70, finished her long battle with Parkinson's Disease at home with family in Yakima on May 12, 2020. Cynthia

Louise Meek was born February 18, 1950 to George and Louise (Beard) Meek in Yakima, WA. The family moved to Courtland, CA when she was five and she grew up there, returning to Yakima as a teenager. She met Bill

McCay Jr. at Davis H.S. and they married four years later in 1970. Bill III was born the next year followed by Christy the year after.

Cinde was very creative and loved making the world a little more beautiful and interesting. To her, everything was better with a little creativity, embellishment and panache. She made jewelry, quilted, and created scrapbooks. She was a devoted wife, mother, grandmother and aunt, making sure the kids around her knew they were loved and appreciated. When her children finished high school, she resumed her education after a 20-year break, completing her

A.A. degree at Yakima Valley College and then joined her son and daughter at Central Washington University, earning a degree in Education. She continued graduate work, earning a M.Ed. at Heritage University. Cinde was a teacher in the East Valley School District for 18 years, retiring in 2011.

Cinde was a faithful member of the Ahtanum Church of Christ for over 50 years and her faith showed in her actions, her concern and care for others, always encouraging and lending help. It also helped her deal courageously with a 27-year battle with Parkinson's. She was special, loved by all who knew her and she will be missed. One of the few goals that she did not reach in life was to make it to July 11, 2020, when she and Bill would have celebrated their 50 years of marriage together. We are all comforted knowing that she is finally at peace.

Cinde is survived by her husband Bill, son Bill McCay III (Stefanie), daughter Christy McCay-Lovell (Tim), grandchildren,

Samuel and Elise, step-grandchildren, Samantha Carroll (Rob), Katrina, and Brooklyn; brothers Charles Wilson (Leslie), Kris Meek (Marta) and Colton Meek (Julie); brothers and sisters in law who helped with her care, Michael McCay (Kay) and Teri Walsh (Rick); step great-granddaughter Audrey Carroll and numerous loving nieces, nephews, cousins and friends. Cinde was preceded in death by her parents George and Louise Meek.

Cinde was a collector of recipes, stories, and quotes that she would record in notebooks she kept close. One of the last entries she made is a fitting last statement of encouragement to her family and friends: "If ever there is a tomorrow when we're not together, there is something you must always remember. You are braver than you believe, stronger than you seem, and smarter than you think. But the most important thing is, even if we're apart, I'll always be with you." Winnie the Pooh (A.A. Milne).

Cynthia will be missed by all.

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## In Loving Memory of Okja Way

It is with a sad heart that we are announcing the passing of Okja Way on May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2020. Those who knew her well remember the stories from her childhood growing up in Korea where she endured the hardships of the Korean War, losing her brother, home and family business to that conflict. Some years after the war, she met the love of her life, Al Way, while he was stationed there with the US Army. They were married in Korea in 1962. Al had to return home from deployment while Okja stayed behind. Their twin girls, Tammy & Tayna, were born in 1964 during this time of separation. At the appointed time, she packed up her two infant daughters and headed to a

land she knew nothing about, a culture that was as different from hers as it could possibly be. She taught herself to speak, read, and write English and became a naturalized citizen in a very short time. Their son, Alfred III was born nine years after the girls.

The Ways were introduced to the Gospel of Jesus Christ by some faithful brothers and sisters, and they were both baptized in 1966. They were very strong, zealous Christians and they imparted their love for the Lord to all who knew them. They traveled about the country for many summers holding Gospel meetings and fellowshiping with the Lord's church. It's what they loved. I was fortunate enough to

grow up across the street from the Ways, and remember Okja very fondly as someone who always worked very hard, cared for her family, and was a good example of what a Christian should be.

She is survived by her daughters Tammy (Mark) Perigen, Tayna (Martin) Brockman,

Alfred Way III, as well as many grandchildren & great grandchildren.

We will miss her dearly, but she is where she is meant to be; at home with the Lord and the love of her life. We look forward to seeing them both again one day.

## In Loving Memory of Velma Doris Ridlon



Velma Doris Ridlon, 90, of Jasper, GA, was born on May 8, 1930 and passed away on May 26, 2020. She was married to Frank Joseph Ridlon on Nov. 25<sup>th</sup>, 1975.

Doris was a faithful member of the church of Christ for a long time, having been baptized on Feb. 28, 1954.

Doris loved the Lord and the church. She often planned vacations around church meetings and church camps. She raised all her kids in the church. This was so important to her that she drove a car and a U-Haul to move from

Aztec, NM, to Yakima, WA, so her kids could be close to other kids in the church.

She loved playing games especially Cards and dominoes. She also enjoyed reading, making potato soup, crocheting, and exotic birds. Aside from God, she mostly loved family, especially the grand babies.

She was survived by 3 sons, Wade Brackett (Vickey), Ronnie Brackett (Diane), and Roy (Skip) Berry (Pam); 2 daughters, Darleen Austin (Nathan), and Nancy Shelly; 2 step-children, Pamela Howlett (Gary), and Kenneth Ridlon (Sandy); 26 Grandchildren; 47 Great Grandchildren; and 3 Great, Great Grandchildren. She also leaves 1 sister, Flora Bixler.

## Bulletin Board

### Meetings

Tentative Nov. 6-8, 2020	Broken Bow, OK	Guest speakers
Tentative Mar. 7-14, 2021	Yuma, AZ	Guest speakers
July, 2021	Delta Family Camp Meeting	Guest speakers

### Passings

Okja Way	Oakdale, CA	May 2, 2020
Cynthia McCay	Yakima, WA	May 12, 2020
Velma Doris Ridlon	Jasper, GA	May 26, 2020



# Baptisms

Landon Bryant	Glenwood, WA	May 30, 2020
Elizabeth James	Central Buchanan, Liberia	June 25, 2020
Sbraham Joseph	Central Buchanan, Liberia	June 25, 2020

## Prayer of Faith for those in need

John Kombo	Nakuru, Kenya	Diabetes, high blood pressure, enlarged heart
Jonah Dors	Elwa, Liberia	Malaria & Typhoid Fever
Wilkister Silvester	Gaita, Tanzania	Malaria
Agrippina Silvester	Gaita, Tanzania	Severe back problems
James	Mpwapwa, Tanzania	Hospitalized with lack of blood
Sadat's grandmother	Tanzania	In a coma
Julius Kachege	Shirati, Tanzania	Malaria
Ajiambo Donatina	Uganda	Throat surgery
Julius Wandera's mother	Uganda	Hospitalized, age related
Linda Camp	Broken Bow, OK	Cancer
Vicki Camp Perrin	Broken Bow, OK	Cancer
Carolyn Queen	Broken Bow, OK	Back pain
Brent Berry	Canton, GA	Heart problems
Tony Schell	Cedaredge, CO	Heart irregularities
Debbie Wilkerson	Cedaredge, CO	Fighting cancer
Billy Martin	Citrus City, AZ	Fighting cancer
Mike Wilcher	Citrus City, AZ	Fighting cancer
Carol Bauer	Gleed, WA	Cancer treatment
Pauline Holloway	Gleed, WA	Uterine & cervical cancer
Ilene Thrush	Gleed, WA	Several strokes & heart issues
Rachel Daniels	Goshen, AR	Broken Heart Syndrome
Otto & Mariella Alvarez	Harlingen, TX	Dangerous travel, Otto - Pacemaker installed
Gene Boling	Lorenzo, TX	Health problems
Angela Boling	Lorenzo, TX	Health problems
Becky Forsman	Lorenzo, TX	Needing knee surgery
Evart Forsman	Lorenzo, TX	Declining health
Jimmie Loftis	Lorenzo, TX	Declining health
Kim Mattlock	Lorenzo, TX	Recovering from knee surgery
Jessica Chastain	Pleasant View, OK	Health issues
Reba Morris	Pleasant View, OK	Lupus
Russell Morris	Pleasant Viw, OK	Effects of stroke
Retha Morris	Pleasant View, OK	Fighting Parkinson's disease
Darletta Spencer	Pleasant View, OK	Fighting cancer, MRSA infection
Hal Spencer	Pleasant View, OK	Heart attack
Tony Brister	Yuma, AZ	Chemo & fighting cancer
Fred Commings	Yuma, AZ	Congestive heart failure

All of those in Africa that fight malaria, effects of severe flooding, & other maladies continually. All those who are aging or in nursing homes, as well as all who are fighting Corona Virus-19, or are isolated.

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

