

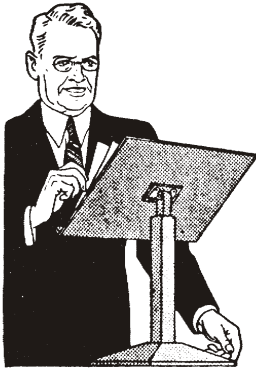


# The Christian Courier

September, 2009

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## Preaching The Word



In all of the New Testament there is nothing of greater importance than preaching the word of God. Jesus commanded his apostles to “...preach the gospel to every creature.” (Mark 16:15).

This command was transmitted down through those whom the apostles taught; “...teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you...” (Matt 28:20). It is obvious whom the Lord expected would spread the gospel by preaching — thus his command.

It was by means of this preaching that the church was established and was quickly spread

through all of the middle-eastern lands and the Greco-Roman world of the first century.

### Preaching In The Church

Following the establishment of the church on Pentecost, another situation arose demanding the attention of the apostles. The church was to be edified. What was the will of God concerning this matter?

1. Who was to do this teaching?
2. What was to be taught?

### Elders Are to Teach

Paul instructs us that the burden of edifying the church is placed on the elders of each congregation. To the elders of the Ephesian church, he instructed, “Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood.” (Acts 20:28). No more

important task is laid out in the New Testament than this. To all who aspire to serve in the capacity of an elder, it must be remembered that you must be able to teach and upbuild the flock of God.

Peter further instructs the elders in their duties, as follows: *“The elders which are among you I exhort, who am also an elder, ...feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind: neither as being lords over God’s heritage, but being ensamples unto the flock.”* (1 Pet. 5:2).

One thing that we should notice from this verse is that elders are to be shepherds, out in front leading the flock, not following. Look at a real life shepherd: he leads the flock, never follows it. Even the shepherd dogs follow his bidding. One never doubts who is in charge.

## Not Elders Only

Not only elders are to teach, but also those who take upon themselves the work of evangelists, as Paul instructs Timothy. *“Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all long-suffering and doctrine.”* (2 Tim. 4:2).

Timothy was a young preacher who was converted to Christianity by Paul who took him under his wing and guided him through his formative years in the gospel. To Titus also, who was a protégé of Paul in the work of the gospel, he writes: *“...speak thou the things that become sound doctrine...”* (Tit. 2:1).

Also, *“In all things shewing thyself a pattern of good works: in doctrine shewing uncorruptness, gravity, sincerity, Sound speech that cannot be condemned...”* (Tit. 2:7-8).

## Faithful Men

Timothy was instructed to pass along the burden of preaching the word to others of like mind. *“Thou therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also.”* (2 Tim. 2:1-2).

The word provides spiritual nourishment to the hearers. *“If thou put the brethren in remembrance of these things, thou shalt be a good minister of Jesus Christ, nourished up in the words of faith and of good doctrine...”* (1 Tim. 4:6).

The benefits of preaching are mutual. *“Take heed unto thyself, and unto the doctrine; continue in them: for in doing this thou shalt both save thyself, and them that hear thee.”* (1 Tim. 4:16).

The qualifications for this important work are men who are faithful and have the ability to teach others. How often have we seen men appointed to this important task, totally unqualified and unprepared to teach! We should offer opportunities for aspiring men to be trained before putting them in the pulpit to teach the church.

I should note here that occasionally a young man comes along who seems to fit right in, having the ability to teach, along with a grasp of the doctrine of Christ. This is commendable and he should be encouraged in his efforts under the tutelage of the elders. We need more Timothy’s and Titus’s!

## A Warning

But we are cautioned of darker things in prospect. Jesus first raised the flag of warning while teaching among men. *“Beware of false*

*prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves. Ye shall know them by their fruits.*" (Matt. 7:15-16).

Throughout the writings of the apostles, we are warned that there will be men who will approach the church, purporting to be teachers of God's word, but who in reality seek to subvert believers as they can. *"Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers...For I know this, that after my departing shall grievous wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock."* (Acts 20:28-29).

Sad to say, not only those who "enter in" will disturb the believers and deceive some, but there will be those who arise from within who will do immense harm to the unity of the church. *"Also of your own selves shall men arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away disciples after them."* (Acts 20:30).

In a prophetic statement, Peter foretold of teachers of this sort. *"But there were false prophets, also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction."* (2 Pet. 2:1).

There will be all sorts of "heresies" taught, up to and including the ultimate heresy, denying our Lord.

## **Many Will Follow**

We should not be surprised that many will follow teachers of this sort for we have been warned: *"And many shall follow their pernicious ways; by reason of whom the way of truth shall be evil spoken of. And through covetousness shall they with feigned words make merchandise of you..."* (2 Pet. 2:2-3).

Paul was concerned about the spiritual condition of the saints at Galatia when he wrote the following. *"I marvel that ye are so soon removed from him that called you into the grace of Christ unto another gospel. Which is not another; but there be some that trouble you, and would pervert the gospel of Christ."* (Gal. 1:6-7).

Not all gospel perversions are the products of the false teachers themselves, but some arise because of the members' dissatisfaction with the truth and desire to hear other things, such as described by Paul. Urging Timothy to *"...preach the word...reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine"*, he continued, *"For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables."* (2 Tim. 4:2-4).

## **Our Duty**

The question which confronts the church today is how to deal with such teachers. How do we deal with situations of this sort? The Bible does not leave us unequipped in these cases. Jesus dealt with a similar situation during his earthly ministry when He taught, *"...beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and of the Sadducees? Then understood they how that he bade them not beware of the leaven of bread, but of the doctrine of the Pharisees and of the Sadducees."* (Matt. 16:11-12). The meaning is clear; be alert, be cautious, do not accept everything that is taught.

Paul commanded Timothy to *"...charge some that they teach no other doctrine, Neither give heed to fables and endless genealogies, which minister questions, rather than godly edifying which is in faith: so do."* (1 Tim. 1:3-4).

## Exercise Judgment

We are to put all such teachers on trial and exercise judgment according to God's word. I realize that there are many who are reluctant to pass judgment on others, but in the case of teachers and preachers we are commanded to do just that! "*Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits*" ("prove", Vine) *whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world.*" (1 John 4:1).

Jesus warned "...ye shall know them by their fruits". Following the lead of the Lord, Paul teaches "*If any man teach otherwise, and consent not to wholesome words, even the words of our Lord Jesus, and to the doctrine which is according to godliness; He is proud, knowing nothing...from such withdraw thyself.*" (1 Tim. 6:1-5).

We are not to be influenced by variant doctrines and philosophies advanced by men. "*That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive.*" (Eph. 4:14).

## Mark Them

We are to identify such teachers and be aware of their activities. "*Now I beseech you, brethren, mark them which cause divisions and offences contrary to the doctrine which ye have received; and avoid them.*" (Rom. 16:17). The reason for this is obvious. "*For they that are such serve not our Lord Jesus Christ, but their own belly; and by good words and fair speeches deceive the hearts of the simple.*" (Vs. 18).

## The Proper Course

The question today seems to be "can we allow such to participate in the public work of the church?" If an unknown person comes amongst us, we should "*try*" him; put him to the test of God's word. This is not unkind, but is in keeping with God's word. We should determine if he advocates teachings and practices at variance with scripture and act accordingly.

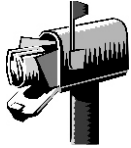
We are admonished to be aware of those who labour among us. "*...we exhort you, brethren, to know them which labour among you, and are over you in the Lord, and admonish you.*" (1 Thess. 5:12). The meaning of "*to know*" is "*to be aware, consider...be sure*" (Strong #1492). The implication is clear: we must be certain of who we place in position to exercise control by preaching in the congregations.

Several years ago when there was a disturbance in the church where I was worshipping, a brother advocating a teaching that was clearly at variance with scriptures stated that no-one could be prevented for any reason from preaching in public. This is absolutely not true. The church has every right to prevent false teaching from its pulpit, and will be called to account if it is allowed. By exercising their duties as overseers of the flock, the elders and leaders should examine all aspiring teachers and reject all who do not measure up to the standard of the scriptures.

How many times have we seen those in charge of the flock fail in their duties to "*try the spirits*" only to see the dreadful results of digression!

My prayer is that all who remain true to God's word will be diligent to honor only those who stand the "test" and measure up to the standard of scripture.

Yours in His service, J D Logan.



# Cards and Letters

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## Alamogordo, NM

The church of Christ in Alamogordo, New Mexico, meets at 9:00 a.m. at 1907 Bellamah Dr. Contact is Dale Lindley (575-649-5724). Please call in advance as we sometimes visit other churches of Christ out of the area.

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## Broken Bow, OK

Hello!

The congregation at Broken Bow would like to send a few lines to let everyone know how things are going. We are doing well for the most part. Cooler weather has made for a nice beginning to our fall and the rain has certainly proved to be a blessing for those of us in need of winter hay. We are looking forward to visiting with many of our friends during Broken Bow's fall weekend meeting scheduled for November 13-15. Everyone is invited to attend and enjoy the fellowship, singing, and above all- listening to God's Word.

We would also like to take this opportunity to comment on the Cypress Lake Camp Meeting this year. The death of our beloved Sister Brenda Treat was certainly difficult for all. The love and concern shown by our brothers and sisters in Christ was comforting and helped to lift our heavy hearts. We would sincerely like to express our thanks to everyone attending and all those who helped to make the meeting a success. It was Sister Brenda's desire to see the Cypress Lake facility used to promote the gospel. Lord

willing, we will continue making her wishes a reality in the coming years.

Our congregation has experienced several health concerns and scares recently. Brother Michael Rogers, Bro. Jesse Phipps, and Jesse's girlfriend Jessie Holleman was in a traffic accident which flipped their vehicle three times. Jesse was thrown from the vehicle resulting in a broken arm and broken tailbone. Michael and Jessie received cuts and bruises. All are recovering and hope to be back to normal soon. Sister Sherry Hendon had to undergo medical testing to determine the cause of some physical discomfort she was experiencing. The source was found and she has been doing better in recent weeks. Bro. Doug Ferguson had stints implanted earlier to increase blood flow to his lower legs. His last checkup revealed that the stints were in fact working and all was better. Sis. Rita Queen has had several health issues recently. She spent several days at M.D. Anderson Medical Center in Houston for surgery to remove an area thought to contain cancer. The surgery went well, but after returning home she experienced a heart attack which revealed two blockages. A stint was inserted to open the 100% blockage, with surgery to correct the 85% blockage scheduled for a later date. After being released from the hospital, the implanted stint collapsed causing her to experience another heart attack. She is home again and hopefully will continue to recovery from these health concerns. Please keep our congregation in you prayers, especially those with health needs.

During the hot days of summer, the congregation took the children on a short outing to the Magic Springs/Crystal Falls theme park in Hot Springs, AR. The day was enjoyed by Casey, Joyce and Casey Wayne Dover, George, Tammy, Jesse, Michael, Sara, and Rose Phipps, Phyllis Ferguson, Julie, Claire, Lily, and Drew Fogg, Ashlin, Tiffany, and Kayla Kennedy, Melissa, Michayla, and Micah Harcrow, and Chelsea Fuller. A few days after returning, the congregation received complementary free tickets for the entire group to attend again. Needless to say, the kids are excited!

In closing, we extend a warm welcome to anyone traveling in the area to stop by for a visit and attend services Sunday mornings at 10:00 and Sunday evenings at 6:00. We also look forward to seeing those able to attend our November weekend meeting. Until HIS Coming, let us all keep our eyes on the ultimate prize in Christ Jesus!

Sincerely,  
The Costilow Street Church of Christ  
Broken Bow, OK

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## Clinton, NJ

Dear brothers & sisters,

Hello to all of you. I pray that all of you are well physically and spiritually. This is probably going to be a different type of letter than you are used to. I was born into a church of Christ family in La Habra, CA. When I was 7 years old, my family moved to Arkansas where we then attended the church of Christ in Goshen, AR. I was baptized when I was 13 years old, and I am now 33. Currently, I am incarcerated in prison; however, my spirit isn't confined. Our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, is with me every single day.

Every month my family send me *The Christian Courier* and lessons that they have; and I appreciate them very much. Even as a little

girl, I remember reading *The Courier*. So much has changed since then, but God's love for us never changes. I am writing to *The Courier* and everyone because I need prayers. I've been back-sliding for far too long, but am trying to do the best I can to do right by God. Upon my release I plan on becoming an active member of the church of Christ again. God bless you all, and I pray for all of you every day. Please keep me in your prayers. If anyone could send me any type of literature it will be greatly appreciated. It will not only be learned from, but shared with others, as well.

Your sister in Christ,  
Ericka Ferguson  
P. O. Box 4004  
#613783 / Stowe – 2 South  
Clinton, NJ 08809

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## Goshen, AR

Just a note to the brotherhood. Hope that everyone is feeling much better with fall temperatures here in Arkansas. Maybe spirits will lift.

We have enjoyed a good summer back here, but sickness doesn't take a vacation. Bro. Marvin Daniels has lost ground and Melvin, his brother, is much worse than 6 months ago.

Bro. Seranto has lost sight in one eye due to an accident during a CT Scan with some type of dye that got into his eye. Scary, you go for CT Scan and you come out blind in one eye. Sis. Burkhart is still in a lot of back pain. We need prayers for all the brothers and sisters, but don't we all need to remember each other in our prayers, sickness or not. We need the love and care of our brothers and sisters.

Now on a happier note: Our son, Mark Daniels, and his girlfriend, Anaiya Eoff, were married August 7<sup>th</sup> after 15 month's engagement. They had a beautiful wedding and reception at

the Fayetteville Town Center. They enjoyed around 75 friends, family, and brothers & sisters in Christ, who helped them celebrate their marriage. Bro. Paul Auslam performed the marriage ceremony. They enjoyed 5 days & 5 nights in Jamaica before making their home in Fayetteville. Cards & gifts can be sent to:

Mr. & Mrs. Mark Daniels  
93 North Lapis Ln, # 4  
Fayetteville, AR 72701

Sent by a mean ole thing – a mother-in-law,  
Rachel Daniels  
Elkins, AR

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## Harlingen, TX (April, 2009)

Dear brethren in Christ,

Thanks for your prayers and your fellowship with me in this work of the Lord Jesus Christ.

*“I thank my God upon every remembrance of you, Always in every prayer of mine for you all making request with joy, For your fellowship in the gospel from the first day until now;”* (Phil. 1:3-5).

We wish to express our gratefulness for your fellowship in the predication work of the gospel in Mexico and Guatemala. This work each day is more difficult because most of the people have little interest in spiritual things and the truth. But the Lord always has open doors so that some sincere people listen to God’s truth and are converted to be Christians. This is work that we make each day and the help you give is very important to collaborate with the brothers that preach the gospel in these areas.

I comment that during this month we had much work in different areas of Mexico with the collaboration of some evangelists:

Home Bible studies with different people in Matamoros, Mexico.

Home Bible studies in Vallehermoso, Mexico, and establishment of a new congregation.

Home Bible studies in Brownsville, TX, and one baptism.

The evangelists of Southern and Central Mexico inform us that the churches in those areas continue firm in the truth.

The brothers in Guatemala City, Patzite, and Zacapa inform us that the brothers continue in the truth.



Also, the brothers in the area of the mountains of Quiche, Guatemala, met the last month in Patzite to preach the gospel for 3 days in that area.

The brothers in these areas need Bibles in Quiche language; would that we could help so that these brothers have Bibles.

I have plans to travel to Southern Mexico and Guatemala from May 11<sup>th</sup>.

*“And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. ... The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.”* (1 Thess. 5:23, 28).

Your brother in Christ  
Otto Alvarez  
P. O. Box 532514  
Harlingen, TX 78553

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## Harlingen, TX (June, 2009)

Appreciated brothers in Christ Jesus:

I send a sincere greeting and I have the hope that the Lord Jesus Christ sends benediction to all faithful brothers in the congregations.

Thank you very much for the help and participation of your work of the Lord in these areas of Mexico and Guatemala. I inform you that from May 9-25 that I traveled to visit some churches in Southern Mexico and Northern Guatemala.



During this time I also studied the scriptures with a group of religious people that had interest in the truth, and that during some time I am sending information of the scriptures. Several of the people (3) obeyed the gospel and were baptized, and a new congregation was established in San Fco in Northern Guatemala. The evangelists of those areas continued working with these new brothers.

In Southern Mexico (State of Chiapas) were gathered brothers of several congregations and I studied with them during two days to encourage and confirm them in the truth.

In Northern Guatemala we had a one-day meeting with several evangelist brothers to study and prepare for continued work in those areas.

In some congregations I encountered some problems, and we studied the scriptures and I think that the brothers can solve these things.

In general, the churches in these areas continue firm in the truth of the scriptures, and I am making plans during July or August for a return visit of the churches in Central Guatemala and Salvador.

I comment that the churches in Central and North Mexico also continue firm, and I continue working with the collaboration of several evangelists with the purpose of establishing new places for the predication of the gospel.

I send photos of some baptisms and new congregation.

For more information, please write:

Church of Christ  
P. O. Box 532514  
Harlingen, TX 78553  
Your brother in Christ,  
Otto Alvarez

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## Harlingen, TX (August, 2009)

Dear brethren:

We hope that on receiving this letter you are enjoying all the rich blessings of God. We are very thankful for your fellowship with me in this work of the Lord Jesus Christ.

I inform you that during July we traveled to visit some churches in Mexico and Guatemala and the Lord helped me to preach the truth and to help the churches.

In Arriaga in Southern Mexico the church there disintegrated for two years because some brothers accepted doctrines mistakenly from some religious people, but thanks be to the Lord the brothers recognized the mistake and again the church was returned faithfully.

In the area of Tonalá City a new church was established with a family that during some years lived in another area of Mexico. These brothers are very animated to evangelize that place and I believe that the work of the Lord will grow in the area.



Also, in Green River City we continue studying with several families and now 4 people were baptized and the church continues to grow in that area. In this place we have some problems for the meeting and the brothers have plans to build a small local building for meeting (they can build it), but we need to buy a small lot. Would that you could help us with a little money for this need.



In Guatemala I visited some churches to encourage the brothers and also to make new contacts. The Lord helped me because in the area of Peten a family obeyed the gospel and a new congregation was started in their house.

The Lord opened more doors in other areas and I have the confidence that the church will continue extended with the work of the brothers in those areas and the participation of you.

Again, I thank in the name of the Lord Jesus to inform you of these novelties in the work of the Lord. Continue praying for this work.

Evangelists of Mexico and Guatemala

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## Gleed, WA

Greetings to all our sisters and brothers in Christ.

It has been a busy summer for us. We traveled to Arizona for the Yuma meeting this spring for

our first visit there. We enjoyed the great fellowship during the day and good lessons from the word of God in the evenings. When we returned to our home congregation in Gleed the plans and work had begun for our meeting in July with Bro. Eric Harper and his family. We want to thank all the brethren who attended our meeting and helped to make it a very successful, and thanks to Bro. Eric for all of his good sermons and his efforts to teach of the Word of God. All were edified spiritually and we had one baptized into the body of Christ, Tristin Bryant, from Lorenzo, TX.

We need to pray for all those who need prayers to help them return to their natural health and strength. Many of us here seem to continue with different health issues; back pain seems to be a common area for some of us including Sis. Felica Geho who has been unable to work now for several months, Sis. Betty McKinney continues to have back pain and also ask to be remembered in your prayers. Sis. Ola McKinney is healing nicely from her fractured pelvic and she had a bout with her left eye but is healing well. We are asking prayers for Sis. Carol Bauer, she had surgery Sept. 14, 2009 and had her adrenal gland removed and a biopsy of her liver. She will be going back in for more surgery in six to eight weeks to remove her kidney and maybe her spleen.

Our love and prayers go out to the family of Sis. Willie Davis; it hurts to have a loved one pass, but we believe she has gone on to receive her heavenly reward.

May God guide, guard and protect each and all,

John and Betty McKinney,  
Gleed, WA, Church of Christ

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## Hillsboro, OR

Hello,

My name is Katie Beardall from the Hillsboro, OR Church of Christ. It has been a while since we have sent *The Christian Courier* an update on our congregation.

All of the brothers & sisters have been good! Some good news! Back in March my husband, Max Beardall, was baptized by my father, Chuck Garner. It was truly a wonderful day! My mother, Dana Garner, is done with her surgeries and all the cancer is gone. She had a 6-month follow up screening and there is no sign of cancer. We thank everyone for all their thoughts and prayers! We continue to pray for the continuance of her remission. Our thoughts and love is with all of our fellow Christians!

With love, Katie Beardall, Hillsboro, OR

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## Lorenzo, TX

Greetings to all from the Lorenzo, TX, congregation:

This has been a summer of some great meetings. The Yuma, AZ, congregation reported that their meeting in March was perhaps their largest in years. May followed with two wonderful weekend meetings. Newcastle, TX, had theirs on May 8-10 with Bro. Jerry McCay. Those who attended from Texas and Oklahoma really enjoyed the food, fellowship, and wonderful Bible messages. May 15-17, 2009, Bro. Jerry McCay spoke at Stilwell, OK. Several attended the meeting from other congregations and left feeling spiritually renewed. It was great! On June 12-14, 2009, Oklahoma City, OK, had Bro. Richard Johnston & Bro. Bill McCay, Jr. of Yakima, WA. It was a great time of singing out of fantastic new song books, great food, fellowship, and great lessons. All of these meetings were so beneficial to all

who attended. Everyone agreed that even a weekend meeting warranted the time and effort in the benefits enjoyed. These led right into the summer schedule of longer meetings.

The Broken Bow, OK, congregation reported that the Cypress Lake Camp Meeting in June was a great success, despite the passing of Sis. Brenda Treat. In July, the Lorenzo, TX, congregation enjoyed some very excellent lessons from Bro. Mark Perigen. We very much enjoyed the many visitors from Arizona, California, Oklahoma, Washington, and other Texas cities. We are happy to announce the baptism of Austin Bryant (12) on July 8<sup>th</sup>. We especially enjoyed Mark, Tammy, & the girls. It had been too long. The Glenwood, WA, congregation had some fantastic lessons from Bro. Kevin Lamb and Bro. Eric Harper on July 19-24, 2009. They were very happy to announce the baptisms of Leah (20) and Rachel (16) Shepherd on July 21<sup>st</sup>. Leah and Rachel are the daughters of Bro. Matthew & Sis. Kelly Shepherd of the Hillsboro, OR, congregation. The Glead, WA, congregation were pleased with their meeting with Bro. Eric Harper July 26-31, 2009. During their meeting Tristin Bryant (12) was baptized on July 26<sup>th</sup>. Tristin is the brother of Austin who was baptized during the Lorenzo meeting. The Yakima, WA, congregation had a great meeting August 2-9, 2009, with Bro. Jerry McCay, but everyone was saddened by the passing of Leon Edmonson on August 5<sup>th</sup>. A number of the Lorenzo congregation attended all these meetings. It really helped that all these meeting dates and locations lined up to facilitate traveling.

We are happy to announce the birth of Kaedon Axtell on June 10<sup>th</sup>. Kaedon is the daughter of Reas and Sarah Axtell and the granddaughter of Cliff & Leesa Boling. Reas was also honored August 29<sup>th</sup> in a public ceremony with keys to their new home in Idalou which was built with the aid of many community volunteers and

organized by Home For Our Troops. The mayors of Idalou and Lubbock were both present, as were local newspapers and television stations reporting on the event. We are happy to have them back with us. You can see the Homes For Our Troops website report on this event at:

<http://www.homesforourtroops.org/site/PageServer?pagename=ReasAxtell>

We are also happy to report the birth of Addison Claire to Luke & Kami Armstrong on September 9<sup>th</sup>. Addison is the granddaughter of Bro. Evert & Sis. Becky Forsman.

Some of the Lorenzo congregation traveled to Yuma, AZ, to attend the September 10<sup>th</sup> funeral of Sis. Willie Mae Davis, 83, who passed from this life on September 3<sup>rd</sup>. After the funeral service Bro. Dennis & Sis. Susie Davis traveled back with them to Lorenzo and were here on September 13<sup>th</sup>.

We are happy to announce the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Bro. Gene & Sis. Joan Boling on July 17<sup>th</sup> and the 64<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Bro. Jimmy & Jaetta Loftis on July 28<sup>th</sup>.

Please keep Sis. Joan Boling in your prayers as she continues to be bothered by health problems.

Bro. Ellis & Sis. Lynell Forsman finally sold their house in Seattle after being on the market for almost 2 years. That is certainly a welcome blessing!

Love and peace to you all,  
From the brethren at Lorenzo, TX.

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## Yuma, AZ (July, 2009)

Dear brothers and sisters,

A short message from Yuma to say “Hi” with hopes that all are well or healing. We are mostly doing okay, other than the old folk’s syndrome that many of us experience. Sis. Willie Davis is

recovering of a hip fracture in a rehab center. She is healing well and seems to be doing very well. Sis. Ruth Duncan has had quite a bout with an infection which has required her to have shots twice a day for at least two weeks. She too is doing much better now. Prayers for the ill are of great value to the sick and injured, as well as those in sorrow.

The 3<sup>rd</sup> of this month, Bro. Bill Marten and wife Karen were with us, and Bill had a very good message. Also, their daughter, Amber, with her new baby was here. She got a girl this time and has two boys and a girl. Amber lives in Yuma and meets with us most of the time; she goes to Citrus City sometimes to be with her parents.

This past Sunday, the 5<sup>th</sup> of July, Bro. Harry Dye of the Citrus City congregation was with us and gave the message at our worship service. He is a very capable speaker.

Bro. Dennis & Sis. Susie Davis are gone for the summer. We miss them much and look for their return in the fall. They have attended the Cypress Lake Camp Meeting, the meeting at Lorenzo, TX, and then to the three meetings in Washington.

We had some great weather through June, but July has been bad – hot and humid. This happens here every summer and lasts about three months, then it is nice until the next July.

We hope and pray that the meetings this summer will all be well attended and inspiring to all in attendance. We haven’t announced our meeting for next year, but will in the coming future. It will most likely be in March, as in the past.

This is about all I can think of, but want to stay in touch., Everyone take good care and let us all keep our eyes focused on things above and pray for each other.

In Christian Love,  
Your brothers & sisters in Yuma, AZ

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## Yuma, AZ (Sept., 2009)

Dear Brothers & Sisters,

A short message from the Yuma congregation to say "Hello" and report on our little group here. We mostly are doing well; even though we are few in number, our spirits are high. Hope this message finds all are well or mending.

Our news this month brings both joy and sadness. The joyful news being that on August 9<sup>th</sup> Alissa Davis was baptized. Jessica Merket is her mother and Bro. Robert & Sis. Debra Davis are her grandparents. On a sad note, our loved one, Sis. Willie Davis passed away late in the evening of September 3<sup>rd</sup>. She had been ill for

quite some time. Her funeral was September 10<sup>th</sup> here in Yuma, AZ. We will miss her in so many ways. She loved the church and was always there, if able. She had a beautiful alto voice.

We have had a hot summer, and hopefully it will be cooling some. It is a welcome relief when it breaks.

Bro. Dennis & Sis. Susie Davis are home; we are so glad for them to be back.

This is about all I can think to report on. May God bless us all. Everyone take good care, and we hope to hear from you in the paper.

Love from the congregation in Yuma, AZ



### *In Loving Memory of Brenda Louise (Noey) Treat*

Sis. Brenda Louise (Noey) Treat, 59, of Broken Bow, OK, passed away June 18, 2009, at her home. She was born February 24, 1950. Brenda was a member of the Costilow Church of Christ in Broken Bow, OK. She was a homemaker and loved cooking, sewing, quilting, camping, fishing, and spending time with family and friends, and her church family.

Funeral services were officiated at Broken Bow, OK, on June 22, 2009, by Bro. Mick Boen and Bro. Gerald Buckner

Brenda is survived by her husband, Dan Treat; three sons, one daughter, one grandson, and a host of other relatives and friends.

Brenda was a very generous person who enjoyed helping others. She had a wonderful personality and easily made friends wherever she went. She will certainly be missed by all who knew her, especially her church family at Broken Bow.



*In Loving Memory of*  
*Ralph Leon Edmondson*

Bro. Ralph "Leon" Edmondson, 60, of Yakima, WA, passed away peacefully on August 5, 2009, after a short battle with pancreatic cancer. Leon was born on September 2, 1948.

Leon was baptized into the Lord's body on February 1, 1998, and continued to serve God until the day he died. Leon was instrumental in the remodeling of the Ahtanum Church of Christ building in Yakima, WA.

Survivors include his wife, Paula; one daughter; his mother; and several grandchildren, nephews, nieces, aunts, uncles, cousins, church family and many friends.

The memorial service for Leon was held at the Summitview Church of Christ in Yakima on August 29<sup>th</sup>.

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*In Loving Memory of*  
*Willie Mae Davis*

Sis. Willie Mae Davis, 83, of Yuma, AZ, passed away on September 3<sup>rd</sup> at her daughter's home. Her funeral was held September 10, 2009, in Yuma. She leaves behind 1 son, Dennis;

2 daughters, Diane & Claudette; many grandchildren, as well as other family, church family, and friends.

Sis. Willie was a faithful member of the "Avenue B" Church of Christ in Yuma. She loved to sing and was a joy to all around her with her sweet smile and quiet, but faithful, spirit, as well as a warm, loving heart.

We just received late news about Bro. Rex Mickey from Flora Vista, NM. Rex had to be hospitalized as his stomach had stopped working. He has been transferred from the hospital to a nursing home where they will administer needed medication for his problem. Bro. Rex is in much need of your prayers.

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# Precious Memories

***The Christian Courier, May, 1969.*** ☞ Bro. Howard McCay, Yakima, WA, announced a meeting in June with Bro. Sammy Boen and another in November with Bro. Horace Orendorff. ☞ The Modesto, CA, congregation reported on their summer meeting with Bro. Tom Broadway and announced a meeting in August with Bro. W. A. Nelson. ☞ Bro. Don Taylor, Loco, OK, reported on the surgery of Sis. Leola Taylor and the engagement of Bro. Audley Barnes and Sis. Teresa Taylor with wedding date set for June 1, 1969. ☞ Bro. W. A. Nelson, Somerton, AZ, announced the wedding of Ben Smith and Barbara Ware on March 26, 1969.

***The Christian Courier, June, 1969.*** ☞ The Grant's Pass, OR, congregation reported on their meeting with Bro. C. C. McCluskey. ☞ Bro. L. E. Arnett, Waterford, CA, announced a meeting in June with Bro. Carrel Gray. He also announced the birth of identical twins, Paul & Perry, to Lee and June Digby on April 30<sup>th</sup>. ☞ The Modesto, CA, congregation announced the birth of Kimberly to Gary and Pat Guyer on May 24<sup>th</sup>. ☞ Bro. Ken Baldwin, Cedaredge, CO, announced the birth of Robert to Wayne and Vernie Wilkerson on May 25<sup>th</sup>. ☞ Bro. J. D. Logan, Stockton, CA, invited all to attend the Far West Camp Meeting at Booneville, CA in June. ☞ Bro. W. A. Nelson, Somerton, AZ, reported on the passing of Sis. Carrie Long on April 20<sup>th</sup>. ☞ The Yuma, AZ, congregation announced a meeting in June with Bro. Sammy Boen.

***The Christian Courier, August, 1969.*** ☞ Bro. Toodler Goodwin, Seymour, TX, wrote that Bro. Howard Studer of the Lorenzo, TX, congregation had suffered a heart attack on May 27<sup>th</sup>, but was doing much better a few weeks later. ☞ Bro. Jerry Perigen, Bellflower, CA, reported on their meeting in July with Bro. Bill

McCay. ☞ Also announced: Bro. Bill Taylor and Sis. Debra Dabbs were married on July 19<sup>th</sup>. ☞ The Lorenzo, TX, congregation reported on their meeting with Bro. J. D. Logan, during which Marsha White was baptized. ☞ Bro. J. D. Logan, Stockton, CA, reported on the Far West Camp Meeting at Booneville, CA.

***The Christian Courier, September, 1969.*** ☞ The Aztec, NM, congregation wrote of the passing of Sis. Armesa Smith on September 31<sup>st</sup>. ☞ Bro. W. E. Daniels, Stilwell, OK, reported on their meeting with Bro. J. D. Logan in July. ☞ Bro. Bill McCay, Yakima, WA, reported on their meeting with Bro. Sammy Boen during which there were four baptisms: Jimmie Boen, Dan Ross, Rose Bateman, and Polly Longmire. He also announced the birth of Daniel Howard to Bro. Jerry & Sis. Meg McCay. ☞ The Modesto, CA, congregation reported on the passing of Mary Bryant.

***The Christian Courier, June, 1979.*** ☞ Bro. J. D. Logan, Stockton, CA, invited all to the Mendocino Woodlands Camp Meeting near Fort Bragg, CA in July. ☞ The Chico, CA, congregation announced a meeting in November with guest speakers. ☞ The San Pablo, CA, congregation announced a meeting in July with Bro. Richard Johnston.

***The Christian Courier, August, 1979.*** ☞ Bro. Ellis Forsman, Glenwood, WA, announced the baptisms of Kelly Forsman and Daniel McCay during their meeting with Bro. Harry Dye. ☞ Bro. Al Way, Bellflower, CA, reported on their meeting with Bro. Clif and Bro. Gerald Brockman. ☞ Also reported: Bro. Forrest Franklin Francis, Boise City, OK, passed away on March 6<sup>th</sup>.

***The Christian Courier, September, 1979.*** ☞ The Cedaredge, CO, congregation reported

that Bro. Ken Baldwin had a heart attack and required surgery and 5 bypasses. ☞ Also reported: Bro. Skip & Sis. Pam Berry had a baby girl born on September 1<sup>st</sup>; and Bro. Jimmy & Sis. Cathy Lamb had a baby girl, Katie, born on September 28<sup>th</sup>.

**The Christian Courier, May, 1989.** ☞ The San Pablo, CA, congregation announced the birth of James Louis to Bro. Louis & Sis. Melody Glynell on March 30<sup>th</sup>. ☞ The Yuma, AZ, congregation announced the baptisms of Susie Davis, March 19<sup>th</sup>; Valarie Davis, March 26<sup>th</sup>; and Dennis Davis, April 2<sup>nd</sup>. ☞ Bro. Dean Guyer, Waterford, CA, reported that Sis. Kay Guyer was recovering from heart bypass surgery.

**The Christian Courier, July, 1989.** ☞ Sis. Kathy Treat, Broken Bow, OK, announced the baptisms of Rick Brown, Katy Brown, Randall Treat, Teresa Treat, Tony Treat, Alicia Treat, Steven Norris, and Tammy Norris. She also announced the marriage of Steven Norris and Tammy Ferguson in March. ☞ Also reported: Sis Jennie (Granny) Mack, Selah, WA, passed away on April 17<sup>th</sup>.

**The Christian Courier, August, 1989.** ☞ Bro. Audley Barnes, Loco, OK, announced the

birth of Cody Austine to Bro. Tony & Sis. Traci Normile on May 19<sup>th</sup>. ☞ Bro. Billy Richardson, Furnish Canyon, OK, reported on their meeting in July with Bro. Mark Perigen.

☞ Bro. Ken Harper, Indian Springs, CA, reported that he broke his left hip when he overturned his riding lawn mower. ☞ Bro. Lloyd Treat, Broken Bow, OK, announced a meeting in July with Bro. Howard McCay.

**The Christian Courier, June, 1999.** ☞ Sis. Kathy Treat, Broken Bow, OK, announced the baptisms of Crystal Ferguson and Anthony Tangerman. ☞ The Elkins, AR, congregation reported on the passing of Bro. Robert Roberson of the Tiner congregation on April 19<sup>th</sup>. ☞ The Goshen, AR, congregation announced a meeting in June with Bro. Bob Eldridge.

**The Christian Courier, September, 1999.** ☞ The Cedaredge, CO, congregation reported on the Delta Camp Meeting in Colorado where the following were baptized: Lindsay Wilkerson, Jacob Newman, and Annie Hensley. ☞ The Yuma, AZ, congregation announced the baptism of Jennifer Copeland on July 11<sup>th</sup>. ☞ Also reported: The passing of Bro. John W. Bedingfield, July 9<sup>th</sup>; Sis. Jo Williams, July 28<sup>th</sup>; and Bro. Elmo Brown, August 26<sup>th</sup>.

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# BULLETIN BOARD

## Meetings

October 9-11, 2009 Baron, OK  
November 13-15, 2009 Broken Bow, OK

Stanley Goodwin  
Guest speakers

## Births

Kaedon Reas Lorenzo, TX  
to Reas & Sarah Axtell  
Addison Claire Amarillo, TX  
to Luke & Kami Armstrong

June 10, 2009  
September 9, 2009

## Baptisms

Max Beardall	Hillsboro, OR	March, 2009
Austin Bryant	Lorenzo, TX	July 8, 2009
Leah Shepherd	Glenwood, WA	July 21, 2009
Rachel Shepherd	Glenwood, WA	July 21, 2009
Tristin Bryant	Gleed, WA	July 26, 2009
Alissa Davis	Yuma, AZ	August 9, 2009

## Weddings

Mark Daniels & Anaiya Eoff Goshen, AR August 7, 2009

## Passings

Brenda Louise Treat	Broken Bow, OK	June 18, 2009
Ralph Leon Edmonson	Yakima, WA	August 5, 2009
Willie Mae Davis	Yuma, AZ	September 3, 2009

## Prayer of Faith for those in need

Duane Bixler	Aztec, NM	Alzheimer's disease
Minnie Davis	Broken Bow, OK	In nursing home
Jesse Holleman	Broken Bow, OK	Cuts & bruises
Ruth Johnson	Broken Bow, OK	In nursing home
Jesse Phipps	Broken Bow, OK	Broken arm & tailbone
Rita Queen	Broken Bow, OK	Heart attack & surgery
Michael Rogers	Broken Bow, OK	Cuts & bruises
Ericka Furguson	Clinton, NJ	In prison
Tony Schell	Cedaredge, CO	Heart irregularities
Lavetta Boling	Citrus City, AZ	Alzheimer's disease
Rex Mickey	Flora Vista, NM	Stomach not working
Carol Bauer	Gleed, WA	Fighting cancer
Robert Farley	Gleed, WA	Severe pain
Felicia Geho	Gleed, WA	Back pains
Travis King	Gleed, WA	Sinus problems
Betty McKinney	Gleed, WA	Back pain
Gene McKinney	Gleed, WA	Heart trouble & diabetes
Ola McKinney	Gleed, WA	Eye cataract problems
Jeannean McSwane	Glenwood, WA	Severe infections
Sis. Burkhart	Goshen, AR	Back pain
Marvin Daniels	Goshen, AR	Lost ground
Melvin Daniels	Goshen, AR	Bad heart & lungs
Joan Boling	Lorenzo, TX	Heart problems
Nell McCay	Lorenzo, TX	Eyesight & balance problems
Vivian Baker	Waterford, CA	Fighting cancer
Florence Fuller	Yuma, AZ	Fighting throat cancer
Jean Orendorff	Yuma, AZ	In nursing home