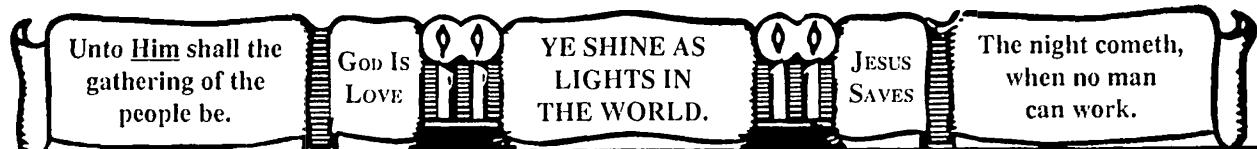


FAITH AND VICTORY

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Church of God Servant



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Yoked With Christ

By Sis. Charlotte Huskey

"Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart and ye shall find rest unto you souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light." Matthew 11:28-30.

A *yoke* is an instrument used to link things together. 1. In electronics: a device attached to the neck of a cathode ray tube to control the scanning motion of the electron beam. 2. Equipment for multitask recording or reproducing sounds or music on more than one track simultaneously by joining two or more magnetic recording heads. 3. A wooden frame for harnessing two draft animals to whatever they had to pull. 4. Military dictionary: A control lever in an aircraft.

I have had the privilege of seeing animals working together connected by a yoke, as was common in Bible times. The yokes are hand carved from a large hardwood log into a shape

that fits over the necks of two draft animals, oxen, water buffaloes or others. Connected together the animals can move extremely heavy loads, or plow furrows in hard packed ground.

Young animals must be trained to wear a yoke. This is done by tying two animals by their horns, one young and wild, the other a strong, patient, disciplined animal. The first few days the young animal will buck, snort, kick, pull, jump and bellow (sometimes almost to the point of killing himself) trying to get free. After days and complete exhaustion, he will surrender and accept the partnership of the older. When the young animal surrenders to pairing with the older animal, then he can bear the yoke and become useful. Then, and then only, is the animal helpful to the farmer:

A yoke is used to connect two things so a task can be accomplished; in electronics, in recording, in working animals, guiding an aircraft and in spiritual endeavors. Christ says, come under the yoke, connect with me and I will help you in your relationships, on the job, with your children, disciplining yourself and all areas of your life. I will pull for you; I will carry most of the load. Together we can get things done.

Before His crucifixion Christ said to His followers "...Tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high." Luke 24:49. When they were in Jerusalem just before He ascended, He again instructed them to "...Wait for the promise of the Father which,

(Continued on page 11.)

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African Mission Report and Testimony

As an invitation song was sung in the mother tongue, a Kenyan woman approached the front of the brush arbor where I had just finished preaching on "Spiritual Rest." While people began praying to be saved, in this isolated place with palm trees and beautiful plains in the distance, the elderly woman knelt in the dust and began seeking God. Tears rolled down her wrinkled face as she wept before the Lord. It was for this cause that we had traveled to Kenya....

At the beginning of the year, God had given me a burden to return to Kenya and Tanzania. At the time, it looked like I would be traveling by myself. At the last moment, Bro. Michael Gellenbeck called and said God had given him a burden to go with me. This decision to go was not taken lightly but was made in prayer and consecration to the Lord. God knew what lay ahead on this trip and He was faithful to call to my brother who was then obedient to respond to the call.

On some of the previous trips, the primary burden was to hold ministers' meetings where there was teaching and instruction to the native brethren so that they could then go and reach the people with the truth. This time, my prayer was that the Lord would give us the heathen for our inheritance. The burden was more evangelistic in nature and we desired to see souls come to repentance. The Lord was faithful on the trip to answer that prayer. Bro. Michael Gellenbeck and I traveled to various locations in Kenya to share the simplicity of salvation. The Spirit of the Lord was in the services and souls were won to Jesus Christ. We visited a congregation that was a mix of Pentecostal and indigenous beliefs. Various ministers and the bishop of this group were in attendance at a hillside service. One of the men that prayed to be saved was the pastor of the local congregation. How great is the faithfulness of our Lord!

As Bro. Michael, Bro. Peter and I drove down the dusty road and stopped before the orphanage, we were met with singing, happy children who were delighted to have us back. There are currently 80 orphans living in the orphanage and over 400 that come to the school. These orphan children are outperforming the government schools in the area. Over the past year, due to contributions from the Saints, we have

been able to expand the orphanage and school. Hundreds of children gathered to share songs and recitation at our coming. What a delight to hear a group of orphans stand and recite by memory poems that Bro. Leslie Busbee had written in the *Faith and Victory*.

It has been a struggle for the native Saints to support the orphanage. They are sacrificing time and food for the benefit of these children who come from some horrible conditions. We found that the children were eating a small portion of meat one time a week and fruit every other week. I was moved to tears in my spirit as I beheld these precious children who were not getting proper nourishment. Because of a lack of funds to make a concrete pad in the courtyard of the orphanage, when it rains the children are literally wading through water and mud throughout the day. It causes health problems and propagates disease through the breeding of mosquitoes.

Our desire was to provide a good meal for the children while we were with them. One evening, we gathered with the orphans in a room only lit by two lanterns—one of which broke. We feasted together with the children. We ate chicken, rice, greens, chopa (like tortillas), pineapple, bananas and cookies. The children's enjoyment was apparent as they sang and laughed and ate. Words are inadequate to express the love that flowed from our hearts to the children. One little orphan girl stood up and asked us: "Do you eat like this all the time?"

Bro. Peter, Bro. Michael, and I traveled to Tanzania to be in meeting with many congregations who desired to hear the truth. It was our burden to be with them for a few days. After a long, uncomfortable Friday night in Kenya, I faced the day of journey not feeling very well in my body. We traveled for a number of hours to arrive at the meeting which was already in progress. My head was hurting very badly by this time. Within ten minutes of our arrival, I was in front of the gathered crowd preaching about the Pharisee and the Publican. I had intense pain running through my head throughout the message.

At the conclusion of the service, I was in severe distress. They took me to a place where I could lie down and try to rest. By this time, I

knew that something was seriously wrong in my body. I experienced one of those nights that seem to never end. My body was very sick and I couldn't find a place of relief. I thought, as did the others there, that it was imperative that we leave Tanzania and head back to Kenya. I felt pressed to get back home to the States as quickly as possible.

Bro. Michael Gellenbeck had been a spiritual inspiration to the young men in Kenya. He was a great blessing on the trip. He was also sent from God to be a help to me in my time of need. My family back home made arrangements for us to fly out of Nairobi on Sunday evening. We were hundreds of miles away from the airport and had the day to try to get there. I could not have made the trip across Tanzania and Kenya without the Divine help of the almighty God. Bro. Peter and the brethren had prayed for me and he said that he believed God had done something for me right then. If God had not, I would not have been able to travel, for my strength had deteriorated very quickly. At times our driver was going over 100 mph on the way to Nairobi. I don't remember all of the trip as my head was in such pain.

Bro. Michael was a faithful traveling companion and prayer warrior. He carried the stress and burden of getting me back home. God gave us the fortitude to travel from Africa to Europe, and then on to the United States. We were asked if I needed medical assistance but God made the way for us to board our planes and go through customs without being detained. Thank you, Lord. My wife met us upon our arrival in Atlanta and flew with us the rest of the journey.

I was consecrated to leaving my earthly home for my heavenly home. I had known for years that disease and death were very real possibilities when traveling to Africa. But, on the plane home I was asking God to spare my life for the sake of my wife and young children. Space does not permit to detail the journey of sickness upon which we embarked.

I became deathly ill due to what appeared to be one of the worst strains of Malaria. I experienced periods of extreme weakness and at times I was generally nonresponsive. It came to the place one night where I didn't know if I was going to make it through. We had the children gather in, with my parents and siblings, for what could have been our last time together. I am even now

in tears as I write, thanking God for His mercy and help.

God had given me the scripture in Isaiah 43:1-2 the first night I was so sick in Tanzania. I stood on this as a promise from God throughout the illness. "But now thus saith the LORD that created thee, O Jacob, and he that formed thee, O Israel, Fear not: for I have redeemed thee, I have called thee by thy name; thou art mine. When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee: when thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burned; neither shall the flame kindle upon thee."

Words are inadequate to express my love and appreciation for the ministers and Saints of God that rallied around my family and me during this time of trial. For many weeks the Saints fasted and prayed for God to intervene and change the course of the sickness. Offerings were sent in that helped meet our temporal needs during that time.

I was told by different people at different times: "Don't try to fight this. Let us fight the battle for you." Thank you for carrying the burden for me. There were times in my sickness that I couldn't fight and to just hear those words, and to know that the Saints really were carrying this for me, was a source of deep strength and help to us.

God heard the prayers of His people and took note of the tears that the orphans in Kenya cried. God raised me up and gave me life. The time of divine healing is not past. God, through no merit of our own, was merciful and gave healing.

We have passed through many trials the last few years. Satan has been waging a war on different fronts against us. But, I can testify that the power of God is undiminished. The scripture is true that says "Greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world." The Holy Spirit has been faithful to lead, direct and empower.

What a faithful and mighty God we serve. Let us all keep on the firing line and stay faithful in spite of the heat of the battle. With God on our side we can make it through every onslaught of the enemy. We can and will be victorious through Jesus Christ our Lord.

In Love,

—Bro. Michael Smith

(More information about the Africa work can be found at www.africamission.com)

**FAITH AND VICTORY
12 PAGE HOLINESS MONTHLY**



This non-sectarian paper is edited and published in the interest of the universal CHURCH OF GOD each month (except August of each year, and we omit an issue that month to attend camp meetings), by Willie Murphey, and other consecrated workers at the FAITH PUBLISHING HOUSE, 4318 S. Division, Guthrie, OK 73044.

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This publication teaches salvation from all sin, sanctification for believers, unity and oneness for which Jesus prayed as recorded in John 17:21, and manifested by the apostles and believers after Pentecost. By God's grace we teach, preach, and practice the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ-the same gospel that Peter, John, and Paul preached, taught, and practiced, including divine healing for the body. James 5:14-15.

Its motto: Have faith in God. Its object: The glory of God and the salvation of men; the restoration and promulgation of the whole truth to the people in this "evening time" as it was in the morning Church of the first century; the unification of all true believers in one body by the love of God. Its standard: Separation from sin and entire devotion to the service and will of God. Its characteristics: No discipline but the Bible, no bond of union but the love of God, and no test of fellowship but the indwelling Spirit of Christ.

Through the Free Literature Fund thousands of gospel tracts are published and sent out free of charge as the Lord supplies. Cooperation of our readers is solicited, and will be appreciated in any way as the Bible and the Holy Spirit teach you to do or stir your heart. "Freely ye have received, freely give." Read Ex. 25:2; I Chron. 29:9; II Cor. 9:7; and Luke 6:38.

Freewill offerings sent in to the work will be thankfully received as from the Lord. Checks and money orders should be made payable to Faith Publishing House. All donations are tax deductible.

A separate Missionary Fund is maintained in order to relay missionary funds from our readers to the support of home and foreign missionaries and evangelists.

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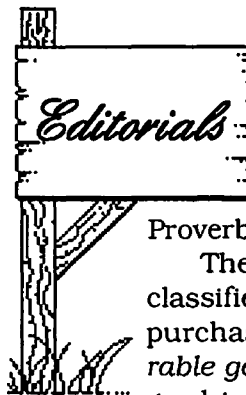
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"Riches and honour are with me; yea, durable riches and righteousness. My fruit is better than gold, yea, than fine gold; and my revenue than choice silver."

Proverbs 8:18-19.

There is an economic term that classifies certain types of products purchased in an economy as *durable goods*. Purchase of a durable good is generally one that will last longer than three years. It would include things like cars, farm machinery, business equipment, home furnishings and fixtures, recreational vehicles and equipment, and sporting goods. These are only a few of the items that fall into this category. The government tracks orders for durable goods and reports their findings on a monthly basis. These reports, when compared to previous reports, can be an indicator of the economic health of a country.

If man considers a durable good to have a life span in excess of three years, 1,095 days, I wonder what time frame God, with Whom one day is as a thousand years, would place on durable riches?

When Mary was sitting at the feet of Jesus and drinking in the words of wisdom that came from the Master's lips, her sister Martha came to Jesus and said, "Lord, dost thou not care that my sister hath left me to serve alone? bid her therefore that she help me." Jesus defended Mary's interest in spiritual things and replied, "But one thing is needful: and Mary hath chosen that good part, which shall not be taken away from her." Luke 10:42. Mary found in Christ the fountain of eternal Life. Jesus said that what Mary had chosen "...shall not be taken away from her." It is in Him that one finds the durable riches that will last forever.

The prophet Isaiah was given insight into some of these durable riches. Notice a few of these verses of promise. "For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the LORD

of hosts will perform this." Isaiah 9:6-7. It would be impossible to place an earthly value on the gift of God's dear Son to the world. The future of men's never dying souls depended on the plan of redemption that Jesus brought. As the songwriter so aptly penned, "Without Him how lost I would be." Our only hope is in Him, the everlasting Father, and to be a part of His kingdom which shall have no end is more than our finite mind can truly comprehend. These are priceless riches that have been bestowed so graciously upon us.

"But Israel shall be saved in the LORD with an everlasting salvation:..." Isaiah 45:17. God's plan of salvation has continued for more than 2000 years now and it will continue until the end of time. In Isaiah 55:3 it says, "...and I will make an everlasting covenant with you...." Those who enter into this covenant salvation find safety for their souls. Death only causes the covenant to be more sure, for then the soul who has found refuge therein is no longer subject to the temptations of the evil one and is forever secure in the arms of God.

"And the ransomed of the LORD shall return, and come to Zion with songs and everlasting joy upon their heads: they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away." Isaiah 35:10. The price for our deliverance has been fully paid by the sacrificial death of God's precious Son and our freedom gives us great cause for joy and gladness. These riches are ours to enjoy forever.

Isaiah 60:19 gives us these encouraging words, "The sun shall be no more thy light by day; neither for brightness shall the moon give light unto thee: but the LORD shall be unto thee an everlasting light, and thy God thy glory." When a soul is spiritually alive in Christ, through the eye of faith, they find a constant source of light that brightens their way. It is the glory of the Lord that illuminates the soul and gives spiritual wisdom and understanding. As one nears the end of their pilgrimage here below, this light becomes even brighter, beckoning them to the land of eternal day.

"...With everlasting kindness will I have mercy on thee, saith the LORD thy Redeemer." Isaiah 54:8. How different our lives would be if God did not deal with us in kindness. We have read of pagan religions that demanded terrible things of their worshippers, from cutting them-

selves and dancing to exhaustion, sacrificing their virgins to volcanoes or extracting the hearts of their enemies. But God has dealt with us in kindness. The atoning sacrifice for our sins was made for us by His Son. No greater love could be shown to mankind than this noble act of kindness. However, His kindness goes even further and we are the beneficiaries of untold blessings each day. Our daily bread, the healing of soul and body, and our protection are only the beginning of the blessings we enjoy because of His kindness.

"Trust ye in the LORD for ever: for in the LORD JEHOVAH is everlasting strength:" Isaiah 26:4. We do not serve God in vain for our almighty, all powerful God is alive and real to His people. Psalm 68:35 says, "...the God of Israel is he that giveth strength and power unto his people. Blessed be God." Isaiah 40:29 tells us, "He giveth power to the faint; and to them that have no might he increaseth strength." Song number 46 in the *Evening Light Songs* says, "Oh, I praise Him for the strength He daily gives me, I am running now to gain that heav'nly prize; Soon with joy I'll reach the goal of life immortal, And go sweeping thro' the gates of paradise." God has strength for every weary soul who is pressed beyond measure. When we call on Him in our distress He will be there to impart the strength that we need to press on in the battles of life. He will give us power to overcome temptation and the opposing forces of the enemy. Through God's everlasting strength we can have victory in this life.

There is an illustration of a minister who was poor in the things of this world but was rich in the blessings of the Lord. One day he met with the tax assessor to declare his personal property. "What do you possess?" queried the assessor. "Oh, I am very wealthy," replied the minister. "List your possessions," the assessor instructed. The minister replied, "First, I have everlasting life. Second, I have a mansion in Heaven. Thirdly, I have peace that passeth understanding. Fourth, I have joy unspeakable. Fifth, I have Divine love that never faileth. Sixth, I have a faithful, pious wife. Seventh, I have healthy, happy, obedient children. Eighth, I have true, loyal friends. Ninth, I have songs in the night. Tenth, I have a crown of life awaiting." The tax assessor closed his book and said, "Truly, you are a very rich man, but your property is not subject to taxation."

The durable riches that we possess in Christ are not taxable by the governments of this earth. However, their value is so precious that they bring a heart-felt satisfaction to all who possess them. May the everlasting treasures of God be a source of joy in your heart and life.

—Bro. Willie E. Murphey
wemurphey@yahoo.com

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CORRECTION

It has come to our attention of an error published in the May issue of *Faith and Victory* on page nine, Sis. Natalie Allen's birthday and age were incorrectly printed. She actually was 93 years old on April 18, 2010. I apologize for the discrepancy.

—Bro. Willie E. Murphey

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PRAYER REQUESTS

Standing Prayer Requests

Sis. Merline Allen
Sis. Gladys Cashio
Sis. Helen Carson
Sis. Genevieve Carver
Sis. Elizabeth Corteway
Sis. Waneta Creel
Bro. Terry Dawson Sr.
Sis. Patsy Doolittle
Sis. Dorall Forbes
Bro. Troy Gentry
Bro. Lee Hilton
Jaden Howard
Sis. Patsy Jordon
Sis. Earnestine Jordon
Sis. Karoline Kessler
Bro. Mark and Sis. Darlene Knight
Sis. Virginia Myers
Sis. Elsie M. Offerman
Sis. Melba Powell
Bro. Vernon Robinson
Sis. Ruth Shehee
Sis. Cheryl Smith
Bro. Michael Smith
Bro. Edward and Sis. Gloria Taylor
Sis. Imogene Taylor
The Mitch Taylor family
Sis. Norma Tiller
Bro. Delmar Wilkins
Bro. Curtis Williams

SC—Please pray for Sis. Leona Crummie. She is suffering with several health problems and is in much need of prayer. Thank you and God bless! —Bro. Kevin and Sis. Cheryl Smith

OK—Would you put my brother-in-law, Bro. Curtis Williams, on the standing prayer requests list in the *Faith and Victory*? Thanks,

—Sis. Beth Bock

TX—Remember my daughter, Evelyn, in prayer. She is having persistent headaches and the spot on her forehead where they did surgery is very slow in healing. Also remember my wife, she has pain on her left side and around on her back.

—Bro. Elbert Johnson

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MEETING REPORTS

KY—We thank the Lord for blessing our 2010 camp meeting with His presence through His precious Holy Spirit. We appreciate the ministers sent to feed our souls. Also we want to thank everyone for their support through prayers, love offerings and those who gave their time and labor in this year's meeting. May God bless you all. —The Saints of Vanceburg, KY

SC—Dear Saints: It is with joy and thanksgiving to our great God that we send in a report of our Holly Hill, SC camp meeting this year. God met with us in such a special way, and our hearts were blessed, refreshed and revived. Before the meeting started, God had given us two Scriptures as a burden for this meeting—Psalm 85:6 "Wilt Thou not revive us again: that Thy people may rejoice in Thee?" and Revelation 3:2 "Be watchful, and strengthen the things which remain that are ready to die..." God truly did both of these things—He revived us, and He strengthened us in a wonderful way. He especially met with us in one particular early morning prayer service. His presence was so real, so sweet, and so precious that we hated to close the service. Oh, those times are precious! Times when He comes down and makes His presence known and lets us know that all is well! Praise God for all of His bountiful blessings! We want to thank each one who came to our meeting and supported it with your presence, and we thank each one who held us up in prayer. How grateful we are that God passed through our midst once again! Pray for our congregation that we will continue to press on, never wavering, and keep the faith that was once delivered to the Saints.

In the love of Jesus Christ,

—The Holly Hill, SC Congregation

MEETING DATES

Pacoima, CA (Sisters' Retreat)—July 9-10
National (Monark Springs, MO)—July 16-25
Myrtle, MO (Camp Meeting)—July 30 - Aug. 3
California State (Pacoima, CA)—Aug. 6-15
Boley, OK (Camp Meeting)—August 13-15
Spooner, WI (Tent Meeting)—August 18-22
Wichita, KS (Fall Revival)—September 19-26
Dallas, TX (Fall Meeting)—October 13-17
Okmulgee, OK (Fall Revival)—October 15-17

MEETING NOTICES

**NATIONAL CAMP MEETING
 MONARK SPRINGS, MO**

The National Camp Meeting of the Church of God will be held, Lord willing, at Neosho (Monark Springs), MO, July 16-25. All are cordially invited to come and bring others to enjoy the blessings we are expecting from the Lord.

The Monark Springs campground is located approximately five miles east of Neosho, MO. It is one mile east and 3/4 mile south of the intersection of Highways 86 and 59.

If you travel to Neosho by bus, you may telephone the campground, (417) 472-6427, or Bro. Mike Hightower, (417) 451-3636, for transportation.

The camp meeting is conducted on a freewill offering basis. There is no charge for meals or lodging on the campgrounds. You are welcome to come and enjoy the meeting. We are confident God will supply every need. Meals will be served in the dining hall. Dormitory space and trailer spots are available on a first-come basis. Family units are also available.

For lodging contact Bro. Randel and Sis. DeLoris Bradley (620) 226-3390 or e-mail rdbradley@ckt.net.

The business managers are Bro. Mike Hightower, 13974 Newt Dr., Neosho, MO 64850. Phone, (417) 451-3636, and Bro. Paul Cole (417) 455-2378.

MYRTLE, MO, CAMP MEETING

The Myrtle, MO camp meeting will begin, Lord willing, on Friday morning, July 30, and continue through Tuesday night, August 3. We will not have a Wednesday morning service as we have done for the past few years. There will be services daily at 10:30 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. We plan to also have afternoon services on Satur-

day and Sunday. We extend a hearty invitation to all to come. There will be 3 meals served daily, all expenses met by free-will offerings. Dormitories are available for lodging as well as a limited number of cabins. Electrical hook ups are also available for campers, trailers or motor homes. We would like to ask each cabin owner who does not plan to attend this year's meeting to contact Sis. Carol Sorrell at 417-938-4493 and let her know so that arrangements can be made to use your cabin to lodge others who are coming and may need a place to stay. Sis. Carol will be coordinating cabin arrangements. The campground phone number is 417-938-4682. You may also contact Bro. Harlan Sorrell at 417-938-4336 for further information.

Please pray for a special visitation of the Holy Spirit on this camp meeting, that souls will be saved and every spiritual need will be met.

We look forward to seeing you here.

—Bro. Harlan Sorrell

CALIFORNIA STATE CAMP MEETING

The annual California State Camp Meeting of the Church of God will begin, Lord willing, on August 6, ending August 15, 2010. The first service will be on Friday evening, August 6 at 7:30 p.m. with three services daily throughout the remainder of the meeting.

The campground is located at 12312 Osborne Pl., Pacoima, CA 91331. A hearty invitation is extended to all. Your presence and prayers will add much to the success of the meeting. Accomodations are provided for those needing them, as well as three meals daily. Expenses are met by freewill offerings.

For more information you may contact: Sunset Guest Home (818) 899-2022; Bro. Paul Phillips (661) 251-6956 or Bro. Herbert Clay (818) 897-1396. The chapel phone number is: (818) 899-9021.

BOLEY, OK, CAMP MEETING

The Boley, OK congregation is planning to have a mini camp meeting, August 13-15.

Service times will be Friday evening 7:00 p.m., and Saturday 3:00 p.m., Dinner will be served. On Sunday, Sunday School will begin at 10:00 a.m., Morning service 11:00 a.m., no afternoon service. Dinner will be served. Notice that there will only be an evening service on Friday.

Please be in agreement of prayer with us for

a very inspirational meeting. Let us not selfishly enjoy the truth—Come and bring a friend.

For further information contact Bro. Cleo Jordan (918) 814-4045.

SPooner, WI, TENT MEETING

Lord willing, this meeting will begin Wednesday, August 18, at 7:00 p.m., with services daily at 10:30 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. through Sunday, August 22.

Come for a blessing and to be a blessing, and please support the tent meeting with your prayers.

There will be some accommodations but please call for arrangements. Bring your own bedding and linens if possible. Be prepared for cold nights. We give everyone a special invitation to come and be with us to enjoy God's many blessings of love. For more information contact Bro. Ron and Sis. Martha Zacharias at (715) 635-2994.

WICHITA, KS, FALL REVIVAL

The Wichita congregation welcomes you to our Fall Revival. The meeting will run Sunday, September 19 through Sunday, September 26. Monday through Saturday, services will be held at 11:00 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. On Sunday, services will begin with Sunday School at 9:30 followed by Morning Worship at 10:45 and afternoon and evening services.

Please join us and pray for the revival. For more information contact Bro. Emanuel Gracey at (316) 461-1267 or Bro. Theodore McCray at (316) 641-4170

DALLAS, TEXAS, FALL MEETING

The Church of God Dallas, Texas Congregation located at 11501 Ryliecrest Drive, Balch Springs, Texas welcomes you to their Fall meeting on October 13-17, 2010.

Service times will be: Wed.-Sat. and Sunday evening service at 7:00 p.m.; Sunday School at 10:00 a.m., Sunday Morning Worship at 11:00 a.m. and Sunday Afternoon Service at 2:30 p.m.

For lodging arrangements contact Sis. Linda Montgomery (972) 286-6239. For other information contact Bro. Calvin Frentrup (972) 237-1538 or Bro. Henry Grimes (972) 222-7249. The chapel phone number is (972) 557-1591

OKMULGEE, OK, FALL REVIVAL

The Church of God congregation at Okmulgee, Oklahoma invite you to join them in

revival services October 15-17. Bro. Hayward Cox has a burden to be with them in this meeting. Evening services on Friday and Saturday will begin at 7:30 p.m. Sunday morning services will start at 11:00 a.m.

For more information contact Bro. Robert Warren (918) 733-1306.



William Adams, Jr. (Big Bill) was born to William Sr. and Ocie Mae Adams on May 14, 1933 in Boley, Oklahoma and he passed to his eternal reward on September 6, 2009.

The family moved to the Oklahoma City area where William grew up and attended Page Elementary and Harrison Schools.

William was a very industrious man and worked in many capacities. He was a great cook and did numerous other jobs until his health failed. William was known for his kindness and his love for children and people in general. He was one who could always forgive, no matter what had been done or said to him. On July 3, 2003, William became a resident at Edwards Redeemer Nursing Center, where he resided until his final illness. After leaving the Presbyterian Hospital, William had a few days at the Integris Hospice House from where he took his earthly flight.

William had a wonderful deliverance from alcoholism. He was a dedicated member of AA, at the Kelley Club, having attained to date 19 years of clean time. As long as he was able, he went many places speaking and encouraging everyone he could to forsake alcohol and live for the Lord. William was also a member of the Achievement House, where he was blessed to accomplish much, educational wise. As a member of the Achievement House, he also helped many people raise pretty flowers and beautiful gardens.

He attended the Church of God in Green Pastures, where his nephew is pastor. We have missed his smiles and kind disposition so much. The Lord has been so faithful to William raising him from death's door numerous times.

When the end came on Sunday, September 6, 2009, the nurses shared this inspiring story with us. The nurse who was with William said, she went out and told her co-worker that he had passed. They both went into the room; as they were covering him, they both said they never went near the radio, but all at once the radio began to play "Amazing Grace!" The nurse said, "He didn't die alone." She felt the angels were with him.

Cherishing William's memory is his devoted sister, Frances M. Chandler of Spencer, OK; his nephew, Elder Charles Chandler (Diann) of Spencer, OK; his niece, Robin E. Bramlett of Bakersfield, CA; five great-nephews: Matthew, Aaron, Nathan, and Quinton Chandler of Spencer, OK and Airman 1st Class Andrew Chandler of Monterey, CA; four uncles: Mansfield Johnson of Oakland, CA, Jewell Johnson of Hesperia, CA, AC Johnson of Oklahoma City, OK, and Leo Johnson of Muskogee, OK; three aunts: Johnnye Lee Johnson of Jones, OK, Jaunita Johnson, Wichita, KS, Kathryn Penny of Oklahoma City; many other cousins, relatives, Saints, and friends.

Memorial services were officiated by Bro. Charles Chandler, Bro. Emanuel Gracey and Bro. Charles Lowe. Interment followed at Trice Hill Cemetery, Oklahoma City, OK.

Vernon Lee Butler Sr. was born in Jones, Oklahoma on May 14, 1929 and passed from this life May 10, 2009. He was the second child of six children, born to Sam and Nettie Butler. His parents and one sister, Ollie Maple Duffy, preceded him in death.

He attended Dunjee School in Spencer, Oklahoma. He attended the Green Pastures Evening Light Church of God and accepted Jesus Christ as his Lord and Savior 50 years ago. He was one of the original deacons and served in this capacity up until his illness.

On February 25, 1950 he was united in marriage to the lovely Doretha M. Long in New Chance City, Oklahoma. To this union six children were born, four girls and two boys. He was a dedicated, honest, faithful husband and father.

Vernon was well known in Jones, OK and the surrounding communities, where he spent most of his life. He was a farmer and worked for the city of Midwest City where he retired after 30 years. He was very friendly to all that he met and was known for his genuine smile. He loved spending time with his grandchildren. Many times he would go to the swap meet so early that he would use a flashlight. He said that was the best time to go because you could find all the bargains!

He leaves to cherish his memories: his devoted wife of 59 years, Doretha Butler of Choctaw, OK; two sons Vernon Butler Jr. and Gary Butler both of Choctaw, OK; four daughters Sherry Warren (Robert) of Morris, OK, Marilyn Kay Butler of Oklahoma City, OK, Sandra Butler of Midwest City, OK, Donna Walker of Choctaw, OK; twenty-four grandchildren, thirty great-grandchildren, and six great-great grandchildren.

He also leaves two brothers Thurman Butler (Flora) of Midwest City, OK, Sherman Butler of Jones, OK; two sisters Wilma Jean Lowe (Leon) of Jones, OK, Dorothy Davis (Ralph) of Choctaw, OK; and one very extremely special Aunt Ollie Davis of Oklahoma City, OK and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, family, and friends. Memorial services were held May 16, 2009. Officiating ministers were Bro. Charles Chandler and Sis. Patsy Fields. Interment followed at Hillcrest Memory Gardens, Spencer, Ok.

Nora F. Reeves, 78, of Magnolia, MS died May 26, 2010 at Liberty Community Living Center. She was born September 3, 1931 in Wesson, MS to the late Edward Freeman and Kate Haney Freeman.

She was married 53 years to L. D. "Sonny" Reeves and had 3 children. She graduated from Magnolia schools and moved to Shreveport, LA where she worked in banking. After she returned to Pike County she worked at McComb Manufacturing and then for North Pike School District as cafeteria manager and bus driver. She has been a homemaker for the last three decades.

She was a member of the Oak Grove Church of God in Loranger, La. She was a strong woman of faith over the last 65 years.

She is preceded in death by two brothers, Ellis "Pete" Freeman and Earl Freeman; a twin sister, Dora Freeman Doolittle; a sister-in-law, Alice McKenzie; brother-in-laws, Dale Doolittle,

David Reeves, Connor McKenzie, Norman McKenzie, Johnny Rushing, Frank Jackson, and Maurice Pugh.

She is survived by her husband, L. D. "Sonny" Reeves; daughters and sons-in-laws, Hannah Nyala West and Stewart of Joshua Tree, CA., Pat Reeves May and Glen of Owensboro, KY; son and daughter-in-law, Darrell Reeves and Shannon of Magnolia; grandchildren, Brent Nyala West of Madison, WI, Taliesin Katherine Nyala of Amherst, MA, Stephen May of Owensboro, KY, Shelby May of Owensboro, KY, Ashby Reeves of Amite, LA and Stone Reeves of Magnolia; special sister-in-laws, Marilyn Freeman, Judy Sandifer, Maxine McKenzie, Lois Rushing, Myrtle Jackson, Betty Jo Ryan and Jessie Cothorn and a host of nieces and nephews.

Services were at Hartman-Sharkey Chapel with Bro. Steve Elston and Bro. Michael Williamson officiating. Interment was at Magnolia Cemetery, Magnolia, MS.

Clifton H. Wascom, Sr. born May 29, 1922 to William David and Beatrice Gates Wascom, passed away on Monday, May 17 at his home in Loranger, LA at the age of 87.

He was born and raised in Holden, LA. along with his siblings Percy, Neumy, William, Doris, Renie, Kathryn, Lucille, and Mildred. He was a long time member of The Oak Grove Church of God in Loranger, LA. He served as chairman on the board of seven trustees and helped oversee the building of the chapel there.

Clifton served in the US Army in World II, from 1942-1945, as an Optician repairing binoculars. He worked for Naylor Brothers True Value Hardware in Baton Rouge for many years along with his wife, Mary Belle. Later he and Mary Belle bought their own True Value hardware store, Wascom's True Value, in Walker, LA where they worked side by side for many years. They later retired and built a home in Loranger where they have resided for the last 25 years.

He is survived by his wife of 67 years, Mary Belle Averett Wascom; one Son, Clifton H. "Sonny" Wascom, Jr. and wife, Dot Wascom, of Holden, LA; daughters Ann Wascom of Loranger, LA, Delores Wascom Messer and husband, Robert Messer, of Houston, TX; 8 Grandchildren, Robert Messer, Jr., Kevin Messer, Gary Husser, Karen Husser Dickens, Cliff Wascom III, Ryan Wascom, Krystal Wascom, Alicia Sharp, Jodi Campbell Brandie Olsen; 20 great grandchildren and numerous nieces and

nephews; 5 sisters, Doris Carney, Renie Stewart, Kathryn Aime, Lucille Kinchen, and Mildred Lewis.

He was preceded in death by his parents, William David Wascom and Beatrice Gates Wascom, and his three brothers, Percy, Neumey, and William Wascom.

The services were conducted by Bro. Michael D. Williamson, with interment in Oak Grove Church of God Cemetery in Loranger, LA.

Pray For One Another

By Bro. Joel Tanganan

"Is any among you afflicted? let him pray. Is any merry? let him sing psalms. Is any sick among you? let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord: And the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him. Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much." James 5:13-16.

Prayer is a conversation with God not a formula. But, in our own case, it is sometimes helpful to use a "method" to freshen up our prayer time. Do we use method in our prayers? Or do we have our own style of prayer? Or do we need a method to pray? As a Christian, we pray the psalms. Actually, in our congregation, we use to sing in our prayer when we eat. And also we can pray by using the scripture (such as, "The Lords Prayer"). In Matthew 6:5-13, Jesus taught His disciples how to pray. We have also used the, "ACTS" method, (Adoration, Confession, Thanksgiving and Supplication.)

The "Five Finger Prayer" recently came to my mind to use as a guide when praying for others. I will share this Five Finger Prayer.

When you fold your hands, the THUMB is nearest you, so begin by praying for those closest to you. Who are they? Our brothers & sister's in Christ and our loved ones. (Philippians 1:3-5.)

The INDEX finger is the pointer, so pray for those who teach---Bible teachers, preachers, and those who teach children. (I Thessalonians 5:25.)

The next finger is the TALLEST. It reminds us to pray for those in authority over you, like

our national and local leaders, and also our manager and supervisor at work. (I Timothy 2:1-2.)

The next finger is usually the WEAKEST (fourth). Pray for those who are in trouble or who are suffering. (James 5:13-16.)

Then comes our little finger. It reminds us of our smallness in relation to God's greatness. Ask Him to supply your needs. (Philippians 4:6,19.)

Whatever method we use, just talk with our Father in Heaven. He wants to hear what's on our heart. It's not the words we pray that matter; it's the condition of our heart.



Yoked With Christ

(Continued from page 1.)

saith he, ye have heard of me." (Acts 1:4) Until they were yoked together with Christ through receiving the Holy Spirit, they lacked authority and wisdom and were afraid. They were unable to go into the world and preach the Gospel, which Christ had commanded them.

Before receiving the Holy Spirit, Peter said "I will lay down my life for thy sake." John 13:37. However, he failed miserably and instead of upholding Christ, he denied Him. After he was yoked to Christ by the indwelling of the Holy Spirit, he preached boldly to an enormous crowd. Later, after spending time in jail for preaching, Peter said boldly to those who had authority to kill him, "We ought to obey God rather than men." Acts 5:29. What a difference in Peter after he yoked up with Christ through the Holy Spirit.

The captain of the great Assyrian's Empire (who had conquered almost all of the known world) said to the men of Judea, Let not "Hezekiah make you trust in the Lord, saying the Lord will surely deliver us.... Who...among all the gods of the countries...have delivered their country out of mine hand...?" Hezekiah knew his army was no match for the Assyrians so he went into the house of the Lord and yoked himself to God who sent an angel that sought the Assyrians. (II Kings chapters 18 & 20)

Gideon, fearful as he was, yoked up with God before he attempted the work that God had laid out for him. And he successfully delivered the Israelites from the Midianites who had oppressed them seven years. (Judges chapters 6-7.)

He is still inviting us to "Take my yoke upon you and learn of me for I am meek and lowly in

heart; and ye shall find rest unto you souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

For the sake of our families, our cities and our nation, let us take again the yoke of Jesus and seek to continually live in the presence of the Holy Spirit.



His Yoke is Easy

A man was carrying a heavy basket. His son asked to help him. The father cut a stick and placed it through the handle of the basket so that the end toward himself was very short, while the end toward the boy was three or four times as long. Each took hold of his end of the stick, and the basket was lifted and easily carried. The son was bearing the burden with the father, but he found his work easy and light because his father assumed the heavy end of the stick. Just so it is when we bear the yoke with Christ; He sees to it that the burden laid on us is light; He carries the heavy end.

—John T. Taris

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FAITH AND VICTORY FAITH AND VICTORY

God's Gentle Rain

By Sis. Lana Johnson

"He shall come down like rain upon the mown grass: as showers that water the earth." Psalms 72:6.

Is your life filled with affliction and pain?
Or does the enemy your soul harass?
God will come down like a gentle rain
As cool showers upon the mown grass.

The blade passes over and it makes us cry
With the wounds all bleeding and stinging.
But our God is faithful and draws very nigh,
Refreshing rain to our soul He keeps bringing.

Try picturing in your mind, if you will
Your heart, like grass all cut and torn.

But when the Lord speaks, "Peace be still"
It's like a dew in the early morn.

Perhaps your body is weak and worn
And the years just keep passing by
To remember your weaknesses He's already borne
Will help you to sing and not sigh.

So if you're hurting in body or heart
Just think of all the Lord's pain.
He'll soothe hurts, cause troubles to depart
By sending His comforting rain.

I just want to say, this scripture has been a real encouragement and comfort to me in the problems that have come my way. It has also been a treasured weapon in fighting against my daughter, Lori Cole's, affliction. Many times I've asked the Lord to let His gentle rain flow over and pour down upon her in peace and quietness, soothing and comforting in her times of need. The Lord has been very faithful. We thank Him for the promises in His Word and do appreciate His faithfulness.

—Sis. Lana Johnson

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