

Zion's Advocate

*"And blessed are they who shall seek to bring forth my Zion at that day,
for they shall have the gift and the power of the Holy Ghost...."*
1 Nephi 3:187

VOLUME 78

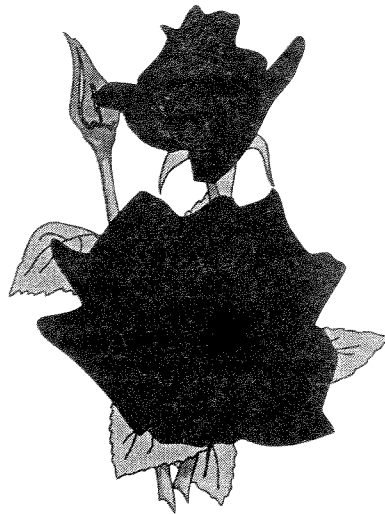
INDEPENDENCE, MISSOURI—AUGUST 2001

NUMBER 8

Wild Roses

Along the roadside,
blooming bright,
The wild roses spread;
And send their fragrance,
sweet and strong,
On past their carefree
bed.

And thus they show the
world they know,
We have a God of
greatness;



He cares for all: the
large, the small.

And though rose petals
droop and fall,
They've done their best
to make us think of
Him,
As should we all.

—Charity E. Gould

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Format of submitted material: Please type all submissions (if possible), on one side of the paper only. Please avoid overuse of

underlining, ALL-CAPS and *italics*. The most important thing, though, is to send the material—the staff can arrange for typing or otherwise preparing anything you send.

Word Processors/Computers: We can utilize text files on IBM or compatible computer floppy disk of any size or format and nearly any word processor. If you have this capability, it is a big help to our process.

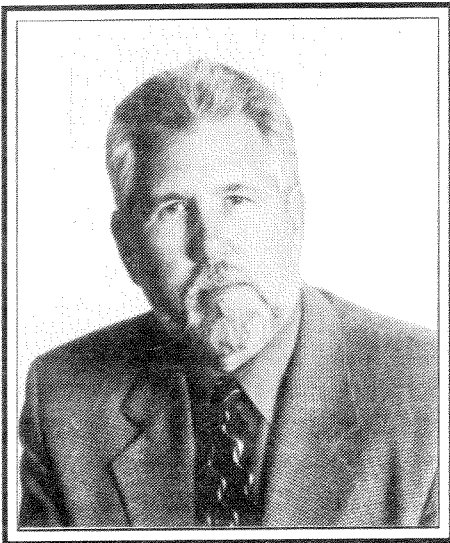
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Articles published in this paper do not necessarily reflect the teachings of the Church, nor the opinions of the editorial staff. Declarations and notices authorized by the General Conference reflect the practices and beliefs of the General Church.

ZION'S ADVOCATE IS...

To promote Jesus Christ as our only Saviour;
To promote His Teachings & His Church, the Church of Christ;
To be a voice of warning to His people; to be Zion's advocate.

NO RESPECTER OF PERSONS



By Apostle Brian E. McIndoo

It has been my privilege and great blessing to be able to spread the gospel and minister to the souls in Africa. During that time I have seen the hand of God at work almost daily as He protected us and reached out to those who hunger and thirst after righteousness. In this land which is deprived from the wealth and many of the resources those in America take for granted as a part of their everyday life, God has reached down and miracu-

lously cared for their needs. As scripture tells us, God is no respecter of persons; He cares for and fulfills all the promises He made to mankind. We are told,

"The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance"
2 Pet 3:9.

In a foreign country such as Kenya, the blessing and the fulfillment of God's promises manifest themselves in a more distinct and memorable way, which defies going unnoticed.

I would like to share with you the story of two men that have overcome their mortal condition, each being very different, by employing the promises of God. They believed what the scripture says,

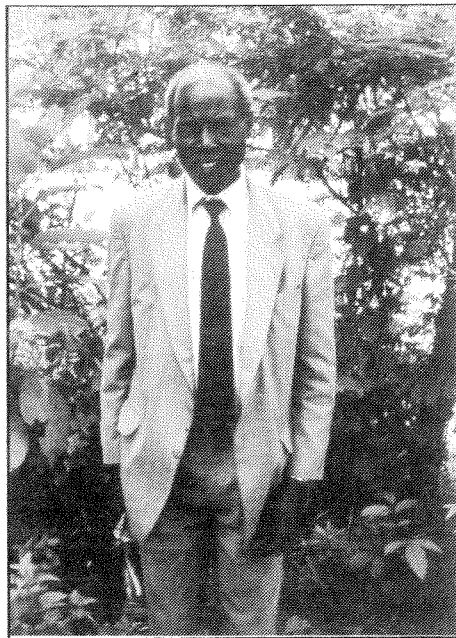
"...the Lord giveth no commandments unto the

In a foreign country such as Kenya, the blessing and the fulfillment of God's promises manifest themselves in a more distinct and memorable way, which defies going unnoticed.

children of men, save he shall prepare a way for them that they may accomplish the thing which he commandeth them" 1 Ne 1:65.

Both of these men exercised their faith and put God's word to the test. What they accomplished, through the power of God's word, would be considered impossible by many people of today. In the stories of these two

men I find that no one is exempt from receiving God's blessing if they desire to come according to God's instructions.



BROTHER JAMES OMUNDI

James' testimony reminds himself as well as others of the way he used to be. That is the way he was until he repented and followed God's decree that one must be baptized by the water and the Spirit. He exercised his faith in the promise of receiving the gift of the Holy Ghost, which would be there to help him overcome the old man that he was.

James tells of the old man who was an alcoholic for many years. He would spend all the family's money, and even resorted to stealing their food and selling it to get money to buy alcohol. This,

of course, was detrimental to his family relationships and came close to destroying him.

James had heard the word of God from the two missionaries of the Church of Christ (TL). They told of God's laws and the need for baptism, and the promise of this abiding comforter that would help him through the trials and tribulations of life. The spirit moved upon James and convicted him that he must do just as God has commanded.

James was baptized in the village of Sengera in May 2000. And to this day he rejoices, for he truly is a new man, a man who has not touched a drop of alcohol since his conversion. James has a perpetual smile and never misses an opportunity to be in church, where he utilizes his time and talents in assisting, teaching, and testifying of the greatness of God.

BROTHER BETWERI NYABOGA

Betwari does not have to tell you about his physical suffering, it is obvious the moment you lay eyes upon him.

On February 25th, 2001, we picked Betwari up from his home in Itibol village and drove him to Kebabe village in the back of the Land Rover.

This hour and half trip was over some of the worst roads in the world. The reason for this trip was that Betwari, too, had heard the word of



God, and was convicted that he must be baptized into the Church of Christ (TL).

Given the condition of the roads, and the fact that the Land Rover had a one-inch thick pad to sit on with nothing to hold onto, except the person crowded up next to you, this trip would be difficult for the heartiest of men. In Betwari's case the journey was a bit more taxing, for Betwari was 91 years old. But that is only the beginning of his story.

Betwari was born in 1909, in his homeland of Kenya. His desire was to financially care for his family by teaching at a local school. In 1952 he applied for a teaching job at the school but found

they had none available. However, they did offer him a job of cutting trees for timber. Although it was not his choice of occupation, Betweri accepted the position and earned a living. In this same year another man felled a tree which landed on top of Betweri, breaking both of his legs at the knees.

Available medical treatment was minimal, and Betweri would have an everlasting disability due to this accident. As the years progressed the effects of the injury worsened. Today his knees are swollen to three or four times their normal size. Both of Betweri's feet are so severely twisted that now they point behind him. Furthermore, they are turned upside down and he walks with the aid of crude mismatched crutches on the tops of his feet, which are nestled in some crumbling leather sandals that have been modified in order to strap them on.

It would be hard to criticize Betweri if he did not want to make the effort to leave what little comfort he could find at his little mud home. But this was not the end of his trial. Betweri had also been sick for the previous seven years, not able to leave this home and seldom able to get out of his bed. He had heard the word of God, and felt no liberty to do any

less than God had commanded, for he knew he must be baptized.

...I find that no one is exempt from receiving God's blessing if they desire to come according to God's instructions.

Betweri made the commitment to the Lord that he would be baptized and we set a date. Betweri exercised his faith, trusting God would raise him up and give him the strength to accomplish this end. He was driven from his home to Kababe where we could perform this baptism. Once there, he was seated in a chair and lowered into the water; then he was baptized into the body of Christ. After the confirmations he stood and testified of his search for the truth, and now he is a part of it.

I pray all of us can achieve such faith and obedience to the commandments of God, and hold fast to the promises of God as these two brothers from Kenya have done. They are a marvelous example of God's working among the humble and pure

of heart who desire to serve Him according to His will, and not their own wills and the understanding of man.

"He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the tree of life, which is in the midst of the paradise of God" Revelation 2:7.

DEEP WATERS



By Jim Gordon

On February 9 of this year there occurred a collision that the news media has dubbed “one in a billion.” Since that time I have watched the news and seen where several ships have sunk, but that doesn’t seem to attract much attention anymore. The collision that I refer to here was between the American submarine, Greenville, and the Japanese fishing trawler,

Ehime Maru. At this writing the hearing is still going on so I won’t comment on the outcome, except to say that 26 of the Japanese were rescued, and nine are missing and presumed dead. I do believe, however, that we might be benefited by the counsel of the scripture in putting this in its proper perspective.

Therefore, let us turn back the pages of time to August 9, 1831, when Joseph Smith left Independence, Missouri, with ten other elders. They started for Kirtland, Ohio, paddling down the Missouri River in canoes, and on the third day W. W. Phelps had a vision in which he saw, “The destroyer in his most horrible power, ride upon the face of the waters.” Joseph Smith inquired of the Lord and the next morning he received a revelation from which I will now quote in part,

...Those who believe in Christ and keep their faith have nothing to fear...

“But verily I say unto you, that it is not needful for this whole company of mine elders, to be moving swiftly upon the waters, whilst the inhabitants on either side are perishing in unbelief; Nevertheless, I suffered it that ye might bear record; Behold there are many dangers upon the waters and more especially hereafter, for I the Lord have decreed in mine anger, many destructions upon the waters: Yea and especially upon these waters; Nevertheless, all flesh is in mine hand and he that is

faithful among you, shall not perish by the waters.... Behold I the Lord in the beginning, blessed the waters, but in the last days by the mouth of my servant John, I cursed the waters: Wherefore the days will come that no flesh shall be safe upon the waters, and it shall be said in days to come, that none is able to go up to the land of Zion upon the waters, but he that is upright in heart. And, as I the Lord in the beginning cursed the land, even so in the last days have I blessed it, in its time, for the use of my saints that they may partake the fatness thereof. And now I give unto you a commandment, and what I say unto one I say unto all, that you shall forewarn your brethren concerning these waters, that they come not in journeying upon them. Lest their faith fail and they are caught in her snares; I the Lord have decreed, and the destroyer rideth upon the face thereof, and I revoke not the decree" (Book of Commandments, pages 115 and 116).

Now let us look and see just how severe are the dangers of water travel, the shipwrecks of the world are too

many to record so we will take several samples. The first will be from the north coast of the Atlantic Ocean from 1492 until 1825. Keep in mind that many of these states didn't start keeping records until late. Some started as late as the late 1700's.

Starting with Canada, there were 307 shipwrecks in our time frame. In Maine there were three wrecks; in New Hampshire there were six; in Massachusetts 36. The little state of Rhode Island is surprising. In just 54 years, from 1765 until 1819, they recorded 48 shipwrecks. Connecticut recorded six shipwrecks. The busiest harbor in the New World was New York, and 189 shipwrecks from 1657 until 1825 should come as no surprise. Also, New Jersey recorded 54; Delaware recorded 53. Maryland ports only recorded 12 shipwrecks because her ports were well protected from storms in the Chesapeake Bay. Virginia saw 175 shipwrecks, and another surprising state was North Carolina: with little overseas trade they experienced 71 ships sunk. South Carolina with its busy Charleston harbor listed 149 shipping disasters. Georgia listed 28 shipwrecks. Florida was the leader with 479 ships foundered.

Not included in this count are the times that storms drove such large numbers of ships on the shore that there were too many to count. It happened in Cape Breton, Canada, in 1748, and New York in 1811. Storms caused this twice in Virginia in 1724 and 1821. Once an undetermined number of ships were destroyed in the Savannah, Georgia, harbor, and during a hurricane in 1797 an undetermined number of ships were lost in the Bahamas and on the Florida Coast. These figures used as a sample will show us that the world over at that time ocean travel was not without its hazards.

Our next sample begins about where the last one ended. In 1801 a wealthy American entrepreneur named Robert Livingston came home from Paris and brought with him a young man originally from Lancaster, Pennsylvania. This man had been tinkering with steamboats and had accumulated quite a reputation for improving them. There had been a few rough, crude and inefficient steamboats at that time, but none had been good enough to create a profitable business in transportation. Robert Fulton did his work well, and on August 17, 1807, the boat originally named the North Star

steamed from New York up the Hudson River to Robert Livingston's summer home in Clermont. Somehow this boat came to be known as the Clermont. Robert Livingston had already acquired a legal monopoly for steamboat transportation, and with Fulton building more boats the steamboat transportation business began.

Robert Fulton's boats were fine for the gentle grade of the Eastern rivers but couldn't go upstream on the Mississippi north of Natchez. Then an inventor, Henry Shreve, designed a boat with a flat shallow hull and decks stacked high above it and a lighter more powerful steam engine, and the Mississippi riverboat was born. Robert Livingston tried to enforce his monopoly in the west, but in 1819, the year before Joseph knelt in the grove, he gave up. Two years later, 60 of these new steamboats were in service in the West.

What Henry Shreve did to make the Mississippi riverboat possible was to reduce the engine size and weight by decreasing the bore and stroke of the engine. Then he increased the horse power by greatly increasing the steam pressure in the boilers from 20 to 40 psi to as much as 150 psi, and therein lay the great danger of the western steamboats. Shreve built the proto-

type in 1812, and in the next fifty years 6000 of these steamboats would swarm the western rivers, mostly in the south hauling cotton.

From 1820 until 1900 there were 900 riverboats on the Missouri River alone. Of those 900 riverboats 300 were sunk by fires, hitting snags, boiler explosions and crushed by ice. In the winter when the boats were tied up, water freezing would sometimes crush the hull. Freezing the hull didn't take a toll in lives, but the others did. Boats in those days were made from wood and canvas, and were easily burned. On a boat driven with steam, which was made in a boiler by a roaring fire box, it is not surprising that fires broke out quite often. Usually this happened in the middle of the boat. The pilot was aware of this and if he could run the boat aground the people in front could escape, but those on the aft part of the vessel would mostly perish. If the pilot didn't make it to shore most of the passengers and crew would drown, because few people knew how to swim at that time. If the river was high and the current swift, even the swimmers drowned. It was the same when the boat hit a snag. A log in the river not visible above the water would tear the hull and sink the boat, drowning most

of the people on board unless the pilot ran them aground first.

But by far the most dreadful was the boiler explosions. In the first 30 years of the western steamboat there were 185 boiler explosions. One newspaper reporter wrote this,

"All the boilers busting simultaneously — machinery, vast fragments of the boilers, huge beams of timber, furniture and human beings in every degree of mutilation, were alike shot up perpendicularly many hundred fathoms in the air. On reaching the greatest height various bodies diverged like the jets of a fountain in all directions falling to the earth and upon roofs of houses, in some instances as much as two hundred and fifty yards from the scene of destruction. The hapless victims were scalded, crushed, torn, mangled and scattered in every possible direction—many into the river, some in the streets, some on the other side of the Bayou, nearly three hundred yards—some torn asunder by coming in contact with pickets and posts and others shot like cannon balls through the

solid walls of houses at a great distance from the boat."

Now you will remember the word of the Lord given in 1831, "Yea and especially upon these waters..." When that message was given, Joseph Smith with the party of elders was three days east of Independence on the Missouri River. It could not have been far from there, in Lexington, Missouri, that occurred what was the worst steamboat disaster on the Missouri River, and possibly in all the West.

The river is now straight near Lexington, but at one time it made a very hard and dangerous bend near the town. When the Indians had this land more of the rain stayed on the ground. After the white man cut most of the forest and plowed most of the grassland, then more of the rain ran down the river. Several floods have pushed the river in a straight course and cut off those old ox bows.

At Lexington on April 4, 1852, Captain Belt tied up his steamboat, the Saluda, to take on supplies. The river was running high with muddy water and ice. Several times that day he tried to push past that tough bend, but was turned back every time. He tried again and again for the next five days

while his frustrations, along with those of his passengers, grew. Finally, on April 9th, Captain Belt went to the engine room and had a heated argument with his engineers. He ordered them to tie the safety valves shut and, "crowd on all the steam you've got." The Captain of another steamboat next to the Saluda overheard the argument and asked Captain Belt if he would allow the Isabel to move away from the dock and out of harm's way first. This was done. Again the Saluda attempted the treacherous bend. Then an explosion rocked the little town.

When it was over the Captain's body was found face down on an embankment with all of his clothes blown off from the blast. The boat's 600 pound safe was found 200 yards away with the captain's dog still chained to it. Bodies were blown everywhere, many with missing limbs. Eighty-three bodies were found on land and buried. A butcher on the street was killed instantly by flying machinery. Other people in Lexington were injured by the debris. A building near the dock was destroyed by flying pieces of iron. Most of the bodies were washed away by the river. Surviving records were incomplete, but some estimates go as high as 200

dead.

As the railroad lines grew longer they began to take freight and passengers from the riverboats, and slowly the riverboat era ended.

Now let's look at a new era and some changes that occurred later. During the Civil War the ironclads Monitor and Merrimac fought their famous battle. Soon steel hulls began to replace wooden hulls in ships, and steam replaced sail power. Did this new technology make ocean travel safe? You be the judge. Here I list some great ocean disasters from that era.

Jan 11, 1866, Steamer London foundered in Bay of Biscay and 220 lives were lost. October 3, 1866, Steamer Evening Star foundered: 250 lives lost. October 29, 1867, Royal Mail steamers Rhone and Wye, and about 50 other vessels driven ashore and wrecked at St. Thomas, West Indies, by a hurricane: 1000 lives lost.

You can see the idea from this, so I'll just give the date and name of the ship and number of lives lost from here on.

January 1873; Northfleet; 300. November 1873; Atlantic; 547. May 1875;

Schiller; 200. November 1875; Pacific; 236. March 1878; Eurydice; 300. Sept. 1878; Princess Alice; 700. December 1878; Bysantin collided with Rinaldo; 210. Here is a strange one: January 1880, British training ship Atlanta left Bermuda with 290 men and was never heard from. March 1889; Trenton, Vandalia, Nipsic, Adler, Eber; 147. March 1891; Utopia collided with Anson; 574. June 1893; Victoria with Camperdown; 357. June 1894; Norge; 600. January 1895; Elbe with Creathie; 335 March 1895; Reina Regenta; 400. July 1898; Bougogne with Cromartyshire; 571. June 1904; General Slocum; 1000. Sept. 1905; Mikasa; 599. February 1907; Berlin; 142; April 1912; Titanic; 1595.

If the new technology denied the destroyer that rideth upon the face thereof a few lives during time of peace, then it paid him back with enormous interest in time of war.

During the second World War modern technology created casualties that were impossible before modern times. Let me show you a few. In October of 1944 the Americans began to retake the Philippine Islands. Three days later all that was left of the Japanese Navy

came to Leyte and one of the greatest sea battles in history began. The American Carrier Princeton was sunk with the loss of over 500 men. The Cruiser Birmingham was sunk, drowning 229 men. The Japanese battleship Musashi was sunk, killing over 1,000 men. After a three day battle 36 Japanese ships were sunk and six American. Also beginning at this time the kamikaze pilots would sink 34 American ships before the war ended. However, the worst maritime disaster occurred on January 30, 1945, when the German transport, Wilhelm Gustloff, carrying 8,000 soldiers and refugees back to Germany from the north, was sunk, drowning 6,000 people.

After World War II the overseas passenger traffic began to go by air. The English converted many long range bombers into passenger planes. Americans built new planes, but the Boeing Stratocruiser closely resembled the B-29 they had built for the military during the war. However, the Lockheed Constellation, lovingly referred to as the "Connie," stole the show. With these new planes flying became an attractive alternative to going by boat. In time with the air liners carrying large numbers of passengers

they could easily compete with the prices of steamship travel. And so the air liners ended the great ocean travel by ship era and the hazards that went with it; or did they?

There were fewer passenger ships, but we still heard of accidents at sea. A case in point was the Italian Andrea Dorea and the Swedish ship, Stockholm. Wednesday July 25, 1956, a little over 100 miles from New York, the Andrea Dorea was about to complete its trip to New York; the Stockholm had just left New York. The Dorea was traveling in a fog; the Stockholm had not yet reached the fog. Both ships were equipped with radar and sighted each other about the same time on their screens. The course they were traveling indicated they would miss each other by about a mile. One ship had a helmsman who was known to not pay attention to business and wander mentally. When visual contact was made they were about a quarter of a mile apart and on a collision course. Each tried to miss the other, but the Andrea Dorea made a crazy turn. The ships collided with the end result that the Dorea sank and 43 died immediately. Three others died later from injuries received in the rush to abandon ship.

If you will, remember the Saluda. Most of the passengers on that boat were members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, a faction of the restoration church. They have the revelation just like we do. The Saluda blew up in Lexington, Missouri, not too far downstream from Independence. The revelation was given three days downstream from Independence by canoe, so it could not be far from the spot where the revelation was given. And the revelation warned them that this was a dangerous place to be, "Yea and especially upon these waters...." Now this is a lesson that we all need to learn. When we ignore God's warning we do so at our own peril and at the peril of those whom we lead!

Another thing we need to consider is that our own people crossed that river in 1867 under dangerous circumstances and without incident. They had been told to come

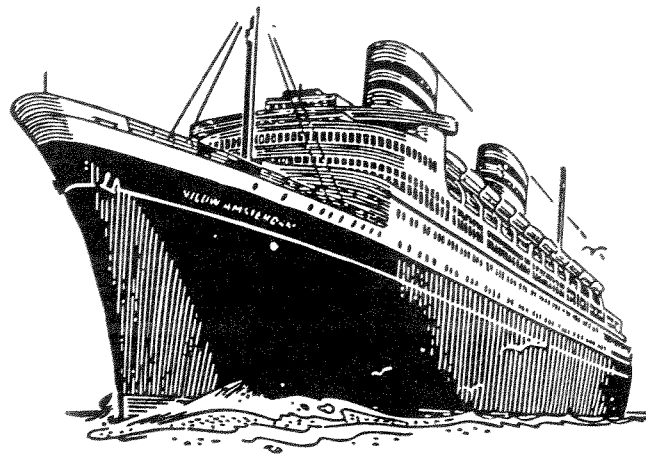
back to Zion by revelation. Had the Lord not told them there could indeed have been another disaster like the Saluda.

According to the revelation, someday those who are not upright in heart will not be able to travel to this land by water. This revelation has been true so far as I have tried to show. Things are fairly quiet on the water today, although there are still the Greeneville type of accidents happening (incidentally, for those of you who don't know what the Greeneville is, it is one of the newest atomic submarines, one of the greatest technological wonders of our time, but still subject to this curse of the waters), but if the revelation continues to be true, and I believe it will, then at some future time water travel will become a terror again. The revelation also states, "That you shall forewarn your brethren concerning these waters." So I warn you that this is in the offing.

I don't know why this is so, but I believe it is. The revelation makes it clear that those who believe in Christ and keep their faith have nothing to fear from any of this, and I find that comforting.

SOURCES

- Navy Times*: periodical
New World Shipwrecks 1492-1825: Robert and Jenifer Marx
Riverboats of America: Frank Donovan
The Lusitania: Patrick O'Sullivan
Story of the Wreck of the Titanic (Memorial Edition—published just months after the actual wreck): Marshall Everett
In the Lexington, Missouri, library there is a book written by the Mormon Church which tells of the disaster and was donated to the Lexington library. I just asked for something on the wreck of the Saluda and was given this book.
The Story of the Wreck of the Andrea Doria: William Hoffer
A Short History of World War I, by James Stokesbury



CHRIST IN THE TEMPEST

Storm on the heaving waters!—The vast sky
Is stooping with its thunder. Cloud on cloud
Rolls heavily in the darkness, like a shroud
Shaken by midnight's Angel from on high,
Through the thick sea-mist, faintly and afar,
Chorazin's watch-light glimmers like a star,
And, momentarily, the gastly cloud-fires play
On the dark sea-wall of Capernaum's bay,
And tower and turret into light spring forth
Like spectres starting from the storm-swept earth;
And, vast and awful, Tabor's mountain form,
Its Titan forehead naked to the storm,
Towers for one instant, full and clear, and then
Blends with the blackness and the cloud again.

And it is very terrible!—The roar
Ascendeth unto Heaven, and thunders back,
Like the response of demons, from the black
Rifts of the hanging tempest—yawning o'er
The wild waves in their torment. Hark!—the cry
Of strong man in peril, piercing through
The uproar of the waters and the sky,
As the rent bark one moment rides to view,
On the tall billows, with the thunder cloud
Closing around, above her, like a shroud!

He stood upon the reeling deck—His form
Made visible by the lightning, and His brow,
Pale, and uncovered to the rushing storm,
Told of a triumph man may never know—
Power underived and mighty—"Peace—be still!"
The great waves heard Him, and the storm's loud
tone
Went moaning into silence at His will;
And the thick clouds, where yet the lightning
shown,
And slept the latent thunder, roll'd away,
Until no trace of tempest lurk'd behind,
Changing upon the pinions of the wind,
To stormless wanderers, beautiful and gay.

Dread Ruler of the tempest! Thou before
Whose presence boweth the uprisen storm—
To whom the waves do homage round the shore
—Of many an Island empire!—if the form
Of the frail dust beneath Thine eye may claim
Thy infinite regard—oh, breathe upon
The storm and darkness of man's soul the same
Quiet, and peace, and humbleness which came
O'er the roused waters, where Thy voice had
Gone
A minister of power—to conquer in Thy name!

—John Greenleaf Whittier

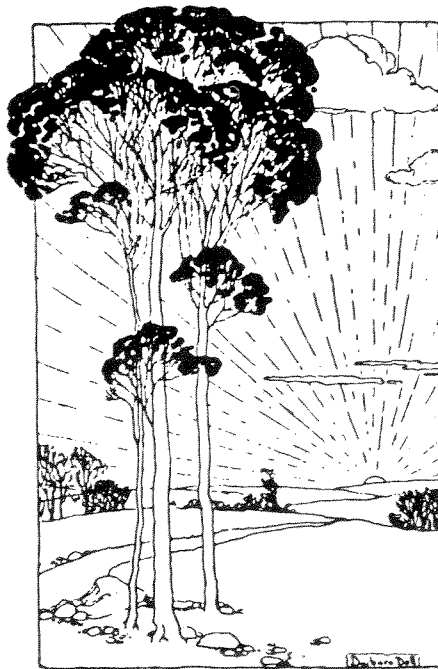
The Effectual Fervent Prayer

Brothers and Sisters,
In the month of September I decided to have another child. From the first month I began to feel some troubling pain and cramping on the right side of my abdomen. I could not kneel or walk very much. I visited the health center. The second month I spotted two times. I was very worried and prayed to God that He would keep my baby.

Brother John sent me to Doctor Freddie and he told me I had cervicitis (?ajm). I asked for prayers and told the brothers and sisters what I had. Strong pains attacked me. I cried out to the Lord on my knees, "I don't want to loose my baby! I want to carry this child nine months."

The third month I visited the health center and because of the problems the nurse gave me an immediate referral to Hospital Grabiela Alvarado en Danli. The doctor there gave me a referral for an ultrasound. I asked John's help and he sent me with Nana to the clinic. The ultrasound showed that the placenta was on the outside of the uterus.

The doctor told me that I needed three months of rest and that if I did not I would loose the baby. My husband, Jenaro, asked my sister to come



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and help around the house.

Nana always asked me how I felt. In the seventh month she told me to visit the doctor again and get another ultrasound. The doctor told me that the placenta was now in its proper place. I would be able to have my baby without any problem.

I felt very happy. I know

that it was not the doctors that did this work. It was a miracle of God. Brothers and sisters, I am very happy because my baby will be born at nine months just as I had asked God.

After this I began taking care of my own home and I feel well. I rejoice in the hope that my child will be born and I will hold it in my arms. Brothers and sisters, I am grateful to God because I know that we believe in a Christ with power, a God that can do all things. It says in James, "The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much." I know that all of you are praying for us.

I want to tell you brothers and sisters it is a great blessing when the missionary brothers are with us to give us new teaching that is of great blessing.

God bless you in a special way,

*I write to you all,
Your sister,
Leyda E. Garcia*

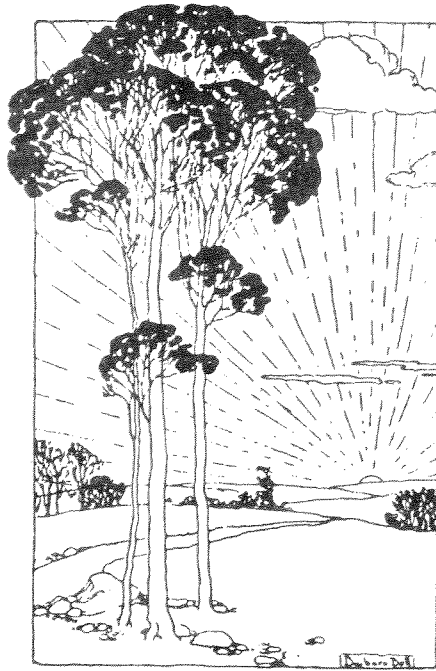
—Posted on the CCEG

The Power of Prayer

According to Nicholas Denham, this testimony occurred about 1955. At that time he was working as an auditor for an insurance company. His job was to audit the books of companies who were customers for the purpose of establishing their insurance premiums. While he was thus employed he traveled extensively. Once Maynard Case asked him to go and administer to a sister in south Missouri. Nicholas said he would if he could, but he was very busy, and wasn't sure his work would take him near enough to visit the sister. Maynard gave him directions to a Sister Kline's, who was a member of the RLDS church, but who knew everyone in town. Nicholas was told that she would take him to see Sister Poague.

About a week later he was given the job of auditing the books of a firm near Neosho, Missouri. This was near the little town where

Sister Poague lived, so Nicholas decided to go there. When he arrived at Sister Kline's she met him at the door and said, "I've been ex-



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pecting you." To which Nicholas responded, "Why were you waiting, I wasn't sure I was coming." Her reply was, "Oh, Maynard told me you would come." She lived in a house on top of a hill that also sat on top of a terrace. Everyone in that small town could see the

house, so Nicholas sat in the porch swing until she was ready. He apologized for being so unprepared, but not being sure he was coming he hadn't brought any oil. Sister Kline got him some consecrated oil and they left for the Poague residence.

When they turned off the road into the Poague driveway, there was a cluster of men near their pickup trucks talking. Nicholas exchanged greetings with them and was then led into the Poague home by Mrs. Kline. Sister Poague was laying on a bed in the living room with several ladies gathered around her. After greeting the ladies he was shown the leg. One of the ladies rolled back the covers in such a way as to show the leg discreetly, without compromising Mrs. Poague's modesty. It was black and blue all the way from the toes to the hip. Evidently the circulation was near to being completely cut off. She was suffering in a

bed in her living room until a hospital room opened up, then she was to have her leg amputated. Nicholas had one of the ladies apply the consecrated oil to the leg, then he laid hands on her and prayed for her.

After the administration he was asked to pray for Frankie. Upon asking who Frankie was, he was led to a young man who had a huge head and very short arms and legs. Nicholas said that the limbs were only about 12 inches long. Then he was asked to administer to a sick daughter, and led into the kitchen where a young girl was ill upon a cot. When he entered the room he saw a man standing behind the stove. While he was administering to the daughter, the man disappeared.

One of the people in the room asked Nicholas to spend the night, but he declined because he was so exhausted. He started for Neosho but was so tired that he pulled into the first country motel he came to. But it wouldn't leave him alone, how sad was the plight of that family. In spite of his fatigue, he spent almost all night on his knees on behalf of that family.

Well, Nicholas finished his business tour and returned home. It was about six weeks later that he went to the Temple Lot to church. While at church he met a Sister Aldrich who knew Mrs. Poague. He asked about her surgery. Mrs. Aldrich replied that there was no surgery. Sister Poague had made a full recovery and

was up and about. Sometime later Brother Denham and Leroy Wheaton went again to preach in south Missouri. That afternoon they were guests in the Poague home, where she fixed dinner for all and was as well as could be. And Nicholas found out who that mystery man was who was behind the stove. He was introduced to him as Mrs. Poague's husband.

A testimony by Nicholas Denham

Written by Jim Gordon

Many favors which God gives us ravel out for want of hemming through our unthankfulness; for though prayer purchases blessings, giving praise keeps the quiet possession of them.

—Izaak Walton

“LET’S LEARN TOGETHER THE SIX PRINCIPLES OF THE GOSPEL”

REPENTANCE—the Second Principle

Repentance is feeling sorry for wrong things done. It’s an admitting of the wrong doing and not continuing to do it. We must have a desire in our hearts to please God and to be our best for God.

John the Baptist preached, “*Repent ye: for the Kingdom of Heaven is at hand*” (Matthew 3:1-2).

We must truly feel sorry for those bad things we have done, and promise God that we won’t do them again. He will forgive us, if we are sincere. If we continue to do these bad things, we may not truly be sincere when we say we are sorry. We must keep our promise not to do them anymore. We must truly be repentant to be forgiven.

The purpose of repentance is to bring us closer to God and for us to perfect ourselves, to make ourselves better people; in God’s eyes, people of God. He wants us to repent willingly—not by force. That is why God gave us our own free will—so we could choose right over wrong. When we do He truly delights in it; we make Him very happy. He loves us all anyway, but even more when we choose to follow Jesus’ example, an example of Truth, Love and Righteousness.

God wants us to truly be sorry for the wrong things we’ve done—and not just when we’ve been caught doing wrong. God also wants us to make up for those wrongs, and make things right again if possible (with an apology and to try to repair the damage done). Then we must pray sincerely to God, asking His forgiveness, and make a promise that we really mean to not do it again. This is repentance.

A TEACHING EXAMPLE: Have the children list the things that they think they should feel sorry for, as we know everyone makes mistakes in life.

Example: calling someone a name, hitting someone, taking something that didn’t belong to them, telling a lie, etc. Next, ask them for suggestions as to what they would do to make amends for their wrong doings.

“LET’S LEARN TOGETHER
THE SIX PRINCIPLES OF THE GOSPEL”

Here is a picture of children praying, in faith believing and repentant, to color.

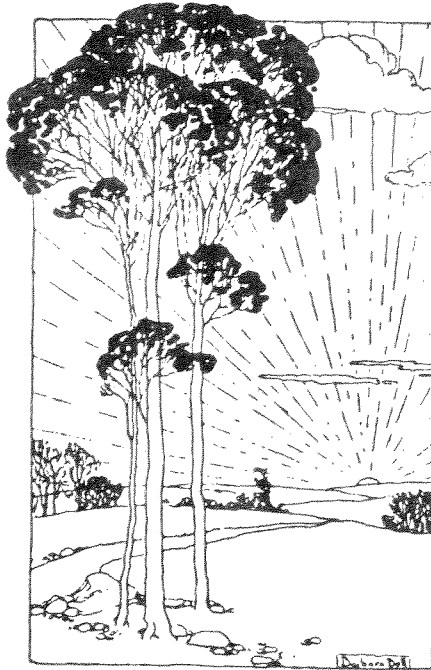


A Bedtime Prayer

I would like to pass on a small but important testimony that happened in my family down here in Honduras. Every night before going to bed, I kneel down with my three oldest children and we say our bedtime prayers. One thing we always pray for is God's protection during the night. One night after laying down, Natasha, my 3 year old, came back to me saying that there was a scorpion above her bed. Sure enough, when I went to check it out I found a large adult scorpion hanging from the top of the shelf that's directly above her head. Needless to say, I quickly disposed of it.

Before putting Natasha back to bed I explained to her that God had answered our prayers, in that she had seen the scorpion before she fell asleep, and how if she hadn't seen it, it could have fallen on her and stung her during the night. She then went on to tell me that it wouldn't,

because it was a good scorpion. I asked her what she meant and she said that good scorpions are the ones that



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don't sting. I told her that all scorpions will sting you if you touch them. She told me that she touched that scorpion and it didn't sting her. I asked, "What? You touched it? Why would you touch it?" Her simple and innocent answer was, "I thought it was a leaf." It was

then that I realized just how great God's blessing had been. For although the possibility of the scorpion falling on Natasha and stinging her during the night might not have been very high, the possibility of it stinging her when she touched it was.

*Love in Christ,
Joanne Gill
Honduras,
Central America*

—Posted on the CCEG

Honduras Testimonies

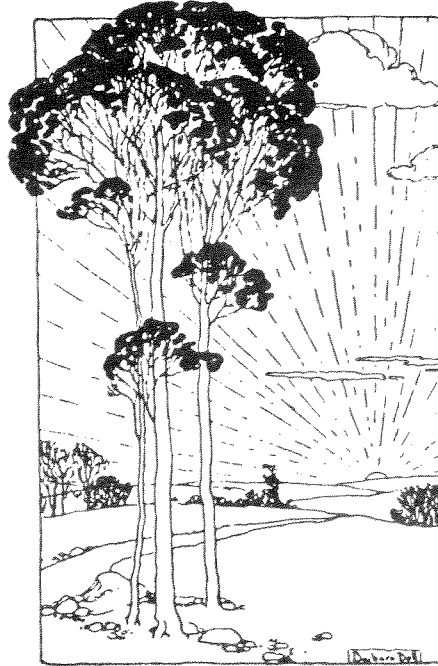
I would like to share a few testimonies from here in Honduras.

The first I would like to share is from a brother in the church.

He was up in the mountain helping a friend haul logs down the mountain. They were short logs of about 8 to 14 feet long. As he was pulling a log down the mountain his log snagged on a stump. He pulled hard to get the log unstuck, and his rope broke. He tumbled down the mountain about six feet and stopped. He stopped about two feet short of some very jagged rocks that would have caused him much pain, and should he have made it past the rocks he would have fallen down a drop off. But with the blessing of God he fell short of the rocks and the fall. He ended up with nothing more than a few scratches. Thanks be to God.

The other testimony I would like to give is about a sister here in the church. Last year there was an epidemic of chicken pox here in Zamorano. Many children as well as a few adults came down with the dis-

ease, some worse than others. We all became concerned, however, when our sister Rosemary broke out in the pox. Rosemary is the older sister of Loreli



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Crull, who some of you may know. She had been just recently married and was in the first trimester of her pregnancy.

When her husband asked me what effect her having the chicken pox could have on the baby, I told him it wasn't good. We just needed to have faith. We all began to pray fervently

for Rosemary. I told the women of the church in our women's meeting of the need to pray for her.

Therefore with faith and much prayer we received a great blessing from the Lord. Rosemary had the chicken pox for less than two days and never had a high fever. This is almost unheard of in adults.

Most of the adults here who got the chicken pox had them for weeks. For months we looked forward to the birth of her baby, with great hope that we would have another great blessing. And of course God is good. The baby was born perfect and had no ill effects from the chicken pox her mother had.

Thus we see the great need for faith and prayer and how great God is to hear.

The other day Cameron, my oldest son (7 yrs), made me feel great. We were up in the Saturday service and he wanted to give a testimony. The testimony he wanted to give was that when Randy Sheldon was here Randy had invited several young boys to

sleep on our corridor. There were about five or six hammocks. When Cameron saw this he was very worried. So he went into the house and prayed that the roof wouldn't fall under the weight (our roof isn't up to U.S. standards). In the morning, he went out into the corridor and saw that the roof hadn't fallen so he then went back into the house and again prayed and thanked God for holding up the roof.

Some times children can be so precious. Only a parent can know the joy one feels inside when your child does something like this.

But I can definitely see where praise is perfected in little children.

I have always liked the scripture verse that challenges us to become as little children.

The other day I was sitting with my four lovely children, and we were talking about the New Jerusalem as spoken of in Revelations. I was telling them about the city and the different wonderful things it will have. In telling them, we talked about the tree of life and how it would have different fruits and also how the leaves would be for the healing of the nations. My children were quizzing me about every little detail. When we were done, my oldest son went into the house and got a piece of paper and a pencil. He then set to drawing something on the table. My wife has been

having trouble with some of her teeth, she inherited bad teeth from her parents and she was having some difficult pain. My son finished his drawing and came over and showed me that he had drawn the tree of life. He said that he was going to bring it over to mom and that all she would have to do is touch the leaves and her teeth would be healed. He was serious.

Well to make a long story short, my wife sat down with him and explained that she was a little short of faith.

O, that we all could have that same faith he has.

*Love in Christ,
Ronnie Gill
Honduras*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TRI-STATE REUNION

Dear Brothers and Sisters, This is an invitation for all to attend the Tri-State Reunion. This year the reunion will be held in Wisconsin.

Where: Indoor Group Camp at Wyalusing State Park. The Park is just South of Prairie du Chien, where the Wisconsin and Mississippi Rivers converge.

When: The camp is available from 3:00 PM Aug. 31 to 3:00 PM Sept. 3. There is no admittance to the park between 11:00 PM and 6:00 AM.

There are four dorm buildings, which can house up to 27 persons each. Campers must provide their own bedding.

FYI—Wyalusing is a Munsee-Delaware Indian word meaning "home of the warrior."

For more information please contact:

Merlin L. Eddy
3370 203 r, St. W.
Farmington, MN 55024
(651) 463-2218

ARIZONA REUNION

The Church of Christ, Phoenix Local, will be hosting our annual reunion. Services will begin on Friday morning, **November 23rd**, and will continue through Sunday evening, **November 25th, 2001**.

Those who plan to attend, or requiring more information, please contact the following people:

Pastor Elder Gordon McCann
18808 N. 30th St.
Phoenix, AZ 85050
(602) 569-2341
glpdmccann@aol.com

Asst. Pastor Priest Duane Ely

18814 N 30th Street
Phoenix, AZ 85050
(602) 569-1516

Asst. Pastor Priest Glenn Orsted

1327 E. Wescott Drive
Phoenix, AZ 85050-2393
(602) 780-8764
borsted@ix.netcom.com

We invite everyone to come and share the Thanksgiving holiday and worship the Lord with us!

NEWS

ZAMORANO, EL PARAISO, HONDURAS

Here is a report from Honduras. Greetings from the Zamorano, El Paraiso, Honduras local.

The month of June has been a month full of blessings and new hope for our members here in Honduras. As the rains have returned, many have been busy planting corn and beans. The church local, together, has planted a field that is part of the church property. We are eagerly awaiting a bountiful harvest. However, just as with the gospel, we know that a bountiful harvest only comes through hard work and dedication. One must first prepare the soil, remove the rocks and the brush, loosening the ground so the roots have room to grow and so the rains can seep in. The weeds must be killed, not only once, but many, many times. Good seed must be planted and fertilized. Finally, with prayer and the blessings of God, we can expect to reap a good harvest.

We have also been blessed by the visits of Apostles Don McIndoo, Alvin Moser, and Placido Kayoc, who were with us for three Sundays and all the days in-between (with the exception of Placido, who was only able to stay one week). They labored to uplift the local here in Honduras.

In addition to the regular church meetings on Wednesday and Saturday nights and Sunday morning, they have kept busy visiting the homes of members, administering to many sick people, holding meetings in other towns, and anything else they were called

upon to do. As has come to be expected, many requests for financial assistance were brought before them. If one had the mind to, they could fill their days dealing solely with these requests, yet as the Apostles in Jerusalem said, "It is not reason that we should leave the word of God, and serve tables... But we will give ourselves continually to prayer, and to the ministry of the word" Acts 6:2,4. The Apostles were able to turn these matters over to the hands of a committee which, although having been elected in March, were only recently put in charge of the church's funds.

The women of the church were especially grateful to have the Apostles lead two of our weekly scripture studies. The first week we studied ten reasons why God may not answer our prayers, a healthy conclusion to our four-week long study on prayer. The second week we studied seven aspects of our Christian relationships, another very pertinent topic.

Themes for the sermons we were able to hear have included the need for repentance and coming to God through Jesus Christ, who is the gate; the unalterable laws of God and how the commandments God gives us are unchangeable; the lost sheep of Israel and the coming forth of the Book of Mormon, the work being the Lord's.

A new little one was born to Jenaro and Leyda Garcia. Leyda started her pregnancy with placenta previa and was advised by her doctor to not take part in any physically strenuous activities, such as washing clothes or making tortillas. Following her doctor's advice and with the great blessing of God, her

situation changed. She was able to give birth normally. On June 27th, little Leyda Ruth was born, perfectly healthy and weighing in at over 8 lb.. She is the fourth child of Jenaro and Leyda.

Please remember the Honduran local and the work of the Lord here in your prayers. We have many opportunities for outreach; however, we are very short on men to perform this labor. Pray that God will prepare men to be called into the ministry. I would like to express my personal gratitude to the Apostles and other ministry who came to Honduras, and all those who make it possible for them to come. I know it is a great sacrifice for their wives and families, a sacrifice many more will be called on to make as the gospel must go forth to every nation, kindred, tongue, and people.

Thanks also for the help and prayers of all members in the U.S. and other parts who make this work and other such works (Africa, Philippines) possible.

*Reporter for Church of Christ,
Honduras,
Joanne Gill*

REUNION REPORT

Michigan Reunion Report for 2001

Saturday, June 23rd, was a beautiful morning as we gathered in to the Bradley Local for the 65th Michigan State Reunion. Elder Aaron Heath welcomed us and read Matthew 10:1. After we sang "Let Us Go to the House of the Lord," he gave the opening prayer to open our Prayer Service. Elder Adam Porter also welcomed us and gave us some scriptures admonishing us to lay aside everything and bring ourselves in for prayer concerning the needs of the body, for all those on our prayer list, for furthering the gospel and even chastisement when needed. He read 1 Corinthians 12: 18-26 and Col. 3: 12-17, and admonished us to lay our pride aside. Many prayers were lifted up in a season of prayer unto our Heavenly Father.

The morning Preaching Service was opened by Elder Adam Porter, and he introduced Elder Ed Toulouse as our preacher for the first sermon of this year's reunion. After greeting us warmly, brother Toulouse admonished us that we need to utilize the avenue of prayer wherever we are and whatever we're doing. We live in perilous times, and as the time of Christ's return nears, more and more trials will beset us. We need God's strength to endure whatever is to befall us. God wants us to accept His will and do things HIS way! Our own way isn't good enough for Him. He wants a heartfelt sacrifice, not our "stuff," as our sacrifice; he wants our sincere heart! (He read Isaiah 1:11 and 1 Peter 4: 16-19). Br. Toulouse quoted many scriptures that told us we must believe in Christ; He is our cornerstone, He is our example. . . .

(He read from Acts 4:10-12 and Mosiah 6:6.) Br. Toulouse asked if we believe in God. Do we believe the scriptures? If we believe the scriptures, then we have to live it! Or we'll lose it! Believe it or not! (Br. Toulouse referenced Romans 3:10, 23; 1 John 1:8; 1 Peter 3:18, 2:24; Romans 1:4, 4:25; Acts 7:17, 31; 1 John 3:23; Acts 16:31; Romans 10:9; Acts 4:12; John 14:6, 3:18, 16, 36). He also related many wonderful stories of God's intervention in peoples' lives when they believed upon Him and His words, and lived accordingly. He touched all our hearts when he spoke of the loss of his wife, Roxie, and how she told him to never stop working for the Lord. We know he is carrying out her orders! We know we all need God, each and every day!

We greatly enjoyed the meal that followed and the fellowship of our brothers and sisters, even some sunshine! It was a beautiful day, in many respects.

Soon it was time to gather back in for our Song Service, where Elder LaVerne Lussenden greeted us. With many volunteers he had quite a job ahead for himself as he organized all the talents that were offered up. It was a joyous time in which many voices and talents were raised in praise unto Our Heavenly Father.

Our afternoon Preaching Service was opened by Elder Max Spencer, who explained that Elder Aaron Heath would begin the double-header sermon and Apostle Mike McGhee will follow.

Br. Aaron was introduced, and he greeted us and began by reading from

Deuteronomy 29. He told us about reading something recently that said, "We can't give Satan an inch or he'll become a ruler." How true. . . Satan tries to get to us in any way he can, and when he attacks and tears down our families he hits us the deepest. Br. Aaron admonished us to "Exude spirituality and be an example for our children! And back it up from the scriptures!" He read from Ephesians 3:13-19 and from Moroni 8:14, 27-30. He reminded us that we are the family of God and we need to set that example.

Br. Max then introduced Apostle Mike McGhee. Br. Mike greeted us and admonished us to remember, live, and teach our families to, "Love thy God with all thy heart, mind and might. . . ." Write this everywhere, especially in our hearts, as the scriptures tell us in Deuteronomy 6. Br. Mike read from Alma 12:150-155, Alma 26:56-57, and Alma 14. If you do NOT doubt. . . that IS faith! Our faith is measured and tested by all who are around us, as they are watching us and our every deed. We must teach our families what we stand for, our history, and what we believe. He read Daniel 1:4-7; Deut. 5:16; 1 Samuel 16:7-12; Mosiah 11:179-184 and 1 Nephi 3:23-36. We must teach our children of Christ as we know Him. . . if we believe it—teach it! Hold tight to the word of God!

Following, for all those who could attend, there was a picnic held at Gun Lake.

It was a very "filling" day, truly feasting on the words of Our Father!

Sunday, June 24th, was another

beautiful day, the sun shone brightly as we joyfully entered the house of the Lord to partake of His Spirit. Our Sacrament service was opened by Apostle Mike McGhee and he introduced Apostle Smith "Buzz" Brickhouse.

Br. Buzz greeted us, as he was not able to be with us the day before. He used I Corinthians 11:23-31, III Nephi 8:28-69 to admonish us that we need to come to the Lord with a repentant attitude, for we have a promise: What we pray for, in faith believing, WILL be given, if it is right. We need to humble ourselves before God, ask Him for His forgiveness, His guidance and direction, that we may not run before Him.

We were given the opportunity, in a few moments of silence, to seek Our Heavenly Father in our own prayerful thoughts. The emblems of Our Lord's flesh and blood were then blessed and served to the body. Many names were then lifted up as we went into a season of prayer unto Our Heavenly Father. There were also several administrations, and many wonderful testimonies of Our Father's goodness and blessings showered upon us. It was a wonderful, spirit-filled service in which our hearts were lifted and strengthened by the outpouring of love from our Father and our brothers and sisters in Christ. Truly the Spirit of God was present!

We then enjoyed another wonderful meal provided by the Bradley Local. We also enjoyed the blessed fellowship of our church family as we relished in the blessings bestowed upon us all.

We soon found ourselves gathering back into the sanctuary, a little ahead of time even, as we were all looking forward to another service. Our song service was opened by Elder LaVerne Lussenden. We felt very blessed as many voices and talents were once again lifted up in praise unto Our Heav-

enly Father.

Our afternoon Sermon began immediately following, as we enjoyed specials given by Sr. Joyce, Br. LaVerne and Br. Rick Lussenden. Br. LaVerne then opened the service and introduced our preacher, Apostle Buzz Brickhouse.

Brother Buzz greeted us in Swahili, as he would greet our brothers and sisters in Kenya, expressing his joy at being with us to praise our "Awesome God." He admonished us that, individually, we are afraid we'll fail, but together and with God, we can do anything. He read Mosiah 2:13-17. Believe in God, that He IS and He created all things in heaven and in earth. Man cannot comprehend all. We must repent and walk a new path... a straight path, following Him. We're told in the scriptures that if we believe all these things, see that ye DO them. Matthew 24:4-14 tells us about the beginning of sorrows, and he that endureth until the end shall be saved; the gospel will be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations—then shall the end come. Who ever would have thought that the small Church of Christ could go out to all the world—but God is preparing the way. It's His hand at work, and without His guidance and direction we certainly could not do it. Br. Buzz explained where all our missionary endeavors are taking us throughout the world, with God leading the way. We were reminded that God Our Heavenly Father tells us through the scriptures (as in Amos 3:7, 8:11) that nothing will be done, except that He revealeth His secrets unto His servants, the prophets. He read Rev. 14:6, which was written after Christ, to restore. He also used Isaiah 29:4, 18-19 and Ezekiel 37:15-20. Christ himself told us (John 10:16), "Other sheep I have..." with their own records, to confirm the truth-

fulness of the things that are written. Matthew 7:13-14, 21; tells us there is only ONE way, NOT the way of the world, which is the broad way of many ways. Christ has set our example, we have to believe it. We have to live it!

Br. Buzz spoke about the missionary work and our brothers and sisters in Kenya. There are now 18 groups that meet, with 313 members and only one elder, named Moses Ohuru. We very much enjoyed seeing pictures taken on their last trip, and hearing of some of the adventures that he and Apostle Brian McIndoo have had doing the Lord's work. There were so many times that God's hand was evident in the way things came about, and the protection that was given them.

In closing, Br. Buzz read from the 2nd Book of Nephi, chapter 6:48-49; Alma 16:226-230, and Alma 19:71.

Brother Adam thanked us all for attending this year's Michigan Reunion; he knew we all had been very well fed, physically and spiritually. He invited us to the dining hall for some fellowship and desserts before we departed. We closed with "God Be With You," and Br. Adam gave the closing prayer.

We thank all those who gave their efforts in making our reunion go smoothly and ever so enjoyably as we feasted upon the Spirit of the Lord and His blessings. We eagerly await the next time we can gather together in the House of the Lord, and give all our thanks and praise to God for all our blessings.

*With Love in Gospel Bonds,
Your Reunion Reporter,
Deb Haines*

CHANGING YOUR ADDRESS?

Speed delivery of your *Zion's Advocate* by sending us your new address immediately. Each undeliverable *Zion's Advocate* costs the church more than the value of a first class stamp, in addition to regular postage.

CHURCH OF CHRIST CONFERENCES

The 2001 Ministers' Conference (general membership) for the Church of Christ will commence Sunday, April 1. The business sessions will start at 9:00 A.M. Monday, April 2. A Solemn Assembly will be held prior to the conference, on March 30 & 31. All services will be held on the Temple Lot.

The 2001 Ministers' Conference (priesthood membership) of the Church of Christ will be held Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, August 6, 7 and 8, at Independence, Missouri.

CHURCH OF CHRIST PUBLICATIONS

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