

# Church of God, The Eternal

P. O. Box 775  
Eugene, Oregon 97440  
[www.cogeternal.org](http://www.cogeternal.org)

The late Raymond C. Cole  
Founding Pastor  
Jon W. Brisby  
Pastor, Director

Offices in  
United States  
Philippines  
Switzerland

## Announcement Letter November 2005

Dear Brethren:

We are all just returning home from another very successful Feast of Tabernacles, and what a blessing this fall Holy Day season has been for our brethren around the world. Reports from all of our Feast sites have been very positive, and it appears God certainly answered our collective prayers to protect and inspire us. It is a pleasure to write to you now and express our deepest thanks for all that so many of you did to serve and make those occasions so positive for others. There is nothing that can compare to the exhilaration that comes from brethren of real unity meeting together to fulfill God's command. The Spirit was truly evident in the behavior of those who attended, and it was impossible not to be touched deeply by that experience. We enjoyed something that can never happen by accident or by the will of any human being. It can only happen by the inspiration of God, working within the lives of His dear and responsive children.

Now that we are all back home again and forced to take up our normal routines in the world, we face the challenge that is common after the "high" of God's festival celebration is past. That challenge is to retain the positive benefits of our Feast experiences and prevent the world from robbing us of that vision and hope of the future. While we are insulated from the world during that eight-day Feast and immersed in spiritual stimuli, we come out of the fog and see things more clearly. We are better able to recognize the importance of those spiritual things of God in comparison to the pulls of that carnal world. The physical priorities back home seem less compelling as we focus on the hope of that grand tomorrow which awaits in God's master plan. We experience a renewal and a zeal for spiritual things, and we are apt to become motivated to really make a concerted effort in the coming year to grow closer to God.

But as soon as the Feast is over and we return home again, the world quickly rushes in with its demands, and we can feel overwhelmed. Before we know it, that sense of spiritual acuity and crystal clarity of priorities can become swamped by the demands of day-to-day

life. Brethren, this is a critical point in time, when we need to be asking God fervently to help us retain that enthusiasm and spiritual vision from the Feast. Satan will be very active now to attack each one of us, seeking to snatch away the positive benefits of that Feast experience. And while God gave us great protection from his wrath during the time of those holy convocations, Satan will be aggressive in seeking to undo all that you and I have gained.

Therefore, this is a time to be even more vigilant in fighting those feelings of despair and weakness. "Where there is no vision, the people perish: but he that keepeth the law, happy is he" (Proverbs 29:18). If we are urgent to fight those downward pulls, we can retain the benefits of our Feast experience, and then use that enthusiasm to truly make improvements in our lives during this coming year. Do not let yourselves be pulled right back into the same hurtful habits that may have robbed you of hope. Do not let that fog descend again to obscure the glorious future God is preparing for you. Fight to hold on to it, and let us all make this coming year one of the best yet for spiritual growth. Time is getting shorter. We know not how many more years God may afford us such peaceful assemblies to enjoy His Festivals. We need to be working aggressively to prepare for those tests of faith that are surely on the horizon.

Wherefore he saith, Awake thou that sleepest, and arise from the dead, and Christ shall give thee light. See then that ye walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise, Redeeming the time, because the days are evil (Ephesians 5:14–16).

May you all continue to fulfill the will of your Heavenly Father, who has called you to such a great and glorious future.

## **Feast of Tabernacles Reports**

**Port Sorell, Tasmania, Australia:** Seven of our brethren in Australia met for the Feast of Tabernacles in Port Sorell, Tasmania, and reported a peaceful and inspiring festival. Although they were only a very small group, they were much encouraged and uplifted by the sermons and the fellowship they enjoyed together.

**Knysna, South Africa:** There were fifteen people, comprised of three families, meeting for the Feast in Knysna, South Africa. They all stayed on a small island, a wonderful place in which nature excels in beauty. They had memorable meals and great fellowship together, and are looking forward to that time of restitution and restoration in the future. They send their love and regards to all the brethren.

**Mindanao, Philippines:** Mr. Mario Roque reports that the brethren there truly rejoiced as they kept the Feast of Tabernacles and Last Great Day with much enthusiasm spiritually and physically. They enjoyed receiving the timely and much-needed messages. There were 110

in attendance—three baptized during the Feast—and they all will treasure the wonderful Feast experience in their hearts.

**Luzon, Philippines:** Mr. Corsino Canta is happy to report that the eight who were in attendance in Luzon rejoiced before God in spite of their small number. They express their gratitude for the excellent and inspiring sermons on the subject of restoration of all things. How they wish it could happen now. They send their greetings to everyone.

**Rongo, Kenya:** Mr. Isaya Owak reports that there were fifty-five adults, twenty-three children, and fifteen infants present during the Feast. They were blessed by rains throughout the Feast days. Seven people were baptized in Lake Victoria, and there were fifteen children blessed on the Last Great Day. Many were unhappy at the thought of departing, but all made it safely home. They hope everyone enjoyed the Feast as much as they did.

**Kandersteg, Switzerland:** The small group of French-speaking brethren who met in Kandersteg totaled twenty-six, including children. Mr. Jean Aviolat reports that they had a marvelous Feast in the majestic and beautiful Swiss Alps. The weather was favorable, and they were blessed both spiritually and physically. They all felt regenerated by the uplifting fellowship. They express their love for all the brethren, whom they remember in their prayers.

**Townsend, Tennessee:** There were 146 present for the Feast in Townsend. The enthusiasm of the new members was felt throughout the congregation. There were two baptisms, and they were blessed with lovely weather throughout the Feast. The sermons were thoroughly enjoyed and taken to heart. They send their love and regards to all the brethren.

**Newport, Oregon:** In Newport, there were 106 attending. The peacefulness and closeness of the brethren was evident every day. Considering it was so late in the season, they were blessed with good weather, with only a couple of days of light rain. There were many activities and meals spent together. The spiritual food was very meaty and enjoyed by all. They send their love and warm regards to everyone.

## **Deaths**

Mrs. Marion Meining: We were saddened by the death of Mrs. Marion Meining, of Kunkletown, Pennsylvania. She was a longtime member and was ninety-one years of age at her death, October 15. We extend our heartfelt sympathy to her family and friends.

Mrs. Betty Jacobs: We also were saddened to hear of the death of another longtime member, Mrs. Betty Jacobs, of Lititz, Pennsylvania. She died October 24 at the age of

eighty-one, of what appears to have been a massive stroke. She was preceded in death by her husband, George, in December 2004. We extend our condolences to her family members and friends.

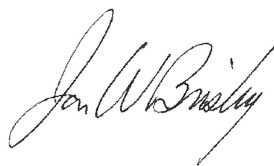
### Trip Schedule

December 3 ..... Don Carlos, Mindanao, Philippines  
December 10 ..... Somerset, Tasmania, Australia

### Tape Schedule

Tape #	Mailed	Played	Title
WSE-JB 22-86-23N	10-12-05	11-12-05	Fund. of Belief #23N, Prophecy
WSE-RC 34-1	10-28-05	11-19-05	Use the Feast Experience as a Foundation for Future Growth #1
WSE-JB 22-87-23O	10-28-05	11-26-05	Fund. of Belief #23O, Prophecy
WSE-RC 34-2	11-10-05	12-03-05	Use the Feast Experience as a Foundation for Future Growth #2
WSE-RC 25-1	11-10-05	12-10-05	Exploitation of Social Issues/Godly Work Ethic #1
WSE-JB 79	11-23-05	12-17-05	The Power of Prayer?

In Christ's service,



Jon W. Brisby