

Announcement Letter November 2009

Dear Brethren:

In this first issue since returning home from keeping the Feast of Tabernacles, we greet you all with sincere thanksgiving for His mercy upon us, and for your continuing devotion to God's truth.

Once again we were blessed to gather in convocations of peace in areas around the world to fulfill God's command to assemble in His presence. Even though the days in which we live become more difficult and troubling at every turn, thus far we have still retained the blessing of unfettered freedom to worship God without fear of reprisal. Most of us have enjoyed that kind of freedom our entire lives, so it may be hard to really appreciate it as an ongoing *blessing*, as opposed to a *right*. But one day—probably sooner than later—we may all come to recognize how blessed we truly have been, once those freedoms are curtailed. But to date that is not the case, and so we have much to celebrate.

In every place where we had faithfully organized assemblies for these Feast days, the reports and feedback from our brethren have been very positive. Our sincere thanks to all of the leaders as well as the members and attendees who made many personal sacrifices to contribute to such a blessed result. To have the Truth of God is the foundation of all. But to add to that the zeal and enthusiasm of so many who have shown their love for that way by their sacrifices to serve their brethren at the Feast, it is indeed inspiring. Thank each of you for your important role in that overall experience.

And to all of you beloved ones who were prevented from attending due to circumstances truly beyond your control (God knows and respects that), we pray that God will intervene to create the miracle necessary to allow your assembly with us in the future. Regardless of His will for each one, you are all dearly loved and were sincerely missed.

And for those of you who missed attendance at the Feast this year (either for all or for part of it) with reasons which were not really acceptable in God's eyes, you too are still very much loved and were sincerely missed. We pray that rather than allow this year's mistake to push you farther away, you will renew yourself in commitment to prepare this coming year and *pull out all stops* to put God first at the very next opportunity. It is never profitable to "cry over spilt milk," but better to take those bitter lessons and face them, and then use them as motivation to get ourselves in the right orientation for the future. Let no one or no circumstance dispossess you of your crown. Your brethren and this ministry love you dearly, and we will do all we can to assist you in that walk toward our glorious spiritual future.

Festival Reports

Kandersteg, Switzerland: Mr. Jean Aviolat reports that the French-speaking brethren had a very good Feast. The weather in the Swiss Alps was beautiful. They enjoyed one another in fellowship and outdoor activities. They had a happy gathering with music and singing, and a cheese fondue dinner. There were twenty-six, including children. The little group reflected five European countries: Switzerland, France, Belgium, Spain and England. They are remembering all their brethren in prayer, and they send their warm greetings and much love.

Don Carlos, Mindanao, Philippines: Mr. Corsino Canta and Mr. Mario Roque send warmest greetings to all from the Philippines! They hope everybody enjoyed the spirit of peace and unity that the Feast brought about. They were overwhelmed with the spirit of unity and love. Their attendance was ninety-three adults and twenty-seven youth and children. They were blessed with perfect weather. The five brethren from the Luzon area made it in time for the opening night. Everybody was appreciative of the accommodations with very comfortable quarters which were prepared before the Feast. They extend their best regards to all of the brethren who attended at the other Feast sites.

Yachats, Oregon: The new facility for our Feast in Yachats worked out very well. The atmosphere of the quaint, little town was very relaxing and enjoyable. The weather for the entire time was incredibly nice, which was a blessing for those who had outside activities such as horseback riding, charter boat fishing, sand dune buggy rides and beachcombing. A big thank you goes to Mr. Jeff Stephens for sponsoring a lamb roast. There was a plentiful amount of delicious lamb to go along with the potluck dishes that were supplied. Mr. Brisby provided his own version of a roast for the potluck/family night entertainment, by "roasting" his office staff through songs. That, along with the other various skits and musical offerings, made it a night full of fun and laughter. And last, but most important, the sermons gave us much spiritual food for study and self-examination through the coming months. It was a very enjoyable Feast.

Townsend, Tennessee: The Feast observance in Townsend, Tennessee, was marked by peace and unity, as well as inspiring fellowship among the brethren. The weather was a mix of sun and rain, with a couple of days of high winds and one thunderstorm. There were a few group activities, including a hike to a waterfall, horseback riding, the annual pancake brunch at Mr-s. Litz's home sponsored by Mr. Charles Armstrong and his family, the annual family night/potluck organized by Mr. Geoff McAbee and his family, and a couple of activities for the teens and young people. All who were able to attend enjoyed the fun and fellowship at these events. The attendance was one hundred eighteen, including several new brethren whom we all enjoyed meeting. Overall, everyone seemed genuinely enthusiastic

and excited to observe the eight-day festival, resulting in a general feeling of warmth and happiness throughout the whole assembly.

Hermanus, South Africa: All the brethren arrived safely at the Feast site in Hermanus; the van der Bank family having stretched their journey of two thousand plus kilometers over three days, and the rest of us having shorter trips. We experienced fairly mild weather, with some cloud cover, and with two days of high winds. The beginning of the Feast, the opening night, was rather emotional, as we all felt the absence of Miss Gaby Bouwer, and she was missed throughout the Feast. Everyone enjoyed the services, and especially the sermon series by Mr. Brisby, which was a fresh revelation, with warnings and challenges for all. There were many opportunities for sharing time and meals with each other, and it was great to see brethren who are not able to meet together regularly. The Garden Tea Party was thoroughly enjoyed by all the ladies, who were splendidly turned out with flower-bedecked hats. This year, the Feast seemed to be over before it had really gotten under way, but was a meaningful experience for everyone. We had some welcome rain on the Sunday when all left Hermanus for their homes, but we all traveled safely. We are so thankful to the Eternal for making this all possible, and for His protection and blessings during the Feast of Tabernacles 2009.

Port Sorrell, Tasmania, Australia: The small group of six who met in Tasmania, Australia, send their love, affection and regards. They were united in the Philadelphia spirit throughout the Feast. They all experienced the kind, benevolent, smiling affection of our Father during the Feast. They will remember the admonition, the exhortation and encouragement to overcome, the authority and power our Lord commands, fulfilling and certifying the faith once delivered, given to us by a chosen servant, Mr. Jon Brisby. They will try to live the message deep in their hearts, to the last breath. Their love, respect and regards to all.

Birth

Mr-s. Jason Bourget of Oak Ridge, Tennessee, wish to announce the arrival of their second boy, Ian Joseph, who was born at home Friday, October 23. Ian weighed eight pounds, eight ounces, and was nineteen inches in length. We congratulate them on their new arrival.

Wedding

On October 31, 2009, Mr. Richard Litz officiated at the wedding ceremony of Patsy McCulley and Keith Gordon in Maryville, Tennessee. The couple requests no gifts, just best wishes and prayers. They send their love to everyone.

New Moon

The new moon, Kislev (eighth month), will begin on the evening of November 17.
The new moon day is November 18.

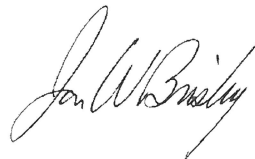
Trip Schedule (Mr. Brisby)

November 21 Sydney, N.S.W., Australia
December 19 Philippines

Recorded Sermon Schedule

Sermon #	Mailed	Played	Title
CL2-78	09-03-09	10-24-09	Christian Living Series #2 Kindness #10
WSE-JB 118-2	09-24-09	10-31-09	The Truth About Tithing #2
CL2-79	09-24-09	11-07-09	Christian Living Series #2 Kindness #11
WSE-JB 118-3	09-24-09	11-14-09	The Truth About Tithing #3
WSE-JB 118-4	11-05-09	11-21-09	The Truth About Tithing #4
CL2-80	11-05-09	11-28-09	Christian Living Series #2 Kindness #12
WSE-JB 118-5	11-05-09	12-05-09	The Truth About Tithing #5
CL2-81	11-25-09	12-12-09	Christian Living Series #2 Kindness #13

In Christ's service,



Jon W. Brisby