

## Announcement Letter September 2016

Dear Brethren:

Writing these letters to you each month is not only an excellent opportunity to stay in contact, but also a regular reminder of how quickly time is speeding by. The very fact that it is time to write the September issue makes that sense of time's passage very real and compelling, especially when it means we are so near the autumn Feast season. We greet you again and express our sincere appreciation and respect for each one of you, with thoughts and prayers for your well-being in all that you are enduring. It is always a comfort to know that you are there, and that you are holding firm in fighting for the right things in this life.

This is the final issue you will receive before the Feast of Trumpets, so we want to provide those last items of information we can think of which might be needful to you in your preparations for this Holy Day season, especially for your travels to attend the Feast of Tabernacles. At this point in time it is late, but not too late, to complete a personal plan to be at God's commanded Feast. If any are still hesitant or feeling that there are insurmountable obstacles—and if there is anything we can do to assist you—please know that we are eager to work with you to overcome those barriers. Even as there are many obstacles to achieving salvation in the Kingdom of God, so there are always many potential obstacles immediately before us in fulfilling our physical responsibilities today. God allows those challenges as a means to test our resolve in putting Him first. And He has promised that with every obstacle there is also a way through.

There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it (1 Corinthians 10:13).

You may never have thought of this text in terms of Feast keeping, but when God commands that we appear before Him, and makes it plain that those Feasts are *the sign* between Him and His people, then anything that would prevent us from being there to make our offerings before Him in person is certainly a "temptation" to be overcome.

Some very few of you most definitely have no way to make such a physical trip, and God will mercifully excuse you because of your unique circumstances. But for the vast majority of you, your *obstacles* are not a legitimate excuse for being absent. You may be

sickly or even feeble, but with some planning and determination, you could still be there. Some of you are not even being *physically restrained* from coming to the Feast, but you are simply afraid of something bad happening if you do attend. What are you afraid of? The unknown of going to a new, unfamiliar place and being surrounded by people you have not yet met? Worried about losing a job, the reaction of unconverted family, or how other personal responsibilities back home will get managed? Fear of reprisal for doing what is right will never be a justification for putting God second.

Those of you who have faced some of these very serious pressures in past years—and have prevailed in overcoming them—can testify how much it is *worth it* to pull out all stops and act in faith to obey. For some of you facing that kind of challenge this year, we invite you to "take your flesh in your teeth" (Job 13:14), step out in spite of fear to do what is right, and to share that fellowship with others who are likewise struggling to learn to put on real faith. The Creator God who called you and loves you will never let you down.

## **New Photo Album**

The album we produced in 2012 showing pictures and names of individuals and families in our fellowship from many areas was a huge hit. As scattered as we are today, the chance to see an image of those others who share this faith is a real blessing, as well as a way to learn the names and faces of many we may get to see in person only at the annual Feast of Tabernacles. In the last four years we have had a number of changes, including new members, growing children, etc. We also would like to include photos of more of our international families, especially those in the Philippines and in Kenya. For all of these reasons and because of the last album's popularity, we are working to assemble a new album right after this fall Holy Day season.

We have already begun collecting new photos in areas where we have lead men to take pictures and send them to us. As we did in 2012, we also plan to take photos at this year's Feast of Tabernacles. We encourage all of you to help us with this project, as an act of service to your brethren. Some of you may be self-conscious about pictures, but if we can get "the self" out of the way and focus on what a blessing this album is to so many—especially our isolated members who do not have the opportunity for fellowship—we anticipate that all of you will work graciously with our assigned photographers at the Feast to help us accomplish this service project.

## **New Moon**

The new moon, Tishri (seventh month), begins Sunday evening, October 2. The new moon day is Monday, October 3 (Feast of Trumpets).

## **Holy Days**

Feast of Trumpets.....	October 3
Atonement.....	October 12
Feast of Tabernacles.....	October 16 (evening service)–October 23
Last Great Day. ....	October 24

## **Excess Second Tithe**

This is a reminder of the yearly need for second tithe to cover administrative and facility costs for the Feast. We want to reserve adequate for an enjoyable and meaningful Feast. At the same time, we all must remember, to keep the Feast requires the rental of halls, transportation, aid to those who are deserving, etc. If we all contribute, the burden for each is relatively small. A huge thanks to those whose hearts and minds are willing. May God richly and abundantly bless you in all ways.

## **Second Tithe Requests**

Please be reminded that requests for second-tithe assistance for the Feast of Tabernacles need to be in by September 20. Any who need assistance should notify us in ample time.

## **Feast of Tabernacles**

In Yachats, OR, the Feast will be held at the Yachats Commons, located at 441 Hwy 101 N.

In Townsend, TN, the Feast will be held at The Barn Event Center of the Smokies, 7264 East Lamar Alexander Pkwy.

If you need further information, please call the church office at (541) 344-8880.

Please take note that the weekly Sabbath services on October 15 will be held in Townsend, TN, (at 1:00 P.M.), and in Yachats, OR, (at 2:00 P.M.) since the Feast of Tabernacles will begin the next evening, Sunday, October 16, (at 7:30 P.M.). Please make your plans and reservations accordingly.

## **FOT—Townsend, October 15**

For those coming early to the Feast, Mr-s. Richard Litz will host a BBQ at their home for the meal following the weekly Sabbath service of October 15. They will provide the burgers and drinks and ask the brethren to bring salads and desserts.

### **FOT Protocol**

Another housekeeping item for those attending one of the North American Feast sites: Please keep in mind the proper protocol for respect to God during the daily church assemblies. Many do not have formal weekly Sabbath assemblies to attend during the year, and therefore attendance at a holy convocation during the fall Feast may not be "familiar."

It is important that we each do our best to be quiet during the services, and that includes during the special music as well as the sermon. The respect to God is most important of all, and secondarily, it is an issue of courtesy to all other attendees who are there to be instructed and inspired.

Thirdly, we put a lot of time and resources into recording both the sermons and the special music to be sent out to our members after the Feast is over. Those recordings are an important part of the spiritual service that we provide for the entire church worldwide today. Live recordings of large gatherings will always include inadvertent sounds from the audience. That is expected. We are simply asking that all of you join us in doing your very best to eliminate as much noise as possible during the services. This includes turning off all cell phones and other electronics that might make a sound at an inopportune moment. It also includes limiting traffic in and out of the meeting hall during the service. Parents with small children can help us greatly by bringing only *very quiet toys* to church services.

Also, in light of an incident during the Feast last year involving a group of young girls, we are asking that you keep your children in view at all times. They should not be unsupervised in hallways, restrooms, other rooms, or outside where you are not present or cannot see them. We must never cause an issue that might leave a bad impression or, worse yet, forfeit our further use of the accommodations. We intend for our deacons to be aggressive this year in enforcing this policy. Once again, we appreciate all of you working together with us to create the best possible results for these annual Feast assemblies.

## **FOT—Family Night/Potluck**

In Townsend, the family night/potluck will be Tuesday evening, October 18, at 6:00 p.m. The emcee in Townsend will be Mr. Davin Arroyo: "I will be the emcee at this year's FOT Family Night, therefore, I'm looking for dancers, singers, stand-up comics, etc. of all ages. If you would like to participate and be a star for the evening, please contact me at 919-655-5789 or at [jpgada1@att.net](mailto:jpgada1@att.net). Let's make this Family Night the best ever! Thank you, Davin Arroyo."

In Yachats, the family night/potluck will be Thursday evening, October 20, at 6:00 p.m. The emcee for that night will be Mr. Ryan Armstrong. Anyone who is interested in performing, please contact Ryan at: 401-864-0081 or by email at: [Ryan.armstrong08@ymail.com](mailto:Ryan.armstrong08@ymail.com).

## **Trip Schedule**

### **Mr. Jon Brisby**

October 3 (Trumpets) . . . . . Modesto, CA  
October 12 (Atonement) . . . . . Townsend, TN  
October 16–19 (FOT) . . . . . Townsend, TN  
October 20–24 (FOT) . . . . . Yachats, OR

### **Mr. David Brandenburg**

September 14–18. . . . . Eugene, OR  
October 3 (Trumpets) . . . . . Modesto, CA  
October 16–24 (FOT) . . . . . Port Sorrell, Tasmania, Australia

### **Mr. Richard Litz**

October 16–24 (FOT) . . . . . Townsend, TN

### **Mr. Robert Litz**

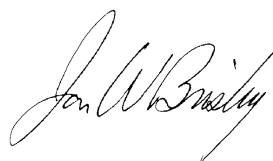
October 12 (Atonement) . . . . . Boise, ID  
October 16–24 (FOT) . . . . . Yachats, OR

## Recorded Sermon Schedule

Sermon #	Mailed	Played	Title
WSE-RC 39-20	08-04-16	09-03-16	Confrontations and Responses of Jesus Christ #20
WSE-RC 39-21	08-25-16	09-10-16	Confrontations and Responses of Jesus Christ #21
WSE-RC 39-22	08-25-16	09-17-16	Confrontations and Responses of Jesus Christ #22
WSE-JB 22-151-26A	08-25-16	09-24-16	Fund. of Belief #26: Worldly Holidays: Introduction
WSE-RC 39-23	09-15-16	10-01-16	Confrontations and Responses of Jesus Christ #23
WSE-JB 22-152-26B	09-15-16	10-08-16	Fund. of Belief #26: Worldly Holidays: What God Hallowed
WSE-RC 39-24	09-15-16	10-15-16	Confrontations and Responses of Jesus Christ #24

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In Christ's service,



Jon W. Brisby