

Announcement Letter March 2020

Dear Brethren:

The chance to address all of you during the month that God's new year begins is a blessing and a privilege. The fact that Nisan 1 is just days away means that the Passover season is also very near. God willing, you are all focused in your preparations for that Holy Day season and your personal sacrifices and efforts to honor God will be greatly blessed. We continue to experience God's mercy and special favor in being able to serve you and to preserve that revealed Way of Life for a remnant fellowship.

You are all very dear to us because of who you are in God's Plan, and as the called children of God, you always deserve the utmost respect and attention from this ministry. Does that mean that we always give every one of you the full personal attention that you deserve? Sadly, it does not. Should we ever take you for granted? No, not ever. Do we, however, seem to do exactly that sometimes? Probably, and perhaps all too often. Is that because our love for you is insincere? Not at all! Is it because we are simply limited in the number of servants available to serve, not to mention the physical capacity of each of those few servants to do all that we would like to do? Most definitely.

How do our human limitations in the real world affect our interactions with you? While sometimes we are able to be the ones to reach out to you and to initiate contact, more often than not, it is you who contacts us first, and then we respond to your need, or maybe to your simple outreach to say hello. All of those contacts are important, valuable, and we encourage you *never to resist communicating with us* for any reason. At the same time, what we often miss is the chance to be the ones to initiate contact, just to check on you and see how you are doing. It is not that we have limited contact with God's people. Most of us are speaking with, writing to, or visiting one or more of our members or church contacts on a constant basis. But it just seems we are often working to manage what comes our way, rather than having the opportunity to be the ones to reach out to you. What are the risks involved in this arrangement?

For many of you, you are very fine with limited contact with the ministry during the year. It is not necessarily that you prefer to "avoid us," but you simply seem very fine with receiving our letters and sermons, and barring any special need arising, you simply do not crave a personal contact to be satisfied. When we do see you or have the chance to communicate, the personal bond between us is just as strong as ever before. This is always very gratifying.

There are others of our dear members who *do need* more contact, and they have heard our admonition not to be shy and they do indeed reach out to us as often as they need to for support and guidance. This is also an example of positive give and take, even though it is the laymember who is initiating most of those contacts. We are very glad to be available.

The one category that is most concerning is the laymember who *might possibly* benefit from a personal contact, but who does not initiate it, and then might seem to "fall through the cracks" because neither did we initiate an outreach just to say, "How are you doing?" How many times might we be missing the chance to help someone because we simply do not know there is an immediate need? If we had more time and ability to reach out to everyone, it is likely we might pro-actively *stumble upon* more chances to be of assistance. (Of course, we also might annoy some of you who are very happy not to have the ministry checking on you like that.)

The reality of our fleshly limitations means that there will always be the possibility of missed opportunities, even though we wish so much that it were not so. We do not excuse ourselves, and commit to working to do as much as we possibly can in your service. But this is also an admonition for you to *help us help you*. We never want to be viewed by you as "Big Brother," violating your privacy or your personal domain. At the same time, we hope always to be viewed by you as a "big brother"—one you can count upon for advice, comfort, and assistance in your times of need. Since we simply cannot always know when a need exists, it will always be practical for you to help us by reaching out when you want it or when you need it. Please do not be shy. That seems to put the onus more upon you, but if you know that we really do love you and value you as a child of God, hopefully you will also grant us the mercy that is required due to our human limitations, and aid us in responding to those areas of greatest need within God's Church when you feel them or become aware of them.

Deaths

Mrs. Rosita Canta, of Alaminos, Pangasinan, Philippines, died January 24 at 86 years of age. She was the wife of our deceased minister, Mr. Corsino Canta. The two of them served the brethren in the Luzon area of the Philippines for many years. She is survived by her daughter, Sharon, and grandchildren. She will be greatly missed.

Mr-s. Jérémie Litzler of Tournon-sur-Rhône, France wrote: We are very sad to announce that Laura Liliane was stillborn on February 1, 2020, a Sabbath of God, at home. Similarly to her brother, Matthias, Laura suffered from a blood incompatibility with her

mother. We hoped and prayed that God would intervene so she could live and be healthy. However, God's will was for her to die before the birth and wait for the second resurrection. Despite the pain, sorrow and trials to come because of French authorities, God has helped, and is helping, us tremendously to believe. Thank you all for your prayers and support in this difficult time.

Mr. Delmer Marsh of Eugene, Oregon, died peacefully at home February 7, of age-related causes. Mr. Cole made him a deacon in the early years of the church, and he served as head deacon until recent years when he felt he could no longer serve in that position. He was 92 years of age at the time of his death. He is survived by a daughter and son, five grandchildren, and one great-grandchild. He was well-loved, and we will sincerely miss him.

Thank You

Connie and Angela Silvers, and Kari McIrvin would like to thank all of the brethren for the cards, emails, flowers, calls and tremendous love and sympathy shown to them regarding the death of Mr. Delmer Marsh. It has been such a great blessing during this sad time. The prayers and expressions of love have been greatly appreciated.

New Moon

The new moon, Nisan (first month), begins Wednesday evening, March 25. The new moon day is Thursday, March 26.

Holy Days

- Passover Tuesday, April 7
- Night to be Much Observed Wednesday, April 8
- First Holy Day—Days of Unleavened Bread. Thursday, April 9
- Second Holy Day—Days of Unleavened Bread. Wednesday, April 15

Trip Schedule

Mr. Jon Brisby

March 14..... Suna-Migori, Kenya

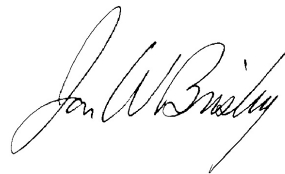
March 21..... Maryville, Tennessee

April 15, 18..... Stephenville, Texas

Recorded Sermon Schedule

Sermon #	Mailed	Played	Title
WSE-JWB 236	02-20-20	03-07-20	Titles, Tasks, & Testaments
WSE-RC 90-30	02-20-20	03-14-20	An Analysis of Jude #30
WSE-RC 90-31	02-20-20	03-21-20	An Analysis of Jude #31
WSE-JWB 225-20	03-12-20	03-28-20	Just What Do You Mean—Faith Once Delivered? #20
WSE-RC 90-32	03-12-20	04-04-20	An Analysis of Jude #32
WSE-JWB 225-21	03-12-20	04-11-20	Just What Do You Mean—Faith Once Delivered? #21
WSE-JWB 225-22	04-02-20	04-18-20	Just What Do You Mean—Faith Once Delivered? #22

In Christ's service,



Jon W. Brisby