



GOSPEL OUTREACH TO ETHIOPIA

WOODWARD PARK CHURCH OF CHRIST

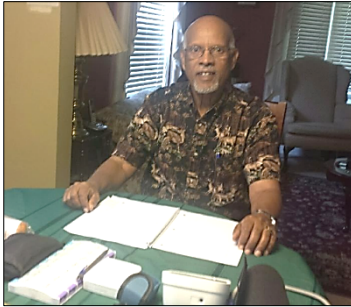
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BROTHER BEHAILU IS RECOVERING FROM A HEART ATTACK:



Behailu is now recovering from a recent heart attack at the home of Almaz Abebe in Minneapolis. The following is a report from him:

"I departed from the Seattle airport flying to Williston, ND via Denver on April 22. Bro. John Ed was scheduled to meet me in Denver and then we planned to continue on to Williston. Ten minutes after I boarded the plane, I started perspiring and had a burning pain and pressure across the top of my chest and shoulders. I became nauseous. It was a serious and discomforting situation. I didn't know it was a heart attack. When I met John Ed I was feeling

bad inside but I insisted that it would be okay to continue on to Williston. I said if I continue to feel sick then we could go to the emergency room upon our arrival in Williston. Bro. Monte Hininger was there to meet us and took me directly to the hospital. It a very short time they concluded that I had a bad heart attack and I was transported by helicopter to the Trinity Hospital in Minot, ND. An angiogram was performed and 2 blocked veins were found. Stents were put in to resolve the blockage. In the following few hours I had a major bleed in my stomach which was quickly repaired. Another smaller bleed came later. During the 9 days I was in the ICU, Monte and Pat Hininger from the Williston Church came almost every day to pray with us. They brought the Lord's Supper both Sundays I was in the hospital. I was blessed to have John Ed, my two nieces, Almaz and Elsa, and my son in the faith, Habtu Zemach with me during this ordeal. Upon my dismissal, Habtu accompanied me to Minneapolis. My wife Alem came to be with me during my recovery. In an appointment with a cardiologist in Minneapolis on May 18th I was told my condition has continued to improve and I can return to Seattle by the end of May, Lord willing. I am very thankful for my family, my co-workers and for faithful Christians all over the world for their concern and prayers for me during this ongoing ordeal. I love all of you."

A MAN OF THE WORD



Brother Alemu Hateya is one of the oldest active preachers in the Lord's Church in the Sidama area. He has been preaching for more than 40 years. He is a well know man of the word and loves to share the gospel message from door to door. You can see the condition of his bible. It is evident it has been well used. On the right is pictured a pouch he made to carry it in; it is much too fragile to carry from place to place without it. More than 40 years ago, Brother Alemu came to the church from a major denomination in his area. He had been in charge of 50 of their congregations. In early years of the

Communist occupation of Ethiopia when the Pentecostal movement was declared illegal and their members dispersed, it was Brother Alemu who first informed us to prepare for the onslaught of their members coming into the church bringing with them their former doctrine and practices. It was through his leadership that our preaching brethren were prepared when the movement happened. All those times have come and gone; but Brother Alemu is still going forward with the simple message of the gospel he has taught to others all his life. Alemu has been a mentor and blessing to hundreds of other preachers throughout the Sidama region and beyond.

NEW FOOD CROP FOR SIDAMA AREA CHURCH MEMBERS:



Arbegona is located in the higher elevations of the Sidama region. Some estimate the average elevation in the area at more than 12,000 feet. Since this part of southern Ethiopia is only 700 miles from the Equator, it has a mild climate. The church was introduced here more than 30 years ago and many congregations are scattered throughout the area. Brother Petros Fiche, right, is a gospel preacher in Arbegona and the son of

the late Brother Fiche, who served as the preacher of the Dande congregation for more than 25 years. Solomon Zewde, left, is a trained gospel preacher and also has a degree in agriculture. Four years ago preachers from the area made an appeal for some help to establish a newly introduced food crop in that area: apples. The brethren in Addis helped and the Arbegona brethren planted 145 trees and this year the trees have started producing fruit. The Ministry of Agriculture in Ethiopia is closely monitoring the progress of this new experiment. Since almost all preachers in Ethiopia are self-supported and depend on farm crops for their livelihood; this new adventure has an important meaning for the Sidama brethren overall. Imported apples are in demand in the cities; now locally raised apples should enjoy an already thriving market. And preachers from the Lord's Church and their families will have a new means of income. Twenty six gospel preachers have participated in his project.

REMOVING A LANDMARK:



Since 1963 this water tower served to store water for the compound ministries in Addis Ababa. It was also used as a marker to tell people where the Church of Christ compound was located on the Coffee Board Road. In 1969 when the city notified us that the road would be widened, they said the tower would have to go. Forty seven years later, it happened. Everyone was surprised how easy it was to take it down; which made us wonder if it was safe all those years. That isn't a question anymore; the question now is where to put the next tower inside the compound. Perhaps two towers. We have the School for the Deaf, the Church, a Preacher Training School, all the administrative offices, a Family Sign Language Training Center, an orphanage, a Computer Training School and a guest house

where some of you who read this report have stayed and eight caregiver families living on the compound; all dependent on water this tower provided. The first well we drilled in Ethiopia in 2002 was a well on this compound. What a blessing that well has now become. It has an electric pump and has been used throughout the years when city water wasn't available. Our present plans are to construct two towers inside the compound with two large plastic tanks on top to store the water the well provides until city water becomes available when the road construction is complete. Based on how long it took to start the construction; we can only imagine how long it may be we will need to use our own well. Please pray that all goes "well".



Thanks to all of you who read this report for your prayers and financial faithfulness. May God's blessing rest upon each of you.

Kevin and John Ed Clark