

# *Independent Assemblies*

*January 2008 Newsletter*



Whereas our Lord Jesus has said, "Go ye into all the world, and preach the Gospel to every creature," we, the members and churches of the Independent Assemblies, do associate ourselves together, and pledge ourselves to fulfill this command by giving ourselves to the service of our Lord through the operation of the Spirit, and submitting to His direction, we shall minister the "Good News" of Christ through every avenue made available unto us by God. And our lives shall be spent in this purpose and Holy calling that our Lord may be glorified on that Day that He shall gather His people unto Himself. We are not a denomination, nor do we have any desire to become one. We are simply a Fellowship of Ministers and Churches brought together by God's Love and our common beliefs.

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### **IA Website:**

[www.independentassemblies.org](http://www.independentassemblies.org)  
**Webmaster: Michael Keith** -  
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Please send all Credentials Applications, Church & Ministry Applications to the President's Office. Send all Renewal Fees, Offerings, Missions Funds, etc., Newsletter Articles and Address Corrections to the Secretary/Treasurer's Office.

Annual Credentials Fees: Exhorter- \$50.00, License- \$65.00, Ordination- \$75.00  
Reinstatement Fee: \$10.00

Annual Church Fees: Fellowship Churches- \$50.00,  
Member Churches - \$100.00

Annual Ministry Fees: (Not-for-Profit)\$100.00

## ***2008 Interstate Meetings***

**Jan. 14** - CHURCH OF LIVING WATER  
Muskogee OK - 918/682-1540  
Pastor, Rev. John Sokolis

**Feb. 11** - LIVING FAITH CHURCH  
Moore, OK - 405/794-3104  
Pastor, Rev. Jimmy Milligan

**March 10** - LIFE COMMUNITY CHURCH  
Ada, OK - 580/427-6230  
Pastor, Rev. Mickey Keith

**April 14** - LIFE CHANGER CHURCH  
Claremore, OK - 918/341-8344  
Pastor, Dr. Ted Estes

## ***Southeast Okla. District***

**Rev. Billy Hunter, District Rep.**  
Antlers, OK, 580/298-2740  
email: cffantlers@yahoo.com

## ***Southwest Okla. District***

**Rev. Donnie Miller, District Rep.**  
Cyril, OK 580/464-2224 or 512-3657  
email: revd@tds.net

## ***Northeast Okla. District***

**Rev. Mac Blackwell, District Rep.**  
Locust Grove, Ok - 918/479-6057  
email: mblackwell@sstelco.com

## ***North Central Texas District***

**Rev. Daniel Sue, Regional Rep.**  
Kemp TX, 903/498-4704  
Cell 214/205-8647  
email: sued7@ednet10.net

**Jan. 21 - Victory Christian Church - 2101 Acosta Dr,  
Grand Prairie, TX, Victory Temple, 972-642-9008,  
Pastor Leland Hall**

**Feb 18 - Unassigned**

**Mar 17 - John Beard Ministries, John & Elizabeth Beard. 761  
Honeysuckle Lane, Cedar Hill, TX  
972/291-3512, John & Elizabeth Beard.**

**Apr 21 - Living Word Church, 404 S. Adams St.,  
Kemp, Texas, 903-498-4704,  
Pastors Dr. Daniel & Edna Sue**

**May 19 - Malachi Ministries, 507 North I-35E, Waxahachie,  
TX, 972-923-9203  
Pastors Diana & Phillip Downs**

**June 23 - Radiant Life Church,  
1910 Southeast 14<sup>th</sup> St.  
Grand Prairie, TX 75051 - 972/262-7887,  
Pastor Jim Snyder**

**Aug 18 - New Life Ministries, 101 S. Main St.,  
Red Oak, TX - 972-617-1135  
Pastor Mark Lowrey**

**Sept. 23 - Unassigned**

**Oct 20 - Abundant Harvest, 1008 Mill Run Road, Athens, TX  
903-675-1223 or 903-681-0262  
Pastor Marc Jones**

**Nov 17 - Yearly Pastors Planning Meeting**

## ***South Central Texas District***

Regional Rep. - Rev. JERRY EDMON  
512/281-5316 - Fax 512/281-5956  
email- Jedmon1234@aol.com

## ***Midwest Regional District***

Regional Rep. - Rev. MARK MAYNARD  
618/931-4106  
email: For-markm@juno.com

## ***Arkansas District***

Rev. Charles Kendrick, District Rep.  
Dardanelle, AR. 501/303-0831

## **Special Dates for 2008**

Jan. 18-25 Week of Prayer for Christian Unity  
Jan. 21 - Martin Luther King Day  
Feb. 14 - Valentine's Day  
Feb. 18 - President's Day

**MINISTRY AND MISSIONS REPORTS:** We will try to feature your missions and ministry highlights if you are in our fellowship. Please try to limit them briefly to several paragraphs or up to one half page. If you have never been featured in our newsletter, send a brief bio and let us know more about you. They will be selected at random to be published. — Send articles to Ken Anderson and specify for newsletter (See address on back of newsletter)

YOU MAY NOW READ THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER Online -- Our bylaws and policies and forms are also available for you to read or print.

[www.independentassemblies.org](http://www.independentassemblies.org)

## ***February 2008 Interstate Meeting***

**Pastor Jimmy Milligan** and **Living Faith Church**, Moore, OK will host the next meeting February 11. Afternoon sessions will include **Dr. Ted Estes & Dr. James Hogin**. Dr. Ted Estes will be sharing a detailed look at prayer for healing. This has been field tested and proven to bring outstanding results. Dr James Hogin is my personal physician. He has just gone through successful battle with brain cancer. His testimony is amazing. He will be sharing insight that will be invaluable for us as pastors working people through difficult situations. — Dinner will be served at approximately 5:00

Evening Ministry - 7:00 pm Powerful and exciting worship with Pastor Jimmy and the LFC Worship Team! We chose to bring **Woody Robinson** back in this year. He moved us last year and has brought us to new places in our church earlier this year. Woody is one of the most alive preachers the state of Texas ever produced. A preachers preacher! You will be refreshed by this young man's ministry. Truly a gift to the body of Christ. Map and contact info and More info on: [www.lfcmoore.com](http://www.lfcmoore.com)  
825 NW 24, Moore, Ok 73160, Office - 405-794-3161, Fax - 405-794-3104

## ***Southeast Oklahoma District***

Pastors **Don & Phyllis Burcham**, Calvary Temple, Centerpoint, OK, will be hosting the next IA Fellowship Meeting for the Southeast Oklahoma District on Friday, January 18, 2008. — Service begins with Pastor **Roger Layne** of Promise Church, Moore, OK, ministering in the 3:30 pm service. Dinner courtesy of Calvary Temple served at 5:00 pm, with Pastor **Eugene Christian** of Living Word Tabernacle, Ratliff City, OK, ministering at 7:00 pm service. — It's a great time to enjoy fellowship, worship and ministry of the Word.

Directions to Calvary Temple: 10 miles West of Antlers on Hwy 3, then 1 1/2 miles South on Centerpoint Road. Watch for signs. For more information, call Billy Hunter at 580-271-2299 or Don Burcham at 580-889-5332.---

## ***North Central Texas District***

The next meeting of the North Central Texas District will be Monday, January 21, at **Victory Temple** in Grand Prairie, TX. with Pastor **Leland Hall**. Service begins at 7:00 pm. — Date Take Beltline road off Interstate 20 or 30, From I-20 North to Pioneer Parkway, West (left) to Acosta st. (Braums store on corner) turn Right go about 5 (five blocks) will see church.... From I-30 go South to Pioneer Road Turn West (right) go to Acosta St. (right) go five blocks will see church... 972/ 642-9008 Home, Cell 214/ 364-8240 or 214/364-4380 (Glenda's)

***"Discovery consists of seeing what everybody has seen and thinking what nobody else has thought."***

***- Albert von Szent-Gyorgyi***

## ***Enriching Every Sphere***

“Socrates taught for 40 years, Plato for 50, Aristotle for 40, and Jesus for only 3. Yet the influence of Christ’s 3-year ministry infinitely transcends the impact left by the combined 130 years of teaching from these men who were among the greatest philosophers of all antiquity. Jesus painted no pictures; yet, some of the finest paintings of

Raphael, Michelangelo, and Leonardo da Vinci received their inspiration from Him.

Jesus wrote no poetry; but Dante, Milton, and scores of the world's greatest poets were inspired by Him. Jesus composed no music; still Haydn, Handel, Beethoven, Bach, and Mendelssohn reached their highest perfection of melody in the hymns, symphonies, and oratorios they composed in His praise. Every sphere of human greatness has been enriched by this humble Carpenter of Nazareth.

—Henry G. Bosch



## Are You Known in Hell?

By R. T. Kendall

*The true test of how much God is using us is our reputation with the enemy. Are you a threat to Satan?*

**N**early 50 years ago I heard a sermon by Rolfe Barnard that continues to impact me. He called his sermon "The Man Who Was Known in Hell," referring to Paul the Apostle. Paul was such a threat to Satan's interests that he actually made a reputation for himself in hell.

In Acts 19, the seven sons of Sceva, a Jewish chief priest, were trying to cast out demons, saying, "In the name of Jesus, whom Paul preaches, I command you to come out"... (One day) the evil spirit answered them, 'Jesus I know, and I know about Paul, but who are you?' Then the man who had the evil spirit jumped on them and overpowered them all. He gave them such a beating that they ran out of the house naked and bleeding" (Acts 19:13-16, NIV).

In hell they knew about Jesus, and they knew about Paul. I often ask myself: Does the devil know about me?

Most people want to be known on Earth. Too many of us in the ministry value getting known above nearly anything else. We want to get more invitations and have a wider influence so we can do more for God—or so we tell ourselves.

I suggest that the more we are known in hell and the greater a threat we are to Satan, the more God is using us. We should not worry about our reputations or our good names—God will take care

of that. Or perhaps I should say: Satan will take care of that because the degree to which we are a threat to Satan and his interests may be the reliable index to how much God is truly using us.

Jonathan Edwards said that when the church is revived, so too is the devil. But Satan isn't too bothered if we attack him directly—like the seven sons of Sceva did. Attacking the devil without a biblical warrant is not only silly, but also dangerous. God never promotes us to the level of our incompetence. Those who have so presumed to attack Satan end up as total losers. Sadly, they were never a threat to him in the first place.

Is Satan conscious of you? Is he having to work overtime to keep you from threatening his interests? I don't want to be unfair, but I ask: How much do you talk to the lost at a personal level and try to win them to Jesus Christ? How far are you prepared to go in your commitment to Him? How willing are you to be led outside your comfort zone? Are you rid of all bitterness and grudges?

Paul says in 2 Corinthians 2:11 that a further reason for forgiveness is to keep from being outsmarted by Satan. When you have totally forgiven those who have hurt you, you become an instant threat to the devil because he cannot succeed through a person who is free of bitterness. Furthermore, God will not widely use the person who is vindictive.

How regularly do you pray? Every day? "Satan trembles when he sees the weakest saint upon his knees, A host of hell, that one can rout, who meets him with a praiseful shout." William Cowper wrote.

I sometimes fear that I am no threat to Satan. Terrorists are a threat to the whole world. I want Satan to be as threatened by me as the world is of terrorists!

I suspect our reward at the judgment seat of Christ (2 Cor. 5:10) will not be administered on the basis of whether we were liked or admired, but whether we were known in hell and served as a constant threat to Satan and his fallen angels.

R.T. Kendall was the pastor of Westminster Chapel in London for 25 years. He is the author of numerous books, including his latest release, *Controlling the Tongue*. Visit his Web site at [rtkendallministries.com](http://rtkendallministries.com). From *MinistryToday* – July/Aug. 2007

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# Chi Rho

The Chi Rho is an ancient monogram of Christ. The symbol is composed of the first two letters of the Greek word for Christ: XPICTOC (pronounced Christos). There are many variations, but the most common form superimposes the “X” (Chi) on the “P” (Rho). Although it isn’t considered to be a cross, the Chi Rho invokes Jesus’ crucifixion. The symbol has been in use for more than 1,600 years. Early Christians used the Chi Rho as a sign of their faith, and Constantine the Great placed it on his soldiers’ shields.



## SATAN’S DEVICES

By Don Sullivan

As all of us are aware, we are engaged in a major conflict with the enemy of our souls – Satan. While he often seems to entrap and outsmart us, the Bible declares that we are not ignorant of his devices. II Corinthians 2:11.

While praying about this awhile back, The Holy Spirit led me to take another look at the story of Job. Over the last fifty years, I’ve preached a number times from that book but

I began to see something that I had overlooked.

Reading it again, I noticed FOUR primary areas of attack on Job and began to notice that those seems attacks are occurring again and again on ministers as well as members of the congregation.

Job’s first attack was in the area of his finances. He lost all his holdings. Many pastors have left the ministry because of this Satanic attack. God called ministers have struggled with problems of not having sufficient income to care for their families as they would like to and therefore have left the call of God behind and found their way into the secular workforce. Many ministers with small congregations in rural areas are battling even now with decisions of whether to pay



the bills of the church or pay their own obligations. Satan's attack has simply left them powerless to do both.

The second area of attack came with the loss of his family. Family problems have driven many a pastor and evangelist away from their flocks. Many church members have set in judgment over their pastor's seeming inability to "control his own household". Grown children over whom the pastor no longer has authority or control have brought much heartache to ministers that Satan wants off the field. Sometimes, as with Job, wives have turned against their husband and vice versa forcing the minister into a choice of whether to keep the marriage together by giving up the ministry or sticking with the call of God on their lives.

The third area of attack was sickness. It is extremely difficult to believe for the healing of others if either the minister or someone in his family is battling a serious illness. Personal illness causes a lessening of faith to believe for the needs of so many within the congregation. Often the congregation is so afflicted that the pastor and church body spend all their time simply praying for healing rather than reaching out to the lost or those in bondage to any number of addictions.

The fourth area of attack is found in our friends. Nothing can break the heart of a minister quite like the loss for whatever reason of a friend. Our friends, like those of Job, can accuse us, offer ungodly or unwise advice. When friends turn against us, there is tendency to build walls to shield ourselves from being wounded again. The work of God however demands that we be "touchable". The heart of Jesus was no doubt broken when "his own dear friend whom he trusted" Judas betrayed Him in the Garden with a kiss.

When Jesus left to go back to the Father, He left His assignment to the Church. He was anointed to "destroy the works of the devil". We cannot fulfill that assignment if we are ignorant of Satan's devices.

Job's problems came to an end when he himself had an

alone time with God. He expressed his hurt and God revealed His plan and brought restoration to Job. We are reminded that even aware of Satan's devices, we are "submit ourselves to God, resist the devil and he will flee from us.

*Pastor Don Sullivan ,Freedom Christian Fellowship, Sarcoxie, Missouri*



### *Rev. Paul Blissett*

Paul was born May 27, 1929 in Kalkaska, Michigan and died January 1, 2008 in a Tyler TX hospital at age 78.

He was an ordained minister with I.A. since 1995. He was a missionary in Saltillo, Mexico for 17 years serving as Director of the Refugio del Rey Bible School and was instrumental in the early years of establishment. He was retired from the Air Force after 21 years of duty. He is survived by his wife of 30 years Delores Rogers Blissett of Tyler; 2 sons, Roger Lovel Blissett of Tyler, George Blissett and wife April of Colorado; daughter, Diana Blissett of Georgia; 2 grandchildren, 2 great grandchildren and many nieces and nephews. We will miss him until we are united again. Our prayers are with Sister Dee and the family.



### *Pearl Lorene Anthony*

Pearl, the mother of M.E. Anthony, Jr. passed away at the Skiatook Nursing Home on January 3, 2008 at age 89. She was a member of the Avant House of Prayer. She was born May 24, 1918 in Yonkers, OK to Charlie and Ethel (Mathes) Newcomb. She grew up and received her education in Sperry. She married M. E. Anthony in 1935 in Avant. She was employed as a seamstress and retired in 1977. The Funeral service was conducted Jan 7<sup>th</sup> at Avant House of Prayer. She is survived by 3 children, 8 grand children, 16 great grand children and 7 great-great grand children. Our deepest sympathy is extended to the family in their time of sorrow.

### *Bonnie Kendrick*

Bonnie Kendrick, wife of Charles Kendrick passed away December 12, 2007 at the Baptist Hospital. Little Rock, AR. Bonnie and Charles were married for 25 years. She was born May 6, 1940 in Mercedes, CA. Together they have 6 children, 11 grand children and 3 great grand children. They pastored New Beginning in Center Ridge, AR for 16 years. She always looked forward to attending the I. A. Annual Conference in Oklahoma City and the Missions Conference in Avant each

year. Every one loved her and she will be missed.  
May God bless this wonderful family in the days to come.

## *We Welcome These New Members*

Glenda A. Bowles - Paris, AR  
James P. Pesch - Tulsa, OK  
Fly Creek Community Church - Lincoln, AR  
Harvest For Christ - Ft. Worth, TX

**Pastor Billy Hunter** gives this report on the Turner Project ( A house being refurbished and donated to missionary Dean Turner family). This project is currently in progress here in beautiful Antlers, OK? We need laborers to help with painting, installing interior doors and trim, cabinets installed and a few odds & ends. Our goal was to have them in their new home by Jan 15th but due to delays in time and finances, that date has been pushed forward. The response to this cause has been received by many and they, along with the Turners, are so appreciative of the support shown. If you can help in any way to finish this worthy project, contact Pastor Billy Hunter at 580/271-2299.

**Pastor Roy Richmond** would like to donate their Church pews to anyone who might need them. They have twelve, or more pews that are oak, with song book holders on the back of them. They are padded on the back and seat, and are dark orange. 405/204-0713 or 799-7393

## **Unity in Teamwork**

Some missionaries in the Philippines set up a croquet game in their front yard. Several of their Agta Negrito neighbors became interested and wanted to join the fun. The missionaries explained the game and started them out, each with a mallet and ball. As the game progressed, opportunity came for one of the players to take advantage of another by knocking that person's ball out of the court. A missionary explained the procedure, but his advice only puzzled the Negrito friend. "Why would I want to knock his ball out of the court?" he

asked. "So you will be the one to win!" a missionary said. The short-statured man, clad only in a loincloth, shook his head in bewilderment. Competition is generally ruled out in a hunting and gathering society, where people survive not by competing but by sharing equally in every activity.

The game continued, but no one followed the missionaries' advice. When a player successfully got through all the wickets, the game was not over for him. He went back and gave aid and advice to his fellows. As the final player moved toward the last wicket, the affair was still very much a team effort. And finally, when the last wicket was played, the "team" shouted happily, "We won! We won!"

That is how the Church, the body of Christ, should be. We're a team. We all win together.

## *Things You Rarely Hear in Church*

1. Hey! It's my turn to sit in the front pew!
2. I was so enthralled, I never noticed your sermon went 25 minutes over time.
3. Personally I find witnessing much more enjoyable than golf.
4. I've decided to give our church the \$500 a month I used to send to TV evangelists.
5. I volunteer to be the permanent teacher for the Junior High Sunday School class.
6. Forget the denominational minimum salary. Let's pay our pastor so he can live like we do.
7. I love it when we sing hymns I've never heard before!
8. Since we're all here, let's start the service early.
9. Pastor, we'd like to send you to this Bible seminar in the Bahamas.
10. Nothing inspires me and strengthens my commitment like our annual stewardship campaign!



## ***"A Merry Heart Doeth Good Like A Medicine"***

PROVERBS 17:22

When the new patient was settled comfortably on the couch, the psychiatrist began his therapy session. — "I'm not aware of your problem," the doctor said. "So perhaps, you should start at the very beginning." — "Of course," replied the patient. "In the beginning, I created the heavens and the earth..."

A guy comes into a coffee shop and places his order: "I want 3 flat tires & a pair of headlights". — The waitress, not wanting to appear stupid, goes to the kitchen & asks the cook, "This guy out there just ordered 3 flat tires & a pair of headlights. What does he think, this is an auto parts store?!"

"No," the cook says, "3 flat tires means 3 pancakes & a pair of headlights is 2 eggs sunny side up." ---- "Oh," says the waitress. She thinks about this and then she spoons up a bowl of beans and gives it to the customer. — The guy says "What are the beans for?" — The waitress replies "I thought that, while you're waiting for the flat tires & headlights, you might want to gas up."

A little boy wanted \$100 so badly that he prayed for two weeks. But nothing happened; so he decided to write God a letter asking for the money. When the postal authorities received the letter addressed to "GOD, USA", they decided to send it to the President. He was so impressed, touched, and amused that he instructed his secretary to send the boy a \$5 bill. — The little boy was delighted with the \$5, and sat down to write a thank you note to God, which read; "Dear God, Thank you very much for sending me the money. "However, I noticed that for some reason you had it sent through Washington, DC, and as usual, those guys deducted \$95."

"My father invented the burglar alarm - which unfortunately was stolen from him."

- Victor Borge

A young man is paired up with a priest on the first hole at the golf course. When they make it to a long par three the priest asks, "What are you going to use on this hole son?" — The young man says, "An eight iron, father. How about you?" — The priest says, "I'm going to hit a soft seven and pray."— The young man hits his eight iron and puts the ball on the green. The priest tops his 7 iron and dribbles the ball out a few yards.— The young man says, "I don't know about you father, but in my church when we pray, we keep our head down."

Two guys are talking about their boss's upcoming wedding. One says, "It's ridiculous! He's rich, but he's 93 years old, and she's just 26! What kind of a wedding is that?" — The other says, "Well, we have a name for it in my family."— "What do you call it?"— "We call it a football wedding."— The first asks, "What's a football wedding?"— The other says, "She's waiting for him to kick off!"

A husband and wife are getting ready for bed. The wife is standing in front of a full-length mirror taking a hard look at herself.

"You know, dear," she says, "I look in the mirror, and I see an old woman. My face

is all wrinkled, my hair is grey, my shoulders are hunched over, I've got fat legs, and my arms are all flabby." She turns to her husband and says, "Tell me something positive to make me feel better about myself."

— He studies hard for a moment thinking about it and then says in a soft, thoughtful

voice, "Well, there's nothing wrong with your eyesight."

A young man walked into our insurance office to purchase coverage for his new motorcycle. Only one question confused him. "Do you have a lien holder on the vehicle?"— "I've got a kickstand," the prospect replied. "Is that the same thing?"



*That's All Folks !*

