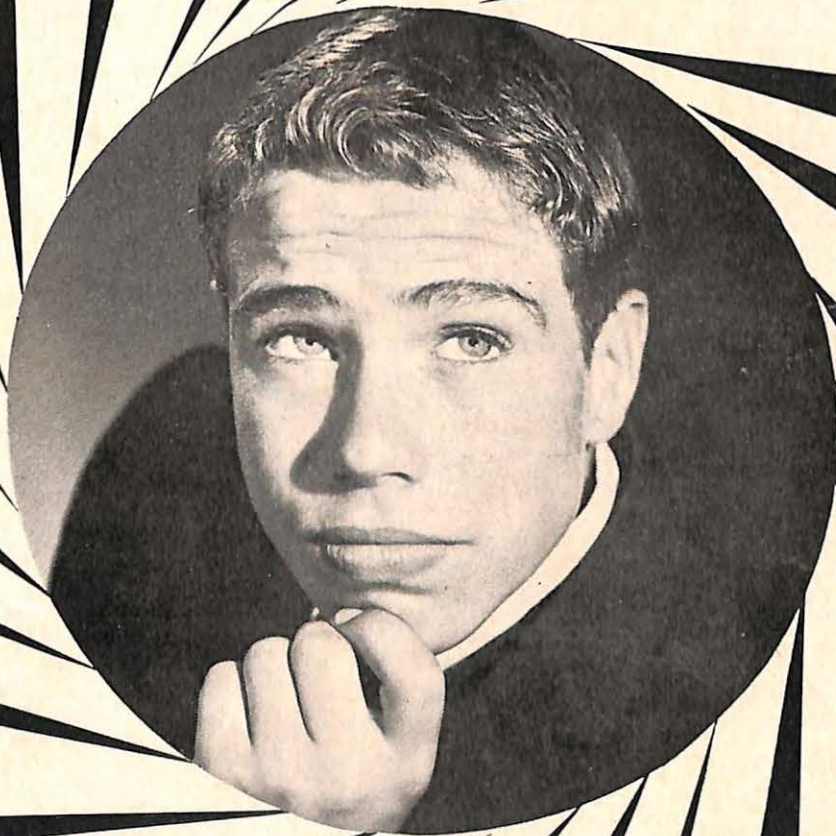


YOUTH WEEK ISSUE

JANUARY 15, 1967

NUMBER TWO

BAPTIST HERALD



"Too Busy To Listen"

Dear Folks,

Thank you for everything, but I am going to Chicago and try and start some kind of new life.

You asked me why I did those things and why I gave you so much trouble, and the answer is easy for me to give you, but I am wondering if you will understand.

Remember when I was about six or seven and I used to want you to just listen to me? I remember all the nice things you gave me for Christmas and my birthday and I was really happy with the things—about a week—at the time I got the things, but the rest of the time during the year I really didn't want presents, I just wanted all the time for you to listen to me like I was somebody who felt things too, because I remember even when I was young I felt things. But you said you were busy.

Mom, you are a wonderful cook, and you had everything so clean and you were tired so much from doing all those things that made you busy; but, you know something, Mom? I would have liked crackers and peanut butter just as well if you had only sat down with me a while during the day and said to me: "Tell me all about it so I can maybe help you understand!"

And when Donna came I couldn't understand why everyone made so much fuss because I didn't think it was my fault that her hair is curly and her skin so white, and she doesn't have to wear glasses with such thick lenses. Her grades were better too, weren't they?

If Donna ever has children, I hope you will tell her to just pay some attention to the one who doesn't smile very much because that one will really be crying inside. And when she's about to bake six dozen cookies, to make sure first, that the kids don't want to tell her about a dream or a hope or something, because thoughts are important too, to small kids even though they don't have so many words to use when they tell about what they have inside them.

I think that all the kids who are doing so many things that grown-ups are tearing out their hair worrying about are really looking for somebody that will have time to listen a few minutes and who really and truly will treat them as they would a grown-up who might be useful to them, you know—polite to them. If you folks had ever said to me: "Pardon me" when you interrupted me, I'd have dropped dead!

If anybody asks you where I am, tell them I've gone looking for somebody with time because I've got a lot of things I want to talk about.

Love to all,
Your Son

—A boy with a record as a juvenile delinquent (From *Pennsylvania Law Enforcement Journal*.)

Psalms 27:9, 10; Luke 10:38-42a (WEB); Luke 18:15-17 (NEB)

LORD, FORGIVE ME!
to realize that my wife has feelings too;
TOO BUSY
to let my child interrupt me while I
read the paper or watch TV;
TOO BUSY
to try to understand the complaints
of my associates at work.
Help me today, while there is still time,
TO LISTEN.

(From *Creative Brooding* by Robert A. Raines, Macmillan, Copyright (c) Robert A. Raines 1966.)

NEWS and NEEDS...

YOUTH WEEK. "Learners-Teachers for Jesus Christ" is the theme of Youth Week being observed throughout our denomination, Jan. 29-Feb. 5.

COMMUNION OFFERING. Sunday, Feb. 5, is being observed as Baptist World Alliance Sunday with the Communion Offerings being designated for the work of the Baptist World Alliance.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER. Our Woman's Missionary Union has prepared program material for the observance of World Day of Prayer on Feb. 10.

NORMAN HAUPT FAMILY. The Norman Haupts left Cameroon on Dec. 15 for England where they stayed for about a month before coming to the United States for their furlough. They express their appreciation for your prayer on behalf of their nine year old daughter, Anita. They are happy to report that she has recovered from nephritis.

GOD'S VOLUNTEERS. Team I with Director Edgar Klatt are serving at the Bismarck Baptist Church, Bismarck, N. D., Jan. 10-22, and at the Temple Baptist Church, Jamestown, N. D., Jan. 24-Feb. 5; Team II with Director Connie Salios serve at the Sherwood Park Baptist Church, Greeley, Colo., Jan. 10-19, at the First Baptist Church, Paul, Idaho, Jan. 22-29, and at the Northern California churches Feb. 1-March 5.

A WHITE CROSS SHIPMENT weighing 1708 net pounds was shipped from Forest Park, Ill., to Cameroon on Nov. 23. Appreciation is expressed to the women of our churches who contribute so these shipments are possible.

NORTH AMERICAN HYMNAL. Sufficient copies of the third printing have arrived at the Roger Williams Bookstore to satisfy our customers. With the shipment also loose leaf copies, selling at \$3.00 each, have arrived. They will be welcomed by our choirs, directors and organists.

CHURCH EXTENSION PROJECT at Houston, Texas. The Church Extension Committee has decided to start a new church in Houston, Texas. The Immanuel Baptist Church of Kyle, Texas, pastor Dr. W. H. Barsh, will become the parent church and contribute \$100 a month toward land purchase and \$30 a month toward the pastor's salary. The Immanuel Baptist Church is a small congregation but is setting a fine example.

MR. ALFRED GRAMS, a senior student at North American Baptist Seminary, Sioux Falls, S. D., has been selected to become our exchange student at the Baptist Seminary in Hamburg, Germany next year.

Editorial

Our Ministry With Youth In '67

Guest editorial by Rev. John Binder
Director of Youth Work

A computer salesman was trying to sell a machine to a certain church. "Why, most churches are wondering how they ever got along without them, especially with the growing shortage of volunteer workers. Take your youth program, for instance, I've taken all the components of it and assigned them a certain weight according to their importance. Then I've coded this on cards which we'll now feed into Emmy here..."

All eyes were on the gleaming metal computer in the middle of the room. The cards were fed in a slot on the side. The motor whirred; lights lit up; mechanical arms caught the cards in mid-air and tossed them to the next level, where they dropped into deep, hidden recesses; numbers turned with lightening speed on the automatic counter.

Then, as suddenly as it had begun, the computer ground to a halt. A single card dropped to the table.

"And there you see an instant youth program!" the salesman said.

Some of us wish planning the ministry with youth during 1967 could be accomplished that easily. Some people seem to think that a denominational Director of Youth Work or a Committee of Youth Work could produce instant youth programs and activities that would do the job in a local church by just adding a little water. We often hear the remark, "Why doesn't the denomination do something?" We must realize, however, that youth cannot be broken into components and computerized nor can one committee provide programs that will meet all the different interests, desires, dreams and real needs of each local church situation.

A vital youth program, in and through a local church, is achieved when youth and adults make a commitment to put forth every effort at meeting the real needs of persons. There are several things necessary to accomplish this.

The adult workers with youth should honestly attempt to understand the world of youth and help youth understand themselves. This is probably the most difficult task. A recent American tourist in Russia said, "Russia is a mystery wrapped in an enigma." Many adults would describe our youth in similar terms. Though we may never completely understand youth, an honest attempt will mean a great deal in developing a good relationship with youth.

We should not be fearful of breaking tradition, if we have good hopes that change will get a better job done.

There should be adequate organization to get the largest possible number of youth involved in planning and implementing the programs and activities. We all learn best by doing. The more each one gives to a project the more he benefits.

We need to take advantage of all creative resources and ideas that may be helpful in reaching youth, confronting them with the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and giving them practical opportunities to express and grow in their Christian faith.

Let us make YOUTH WEEK, January 29-February 5, 1967 a significant and vital Christian experience for youth.

January 15, 1967

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by Susan Kramer, Student,
State College of Iowa,
Cedar Falls, Iowa

THE COLLEGE campus today is a mixed atmosphere of youthful idealism, comfortable accommodations, a competitive curriculum and impersonal relationships.

I entered this academic world in the fall of 1965 when I became a student at the State College of Iowa. S.C.I. is a state college of approximately 7,000 students. As the typical high school graduate of a small, farming community, I was totally unprepared to meet the demands of college life. The intellectual atmosphere of this form of higher education proves to be a challenge to all young people involved; but I believe that it is and should be an even greater challenge to Christian young people.

Today the newspapers contain a great variety of articles about young people. Numerous are the incidents such as the one in Arnold's Park, Iowa, last July 4 when hundreds of visiting youth chanted a cry for beer which resulted in a riot. There youth were, for the most part, college students from middle class families. What causes this unrest? I believe that it does have a great deal to do with increasing intellectualism and in many cases the sheltering from adult responsibilities. But the problem goes much deeper. Young people today can be generally classified as searching. They have doubts and conflicts and struggles within themselves. They want to know the meaning of life—the reason for the existence.

SEARCH FOR MEANING IN KNOWLEDGE

And this searching leads contemporary youth to pursue knowledge and

THIS IS MY WORLD

reasoning. Professors urge their students to have reasons for their beliefs and to follow the scientific line of reasoning—only accepting as fact those things that can in reality be proven.

CHRISTIAN FAITH CHALLENGED

This is when the Christian begins to be challenged. In all of my experiences prior to college, my faith in the Lord Jesus Christ had never been challenged. I had never even sat down for myself and sought reasons for my beliefs. I had merely accepted without a doubt everything I had been taught relating to the Bible and Christianity. However, shortly after my arrival at college, the challenges began. I found this especially true in my Humanities courses. The Biblical account of creation was here called a myth, and the story of Noah's Ark and the flood was

labeled "the flood epic." "Facts" were thrown at the class "proving" that other religions prior to the time of Christianity had had similar stories.

I have friends at school who claim to be agnostics or atheists. They have demanded to know why I believe as I do. Many times I could not give reasonable replies to these questions. This is because I had never learned to reason. I believe that all Christians need to dispose of their passiveness and begin to reason for themselves. Young people don't want to be handed down a set of rules and facts. They want reasons, and they need these reasons explained and enacted in the lives of all who claim to be Christians and who are our examples.

EFFECTIVE CHRISTIANS TRULY LOVE OTHERS

I have also received a challenge on the social level in college. It is my belief that Christians are the ones who should have radiating and friendly personalities. Unfortunately, this is not always the case. Too often, as has also been my experience, we tend to frown on others and condemn them for their behavior. Or, sometimes on the college campus, many Christians are interested in non-Christians only in respect to their souls. I feel the most effective Christians are those who truly love others and respect their viewpoints. I think that it is possible for Christians to be popular. But, this popularity must be kept in the proper perspective. We must remember first of all that we are Christians, and knowing this we should strive to make ourselves worthy of the name.

Oftentimes, we are called upon to take definite stands and this may mean standing alone. I had one such experience in the fall of this academic year. I had been chosen as a member of the Queen's Court to reign over the activities of Homecoming Week. This was a very exciting experience for me; but I also realized the responsibilities that would go along with it. I was most concerned about the problem of what to do about the Homecoming Dance. This was a climax of the Homecoming activities, and a time when the Queen and her Court were to be honored. I worried, fretted and talked about the problem for about two weeks in advance, instead of just trusting the Lord. As it turned out, I was not even called upon to dance. This proved to me that God had been watching over me the whole time.

The college years are a time of doubts, uncertainties and mixed emotions. I have covered only briefly some of the problems and situations that confront college youth.

MEANING IN CHRIST

While many young people are searching for the meaning of life, I am so thankful that I do know Jesus Christ as my personal Savior and that he came not only to give us life, but to give it to us abundantly as he has promised in John 10:10. And I am

(Continued on page 14)

This Is My World

by Susan Church,
High School Student,
Melrose Park, Illinois



DeWys Photo

THE CONFUSING merry-go-round of a teenage world—what are our secrets? What makes us tick? Why do we act the way we do? I am a teen-ager, but I don't know all the answers. If I did, I'd have to be God.

Today is a troublesome age, an age of rebellion. There are race riots, picket lines, and public draft card burnings. But what is youth rebelling against?

REBELLION AGAINST ADULT WORLD

First, he is rebelling against the adult world with all its rules. We demand the right to vote at eighteen. They say no, wait until you're older. We ask for the keys to the car. They try to raise the driving age. We say we're too young to die in Vietnam. They say it's our duty to our country.

REBELLION AGAINST SELF

Mostly though, youth is rebelling against himself and his self created world. Young people today have a need, a great need, but they don't know how to fulfill it. They are searching for the road to contentment. They can't find it so they rebel, in any way they can think of. The more obvious ones I've mentioned above. But they also rebel by going against the "right thing to do" by dropping out of school—and dropping out of church.

There are many reasons why the young people of today quit school. The pressures in school are greater than they ever were before, and some kids just can't take it. Or maybe they have too many other problems—problems at home or problems within themselves. Most have no way to solve their problems.

The reason they don't know how to cope with their problems is because they have also quit church. Maybe their parents sent them to church instead of brought them, so they decided that church was just for kids. Or maybe they never even went to church, so they don't know what it's all about. Most teen-agers are afraid to attend church because they are afraid they will be laughed at by their "friends." Yet, many secretly feel guilty about not going and even have a desire to attend church, but they lack the courage. A little prodding from somebody, and they may jump at the chance. This is why many boys go to church with their girl friends. They use it as an excuse, because they know that nobody will say anything if your girl friend "makes" you go.

That's just the way it is with teen-agers. Everyone wants to be like everyone else, be in the "in" group. No one wants to be unpopular or thought of as different.

ACCEPTANCE MOST IMPORTANT

In high school and even college, acceptance is the most important thing to the individual. If the "in" group is doing something which you believe wrong, then you can usually reason with yourself until you don't feel so strongly against it anymore. In most cases, it is too late before kids learn that what's right for everyone else isn't necessarily right for them.

This is the whole basis for what is called the "new morality" problem. Many kids will indulge in sex, because everyone else is doing it, not because they want to. If kids would learn to think for themselves, this wouldn't be such a problem.

Even today's fashions reflect a desire to be different from adults but like all your friends. Now is an age of long hair, wild flowered shirts, hip-huggers for girls and guys, bell bottom trousers and short mini skirts. Yes, this is my world.

"God has called us to play the game, not to keep the score."—Vance Haver, Pepper 'N Salt (Revell)

Teen-agers on Mission

by Robert Veninga,

Minister with Youth, First Baptist Church, Sioux Falls, S. D.

THERE IS no hour of the week which holds as much excitement for me as 7:00 P.M. Sunday night. Every Sunday night one can go to a specified home and there find scores of teen-agers. These kids come from all over the city, and they represent many walks of life and many diverse religious backgrounds. The young people come just as they are—with their souped-up cars, wearing their cut-offs, and often bringing their guitars.

We call the meeting simply: Club. What takes place at "Club" is a hootenanny, a skit, and a hard-hitting "commercial." The "commercial" is the most important part of the meeting, for this is when the Christian faith is presented. The "commercial" only lasts ten minutes, but that's all it takes to show young people the great need they have to let Christ become a part of their teen-age world.

RESULTS: CHANGED LIVES

Marvelous results come from this weekly experience. I think of a girl by the name of Mary who is one of the leaders at Lincoln High School. Last week she gave her life to God. How interesting it was that only nine months ago this girl called herself an agnostic and didn't want anything to do with religion. Or I think of Mark, a boy who had no church home a year ago. The other night, under the stands of the high school football stadium, he told me, while half-time festivities were going on out in the field, that "I'm no longer wearing my good luck charm. This past week I found Someone who will always be with me."

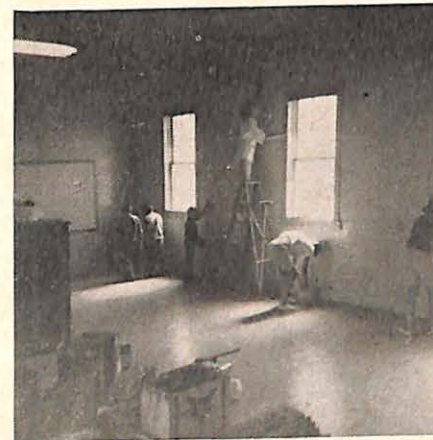
In working with these teen-agers I have come to understand that they are not looking for a cheap religion. They want a faith, in Bonhoeffer's terms, which is costly. They want a faith which will not give out easy answers or the time-worn clichés—they want a faith which will challenge and demand their very best. They want a faith which cuts deep into everyday life, but more than this, they want a faith which is so meaningful to them personally that they want to share it with others.

FAITH AND ACTION: MISSION FIELD, COLORADO

On June 6, 1966, a big bus loaded with twenty teen-agers left for the North American Baptist Mission field in Monte Vista, Colorado. The teen-agers who were in that bus were dead serious about putting their faith into action. I will never forget the day we left. The kids had worked for months getting ready for the trip. They had scrubbed floors, washed cars, and weeded gardens in order to raise sev-

eral thousand dollars for the mission. We had prayed; we had studied the Spanish-American culture, and we had analyzed our motives before entering into this mission.

After the good-byes were said to parents and friends, the bus started on its 1000-mile trek to Monte Vista. Two days later we pulled into the Earl Ahrens' home at 1:00 in the morning. After meeting these warm-hearted missionaries, the teen-agers were driven into the slums where ten or twelve Spanish-Americans live in one or two room shacks. There was hardly a word said on the bus. This was the first time most of our young people had seen what "the other side of the tracks" looked like.



TWO-FOLD TASK

The next morning—bright and early—our young people were organizing themselves for the day's work. The task which was before us seemed almost too big. I wondered whether we bit off more than we could chew. But we started our work. Our task was two-fold. We sought to completely redecorate the small chapel which is like a light in a dark world to the Spanish-Americans. Secondly, we wanted to renovate an old shack for a clothing center.

The young people worked hard. I never heard any complaining, for they knew what they wanted to accomplish. There was sweat and laughter mixed together in a truly wonderful combination! The word had spread like wildfire that there were strangers in the community.

SHARING THEIR FAITH

Our young people wanted above everything else to establish a relationship with the Spanish-American people. They wanted to tear down the walls of prejudice, and they wanted to share their faith. The first breakthrough came when a Spanish teen-ager asked one of our young people how much we were being paid for doing the work. The Spanish people couldn't believe that each teen-ager on the mission had laid down thirty dollars of his own money in addition to working many hours in order to raise finances for the trip. It was at this point that we were able to tell about Christ's love to the Spanish-Americans. I wish that you could have overheard the tremendous conversations which were taking place as the Spanish-Americans pitched in and worked side by side of the "gringos" who had come from South Dakota."

RELATIONSHIPS OF LOVE

Relationships of love were being established with these poverty-stricken people, and walls of prejudice which had been built over centuries were beginning to crumble. In the middle of the afternoon of the second day of work, a Spanish-American mother, who lives on nickels and dimes, brought over some home-made rolls for our gang. The Spanish-American teen-agers fixed our group a delicious Mexican dinner that was so hot that our kids are still talking about it! There were campfires where we sang and shared together, and then there was the famous baseball game where the Spanish-American boys trounced us by a score which we are still trying to forget!

I will never forget the day we left
(Continued on page 14)

by Ron Salzman,
Student, Wheaton College,
Wheaton, Illinois

"THE TIME is out of joint," said Hamlet as he viewed his problems one day. His problems differ from mine; they couldn't be as bad. Complex tensions fill the world of today. There is unrest between nations; people are uneasy with themselves and others. The enormous universe overshadows the significance of man. Although I am forced to live in this universe, everyday activity crowds out the presence of these tensions. My life-bubble drifts until significant experience blows it to some tension, forcing me to again face these hopefully forgotten facts of life. I am like the turtle which withdraws in its shell hoping that if he hides, the avenger will go away. Surprisingly, this often happens. Involvement in everyday activities often forms a hard, invisible shell which protects from the unrest of the world. Then, at the time of great defense, invariably, my bubble bursts, and I must face this world.

PENETRATION OF MY SECURE WORLD

Penetration of this secure little world is real. Recently I received my draft classification which, although I am deferred for almost one year, puts me in direct line for Viet Nam two months after graduation. This penetrates my secure little world! So, I ask myself, "Why must one people try to domineer another?" "Isn't a peaceful coexistence possible with our knowledge?" "Isn't man unified under some bond?" There have to be answers to these inquiries; there must be something that will solve the world's quarrels. It troubles me inside when I see upheaval in the world, since I now see where it will affect me personally. I know that I, or man, cannot solve these problems.

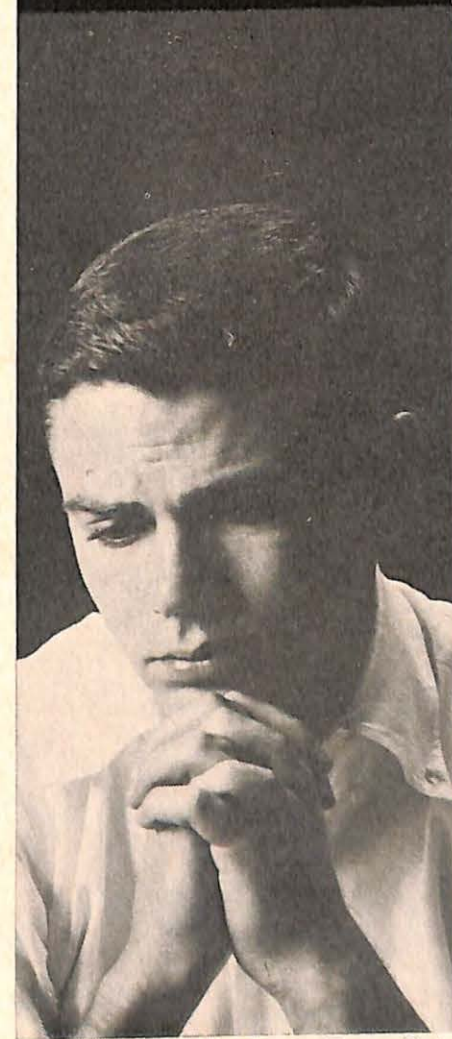
My built-in wall of resistance is dealt a further destructive blow, as I learn of the relations between people. Cheating in school is an accepted practice; pre-marital sex is a fad; lying is standard etiquette. An absolute value system has disappeared. Man is living for himself. Love is vital to life, yet this force is virtually non-existent in everyday occurrences.

My little world is also pierced by the wonder of the infinite universe. Have you even stared at the heavens on a crystal-clear evening and tried to count the stars? Attempting to divide the sky into sections, after counting the stars in each section and multiplying by the number of sections, I could never really comprehend the enormity of my inaccurate outcome. Trying to grasp the span of the universe and being forced to diversion, lest I should physically shudder with this unthinkable weight, I realized the limitations of my understanding and knowledge.

INTERNAL CONFLICT

Yes, the enormity of the universe

From Restlessness To Rest



Eastern Photo

bothers me, but what causes more anxiety is the internal conflict of my uselessness and my worth. As I look at the troubles between nations and at the strifes between people, I realize that nothing I can do will ever be of real consequence to these problems. In the history of man, I am insignificant. Truly, as Pascal said, "Man is the most feeble thing in nature." Nevertheless, there is a force within me that rebels at the thought of my unimportance. I am capable of love, of being kind, and of enjoying beauty. I am sure that I have a purpose, a reason for being, that gives me worth and significance. Enclosed against the world, I live in my life-bubble, yet, my very foundation is disturbed, if I know I have a reason for being but cannot find it.

Throughout the whole domain of life, no matter how hard a person tries to shut them out, there are tensions that cannot be resolved by one's self. Seven years ago I found the power to ease the unrest and tension in my life. I do not wish to say I found a power—I found a Person, the Lord Jesus Christ. During a week at camp, I told Jesus that the turmoil of living in a room by myself and of facing so much unrest with no means of resolving it was too great. I asked him to cleanse my heart from sin and to come into my life and settle the turmoil. I claimed Heaven as my eternal home by believing John 3:16: "For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." Jesus promised me eternal life; I accepted. He has given me two immediate gifts, also.

A MEANINGFUL LIFE

First, He has given me a meaningful life. In John 10:10b, Jesus said, "I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly." I now not only am sure that I have a purpose in life, but I know the purpose. The great commandment outlines it: "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind" (Matthew 22:37). My purpose in life is to live to glorify God. This requires that I grant Jesus my complete self and do as he says. He gives me an abundant life, because he gives me purpose.

Secondly, Jesus throws away my life-shell built to filter out the tensions. He becomes my foundation on which to face life. He is my security. Now as I look at the infinite heavens, I need not feel lost in its vastness; I can thank God for his handiwork. The turmoil in the world no longer need cause me unrest. God permits people to act but will judge them in the end. I now have a sure-footing in Jesus Christ as I walk in the world. He gives me understanding and security.

St. Augustine in his *Confessions* stated so well, "... for Thou madest us for Thyself, and our heart is restless, until it rest in Thee."



Camerique Photo

YOUTH AS LEARNERS - TEACHERS

by Barbara A. Cahill, Christian Education and Youth Director,
Erin Ave. Baptist Church, Cleveland, Ohio

“CALLING ALL YOUTH!”

This is a sign each of our churches would like to Display, I'm sure. We find that people in our churches are very fond of their young people, realizing that they are the church of tomorrow. We do all we can to keep our youth and are genuinely concerned for their spiritual welfare.

Let us then consider ways in which our young people can learn—opportunities we can provide for them both in learning and in being able to teach.

OPPORTUNITIES IN THE SUNDAY SCHOOL

First and foremost, I, believe, is the Sunday school hour. This is time given completely to the study of God's Word and helping to interpret the meaning for our youth of today. Our methods here are vital and must be a sharing process where the young people have opportunities to ask questions and to answer questions others may have by using what they already have learned. It is very good to give the young person the opportunity to teach the lesson from time to time.

Originally, I came from a small country church in New Jersey. At the age of twelve I was asked to assist in the primary department of the Sunday school. In a short time, the class was turned over to me. There were eighteen boys and girls in the class. I'm sure I was not the best teacher in the Sunday school, nor did I do everything right, but I was given a chance to really “learn by doing.”

When I entered college in 1958, I was immediately given two teaching assignments, as were each of the other girls. One of my assignments was to teach a primary Sunday school class, and the other was to teach a group of primary children, 32 in all, in a Philadelphia Christian center, each Thursday afternoon. Many of the college girls had never taught before and were really afraid to tackle their assignments. I was so thankful to the Lord for all the previous experience he had given me and especially grateful for a greater challenge than I had known before.

I'm not suggesting that we take everyone from the eighth grade up and use them as teachers and assistants. I am, however, suggesting that we be aware of any special desires and abilities that may be in our young people, and use these mightily for our Lord.

LEARNERS-TEACHERS IN THE YOUTH TRAINING HOUR

Our young people can be both learners and teachers in the Training Hour time.

Our Commissioned Baptist Youth

Fellowship should be vital in the lives of our youth. As a learning process, it should provide opportunities for study on vital questions in the minds of our youth. The sponsors should be dedicated men and women of God who are sincerely concerned about each member of the group. Our North American Baptist materials are excellent in providing topics of utmost importance to our youth.

The C.B.Y.F. is the most likely place for a young person to receive leadership training. It should be their program where they can develop skills in leadership. It is from the C.B.Y.F. that we draw our Vacation Bible School helpers and workers. We also have many other opportunities, such as holding meetings in homes for the aged or in jails.

SPECIAL OPPORTUNITIES

Our young people at the Erin Avenue Baptist Church of Cleveland, have been, for the past year, meeting once a month to have a project night. They are working on crafts to be used as Christmas gifts for the home for the aged and for the orphanage.

Our five north American Baptist churches of Cleveland meet once a month, after the evening service, for a “singspiration” and time of fellowship. This helps in enriching the spiritual life of each of the young people.

Four years ago, in the First Baptist Church of Passaic, N. J., we formed a primary youth group on Friday nights from 7:00-9:00 P.M. This was not so much to get the primary children out, as it was to provide a real teaching experience for our senior high youth. Four of our senior high young people took over the leadership, with the guidance of an advisor. The young people did a wonderful job, and there were over twenty children in attendance each week. Of course, the primary children loved their group and their teachers. This work is still being carried on in that church.

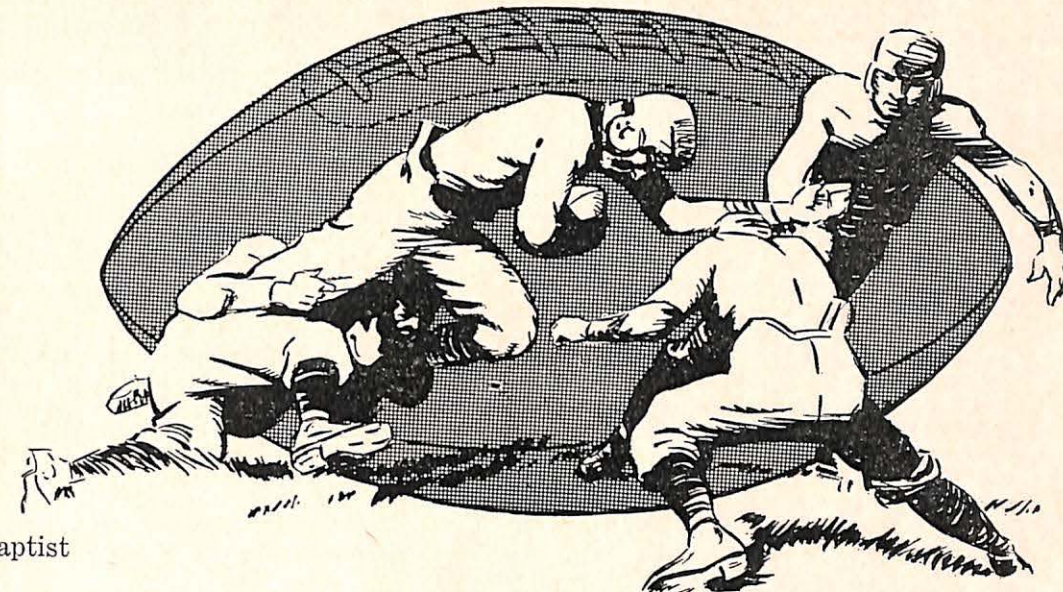
If there is a Pioneer Girls group or a Boys' Brigade group in your church or community, the young people should be encouraged to render service there. This would also be true of Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts. We learn best by doing, and we will find that most of our young people are anxious to serve.

After six years working with young people, I have discovered that the most dedicated of our young people are from families whose parents attend both the morning and evening services on Sunday, as well as the mid-week prayer service. We should be very

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WHERE THE ACTION IS

by Thomas R. Kramer,
Student, North American Baptist Seminary, Sioux Falls, S. D.



THE PHRASE that most completely sums up the activities and thinking of our youth today is this: “Where The Action Is.” The youth of today, whether perceived either from a positive or a negative perspective, are dynamic, energetic, complicated and sometimes confused people, who, living in a dynamic, energetic, complicated and tension-filled world, are seeking to find themselves and a meaning of existence in a very real way. Youth of today, thank God, are usually not content with second-hand religion, philosophy, or even ways of living. If what you have cannot be their own in a very personal way, they want very little, if anything, to do with it.

Personally I have great faith in our young people. To the majority of them, if correctly guided, belongs a bright and very prosperous and meaningful future. The youth of our country are fast making the world their own. A great proportion of the population of our Western Hemisphere is made up of young people—particularly teenagers. This proportion is increasing every year in favor of the young people.

SEARCH FOR AUTHENTIC EXISTENCE

Young people searching for an authentic existence are forced to accept one of two somewhat opposing worlds. Either they must choose the world which the adult lives in, or they must create their own world. The origin of the problem of the so-called disinterested, apathetic youth of today is not in the young people themselves, but rather in the fact that the adult world has not communicated to the youth that the adult type world is a worthy and meaningful type of existence. We have not lost our youth; we never had them, and thus out of necessity they have had to create their own world. What is truly amazing is that many, in spite of the lack of good communication, do eventually make a transition, although never free from pain, pressure and deep heartache,

from their own world to a satisfactory and meaningful existence in the adult world.

YOUTH TODAY WRONGLY LABELED

In our day and age one must be very careful about labels. Our youth of today have been wrongly labeled as unconcerned, disinterested, apathetic, and so forth. I find youth today are very much concerned, are deeply interested, and are highly emotional. Many times, however, their time and energy is directed to things which are not the important or primary concerns of the adult world. And besides, why should our youth be required to live exactly as adults do? If our way of life does not speak for itself, then surely adult pressure will never convince the young person of its desirability for himself.

Young people are in search of life, real authentic life, not repetition. They want action, dynamic action, not approving complacency. They desire hope, bright hope, not mere security. Really, they want a world that is high, wide and deep enough to take care of their great potential, and believe it or not, they know they have potential. They also know that as far as they are concerned, the sky is the limit.

Have you taken the time to see what young people are doing today? Notice where they go. Always to “where the action is.” You never see a group of young people without the accompanying excitement and vigorous activity. Even when rebelling, they have a good time, at least, so they say. Young people like to go places where there is life, where they can get life, and where they can give life.

ADULTS TALK, NEVER ACT

The thing that our youth today have a hard time understanding is how adults can talk and talk, but never act. To young people life is action, and they go where they can find it. They like to go to places that will either add significantly to their own lives or will give them an opportunity

to express their own lives. Young people, basically, are not opposed to church and church activities, but I believe they are opposed to these things becoming an end in themselves. They feel the church, and also other institutions, are to be geared to people, not people geared to the church. If the church does not answer their problems or even show a concern for their lives, they will and do go to institutions that will.

THOUGHTS ABOUT REAL ISSUES OF LIFE

This is also true in reference to what young people are thinking today. Behind and underlying the modern concepts which young people have is the deep desire to come to grips with the real issues of life. They like to talk and think about those things that relate and affect their growth, their problems, and their future. They like to think about things as they really are, not so much how they should or could be. Likewise they want to be accepted for what they are. When young people become aware that you can accept them and life for what it is, then they will open themselves up to guidance and instruction. You must be as realistic as they are. I find young people are anxious not only to know what life is all about and to know what others are thinking, but are also willing to do their part to better life and make this world a more blessed place in which to live.

The real thrust of the matter is seen in what young people are doing. In addition to becoming aware of what life is really all about, I find young people are really trying to do something about life and its problems. They recognize their lack of physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual maturity, and they want to do something about it. They realize life has its problems, and they desire to solve them. They recognize people have needs, and they wish to help. Thus they form study groups, clubs, work projects, and so

(Continued on page 24)

AT 7:30 P.M. on a March evening in 1965 a group of young, energetic and excited men met together in dormitory room 164 at the State College of Iowa. The purpose of the group was not to brag about how far they were able to go with the girl they had taken out for a date on Saturday night or to see how much money they could win in a card game. The group had assembled for a prayer meeting with a definite objective in mind. Their objective was to ask God to use them in leading men on the campus to Jesus Christ.

After the prayer meeting the group paired off two by two and went out to see God answer their prayers. And he did. Two fellows on the varsity football squad accepted Christ. These later led other members on the squad to the Lord as well as fellows in their classes and dorms.

TIME ON THEIR HANDS; TIME TO THINK

College students have time on their hands, probably more time than they will ever have in their life. They are looking for ways to spend this time.

Some spend it by playing cards six hours a day, some by drinking and partying, and still others by fighting and stealing.

With time on their hands, and no purpose or real satisfaction in life, students have time to think. And many are doing just that. You do not have to tell a student that he is at the crossroads of life, and that the decisions he makes are going to determine the entire course of his life. He knows it. And he is concerned.

CONCERNED ABOUT OTHERS

You as a high school student about to enter college, and you who are already in college, who have asked Jesus Christ to come into your life and know what "real living" really is, are you concerned about those students around you? God is concerned, in fact he is so concerned that he has done two very significant things to help those who are looking for a meaning and purpose for living. First he let his own dear Son suffer a very painful death for your sins by being nailed to a cross and left to die in your place so that you can have Eternal Life

by simply confessing your sins, believing in Christ, as asking him to come into your life.

Second, he gave Christian high school and college students the tremendous responsibility and privilege of getting this valuable message of Eternal Life out to all the people in the world. The Apostle Paul says in I Thessalonians 2:4, "But as we were allowed of God to be put in trust with the Gospel. . . ." God says in Acts 5:20, stand and speak. . . ."

If you are going to get the message out and see men accept Jesus Christ as their Savior and Lord, do as the group of men in room 164 did. God has given us the pattern. "Go, stand and speak."

GO!

The first thing you must do is "Go." Do not wait. Christ says in John 4:35, "Say not ye there are yet four months, and then cometh the harvest? behold, I say unto you, Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest." We have to pick the apples off the tree when they are ripe. If we wait the fruit will spoil on the tree and fall to the ground.

"The greatest waste of time is the waste of time in getting started." As students, we need to go where the non-Christian students are. This may be in the dormitory, the gymnasium, recreation hall, cafeteria, or library. It is a good idea to take another Christian friend along with you. His presence will give you more confidence, and he may be able to help answer questions or share a needed verse from the Bible.

STAND

The second thing we need to do is to "Stand" for Christ. In the book of Daniel we are reminded of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. These three men refused to serve strange gods in a strange land, even though they knew that disobedience to the king meant death in the fiery furnace.

The minute we enter the college campus, we enter into a strange land. We are no longer under the watchful eyes of our parents and the community. We can do what we want to do and the things that are convenient to do. Or we can do what God desires us to do. Like Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego the penalty for refusing to serve these strange gods of the dance floor, the beer bottle, and the crowd will mean death to your popularity. But if you will take your stand and be tagged as a "witnessing Christian," God will honor you as he did the three young men in Daniel 3:30, "Then the king promoted Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, in the province of Babylon."

SPEAK

The third thing is a "must." We must "Speak" for Christ, if others are to get the message. Paul says in Romans 10:14, "How shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard?"

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NO YOUTH is an island; no youth stands alone. Youth have many relationships in their daily lives through their homes, work and churches. These relationships carry with them privileges as well as responsibilities.

YOUTH-PASTOR RELATIONSHIP

The first step toward a mature relationship between youth and pastor is for the pastor to genuinely accept . . . and appreciate the youth, faults and all—in the spirit of Christian love. Youth detect insincerity; nothing less than true Christian love will win their allegiance. For the pastor it is imperative to have an open mind and heart to the extent that he knows his youth on a personal level. Pastors must keep abreast of what is going on in the youth world. This can be done by spending time with them at informal gatherings, reading youth magazines, the local high school paper and making the youth a real prayer concern. The pastor must uphold high ideals before his youth but must never allow these ideals to take the place of personal understanding.

As pastors we need to be interested in more than a successful youth program. We need to be interested in successful youth. So often we measure

should do but if we as parents are not honest in our example before them, our words will be fruitless. Our youth see us everyday in our homes, and they know how sincere we are in our Christian walk before God. We are exhorted in the Scriptures, "You parents . . . continue to bring them up with the sort of education and counsel the Lord approves (Ephesians 6:4, Williams). Proper discipline and wise counsel are also the responsibility of the parents.

How shall the youth respond to their parents? Vonda Kay Van Dyke, the former Miss America, had much respect and love for her parents. Listen to what she says about the youth-parent relationship: "Maybe you aren't quite satisfied with your family, well, you can't do anything to change them but you can change your attitude toward them and this is very important. If advice comes to you from all directions don't slam your door in your parent's face and tell them to mind their own business. You are their business. You may not always be able to use their advice they give you and they may not always understand you, but can you really do without their interest in you? How would you feel if your family didn't care what you did with your life? You don't really have to understand your family and they don't have to understand you—you can still love each other." Honor and obedience then constitute the basic responsibility of the youth toward their parents. In Col. 3:20 Paul says (Youth) practice obedience to your parents in every thing, for this is acceptable in Christians (Williams).

YOUTH - PASTOR - PARENT RELATIONSHIPS

by Eugene A. Kern, Pastor,
Central Baptist Church, Yorkton, Sask.

PASTOR-PARENT RELATIONSHIP

A good relationship must exist between pastor and parent in order for a good relationship to exist between pastor and youth. The attitudes of parents toward the pastor and church are usually transferred to the youth of that home. If the parents have little or no respect for the pastor, or if church leaders fight among themselves and bring these fights to business meetings, their youth tend to seek for other models. We, as parents, must stimulate our youth in their service and faithfulness to Christ! Many times when a youth program is planned at church, the parent doesn't say, "All right, Jim or Sally—it's almost time for your C.B.Y." If they are watching a good T. V. program, do we leave them undisturbed? Youth must be motivated!

The pastor needs to help families challenge and encourage their youth and must try to help the parents understand the youth in what may seem to be a difficult age. This may be done by making good books available and planning programs and sermons to meet this need. If a good means of communication can be established between pastor and parents, the result will evidently be more understanding and patience for our youth.

The above relationships must be
(Continued on page 14)

success by statistics alone, and we forget that the Good Shepherd rejoiced over the one lost sheep rather than over the ninety-nine who were in attendance.

The youth, in turn, must accept the pastor in a realistic sense, realizing his limitations and abilities. If the youth wish the pastor to know of their concerns, they must be willing to share with him their activities and means of communication. The youth must think of their attendance and service in the church as unto Christ and not with the attitude, "We're doing this because the pastor thinks we should." The pastor should challenge his youth into a more committed life, and hopefully the youth will respond by focusing their energies for Christ.

YOUTH-PARENT RELATIONSHIPS

Christian parents should produce Christian youth. It is not enough for parents just to accept Christ as their Savior; they must manifest the spirit of Christ in their homes. They must radiate love and sympathetic understanding to each individual in their home. They must set the right examples before their youth. This is of extreme importance! We may "preach" or talk forcefully as to what youth

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twenty years ago; consequently, curriculums are being adapted.

With the forward surge in public education, the church has been left standing in the dust. Most church members are still content to do things the same way without seeking new methods and answers. Unless a drastic change occurs in the near future, the loss of young people from our churches will become more pronounced. Has the church really stopped to analyze the situation and tried to curtail this loss? Why do our young people leave our churches and join other groups or lose complete interest in church?

DEVELOPING CHURCH DROPOUTS

Let's ask ourselves some hard questions and try to seek possible answers. I believe we begin to develop "church drop-outs" early in their lives. Much of our Sunday school material just does not measure up. The same lessons are presented over and over during the years. This approach to biblical truths does not create interest and can be very dull when presented again and again within the same framework. It is fine to restudy these truths, but we need to dig deeper each time and attempt a different approach with more personal applications.

Even without challenging material, a sound lesson might be prepared. However, do our teachers have access to material that would help develop background for the lessons? Here, too, we need to improve. Every Sunday school department should have some basic reference books and materials for the teachers' use. It is wonderful to see so many fine, dedicated Sunday school teachers, but it is unfair to expect good lesson preparation from the existing reference materials that are available in most church libraries.

PREPARATION FOR TEACHING

A revealing comparison might be made here between Sunday school teachers and public school educators. If the public school teachers were expected to teach without any preparation, what would happen? No teacher in Kansas can get a certificate to teach without a B. S. degree. What does the church do? It expects a teacher to step in and teach immediately after being elected or appointed. Teachers should be given a chance! This whole situation could be helped by selecting the teachers several months or weeks before they will be expected to teach. Then, during this preparation time, an in-service teacher training program could be held. Besides in-service training at the local level, more could be done by the various state associations. At workshops, more outside speakers

and persons specially trained in Christian education might be brought in to give new ideas and assistance. At the workshops more time should be given for the exchange of methods and ideas that are being successfully used by teachers in other churches.

INTEGRATE YOUTH INTO CHURCH PROGRAM

Another area that needs to be strengthened is the program of the youth group. Today the young people need to feel that they are a part of the "group." This group idea can be successfully used to develop strong ties to the church as a whole. However, the youth groups are poorly integrated into the programs of so many of our churches. Many times the youth activities are "tacked on" to the total church program. This approach needs to be changed now! Unless the young people become vitally involved in the whole church program, our future leaders will not be ready when they are needed. Some of our churches are using the young people as ushers, assistants in the nursery, and choir members. This is a good beginning, but it is not enough. We need young people to serve as Sunday school teachers and as junior deacons and trustees. In today's world, young adults seem to need a cause for which to work. What better cause can we guide them toward than the cause of Christ?

Too often the adults of a church inadvertently give the young people the feeling that they should be seen and not heard. Instead, young persons need to be given every opportunity to do their part in the work of the church. The Sunday morning worship service is an excellent time for young people to participate in the choir and special numbers, to read the Scripture, and even to bring a short testimony or meditation. To have Youth Sunday once a year is not enough to show our youth that we want them to take an active part in the church program.

One other area that we might explore is that of actual help for those in the church having difficulty in public school. This may take the form of personal counseling or tutoring those who want and need extra help in various subject areas. When a young person knows that a church member is willing to listen and to offer advice and encouragement to him, he will encounter firsthand what it means to be loved by a fellow Christian.

Several years ago there was a slogan which said that good education costs money. This also applies to church as well. It will cost both time and money to train and keep the future leaders of our churches.

THE CENTRAL purpose of a retreat is to provide an atmosphere and conditions in which every young person attending may have a vital spiritual experience. These experiences must be meeting a need. In the Michigan area youth camp facilities and retreat centers are booked up through next April. Autumn and winter retreats are increasing in popularity. Holiday outings are gaining in prominence. Across our country camp leaders are busy winterizing their summer facilities or constructing winter units to meet the demand—by organizations, churches and Christian individuals. Three years ago Detroit area young people of our North American Baptist churches were privileged to put into operation for the first time, the newly winterized facilities of the Y.W.C.A. Camp. At the request of a large Detroit metropolitan newspaper, a full page of publicity, pictures and commentary, was given to the first winter retreat held at this camp.

Youth have spearheaded the retreat concept and the fever has spread across

They are frustrated by the inconsistencies they see in adult believers. The deifying of man and humanizing of God has brought conflict to young people. The moral breakdown of our society has had a disturbing effect upon young people. Perhaps God will give them answers at the retreat.

There are young people who have been nudged and prodded of the Lord over the years as to yielding themselves for his service. Maybe a few days at the retreat will bring this matter to a head and a final decision will be made.

Some young people find their future life partners at retreats. Are there those who would frown upon this side benefit? Christians ought to marry Christians, but if they never meet, how can they marry? We have a great responsibility to arrange opportunities for our young people to meet one another in wholesome situations.

Varied are the reasons for young people attending retreats. The motives may be suspect, but the Lord is able to surmount them all.

day and how such matter should be applied to the personal life. Each individual can search his own mind, share his own thoughts and be exposed to the ideas of his peers.

The strength of the retreat lies in the area of the individual, small group and counselor relationship.

WHAT SHOULD THE RETREAT ACCOMPLISH?

Director Grant Whipple of the First Bible Conference Grounds, Bellingham, Washington, states, "I believe statistics reveal that more decisions and commitments for Christ are made at camps and conferences than in any area of Christian services." The retreat would seem to qualify in this category.

The practical results of a youth retreat will depend, of course, on the success of achieving the primary purpose of changing and affecting these crucial lives. Consider some of the possible results, none of which are listed according to degree of importance.

Young people, pressured by a worldly

VALUES OF YOUTH RETREATS

by Rev. Eugene Stroh, Pastor,
Bible Baptist Church, Troy, Mich.

the age span of our population. People of all ages find in this type of activity a unique opportunity and ideal atmosphere for drawing close to God.

WHY YOUNG PEOPLE GO TO RETREATS

Some young people attend retreats because they want to strengthen old friendships. Others attend because they want to meet new friends. Some attend because they want to get out of the daily routine of life. There are those who want to get away from the tensions, problems and decisions which they face in their homes, schools and churches. Some young people are only interested in having a good time. And other young people come in a spirit of great expectancy, confident that God will reveal himself and make his will known to them in a greater measure than ever before.

Young people are burdened over tensions which exist with their parents.



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HOW IS THIS EXPERIENCE UNIQUE?

Godly leadership, a distinctive setting away from the distractions of everyday life, a group spirit sympathetic to Christian ideals, frequent contact with the Word of God and prayer—all these ingredients blended together make for a unique experience.

At retreats the size of groups is usually smaller which permits broader participation by the young people in discussion. Casual meetings among young people and staff can pave the way for more meaningful counseling encounters as the retreat hours pass by. Retreat leaders and counselors of cabins, in particular, act as temporary parents during days of the retreat. They serve as guides, friends, examples, advisers and instructors of the youth.

Cabin devotions serve as a time for reflection. Counselors are able to lead the young people in a consideration of the subjects discussed during the

philosophy, are confronted directly with Jesus Christ and his answers to the needs of life.

Young people dig into God's Word and they find their hearts opened to share deep needs.

Prayer becomes a first-hand thrilling experience. Answers long sought after are received and a way of life is confirmed.

Away from the noise and confusion of city centers the retreat attendee is impressed and affected by the lovely beauty of God's creation.

Evangelistic opportunities must also be considered. Young people are often in attendance who would never darken the door of a church.

Young people of different churches are able to meet and even youth of the same church are able to become better acquainted.

Retreats serve as hallowed decision grounds for young people seeking to

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Accelerated Education and the Church

by Howard K. Stenzel, High School Teacher, Wichita, Kansas



BY MRS. DELMAR WESSELER
of Lorraine, Kansas
President of the Woman's Missionary Union

We welcome the inspiring and timely thoughts of the President of our Pastors' Wives' Fellowship. Mrs. Everett Barker is beginning her three year term of presidency after being elected at the Pastors' Wives' Conference this past summer. Besides being President of Pastors' Wives, she is My Pastor's wife and good friend!

ANCHORED IN CHRIST

by Mrs. Everett A. Barker
of Lorraine, Kansas

The life without Christ is like a ship without an anchor. Today and in the ancient world the anchor was an accepted symbol of hope. Epictetus says: "A ship should never depend on one anchor, or a life on one hope." Fame, wealth, possessions, education or influence tend to be the anchor in the lives of many. It is no wonder that they experience unhappiness, insecurity and frustration. The writer of Hebrews insists that the Christian has the greatest hope in the world. Our hope is for salvation in Christ, a hope of present security and deliverance from the power of sin and a hope of future glory with our wonderful Lord. Hebrews 6:19 speaks of our hope "as an anchor of the soul, a hope both sure and steadfast and entering into that which is within the veil." No longer does the High Priest enter into the Holy of Holies once a year on the Day of Atonement, because Christ has opened a way into the presence of God for every man at any time.

Jesus is referred to as our "forerunner" in verse twenty. This word "forerunner" has three stages of meaning: It means one who rushes on, a pioneer, and lastly, a scout, a member of the reconnaissance corps of an army who goes ahead to see that it is safe for the body of the troops to follow. Jesus went into the presence of God to make it safe for all men to follow.

What would your life and mine be if it were not anchored in Jesus? Does the hope that we possess securely hold us against the tempests of life, or are we driven and tossed about by fear and anxiety? The door into God's presence remains wide open, and we, wives, mothers and daughters of the King, can find refuge and consolation as we unburden our hearts at the throne of grace. This wonderful hope can fortify and purify our lives when all other anchors fail.

The Minister's Workshop

Faculty members of the NAB Seminary and of the Christian Training Institute consider the Christian minister in his study and in his involvements in life situations and problems of our day.

by Prof. E. B. Link of the Christian Training Institute Faculty,
Edmonton, Alberta, Canada

CHRISTIANS AND CULTURE

Living in the midst of the contemporary "culture explosion," North American Baptists need to find and affirm their position both as individual and collective Christians with regard to the rising tide of cultural influence upon society. Huge grants by governments, fantastically large donations by the benevolent rich, as well as sizable collections from the pocketbooks of the average wage-earner have contributed to the rapid rise of the temples of culture everywhere on the continent. Concert halls, museums, theatres and elaborate art centers popping up everywhere are being filled by people no longer of the elite, intellectual and rich class only; culture is fast becoming a classless phenomena. And these culture seekers of all walks of life tired of the standardized routine of their jobs in a technological age, are responding to the promoters of culture in order to gain vividness amidst the grey prestige amongst their fellows or perhaps simply a means of honest self-expression.

Whatever the motives of the masses in seeking cultural involvement, it is most essential for responsible Christians to try to understand what is going on. When cultural satisfaction is likened to spiritual satisfaction, it is time that the churches assess their own ability to provide spiritual satisfaction to the contemporary individual. What is the role of the church in an affluent society?

THREE CHOICES FOR CHRISTIAN AND HIS CHURCH

There are probably three choices for the Christian and his church. First of all, he may do what it may seem to some that Baptists have always done—stay aloof from the cultural centers of activity. Baptists have never been disposed to build bridges or find avenues to inspire intercourse with culture. Rather, they have tended to withdraw from the world to gather the congregation into its own cultural sphere. But is this possible today? Dare we assume that we can curtail interest in the legitimate arts by presuming to keep the Christian wrapped up in church-centered activities?

The second choice of the church may be to greatly involve itself in the cultural growth so as to become a center of culture itself. This may have the advantage of providing the spiritual satisfaction that Christ can give along with the inner satisfactions of cultural achievements or appreciation. The danger, however, would be that even as it was in medieval times when the

church was the guardian of the arts, it would be difficult to distinguish God from the gods of this world. Indeed, it is not the churches calling to disperse culture neither could it do a good job of it. The facts of today are that the church is neither equipped nor called to be the center of culture.

The third, and what would appear to be the Biblical view of the Christian and culture, is that the Christian is not "of this world," but he is "in this world." Therefore, while he cannot pour all his energies into cultural advancement and be a good steward of what God has given him, he must involve himself in the cultural world round about him. The bent of Baptists in the past has been to be a censure of culture. Certainly, the Christian must continue to be the moral influence and become more effective than ever as the light of the world and the salt of the earth. He probably cannot do this too effectively by absenting himself from the arts; in fact, he may tend to lose his succeeding generation. Neither can he be effective if all his goals are centered in cultural attainment to the exclusion of participation in the building of the church of Jesus Christ through witness and service. But he can be a witness by playing in the symphony but not on Sunday morning, by painting a picture but not one of immoral character, by collecting antiques but not making them the object of his worship, and by just appreciating the higher attainments of mankind but always projecting a witness to the greater attainment of God in Christ Jesus.

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BAPTIST HERALD

DECISIONS, DECISIONS, DECISIONS . . .

by Jane Goodsell

(This article depicts the complex world of a modern mother, in which she is required to make an infinite number of decisions. She is keenly aware of her failure to live up to the images of the modern woman. It is reprinted here to help the church to understand the real situation of persons and thus be enabled to minister, in the name of Christ, to their felt needs.)

Like Poor Miniver Cheevy, I was born too late. I think I might have made a better adjustment in some bygone era when life was less complicated. The Stone Age? Too outdoorsy. The Renaissance? No, I couldn't live without my portable hairdryer. Contrariwise, there are a number of things I can't live with in this bedazzling century. I'm too indecisive, too namby-pamby to make the decisions that face me in this complex world.

I'm not talking about the farm surplus or the admission of Red China to the United Nations. What bewilders me is peanut butter. I can't make up my mind whether to buy chunky style or creamy style. The creamy type is nice because it's so smooth and—well, creamy. But on the other hand, the chunky style has a good, crunchy texture, so maybe . . . no, on second thought, perhaps the creamy style is better after all, but still . . .

I'd forget the whole thing and buy honey instead, but then I'd have to decide between the jar, the carton, the comb and the squeeze bottle.

I'm puzzled about bobby pins, too. I don't know whether to buy the straight-edged or crinkly-edged type. There must be some reason why I should prefer one or the other. But why? And which?

Worst of all are those lovely decorator colors. Everything from ballpoint pens to dustpans comes in eight assorted shades to suit my personality. But I don't have as much personality as all that. I like each and every one of those pretty colors. I'm scared that someday I'll go to pieces right in the middle of the supermarket. I'll be standing at the paper products counter, trying to decide between aqua

and peach-colored roller towels, and suddenly something inside me will snap, and I'll throw myself on the floor and sob.

I've got problems with my electric blanket, too. I can't decide where to set the dial. Position 6 seems comfortable enough, neither too hot nor too cold, but just right. Or is it? Mightn't 7 be just a teensy bit cozier? Or maybe 5 would be preferable for all-night sleeping comfort. Perhaps I should spin the dial like a roulette wheel and leave the decision to chance.

Some nights as I lie awake fiddling with the heat control, it seems to me I had an easier time back in the old days when I faced only two disagreeable choices: (1) I could curl up in a ball and try to forget I was cold: or (2) I could drag myself out of bed, and rummage around the house for an extra blanket.

Life was simple and primitive in those days. Stockings didn't come in proportioned sizes and washing machine dials had two settings: ON and OFF. Ironing boards weren't adjustable, telephones were black and pillowslips were white, and face powder wasn't blended to match the underlying radiance of true skin tones. You could count the varieties of breakfast cereal on your fingers, and the different types of rice on your thumbs. Six delicious flavors were a many-splendored variety.

It was a world of limited choices. Oh, it had its drawbacks, no doubt about that. I remember how I used to grumble that my ironing board was too low, and my stockings bagged at the ankles. My face powder was a different color than I was, and my telephone clashed with my decor. But my psyche was in better shape than it is today. This color-coordinated, proportionately sized, fingertip-adjustable, multiple-choice world is too much for the likes of me.

I'm aware, of course, that everyone isn't like me. Some people have lightning reflexes and firm convictions, even when faced with a dizzying array of choices. I know there are people like that because I saw one of them in action. I was leaning against a bakery counter, my chin propped on my hands, as I stared at the loaves of bread on the shelves. I was trying to decide whether I want potato bread, buttercrust, egg twist (topped with poppy seeds, sesame seeds or plain), sourdough French, hearth-baked French, Vienna bread, oatmeal bread, pumper-



nickel, organge-nut or cinnamon, and whether I wanted it in a small loaf or large, unsliced, thin-sliced or regular. As the salesclerk drummed her fingers on the counter and I stood there biting my lip, this woman marched in. She swept a glance over the loaves on the shelves and calmly announced that she wanted a small loaf of egg twist with poppy seeds, unsliced.

Now THERE'S a woman who is master of her fate and captain of her soul. I'll bet SHE has no trouble deciding whether to set her alarm clock to Loud or Soft. I'll bet she can walk into a hosiery department and state precisely the denier, gauge, toe style, seam specification, shade and proportioned size that she wants. I wouldn't even be surprised if she could read through a menu offering 40 kinds of hamburger sandwiches and unhesitatingly order a pizzaburger.

I know I ought to be a child of my century—brisk, decisive and firm. But I'm not built that way. When I was in grade school, I used to squirm with indecision every time I had to decide between chocolate, vanilla and strawberry. Today, with every ice cream shop featuring 26 flavors, I'm beside myself.

Time is another conundrum. It, too, baffles me, but I must somehow come to grips with it. The problem isn't Daylight Saving Time. I can understand that, sort of. What I can't master is Modern Indefinite Time, the guessing game of figuring out when to keep an appointment. For instance:

What time should I arrive for a 1:00 lunch date with a friend?

It depends on (a) how late I think she'll be, which depends on (b) how late she thinks I'll be.

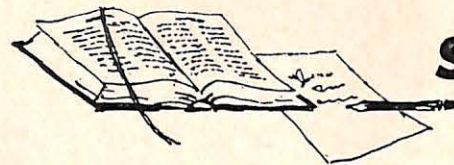
The point is, I want to arrive later than my friend, so that I can rush in, full of breathless explanations about my hectically busy morning, but she, too, has a reputation to maintain as a vibrant young matron whose life buzzes with activities. So how late is late enough?

If I arrive at 1:20 and she doesn't
(Continued on page 24)

RESOURCE IDEAS FOR CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Your reaction to the article on Senior Citizens by Oliver Strong which appeared in the Dec. 15 issue of the *Baptist Herald* should be sent to the Editor, *Baptist Herald*, 7308 Madison St., Forest Park, Ill. 60130.

January 15, 1967



sunday school lessons

REV. B. C. SCHREIBER, FOREST PARK, ILLINOIS

A TEACHING GUIDE

Date: January 22, 1967

Theme: **OUR RESPONSE TO CHRIST**

Scripture: Luke 8:9-21

THE CENTRAL THOUGHT: Christ's love, through his life, death and resurrection, should evoke our greatest response.

INTRODUCTION: Throughout history we see a strange attraction among people who, by the thousands and often by the millions, respond to a false philosophy. When Marxism was first proclaimed no one took it seriously, but today millions of people respond to their atheistic doctrine which is based on materialism only and has nothing to say about judgment and death. There is not a spiritual truth in its entire manifesto and even the dignity of the individual is belittled in its emphasis on the state. Yet people are willing to give their lives to proclaim and to fight for it.

Often we admire their enthusiasm and their sacrifices and wish that Christians would have more of these. Many people do not respond to Christ because they find little in the church to which they can respond, for there seems to be little to challenge them.

However, the sincere Christian can afford to have hope in genuine response to Christ. When the first apostles were brought before the Sanhedrin a very wise man by the name of Gamaliel (Acts 5:34-42) reminded the council that a man by the name of Theudas and 400 men who responded to him were slain simply because he boasted Galilee to whom many people responded, but he and his followers also perished. Gamaliel's final argument was that if this work be of men of God who can stop it. Communism like all other isms will have its day but the work of God cannot be stopped.

I. RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD. Luke 8:9-15.

Although Jesus' disciples were close to him they did not always understand him. At least they were not afraid to ask questions. Probably one reason they did not understand him was because he used the parabolic method of teaching. Yet in its essence it is one of the simplest ways of conveying a truth or illuminating spiritual lessons. Salvation is a clear doctrine but there are deeper truths in conjunction with the kingdom of God that even the wisest cannot fathom. It is beyond and above them because it is not within them.

We would have been just as ignorant as the disciples, but thank God that

through the Holy Spirit we can respond to his Word with more insight.

II. RESPONDING BY WITNESSING. Luke 8:16-17.

Is Jesus adding a little humor by trying to show how foolish it is to try to cover a light? How can a true Christian hide his Christianity? It would be a foolish thing to do, for how can we even think of hiding anything from God?

III. RESPONDING BY GROWING. Luke 8:18.

The Christian must never be satisfied with his spiritual experience. He must keep on hearing the Word of God and continue to follow as he understands or else he will lose the little knowledge he received in the beginning.

IV. RESPONDING THROUGH THE FAMILY OF GOD. Luke 8:19-21.

Jesus needed a mother to bring him into this world, but his earthly family had no claims of priority. He came not to establish a physical relationship but a spiritual. As such, all those who accept him as Savior belong to his family and are considered children of God.

Questions for Discussion

1. Why did the apostles never teach in parables after Jesus left them?
2. Why do some people wait so long to respond to Christ's invitation? Do we need patience and perseverance?
3. What are the dangers of being over-persistent in preaching the Word of God?

A TEACHING GUIDE

Date: January 29, 1967

Theme: **CHRIST'S MISSION AND OURS**

Scripture: Luke 9:18-22, 57-62

THE CENTRAL THOUGHT: Jesus' mission was to save; ours to be saved to serve.

INTRODUCTION: If a man has no mission or purpose in life he is useless to himself as well as to others. No man can live a full life if he simply lives for himself and takes no responsibility for the lives of others. We are saved to serve and we never become truly happy until we find our place of service. If we are really serious and sincere in serving God he will lead us to our place of service. It may take some time through prayer and honest seeking and searching, for it is not always easy to know what God wants us to do and where he wants us to go. Even as Christians we can be possessed by big ideas and like James and John we think we deserve to sit

at the right and left of Jesus. Sometimes it takes God a long time to lead us to a little place of service and often even longer to help us to learn to be contented there. We cannot all be bishops, apostles and prophets. Someone must take care of the sheep and the lambs no matter how small or large the number.

The mission of Jesus was different and unique. He came to seek and to save that which was lost. But in order to do it to its fullest extent he had to reveal himself so that there would be no doubt as to who he was. This revelation, however, would be incomplete without death and resurrection. His mission was to live as well as to die for us. Our mission is made easier because we serve a living Savior.

I. THE REVELATION OF CHRIST. Luke 9:18-21.

Jesus was aware of how much we are often influenced by what other people say and do. He had reason to ask his disciples what people said about him and who they thought he was. In spite of all the intensive training the disciples still seemed very unsure of themselves. So far they did not show too much evidence of being ready for their mission in life. The future of Christianity hung in the balance.

The people as a whole gave Jesus a very high rating from a human point of view. They compared him to the greatest men of the past. But this was not good enough for Christ. That was why the next question was so important. It was important that his disciples know beyond the shadow of a doubt who he really was.

Peter as the spokesman must have given expression to the thoughts and convictions of all the disciples.

II. THE MISSION OF CHRIST. Luke 9:22.

It must have been encouraging to Jesus to realize that his teaching was not in vain and that they were capable of receiving revelation from God. To others they may have remained unlearned and ignorant men but to God they were worthy of receiving spiritual truth.

Jesus' statement as to his mission in life must have come as a shock. It meant the cross, the tomb and the risen life for without these there would be no Messiah.

III. THE MISSION OF CHRIST'S FOLLOWERS. Luke 7:57-62.

No matter how willing the followers of Christ may be, and no matter how legitimate their excuses, there is one truth which rings out above all others—total obedience and loyalty. Jesus

(Continued on page 24)

OUR DENOMINATION IN ACTION

special events

ORDINATION COUNCIL FOR LEONARD STRELAU. Upon the invitation of the Southey Baptist Church of Southey, Sask., pastors and delegates from eight churches met to sit in council on Oct. 22 to determine whether Leonard Strelau was qualified to be ordained into the Gospel ministry. Rev. C. Wiebe, pastor of the Nokomis Baptist Church, was elected to serve as moderator. Benno Bonney of the Temple Baptist Church of Janzen was elected to serve as clerk. Mrs. Walter Lang, clerk of the Southey Baptist Church, read the letter of resolution and invitation.

Mr. Strelau had been serving the Southey Baptist Church for approximately four months and is a graduate of the Christian Training Institute of Edmonton, Alta. Mr. Strelau told of his call to the ministry and doctrinal convictions. The council thoroughly questioned him. After a private meeting the council recommended that Mr. Leonard Strelau be ordained as a minister of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

After a delicious supper served by the Southey Church ladies, the ordination service was held at 7:30 P.M. in the Southey Baptist Church. Prof. Arnold Rapske of the Christian Training Institute, brought the message and the charge to the candidate. Mr. Paul Mohninger, pastor of the Raymore Baptist Church, presented the charge to the Southey Baptist Church. Rev. Leonard Strelau pronounced the benediction. (Mrs. Lester Kuehl, Reporter.)

PLEVNA, MONT. On Sept. 11, 1966, the choir of the First Baptist Church, Plevna under the direction of Mrs. Edward Kopf and organist Mrs. Wilmer Huber held their annual choir concert. Everyone in attendance received a real blessing. The concert consisted of quartet, mixed quartet, ladies and girls trios, girls sextet and instrumental numbers. There were readings and many other lovely musical numbers. The title of the concert was "Fellowship With God Through Prayer."

On October 2 we had our Harvest-Mission Festival. We were privileged to have Rev. David J. Draewell as our special guest speaker. He left us with many challenges in stewardship and to walk closer with the Lord. The offering for the day was \$8,177.65. We praise the Lord for the blessings of the past year. (Mrs. Walter Hochhalter, Reporter.)

GLADWIN, MICH. The Round Lake Baptist Church had their annual Harvest-Mission Festival on Oct. 16. At the morning worship service the choir sang the song "We Bless Thee and Praise Thee, O Lord." Our pastor, Rev. Norman Berkan, gave a stirring message on Gal. 6:7 "Whatsoever a

man soweth, that shall he also reap."

In the evening service the Sunday school scholars had a part in the program by way of songs and recitations.

In front of the platform a nice display of fresh vegetables and fruits, also canned goods and many beautiful flowers were placed, which were tokens of God's rich blessings.

A month previous to this occasion our pastor, Rev. N. Berkan, was laid up at the hospital for two weeks with a back injury. We are thankful unto the Lord that he again is able to attend to the pastoral duties. May the Lord be pleased to restore his health completely. (Augusta Will, Reporter.)

WEST FARGO, N. D. Rev. Elmer Strauss was the guest speaker for our Harvest and Mission Fest. Rev. Strauss told us of some of his experiences in the Cameroons and how dedicated the Cameroonians are. He also told us of the need for more help on the field and especially in the Bible College. We do thank the Lord for missionaries and what they are doing to spread the word of the Lord. (Mrs. Norman Bertsch, Reporter.)



Dr. Richard Schilke and Rev. Alvin Auch at the Harvest-Mission Festival, Anamoose Baptist Church, N. D.

ANAMOOSE, N. D. The Anamoose Baptist Church held their annual Harvest-Mission Festival on Sept. 25. Our guest speaker for the morning and afternoon services was Dr. Richard Schilke, General Missionary Secretary, North American Baptists, Forest Park, Ill. In the morning message he spoke on "Harvests." Stressing our foreign fields, the work carried on there, and the need for more workers. "Missions," the topic for the afternoon service, emphasized the work being done in the hospitals, schools and the everyday contact with people.

A fellowship dinner was served at noon for the members and friends. Rev. Alvin Auch is the pastor of the church. (Miss Arleen Beck, Reporter.)

CALGARY, ALTA., TEMPLE. October 9 was a most blessed and joyous Sunday for the Temple church. We celebrated Thanksgiving and the dedication of our very much needed education unit.

At the morning service Rev. W. Sturhahn of Winnipeg was guest speaker. The choir wore their new robes for the first time. The church was nicely decorated by our young people for this occasion.

The afternoon service was directed to the dedication of our new building. Again Rev. W. Sturhahn was guest speaker. Four neighboring churches were invited, and they extended their greetings and best wishes. All branches of the church took part in the celebration. A lunch was served in the lower auditorium.

The unit is built directly onto the back of the church. It is a beautiful building. It provides us with 16 rooms and a lower auditorium for our opening exercises. The room and comfort are greatly enjoyed by teachers and students. The cost of the building was approximately \$36,000.00. Our offering on that Sunday was over \$6,000.00 for the building fund. (Mrs. B. Kerber, Reporter.)

BISMARCK, N. D., BAPTIST HOME. The annual business meeting of the Baptist Home of Bismarck, N. D., was held Oct. 4 1966, with 65 voting members present. Rev. Jacob Ehman of Goodrich, Mr. Albert Mattis of Carson, Mrs. Otto Grenz of Napoleon were re-elected with Mr. Jake Schlafmann of Turtle Lake as the new member on the board of directors. Mr. Fred Kramer was appointed by the board as the new treasurer.

The administrator, Rev. Alfred Weisser, reported that there are 160 in the residential section of the home and with the additional 34 in the nursing wing this gives a total of about 190 people at present. The staff includes from 55 to 60 employees. He urged our people to remember the Home in their charitable giving and in their wills. It was necessary to adjust the pay scale three or four times this past year in order to get the desired help.

The chapel was filled for the afternoon program with Rev. G. K. Zimmerman of Forest Park, Ill., as the guest speaker. (Walter L. Weber, Reporter.)

NORTH FREEDOM, WIS. On Oct. 23 the North Freedom Baptist Church congregation gave a farewell potluck dinner in the church fellowship room for Rev. and Mrs. LeRoy Kiemele and their children, Laurie and Kevin. The delicious dinner was enjoyed by all. Following the dinner a farewell program was presented in the church sanctuary with Ervin Gaetzke acting as Master of Ceremonies. The following officers spoke for their various organizations:

Sunday school, Miss Irma Getschman; Woman's Missionary Society, Mrs. Duane Dickie; Men's Fellowship, Delbert Kaney; Deacons, Lawrence Ulrich; Junior and Senior CBYF, Russel Kaney; Choir, Willis Koch. Special

music was sung by Nancy Green and Louise Green Faivre and the Junior Choir. A poem was read by Ervin Gaetzke.

Rev. and Mrs. Kiemele spoke words of farewell and sang a duet.

Everyone bid the Kiemeles farewell but regret losing such wonderful friends and the fellowship of a much loved Christian minister and his family.

The Kiemeles moved to Renton, Wash., where they are involved in church extension work.

The North Freedom Baptist Church congregation wishes the Kiemele family much success in their new work of church extension, and our prayers will be with them daily. (Louise Green Faivre, Reporter.)

GOODRICH, N. D. The Goodrich Baptist Church observed its annual Harvest-Mission Festival on Oct. 16. The Church was beautifully decorated for the occasion, emphasizing the theme of Harvest and Missions.

Dr. Frank Veninga, President of our Seminary in Sioux Falls, S. D., inspired the congregation with two messages. The choir and quartet brought special numbers during the morning service.

During the evening service, Dr. and Mrs. Veninga gave a talk about their work in Sioux Falls and showed slides of the Seminary. After the service relative and friends of Mrs. Veninga gathered in the basement for refreshments.

The Missionary offering of \$1,621.32 was received for our missionaries, the Zimbelmans. (Mrs. Albert Schmidt, Reporter.)



Exterior of the new Faith Baptist Church, Vernon, B. C.

VERNON, B. C. The Vernon Faith Baptist Church, on Sept. 11, 1966, experienced a joyous event, the official opening of a new church, and also the 15th Anniversary.

Guest speakers for the happy occasion were Rev. Fred Merke of Lethbridge, Alta.; Dr. Bernard Schalm of the Christian Training Institute, Edmonton, Alta.; and Rev. A. Sootzmann of Ochre River, Man.

The church, under the name "Faith Baptist" with a membership of 36, was organized and accepted into the North American Baptist Pacific Conference on Sept. 16, 1951. The first pastor was Rev. G. Schalm who served ardently for five years. In 1956 Rev. Fred Ohl-



Interior of the new Faith Baptist Church, Vernon, B. C.

man began to serve, and under his keen insight, the property, where the new church stands, was purchased. Rev. Schatz, who is now with the Lord, accepted a call in 1962, and was deeply concerned with the building of a new church. However, in 1965, under Rev. Schroedter's leadership, the building of the new church was underway. Through the work of these ministers, evangelistic meetings, and constant prayer, a membership of 48 through baptism was gained.

Three of the original members are now in the full-time service for the Lord. They are Rev. A. Gellert, Terrace, B. C.; Rev. Fred Merke, Lethbridge; and Dr. Bernard Schalm of C.T.I. Wenzel Hanik, who is presently at C.T.I. plans to enter the ministry.

Streams of people poured into the church on the afternoon of Sept. 11, and it was noticeable only by their contented faces that a blessing was received from the message of the speakers, the prayers that were said, the lovely singing of the choir, the musical pieces played by the Kelowna Band, and the artistic decorating of the church, among many other things, made this event a memorable day. (Mrs. Joyce Frank, Reporter.)

TYNDALL AND DANZIG, S. D. The Tyndall and Danzig Baptist Churches each observed a Harvest-Mission Festival service in October. The Tyndall Church observed Oct. 9 with Prof. Roy W. Seibel of the N.A.B. Seminary, Sioux Falls, as the guest speaker. Special music was a trio of girls from Sioux Falls College accompanying Prof. and Mrs. Seibel to Tyndall.

The Danzig Church held their special service on Oct. 30, with Prof. Floyd E. Moore of the N.A.B. Seminary, Sioux Falls, as guest speaker. Special music was provided by the men's chorus and an instrumental group. Mrs. Moore accompanied Prof. Moore.

In each church the services were greatly enhanced by lovely field and garden fruit, vegetables and fall flowers, evidence of God's goodness to us.

A potluck dinner was served at noon in each church, and special missionary offerings were received.

On Oct. 16, Men and Missions Sunday was observed by the Tyndall and Danzig Baptist Men in the Tyndall Church with Fred Jantz, seminary stu-

dent, as guest speaker. Harlan Voigt, president of the Brotherhood, conducted the service. Refreshments followed the program. (Mrs. David Zimmerman, Reporter.)

NOKOMIS, SASK. A host of friends and former members joined the Nokomis Baptist Church on Oct. 9 to praise and thank God for the evidence of his leading throughout the 60 years of witness in this community.

Mr. Henry Fenske, a former Sunday school superintendent for many years, highlighted the Sunday school hour with his interesting talk on the Sunday school of the Thirties.

The theme of the worship service was "Thanksgiving." The address entitled "Thy Fullness Lord" was given by Rev. W. Jeschke of Portland, Ore.

Over 300 people assembled for the afternoon Anniversary Service. Congratulatory words were expressed by the Mayor of Nokomis and representatives from the community and neighboring churches. The Anniversary address given by Rev. W. Jeschke was entitled "This is Living." Selections by the mixed choir and male chorus enhanced the program. Two recent former pastors, Rev. O. Fritzsche of Trochu, Alta., and Rev. E. Hohn of Hudson Bay Park, Saskatoon, were present and gave greetings. Also present was Rev. L. Kresier of Leduc, Alta.

The members of the Nokomis Baptist Church were pleased to pay tribute to one of her members who has and continues to render a faithful ministry through the program of the local church. Mrs. Oscar Litwin, pianist for some 52 years, was presented with a corsage by Mrs. M. Nornberg, representing the present choir. The pastor, Rev. C. Wiebe, presented Mrs. Litwin with a gift expressing appreciation for the services rendered to the congregation.

During the past decade, the local congregation has been privileged to erect to the glory of God, a new parsonage (1958) and a new church. It was with joy we could announce on our Anniversary Sunday that the \$23,000 edifice, dedicated Aug. 18, 1963, was now completely paid.

The progress of the past is indeed indicative of God's goodness and faithfulness to his people. With the prophet Amos, we must recognize that the supreme revelation of God's love and concern rests in the fact that five sons have been called from our ranks "to bear the glorious message." They are Rev. R. H. Zepik, Selby, S. D.; Rev. W. H. Jeschke, Immanuel Baptist Church, Portland, Ore.; Rev. R. P. Jeschke, President of Sioux Falls College, South Dakota; Rev. H. Bushkowsky, Temple Baptist Church, Swan River, Man.; and Rev. L. Kresier, Temple Baptist Church, Leduc, Alta.

Following the service, a time of fellowship was enjoyed around the supper tables in the lower auditorium. (Mrs. Milton Nornberg, Reporter.)

PORTLAND, ORE., BETHANY. Oct. 30 was the closing day of the ministry

of Rev. Arthur Schulz at the Bethany Baptist Church of Portland, Ore. The pastor gave his farewell sermon, and the service was concluded by the choir singing the lovely hymn "The Lord Bless You and Keep You."

Rev. Schulz and family have been with us for the past 14 years. During this time many souls have been won for the Lord through this faithful ministry.

An afternoon farewell program was given for the pastor and his family. Several musical selections were intermingled with talks by officers of the various organizations. Thank-you farewell gifts were presented the family in remembrance of past service and faithfulness.

Following the program refreshments were served and enjoyed by the many members and friends. This was then a time of fellowship and farewell.

We as a church wish the Rev. and Mrs. Schulz God's richest blessings as they begin a new ministry at Sunnyside, Wash. (Mrs. Evelyn Keehn, Reporter.)



The church mortgage burning service at Bible Baptist, LaCrosse, Wis., with Don Tucker, Albert Palutke, Rev. Leon Franck, and H. L. Dippel, pictured.

LA CROSSE, WIS. During the morning service, Oct. 9, we burned our second mortgage this year at Bible Baptist Church, La Crosse, Wis. One was for \$12,000.00 and the other \$3,500.00

After two years of waiting, God answered prayer and provided a larger parsonage. It is a four-bedroom brick home purchased for \$18,500.00. We sold the smaller frame house for \$18,000.00.

This year members of the church spent many hours in re-decorating the church building at a cost of \$1,000.00 in materials.

We are rejoicing most of all over the spiritual blessings. We recently observed our third baptismal service. This year we have seen thirteen souls following the Lord, and a fourth baptism was held in November.

Our church enlisted nineteen Church Extension Builders. Our monthly mission giving has doubled, and we are averaging \$90.00 per month. We have been a mission supported church for the last three years but plan to be self-sufficient in 1967. Rev. Leon Franck is our pastor, and our present membership is 111. (Mrs. N. J. Johnston, Reporter.)

FESSENDEN, N. D. The First Baptist Church of Fessenden, N. D., re-

cently purchased three signs, which were installed along the highways coming into town, for the purpose of acquainting and inviting visitors to our worship services.

The Men's Brotherhood had these signs painted and made all the arrangements with the State Highway Department so that these signs could be installed. Arthur Pepple, Rev. Ray Hoffman and Irving Driesner were the men who installed these signs. (Mrs. James McBain, Church clerk.)

PEORIA, ILL. A Pastor Appreciation Night, honoring Rev. Richard W. Paetzel, pastor of North Sheridan Baptist Church, Peoria, Ill., was held by the church as a surprise event for the pastor and family the evening of Nov. 6.

The event was sponsored by the Board of Deacons. Merlin Barnes was chairman of the event, and George Axmann, chairman of the Board of Deacons, presided at the program which was preceded by a luncheon.

Young people and adults, representing all segments of the church membership, participated in the speaking program, which was augmented by vocal and instrumental selections.

The Paetzels were presented with an electric coffee maker as a gift. (Walter Kohrs, Reporter.)

EDMONTON, ALTA., CENTRAL. October 2 was our Thanksgiving Sunday this year, and as in previous years, we again prepared a table which was filled with contributions of food for our Christian Training Institute. On this Sunday a special mission offering for building fund and mission fund was received in our church, as well as in the Namao Park Baptist Church, which is our mission station. This offering totaled \$5,579.00. In the evening service, the Sunday school pupils presented an enjoyable program. Thanks be to God for all his goodness. (Mrs. B. Jeske, Reporter.)

LORRAINE, KAN. Our people have much to be thankful for; "our cup runneth over" with blessings. The October Series of Bible Studies on "The Holy Spirit" was led by Mrs. Walter Kohrs. The attendance was good, and the ladies had sweet fellowship around the Word.

The following Sunday began a week of Deeper Life Meetings. We are grateful to Dr. Robert Schreiber, Kankakee, Ill., who challenged and encouraged us to grow spiritually. The Rev. Harold Weiss family of our Ellinwood Church, brought us some musical numbers one evening. The Stafford and Hoisington Churches, along with their pastors, were represented also. We had a blessed time of spiritual enrichment. (Mrs. Delmar Williamson Reporter.)

OAK BANK, MAN. On June 6, 1966, in an impressive ceremony, the Oak Bank Baptist Church of Oak Bank, Man., took that very important step—to be recognized as an independent church in the North American Baptist General Conference. Delegates from the sister churches, Missions Gemeinde, Rowandale, Grant Park, Emmanuel,

River Hills, and the mother church, McDermott Avenue of Winnipeg, participated. Although this church celebrated its 70th anniversary last year, serving its members well and shaping many lives, we found ourselves, like the area we lived in, not seeming to grow very much. However, as the area seems to have been discovered and gone forward, so we also hope to go forward and serve our increasing numbers and pray that God will give us the wisdom to be the right type of testimony to the surrounding area. (Mrs. A. J. Gander, Reporter.)

Sunday school programs & events

EAST DETROIT, MICH., RIDGE-MONT. The Scripture Memory program at our church was completed when 47 children received recognition during the evening service on Oct. 16. Our hearts rejoiced as these boys and girls were able to recite some Bible verses that they had learned during the past year. All children were rewarded with a money certificate which could be redeemed at a local Christian bookstore.

Our junior choir and band served us also at this memorable event. We are thankful for young talents serving our Lord. (Manfred Neumann, Reporter.)

SWAN RIVER, MAN. We of the Temple Baptist Church, Swan River, Man., held a successful V.B.S. in July. Though our group wasn't as large as previous years, we had a blessed time together, and we trust that as the seed was sown in these young hearts, it may bear fruit for time and eternity.

In September the awards were given to the scholars participating in our Scripture Memory Course, which is so ably sponsored by Mrs. Ray Lepholtz, this was in conjunction with our Promotion Sunday in Sunday school.

On Oct. 9 we as a church observed our annual Thanksgiving and Mission Sunday. The church was beautifully decorated for the occasion, which also evidenced the bounty we were blessed with. The Sunday school children brought their program in the evening, and this brought a very blessed Sunday to a close. Our prayer is that we as a church might be a true lighthouse in our community. (Mrs. Dave Binder, Reporter.)

EDMONTON, ALTA., CENTRAL. Under the direction of our student pastor, Kurt Redslag, a successful school was held Aug. 8-12. Twenty teachers and helpers worked in seven classes, bringing God's word to young hearts. Enrollment was 115, with an average attendance of 92. On Sunday evening, Aug. 14, each class participated in a closing program. At this time two of the students were also presented with a prize for the highest points acquired for bringing visitors into the school. (Mrs. B. Jeske, Reporter.)

PEORIA, ILL. North Sheridan Baptist Church, Peoria, Ill., honored Miss

WHERE THE ACTION IS

(Continued from page 9)

forth. But they always want to do more than just talk. They back it up with action.

Young people may be somewhat self-fish, but really is that so bad? Must not one first love and accept himself before he is able to love and accept someone else? Our youth are trying to find themselves today; tomorrow the world is theirs.

VALUES OF RETREATS

(Continued from page 13)

know what to do with their lives.

The opportunity for counseling at a retreat cannot be over-looked. Many frustrated individuals "open up" after a stimulating discussion, a hearty meal, a lively ping pong game, a challenging film, a bedtime devotion—or when on a walk along some trail with a sympathetic and understanding friend. Retreats can be a time of sharing problems, a time when troubled and burdened young people can learn to find peace and happiness by resting in the Lord.

Retreats can teach missions and evangelism. Young people can be motivated to return and reach other young people in their schools, neighborhoods and churches. Leadership training can also be cultivated at the retreat.

Typical responses of young people at retreats go something like this: "Many questions have been answered for me." "I feel that the Lord has put his hand on me for Christian service." "I have asked the Lord to give me courage so that I can witness effectively when I return home." "The Bible has become real to me." "I have met young people and Christian leaders whose faith is alive."

We do not go on retreats for retreats sake. We have retreats for the sake of the youth and what the ex-

perience can do for them. Retreats are rich in spiritual power because the individual is surrounded by people who care for him.

Ultimately, who can measure the value of a retreat? Only God knows what is truly accomplished. But we thank him for this, another approach whereby we can meet the mental, physical, social and spiritual needs of young people.

Encourage young people to attend retreats. Better yet, attend with them in the capacity of resource leader, counselor and friend. Check to see if your church is subsidizing the young person's expenses. The investment will be worth it.

Retreats are valuable.

DECISIONS, DECISIONS

(Continued from page 17)

get there until 1:40, I will, of course, insist that I arrived just a second ago myself, and I'll spend the whole lunch trying to convince her my life is busier and more frantic than hers.

But next time I've simply got to be the last to arrive, even if it means spending a whole hour combing my hair in the powder room.

What time should we arrive for 6:30 dinner at my great-aunt Hattie's house?

Aunt Hattie is hopelessly out of step with the times. She's a martinet about punctuality. When you go to her house for dinner, you eat rare roast beef and Yorkshire pudding and asparagus with hollandaise sauce, and you're expected to show up at 6:30. Six thirty-five at the latest.

Aunt Hattie is a fixed point in a bewildering universe, and I love to be invited to her house, it's so relaxing to know what is expected of me.

(From *I've Only Got Two Hands and I'm Busy Bringing Them* by Jane Goodsell. Copyright 1960, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 by Jane Goodsell. Reprinted by permission of Doubleday Company, Inc.)

ADDRESS CHANGES

Fadenrecht, Rev. Albert H., 31231 Lund, Warren, Mich. 48093.
Ganstrom, Rev. S. Donald, The Broadway Village, 801 North Loars, Apt. 105, Anaheim, Calif. 92801.
Kern, Rev. and Mrs. Edwin C., 5515 President Row, Vancouver 8, B. C., Canada.

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SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS

(Continued from page 18)

wants no competition and no divided loyalties. He demands priority in all areas of life.

Questions for Discussion

1. Must your mission in life of necessity be that of a missionary?
2. Why was it so important for the disciples, and why is it important for us to know who Jesus was?
3. What kind of excuses do people have today for not following Jesus?

OBITUARY

(Continued from page 23)

ler, Ashley, N. D.; 25 grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Mr. Krause suffered much and had to submit to surgery several times, but his faith in Christ was constant to the end. His testimony lives on in his surviving loved ones.

First Baptist Church
Lodi, California

AARON BUHLER, Pastor

CONTRIBUTION SUMMARY

November 1966

CONTRIBUTIONS FOR ALL PURPOSES

Conferences	Nov. 1966	Nov. 1965	Nov. 1964
Atlantic	\$ 5,298.40	\$ 2,660.58	\$ 1,650.96
Central	37,820.63	10,665.41	8,664.27
Dakota	25,939.16	19,315.64	20,787.30
Eastern	2,061.15	2,223.77	2,578.14
Northern	15,008.66	22,747.53	27,055.07
Northwestern	8,932.05	11,104.20	6,136.94
Pacific	29,994.84	14,910.15	11,729.58
Southern	1,018.78	1,022.78	1,089.54
Southwestern	11,652.88	16,551.92	5,816.19
Inter-Conference	4,261.35	4,139.51	4,591.31
Total Contributions	\$141,987.90	\$105,341.49	\$ 90,099.30

CONTRIBUTIONS RECEIVED

	Budget Contributions	Other Contributions	Total Contributions
For the month of November 1966	\$131,983.41	\$ 10,004.49	\$141,987.90
For the month of November 1966	\$131,983.41	\$ 10,004.49	\$141,987.90
For the month of November 1964	82,182.93	7,916.37	90,099.30

CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR

April 1, 1966 to November 30, 1966	\$633,991.96	\$ 52,037.99	\$686,029.95
April 1, 1965 to November 30, 1965	531,194.81	39,753.12	570,947.93
April 1, 1964 to November 30, 1964	518,832.19	41,255.50	560,187.69

OUR STEWARDSHIP RECORD

N.A.B. MISSION PROGRAM
April - November, 1966

\$1,150,000 Approved Goal

