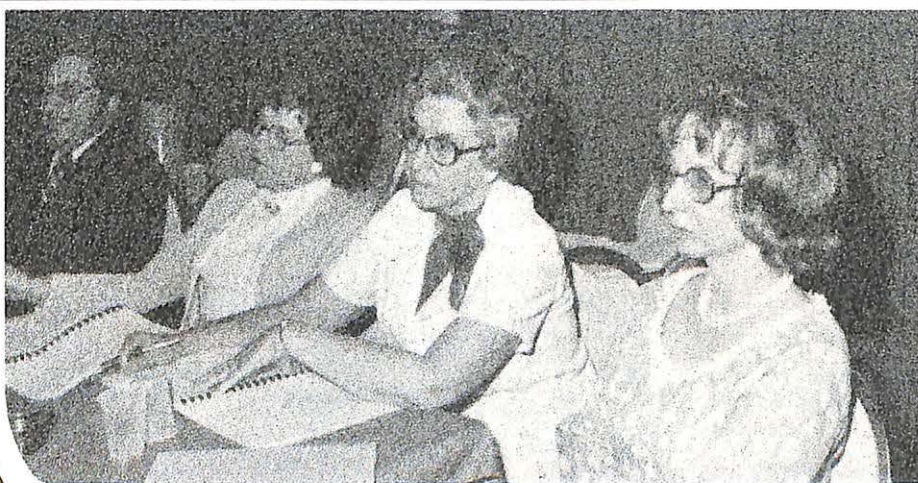


September 1975

baptist herald



General Council
Session 1975



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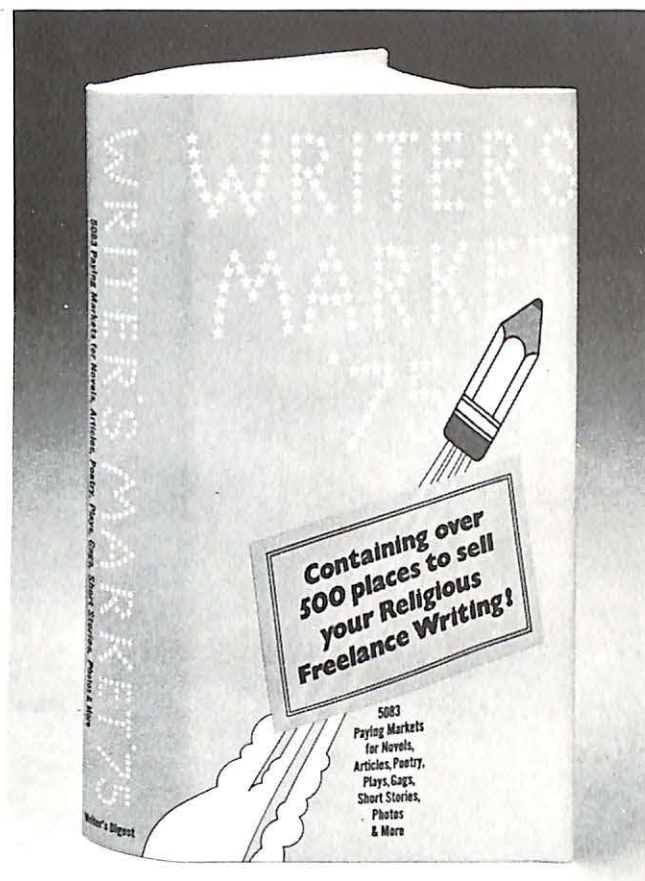
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news flash

National Bicentennial Convocation

The North American Baptist Fellowship requested the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs to plan an event for the Bicentennial year to include all Baptist groups of the United States. The Baptist Joint Committee unanimously voted to respond favorably to this request by sponsoring A National Bicentennial Convocation.

The Convocation has been planned around the theme, "Baptists and the American Experience." While Baptists have had a significant role in the development of America, we feel that we must not dwell primarily on our past.

(Continued on page 12)

BAPTIST AND THE AMERICAN EXPERIENCE

A National Bicentennial Convocation

January 12-15, 1976

A Convocation on the occasion of the Bicentennial of the American Revolution to examine the past, present and future role of Baptists in the life of the nation.

Sponsored by the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs, 200 Maryland Avenue, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20002

Convocation will be held in SHOREHAM AMERICANA HOTEL, 2500 Calvert St., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20008

Pastors and lay people who are interested in attending this important event please contact Dr. G. K. Zimmerman, 7308 Madison St., Forest Park, Ill. 60301, or call (312) 771-8700 for information and registration.

The Most Important N.A.B. Annual Meeting

The General Council



"This is serious, and I demand your attention!"



About seventy representatives gathered on June 13-14, 1975, to discuss and decide the important issues of our N.A.B. Conference. These included the voting members of the General Council, ex officio members, executive staff members, finance committee members and visitors.

They come with burdens and responsibilities that are not easily accepted nor carried. Like the Apostle Paul, they feel that the burden of all the churches are upon them. Decisions therefore are not made easily nor in haste. Human will and God's will are not always distinguishable except through much discussion and prayer.

Throughout the sessions there was strong evidence expressed for spiritual, numerical and material growth in all areas of the Conference. In spite of the economy the Council moved out on a venture of faith and set a record budget for our 1976 Conference missions and ministry of \$2,524,000. This is 18 percent above the 1975 budget. No doubt the Council members not only had faith in God, but faith in the generosity of the more than 55,000

members whom they represented. Christian generosity will be the key to the reaching of this high goal. The spirit of sacrifice will then be a joy and not a burden.

Church Extension has been our top priority for some time. This is one area where church and numerical growth are clearly evident. The Associate Secretary for Church Extension, his Conference committee, and the many associational committees are all a beehive of activity. Therefore the General Council approved that Church Extension be separated from the Board of Missions and become a separate department with its own board. This matter will be presented to the 1976 Triennial Conference delegates for consideration.

Recognizing the difficulty and complexity of determining priorities among our several Conference functions of overseas missions, home missions, church extension, higher education, church ministries and stewardship and communications; and further recognizing the need to exercise the best possible stewardship with the limited

resources available to us to carry on these functions and with the sincere desire to preserve the highest degree of unity within the Conference constituency, the Conference Planning Committee was asked to conduct an overall study of the higher education, overseas missions, church ministries, church extension, home missions and stewardship and communications functions of the Conference. A progress report is to be given to the General Council in May 1976.

One of the important decisions that had to be made concerned the moving and building of the Conference Office. The Building Committee did some intensive searching and researching for the past two years before a recommendation was made to the Council. All possible alternatives were freely and frankly discussed. The Building Committee reported that the bids from seven general contractors were all considerably lower than previous estimates of the cost. After further discussion the Council approved the recommendation of the committee to proceed with the construction of the new building based on a total cost of approximately \$830,000.



This decision demands serious solemn thought and prayer.

Previously land had been purchased for \$197,000. With additional costs for legal and architect fees, furnishings and moving, the total project will cost approximately \$1,175,000. However, only \$875,000 will be needed in additional money since about \$300,000 is available from the sale of the old office building, a house and two apartment buildings in Forest Park.

The Council approved the following plan for financing the project:

- That we enter into an interim loan agreement with the Continental Illinois National Bank of Chicago to cover construction costs as needed.
- That plans be developed for repaying the loan through direct solicitation, memorial gifts and the sale of bonds.

One of the Building Committee members, an authority on construction from experience, expressed the fact that this was the right time to build. Costs would have been 20-25% higher a year ago. Some of the building materials

have dropped drastically in the last few months.

As the Council was dealing with the increased budget requests Mr. Milton H. Hildebrandt, general treasurer, suggested a continual critical evaluation of all programs to assure optimum budgetary control; a totally committed effort by all of us to achieve our objectives—translated into productive action among our churches; an abiding trust in God's goodness, not as a crutch, but in simple recognition of the fact that without him we can do nothing.

With the retirement of the Rev. Rubin Kern as eastern area secretary it was recommended that area secretaries be reduced from six to five. However, the Council did not believe that this was an acceptable way to economize. The area secretary has become an important and vital link as a communications officer between the associations and the Conference staff. With the growing church extension program and the inner city ministry their services are needed more than ever before. The Search Committee will continue to seek a replacement for the Eastern Area Secretary.



"Let me explain it again," said the executive secretary.

Dr. Schilke reported that a missionary couple will be ready to go to Brazil sometime in 1976. With a group of young Brazilians coming for a tour of the United States and Canada, together with the Effas, we can anticipate strong promotion for this mission field.

An encouraging report was given by the Rev. Rubin Kern about the work being done among the Spanish and Portuguese-speaking people. This ministry is supported by individual churches and by the Atlantic Association. A modest request for \$3,000 to augment this ministry was approved.

The estate planning program under its director, the Rev. Everett A. Barker, is gaining interest and momentum. The Rev. Alfred Weisser, who had been working as a part-time estate planning counselor will now serve on a full-time basis. The Rev. Lawrence Bienert has also been appointed to serve on a full-time basis in the Personal Estate Planning Service. His area will include Oregon, Washington, Missoula, Mont., Paul, Idaho in the

The General Council



Top left: The Rev. and Mrs. M. D. Wolff happily observing their 25th wedding anniversary during the Council sessions. Top right: Still cheerfully optimistic about making one million contacts for Christ. Middle left: It's easy to raise the budget of \$2,524,000 if 55,000 members each give only \$45.89. Middle right: "Don't let our missionaries down," exclaimed Dr. Schilke. Bottom left: That last speech was awfully dry. Bottom right: One of the few "lighter" moments, or a "lighter" area secretary.

U.S., and British Columbia in Canada. He is known to us as a former pastor and manager of the Roger Williams Press Book Store. For the past 10 years he was Director, Department of Development, Illinois College, Jacksonville, Ill.

The Church Ministries Board is concerned about the pastoral shortage and recruitment. They recommended to the Council that a Task Force be appointed to study the shortage of persons for church related vocations, and that they be charged with assessing the current situation, implementing some immediate action to alleviate the problem. They are to report to the General Council on its activities and proposals before proceeding with any extensive study that may require the expenditure of unbudgeted funds.

Dr. Zimmerman presented a recommendation by the Baptist Joint Committee to its member bodies in the United States and Canada which reads as follows:

Recognizing religious liberty to be one of the cardinal principles of Baptists and a major contribution of Baptists to North America, the Baptist Joint Committee recommends that serious consideration be given by each of its member bodies of Canada and the United States to the designation of Religious Liberty Sunday, the second Sunday in June of each year, or such other Sunday as may be worked into the denominational calendar/s.

The motion was made and seconded that we designate the second Sunday in June as Religious Liberty Sunday.

Although many of the recommendations and decisions demanded a great deal of thought, discussion, prayer and hard work, the General Council proved to be a body of representative believers who had conviction, confidence and faith that God would lead and provide according to his riches if his people were committed, obedient and willing to follow.

RECOGNITION DINNER

Honor to Whom Honor Is Due

Friday, June 13th was a memorable day. All day long the members of the General Council had been in session, meeting in one of the conference rooms of the Sheraton Hotel at Oak Brook, Illinois. Although much business was left to be taken care of on the following day (the Council reconvened at 8 a.m.), everybody adjourned with great joy, for a special event was to begin at 6:30 p.m.

The Village Green Baptist Church of Glen Ellyn, Ill., had opened its multi-purpose hall for the recognition

dinner. The young men of the church busied themselves in the kitchen and afterwards were serving at the tables.

Mr. Delmar Wesseler, moderator of the Conference, was the M.C. After a delicious supper, cooked by the "veteran", Mrs. Elfriede Grote, the recognition program was on its way.

Mrs. Dorothy Ganoung sang a beautiful solo, tuning in the hearts of the audience to give God the glory while honoring his servants. The first to be honored was **Mr. Edwin H. Marklein**, whose 40 years of distinguished ser-



The M.C. thinks this is more fun than standing before a council meeting.



Mr. and Mrs. Ed. Marklein don't seem to show the wear and tear of 40 years of service.

vice to the NABGC were recognized. Dr. G. K. Zimmerman read a citation, presented by the General Council, and expressed his deep gratitude for his faithful service.

Mr. Marklein has served as a council member of the Young People's and Sunday School Workers Union, 1935-40, and as its president, 1938-40; as a member of the Finance Committee since 1940, as a member of the N.A.B. Seminary Board of Trustees, 1946-58; as a member of the Investment Committee since 1948; as chairman of the Church Loan Fund Committee since 1948, as chairman of the Commission on Denominational Objectives and Organization, 1955-58, as moderator of the General Conference, 1961-64; and as chairman of the Finance Committee since 1965.

The citation reads:

"His deep concern for the mission outreach of the Conference, devotion to God, competent counsel, wise-judgment, willingness to make difficult fiscal decisions, steadfast loyalty to the Conference and kingdom of God are hereby gratefully recognized."

Mrs. Herbert Kniep, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Marklein, along with her husband were asked to stand with Dr. Zimmerman, as he read the citation. Both Mr. and Mrs. Marklein responded with appropriate words to the honor bestowed upon them. Mrs. Marklein was especially grateful for the Dresden dish which was the Council's expression of gratitude for the many hours and days, when denominational business took her husband temporarily from her side.

The Rev. John Binder then read the citation, given to **Mr. Harold B. Johns** for 35 years of notable service to the Conference.

"As a member of the Board of Trustees of the Roger Williams Press, 1940-1959, 1961-1964, and as chairman, 1948-1959, 1961-1964; as a member of the Board of the Baptist Children's home, 1947-1952; as a member of the General Council since 1948; as a member of the Pension Fund Committee since 1949, and as chairman since 1970; as a member of the Constitutional Change Committee since 1949, and as chairman since 1956; as a member of the Board of Trustees of the Education and Publication Society, 1959-1961.

His keen interest, promotion and support of missions, leadership in developing publications, devotion to God, services in photography and audiovisuals, consistent loyalty to the Conference and the kingdom of God are hereby gratefully recognized."

The citation of appreciation was just as much a surprise for him as for Mr. Marklein. Great was therefore his astonishment when—in addition to the citation—he received a digital watch.

Mr. Johns took the audience back several decades, reminiscing events in connection with his duties in various Conference capacities.

Next followed the honoring exercise for the **Rev. Bruno Schreiber**. The Rev. Manuel Wolff, long time friend of Rev. Schreiber, recognized the unique and much



The Rev. Wolff doesn't seem to express much empathy while introducing the Rev. B. C. Schreiber who was hospitalized.



Our beloved bachelor, Mr. Harold Johns, doesn't have to share his honors with anyone else.



"I'm sure my husband will jump out of his hospital bed with excitement when I show him these candle holders" exclaimed Mrs. Schreiber.



Pain and pleasure in the hospital—that is, Rev. Schreiber had the pain and we had the pleasure.



The Rev. and Mrs. D. Fuchs look like a contented, happy couple.



"I thought I'm the one that's supposed to be honored tonight," said the Rev. Rubin Kern.

treasured contributions he has made as a general worker to the Conference for a total of 22 years. His only pastorate was the New Leipzig Baptist Church in North Dakota. At the time of the Triennial Conference at Wichita, Kansas, the Rev. B. C. Schreiber had already received a citation of appreciation. Now, in the year of his official resignation, words of thankfulness were expressed to him and Mrs. Schreiber.

Unfortunately Rev. Schreiber could not be present at the honoring occasion. A recent surgery kept him in the hospital from where he had sent a short message. His greetings, as also the very fitting words of Mrs. Helen Schreiber, added a beautiful touch of lightheartedness to the evening. It was significant, that the very man, who with his chuckles has made many a BAPTIST HERALD reader chuckle and who had to miss out on this event now, succeeded in reaching the hearts of all present. Mrs. Schreiber received two Dresden candle holders which delighted her greatly.

The Rev. Rubin Kern was honored for 12 years of service as a general worker. His distinction came as pastor, 1941-63, and as Eastern Area Secretary since 1963. The audience wholeheartedly agreed with the text of the citation which Mr. Carl Gunther, Penn-Ohio Association representative, read:

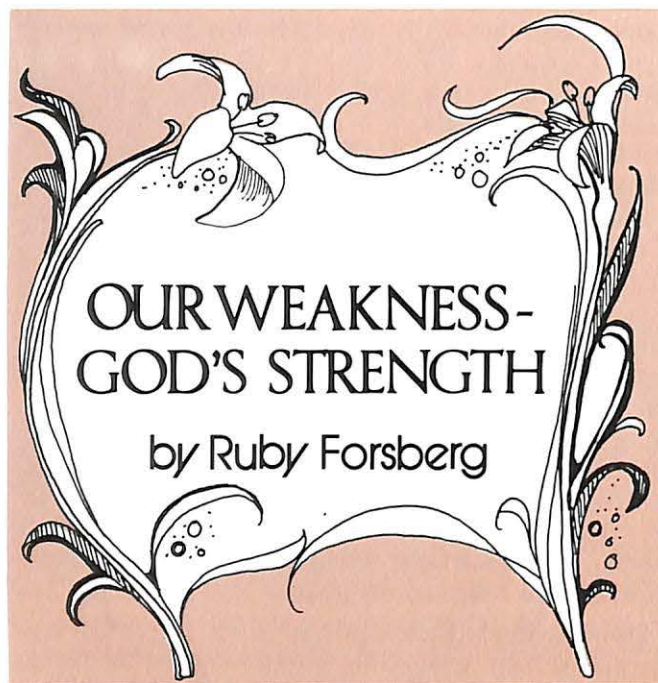
"His warm concern for people, devotion to God, gracious spirit, subtle humor, spiritual guidance and helpful ministry to pastors, churches, Conference and kingdom of God are hereby gratefully recognized."

The Rev. Kern's subtle and warm humor became evident when he rose to thank the Council for the citation. Mrs. Kern was grateful not only for the two Dresden candle holders but also for the privilege of sharing her husband with the Conference. Her sharing was greatly rewarded from God so that she could but thank the Lord for all his leading.

The Rev. Daniel Fuchs began his ministry in 1939 and had the distinction of being the pastor to seminary students and professors at the former Andrews Street Baptist Church, Rochester, N.Y. His next pastorate was in Winnipeg, Man., at the McDermot Ave. Baptist Church. Since 1952 the Rev. Fuchs has had a varied ministry as a general worker for the N.A.B. Conference. He served as denominational evangelist and first director of God's Volunteers; director of evangelism, and church extension; assistant general missionary secretary with responsibilities in home missions and evangelism, and since 1973, evangelism director. His strong, evangelical preaching was recognized in churches and associations in North America. The Rev. Fuchs had already received a citation at the Triennial Conference in Wichita, Kan.

Like others, Mrs. Fuchs had to share her husband with the Conference. She did this with gratefulness to God, knowing that her husband's ministry was a blessing to thousands who needed to hear the gospel.

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. □



"And so, dear Brothers, I plead with you to give your bodies to God. Let them be a living sacrifice, holy—the kind He can accept. When you think of what He has done for you, is this too much to ask?" (Rom. 12:1 LB).

Recently a friend of mine was relating to me of her experience in having a prolonged illness. It was an illness which did not keep her in bed, but had limited her activity for several months. She could not understand why God did not answer her prayers and heal her body.

I gave her the above verse and asked her if she had been obedient in this. Had she presented her body as a living sacrifice to God? Had she completely surrendered her life to him?

She stated that she had tried to do this, but at the same time, deep within her heart she was resentful toward God because he had not healed her. She felt that this resentment had kept her from completely surrendering herself to God's will.

You and I can only love our children, family and friends with an imperfect love, but Jesus Christ loves us with a perfect, infinite love. Many times, perhaps, we grant the requests of our children out of love for them when in reality we should withhold them. God, in his infinite wisdom and love withholds those things from his children which are not best for them.

How can we unreservedly surrender our lives, our bodies, to him? *Only by a perfect confidence in his perfect love.*

God's love is all inclusive. It stretches around the world. He loves the ugliest, vilest, most wretched sinner as much as he loves you or me. He poured out his love for them as much as he did for us.

Human love, many times, is contingent upon the return of love from the loved one, but God loves us regardless of whether we return love to him. Regardless

Mrs. Ruby Forsberg is the membership secretary of the Temple Baptist Church, Lodi, California.

of what we have done, what we are doing or what we may do in the future.

Paul, after pleading with Christians to present their bodies to God, continues by saying, "When you think of what He has done for you, is this too much to ask?" No, I would say it is not too much to ask. It is only reasonable that we should give our life in service for him, since he gave his life in death on a cruel cross for us. It is the least we can do for him.

Is it always God's will to heal the body? Is it always his will to say "Yes" to our prayers as we think he should?

Paul had a physical impairment. There has been much speculation as to what this might be, but we do not know. Paul referred to it as a "thorn in his flesh." He said, "And to keep me from being puffed up and too exalted, there was given me a thorn in the flesh" (2 Cor. 12:7 LB).

A thorn is not a thing of ease and comfort. It is a painful thing. It pricks and it irritates. It must have caused Paul great discomfort and suffering through each day of his life.

Paul says that Satan sent it, but we know that God allowed it. Paul also says that it was sent to keep him from being puffed up. It helped to keep him humble before God.

Paul prayed three times for God to remove the thorn, but God did not choose to do so. But God did answer his prayer. He said, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my strength is made perfect in weakness" (2 Cor. 12:9).

In other words, God said, "I won't take the thorn away, but I will supply all you need to bear it—the strength, the help, the comfort or anything else you need for handling this problem."

Did Paul think God did not love him because he refused to heal him of this infirmity? No, I think not. I think Paul had a complete confidence in God's perfect love for him. He trusted God completely. He knew enough about God to know that if he withheld this request it was for Paul's good and for God's glory.

Did the fact that God refused to heal Paul result in a limited service to God? No, just the opposite is true. It enriched his service.

Did God's refusal to heal Paul mean that Paul would be limited in living a full, abundant, useful and happy life? No, just the contrary. It was because of the thorn that he was able to live such a life.

God states, "My power shows up best in weak people" (2 Cor. 12:9). So Paul replies, "Since I know it is for Christ's good, I am quite happy about the thorn, and about insults and hardships and persecutions; for when I am weak; then I am strong. The less I have, the more I depend on him" (2 Cor. 12:10 LB).

Why didn't Paul receive God's healing? Because God loved Paul with a perfect love, just as he loves you and me. Because he is not only in the business of saving souls, but he is also in the business of building Christian character. He is conforming his children to his image. He wanted Paul to become a mature son of his. He had a use for Paul's life. Paul couldn't mature and be useful to God unless he was completely dependent upon God.

Paul needed to keep the thorn because through it he learned to trust God more completely. He was kept close to God. The thorn kept pricking; causing him pain and suffering, and kept reminding him to turn to God. It kept Paul relying, not on his own self-sufficiency, but upon God's all-sufficiency. Paul's weakness was God's strength. Paul said, "I am glad to be a demonstration of God's power, instead of showing off my own power and abilities" (2 Cor. 12:9 LB). Paul's dependency upon God, was God's enabling power.

Many times, as Christians, we try to handle our own problems, weaknesses, personal failures, sorrows, etc., only to find that we are not able to do so. Finally when we come to the end of self, we bring them to God, and when we trust him, we find he is able to handle anything and everything. It is true that often "Man's extremity is God's opportunity."

Little wonder that Paul said, "I assure you—that I die daily—that is, I face death every day and die to self" (1 Cor. 15:31 LB).

Only as we die to self can we live for Christ. We must crucify self so Christ can live his life through us. As Paul said in Gal. 2:20 (LB) "I am crucified with Christ; and I myself no longer live, but Christ lives in me. And the real life I now have within this body is a result of my trusting in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me."

God used Paul in a powerful way. Because of the thorn, he could pour out upon Paul his strength, his wisdom, and his enabling power. Paul preached dy-

namic, spirit-filled sermons. He contributed thirteen books to our Holy Bible and has influenced and blessed untold millions of people, and continues to do so today.

Beloved, has God allowed a thorn to enter your life? Do you have an illness, problems, fears, a difficult circumstance, a sorrow? Have you friends who have disappointed or mistreated you? Are you lonely? Do you wonder why God has not answered your prayers?

Do you have a perfect confidence in his perfect love? You can do so, even as Paul did. You can trust him completely. Fully surrender your life to him.

He may remove your particular "thorn" or he may not. But you can have perfect confidence that whatever he chooses to do will be best for you as it was for Paul. He is an all-wise, all-loving God.

If he chooses not to remove the thorn, then you will hear him say as he did to Paul, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my strength is made perfect in weakness."

Then you will know the joy that Paul knew when he said, "I will more gladly glory in my weaknesses and infirmities, that the strength and power of Christ may rest and dwell upon me" (2 Cor. 12:9 LB). And when he said, "I am quite happy about the thorn" (2 Cor. 12:10 LB).

You may not become a Paul, or a great preacher or missionary, but you will have the satisfaction and joy of knowing that no matter what your vocation, God is using your life for his glory.

Your life will be a blessing and an influence to those

(Continued on page 31)

M.C.F.C. Accelerated by Bus Ministry

by Daniel Fuchs



Aggressive and productive evangelistic church busing has become the turning point of door-to-door visitation evangelism for a number of N.A.B. churches.

Sunday school busing is nothing new. More recently, however, there has come a radical change in the use of this ministry. The traditional use has been convenience busing, providing transportation for those needing a ride to Sunday school. The newer use is evangelistic busing, assigning a bus captain to a neighborhood who makes contacts for Christ. He visits every home, not only with a view of inviting people to ride the bus to Sunday school and church, but winning children and their parents to Christ.

The Rev. Daniel Fuchs is Evangelism director of the North American Baptist General Conference.

Church busing evangelism is being used effectively at our Grace Baptist Church in West Fargo, North Dakota. The pastor, Rev. LeRoy Moser, reports seeing the average Sunday morning attendance climb from 138 a year ago to 234 this year. "We have purchased our second bus," the pastor writes, "and approximately 1300 contacts for Christ were made this last quarter through our bus ministry. The Lord is richly blessing the Grace Baptist Church. We have called a full time youth and bus ministries director. Praise the Lord with us."

Rev. Jacob Ehman, pastor of our Ripley Blvd. Baptist Church in Alpena, Michigan reports: "It is difficult to place exact numbers of contacts for Christ made when you have about 94 families on your bus route. These families, along with others, are being contacted by our bus captains every week. Contacts are being made to reach the children and their parents for Christ and bring them to Sunday school and church."

Our First Baptist Church in Lodi, California is operating a program of bus evangelism with inspiration, challenge and vision. The director of outreach, Mr. David Krumpe, reports that out of a total of 3,778 contacts for Christ made by the church during the last quarter, 2,902 contacts were made through the Saturday morning bus visitation ministry. "We are extremely thankful for what God is doing in and through his people here at First Baptist," Mr. Krumpe writes. "There were 63 decisions for Christ recorded this past quarter and 35 persons followed the Lord in baptism. Praise the Lord!" □

book reviews

by B.C. Schreiber

Yes is a World. By James W. Angell, Waco, Tex. Word Books. \$4.95.

This small volume of only 128 pages may seem over-priced. But books should be judged by their quality and not by the quantity of their pages. Every page in this book is filled with a positive affirmation of life. The author can say "yes" to the world even though it has given him a tragic "no." He does not mention it in his book but his daughter was killed in an automobile accident on Easter 1970. In spite of this, or more meaningfully, because of this he writes in the last chapter: "Easter is the brightest, most elegant day in the Christian year . . . It ends the Lenten dark . . . It turns Good Friday inside out."

If "yes" is a world, then "yes" is also a book. Yes, buy it! □

To Speak of God. By Urban S. Holms III, New York, N.Y. Seabury Press. \$6.95.

For those who are turned off by the theological terminology used by theologians this is a refreshing departure. Dr. Holms is interested more in helping Christians "do" theology rather than thinking and talking about it. He emphasizes that Christianity is a revealed religion and must be experienced before it can be understood. Hard thinking about one's belief is necessary, therefore in his chapter on dogma and systems the author states that these have been the thoughtful response of the Church to behavior which was out of place for a member of Christ's Church.

A Theology of the New Testament. By George Eldon Ladd, Grand Rapids, Mich. Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co. \$12.50.

It seems almost impossible to condense so much theology into one volume. Nevertheless, Dr. Ladd, who has been Professor of New Testament Exegesis and Theology at Fuller Seminary since 1950, has done a commendable job. His intention was not to write a book that demands a great deal of research, but study. As the student of the Bible will discover as he reads, the research was already done by the author. It is conservative and evangelical from the point of view of a scholar.

In consecutive order Dr. Ladd presents the synoptic gospels, the fourth gospel, the primitive church, Paul, the general epistles and the apocalypse. Liberal, modern, neo-orthodox and conservative scholars are quoted and their views discussed. The result of his conclusions is not biased because he is evangelical, but because he is able to make a strong case for his views based on many years of study, teaching and experience. □

A History of Preaching. By Edwin C. Dargan and Ralph G. Turnbull, Grand Rapids, Mich. Baker Book House \$29.95. (Three volumes)

Don't let the price discourage you; nor the fact that there are three volumes; nor that the history of preaching may be for preachers only. It is a valuable investment for both minister and layman. The problem is not that there is too much reading material; rather it is the urge to keep on reading when once you begin.

It is an intensely interesting biographical and historical account of the history of preaching in condensed form. In many areas you may have the desire that the authors should have reported more, not less.

Although the volumes cover a span of almost two thousand years, Dr. Dargan has a unique way of presenting the outstanding political, social, literary and general cultural conditions of a period in their relation to preaching. His critical analysis of the quality of preaching give meaningful insight into the character of the minister.

The author sheds light on the reasons for a general and fearful falling off in purity and power of preaching after the death of the apostles and their fellow workers. After its decline it rises again in the fourth and fifth centuries. The rise and fall of preaching is then followed to the present time: from Jesus and the apostles to Peter Marshall, Robert James McCracken, Oswald Hoffman, C. S. Lewis, Billy Graham, Oral Roberts, John Stott, et al. There are few names missing.

Turnbull, in concluding the last chapter writes: "There will always be those in every nation who ask if there is any word from the Lord. Man does not live by bread alone."

Help! I'm a Parent. By Bruce Narramore, Grand Rapids, Mich. Zondervan Publishing House. \$2.95.

"Our society demands seventeen years of education before certifying a person to teach in public schools. Medical doctors must have twenty years of schooling. Carpenters and

plumbers go through several years of apprenticeship and training . . . But for the work of rearing a child from the crib, we give absolutely no formal training."

With such a startling statement Dr. Narramore goes on to reveal how all of our relationships, including our relationship to God, are affected in one way or another by our relationship with parents.

The engaged and young marrieds should at least make a start toward meaningful parenthood by reading and studying this book. It is biblically sound and psychologically practical.

INVITATION to 75th ANNIVERSARY and HOME COMING

October 11 and 12, 1975

EMMANUEL BAPTIST CHURCH
of MARION, KANSAS

Banquet, Saturday evening, October 11

Bro. LeRoy Griswold, toastmaster

Sunday morning and evening,
anniversary services

Guests: The Rev. Milton Zeeb, area secretary, the Rev. John Binder, stewardship and communications secretary.

Please notify Pastor Ringering for free lodging or attendance.

A charge will be made for the Anniversary History Book and the banquet tickets.

Pastor O. K. Ringering
102 E. Santa Fe,
Marion, KS 66861

NEWS FLASH

(Continued from page 3)

Rather, the speakers and the seminar groups will address themselves to the present and the future as we seek on the occasion of the Bicentennial to discern the role of Baptists in the life of the nation.

As the nation and as the separate Baptist bodies in the nation enter the Bicentennial year, it is fitting that Baptists of various national conventions gather in the nation's capital to celebrate our heritage together. We hope you can be a part of that celebration. James E. Wood, Jr., executive director, Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs.

youth SCHOOL

EXPECTATIONS

by Joseph Sonnenberg

The phrases "the course was not what I expected" or "the College did not meet my expectations" sound familiar. A few students performing poorly have used them to justify or rationalize their failure. That points up a very important fact. Expectations are not only entertained by students. The College faculty likewise entertains them about students. And while a few students are disappointed with the failure of the College to meet their expectations, the College faculty feels the same way about a few students. Satisfied students have been our best advertisement and encouragement as a College staff. However few or justified students' unfulfilled expectations may be, they merit our serious consideration and, thus, this article.

Expectations are intimately related to motivation, performance and personal satisfaction. The importance, therefore, of formulating and holding realistic expectations is of critical moment for any student entering an institution of higher education, including North American Baptist College.

First of all, you can expect that the College will ask you to make a contribution toward the enrichment of the spiritual and academic life on campus. A great number of youth, quite understandably, come to the College to "find themselves." Questions about themselves, about God and life's purpose loom large in this quest for a comfortable self. The satisfaction of this quest comes through study, through interaction with others on campus and through the cultivation of a spiritual and psychological environment in which those

who seek are found and do find. Too often students most needy of such discovery expect others to provide all the necessary human and divine resources needed to find themselves. This parasitic approach to this quest for an authentic self is devoid of biblical support, Christian honor and promise. Only an active and positive contribution made by each and all students to the total spiritual and psychological atmosphere of the College holds promise of each and all students making new discoveries of themselves in Christ.

Likewise, you can expect the College to make some academic demands of you. To attend the College "for one year," treating that year as a kind of leisurely interlude between high school and the future, is unacceptable. That kind of philosophy is a travesty. No wonder Bible College training has created a negative image in the minds of its critics who view the whole process as a superficial enterprise devoid of educational honor and respect. Gratefully all of that is changing, and that change is due largely to upgrading of faculty and programs of study. With this upgrading has come a heightened awareness and endorsement of excellence. Students in accredited Bible Colleges are expected to work as hard and as diligently, if not more so, as their secular university or college counterparts. Here at North American Baptist College such effort will be urged upon you.

At North American Baptist College you can expect to approach decisions in an adult way—that is, you will be expected to assume considerable responsibility for your actions, decisions, etc., and you will face the need to consider the welfare of your fellow student.

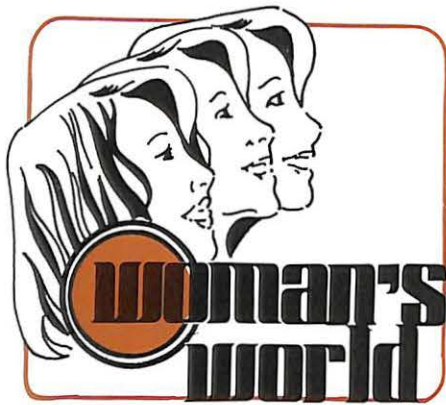
The expectation is that you will do so from a Christian point of view. This will indeed put certain limitations upon your freedom or license, whatever the case may be. A great many students react against College regulations regarding what you can or cannot do. They wish to attend local churches when they "feel like it" or infrequently as they did "back home." Or they cannot understand the need for curfew hours since back home they could come in "whenever they chose to do so." Here at North American Baptist College we believe in regular attendance at College Chapel services as well as regular attendance and participation in our Edmonton local churches. Indeed, for many, becoming actively involved is a part of their course requirement. We also believe in the need for curfew since there are over a hundred students living in dormitories. If each student did "his own thing" all would be extremely unhappy. Rules are for the protection of students and they stipulate limitations of an adult nature upon all of us. The happiest students are found on campuses where such rules and regulations obtain.

Growing out of the above is the further fact that you can expect a considerable amount of student-student and faculty-student interaction. Seldom do students fully realize the lasting value of these kinds of relationships while with us. Only when attending some large university or college do they remember these interactions with gratitude.

Lest you get the impression that we study and discipline only, students coming to us can expect a host of sports activities and physical exercises. There is opportunity for each student to cheer and challenge. We have facilities which make such activities possible. □



"I like you just as you are, Amy, a big help to me in Math, English and a lifesaver to me in History."



Broken Things

by Mrs. Jeanette Stein,
president of the W.M.U.,
Winnipeg, Man.



As children trot gayly off to their first day of school, many mothers will take up the broom and sweep together the broken pieces of toys, call them "junk" and throw them into the garbage can. Broken things are the common things of life. Broken promises, broken hopes and dreams. Broken homes and broken hearts. To us all broken things are calamities and loss. God, however, specializes in broken things and many things he cannot use until they are broken. We read of many broken things in the Bible. Some were accidentally broken, others were purposely broken. Some were broken by others and some by the owner himself. God used all the broken things for his glory.

Peter's net broke accidentally as he cast it out at the command of Jesus. The catch was too great for one net. Peter saw the power of Jesus and he became a follower and a fisher of men from that time on.

A woman purposely broke her precious vase of perfume and poured it on the head of Jesus and Jesus said that this wonderful deed would never be forgotten. We still hear sermons about this woman and she is still an inspiration to many.

A few loaves of bread were given to Jesus and after he had broken the loaves he gave them to the disciples to pass out and thousands of people were fed.

Some men broke up a roof to get a

sick man to Jesus. They were not prevented by the owner of the home. As a result the man was healed.

Jesus gave something to be broken. It was his body. Because he was willing to give his body to be broken for us, we can have eternal life.

We can give something to be broken. We can give the loaves of our life—our talents, education, money. We can break our vase of costly perfume by doing something beautiful for God. We can allow someone else to break up our comfortable roof—our plans for a pleasant day and allow new plans to be made for us where we spend the day visiting the sick, cheering the lonely or feeding the hungry. Have you broken anything for him? □

Visions! Adventure!

by
Beatrice Pankratz
vice president of
the W.M.U. Chicago, Ill.

It was the fulfillment of a life's dream when I landed at the Douala, Cameroon, airport March 13. The Meinerts, Abraham—our driver, Frieda Abraham, president of the Cameroon Womens Union, and my husband were at the airport. Herb had preceded me by seven weeks to study the music of Cameroon. After customs and greetings, off to Saker College!

Next morning at 6:30, chapel with the Saker girls. What an experience to be ushered in during the most beautiful four-part singing of 300 girls! My topic? Harmonious living. Our missionary teachers are doing a fantastic job with these girls. It was a pleasure for me to meet Irene Martin who attended our North American Baptist College and returned to her homeland as a member of this faculty.

A meeting with the Executive of the Cameroon Womens Union revealed plans for an invitation to the Baptist World Alliance women of Africa to meet in Buea in 1977. This is a tremendous step of faith for our women. Next day we traveled to Kumba via Soppo and my first glimpse of Mt. Cameroon.

What a challenge to speak to a 3-H Women's Club and to hear their contributions! Some members had walked many miles the day before to attend this meeting. It was a new experience to watch these colorfully dressed women put their baskets on their heads and march away to their

homes at the end of the day.

On my first Sunday morning in Cameroon we attended two services with contrasting settings: the first, the newly-organized Berean Baptist Church meeting in a simple but tastefully-arranged structure situated on a grassy meadow near the Kumba station; the second, the larger and long-established Bethel Baptist Church situated at the top of a hill overlooking the city. In both cases the services were uplifting, with inspirational singing by the choirs.

In traveling from one mission station to another I was pleased to note the wisdom and consideration of our Mission Board in providing adequate housing for the missionaries. The grounds have been further beautified through artistic imagination, particularly that of the Gebauers and the Hendersons. Unfortunately, higher costs and a labor shortage will make it increasingly difficult to maintain the stations properly.

Any stay in Cameroon is bound to include physical adjustment. My last night at Kumba I became host to a parasite (called jardia) which made my nine-hour trip by Land Rover to Bamenda the next day anything but enjoyable. My spirits were revived on arrival by another fine women's meeting and reunion with a former Illinoisian—Ruby Salzman! Comforting also were the fine facilities of the rest home (hot showers or tub included!) which many mission stations have now provided for traveling missionaries and visitors.

From Bamenda with its colorful market we moved to Mbingo, one of our major medical centers. A special emphasis here is the leprosy work. Dr. Laura Reddig, our veteran in this area, supervises White Cross work and a convalescent colony—the New Hope Settlement. What goes beyond the mere facts is the selfless dedication of our workers and the grateful response of the patients.

There was time for only a brief visit to the Belo Maternity Center and the nearby technical school (Kom Technical Baptist College) and we were off to Bango and my first experience in watching an operation—a leg amputation. We enjoyed visiting with all the doctors, nurses and field pastors here. A special treat was to be hosted by Trudy Schatz, a girlhood chum when her father was my pastor back in Camrose, Alberta!

At Ndu the main emphasis is education: the Baptist Bible Training College for prospective pastors, Joseph Merrick Baptist College, a secondary school and our largest grammar school. Again it was enjoyable to visit

with former neighbors from Illinois, the Edwin Michelsons. How happy they are to be back in Africa! Tina Schmidt, another Albertan, entertained us and gave my husband a much-needed haircut.

The most distant outpost in my tour was Mbem, a smaller medical station with one nurse, Betty Mantay, in sole charge! We actually got to the edge of Nigeria at Yang while transporting hospital supplies from Mbem. This turned out to be a missionary journey in the old tradition—fording a stream, crossing a rickety bridge of cracked logs, up and down mountains over roads that almost disappeared under the grass or were strewn with rocks. The reward was to meet Barbara Kieper coming from Warwar, who had just forded another stream when a bridge had given way!

I regret that space in this short account does not permit reference to other missionaries, doctors and nurses. My husband and I, in future articles, will go into greater detail and will also tell of the work in Nigeria.

After many more women's meetings, many more unbelievable experiences, and many more miles (partly in a one-engine MAF plane), we were back in Soppo. This time we had opportunity to visit with the Dungers and the Pasciells as well as Mrs. E. K. Martin and her sister who took us on an interesting tour of nearby Buea. My last women's meeting took place in Soppo. What a delightful time we had together!

Easter Sunday found us in Douala after hearing the Soppo choir in a sunrise service. As we looked back that night before departing for Kenya, our hearts were filled with a new appreciation and understanding of our work and its missionaries. The accomplishments of the past have been great but more needs to be done—a task to which we should all dedicate our support. □



"When God Calls Your Child"

by Mrs. Phil (Louise)
Huber, Spokane,
Washington

God chose two of my daughters to be

missionaries. Many people have asked for my reaction to having two missionary daughters. Meraleen, Mrs. Edwin Kern, served from 1955 to 1975 in Japan with our North American Baptist Conference and Ruth, Mrs. Baxter, has served many years with H.C.J.B. in Quito, Ecuador.

I will admit to mixed feelings along the way. There have been times of loneliness, and I have sometimes worried about these loved ones living so far away. The feeling of helplessness is there when they need you and when they express homesickness. I have found it hard many times, but I always realized that I could only put them into God's hands for he would supply their needs.

Most of us are not aware of the many needs that missionaries have. They go without many of the material comforts we enjoy. I have visited both of my daughters and their families in their foreign homes and have seen their sacrifices first hand. I would find it difficult to live as they do.

My husband and I have reaped great blessing as a result of our missionary children. We thank the Lord God for the willingness he has given them to give their lives in service for him—even in far away lands to people of different cultures, because they have not heard God's word nor experienced his saving love.

There is great satisfaction for us to observe the joy our children have in serving Christ. We have often been amazed to see their eagerness and longing to return to their foreign land and to "their people" after a furlough. Only God can give such a calling!

Yes, God gave these girls as gifts to us and we've dedicated them to him for his vineyard and pray they will continue to be found faithful to him all their lives. □

Family Night

by Mrs. Chester
(Elaine) Strobel
Bison, Kansas

"Enjoy your children while you have them; they grow up so fast!" How frequently parents of young children hear this advice from older parents. With four children of our own, we have tried various ways to accomplish this. Just recently we started a prac-

tice that we feel has been quite successful and I would like to share a few ideas with you.

Perhaps every family has tried having a "Family Night" at some time or other. We had made several attempts and found the evening often ended in disagreement about activities, some not wanting to participate, etc., etc. Our new method is this: We have scheduled Family Night every other Tuesday evening. It is marked on our calendar and except for an emergency, we will not accept other engagements for that evening. We have a "committee of two to plan the evening which begins at 5:30 and ends at 8:15. The committee plans the menu for dinner that evening (often a favorite meal of the children such as tacos, pizza, etc.). They also plan devotions and the activities for the evening. These are varied. We have had an

(Continued on page 31)

Imperfect Flowers



by LaVerna Mehlhaff,
Womens work director

If you had been given a voice in the selection of the twelve disciples, would you have selected the persons that Jesus chose? Among those selected is found the betrayer, the doubter, two with bad tempers and one who was very outspoken. Jesus selected his disciples from various walks of life. He saw in each what they could become and for that purpose he trained them over the three year period. They were known as those who turned the world upside down with their message.

Today Jesus sees in each one of his children that which they can become. No matter what the talent, the ability, the status in life, the color of the skin. Jesus patiently trains each to become what he intends each to be. Praise God for his wisdom in leading us through life. □

ENGLISH CLASSES PROVIDE OPPORTUNITIES

by Richard Schilke

Introducing Miss Susan J. Pahl and Miss Valerie G. Urquhart



Short Term Missionaries to Japan

The leaflet "Opportunities in Japan" describes our short-term two year missionary program in Japan as one "for college graduates who just love to talk to people . . . teaching conversational English to all ages of people." It goes on to describe opportunities

Dr. Richard Schilke is the General Secretary for overseas Missions.

which even English conversational classes provide and states: "You, as a short-term, can use your English conversational classes as a means of reaching out for Christ. Moreover, the people you teach will become your friends. Just think—these friends could meet your best friend—JESUS!" Let me give two examples of very recent letters from two of our short-term mis-

sionaries who helped write the leaflet.

Miss Carol J. Potratz writes: "I want to share a few things that have happened recently, exciting things! As you know, people respond very slowly to the gospel here. But in the past month we have definitely seen the Spirit working in the lives of the people. From one class, 10 people came to church a couple of weeks ago and one of them has come about three times now!! This man . . . is a wealthy man with quite a high position and he talks more and more freely about the Bible and Jesus! Also, last weekend we had our Seikai, the Japanese version of an association meeting, and it was a real blessing. First of all, there were about 100 people present and we were expecting only 70 to 75 at the very most. People seemed to really get involved and responded well to the pastor's message. I can really see growth and interest in my Bible classes and this has greatly encouraged me and has helped me keep my spirits up and prayers flowing for my strictly conversational classes that don't always seem so open." Miss Potratz has now completed her two years and has returned home.

Mr. Ronald A. Stoller in his second year moved from Tsu to Matsusaka and after being settled there writes: "You are fully aware of my relocation to Matsusaka. . . . I am now completely moved and really enjoy my first apartment. . . . I have continued some of my Tsu English classes so do travel there on Thursday and Saturday. I also have the Mikimoto Pearl Class in Toba on Fridays. I am now teaching at the Girls College where Bonnie Phillips taught last year. I am currently teaching 20 hours a week with five of those hours being English Bible classes. . . . Just briefly I want to tell you about the exciting past few days I have had. I have befriended a young man and for the past year I have just had friendly conversations with him. Last Sunday night I went to his home. We visited and the conversation led into becoming a Christian. I was able to share with him what to do to receive eternal salvation." He then goes on to tell of a similar opportunity with another young man and then states: "These two friends still aren't Christians unless they have made the decision the last few days. I plan to see them both at different times yet this week. Please pray for these two especially and that they can experience the free and abundant life." Mr. Stoller has also completed his two years but came home only for a short leave, July and August, and then returned again to Japan for a third year.

Our Japan Field Committee had asked for the appointment of six short-term missionaries in 1975. We had only half that number in candidates when the Board of Missions met the end of April. Though three were appointed, one withdrew later. We introduce the two who accepted the appointment.

Miss Susan J. Pahl

Susan Joy Pahl was born on January 3, 1951 in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada and was adopted into the family of the Reverend and Mrs. Fred W. Pahl who already had a young son, Gerhart, then two years of age. Susan was loved and reared as a daughter and early in life she accepted Christ as her Savior and was baptized on April 2, 1961 by her father who was then pastor at our church in Springside, Saskatchewan. Her Christian life was nurtured in home and church and she became active in Sunday school, youth work and choir, lately directing the choir at the Wiesen-thal Baptist Church where she presently holds membership and where her parents presently serve. Her brother Gerhart served as a short-term missionary in Cameroon for a period of two years, 1970-72.

Susan graduated from the Queen Elizabeth Composite High School in Edmonton in 1968 and then enrolled at the University of Alberta in Edmonton. She could not continue her university studies on a continuous basis but neither gave up the goal of eventually graduating which she did in spring of 1975 with a B.Ed. degree. During her university years, she was for a period of two years leader of an international prayer group and had many foreign students in the home. She has considered the short-term service in Japan for the past four to five years and in one of her statements in her application she said: "Over the past three years I have been in contact with many Japanese people and have come to appreciate them greatly."

From her references I quote several testimonies given her. A member

of her church writes: "I think Susan is a good candidate for Christian service. She works well with others and is liked and is conscientious in all that she does. She is musical in that she sings well, plays trumpet and violin and is also an excellent choir director." A pastor in Edmonton writes: "Due to her home influence and frequent contact with missionaries, Susan should have a very realistic picture of what is expected of a missionary. I believe, she is sincerely interested in people." Another friend writes: "I have nothing but admiration for Susan. She is an unwavering Christian, willing and anxious to do a service for God whenever possible and wherever she is." A Japanese friend (non Christian) now living in Canada writes:

"Your family truly represents one of the best Canadian traditions—Canadian hospitality. I cannot think of anybody else better suited for the kind of mission you intend to carry out. Knowing you and Japan well, I cannot hide my happy feelings about this potential love affair between you and my country."

Miss Valerie Gladys Urquhart

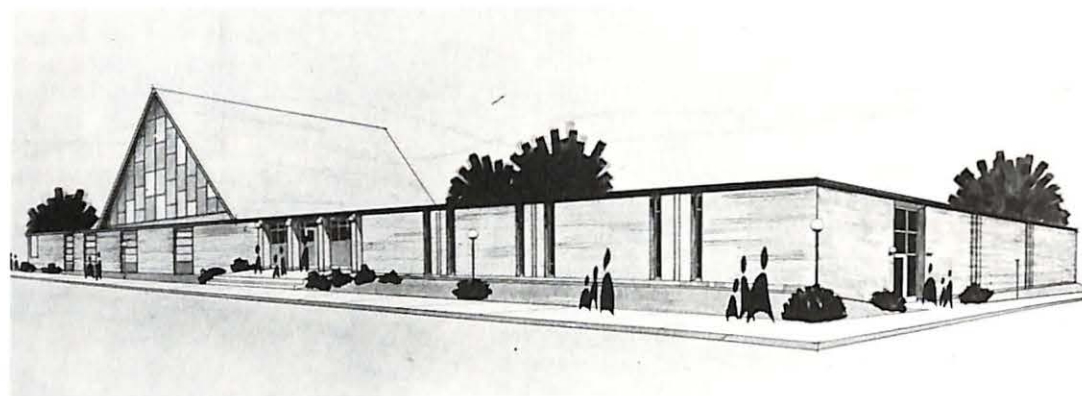
Valerie Gladys Urquhart was born on June 14, 1951 in Lansing, Michigan to Mr. and Mrs. Earl Urquhart as the youngest of four children, one brother and two sisters. Her parents are presently not members of any church and she states that her family has little interest in missions though her mother is in sympathy with her application for service in Japan. Valerie accepted Christ as her Savior and was baptized on December 13, 1970 by Dr. Raymond H. Saxe. She is presently a member of an N.A.B. church, the Redeemer Baptist Church in Warren, Michigan. Her Christian life was nurtured mainly through personal devotion and her church relationships where she sought to serve in Sunday school, in D.V.B.S., and in camp work. Her pastor, the Reverend Adolph Braun, a member of the Board of Missions, gives her a fine testimony when he says: "Val has grown as a Christian to overcome some unusual hardships. . . . She loves her church

and has been willing to serve wherever she has been asked. She has a good spirit of cooperation and could make an unusual missionary."

Valerie graduated from the Cousino High School in Warren, Michigan in 1969 and that same fall enrolled at Eastern Michigan University in Ypsilanti, Michigan where in 1974 she received her B.A. degree with a major in arts. This past year she has been serving as a substitute teacher in the public schools of Utica, Michigan. While in university, she sought out those from other countries and became their friend, "hoping to tell them about the joy of Christ," as she put it. Of her Lord she says: "First, He is my friend. In every situation I desire Christ to be the leader." She has considered some Christian service for the past four years and states in her application: "I would like to go anywhere there is a need for art or conversational English . . . , to be a witness every opportunity possible, to tell others of Christ and to teach the Word of God."

From her reference I quote several testimonies given her in addition to the one from her pastor. Her former French teacher writes: "If I could compare Val's personality to any nationality group's main generalized trait . . . I would most certainly say that in spirit she would most resemble the Japanese (gentle and giving). What better person, then, with such great love of Jesus Christ, to minister to these people." Her school supervisor in teaching writes: "Recommending Valerie for service of Christian endeavor is an easy task because she exemplifies charitable, giving, sensitive attitudes. She endures and perseveres even when discouraged." And I would be amiss if I were to omit what her sister writes: "Speaking frankly and objectively, I must say that Val is one of the most unselfish, kind and generous people I know. She gives totally of herself and would be an excellent candidate for your field. I feel fortunate that I am her sister and would miss her dearly in her absence."

Both of these newly-appointed short-term missionaries left for Japan in August. Miss Pahl traveled with her parents to Hawaii already in July and then on to Palau to be present at her brother Gerhart's wedding. Following that she proceeded from there to Japan by the end of August. Miss Urquhart left by charter flight on August 28 from Los Angeles for Tokyo in the company of the Reverend and Mrs. C. Richard Mayforth and family, who are returning to Japan for a third term of service. Our prayers follow them. □



DEDICATED TO SERVE CHRIST

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH IN MINOT, NORTH DAKOTA

by Paul H. Siewert

An air of gratitude and joy surrounded the busy schedule of activities at First Baptist Church in Minot, North Dakota, June 14-15, 1975, as hundreds came to the Grand Opening Ceremonies and Building Dedication, marking the completion of the beautiful new building addition. The mayor of the city, community officials, pastors, and friends from miles around came to share in the festivities. The completion of the new building not only marked the fulfillment of another dream, but also displayed living evidence of the growing ministry of this church.

These were the words of the pastor, Paul H. Siewert, as he extended the welcome to the building dedication:

"It is my happy privilege to invite you to join us in the opening of our new church facilities here at First Baptist Church.

We are very grateful for this added milestone in the life of our congregation. We thank God for enabling us to fulfill what was once but a dream. He has given wisdom to the artists and craftsmen, and strength to laboring hands. May the purpose of this building, to facilitate our church's spiritual ministry to this community and the world, be fully realized in the coming days."

The Rev. Paul Siewert is the pastor of the First Baptist Church, Minot, N.D.

A LEGACY OF BLESSINGS

First Baptist Church stands as a monument of the grace of God and dedication of scores of Christians. In 1888 a group of six believers in Christ banded together to establish a local church. A building was erected in the heart of Minot, where the present Midwest Federal Savings Building stands, and regular meetings were held. For many years the church courageously maintained its witness in the community. As the membership grew it became evident that new facilities would have to be provided. Consequently a new building consisting of the present sanctuary with Sunday school facilities on the lower floor, was erected in 1959 and dedicated to the honor of God.

It is with deep respect and appreciation that the dedicated and unstinting Christian devotion of the earlier members of the church is remembered.

It was upon their preamble of evangelical faith that the church was able to move forward for Christ. In more recent years, as the city of Minot grew and the ministry of First Baptist expanded, it again became evident that facilities would have to be added to house the growing congregation. Consequently, in September of 1973 a resolution was passed by the church to take initial steps in assessing projected needs and plan for building expansion.

This eventually resulted in the construction of the new building addition.

THE NEW FACILITIES

The two story building with 15,750 square feet of new space will provide the following:

A large entrance with a pleasant and spacious atmosphere. Large nursery and toddler facilities on the main floor near the main entrance and sanctuary. Four new offices for the church staff. Two lounges for informal gatherings, one on the main floor and the other next to the Activity Room, on the lower floor. Three spacious rooms for youth activities. A large multipurpose Activity Room for recreation, dining, boys and girls clubs, etc. A large modern kitchen to serve to the Activity Room, lounge and present lower auditorium. A number of spacious Sunday School rooms. New storage areas.

Added to this, the following expansions will be made possible:

A spacious library in the old entrance. Enlargement of the church sanctuary. New facilities for the Public Kindergarten School. New forced air ventilation in the sanctuary. Expanded parking area. The entire block will be arranged for parking around the church.

The fully furnished addition with

(Continued on page 31)



insight into christian education

Building a Teaching Team

by Beverly Whitaker

Joan hung up the phone, but her hand rested on the receiver as she pondered over the conversation just ended.

"We're counting on you as lead teacher to pull our team together," spoke Kathy. "Just because I'm staying on another year doesn't mean I want to do all the work. The new teachers will have to take their turns too!"

Joan's answer was partly a stall for time, but a promise as well, "Let's talk about that at our planning session Thursday evening."

Now Joan reached for a pad of paper and a pen and jotted down some new ideas she was eager to try along with some of the methods that she had seen work effectively.

1. Fellowship and Communication

1. *Hold some planning sessions in homes.* This encourages fellowship among the team members. Teachers need to know one another in order to work comfortably and well together.

2. *Provide a file folder "mailbox" for each teacher.* Teachers can check weekly for written communications from the children's chairman, lead teacher or team members.

3. *Post a Sunday calendar of duties in each classroom.* This provides an at-a-glance reminder of responsibilities. Schedule occasional Sundays off for the teachers.

4. *Represent the teachers in church organizations.* Aid in coordinating the program of the church by relaying administrative details and policies.

2. Spiritual Growth of Leaders

1. *Engage in personal devotions, corporate worship and Bible study.* Spiritual refreshment is a requirement for the teacher who wishes to convey the message of how to live a Christian life.

2. *Include devotional thoughts as an integral part of planning sessions.* This puts the teaching task in its proper perspective.

The author is a free-lance writer living in Kirkwood, Missouri. This article was first published in the July, 1974, issue of the Baptist Leader, American Baptist Board of Education and Publication, and is used by permission.

3. Concern for Pupils and Their Families

1. *Involve the children in classroom planning.* They will find more meaning in their activities if they help to gather materials, decide on how to share their learnings and participate in evaluation. In the process of working together, the children will become acquainted with their teachers.

2. *Communicate quarterly with parents.* Use one or more of these methods: personal phone call or visit, group meeting or a letter describing the current unit of study.

3. *Divide up class list among teachers.* Give teachers the responsibility to get well acquainted with six or eight boys and girls. Switch lists at end of quarter and share information with other teachers. A teacher can visit in homes, invite children to his/her own home, maintain telephone and mail contact.

4. *Prepare "Sharing Boxes."* Extend the church program into the home by supplying a kit of materials for children to share with their families, interpreting the church school unit of study.

5. *Study age-level characteristics.* Know what to expect in general from children of the age group you teach, but expect individual variance.

6. *Make use of "get acquainted" sheets or recommend that pupils be interviewed.* It is important to learn something about the child's position in his/her family and his/her personal needs and interests.

7. *Encourage bulletin-board displays.* This is a way of interpreting the unit of study to adults in the congregation and reinforcing it in the minds of pupils.

4. Teacher Training

1. *Report on current reading, preview audiovisuals, share workshop ideas and announce study opportunities.* Both old and new teachers profit from additional study and observation. Make sure that teachers are aware of such opportunities and encourage their participation.

2. *Select or develop special resources for the current unit.* If such resources are readily available, they

will be used and will enrich the unit of study.

3. *Offer individual counsel.* Share the lead teacher responsibility, helping teachers, especially inexperienced teachers, to develop session plans.

4. *Offer to help teachers set up the room.* Changes in the room prepare children for new experiences and stimulate creativity.

5. *Give an overview of the unit of study.* Suggest ways to adapt curriculum resources to the particular needs of the group.

6. *Invite in resource persons.* Include parents and other interested adults to participate in special short-term activities.

Looking over her list, Joan acknowledged she was taking the broad view, the administrative angle, the educator's outlook. She was even more convinced, however, that the scope of the task literally required team effort. No longer would she feel apologetic in soliciting service from a team member. Nor would she attempt to do the job alone. Joan found herself in a position where success would depend upon her ability as a motivator.

Attitudes—that would be the key. Could she convince the teachers of the importance of their task? Could she show them how they could effect significant changes in the lives of children? Could she demonstrate how a teaching team could become a Christian community as it enveloped the children of the classroom?

Attitudes and methods—they develop together. Methods are the framework within which attitudes take form. Even so, the methods are only as effective as attitudes allow.

How does one evaluate the success of a teaching team? One criteria would be whether the leaders were all moving together in the same direction, showing a spirit of cooperation and purposefulness. Another judgment would measure creativity, resourcefulness and flexibility. Proper assessment of each individual's capabilities would lead to maximum contributions on the part of each teacher. Respect for one another is an intangible but relevant factor. The most significant measure of success would be in terms of the effect the leaders' teaching skills have upon their pupils. The quality and character of the relationships among teachers and children can serve well as a barometer of the influence exerted by the teaching team.

Such a responsibility! But Joan was ready to move forward; she acknowledged Jesus to be an unseen but ever present member of the teaching team. Jesus is on your team too! □

I had often wondered what went on behind the scenes in the planting of a new church. My opportunity to observe the process, however, arose in the fall of 1971, shortly after I started my first full time work at Riverview Baptist Church in West St. Paul, Minnesota. It all started with the selection of a person to expedite the task. This was done through the work of an extension committee of the Minnesota-LaCrosse Association of the North American Baptist General Conference.

Their task was to find the best location for the new church and to seek God's guidance in finding the right pastor. The suburb of Apple Valley was chosen because of its good potential for growth, and the relative lack of evangelical influence. Apple Valley had a population of 12,000 in 1971, and has been growing considerably ever since. It is projected that the population will reach 80,000 by the end of the decade. Pastor Jake Leverette was selected as the man to head the proj-

ect, having already started several churches from scratch. Pastor Leverette, however, did not accept the task immediately. When the time came for him to arrive at the airport for his second visit to the area, I was the only one available to pick him up and drive him around. I could see immediately why the committee was so interested in him to head the task. He began to look for possible sites for church building almost the minute he arrived on the scene. His style was lighthearted and humorous yet one could sense that he knew exactly what needed to be done.

I asked Pastor Leverette if he remembered when the church extension ministry was initiated in our denomination. He indicated that he remembered exactly. He said that a resolution was adopted by the 1952 General Conference of the North American Baptist General Conference. Since 1952, 110 churches have been started all over the United States and Canada. The idea was to get outside the walls of the church with the message of Christ. It is interesting to note that these new churches account for approximately 12,500 members or about seventeen percent of the total membership of the denomination. They have 14,800 enrolled in Sunday School, about twenty percent of the denomination. Apple Valley Baptist church is a result of this program.

One of the reasons these church extension projects have been able to get on their feet has been because of the financial support of the Conference. The pastor's salary is initially carried by the Conference and slowly over a period of years is taken over by the local church. Church Extension Builder's Appeal is a program in which individuals can become financially involved. Other sources of finance are such items as parent church gifts or loans and special gifts. Apple Valley Baptist Church has its own property and pastor, thanks to the Conference, and its own parsonage, thanks to Riverview, the parent church. In January of 1972, Pastor Leverette and his family moved to the home in Apple Valley and by February 20, 1972, the first service was held at the Southview Elementary School.

But one might ask, how can a church start without Sunday school teachers or church leadership? Of

Mr. Larry Salsburey is a student at Bethel Seminary, St. Paul, Minn., and is Christian Education and Youth Worker at the Apple Valley Baptist Church, Apple Valley, Minn.

course it can't. Consequently, parent churches send some of their own families to help start the extension churches. Three families from Riverview Baptist Church volunteered to drive to Apple Valley every week to teach Sunday school, lead in music and perform various other functions.

Immediate widespread advertising with a personal touch was planned for the first month of work in the area. I was amazed at the way Pastor Leverette gathered together the youth of the area North American Baptist Churches to cover almost all of Apple Valley with a written explanation and invitation and also a verbal invitation.

Due to the well-organized preparation and personal visitation done by Pastor Leverette and his wife, the first service held on February 20, 1972, was a great success. Also midweek prayer meetings were started in the parsonage a few weeks prior to the first service. Publicity in the local newspaper informed the entire area of the beginning of the Apple Valley Baptist Church.

One of the first families contacted was that of Norman Burnett. Although Pastor Leverette visited the home, he was not sure then that the family would attend. Mr. Burnett has since indicated that he was looking for a church so big that he would be lost in the shuffle so that he might become an uninvolved church member. Now he confesses that he is up to his neck in God's work and loves every minute of it. I can remember the first time that I heard his wife, Marilou, give her testimony about how God worked in their family. With tears in her eyes, she related how her family had been completely changed by Jesus Christ. She and her husband, along with daughter Leslie and son Joe, were all baptized together, and their youngest son Mark was saved when an invitation was given at the end of the baptismal service. This story has been multiplied over and over again throughout these first two years of Apple Valley Baptist Church's existence.

Some of the highlights of 1972 included the starting of a youth group and the inaugural service in which four and the inaugural service in which four hundred Minnesota-LaCrosse Association members came to show their interest in the project. Also there was at this time an open house at the parsonage. Child evangelism training began for the young people in the summer, and a tremendous outreach in the community was effected as a result. Kid's Week in September was held with Uncle Joe Harrison, a person who uses gospel magic to tell the story of Jesus. About three hundred were

reached during that week, and several decisions were made for Christ. By the end of 1972, approximately ninety were attending services, and the membership stood at forty-seven.

The summer of 1972 was important for outreach in Apple Valley. At that time Mary Dewey came to work in visitation. Mary was a member of God's Volunteers who came to help during the spring. God's Volunteers is a group of Conference students who take off one year of studies to do visitation-evangelism in various churches of our Conference across the nation.

An important time for the church was the recognition council held to officially recognize the Apple Valley Baptist Church as a member of the North American Baptist Conference, and to make a resolution to that effect to the Association meeting in September.

1973 was a year of change for Apple Valley Baptist Church. At the celebration of their first anniversary, attendance had climbed to more than one hundred in Sunday school with attendance at worship well over ninety. In addition, property was purchased just off of the main highway in Apple Valley south of County Road 42 on Gardenview Drive. Plans to build were drawn up and building was to begin in the summer of 1973. Problems in obtaining a contractor and approval by the city planning commission, however, delayed the start of construction until the fall of 1973. Groundbreaking was held in anticipation of construction in April, but this was slightly premature.

In May of 1973, another summer worker from the North American Baptist College came to do visitation. Bob Lounsbury went to work in a new area, and began to see results in beginning a bus ministry on a full scale. Pastor Leverette began with one van in 1972, but full efforts were made to build the bus ministry in the summer of 1973. By the time I arrived to begin my part-time work during seminary training at Bethel, both vans were running twice each Sunday morning, and another bus was needed. The week off from school that I had planned to use for other matters was used to search the area with Pastor Leverette for a large bus to relieve the problem. By the end of the week the church had purchased a third bus with a fifty-four passenger capacity. The bus ministry is not just a transportation service, but a ministry as well. Each Saturday is set aside for visitation of every rider. Each week new contacts are made. The bus ministry has brought eight or nine new families into the church in 1973 in addition to

those who came as a result of their own transportation. There were more than fifty riders on the three buses at the end of 1973.

Also in the summer of 1973 a second effort in Child Evangelism was launched. There were ten teens who went to Child Evangelism training camp and during the month of July they reached more than 1100 children with the gospel, and over 400 decisions were made for Christ. This training was not only valuable for this particular project, but also for Sunday school and Junior Church.

Bob returned to North American Baptist College at the end of August, and I began official duties as director of Christian Education on September 1, 1974. My main responsibility would be the bus ministry.

The year 1974 has begun with the exciting anticipation of being able to move into our own building. After being forced to move out of the elementary school due to the energy crisis in December of 1973, moving to the office building of North Star Concrete, it was refreshing to watch the walls go up and the roof being completed and interior work coming to an end. The building is the first of three planned units. It will ultimately be the fellowship hall and classroom building which will presently serve as the main sanctuary. Later an additional classroom building will be added and finally a large sanctuary will complete the building program.

Perhaps the most exciting part of 1974 was the Campus Crusade Training in evangelism. Visitation is the most vital part of the ministry of the Apple Valley Baptist Church, and is developing into tremendous spiritual blessings for all involved.

The first annual meeting was in many ways a thermometer of the spiritual life of the congregation. It was indeed the first business meeting in which I have been involved that could have been concluded with an invitation. People working together with God expressed their appreciation to God and to each other for services done for Christ. Faith is a word which describes the reason for one hundred and fifty and more people showing an interest in the work of Jesus Christ.

Without a doubt, church planting is one of the most exciting ministries that exists today. The challenge of reaching out to people in need is just as real today as it was when Jesus gave the great commission. Apple Valley Baptist Church is looking forward to the day when she can begin a new church in another area. We give the praise to Jesus Christ our Lord. □





CHURCH EXTENSION BUILDERS REPORT

Fremont Ohio, Church Extension Project

by Richard Methner

A GOING CHURCH—The Calvary Baptist Church is located in Fremont, Ohio, on Exit 6 of the Ohio Turnpike between Toledo and Cleveland, 20 miles from Lake Erie. Fremont is in the heart of Ohio's great sugar beet country and has a population of 20,000 with a suburban area of about 10,000.

The pastor is the Rev. Richard Methner who was graduated from Midwestern Baptist College in Pontiac, Mich., where he was ordained into the gospel ministry by the Emmanuel Baptist Church in May of 1966.

After a year of prayer Pastor Methner founded the church on the Great Commission, "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature." Our goal is to knock on every door and to witness to every person in Fremont and the surrounding area.

A GROWING CHURCH—Calvary Baptist Church meets in Otis Elementary School. Prayer meeting is held in the pastor's home each Wednesday evening. A visitation program is conducted on Tuesday and Thursday evenings and bus calling on Saturday mornings. We have 48 members and have had two baptismal services already.

God has given us a 1963 van in which we pick up 20-30 people each week by making two trips. We need an additional van.

We also have started a mission program in the support of the NABGC missions. We want to win souls not only in Fremont but around the world.

We are asking God and all the members of the NABGC to help us purchase land and put up a building to the glory of God. Our ministry is somewhat hindered from lack of facilities.

A GLOWING CHURCH—Calvary Baptist Church is aglow with excitement and anticipation of the return of the Lord Jesus Christ. Joy in our hearts is evident as we participate in "One Million Contacts for Christ."

We know you will want to be a part of a GOING, GROWING, GLOWING CHURCH that believes in and practices saturation evangelism. We have shared our blessings, burdens and needs with you. What will God have you do to help the Calvary Baptist Church of Fremont, Ohio? □

The Rev. Richard Methner is the pastor of the Calvary Baptist Church, Fremont, Ohio.

SEPTEMBER 1975



Pastor Methner



3rd and 4th grade class



Entire Sunday School

Florida- Here We Come

by Lyle Wacker



Pastor and Mrs. Norman Vernon and daughter Kathy

Finally, the long-awaited announcement can be made, "NORTH AMERICAN BAPTISTS are launching a church extension ministry in the STATE OF FLORIDA." The new ministry will commence on September 1, 1975 when Rev. and Mrs. Norman Vernon and daughter Kathy will move to Boca Raton in Southeast Florida.

Considerable effort and time was spent in making studies and surveys throughout Florida. Many contacts have been made with former NAB families now living in Florida for the purpose of determining communities where we could best begin a new church extension ministry. We are aware of over 300 former NAB families now living in Florida. It is becoming more apparent all the time that the trend of NAB families from the northern states and Canadian provinces will continue and perhaps increase in rate. One objective to a ministry is to salvage a good portion of these families as they move to Florida. Also, it is quite apparent that many communities are in need of an additional evangelical witness.

The Rev. Lyle Wacker is associate secretary of Church Extension.

Florida at the present time has the largest population growth rate of any state in the United States with a growth rate of a little over 30% anticipated in the next decade. Population growth in 11 counties in this decade will increase 50% or more with some anticipated growth to over 100% during the period.

At the semi-annual meeting of the denominational Church Extension Committee held on February 21, 1975, a "land mark decision" was made to launch a church extension ministry in the state of Florida with the eventual hope that the ministry will branch out into neighboring southeast states.

The committee instructed me, as secretary, to extend a call to a pastor who will serve with the title "Church Extension Pastor for the State of Florida." A call was extended to the Rev. Norman Vernon, pastor of the Napier Parkview Baptist Church of Benton Harbor, Michigan. After a period of consideration God revealed his will to Brother Vernon to become the first pastor to the state of Florida for our North American Baptist General Conference.

Brother Vernon comes well qualified for the task of being the Church Extension Pastor for the State of Florida. He was born and reared in Tampa, Florida, thus will be returning to his home state. He has served five churches with the last two pastorates spanning 29 years. Brother Vernon has done considerable evangelistic ministry in other churches over the period of his ministry. Brother Vernon is joined with an excellent helpmate in the person of his wife Helen. Kathy, their youngest daughter, a college student, will join her parents in this new ministry.

The title "Church Extension Pastor for the State of Florida" entails the responsibility for Brother Vernon to be in essence a "church starter." Initially his responsibility will be to establish a new church at Boca Raton; then he will be attempting to develop new churches throughout the state. Brother Vernon will have the responsibility of starting Bible study groups in various communities throughout the state. He will meet with these Bible study groups from time to time with the hope that some of the groups will eventually springboard new churches into being.

The denominational Church Extension Committee covets your prayers as we as a Conference launch into this new ministry in the state of Florida. In all of this our committee has felt God's directive that we move into Florida for the purpose of establishing gospel witnesses in various communities. We encourage any of our readers to assist us in giving names of families whom we may contact or of families who are interested in being contacted regarding a Bible study group. If you as a reader can offer such information to us, please mail this to Rev. Lyle Wacker, associate secretary for Church Extension, 7308 Madison Street, Forest Park, Illinois 60130. □

PERSONAL ESTATE PLANNING



Personal Money Management and Financial Planning

by Everett A. Barker

PART IV

Increase your Income by Investing

Planning your personal finances has never been easy especially when it comes to investments. From a Christian perspective we need to approach the future with confidence in God. This does not mean, however, that we are not subject to the variations of the economy, but it does mean that we can have a better understanding of the material dimension of life as a part of our total stewardship. One of the more dangerous emotions is that of greed which can make us vulnerable to "get rich quick" schemes which seldom are of benefit to the Christian.

Investment

The previous articles dealt with the basics of a savings plan for emergencies, a spending plan to control expenditures and insurance to protect the family from the "big" financial risks and uncertainties. The money which is available above the basics is money that can be allocated to investment. The purpose of investment is to make your net worth grow through growth investments or to increase your income. Younger families will be more interested in growth while retired people usually focus on income.

The most consistent form of investment has been in the area of real estate. This can include a home in a good location, rentals, commercial property, vacant land and farm land. You do have to know what you are doing because appreciation is not always automatic. It is important to have good counsel and to remember that it sometimes takes a number of years to realize a gain.

Another area of investment includes common or preferred stock in a corporation, various types of bonds such as corporate and municipal, mutual

(load and no-load) and annuities. Common stocks can have a large potential for growth but they also have the risk of severe declines. In order to avoid the danger of choosing several poor investments, mutual funds are designed to spread the risk particularly for the small investor. If the whole market is weak, mutual funds will also decline. Dollar-cost averaging is one way to take advantage of the "ups" and "downs." These types of investments should be thought of for the long term because liquidation at a low point under pressure can cause severe losses. The markets of recent years have evidenced the tremendous gyrations which can take place.

There are other areas of investment which require specialized knowledge such as antiques, jewelry, precious metals, art, coins, etc. In periods of rapid inflation, people tend to put their money in things that have more durability than paper money which keeps losing its value.

Retirement

People are living longer and most can anticipate longer years of retirement. Social security and the Canadian Pension programs help towards having a regular income. Many companies provide pension plans for employees and there are also additional types of retirement plans for self-employed. It is necessary to develop additional resources of your own if you are going to be able to enjoy your retirement years and not be dependent upon family and government. The following is what someone has called the learning-earning-yearning cycle:

(peak income)		
Learning	Earning	Yearning
early years		Retirement (lower income)

The Rev. Everett A. Barker is the estate planning director of the North American Baptist Conference.

It is wise to deliberately lower your standard of living during peak income years in order to provide additional income during retirement when income normally goes down. The following projections give you an idea of your present opportunity to prepare:

How old you are now?	Monthly pay checks to age 65
35	360
40	300
45	240
50	180
55	120

Where Do You Go From Here?

1. Money management and financial planning are an ongoing activity. Involve the whole family and develop the total family resources.
2. Start where you are. Assess your current situation as accurately as possible. Determine your financial goals for the short, intermediate and long range. Decide on the first steps and initiate them.
3. There are many people who are not Christian who do a good job at money management because they use the basic principles. The Christian has an added advantage when God is made a partner in your finances. Pray for his wisdom and guidance because he is interested in all facets of life even your management of money.
4. Give God a generous portion of your money and resources in appreciation for his love and salvation.

Conclusion

This concludes my four-article series on Personal Money Management and Financial Planning. The brevity limits any indepth study and they are intended to stimulate your thinking to the extent that you will assess your financial situation to see whether there are any areas for improvement to benefit you, your family and your ability to support God's work. There are many fine books available and I suggest several for your consideration:

Bibliography

- A Complete Guide to the Christian's Budget*, by Michael L. Speer. Broadman Press, Nashville, Tenn.
- Planning Your Financial Future*, U.S. News and World Report Money Management Library
- How to Have More Money*, John Barnes, William Morrow and Company, Inc. □

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

On June 14, Mr. and Mrs. Albert Schauer observed their 50th wedding anniversary. They are members of the Ashley Baptist Church, Ashley, N.D.

Mr. and Mrs. I. Voss celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on June 1, 1975. They are members of the Grace Baptist Church, Ochre River, Man.

Mr. and Mrs. Albert Gretzinger celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on June 15, 1975. They are members of the Lakeshore Baptist Church, St. Catharines, Ont.

OCHRE RIVER, MAN. The Grace Baptist Church Women's Missionary Society presented a birthday party program in Dauphin's St. Paul's Home for the aged. At the present time the ladies are now busy packing kilo boxes.

We had a baptismal and communion service together with the First Baptist Church of Dauphin. Our pastor, Robert Lounsbury, baptized two candidates, Mrs. Ronald Boerchers and Donald Schmittjer. Following baptism they were extended the hand of fellowship at a communion service. A time of fellowship followed. (Charlene Lounsbury, reporter.)

NEW LEIPZIG, N.D. Because of the ministry of God's Volunteers in the New Leipzig Baptist Church four young people accepted Christ as their Savior and were baptized by the pastor, the



Rev. Roger Frelander, pictured on the right.

A family banquet was held in honor of all the mothers. The Rev. Clarence Walth, area secretary, was the guest speaker. (Mrs. Walter Kallis, reporter.)

PORTLAND, ORE. Bethany Baptist Church called an ordination council to examine Mr. Anthony Salazar, student at Western Conservative Baptist Seminary, and youth pastor at Bethany Baptist Church. The council met and elected the Rev. S. D. Ganstrom as moderator and the Rev. Larry Neufeld as clerk. After the Rev. B. R. Fritzke, pastor of the local church, presented the candidate, Mr. Salazar presented

his conversion experience, call to the ministry, educational experiences, ministry experiences and goals.

There followed a period of helpful discussion, after which the council in closed session, unanimously agreed to recommend ordination for the candidate to Bethany Baptist Church.

Mr. Salazar majored in Bible and minored in pastoral studies. He received the Bachelor of Arts degree in Bible Education. In June of 1974 he completed the master of Divinity program at Western Conservative Baptist Seminary, including two months study in Israel. He is completing graduate studies at the seminary. (Rev. Adam Huber, reporter.)

NAPOLEON, N.D. The Napoleon Baptist Church planned a special service in honor of the Rev. and Mrs. Edwin F. Walter for their 35 years in the Christian ministry. The Rev. and Mrs. Henry Lang, Avon, S.D., former pastor and close friends of the Walters, were invited for the occasion. The



Rev. Lang was the speaker for the two services. (The Walters and Langs are pictured.)

Mr. Gideon Oldenburger was the Master of Ceremonies. Musical selections and congratulations were given by pastors and laymen. The Rev. Clarence Walth, area secretary, spoke in behalf of the N.A.B. Conference. Flowers, gifts and cards were presented by former churches and friends. One of the decorations was a cake in the shape of an open Bible with Pastor Walter's favorite verse on it. Friends, numbering 225, came from neighboring and some of his former churches. The Rev. and Mrs. Walter served churches in Onida and Conova, S.D., Hutchinson, Junction City and Hope, Kan., McClusky, N.D., and Napoleon since 1973. (Martha Grenz, reporter.)

ASHLEY, N.D. On June 10 the Ashley Baptist Church was privileged to have a musical Messengers Group, from

George, Iowa, who brought an inspiring program of a trumpet trio, Men's quartet and a mixed ensemble.

On June 29 a baptismal service was held. Five candidates followed the Lord through baptism: Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Buchholz, Edna Weisser, Kim Grosz and Barbara Pelzer. The Rev. Etan Pelzer is the pastor of the church. (Mrs. Carl Fischer, reporter.)

RACINE, WIS. The large group (pictured) are new members who recently united with the Grace Baptist Church.



After the evening service a special welcome was extended to these and others who have joined the church in recent months.

God has blessed our church in other areas also. Sunday school attendance is increasing; the women's missionary circles are growing; Mr. Glen Heisa has started a men's fellowship; Christian outreach and ministry have created new interest.

Mr. Dick Warner, choir director, and his family have moved to another part of the state. We wish them God's blessing in their new ministry. The Rev. Lanny Johnson is the pastor of the church. (Mr. and Mrs. Larry Brumback, reporters.)

ARNPRIOR, ONT. It was a very meaningful Sunday as 10 young people (pictured with the Rev. Ken Mac



Donald on right) followed the Lord in baptism. We welcomed these youngsters and a young lady into the fellowship of First Baptist Church of Arnprior. A few months prior, two adults professed their faith in Jesus Christ and their desire to follow in the ordinance of baptism.

We, as a church, under the leadership of the Rev. Ken MacDonald give thanks to God for his guidance and blessing. (Mrs. Allan Scheel, reporter.)

VANCOUVER, B.C. The 26th annual meeting of the British Columbia Association was held at the Ebenezer Baptist Church with Dr. H. J. Walteit as moderator. The theme, "Let's Get Growing," was explored by our guest speaker Dr. Roy Seibel from our NAB Seminary. Something new was a large selection of optional workshops concerned with various ministries of the church, led by Dr. Helen Schmidt, medical missionary to Cameroon, the Rev. Hans Wilcke, Western area secretary, the Rev. Ron Brown of the Leighton Ford team, the Rev. Karl Keller of Campus Crusade for Christ, Dr. Bob Anderson, president of Vancouver Bible College, and many others.

The Association included not only banquets for men and women, but also youth activities and outings for children. Association business included the welcoming of two new churches, the Lakeview Heights Baptist Church, Westbank, B.C., and the College Heights Baptist Church, Prince George, B.C. The Association concluded on Sunday afternoon with a rally in which Dr. Ian Rennie, professor of Church History at Regent College, Vancouver, spoke on the theme, "Laymen, Lead Out." (Rev. C. Zimbelman, reporter.)

CALGARY, ALTA. Sunday, June 1, 1975, the dedication service of Grace Baptist Church (pictured) was held.



This assurance of God's will helped us face every problem with confidence.

Musical numbers were presented by the choirs of the church and the young people's quartet. Report of the Building Committee was given by the Chairman, Walter Riske. The guest speaker was the Rev. I. Faszer, area secretary, who presented a challenging message, "The Business of Being the Church." The Act of Dedication was led by Barry Davis, Sunday school superintendent, followed with the Dedication Prayer by Dr. Joseph Sonnenberg, President of N.A.B. College, Edmonton. Following the dedication service supper was served to 600 people who attended. The Rev. Edward Klingenberg is the pastor of the church. (Charles Gunn, reporter.)

PORTLAND, ORE. Bethany Baptist Church had a commissioning service for Jarvis and Marilyn Schlafmann, missionaries bound for Cameroon in August, and an ordination service for their youth pastor, Anthony Salazar. Area Secretary Hans Wilcke brought the commissioning message and Dr. H. Crosby Englizian of Western Conservative Baptist Seminary spoke at the ordination. The Rev. Salazar, a recent graduate of the seminary, accepted Bethany's call to be Assistant Pastor and Director of Youth. He started in July. Anthony and Pat Salazar, Pastor Bernard Fritzke, and Marilyn and Jarvis Schlafman are pictured.



A week of blessing with the Rev. Aaron Buhler was shared by all.

Enjoyable was a day of fellowship with Kathryn Kroll, Cameroon missionary, recently adopted for partial support by Bethany.

Groundbreaking service was held for a proposed sanctuary to be situated on the same property near the historic little chapel built in 1881, which memorial is presently serving as Sunday school classroom. (Florence Bauder, reporter.)

MADISON, S.D. The Rev. and Mrs. Oliver Bender and sons began their ministry on June 1 at West Center Street Baptist Church. A pantry shower and reception welcomed them to our church.

The church has been grateful to the N.A.B. Seminary for pulpit supply since the resignation of the Rev. David Ewing in October.

The Men's Brotherhood has been active with redecorating of the church, and celebrating their 40th anniversary.

The men of the South Dakota Association held their rally with Dr. E. Zimbelman as guest speaker, with local church as hosts. We as a church are looking forward to the continued ministry of Rev. Bender. (Mrs. Graydon Rohrer, reporter.)

HUME LAKE, CALIF. Evangelist Ron Susek ministered at the Hume Lake Bible Conference at Hume Lake, Calif., June 21-27, 1975. The morning sessions serviced the West Coast North American Baptist Youth, and

the evening sessions were open to the general Hume Lake Bible Conference public. Total registration for the week was 1,110 people. Dean of the Youth program was the Rev. Fred Jantz, of Stockton, Calif. Other speakers included Ron Walters and Ken Poure of Hume Lake Bible Conference.

ONOWAY, ALTA. A welcoming service was held some time ago for Pastor and Mrs. Philip Grabke. A baptismal service was held during which nine were baptized. One other came by transfer of letter and two by testimony.

The Pioneer Girls were organized with 28 members. In spite of waiting for work project literature they had a fine display of crafts and project books for their program. Seventy-four were present for the award banquet.

The Boy's Brigade also received their charter and they have plans for a program in the fall.

An addition to the church building is well under way. It should double the size of the church.

The Women's Missionary Society made up kilo packs for the David Grabke family, serving in Cameroon. White Cross materials were also prepared. The women also visited the Good Samaritan Home and treated the residents with angel food cake and fruit. (Mrs. Bonney Guidinger.)

EUREKA, S.D. The First Baptist Church celebrated a double 25th anniversary on June 8, 1975. It is 25 years in the ministry for the Rev. Fred Fuchs



and the 25th wedding anniversary for Rev. and Mrs. Fuchs. Their son, Steven, was the master of ceremonies and also gave the welcome. Scripture and prayer was given by chairman of the deacons, Walter Dohn. Musical numbers were rendered by the Womens Missionary Society, the Lydia Society, the men's quartet, girl's duet, and a duet by Steven Fuchs and Mrs. Alton Nies, children of the Rev. and Mrs. Fuchs. Poems were read by Mrs. Alton Nies and Paulette Mittlestedt. The Rev. Etan Pelzer, pastor of the Ashley Baptist Church Ashley, N.D. gave a short message. A response was given by Rev. and Mrs. Fuchs. We wish them many more blessed years. (Mrs. Harry Bertsch, reporter.)

LODI, CALIF. On June 13, 1975, the First Baptist Church called for a council to meet for the purpose of examining Mr. Tom Oswald's conversion experience, call into the ministry and doctrinal statement, in anticipation of his ordination into the gospel ministry. Mr. Tom Oswald is a member of the First Baptist Church, and a 1975 graduate (M. Div) of the N.A.B. Seminary in Sioux Falls, S.D.

Upon hearing the candidate's statement, the council of the Nor-Cal Association Churches voted unanimously that the First Baptist Church of Lodi proceed with the ordination.

The service was held on Sunday, June 29, 1975. The charge to the church was brought by the Rev. Art Brust and to the candidate by the Rev. Jake Leverette, the ordination prayer by the Rev. Aaron Buhler, and the welcome into the ministry by the Rev. Fred Jantz. An offering was received to help the Rev. Oswald acquire books for his library. The Rev. Tom Oswald has accepted the call to become the assistant pastor of the Faith Baptist Church in Minneapolis, Minn. (Rev. Gene A. Kern, reporter.)

CALGARY, ALTA. The Temple Baptist Church has been renovated with the help of many volunteer members. They were generous with their time



HENRY CHRISTOPH, 46, of Winnipeg, Man. died on March 22, 1975. He was born on March 12, 1929, in Poland. He was married to Wally Schulz in 1948, and together they immigrated to Canada in 1953, settling in Winnipeg. Upon confession of his faith, he was baptized and became a member of the McDermot Avenue Baptist Church, serving faithfully as usher and trustee. Surviving him are his widow, Wally, and his son, Kurt. Pastors Richard Goetze and Robert Orr officiated at the funeral service.

NATHAN ESCHNER, 79, of Boca Raton, Fla., died June 3, 1975. He was born Jan. 14, 1896, in Russia. At 14 he found the Lord and was baptized. At 18 he came to Detroit. On June 19, 1925, he married Alice Peitsch and was blessed with three children. Together the couple served the Lord at Burns Ave., Connors, Ridgmont and Fellowship churches in Detroit and at retirement in Biletown, Fla. A few days before their 50th wedding anniversary the Lord suddenly took him home. Surviving him are his widow; one son, Roland, and one daughter, Mrs. Judith Albrecht; six grandchildren, one brother, Dr. H. Hiller was the officiating minister at the funeral service.

ANDREW JURENS, 79, of Avon, S.D., died on June 24, 1975. He was born in Germany on Sept. 17, 1895. At the age of two he came with his parents to the United States. He was united in marriage to Esther Schroeder on Feb. 12,

and talents which improved our sanctuary.

Another highlight was a week of meetings with the Rev. H. Schmidt of California. We were blessed and challenged to live a more consecrated Christlike life.

We also welcomed our assistant pastor, Siegfried Koslowski and his new wife Edith. He is one of our boys and we are thrilled to have him back with us. It will be exciting to work together for God. The Rev. Franz Schmidt is the pastor of the church. (Mrs. L. Stinner, reporter.)

PARMA HEIGHTS, OHIO An anniversary celebration marking the 20th year of Parma Heights Baptist Church was held. Throughout the week special gifts and donations were given to the church in honor of this 20th birthday. A PHBC Anniversary Chorus, expressly written by Nancy D. Miller, was sung by the congregation. In recalling the inception of the church, the Rev. John Thielenhaus read the historical minutes recording the planning, purchasing and groundbreaking of the new location. The 11-acre tract had been bought in 1954 at an unbelievable \$9,400.00. Presently, the land and church building complex is worth more than \$2,000,000.00. Then Rev. Thielenhaus delivered his sermon en-

1920. In 1911 he was converted and baptized and became a member of the First Baptist Church, Avon, S.D. He served as Sunday school teacher, deacon for 26 years, and treasurer for seven years. Surviving him are his widow; one son, Lawrence; two daughters: Mrs. Miriam Tolsma and Mrs. Bernice Heusinkveld; seven grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren. The Rev. Henry Lang was the officiating minister at the funeral service.

MR. WILLIAM J. KROGMAN, 92, of Oak Park, Ill. died on June 6, 1975. Born in Germany, he came to the United States with his parents in 1890. As a young man he was converted and joined the Forest Park Baptist Church of which he was a member at the time of his death, and for which he was the organist for more than sixty years. His wife, whom he married in 1908, was the former Anna Dollaske. Together they shared 67 happy years. Surviving him are his widow and three children: Florence Meyer, George and Arthur. The interim pastor of the Forest Park church, Mr. Darrell McKay, officiated at the funeral service.

CARL OKERT, 69, of Merritt, B.C., died Feb. 24, 1975. He was born June 15, 1905, in Rumania. Carl received Christ as his personal Savior in his early teens, was baptized and joined the Golden Prairie Baptist Church. He emigrated with his parents as a child to America and later to Canada. He was a charter member of the Merritt Baptist Church for 10 years. In Feb. 1930 he married Ella Meidinger. Surviving him are his widow; one son, Eldon, and one daughter, Jean Jackson; one brother and three sisters; seven grandchildren. The Rev. Wm. Cram and the Rev. George Dawe were the officiating ministers at the funeral service.

LEONARD A. MEYER, 72, of Watertown, Wis., died on April 21, 1975. He was born at High Cliff, Wis. on Jan. 4, 1903. Survivors are his widow, Fredrica; one daughter, Joan Falkenstein and one son, Leonard; five grandchildren and one great-grandchild. Mr. Meyer, at the time of his death, was Vice Moderator and a Trustee of the church. Pastor Allan Kranz was the officiating minister at the funeral service.

titled, "The Church in the Twentieth Century," identifying that church not as a building, but as a body of believers which makes an impact upon its community: "Let your light so shine before men" (Matt. 5:16). The day-long festivities climaxed in an evening concert, featuring tenor soloist Chuck Olson. This was followed by a reception for members and friends. (Christa Eckert, reporter.)

ASHLEY, N.D. The Women's Missionary Society of the Ashley Baptist Church presented their annual program. The Rev. Vernon Schneider of the Venturia Baptist Church was the guest speaker. All members of his church were invited.

The Men's Brotherhood had a special service at the Ashley Baptist Church to which 10 neighboring churches were invited to hear Mr. Alvin Haas and Mr. Milton Hochhalter, bankers in Bismarck, who spoke on behalf of the Christian and the management of his money.

The Tabitha Society held its annual birthday party at the church. Guest speaker was Mrs. Roger Kennedy, wife of Dr. Kennedy a neurologist in Bismarck, N.D. A social hour followed all of these meetings. The Rev. Etan Pelzer is the pastor of the church. (Mrs. Carl Fischer, reporter.) □

MRS. VELMA I. PIEPMEIER, 60, of Stafford, Kan., died on June 29, 1975. She was born on March 19, 1915, in St. John, Kan. She became a member of the Calvary Baptist Church in 1937, and loved to sing for the glory of her Lord. In 1937 she was united in marriage to Arvil Piepmeier. Two sons were born to this union. She leaves to mourn her passing, her widower, Arvil; two sons: Gerald and Harold; two grandchildren, her mother, Mrs. Minne Buddee, one sister, and two brothers. The Rev. Elton O. Kirstein was the officiating minister at the memorial service.

MRS. GERTRUDE SCHLOTMAN, 89, of Carrington, N.D., died on June 16, 1975. She was born on July 11, 1885, at Longmont, Colo. In 1903 she married John Schlotman, who passed away in 1948. She was a member of the Calvary Baptist Church of Carrington. She is survived by three daughters, four sons, one sister, two brothers, 35 grandchildren and 77 great-grandchildren. The Rev. Frank Unruh was the officiating minister at the funeral service.

REV. HENRY ROBERT SCHROEDER, 89, of St. Paul, Minn., died on June 3, 1975. He was born Feb. 17, 1886, in Hillsboro, Kan. His family moved to Salt Creek, Ore., where he spent his "growing up" years. He attended Rochester Theological Seminary and during his student years served small rural churches in the area. Upon graduation from the Seminary, he married Helen Bender, and was the pastor of a mission church in Wilmington, Del. The following years he served as pastor of churches in Newark, N.J., St. Louis, Mo., St. Paul, Minn., Madison, S.D., and Chicago, Ill. After more than fifty years in the ministry, the Rev. Schroeder retired in St. Paul where he continued to be active in the life of the Riverview Baptist Church. One of his great joys was that his son, the Rev. Milton R. Schroeder, followed in his footsteps as a minister of the gospel. The Rev. Schroeder had a wide circle of friends and during his last years was ministered to by many of the members of the Riverview church. Surviving him are one daughter, Dorothy; six grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. The Rev. Allan Strohschein was the officiating minister at the funeral service.

A MISSION AT STOCKHOLM

LONDON—Mr. and Mrs. A. Bodin retired last year after 35 years with the Swedish Baptist Missionary Society in Zaire. Now they are in London studying English.

Why study English after more than 35 years on the mission field? They have volunteered for a new assignment: to English-speaking people at the Baptist World Congress in July at Stockholm.

"We want to be better equipped to welcome visitors to the congress at Stockholm," Bodin explained to C. Ronald Goulding, BWA associate secretary in London. Bodin said that Swedish people in general, and especially Baptists in his home town of Uppsalla, are eagerly awaiting the arrival of overseas Baptists. "We don't want language to be a barrier," Bodin explained his new interest in English.

BWA MEMBERSHIP UP TO 99

WASHINGTON—The Baptist World Alliance has added a new member, bringing its roster to 99, after the amicable division of one of its members.

Robert S. Denny, BWA general secretary, said that the Malaysia-Singapore Baptist Convention has formed two separate bodies. The separation is in keeping with the political division of Singapore and Malaysia.

The Malaysia-Singapore Convention headquarters is at Salangor, West Malaysia, with missionary Jack M. Shelby as acting general secretary. The Singapore Baptist Convention was officially recognized by the Singapore government December 28. Choy Yut Sing is chairman of the Singapore convention.

YUGOSLAV BAPTISTS IN GERMANY HOLD ANNUAL ASSEMBLY

About 200 Yugoslav Baptists, now living in various parts of West Germany, gathered at the Workers Youth Recreation Center in Waldheim near Böblingen June 17-19 for their fourth annual assembly.

Theme for the meeting was "Set the believers an example in speech and conduct, in love, in faith, in purity" (I Timothy 4:12).

Featured speakers were the Rev. Josip Sudar of Karlovac, Yugoslavia, general secretary of the Yugoslav Baptist Union, the Rev. Momir Grujic of Stockholm, Sweden and the Rev. Franjo Klem of Birkenfeld, Germany, immediate past general secretary of the Yugoslav Baptist Union.

Special music was provided by The Sowers, a four-part instrumental and singing group from Neuwied, Germany—two Yugoslav and two German youths; the Messingen evangelical youth band; and several congregational choirs from among participants in the assembly.

Others gave reports, personal testimonies, devotional recitations or led prayer periods. The Lord's Supper was observed following the Sunday morning service and nine persons made public profession of faith in Christ.

Ferdinand Sadak of Neuwied presided at most sessions. Dragutin Sestak of Böblingen, formerly a pastor in Yugoslavia, was in charge of arrangement for the assembly.

The only organized Yugoslav Baptist church in Germany is at Böblingen. It has a total membership of 38 but approximately double that number of persons often attend Sunday services. There are mission groups in Stuttgart, Neuwied, Sindelfingen, Duisburg, Siegen and West Berlin.

Participants paid a registration fee and two collections were taken at the assembly, but almost half the total expense of meeting place, rooms and board for all was borne by the small host church in Böblingen. (EBPS)

MANNERS MATTER

How are your manners—church manners, that is? "Many people show better manners at a concert, play, film or sporting event than at church," says an editorial in Oklahoma Baptist Messenger.

Among bad manners harmful to the spirit of worship in a church service the following are suggested by the writer, Messenger editor Jack L. Gritz:

"Whispering or talking aloud in an undertone to a neighbor after the service has begun. Probably this is the most common offense, as well as one of the worst.

"Damage to the church property including hymnbooks, pews and carpets by carelessness—or intention.

"Loud greetings in the church entry hall between latecomers or talking loudly in an adjoining room. Along with this goes a late and conspicuous entry.

"Leaving during the final hymn and causing distraction before the closing prayer.

"These and many other unfortunate actions could be eliminated by a little Christian thoughtfulness."

"We should do everything we can to make our services attractive and effective. Let us each one determine to help make the services what they ought to be by our good manners!"



as i see it

by Paul H. Siewert

It was recently reported that some exciting things are happening on the eastern range of the Andes Mountains in northern Colombia. It all relates back to 1940 when three missionary ladies stationed in El Banco began making regular visits to the area around a new town called Pailitas. The people were very receptive to the Gospel and soon a little church was founded.

However, not long afterward political violence broke out in Colombia and the little church was abandoned. But these persecuted believers did not abandon their faith. Instead, wherever they went they shared their precious faith in Christ. The result was that new congregations sprang up all across the area, until today there are 22 active churches in the "Pailitas" area alone and hundreds are being exposed to the plan of salvation.

Now, to some of us that may sound like just another missions public relations story. Some of us may even pray: "Lord, let it happen in our community." But when we pray that way, we don't really mean persecution, do we; only evangelism! But suppose God says we can't have one without the other?

Personally, I don't think I'm honestly ready to pray for the whole package; are you? Maybe some day! And when that day comes it may well mark the beginning of a new era of Christendom in America. □

The Rev. Paul H. Siewert is the pastor of the First Baptist Church, Minot, N.D.

Chuckle with Bruno

Education is what helps a lot of people get along without intelligence.

There are two kinds of speakers: one kind has something to say, the other kind has to say something.

■ The Rev. Richard Hohensee has accepted the call to the Trinity Baptist Church, Kelowna, B.C., and will begin his ministry on Sept. 1. Previously he served the Central Baptist Church, Edmonton, Alberta.

■ The Rev. R. I. Thompson has accepted the call to the Lakeshore Baptist Church, Stevensville, Mich., and will begin his ministry on Sept. 28. His

former pastorate was in the Temple Baptist Church, Milwaukee, Wis.

■ The Rev. George Engle will begin his new ministry at the Lakeshore Baptist Church, St. Catharines, Ont., on Aug. 1. Previously he served the Fellowship Baptist Chapel, Sterling Heights, Mich.

■ The Rev. Martin Franke accepted the call to the First Baptist Church,

Durham, Kan., and begins his ministry on Sept. 1. His former pastorate was the Faith Baptist Church, Hillsboro, Or.

■ The Rev. Loren Weber has accepted a call to the First Baptist Church, Bellwood, Ill., and begins his ministry on Sept. 1. He was formerly the pastor of the church extension project in Ottawa, Ont.

■ Mr. Siegfried Koslowski, a 1975 graduate of NAB Seminary, is serving as assistant pastor at the Temple Baptist Church, Lodi, Calif.

■ Mr. Jim Jansen is serving as minister of Music at the Temple Baptist Church, Lodi, Calif.

■ The Rev. Erinlio Lopez Cela is serving the Walnut Street Baptist Church, Newark, N.J.

■ The Rev. G. Wesley Blackburn has accepted the call to the Hillside Baptist Church, Dickinson, N.D., and begins his ministry on Sept. 1. Previously he was the pastor of the Washburn Baptist Church, Washburn, N.D.

■ Mr. Donald Paschke, a 1975 NAB Seminary graduate, has accepted the call to the First Baptist Church, Eureka, S.D., and begins his ministry on Sept. 1.

■ The Rev. Nevin Beehler has accepted the call to the Pioneer Baptist Church, Pound, Wisc., effective since Aug. 10.

■ The Rev. Morris A. Motley has accepted the call to the Central Baptist Church, George, Iowa, and has been serving there since Aug. 1. He was formerly pastor of the Lake Norden Church (BGC), Lake Norden, S.D.

■ Mr. James Erb is serving as assistant pastor at the Riviera Baptist Church, Salem, Ore.

■ Dr. Martha M. Leypoldt, who for many years was active in our Conference, passed away on July 16. Tributes to her life and ministry will appear in the October issue of BAPTIST HERALD.

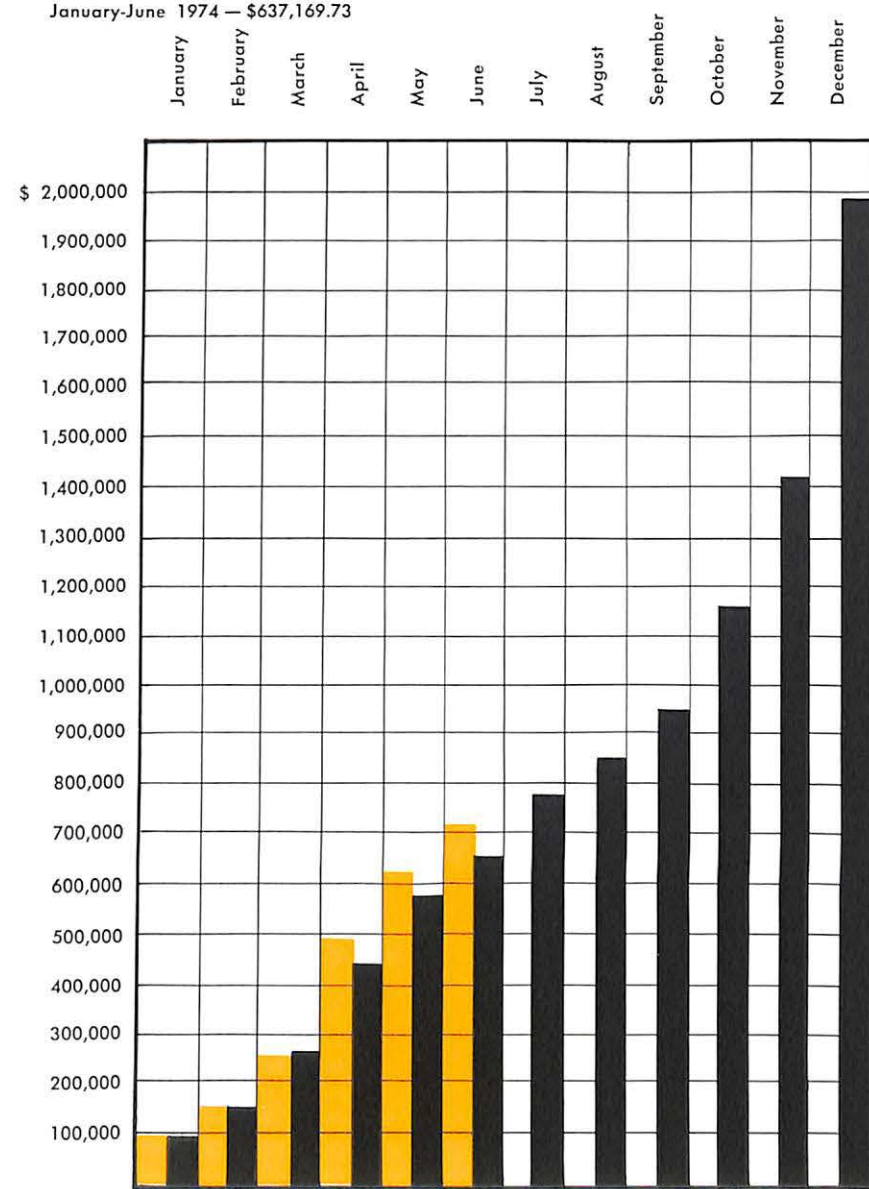
■ Dr. J. Gordon Harris has accepted the position of associate professor of Old Testament at the N.A.B. Seminary. For the last four years he has served as professor of Old Testament and Theology in the Philippines.

■ The Rev. R. Lee McDonald has accepted the call of the N.A.B. Seminary to serve as assistant professor of Biblical Studies. For the past year he was assistant professor of New Testament at Trinity College, Deerfield, Ill. □

OUR STEWARDSHIP RECORD/NAB BASIC MISSION PROGRAM

Total for six months
January-June 1975 — \$711,267.05
January-June 1974 — \$637,169.73

Goal for 1975 — \$2,150,000



Color line for 1975 black line for 1974

editorial viewpoint

THE MIRACLE OF LIFE AND DEATH

by B.C. Schreiber,
assistant editor

No one ever refers to death as a miracle. To many it is looked upon as life's greatest tragedy, especially if they are not privileged to live their biblical span of "three score years and ten." Four score years is considered a special blessing. Those who live with active minds and bodies when they reach the century mark have reason to express their gratefulness to God.

But length of life has little meaning unless there is also a quality of life. The proverb, "Not how did he live, but how did he die," is often quoted as though it has some profound and final meaning. It may be true for the very few who have had death-bed conversions. But those who have found the miracle of life through Jesus Christ will also find in the end that there waits for them the miracle of death. Both life and death can be meaningful and beautiful.

Except for unbearable circumstances the will to live is strong among the majority. Many of us have had surgery that has prolonged our lives. Through the grace of God and the miracle of medical science we have been made whole again. A hundred years ago our lives would have come to an untimely end. God is continuing to reveal his secrets of life and death to medical men as they delve into the marvelous mysteries of creation. One surgeon said, "I merely treat; God heals."

Occasionally we hear of a miraculous healing without the help of a physician, or when a person is given up as a hopeless case. We rejoice with those who have had such an experience. Life to them has become more precious and meaningful. Their experiences have often been recorded in books. Sometimes these persons are even interviewed on TV.

But what about all the thousands of sick and suffering who attend healing services but are not healed? Often they travel many miles in extreme pain and discomfort and at great expense. Not having received the gift of healing they return home with a deeper

sense of hopelessness and despair. And what about those who through the emotionally charged atmosphere believed they were healed, only to discover that they must again use their crutches and their wheelchairs, while still others must face their terminal illness? Is any follow-up attempt made to comfort, assure and prepare them for the miracle of death because the miracle of life was denied them? Do we look down upon them and in our hearts judge them because they lacked faith? We must remember that it takes faith to die as well as faith to live. Although life was prolonged for a few, death is still the ultimate healer. No age bracket has a guarantee against death. An epitaph for a little child in an English churchyard reads:

It is so soon that I am done for;

I wonder what I was begun for.

For many life was so short that we often question God's wisdom. What divine purpose could they possibly have fulfilled? It fulfilled something in the life of C. S. Lewis when his author friend, Charles Williams, died: "No event has so corroborated my faith in the next world as Williams did simply by dying. When the idea of death and the idea of Williams thus met in my mind, it was the idea of death that was changed."

During the past few years we have had a number of pastors and lay persons taken from us in the prime of life. Their work stopped so abruptly. There are so many books they have not read; so many places they have not seen; so many things they left undone; so many memories they haven't kept long enough.

At the time of this writing word came to us of the sudden death of Dr. Paul E. Little. The leadership he gave to the Inter-Varsity Christian Fellowship seemed to be indispensable. As an evangelist, teacher and author he was able to bring life to many through the gospel. He lived life "to the hilt." He affirmed the will of God: "If we had any sense at all, everyone of us would affirm God's will with confidence, joy and deep satisfaction," he said. "It involves eliminating any holdout areas in our life—a relationship, an ambition, a qualification." He taught students "how to give away their faith," not knowing that he would have to give away his life on his way to the next speaking engagement.

Paraphrasing slightly some things that the Eerdmans Publishing staff wrote at the sudden death of their beloved editor I want to direct the same thoughts to friends and loved ones left

(Continued on page 31)

open dialogue

letters to the editor

Dear Editor:

Am enjoying the BAPTIST HERALD. The two articles intrigued me, particularly the titles: Forgotten Children, No More," and "Singles, The Forgotten Group." In both cases the word "forgotten" stuck out like a sore thumb.

How can anyone, who has seen or worked with the mentally retarded children ever forget them? Impossible. I firmly believe that these little ones really are "Angels Unawares." Through their presence in our midst, mankind (I am convinced) will "get" the full impact of the words to love "thy neighbor as thyself," and experience the peace of mind and wonderful joy that comes from serving them. "Whatever you have done. . ."

Now for the second "forgotten" group! Could this word "forgotten" actually suggest that deplorable demarcation line of segregation? Heaven forbid. I can only imagine that the use of this word in connection with "single" here was a case of not finding a suitable adjective in time, because the article itself does not "make out" singles as something to be swept under the carpets and forgotten. Far from it. All my life, until now, I have lived as a single (because that is what I am). And with very, very few exceptions, no one ever even noticed my singleness. And that is the way it should be. I find that both Christians and non-Christians, alike, treat "singles" like people, the same as they do "doubles." And why not? Both were created and directed by God, and surely he knows best. In my experience he makes no mistakes.

I firmly believe that today we have too many segregated groups with programs of their own. We have very few things together, which actually bind us closer together and make for one-ness (unity). We have elementary groups, teen groups, home builder groups, men's groups, women's groups, whatever-have-you-other-groups, and now we are going to add "mentally retarded groups" and "singles groups" to this endless panorama of marching separatists, everyone "pulling" for his own group and no one pulling together. Pretty soon our generation and veneration gaps will be gapping chasms that cannot be bridged, and we'll all be like

the chaff, blown hither and thither with the wind. Is that what we want? These demarcation lines of segregation are "for the birds", not for tolerant people. Probably we can hear about this matter, from our church leaders . . . who are busy investigating ways and reasons for church growth and/or church decline. Sincerely yours, Ida Hoffman, Morris, Manitoba. □

DEDICATED . . .

(Continued from page 18)

landscaping and new parking will cost nearly \$400,000.00. The Building Committee consisted of York C. (Bud) Crilly, chairman, LaVern Haas, O. H. (Mitt) Mittelberg, Kirby Seibel, Glen Stevens, Albert Vix. Moderator Dan Orluck and Pastor Paul Siewert served as ex officio members.

AN EXPANDED MINISTRY

First Baptist Church has an ever expanding ministry. The Sunday school has been steadily growing with a recently initiated bus ministry. The new facilities are designed for a capacity of over 600. The worship services are geared for the whole family, with nursery, Beginner's Worship, and Children's Chapel. Weekday activities include prayer, regular workshops and lesson preparation classes for Sunday school teachers, Pioneer Girls and Boy's Brigade Club meetings. The "Youth Scene" includes a variety of activities for Junior High, Senior High, and College and Career Youth. Eric Coulon, a recent graduate from our seminary in Sioux Falls, SD is serving as Youth Minister.

Just recently a Christian Senior Center was started at the church. This

OUR WEAKNESS . . .

(Continued from page 11)

around you. You will have peace of heart and mind that only comes to those who completely surrender their lives to Jesus Christ.

Any service which you are doing for Christ will be done through his enabling power.

If your problem is loneliness, bring it to him. He can so fill your heart with his love and comfort and strengthen you by his presence that you will no longer be lonely. You will attract people to you as you let his vibrant personality live through you.

Do you have a personality weakness? Perhaps a too quick temper, or a habit of speaking too bluntly? Or a habit of gossiping? Whatever the problem or weakness, He can change you into the kind of person you want to be if you will surrender yourself to him and let him control your life.

includes a program of Singspiration and a Bible study, a noon meal, and a special feature e.g. film or special guest, etc. The transportation is coordinated with the local Senior Citizen Commission. The Center is open every Wednesday from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

First Baptist Church is also planning to start a public Kindergarten School this fall with an evangelical Christian emphasis. It is believed that this can become a very exciting means of outreach to homes that otherwise may not be open to the things of Christ.

One of the most exciting ministries at First Baptist Church is the Visitation Outreach program. Tuesday visitation is as vital to First Baptist as the Sunday program. A complete manual has been designed by the pastor, outlining this ministry. The basic format of the Tuesday ministry is a period of training, reviewing of assignments, going out calling, and a sharing time to conclude the evening. Many have been brought to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ and into the church fellowship through this vital ministry.

For the congregation of First Baptist Church, Minot, it is easy to say with the Psalmist: "This is the Lord's doing, it is marvelous in our eyes" (Ps. 118:23). □

THE MIRACLE OF LIFE . . .

(Continued from page 30)

behind. We are beginning to realize that our loss is not absolute. Their lives have so entered, shaped and helped to define our own that we couldn't be free of them if we wished. And that means we'll be living in a world that has been enriched and enlarged.

Perhaps that's part of what it means to say that life overcomes death. There are those who move through life in such a fashion as to ultimately and decisively outlive even death.

We're still going to miss them. Ours is a smaller world because they are gone. But it is so much larger a world because they have been here. They brought to the world, and to us, more than they could possibly take away. And we are able to keep more than we lost. We're more hopeful than despairing, more happy than sad, more thankful than bitter. We remain in their debt.

And that is the miracle of death! □

FAMILY NIGHT

(Continued from page 15)

evening of table games, drawing names to determine who plays with whom and limiting each game to a certain length of time. Other evenings we have played charades, played keep-away with a ball (sitting in a circle in the living room), or had special snacks. With children there is no lack of ideas! As spring and summer approach, we will include outdoor activities.

Our children range in age from four to fourteen; yet we have found that when each one has his or her turn to help plan the evening, using their own ideas, they are willing to take part in what the others have planned also. Their father and I also help with the planning. (Last time our four-year-old and her father planned the evening.)

At least for now, this is working well for us, and I hope it might give some of you ideas for your Family Night. □

Has a friend hurt you? Take it to the great Comforter. Surrender it to him. He will soothe and heal the wound. He will even enable you to pray for that one who has hurt you.

Do you feel limited, inadequate in what you can do? Take it to him. You will be surprised what you can do through his enabling power. Remember that it is possible to achieve the impossible through Christ. "I can do everything God asks me to with the help of Christ who gives me the strength and power" (Phil. 4:13).

Isn't it wonderful that we have such a great God who can supply all our needs whatever they might be. One who can take our human weaknesses and turn them into divine strengths?

I am so glad I have a perfect confidence in his perfect love. Do you? I pray that you do. □



CHURCH EXTENSION INVESTORS FUND, INC.

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"Let us rise up and build" — Nehemiah 2:18



by Walter C. Pankratz

This report will bring you up to date on the present status of the Fund, as well as certain changes made in accordance with decisions reached at the annual meeting of the Board of Directors held on May 17, 1975.

1. GROWTH OF THE FUND.

— From a modest beginning of \$55,200.00 in deposits at the close of 1973 to more than \$449,000.00 by June 1, 1975.

— The rate of growth slowed down during the last half of 1974 and the first half of 1975 due to the state of the national economy. Nevertheless, there was a steady growth, indicating recognition and acceptance of the "double dividend" idea, combining an adequate investment return with the satisfaction of knowing that the investment is helping our churches to extend their community outreach.

2. CHANGES IN INTEREST RATES IN TWO CATEGORIES OF INVESTMENTS.

- Increase in interest rate on 5-year term deposits, effective July 1, 1975, from 6½% to 6¾% per annum.
- Increase in interest rate on life gifts, effective July 1, 1975, from 6½% to 7% per annum.

The rates on all other term deposits will remain unchanged.

3. CHANGE IN EXTRA BONUS FOR EARLY DEPOSITS.

— The payment of interest from the first of the month on deposits received up to the 15th day of the month, formerly limited to the months of January, April, July and October, has been extended effective July 1, 1975, to include all 12 months. In other words, all deposits received up to and including the first 15 days of all months will receive interest from the first day of the month. Any deposits received after the 15th day of each month will draw interest from the date on which they are received.

4. INTEREST PAYABLE DATES.

— Since July 1, 1974, interest has been payable quarterly, as of January 1, April 1, July 1 and October 1 of each year.

5. METHODS OF PAYING INTEREST.

- Unless we are otherwise instructed, interest is paid by check each quarter.
- The depositor may, if he wishes, instruct us to pay the interest by check semi-annually or annually.
- The depositor may instruct us to credit the quarterly interest payments to his account to draw compound interest. In that case, a notice indicating the interest credit and new balance will be sent quarterly, unless we are instructed to send such notices semi-annually or annually.

6. JOINT REGISTRATIONS.

— Deposits may be made in two or more names. The form of joint tenancy recommended by our attorney is John Doe and Mary Doe as joint tenants with right of survivorship and not as tenants in common. However, the depositors may, if they wish, instruct us to issue interest checks with the conjunction "or" between the names so that only one endorsement will be required.

7. APPLICATIONS FOR CHURCH LOANS.

— Our deposit reserves in the Church Extension Investors Fund have now reached a level at which we can give consideration to requests for loans to be used in the building of new churches. Our first loan commitment was made in May, 1975 to the Sunrise Baptist Church of Fair Oaks, California, at an interest rate of 7¾%. It is anticipated that deposits in the Fund will increase to \$600,000 by the end of 1975, and to \$800,000 by the end of 1976. This should make possible the granting of loans to a good number of church extension churches in the near future. □

Mr. Walter C. Pankratz is the administrator of the Church Extension Investors Fund of the North American Baptist General Conference.

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