

March 1977
baptist herald



BRING LIFE!

**Laura Reddig Easter Mission Offering
1977 Goal: \$200,000**

1977 Mission & Ministry Budget & Goals

North American Baptist Conference

MISSIONS \$1,218,158 43%

- To proclaim the gospel through evangelism, church planting, church work, education and medical services (when needed) in Cameroon, Nigeria, Japan, Brazil and the United States, through the witness and service of 110 missionaries and short-term missionaries.
- To proclaim the gospel by providing hospital treatment and medical care for more than 100,000 patients in Cameroon and Nigeria.
- To maintain a Bible college in Cameroon with an enrollment of at least 100 students.
- To establish more firmly the Bible school in Nigeria with an enrollment of 25.
- To establish a new pastoral training program in Japan during 1977-79.
- To expand the number of centers for Theological Education by Extension (TEE) in Brazil.
- To provide consultation to associations in becoming involved in inner city ministries in their area and to assist them with subsidies in establishing such ministries.

TRAINING FOR MINISTRY \$521,893 18%

- To increase the total enrollment at North American Baptist Seminary to 225.
- To construct a 21-unit student apartment building at the N.A.B. Seminary.
- To increase the full-time enrollment at the N.A.B. College to 180.
- To launch the Bachelor of Arts in Religion at the N.A.B. College.

CHURCH EXTENSION \$416,260 15%

- To start 10 new churches.

CHURCH MINISTRIES \$200,774 7%

- To make 180,000 church growth contacts resulting in a net membership increase of 2,300.
- To provide services which will help churches to grow in all phases of church ministry such as, spiritual growth, leadership ability, unity, maturing in faith and increase in the body of Christ.

DEVELOPMENT AND ADMINISTRATION \$293,047 10%

- To assist local churches in stewardship education by providing resource materials and by conducting 10 seminars.
- To provide reliable estate planning information and counseling regarding wills, trusts and tax savings opportunities to our people.
- To secure additional commitments for N.A.B. ministries through wills, trusts and other estate planning agreements of \$2,500,000.

- To raise \$2,850,000 for the Conference mission and ministry budget.
- To increase deposits in the Church Extension Investors Fund to a total of \$1,200,000.

AREA MINISTRIES \$139,205 5%

SPECIAL PROJECTS \$60,663 2%

Pension Subsidy	\$43,223
Aged Ministers	8,940
Baptist World Alliance	6,000
Bible Distribution	2,500

- To further the ministry to the aging by sponsoring conferences on "Ministry with the Aging" for Baptist Home leaders and other interested persons.
- To distribute financial aid and pensions to pastors, pastors' wives and other Christian workers.
- To receive and distribute funds to help meet the needs of people through the Baptist World Alliance Relief Fund.

Association

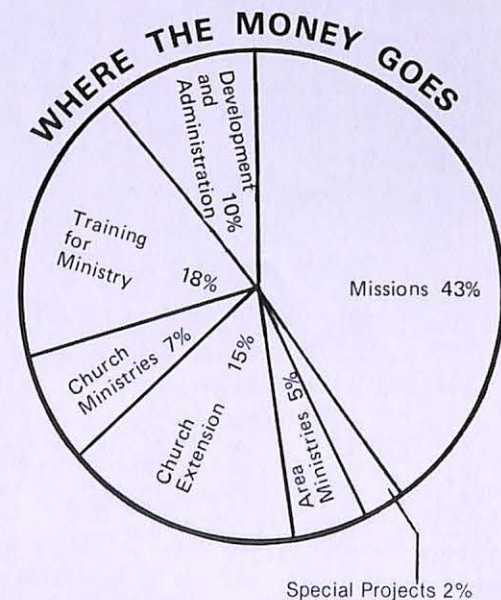
- To encourage participation in association-sponsored opportunities for fellowship, ministry and learning.

Conference

- To provide opportunities for fellowship and learning for youth at the 1977 North American Baptist Youth Congress.
- To provide for a family conference in Green Lake, WI.

Baptist World Alliance

- To encourage participation in the 1977 Baptist World Alliance Women's Continental Congress in the Bahamas.



Total \$2,850,000

contents

Cover: Bring Life! Louis Neibauer Co., Inc.

N.A.B. Conference Budget and Goals for 1977.....	2
Three World Meetings.....	3
Giving to Bring Life.....	4
An Interview with Dr. G. K. Zimmerman	
What Christ Means to Me and My Ministry.....	6
North American Baptist Seminary Senior Class	
God's Volunteers: God's Perfect Timing.....	11
Marlene Ginter	
Putting It Together.....	12
Ernie Zimbelman	
Book Reviews.....	12
B.C. Schreiber	
Youth Scene: Parents.....	13
Dixie Potratz	
Woman's World.....	14
Prayer Makes the Difference, Freda Reddig	
Up the Stairway, Dorene Walth	
God's Perfect Timing, Eleanor Rich	
Prayer Concern, Ouanda Walton	
Baptist Women's Continental Assembly, LaVerna Mehlhaff	
Reach Out and Touch.....	16
Henry G. Ramus	
An Experienced Pastor Moves to Overseas Service.....	18
Fred C. Folkerts	
Insight into Christian Education: Backyard Bible School.....	19
Margaret M. Self	
Believers' Baptism by Immersion.....	20
John Ziegler	
North Bismarck, ND, Church Extension Project.....	22
Alvin Haas	
Personal Estate Planning: Your Provincial Will.....	23
Laurence G. Bienert	
Our Conference in Action.....	24
In Memoriam.....	27
Communication: Super or Small.....	28
Adolph Braun	
News and Views.....	28
What's Happening.....	29
Editorial Viewpoint: Generous Sowing Means a Generous Harvest.....	30
Connie Salios	
Chuckle with Bruno.....	30
Open Dialogue.....	31
1977 N.A.B. Directory.....	32

Monthly Publication of the North American Baptist General Conference
 1 So. 210 Summit Ave., Oakbrook Terrace, Villa Park, IL. 60181

Editor: Dr. R. J. Kerstan
 Editorial Assistants: Mrs. Barbara J. Binder, Rev. B. C. Schreiber
 Contributing Editors: Rev. Adolph Braun, Mrs. Dorothy Ganoung, Mrs. Bernietta Graf, Dr. Ernie Zimbelman

The Baptist Herald is a member of Associated Church Press and Evangelical Press Association. Subscription Price: \$5.50 per year in the United States or Canada (\$6.00 in foreign countries)—\$5.00 per year for "Church Family Subscription Plan" (at least 50% of church households have to be subscribers), and for ministers and missionaries—\$4.00 per year for students, servicemen and residents in homes for the aging—60 cents for single copies. Introductory offer for new subscribers—\$4.50 per year. All address change correspondence is to be addressed to Baptist Herald Subscription Department, 1 So. 210 Summit Ave., Oakbrook Terrace, Villa Park, IL. 60181. Six weeks notice required for change of address. When ordering a change, please give the effective date and furnish an address stencil impression from a recent issue. Advertising Rates: \$8.00 per inch single column, 2 1/4 inches wide. Obituaries are to be limited to 100 words. A charge of \$2.00 is to be paid when the item is sent in for publication. All editorial and business correspondence is to be addressed to Dr. R. J. Kerstan, 1 So. 210 Summit Ave., Oakbrook Terrace, Villa Park, IL. 60181. Second class postage paid at Villa Park, IL. 60181 and at additional mailing offices. News reported and views expressed in this magazine are not necessarily the position of the North American Baptist Conference. (Printed in U.S.A.)

Three World Meetings

Canadian Baptists are anticipating an excess of 25,000 delegates to the 14th Baptist World Congress, scheduled to meet in Toronto, July 6-13, 1980.

David S. Simmonds, a businessman who serves as chairman of the local arrangements committee, said that hotel rooms in Toronto are available for 20,000, camping facilities for 4,000, college dormitory rooms for 2,000, and private rooms for 1,000. The private home accommodations will be restricted to overseas visitors.

Reporting to the Baptist World Alliance Executive Committee, Simmonds said that Douglas Gow, also a Toronto businessman, is listed as honorary chairman of the committee, Henry Finlayson as vice-chairman, and Miss Thelma Jarrett as secretary. R. Fred Bullen, general secretary of the Baptist Federation of Canada, also is a member of the executive group.

The 1980 session will be the first Baptist World Congress in North America since the congress met in Miami Beach in 1965. The congress met in Tokyo in 1970, and in Stockholm in 1975.

The Executive Committee gave attention also to plans for two international meetings in 1978. The Second Baptist World Conference of Baptist Men will meet in Indianapolis, Indiana, USA, April 5-9, 1978, and the 9th Baptist Youth World Conference will meet in Hong Kong, July 19-23, 1978. □

GIVING TO BRING LIFE!



The editor interviewing Dr. G. K. Zimmerman.

Executive Secretary interviewed about the Laura Reddig Easter Mission Offering

The "Laura Reddig Easter Mission Offering" will be received Easter Sunday, April 10. To prepare us to give to this important offering, some questions were asked of Dr. Gideon K. Zimmerman, executive secretary, North American Baptist Conference.

- Q:** Dr. Zimmerman, what is the main purpose of the Laura Reddig Easter Mission Offering?
- A:** The main purpose is to provide a special opportunity for us to become personally involved in our Conference missionary outreach. It was felt, after much prayer and study, that a special offering for missions during the Easter season would help us enlarge our vision for missions. Also it would help us to overcome the imbalance of receiving most of our missions money during the last two or three months of the year. You will remember that last November we needed \$1,032,830 for the months of November and December to meet our budget.
- Q:** Where did the idea of naming a special offering after an individual originate?
- A:** It originated out of a desire to remind us of the dedicated men and women who serve on our overseas fields in Cameroon, Nigeria, Brazil and Japan. Dr. Laura Reddig, veteran missionary, was chosen because she symbolizes the dedication and sacrificial service of our missionaries. All of us should give sacrificially if we are going to be faithful to our mis-

- sionary commitments. Since we hope to expand our mission outreach in the future, we should increase our giving. This is one of the priorities we have set for ourselves this year.
- Q:** You speak about expanding our missionary outreach. Would you comment on this?
- A:** Yes. Our Lord has given us a mandate to take the gospel to the world. As you know, we are now ministering in four overseas fields: Cameroon, Nigeria, Japan and Brazil. Dr. Richard Schilke, general secretary of missions, has declared that God opened the doors for service on these fields in unique ways. At our 1976 Triennial Conference sessions, Portland, OR, the delegates approved a resolution that we begin to look for a new mission field and requested that a report on our findings be given at the 1979 Triennial Conference in Bismarck, ND. Dr. Schilke has already begun this study. We believe that God will show us what to do at the right time.
- Q:** It is generally felt that our Conference has a strong missionary orientation. Can you give some facts to substantiate this?



"Our Lord has given us a mandate to take the gospel to the world."

- A:** Three facts come to my mind immediately.
- FACT ONE:** We have 102 missionaries, 95 serving in four overseas fields. For a small Conference with a membership of around 57,000, this is a daring program. When you compare the ratio of members to missionaries sent out, you will see how thankful we should be for what God has done through our faithful people. We have one missionary for every 543 members. One of the largest Baptist groups in the United States has sent out one missionary for every 2,680 members.
- FACT TWO:** We have brought the mission field home to our local churches in North America. In 1969 we brought the Cameroonian Singers to tour our churches in the U.S. and Canada. In 1973 we brought a group of Japanese youth, the Young Ambassadors, to North America. Just recently, 1975-76, the Brazil Praise Singers toured our churches. All three of these groups shared something of their own culture and told us how God used our missionaries to help them come to know Christ as Savior and Lord.
- FACT THREE:** We as a Conference family have increased our giving to missions yearly to meet the great demands of our Conference ministries. Our people are to be commended for their outstanding record of giving to Conference missions and ministries. For four years in a row we met and oversubscribed our budgets. This past year, 1976, we fell short by approximately \$200,000. Many of our people do not realize that we are truly a "faith mission" because we begin each year not knowing how much money we will receive. We must look to God in faith to supply our funds on a month-by-month basis.
- Q:** Do you have any specific recommendations concerning what we can do about the Laura Reddig Easter Mission Offering, and are there other comments you would like to make?
- A:** I would encourage all of our people to make a very generous gift to the Laura Reddig Easter Mission Offering for 1977. I believe we can reach our goal of

\$200,000 for this special offering. Connie Salios, associate secretary for stewardship, has written a helpful editorial which appears in this issue of the BAPTIST HERALD on the subject of generous giving. Please read it. I believe the emphasis in that editorial is very appropriate for our times. The other suggestions I would make are of a more general nature:

- First:** All of us need to consider the priorities of our lives and make certain that Christ has first place, as he taught in Matthew 6:33, "But seek ye first the Kingdom of God and his righteousness and all of these things shall be added unto you."
- Second:** All of our people are encouraged to covenant together with us here at the Oakbrook Terrace Conference office to pray daily for our missionaries and all of the other Conference ministries.



"All of us need to consider the priorities of our lives..."

- Third:** Since we need more full-time missionaries, some of our people should consider making themselves available to serve as full-time missionaries on one of our overseas fields. Persons interested in Japan or Brazil should contact our General Secretary of Missions, Dr. Richard Schilke. Those interested in Cameroon or Nigeria should contact the Rev. Fred C. Folkerts, associate secretary for overseas missions.
- I would like to state once more, as we close this interview, that I am very much indebted to God for leading our people to respond so faithfully to our total Conference ministries. It is my prayer that all of us in the Conference may be faithful to the Lord to help people become believers in Christ and to grow in the faith.
- Thank you, Dr. Zimmerman, for the interesting and useful information which you have given for the readers of the BAPTIST HERALD. □

What Christ Means To Me And My Ministry

by David J. Draewell

Jesus once asked his disciples: "Who do men say that the Son of man is?" They replied: "Some say John the Baptist, others say Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." Jesus then asked: "But who do you say that I am?" Simon Peter replied: "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." To this perceptive response Jesus said: "Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jona! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you but my Father who is in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my Church."

These same concerns are vital today for the upbuilding of the Church of Jesus Christ. This is why we have chosen to use them in helping our North American Baptist constituency to become acquainted with the men and women who will comprise the 1977 graduating class at North American Baptist Seminary. We have asked our graduates to comment briefly on the theme: "What Christ Means to Me and My Ministry."

The class of 1977 is distinctive in several ways. It is the largest in the history of the seminary. It includes the first graduates from the Master of Arts program who have a specialization in counseling skills. It also contains the largest number of women graduates ever.

We thank God for the opportunity we have had at the seminary to make a contribution to the ministerial preparation of these gifted persons. We ask you to pray for their successful completion of educational requirements in the coming months and for their sensitivity to the leading of God's Spirit concerning their future service positions. We commend them to the Church as dedicated servants of Jesus Christ.



Leland Bertsch "As a Christian, I am privileged to share in the gifts of God's love and grace—his forgiveness, a new life in Christ, his call to obedience, service and witness in the world, and a community of believers in which to share worship, teaching, gospel proclamation, service, and fellowship. Being part of such a heritage, I have also committed myself to its ongoing life, believing this to be my calling as a Christian. In particular, I have committed

myself to providing leadership in the primary expression of the church, the local assembly of believers." Leland is single, from Carbon, AB, and is in the M.Div. program.



Pamela Arends "Christ is my Lord. I realize that it is best if Christ is Lord of my whole life: my relationships, my interests, my time, my abilities, my ministry. Sometimes, though, I am tempted to take control of my life, to direct my own af-

fairs, but it usually doesn't turn out as well in the long run. As my husband, Jim, and I look forward to a joint ministry for the Lord, we wish to surrender our lives to Christ's leading that we might find that special place of ministry for two." Pam is married to '76 graduate, Jim Arends, and she is in the M.A. in Counseling program.



Jack Borchert is single, from Calgary, AB, and will receive the M.A. degree in Religious Studies.



Sudhakar Bontha "I was born and raised in a Christian family for which I am grateful to God. But this did not give me enough joy in my heart until I accepted Jesus Christ as my Savior. While I was in college, a missionary lady, Mrs. Ruth Dexter, inspired me and advised me to pray and think of going into the ministry in 1965. After ten years that dream came true, which reminds me how Jesus uses his people to do his will in opening the doors. For me, Christ is a merciful God who transformed my life and loves me continuously." Sudhakar Bontha will receive the B.R.E. degree. He is from Andre Pradesh, India, is married and has two children.



Steven Corum "One of the great themes of the Bible is God's willingness to fellowship or "be present" with mankind. This is true in spite of man's continual sin and rejection of this presence in his life. It is at this point that the work of Christ becomes so crucial. It is through Jesus Christ that a man's lifestyle of sin and separation can be overcome. Christ came to show us the Father—indeed he was God himself ("The Word became flesh . . . and dwelt among us" John 1:14). Thus Christ is our only means of truly knowing God and coming into his presence. Consequently, I

feel the primary focus in my ministry must be making known the presence of God, available in Jesus Christ, to a lost and dying world." Steve is from Sacramento, CA, is married and will receive the M.Div. degree.



Linda Ebel "One of the tasks of the church is to equip its members to take the way of Jesus Christ to the world around them. Christ must be in the center of every endeavor the church undertakes. My ministry to others must also be rooted in Jesus Christ and his teaching, if I am to do my part in fulfilling his great commission. 'For without me, you can't do a thing' (John 15:5)." Linda will receive the M.A. in Christian Education. She is from Winnipeg, MB, and is single.



Penelope Eberhart "It is because of Christ's teachings that I know that God loves me and cares about me. It is because of Christ's example in relating to the women of his day that I as a woman today can have the privilege of serving in his church. It is because of Christ's death and resurrection that I can have life abundant, now and forever. It is because of Christ's continuing presence that I can have the strength and wisdom I need to proclaim the Good News to the 'poor, the captive, the blind and the op-

pressed'." Penelope is married, has two children and will receive the M.Div. degree.



Dennis Frederick "Christ is people-oriented. He reached out to people on many different levels and in many different ways. One particular method that Christ shared with people was in his listening and caring for their emotional needs. As a counselor, I feel one important aspect of the total church ministry is to reach out to people and help them realize the depth of Christ's teachings and his gift of love. My ministry is to help people grow in these teachings of Christ. Through counseling, whether in a church or other organizational ministries, I feel I can reach people in a unique and meaningful way." Dennis will receive the M.Div. degree. He is married and is from Tacoma, WA.



David Glader "Jesus Christ became my Savior after hearing my father preach, when I was five years old. Growing up as a pastor's son prepared me in many ways for a life of ministry. But the experiences of seminary, visiting churches, and pastoring have convinced me of God's will in serving him as a pastor. I have been "pruned" many times in order to bear more fruit. Bible knowledge and theology is the foundation of precious materials

that will stand the tests of fire that will come." David is married, has one child, is from Minneapolis, MN, and will receive the M.Min. degree.



Nadine Friesen "I must live my life according to the Christ I have received—Jesus the Lord; I must be rooted in him and built on him and held firm by the faith I have been taught and full of thanksgiving" (Col. 2:6). Christ must be the basis of my ministry, without him there is no power or purpose. My prayer is that I may communicate him as the answer to the needs of the people." Nadine is single, from Hillsboro, KS, and will receive the M.A. degree in Religious Studies.



Robert Goethe The desire to serve Christ has led me into many interesting and exciting areas of service over the past few years, for I have always wanted to be in the middle of where God is at work and where things are happening. This desire has led me more and more to the work of the local church, because I have become convinced that the local church is at the center of God's plan to bring the Good News to this world. I am very excited about the possibilities that exist in a church as it becomes what God intended it to be." Robert is single, from Edmonton, AB, and will receive M.Div. degree.



Roger Hartman "Jesus came in order that we might be restored to God, that we might be healed. Through my studies in the Christian counseling program at North American Baptist Seminary, Jesus has shown me that I cannot heal beyond that which I have been healed. As he made me aware of those areas, he also provided for me, men with beautiful gifts for relating to others. Through the counsel of these men, Jesus began to heal me inwardly and continues to do so. As Jesus lives in me, he seeks to bring the same healing to others, in terms of Christian counseling." Roger is single, from Sioux Falls, and will receive the M.A. degree in Counseling.



Shelly Hartsook "I have always recognized Christ's Lordship as the foundation stone of my life and ministry. Christ has set me free from the bondage of sin and the sting of death to experience his abundant life, a life of peace and joy as I live in vital fellowship with him. One of the basic goals of my ministry is to let others know that *they too* can experience this abundant life. There is One who is waiting to set them free from guilt, depression, loneliness, worry, boredom, and the fear of death. I hunger to help them, through the power of the Holy Spirit." Shelly is single, from Sioux Falls, and will receive the M.Min. degree.



Rebecca Jones is single, comes from Grand Island, NE, and will receive the M.A. degree in Christian Education.



Dennis Kee "I made a commitment to Christ to be available for wherever he wants me to serve him. Consequently, I came to the seminary. Now, I am anxious to join a church as pastor so that together we can reach out to others in his name. Christ said, 'I am the beginning and the ending.' To that extent, Christ claims my life and yours. And to that extent, he can meet our personal needs and the needs of our society. The world still desperately needs to hear and receive the Good News." Dennis is married, has five children, comes from Auburn, MI, and will receive the M.Div. degree.



Herman Kesterke "Jesus Christ is my Lord and Savior who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of

the virgin Mary, lived as a human here on earth, was crucified, buried and rose again. Jesus Christ has called me to confess my sin, experience the new birth, and grow in his grace and knowledge. He has summoned me to serve him as a pastor-teacher, to preach and teach the Word of God, to shepherd and disciple the body of Christ, and to lead and guide an evangelistic outreach program to win others to Christ." Herman is married, has two children, is from Minitonas, MB, and will receive the M.Div. degree.



Jay Mitchell is married, comes from Mitchell, NE, and will be receiving the M.Div. degree.



Kathleen Peterson "I feel the call of God on my life to be his servant in the area of Christian Counseling. My effectiveness depends upon my proper relationship with Jesus Christ. As I know and sense the healing, forgiving, and loving care of the Father, I will be better able to be a minister of healing.

The Scripture gives excellent direction by stating, 'Lean not unto thine own understanding, but in all thy ways acknowledge Him and He shall direct thy path.' The help I offer based on my own resources and skills will be only temporarily effective,

unless Jesus Christ is the divine agent in the healing process." Kathleen is single, comes from Lewiston, ID, and will receive the M.A. degree in Counseling.



Neil Lindorff "What does Christ mean to my ministry? He is my ministry, for if I hadn't gotten to know him and his healing powers when I did, I would have been dead years ago. Jesus saved me and gave me something to live for when I had already come to the conclusion that there was nothing to live for in this world. Now I'm pursuing a ministry to help others who have those same problems of depression, anxiety, fear, problems with parents and many more. Jesus has launched me into a counseling ministry for that purpose." Neil is married, from Wells, MN, and will receive the M.A. degree in Counseling.



Kenneth Marek "In the field of counseling, one is continually confronted by individuals in need. Helping people fulfill their needs realistically, is one way that I can, as a Christian, be used to minister to them. It is in this sense, that Christ is the center of my ministry. I firmly believe that Christ plays a vital part in affirming an individual's worth and self-esteem. Rather than separating psychology and the

Gospel, I see them linked in the vital ministry of Christian Counseling, the ministry to which I have been called." Kenneth is married, from Burlington, ON, and will receive the M.A. degree in Counseling.



Linda Marek "To be an effective Christian counselor, it is necessary to love people as Jesus did. In fact, he commanded us to love one another as he loved us. This type of love is not superficial, but all-encompassing; it goes beyond the outward appearances and reaches the depths of the personality. It is concerned with meeting the needs and healing the hurts of fellow humans. As a Christian counselor, I need to have this kind of love, and since Christ is the source of it, he is the center of my ministry." Linda is married to Ken, from Burlington, ON, and will receive the M.A. degree in Counseling.



Marsha Nelson "My effectiveness as a Christian counselor and teacher is in direct relationship to my allowing God to lead me. In my schooling and work, God has influenced my decisions to be in accordance with his will and purpose. By allowing Christ to work through me, he can make my ministry for him more effective and rewarding for those I

come in contact with and myself. With Jesus as the focal point of my healing ministry, he can open my heart and understanding to the spiritual, physical, and emotional needs of others. I place my trust, confidence, and knowledge in Christ." Marsha is single, comes from Moses Lake, WA, and will receive the M.A. degree in Counseling.



Janis Mitchell "Considering the seminary motto, "Reconciling the world to Christ," based on II Cor. 18 and 19, I ponder how I fit into that plan of God. If a person is to have meaningful relationship with God, he must first be reconciled to himself. My training is providing me with the tools that enable me to help a person meet himself as well as meet God. Saying that I am a Christian counselor, I witness to the fact that Christ is at the center of my task. Looking to him, I am sure of his place of service for me." Janis is single, from Grosse Pointe Woods, MI, and will receive the M.A. degree in Counseling.



Joy Muller "I value sound psychological training and intellectual integrity with a Christian perspective. Through my training in psychology and experience in a number of settings, I have discovered a broad scope of understanding to be inte-

gral in enabling others to find wholeness. I anticipate further training and graduate study, helping me be a more effective facilitator, so others can meaningfully find themselves." Joy is single, comes from Edmonton, AB, and will receive the M.A. degree in Counseling.



Manasses Nji "As a minister, preaching and teaching in the various capacities in the Cameroon Baptist Convention, I realized that the answer to the call to the ministry was a call compelling me. In order to be fully prepared for the ministry, it was necessary to be trained first. I have seen God leading me in various ways. In making evaluations about the ministry, I could see Christ meeting my needs as a leader. Concern for human needs, and my personal convictions that I am called, seem real as I surrender to the leading of the Holy Spirit in my ministry." Manasses is married with eight children, an African pastor, and will receive a Certificate in Ministry Studies.



Richard Reese "The coming of Jesus, the Son of God, to this earth is the greatest happening that has ever occurred in the existence of man. Jesus came to this earth with the major purpose of salvation for all men. But also of importance is that he came to minister to the

whole man. He gave us a lifestyle to follow. I left the Maytag Company; because God called me into the ministry through not only his living Word but also through other people. These are the 'faithful' people (II Tim. 2:2) of the church, and they are the ones that have the power to change the world." Richard is married, has two children, and will receive the M.Div. degree.



Perry Schnabel "The Christian ministry is a task that must be entered with complete reliance upon God. Since my commitment to Christ in my early teens, God has been at work in my life. In obedience to his will, faith and trust have become the basis of my life and ministry. Christ ministered to the needs of the whole person. I am striving to follow this example. As I consider my own abilities to minister to his people, I continually recognize that every good and perfect gift comes from him. Therefore, I trust him to use me as his instrument to further his kingdom." Perry is single, comes from Lehr, ND, and will receive the M.Div. degree.



Michael Seto "Christ means direction. I always ask myself, "Where would I be if it were not for Christ in my life? What kind of life would I be living?" I know that with my talents, I could be making a com-

fortable living doing something else. Yes, but if not for him, my life would not know the fulfillment of serving him nor would I know the true reason for living which I have found in Christ. I feel that there could be no life for me except in service to him in some capacity." Michael is married, comes from Sacramento, CA, and will receive the M.Min. degree.



Fredric Spalding "Three phrases begin to plumb the depths of 'What Christ means to me and my ministry:' New Life, Abundant Life, and Body Life. Though I was raised in the church, it was not until college that I was confronted with Christ's claims and surrendered my life to him. My tendency toward periodic depression was permanently replaced by an unquenchable inner joy and indescribably deep peace of mind, and for the first time, I began to be able to love others whom I previously would have shunned. As a

pastor, I hear God calling me to encourage others to be his people, his church, and to share in his ministry of reconciliation." Fredric is married, comes from Glen Ellyn, IL, and will receive the M.Div. degree.



Mark Stevens is married, comes from Kekamah, NE, and will receive the M.Div. degree.



James Walden is married, has two children, and will receive a Certificate in Religious Studies.

A Universal Prayer

by Helen I. Griffiths

Dear Lord,
 How shall I glorify your name?—
 In the sackcloth and ashes of my mortal shame?—
 Or with tears, for others, suffering alone?—
 While we, who love you, can come before your throne—
 of Grace.
 No!
 I'll glorify You, with a *smiling* face—
 I'll *love* the wretched of our human race—
 I'll glorify You, with laughter, and with joy—
 And compassion—for the suffering man or boy,
 Who hasn't seen—
 Your Face.

God's Volunteers report

God's Perfect Timing

by Marlene Ginter

So often during our experiences of sharing in the different communities across Canada and the United States, we, as a team, have been reminded of the sovereignty and the perfect timing of God. Paul states in his letter to the Ephesians that God is continually working in lives revealing "His eternal purpose which He carried out in Christ Jesus" for all (Eph. 3:11). Within the vast number of contacts we have had, the truth and realization of God's continual leading has become very evident to us many times.

A church member and I had the opportunity to share very deeply what is involved in making and living a commitment to Christ with a young married couple. They had been curious about this but were too busy in their own involvements to move in any direction in their thoughts. The one evening in the week that they were home was the evening God used us to share with them about the personal relationship they could have with Christ. That evening they were not ready to make that commitment, but the claims of Christ were shared with them. They did have that opportunity to respond to him.

Beth Bleeker, doing visitation work on behalf of one of our churches, was reminded very clearly of God's perfect timing. She was excited to know that God had used her in answering specific prayers. Doing the door-to-door survey work, Beth met with a family who had prayed that God would show them to a church where they could serve him effectively. That same morning that Beth had made this call, the Pastor and a church member had prayed that God would impress upon someone their need of a worker for the nursery and also willing and committed Christians to work in the church. God very definitely answered these prayers through the contact made that morning; these people were willing to be used in a church.

While doing door-to-door survey calling, Colleen Huber, along with two

(Continued on page 30)



Putting it together

by Ernie Zimbelman

One letter last week stated: "H. is in school which, by the way, she's not crazy about. We would like for her to go on to college, but she's not turned on by anything academic. One wonders at what point parental guidance (ranging from encouragement to threats) becomes counter-productive. I frequently marvel at how effortlessly our parents raised a host of responsible kids, so it seemed." (This father comes from a family of nine.)

Another mother writes: "I lament at how bright one thinks and feels until one is stuck with the role of being a parent to a teenager—at which point one feels dumb to the point of being helpless."

Since my wife and I are parents of three children, the youngest is 14, I have a great deal of sympathy with parents, such as the above represent.

It is difficult to make meaningful comparisons between the situation of present teenagers and the situation when we were teenagers. Never have so many changes taken place so fast in so many sectors of people's lives, as in the past 30 years. Therefore, we must see that we as parents have not been the stable example to our children that our parents were to us. But in addition to the different lifestyles in the home, we must

Dr. Ernie Zimbelman is associate professor of Pastoral Counseling at North American Baptist Seminary in Sioux Falls, SD. He is also in charge of the Sioux Falls Psychological Services Clinic.

also be aware of the many other influences such as school, church, travel, television, fast transportation, books, music and people—all moving at a high accelerated pace compared to our own childhood.

I will draw a few comparisons from my own case:

1. By the time I was 18, I had left North Dakota once (I walked across the Red River bridge at Grand Forks into Minnesota.) By the time my oldest sons were 18, they had literally been half way around the world twice.
2. By the time I was 16, I had more education than my parents' total education. This is not true for my sons.
3. I went to a high school where the total enrollment was 32; they attended a high school with over 2,000 students.
4. I was raised in a literally poverty-stricken family in a time when money was "tight" for everybody. Our children generally are living in a period of affluence, where they can have good paying jobs.
5. My community had many "social structures;" in their community almost all kinds of lifestyles are generally effective.

If I try to view my sons' life situation through my "past" eyes, I will not see what they see! I must attempt to understand their world as they experience it, relate to them during the present experiences (crises), and help them to cope with their problems so their needs are met.

The father writes—"when does my trying to help become 'counter productive?'" The answer is—it becomes counter productive when my efforts alienate me from my child and drive him to other sources for his support.

To the degree that our model as a parent deviates from the model of the Heavenly Father, we will have difficulties. God, the Father, made ultimate demands of his Son, Jesus. Was Jesus such a good, obedient, cooperative Son because of his own "goodness," or was it easy to be a good son for such a wonderful Father?

The Father said: "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased" (Matthew 3:17).

The Son said: "... it is my Father who glorifies me..." (John 8:54). "I and the Father are one" (John 10:30). "In that day you will know that I am in my Father..." (John 14:20).

These passages, and many others, speak of the relationship between this Father and Son. We, too, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, can have rich and rewarding relationships with our teenagers. □

book reviews by B. C. Schreiber

Between a Rock and a Hard Place. By Mark O. Hatfield, Waco, TX: Word Books. \$7.95.

Although this book has been available for about a year, it is still worth a review and a reading.

Senator Hatfield is a man of strong convictions, but when those convictions come in conflict with his political party and with his denomination it is difficult to "be all things to all men." He saw the pretension, the phoniness, the compromising that politicians engage in to gain power and influence. Through prayer and self-examination he "began to feel liberated from the idolatry of power and gave himself more deeply to a whole new vision of prophetic witness, faithfulness and servanthood." His concept of power and leadership underwent a drastic revision.

Caught up in his conviction about the Vietnam and Cambodian wars, he made many enemies in political and religious circles. The Senator believes we are still suffering from the Constantinian Legacy in which the Church willingly collaborated with the State and distorted its witness to the world.

This book has a strong religious emphasis in which Senator Hatfield describes how he was compelled to find new direction for his life from an intensive study of the Bible. This led to a new understanding of his responsibility to the needs of our country and the world.

Walking with the Giants. By Warren Wiersbe, Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Book House. \$7.95.

The best thing to be said for this volume is that it whets your appetite for more biography. The most objectionable thing, and I use the word "objectionable" very conservatively, is the subtitle: "A Minister's Guide to Good Reading and Great Preaching." I hope the average lay person will not pass this by and think that it is "for pastors only."

In addition to the 18 mini-biographies of preaching giants, Mr. Wiersbe added a section about the classic books on the ministry. This section is primarily for the preacher but will help the lay person understand the problems of ministers of the gospel.

Readers of *Moody Monthly* will recognize the biographies because they appeared in a column under the title, "Insight for Pastors." □

youth scene

Parents

by Dixie Potratz

My first North American Baptist Conference was shortened by a call from home. The message, "Mom passed away tonight." Those words hit hard. What we as a family had expected for three years had happened. Mom's life with us had ended.

Parents are very special people. They are something that each of us have or have had, but how much do we really appreciate them, and what they have done for us?

We had known for the past three years that Mom could die at any time. To see or meet her, one would never ever have guessed that she was dying of cancer. Mom was a source of strength and courage for many people in the community as well as to her family. The reason she could be so strong facing death was because of her relationship with Christ. She had a faith that just wouldn't quit. Mom and Dad had lived their faith all their lives. Difficulties just made them stronger.

If Mom could have had a motto, I believe it would have been Philippians 1:21, "For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain" (NAS).

When Mom got sick, it made our family a stronger unit. Her illness also made my relationship with her grow. We had an open communication line between us. I often wondered how we would have related to one another had Mom not been sick. In my quest to understand her in her illness, I asked her many questions about her illness and about her view of death. I wanted to go through her illness with her so that I could bear some of her burden along with her.

It was really moving to me that Mom was continually wanting to help me in any way that she could. It made her feel so useful, when she could be helping other people. When I would come home, I would bring craft projects

Miss Dixie Potratz is admissions representative at Sioux Falls College, SD, and a member of Trinity Baptist Church, Sioux Falls.

along that she could help me with. We made a good team. I would come up with the ideas, and she would figure out how to construct them.

When Mom first got sick, it was hard for me to allow her to do anything for me. Before she was sick, I let her do anything and everything for me!

Through Mom's death, I not only lost my mother, but I lost a friend. I miss the communication that we had, and now I realize how important it is to have communication with your parents. How can we build communication with our parents?

Are you proud of your folks, or do they embarrass you? There are many reasons why you might be embarrassed by your folks. Maybe it is an accent, age, handicap, old-fashionedness, acting like a teenager—I could go on and on. For me, it was Dad's age.

Dad and Mom were married when he was 42, and then they had seven children. I'm child number six, so by the time I came along, Dad was 59. I was embarrassed about it for a long time. It would have been easier to work through my embarrassment, if I had talked to someone about it. That someone could have been my parents.

Through my teen years I was afraid to talk about my hassles with anyone. I believed that people would think I was weird or they would find out I didn't have everything together or that I wasn't happy all the time. It took me a long time to discover that there isn't one person who has it all together. We all have hassles.

Do you ever hear yourself saying, "My parents don't understand me. They never see my side of things." Have you tried looking through your parents' eyes? By this I mean, have you tried looking at situations from your parents' point of view?

In high school when my parents told me that I couldn't do something, it was easy for me to get mad and go to my room. I'd lock myself up in my own world, obviously feeling very sorry for myself. In talking about controversies between your parents and you, your parents will understand you better, and you'll understand your parents better.

Take a little time to be sensitive to your mom's or dad's feelings. You might be surprised at the result. Being considerate of your parents will also result in your parents being more considerate of you.

Barriers are often created in a family by rules. Why do you suppose rules are set up by your folks? Are the rules that are placed on you too strict, too lenient, or just right? Rules are guidelines to teach you to live better and be responsible to society.

The setting up of rules should be a



Dixie Potratz with her father.

joint effort between your parents and you. Along with the rules should come communication. There needs to be understanding on both sides. Your teen years are hard for your parents just as they are hard for you.

If the communication lines with your parents are open, it is easier to build trust. For me, the more my parents trusted me, the more freedom they gave me. It was crucial though, that I didn't get the freedom before I could handle the responsibility of it. After thinking about the demands that your parents make on you, think about the demands that you place on your parents.

When I lived at home, I used to volunteer my folks for projects, or I would continually ask them to do things for me. Such as, "Dad, will you fix this necklace, I have to wear it tonight. He'll be here to get me in ten minutes." Or, "Mom, I have to provide the food tonight for BYF. Will you bake something quick?"

Don't get me wrong—parents usually love doing things for you, but I think we do take advantage of our folks at times.

Getting along with your parents is not an easy job because it only happens if your parents and you are willing to work at it. It is not too late to break down the barriers that might be between your parents and you. If you have a good relationship with your parents, I hope this article will have given you pointers on how to make the relationship stronger.

Right now, thank the Lord for your parents and pray for a better relationship with them. □



Prayer Makes The Difference

by Freda Reddig, Cathay, ND, former W.M.U. president



Having been brought up in a parsonage, prayer has always been a vital part of my life—from the earliest “Abba, lieber Vater, Amen” learned at my mother’s knee. However, it wasn’t until I was entirely on my own that I really came to know my Lord in a completely personal way.

My teaching career began in a one-room country school with 17 pupils in eight grades. One of my first graders was a charming little Indian boy who couldn’t speak a word of English but could swear like a trooper—in German. Two boys in the seventh grade rolled their own cigarettes (until I found where they hid their supplies), and one pupil was actually older than I. Like Lincoln, I was driven to my knees because there was no other place to go. My two years of college training supposedly prepared me to teach in elementary town schools but taught me little about coping with the multiple problems of running a rural school with eight grades. Imagine the lesson plans required! We lacked even basically essential textbooks, and workbooks were non-existent. I cut pictures from Sears Roebuck catalogs to make number cards and reading seat work. I

lived right in the school room (no one had a spare room for the school mar’*m*), slept on an army cot, cooked meals on a one-burner kerosene stove and kept warm huddled near a pot-bellied coal stove when the temperature dropped below zero. Any wonder that I was driven to my knees? I rose early to read my Bible, and it was there I learned to talk with God as my personal Friend. How precious those early morning trysts became! Never could I have faced the bewildering demands of each day without my Friend beside me, helping and inspiring me.

Since that youthful, maturing experience, my life has been varied and rich beyond measure. I’m still an early riser, often jogging a mile before breakfast. It’s my favorite time to talk with God. In the summer time, sitting on the back step as the sun peeps over the horizon, with the birds warbling their praise to their Maker, I find a special nearness to my Lord as I pour out my heart to him. How precious the assurance that no matter what the day may bring, he’s only a prayer away! It makes all of life beautiful and meaningful to have his peace my daily portion. Prayer makes the difference. □



UP the Stairway

by Dorene Walth, W.M.U. president, Bismarck, ND

In my teaching I make it a practice to raise a student’s grades if he corrects his mistakes. Even though he cannot receive “full credit,” his grade average is improved.

I’m glad God doesn’t grade me that way! His ways are not my ways. When I sin and do not measure up to his supreme standards, I merely go to him and confess my sins and shortcomings. He lovingly forgives me and presents me with a perfectly clean record.

Most times, I can’t begin to correct my mistakes. But that’s okay. If I’ve truly repented and if my attitude is right, he can even turn my blunders into blessings!

How thankful I am that God doesn’t give me the F’s I deserve. I should have

had F’s today for failing to call on that sick one he brought to my mind, for being short tempered with my son when he needed me to help him work through his own frustration of the moment, for failing to forgive that church member who, I know, didn’t mean to offend me, for not taking time in the Scriptures and with him in prayer this morning before I began my “rat race” day, for failing to pray at 3:00 p.m. as I promised someone I would.

Through Jesus Christ, I was able to confess these failures to God and receive forgiveness. His cleansing power has taught me many lessons again today. I have a perfect report card, and I’m on his “honor roll,” not because I earned good grades, but because I claim Christ’s righteousness.

“If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness” (1 John 1:9). □

God’s Perfect Timing

by Eleanor Rich, Portland, OR

(Editor’s note: Eleanor Rich, a 77-year young grandmother affectionately known as Gran-Gran, went to Peru three different times. She was there for five years from 1968 to 1973 and served as a short-term assistant for the Wycliffe Bible Translators.)

I believe in prayer because I experience God’s faithfulness when I come into his presence with a pure heart sprinkled with Christ’s blood (Heb. 10:22).

Reminiscing of last year’s experiences in Peru, South America, I only stand in amazement at the way God led in all instances. His timing was more than I could have thought to ask for. First of all, he led me back to Wycliffe’s mission field—out into the jungles where my son, Rolland, and his wife, Furne, are working on the translation for their Arabela Indian tribe. All linguists live at the Center at Yarinacocha working on translating the Word of God into their tribal language. Rol and Furne stayed with these Indians many summers to learn what their language meant. This is what all linguists need to do for the tribe to which they are assigned.

Last year Rolland and Furne were asked to help with public relations in Lima, Peru, the city where the government offices are. Their children were still in school and someone needed to stay with them, so Rol called me to come and help. Since I was familiar with jungle living, having lived in Peru at the Center previously, God worked



Left to right: Rolland, Furne, Brenda, “Gran-Gran,” Martin with Gary in front.

another time miracle; and in two weeks I was in the jungle at my son’s home. Passport, medical permission, tickets and getting necessary clothes ready—all worked out in God’s perfect timing. My verse for plane flying is Psalm 139:9-10. I relax and enjoy the flight because he never leaves us.

The day Rol and Furne left for public relations work in Lima, their fine young Arabela spiritual leader, Alfredo, his young wife and baby came to Rol’s home to be with me and two other guests already there. This made eight around the table three times a day. Since I knew how to do the shopping, all went well. God again provided strength and joy as I served him in this way.

When school terminated in May, 1975, the neighbors needed to take their oldest child to the States to enroll her in college. This left the remaining three children without anyone to stay with them. I offered to do this since no children are permitted to be alone at night without an adult being with them. This too was the Lord’s timing! These were well-trained children; they had their work assignments and did them without any reminding. In the forenoon I still helped in the nursery. My age children were the “Diaper Brigade,” the wee ones and up to two years. Such darlings help to keep an elderly person from getting sour. All mothers have morning work so helping in the nursery freed them to do their important assignments. Again, God’s provision!

The day the neighbors returned from the States to stay with their three children, I was called to Lima because my daughter-in-law, Furne, had typhoid fever. By the next evening I was there to help and do what I could. Their oldest child, Marty, was leaving to go to Germany to Bible school; Rolland had to go to the Center as he was to direct the executive group; this left me with Furne. After a few days, things began getting better. God really undertook on her behalf; this timing was his doing, as I could not have left the three children if their parents had not returned from the States at that specific time. Praise the Lord!

After two weeks I again flew to the Center and took up my nursery duties. Because the Lima Christmas vacation time is different from the States, I again needed to go to Lima to be with my grandchildren. This made the sixth time I crossed the Andes Mountains last summer. I thought I would soon be going home to Oregon, but God worked another miracle! His timing was so very evident in the decision to stay over Christmas.

Now, after staying with my children in the States for a period of about seven months, the Lord did something I would not have dared to ask of him. A trailer (which I call my “Haven”) right next to the new Bethany Baptist Church was vacant, and I could move into it. This was definitely from the Lord. I can attend all meetings of the church without a car, another answered prayer.

I heard the following quote on the radio: “The greatest power on earth is prayer.” I say “Amen” to this and know from experience that it is true. Because of his great love, I happily share how God’s perfect timing worked for me. □

Prayer Concern

by Ouanda Walton, Paul, ID

Thursday afternoon at 4:00 p.m. is a very special time for boys and girls at the Paul Labor Camp in Paul, ID. The children come from the homes of migrant workers. Each Thursday the children gather at the home of Minerva and her four daughters to sing songs of Jesus, learn Bible verses and listen to Bible lessons. Many precious children have invited Jesus into their lives and want to grow in him.

This ministry began in the summer of 1976 when a few mothers, who saw the need of reaching the boys and girls for Jesus, went from house to house in the labor camp and left Spanish speaking material prepared by Gospel Recordings. Mr. and Mrs. Roscoe Acock of Rupert, ID, had made it possible to get the unique material, records and cardboard players that are operated by pencils. It was important to let the parents know what would be taught to their

Ouanda Walton, far left, and the children.



children, and the records were an ideal way, not only to inform, but to share the loving Word.

The children all speak and understand English, so it is not difficult for the teachers (who speak only English) to deal with them.

In the summer and early fall, the classes are taught on the lawns. It is possible to run races and play games with the children, the mothers seem to greatly appreciate this. When the weather no longer permits outdoor classes, Minerva welcomes the class into her home.

One little boy, after being told how much Jesus had done for him by dying on the cross, raised his hand to come forward and speak with the teacher. In counseling the boy, the teacher asked

(Continued on page 31)

Baptist Women’s Continental Assembly

by LaVerna Mehlhaff, women’s work director



Plan now to join the many women who will be heading south October 12-15, 1977, to attend the North American Baptist Women’s Union Continental Assembly. These days have been set aside for us to meet with God to experience spiritual growth as we sing, listen, pray and study together.

One of our guest speakers will be Mrs. Evelyn Christenson, the author of *What Happens When Women Pray*. She will also lead one of the eight workshop sessions. We will have the privilege of hearing outstanding Bible teachers and specially gifted musicians; we will enjoy times of fellowship with the many who will be attending from all parts of the continent. In addition, we will have the opportunity of attending workshop sessions to help us become better acquainted with the needs of the “Woman of Today” and how to more effectively plan to meet those needs through women’s work in our churches.

We shall also have the opportunity to become acquainted with the Christians who are faithfully spreading the Good News of salvation on the Islands. You will find the Bahamians to be delightful people.

Join us in prayer for these special meetings, so that all who have the privilege of attending might experience spiritual growth. □



REACH OUT and TOUCH

by Henry G. Ramus

Reaching out to touch people for Christ is a biblical concept and a church-centered task. The church is God's agency for using human effort in reaching people for himself. Evangelism is God's business, and God uses people to accomplish it. The Apostle Paul confesses to this amazing work of God through people in these words: "I will venture to speak of those things alone in which I have been Christ's instrument to bring the Gentiles into his allegiance, by word and deed, by the force of miraculous signs and by the power of the Holy Spirit (Romans 15:18, 19 N.E.B.). Paul felt keenly his calling to be Christ's instrument in bringing people to God. The Church of Jesus Christ should feel keenly that calling, too.

People-reaching action should be encouraged and enhanced by every church. However, the emphasis on "reaching people" is not just to gain numerical successes for our church records. The focus should be to reach people for Christ with a view to bringing unsaved and unchurched persons under the influence of the gospel, and then continue to help them "grow in the grace and knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ."

The Apostle Paul further described the divine outreach assignment given to every church in these personal words: "So, naturally, we proclaim Christ! We warn everyone we meet, and we teach everyone we can all that we know about him so that, if possible, we may bring every man up to his full maturity in Christ Jesus. This is what I am working at all the time with all the strength that God gives me" (Col 1:28-29, Phillips). What a commitment to reach out to touch people for Christ.

Last Fall, 27 of our churches reported their participation in that kind of commitment. It was the North American Baptist Sunday School Enlargement

The Rev. Henry Ramus, leadership education director, Church Ministries Department, North American Baptist Conference.

Campaign for the seven Sunday period, Sept. 26-Nov. 7, 1976, under the theme "Reach Out and Touch." The highest achieving church, the Bernal Road Baptist Church of San Jose, CA, reported an attendance gain of 294%. This was four times higher than their average attendance the previous year, according to the report of the pastor, the Rev. Aaron Buhler. Of course, this is a very young church with only two years of history behind them and much growing potential before them.

The second highest church which achieved 57% increase in attendance was another young church, the Hollyview Baptist Church in Boring, OR, where the Rev. Larry Neufeld is the pastor. The superintendent, Mrs. Sally Neufeld writes:

"One factor that increased our attendance was a move into our new church building last January (1976). We have also grown this Fall during our contest. We used the "Reach Out and Touch" material and integrated it into a contest. There were prizes at each class level including the adults. One sought after prize was a ride in a private airplane owned by a church member. On the "Reach Out and Touch in Your Community" week, we passed out brochures in our community. Our children also passed out invitations to Sunday school when they went trick or treating."

The third highest achievement in Class A was the Hillside Baptist Church, Dickinson, ND, where the Rev. G. Wesley Blackburn is the pastor. They experienced a gain of 38% in attendance for the campaign period. The superintendent, Mrs. Walter Klempel, reports:

"We had visitation on Saturday morning and Monday evening. The last two Sundays of our expansion campaign we started our bus ministry. We praise the Lord for our increase in attendance and covet your prayers for the future."

The recognition of the results was based on the percentage increase in attendance of the 1976 campaign period over the comparable time in 1975. There were three categories of achievement, based on enrollment at the beginning of the campaign, namely, Class A: up to 124

Class B: 125-249

Class C: 250 and up

To the top Sunday school in each category would be sent a special recognition citation, and the top three in each category were to be featured in the BAPTIST HERALD. The campaign

was open to all Sunday schools of the North American Baptist Conference churches, having been in existence one year or more. In order to be entered in the conference campaign, the attendance figures had to be reported for the seven Sundays specified, namely Sept. 26 through Nov. 7, 1976. The report of the results had to be in the conference office by Dec. 1, 1976, deadline.

The highest achievement in Class B, of those who reported, was Pineland Baptist Church of Burlington, ON, where the Rev. Walter Kerber is the pastor, with 15% increase. The superintendent, Mrs. Karen Grenz, reported how they did it, as follows:

"Divide large classes—the smaller groups grow faster. Children love contests—gave helicopter ride for bringing friends. Adults have been giving great effort in sending letters, cards, phoning and personal calls. In November we were consistently running above 250 because of the growth in adult department."

The second highest achievement in Class B was accomplished by South Canyon Baptist Church of Rapid City, SD, where the Rev. Elmo Tahran is pastor. Mrs. Gladys Beusch, the superintendent, reported a 13.4% increase in attendance, and writes:

"Our church has many people attending who are transient. We have an Air Base and colleges located here. Two weeks before this Sunday School Campaign began, we started a church visitation program. We visited the homes of boys and girls who had attended Bible school and also new people who had visited our church and signed "guest cards" we have in the pews. We also encouraged each Sunday school teacher to get in touch with their students who had not been attending regularly."

The third highest percentage increase in Class B was 6.5% achieved by Glencullen Baptist Church in Portland, OR, where the Rev. Ted Keck is pastor and Al McLain the superintendent. It is interesting to note that all the churches mentioned so far as having achieved recognition are all currently or have been Church Extension churches. Are these the only churches growing in our Conference? We need to hear from many more who did not report.

There were no achievements reported for category C, those Sunday schools with enrollment above 250. The small and young churches of our Conference might be asking, "Big churches, what are you doing in outreach?" They might further be saying: "Give us small and young churches some targets of achievement to work toward. Be our example, or at least work with us for Conference growth." Only two churches reported

under Class C, and each experienced a loss in attendance.

Some Sunday schools had increase without too much reported involvement. "No special effort, other than invitation" was recorded on one report. Yet they had a 26% increase in attendance. Another wrote:

"In a rural area, the increased attendance is through quite a spontaneous response. There wasn't what we would call a real concentrated effort on outreach, but there was an increase. Praise the Lord."

This Sunday school achieved a wholesome 23% increase in attendance.

For others it meant hard work and much prayer. The Fleischmann Memorial Baptist Church of Philadelphia, PA, where the Rev. James Correnti is the pastor and Mr. George Steinbronn, Sr. the superintendent, achieved 22.4% increase in attendance. They reported:

"The two chief factors in our increase were, simply, hard work and prayer. The Sunday school teachers were excited and unified as we planned together, and consistent in carrying out weekly follow-up and lessons. We also emphasized prayer from the beginning; many in the congregation signed a list posted on the bulletin board indicating their commitment to daily prayer. To make the community aware that something was happening at Fleischmann, we had a beautiful poster over the front door of the church. To keep the church aware of our progress, we had a rocket headed toward a moon in our Sunday school room, with a rocket-moving ceremony each week. Children also received a prize for each new friend they brought into class."

The superintendent, Mrs. Adalene Dockter of the Brook Park Baptist Church, Minneapolis, MN, where the Rev. Anthony Guenther is pastor, reported their efforts which achieved a 13% increase in attendance as follows:

"We prayed a lot. 30 people had perfect attendance. Invited friends. Provided rides. Planned for a victory spaghetti dinner for Sunday November 7 which helped us think victory all the way. This is being followed by a week of deeper life meetings with the Rev. Don McKaughan of Alhambra, CA. Just a little improvement over last year. Praise the Lord!"

One Sunday school reported making efforts to cross cultural lines in their ministry of outreach. The Milo Terrace Baptist Church of Los Angeles, CA, wrote:

"Our emphasis this year was an outreach to our Spanish speaking community. A Spanish intern has been helping us to reach into our neighborhood more effectively."

Others moved forward into the program with expectant attitudes and achieved good results as well. One church reported: "We may not win a citation, but we were glad to see an increase over that of a year ago. We'll be better acquainted with this next year." They achieved 20% increase in attendance.

To stimulate interest, some had a competitive campaign among the churches of their association. Still others competed with their neighboring city church. That's the idea! Working toward a goal to be reached brings results. Goal orientation, planning and working to accomplish that goal is a strong stimulant to achievement. It was also a prominent characteristic of the reporting churches of this Sunday School Enlargement Campaign. The results of increased gain in attendance was evident wherever that characteristic was present.

What about growth in your Sunday school? It should happen, and it can! As long as the Sunday school teaches the Bible to others, it needs to reach out to touch people for Christ. For it is a

biblical concept and a Christ-commissioned task. The next Sunday School Enlargement Campaign is scheduled for September 25 through November 6, 1977. Make plans now to reach out and touch people for Christ through your Sunday school.

Let your enlargement emphasis lead to an experience of renewal and revitalization. Know that it will be renewed and revitalized churches that will be growing churches as well. After much prayer, plan and work, choose measurable, attainable, realistic goals that will indicate what you believe God wants you to accomplish. Exercise a faith which believes God can and will do the unexpected and the extraordinary. Then commit yourself to further planning and follow-through, establishing the right priorities and procedures.

In the midst of it all, be open to the Spirit's power and his directives. Recognize the sovereignty of God, be obedient to the Lordship of Christ, and follow the guidance of the Holy Spirit. Remember, outreach evangelism is a work of God, and he uses people to accomplish it. □

1976 FALL SUNDAY SCHOOL ENLARGEMENT CAMPAIGN RESULTS

(The top 3 churches in each category that achieved recognition for the greatest percentage gain over the preceding year in Sunday school attendance.)

CLASS A (enrollment up to 124)

1st	Bernal Road Baptist Church San Jose, California Rev. Aaron Buhler	Northern California Association	294%
		Milton Schmierer, superintendent	
2nd	Hollyview Baptist Church Boring, Oregon Rev. Larry Neufeld	Oregon-Idaho Association	57%
		Mrs. Sally Neufeld, superintendent	
3rd	Hillside Baptist Church Dickinson, North Dakota Rev. G. Wesley Blackburn	Central Dakota-Montana Association	38%
		Mrs. Walter Klempel, superintendent	

CLASS B (enrollment 125 to 249)

1st	Pineland Baptist Church Burlington, Ontario, Canada Rev. Walter Kerber	Eastern Association	15%
		Mrs. Karen Grenz, superintendent	
2nd	South Canyon Baptist Church Rapid City, South Dakota Rev. Elmo Tahran	South Dakota Association	13%
		Mrs. Gladys Beusch, superintendent	
3rd	Glencullen Baptist Church Portland, Oregon Rev. Ted Keck	Oregon-Idaho Association	6%
		Al McLain, superintendent	

CLASS C (enrollment 250 and up)

No achievements reported for Class C. Only two churches reported under this category, and each experienced a loss in attendance.

An Experienced Pastor Moves To Overseas Service



by Fred C. Folkerts

Pastor Ray and Mrs. (Esther) Hoffman arrived in Cameroon as missionaries on Nov. 10, 1976. They were appointed for overseas missionary service in April by the Board of Missions after serving three North American Baptist churches as pastor and wife since 1961. Their most recent pastorate was the Salt Creek Baptist Church, Dallas, OR.

Their Call

The Hoffman's move to overseas missionary work is a fascinating story of the Lord's guidance in their lives, and Ray describes it in a letter from the mission field:

"Missions has always been an important part of our lives. Our parents always wholeheartedly supported missions, and so have Esther and I since our marriage. The desire for mission-

The Rev. Fred C. Folkerts is associate secretary for overseas missions of the North American Baptist General Missionary Society.

ary service began to develop during my seminary days and slowly increased as we related to missionaries who returned from the field. Both Esther and I have always tried to be open to the Lord's leading, and we have never regretted the decisions we have made under his leading. There comes a time when he puts it all together, and this is what he has done for us this past year. One of the most often asked questions in recent months has been 'why?' Why would we leave a well established, growing church in beautiful surroundings and go to a land where living standards are so much lower and where there is always the danger of an uprising? The only answer we have had is that without any doubt on our part, this is where the Lord is leading us. In our day by day experience this past year, he has shown us again and again that for the present this is where he would have us to serve."

Their Preparation

The Rev. Raymond Hoffman was born on Aug. 20, 1924, in Eureka, SD, as the third son of Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Hoffman. His parents were life-long supporters of our North American Baptist missions. Ray accepted Christ as his personal Savior at the age of 13 and was baptized sometime later. He joined the First Baptist Church of Eureka at the age of 14. It was at a consecration service at a summer camp that he first sensed the call to the ministry at about 17 years of age.

After completion of his high school training, Mr. Hoffman attended University of North Dakota and completed a Bachelor of Science degree in 1960. He attended North American Baptist Seminary from 1960 to 1964 and earned the Bachelor of Divinity degree. He was ordained into the gospel ministry in 1964 by the Ashley Baptist Church, Ashley, ND.

After completion of high school, Ray moved to a farm and met Miss Esther Fischer, who taught school in the neighborhood. On June 3, 1947, they were married. Rev. and Mrs. Hoffman have two children, a son Dennis, who is a graduate of North American Baptist Seminary and serving as a pastor in one of our N.A.B. churches, and a daughter, Lois, who is presently in college.

Mrs. Esther Hoffman was born on Aug. 13, 1923, in McPherson County, SD, as the youngest of four children to Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Fischer. Her parents were strong supporters of North American Baptist missions. Mrs. Hoffman completed her high school in Ashley, ND, and completed her Bachelor of Science degree in Elementary Education in 1942 from University of North Da-

kota. She taught in South and North Dakota in the elementary grades from 1943 through 1970.

Mrs. Hoffman was born into a Christian home and accepted Christ as her Savior when she was nine years old. She was baptized soon after that and became a member of the Ashley Baptist Church.

Their Service

Continuing in his recent letter from the field, Ray gives a sketch of their new work in the coastal area of Victoria, Cameroon:

"Our stay here has been much too brief to give an accurate evaluation of the work here in Cameroon. My work is to be the area coordinator for the Victoria and Soppo Fields. My task is to work closely with the field pastor and relate to the local pastors and the local churches. There is a constant need to strengthen the area of evangelism among the pastors and the people in the churches. Somehow, the churches have not grasped the meaning of Christian stewardship, and one of the pressing concerns expressed by the few pastors I have met so far is in the area of finances within the local church. I wish the people in our churches at home could also see how costly it is to carry on a work here on the field. Just the maintaining of the mission vehicles is tremendously expensive. These vehicles take such a beating on most of these roads. Some of the vehicles will need to be replaced soon and that will be very costly. Our missionaries in the past have worked well and hard in establishing our work here, and our present missionaries are also hard working people. There is a need for opening new areas but also a constant need to strengthen the work already started over the years. The Christians we have met have expressed a warm welcome for us and are eager to have us here."

Their Prayer Request

"Esther and I are glad to be a part of our North American Baptist mission program and appreciate the opportunity of being a part and co-laborers with all of you. As time progresses, we will be in a better position to keep you informed as to the trends and happenings here on the field. We are not experiencing any particular difficulties adjusting to the climate or the surroundings and pray that the Lord will continue to give us good health and strength to carry out the work to which he has called us. We know that you will continue to pray for us as we do for you." □

insight into christian education

BACKYARD BIBLE SCHOOL

Take vacation Bible school to the children, right where they are in their own neighborhood. Many younger children, or those who do not attend church, may feel more comfortable in the familiar surroundings of a neighbor's yard than at the church or at a day camp site. A backyard school provides excellent opportunities for neighborhood outreach and evangelism. Also, both children and teachers enjoy learning about God in an informal, natural setting. Bible schools in a home setting provide a solution to transportation problems and possible inadequate church facilities. These schools allow for increased flexibility as to time schedule when fewer adults are involved. Many churches and individuals find these Bible schools are both fun and productive in ministering to children.

Facilities

Choose "casually" landscaped yards with enough space for two or three small groups to work at the same time. A grassy spot for games and a shaded area are important. Swimming pools, fish ponds, dogs and other pets and destructible plantings need to be out of reach.

Water and toilet facilities should be easily accessible. The house interior should be considered "off limits" except for toilet facilities. Tables and chairs are helpful but not essential. Have children sit on the grass or a blanket; use magazines or cardboard for lap desks.

When you and your committee select yards for Bible school, consider areas where you have a concentration of church families. Plan to have one age-group department at each home—all kindergartners in one backyard. Or, if necessary, all preschool children (pre-kindergarten and kindergarten together) can be in one yard, and all early elementary age (primary, middler) in another yard.

Another way of grouping is to have ungraded schools in widespread neigh-

Reprinted from *How to Plan & Organize Year-Round Bible Ministries* by Margaret M. Self. Copyright 1976 by G/L Publications, Glendale, CA 91209. Used by permission.

borhoods. Plan so that children are grouped by age for small group Bible study activities. The size of the yard will largely determine the size and grouping of each backyard school.

The Children

Ten to fifteen children can work comfortably in most backyards. A very large yard may accommodate up to twenty children. Ages of children should be limited to four years through fourth grade (the most recently completed grade). Older children are better served through other Bible ministries.

Canvass your neighborhood and church for children ages four through the fourth grade. Talk personally to parents, informing them of your plans, calendar dates and the time for arrival and departure each day. While some children from your church will attend, you will likely have a majority of non-church neighborhood children.

Preregister as many children as possible so you can adequately plan for age-level needs. Divide children into age-level classes of equal size such as, four- and five-year-olds, first and second graders, and third and fourth graders. Assign one teacher to each class group.

Establish basic guidelines for acceptable behavior. Make rules simple; give careful instructions the first day. Inform children of boundaries, off-limit areas and use of equipment and materials. Keep your expectations for their behavior realistic.

The Teaching Team

There are three major areas of responsibility in backyard schools. These tasks are assigned to the leader, the teachers and the hostess.

The **leader** directs all large group sessions and assists teachers during small group activities. She is responsible for all organizational matters and planning.

One **teacher** is needed for each six to eight children (use smaller number if your group is predominantly four- to six-year-olds). Assign each teacher one age-level class group for the duration of the school.

The **hostess** is usually the one who has opened her home and yard. She is responsible for welcoming children, pre-

paring and serving refreshments and caring for individual needs (comforting crying child, providing first aid, assisting children to rest rooms, etc.).

Additional staff can include a recreation leader and a baby-sitter. Young people are effective in these areas. Workers with children under age four appreciate a babysitter who can care for their children in the house while they are involved in teaching.

Dates and Schedule

Because backyard schools involve small groups, setting the dates for the school is simpler than for large programs. The time need only be convenient for hostess, teachers and children's school attendance. Even when one church schedules many backyard schools, they need not all be in session simultaneously.

Allow two and one-half to three hours for each daily session. Consider morning for these sessions, for both the weather and the children are fresh.

Backyard Bible school can follow the VBS schedule suggested in teachers' books. It isn't necessary to have a closing program. Instead, plan an early evening open house as an opportunity to bring families together to share the experiences of the school and see the learning activities and completed activity crafts.

The Curriculum

The greatest challenge in a backyard school results from the variety of children's ages. Making appropriate adaptations in your teaching materials is an essential first step to children's effective learning. A practical approach is to use a Primary VBS course with the following adaptations:

1. Follow the basic time schedule suggested; however, shorten large group times to accommodate younger children's brief attention span.

2. Conduct all small group activities by age-level (early childhood) and grade-level (children and youth). When choices are suggested in the teacher's manual, select the activity most appropriate for each age group. For example: activities suggested for one day may be painting, frieze and song chart. After reading the activity instructions, you may find the four- and five-year-olds capable only of the painting project. First and second graders can easily work on the frieze. Assign the song chart to the third and fourth graders (because of their reading abilities). On subsequent days, repeat an activity fours and fives especially enjoyed (for increased learning and enjoyment) as other age groups continue work on their projects.

(Continued on page 31)

WE AS NORTH AMERICAN BAPTISTS...

by John Ziegler

... HOLD TO THE FORM OF BELIEVERS' BAPTISM BY IMMERSION

"There ain't no Baptist Church gonna grow," so said a discouraged Baptist. On further inquiry, it became obvious that the physical act of baptism was the chief barrier to growth in the mind of this individual. One can only speculate as to how widespread this attitude is. Those holding it have a variety of reasons ranging from the ecumenical argument to questioning the biblical basis of this historical theological position of Baptists. For this reason alone, it is appropriate to re-think our position regarding baptism and renew our dedication to the biblical teachings regarding this issue.

The preamble of the constitution of the North American Baptist Conference states, in part, "We, as *New Testament* Baptists, affirm our faith in the Lord Jesus Christ for our salvation and believe in those *great distinctive principles* for which Baptists have lived and died, such as: . . . 6. Believer's baptism by immersion;" (italics are mine).

To document the historical Baptist position on baptism, I quote from the New Hampshire Confession as printed in Hiscox's *The New Directory for Baptist Churches*: "XV Christian Baptism. We believe the Scriptures teach that Christian baptism is the immersion in water of

a believer in Christ, into the name of the Father, and Son, and Holy Ghost; *to show forth*, in a solemn and beautiful emblem, *our faith* in the crucified, buried, and risen Savior, *with its effect*, in our death to sin and resurrection to a new life; that it is a prerequisite to the privileges of a church relation, and to the Lord's Supper." Here the confession quotes a series of Scripture passages to document each statement of the confession. Generally, Baptists have appealed to the New Hampshire Confession as the standard of Baptist doctrine.

The concern of this article is to speak to the attitude that baptism by immersion is a man-made tradition. The continued usage of immersion as the mode of baptism is not merely a stubborn insistence upon a relatively unimportant detail of practice. It is seen by some to constitute a minor doctrinal issue: they think Baptists should approach other forms of baptism with a tolerant attitude of acceptance.

The Baptist position is one that was formulated out of a concentrated, prayerful, spirit-guided, study of the Bible—our sole rule for faith and practice. This article will not be an attempt to rehearse the biblical references; yet it is important that we review selected passages to see anew the emphatic impact of the act of baptism.

Matthew 28:19, 20 is the authoritative command of Christ to his fol-

lowers. It begins with "Go therefore and disciple all the nations" (literal translation). Discipling is helping people, by faith and personal choice of commitment, to become followers of Christ. This is the decision making, initial act of personal response to the person of Christ. But the work of grace is never complete with the initial decision. Therefore the command goes on to say, "Baptizing them. . . ." The word, properly translated, means "immerse" or "dip." All scholars of the original language agree to this. But the emphasis here is not so much the mode of baptism, which surely is immersion, but on carrying on the work of grace by a *public confession of faith* in baptism. This is the logical step following a decision for salvation: to give a personal testimony of faith (conforming splendidly to Romans 6:3-6). Note also that the work of grace follows with "teaching them to observe all things whatever I have commanded you." If the sequence is intentional here, it must say that delaying baptism after conversion until lengthy teaching has been completed is not the biblical order.

Matthew 3:13 ff (and its parallel passages) contains the story of Jesus' baptism by John the Baptist. Again the word *Baptistheis* must be translated "immersed," and the graphic description "went up from the water" (the Jordan River) denotes the mode of immersion. The follower of the Master surely will

find joy in a detailed obedience even as to the mode of baptism.

But once again pay attention to the rationale of the act ". . . for thus it is fitting to fulfill all righteousness." How can this in fact be accomplished other than by a public testimony that is physically observable? A righteous man must be consistently obedient. Is it surprising that such obedience called forth a public testimony of approval by the Father when he said, "this is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased"? Why should we fail to encourage people to be quick to give public witness to their faith? Why rob them of the exquisite pleasure of pleasing God? Small wonder that I have never had the experience of baptizing one single person who was not blessed by the experience. Everyone I have ever baptized shared with me his rich joy in this beautiful, public witness.

Consider next Acts 2:38: "Repent and let each of you be baptized," which is followed with verse 41: "The ones who welcomed his word were baptized." The word for baptize is always a derivative of *baptizo*, to immerse. But once again, the point of emphasis is on the importance of giving a public, outward witness, baptism, to what has happened in the innermost soul, repentance. Also, the public testimony of those who in their hearts "welcomed his message" was the outward act of immersion. The book of Acts is, almost slavishly, consistent in every description of the conduct of the ordinance of baptism. Interestingly enough, it confirms the Great Command of Matthew 28. First, there is a personal commitment of faith in Christ as Savior in response to the hearing of the good news of salvation in Christ. This is followed by immersion in water of the new believer in a public testimony of per-

sonal faith. This is never reversed! Salvation by faith is the initial experience followed by baptism. Baptism is of a believer only! Baptism is not a part of the salvation experience but a testimony of faith. Read the Bible for yourself, if you need personal confirmation of these facts.

The biblical view is never complete without reference to Romans 6:3-6 and Colossians 3:12-13. These passages graphically describe the beautiful testimony of the faith of the believer. Only immersion can perfectly demonstrate that Jesus Christ became the Savior by dying on the cross to provide forgiveness of sin. Death is followed by burial, the sign of death. But Jesus rose again on the third day. His resurrection was a smashing eternal victory over sin and the grave. His resurrection is the Christian's hope of new life in Christ, abundant life in Christ, and eternal life in Christ. This is "newness of life." The new man is raised from the dead. The wages of sin being death. He is made alive in Christ forever. Baptism tells the world. . . "I believe Jesus Christ, the Son of God, died on the cross for my sin. He was buried and rose again to complete my salvation." It also tells the world, "I was a sinner, condemned to eternal death, but I have been buried with Christ—my sins forgiven, and I have begun a brand new life in Jesus Christ." I have chosen to publicly declare that I am a follower of Jesus Christ. No man can mistake the meaning of this act of baptism. It is my testimony of faith.

Have you caught the emphasis of baptism? It is not an overly developed argument for a specific mode. It is clearly intended to be a personal testimony of faith, a public demonstration of my faith in Jesus Christ, the risen Son of God who is

alive forevermore and who has given me new life in himself. How can any truly believing Christian, in good conscience, argue the validity of giving testimony to his faith, once or many times, in word or in deed? When you love your Lord and believe in him sincerely, the last thing that should stand in your way of sharing your faith is a mode of baptism.

Here is a very practical word especially to pastors. In my twenty years of pastoral experience, I have had just one person refuse to follow the Lord in baptism. His refusal was not on biblical grounds. He clearly saw the biblical concepts of baptism by immersion of the believer. His refusal was admittedly an emotional reaction. However, when discussing baptism with a potential candidate, I simply lead the individual in meticulous Bible study, letting the Bible speak for itself. But I always emphasize the fact that baptism is a testimony of faith. I never argued about the mode of baptism and simply said, "Baptism by immersion is not passing judgment on any other mode. Baptism for you is a public testimony of your faith in Christ. Surely you love him enough to give that witness."

My appeal is to put aside our quibblings and misgivings. Urge believers to be always ready to give witness to their love for Christ and faith in him. Let the world know that you have chosen to follow Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord! □

The North American Baptist Conference is known for its conservative, Bible centered Christian convictions and for its evangelistic zeal.

The Preamble to the Constitution of the Conference states the following "distinctive principles for which Baptists have lived and died" and which North American Baptists affirm:

1. Soul liberty;
2. The inspired authority of the Scriptures in matters of faith and conduct;
3. The separation of Church and State;
4. The Revelation of God through Jesus Christ as only Savior and Lord;
5. Regenerated church membership;
6. Believer's baptism by immersion;
7. The congregational form of church government;
8. The proclamation of the gospel throughout all the world.



CHURCH EXTENSION BUILDERS REPORT

NORTH BISMARCK, ND, CHURCH EXTENSION PROJECT

by Alvin Haas

March 1977

"GOD'S TIMING IS PERFECT" is how many families of Bismarck, ND, feel about Church Extension. For several years, Church Extension in north Bismarck has been discussed by some five to seven families. The growth rate has been tremendous in the past five years; however in the next five years, some six to eight thousand new people are expected in our area; that is why we feel that a witness in north Bismarck is necessary. We feel led to reach the needs of these new people as well as the many already in the city.

Our project really came alive this past year with the help of our local North American Baptist pastor, the Rev. Ron Norman, our North Central Area secretary, the Rev. Clarence Walth, plus sincere interest by several families. We met on a regular basis during the Spring of 1976 and in the summer at the Quiring home in north Bismarck for weekly Bible studies. Through God's leading, we met with the Association Church Extension Committee at which time we were accepted as a Church Extension project; the Bismarck Baptist Church agreed overwhelmingly to become our mother church. Things moved quite rapidly thereafter; the Rev. and Mrs. Don Ganstrom became the Church Extension pastor and wife, Jan. 1, 1977.

Again we saw God's hand move as he revealed to the Ganstroms just "the house" in north Bismarck, with a suitable basement for us to use in weekly meetings. In December, our group started meeting there on Wednesday nights; on a Sunday evening, a group of 47 gathered for a time of fellowship. We trust the Lord will provide a suitable site for us to build a church in this area of Bismarck. On Feb. 6, 1977, we held our first Sunday school and morning worship service in rented facilities at the Ramada Inn in north Bismarck.

The important task before us is to bring Christ to people of this community; even as we acquire land, consider the building project and begin to furnish the edifice, we are seeking God's guidance. We possess only a family Bible; it was appropriate that we acquired a copy of God's Word first. The families involved in this Church Extension project are truly excited about beginning this new work. It is a venture of faith with great anticipation

Mr. Alvin Haas is the moderator of the Church Extension project of north Bismarck, ND.

as to what the Lord has in store for the future of his work in north Bismarck.

We cherish your support and prayers, not just in asking him to provide, but also thanking the Lord for what he has already done. Join us in supporting this work, as we try to present the Word of God, by sending your contributions to North American Baptist Conference, 1 So. 210 Summit, Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181, designated for Bismarck, ND, Church Extension. □



Pastor Don and Verna Ganstrom.

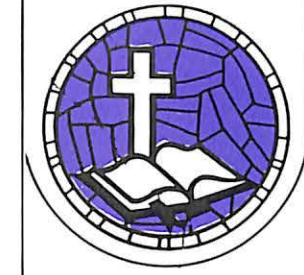


Al Haas, ch., Church Extension Committee, Bismarck Baptist Church (back row, l. to r.); Hillis Adam; Al Quiring, ch., Project Steering Committee; the Rev. Don Ganstrom, pastor, with some of the north Bismarck church extension group.



Some of the Bible study group meeting at Pastor Ganstrom's home.

PERSONAL ESTATE PLANNING



Your Provincial "Will" Primarily for Canadians

by Lawrence G. Bienert

The administration of an estate is difficult even if there is a will, but it is doubly difficult without one. If you die without a will, you are said to have died "intestate." In that case, the provincial government has already made a "will" for you. The disposition of your estate is then governed by the laws of the province in which you are domiciled. It would be very rare and most unlikely that a person would want to distribute his assets as stipulated in the various statutes regarding intestate estates.

Did you know that if a wife and children survive, the widow does not receive the entire estate if there is no will? According to most provincial "wills," she receives the first \$20,000 of an estate (\$10,000 in Saskatchewan, and \$9,000 in Manitoba) plus only 1/3 of the remainder of the estate. The balance is divided among the children. If the children are minors, then special problems arise because their share is put into trusts until they reach the age of majority. All this can work a hardship on the widow.

The courts would appoint your wife as guardian of your children, but as a safeguard she would be required to report to the Probate Court at least every two years and render an accounting of how, why and where she spent the money necessary for the proper care of her children.

As a further safeguard, your wife could be required to produce a performance bond to guarantee that she exercises proper judgment in the handling, investing and spending of the children's money. In some provinces the children would have the right to demand and receive a complete accounting from their mother of all her financial actions with their money as soon as they reach the legal age of nineteen years.

If you don't have a will, and your

The Rev. Lawrence Bienert, Beaverton, OR, is estate planning counselor, Pacific Northwest.

wife predeceases you or dies while any of your children are minors, you have forfeited your right to name a guardian for your children. Therefore, rather than naming a guardian of your preference, you are directing your relatives and friends to get together and select a guardian by mutual agreement. If they fail to agree on a guardian, the Court will then make a selection. The final choice, according to your provincial "will" may not have been your choice.

You also choose to forfeit your right to name an executor to handle your estate, if you neglect to make a will. An executor is a very important individual and should be chosen by you, and chosen with care. He (she) may serve without bond if you so indicate in your will. But an administrator chosen by the Court will have to conform to innumerable legal formalities which can be costly and unwieldy for the settlement of the estate.

Under existing tax laws, there are certain legitimate avenues open to each individual to lower death tax rates. If a person makes no effort to make use of these tax advantages through a properly planned will, then the money you could have saved will go for governmental purposes rather than for the benefit of your wife and children.

There is no way for you to leave any gifts to your church, the North American Baptist College, or to the larger home missions work of North American Baptists, Inc. (Canada), unless you have specifically included such a bequest in your will.

To avoid these problems, it is better to choose one's own heirs and to establish the method of distribution of one's assets. The effectiveness of a will depends on how closely it fits the deceased's circumstances. Since it can be changed from time to time by the testator, it should not be simply drafted and forgotten, but should be periodically revised and adapted to new circumstances as they arise.

A will is an important consideration for you and your family. Making your will is a God-given opportunity for YOU to carry out YOUR wishes.

This article is intended to provide information of a general nature. For specific application of provincial law to individual situations, the services of competent legal counsel should be sought. □

Canadian Gift Annuities

1. Invest your money to help the Lord's work.
2. Derive an income as long as you live.
3. Receive tax benefits.

EXAMPLE: A gift of \$10,000 to North American Baptists, Inc. (Canada) for a single person age 69 provides a 7.9% (\$790.00) annual return. Payments made semi-annually.

EXAMPLE: A gift of \$10,000 to North American Baptists, Inc. (Canada) with a husband age 70 and a wife age 68 provides a 7.6% (\$760.00) annual return. Payments made semi-annually.

DESIGNATIONS for the gift may be made to the North American Baptist College, Home or Overseas Missions, Church Extension, etc.

Please send me a brochure telling more about gift annuities and other opportunities.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Province _____ Postal Code _____

Ages _____

Send to: Rev. Everett Barker, North American Baptist Conference, 1 So. 210 Summit Ave., Oakbrook Terrace, Villa Park, IL 60181. Phone: (312) 495-2000.

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Mr. and Mrs. Phillip Buchholz were recognized by the Terrace Heights Baptist Church, Spokane, WA, and received a plant in celebration of their 67th wedding anniversary on Dec. 19, 1976.

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Alban were recognized by the Terrace Heights Baptist Church, Spokane, WA, and received a plant in celebration of their 61st wedding anniversary on Dec. 19, 1976.

HILDA, AB. The Hilda Baptist Church and Schuler Church of God held a week of special meetings. Professor Willy R. Muller, North American Baptist College, Edmonton, spoke on the different roles and responsibilities of the Christian family in the home and the secular world. Special music for the week was provided by Emmanuel, a gospel singing group from Edmonton. (Marilyn Haag, reporter.)

PORTLAND, OR. Michael Harper recently became the first associate pastor in the history of the Glencullen Baptist Church. Mr. Harper and his wife, Diane, served as leaders of the children's church at Glencullen last year while Michael was completing his studies at the Western Conservative Baptist Seminary, Portland. The children's church grew dramatically under their leadership; many youngsters received Christ as Savior. The Harpers continue to work diligently in the church, with special emphasis on youth work and the Sunday school. They are expecting their own addition to the Sunday school this spring. (Don Hall, reporter.)

ONOWAY, AB. The Onoway Baptist Women's Missionary Society held the Christmas meeting in the newly finished multi-purpose room at the church. Many favorite Christmas Carols were sung led by Mrs. Sonia Turner; Mrs. Lil Albert gave the devotions. "The Light of the World Is Jesus" was the theme of the candlelight program. The highlight of the evening was the sharing time when our prayer partners were revealed. The pioneer Girls held their annual Christmas banquet Dec. 16, to which the girls invite their moms and pals.

Many Onoway residents attended the Christmas Community Choir Festival, Darryl Butler, director, in the Onoway Baptist Church on Dec. 16, 1976.

The Onoway Baptist Church held their annual Christmas program Christmas Eve, with all ages of the Sunday school taking part in the celebration of the birth of Jesus. (Mrs. Bonney Guidinger, reporter.)

CHANCELLOR, SD. The First Baptist Church has much reason to rejoice. On Dec. 5, 1976, two adults and one teenager were baptized by Pastor Ted Faszer. They and five other adults coming by letter of transfer and testimony were extended the hand of fellowship at the Communion service. In November the Board of Christian Education sponsored a workshop for all Sunday school staff and youth workers. Mrs. Doris Borchert, instructor in Christian Education at the N.A.B. Seminary, inspired us with her presentation of teaching methods. On Dec. 19, 1976, the church choir, directed by Pastor Ted Faszer, presented the Christmas cantata "Born A King" by John Peterson. Recent additions to the missionaries we support are the Rev. and Mrs. Douglas Woyke in Japan and the Rev. and Mrs. Richard Kaiser in Brazil. (Ray DeNeui, reporter.)

SAN JOSE, CA. On Nov. 21, 1976, Bernal Road Baptist Church observed its first anniversary in the newly completed building. Pastor Aaron Buhler reported that 106 people have united with the church during this first year, giving a total membership of 122. Participation in the Sunday school enlargement campaign of our Conference resulted in quadrupling attendance over that of a year ago. We will take part in the "Here's Life America" program in March of 1977. (Mrs. Joe Moore, clerk.)

MT. STERLING, MO. The members and pastor of the Pin Oak Baptist Church of Mt. Sterling, MO, have experienced the blessings of the Lord in an unusual way in 1976. Early in November the Rev. Albert Adrian from Kansas conducted revival meetings here. Previous to the meetings, some persons had



been led to the Lord through Bible school, personal visitation, and home influence. Some accepted Christ during these meetings. As a result the pastor, the Rev. Frank Armbruster, had the joy of baptizing ten persons and welcoming them into the membership of the

church. During the summer five adults united with our church by letter. In all, 15 new members were received into our church. The church sanctuary was carpeted; the pews sanded and varnished, and cushions were put on all pews. The basement floor, walls and ceiling were painted. A baptistry will be built as soon as weather permits. (Frank Armbruster, pastor.)

PLEVNA, MT. On Oct. 17, 1976, the Rev. Ron Norman, Bismarck, ND, was with us for our Harvest-Mission Festival. He was speaker for a week of special meetings on the subject of Deeper Living in Christ. The Rev. Walter Hoffman of Sioux Falls, SD, and the Rev. Elmo Tahran, of Rapid City, SD, provided an inspirational time of music and preaching on Nov. 8, 1976. Executive Secretary Dr. Gideon Zimmerman, Oakbrook Terrace, IL, was with us on Nov. 14. The Rev. Richard Lawrenz is our pastor. (Paula Fuchs, reporter.)

EBENEZER, SA. The Ebenezer Baptist Church was privileged to hear several missionaries. Miss Eunice Kern spoke during a Sunday morning service and at the W.M.S. annual program; she showed slides of her work. In November 1976, Dr. and Mrs. W. D. Gutowski spoke and showed slides of their work in Nigeria. A missionary offering was received.

A series of services with a family emphasis was conducted by Bruce Pringle, a professional Christian Counselor. Many individuals and families were led back to God. There were some first-time decisions. The Rev. Wes Andrei is the pastor of the church. (Martha Dreger, reporter.)

ELGIN, IA. On October 17, 1976, two young men, Edwin Jorgenson and Doyle Pleggenkuhle, were baptized by Pastor Ralph Chandler. (Mrs. Leon L. Jacob, clerk.)

BENTON HARBOR, MI. The following are things which we as Napier Parkview Baptist Church enjoyed together recently: The "I found It" campaign found us and is successfully working among us. Our area N.A.B. churches held a combined Thanksgiving Service. God sent "His" Volunteers to us in December, and they were great! Our Christmas cantata was SUPER: "I Believe This Is Jesus" by John Wilson. Our New Year's Eve Service was so meaningful: the supper, the fellowship and testimony time, and especially seeing the New Year in with the Lord's Supper. Beginning a new year we count so many blessings: the membership has

grown; members have grown closer together, and the Lord just keeps on doing great things! (Lois Breikreuz, reporter.)

RIDGEWOOD, NY. Ridgewood Baptist Church's celebration of Christmas commenced Dec. 12, 1976, with the Sunday school program in the afternoon. Earlier that day the Rev. W. Weick, missionary to Japan, brought us an intimate look at some of the people he has reached with the Gospel.

In the evening the choir presented the Candlelight Concert. Early in the year our beloved director, Hilmar Ross, was suddenly called to his heavenly home; this musical evening was dedicated to his memory. Mrs. A. Lamprecht, our pastor's talented wife, has become the new director. Pastoral readings from Luke were interspersed with choral renditions. The Rev. Alphonz Lamprecht spoke words of tribute honoring Hilmar Ross and his more than 45 years of dedicated leadership. (Marion von Ahnen, reporter.)

WILSONVILLE, OR. Stafford Baptist Church welcomed the new pastor, Dennis E. Angell, and his family at a potluck dinner on Dec. 12, 1976. Mr. Angell is a 1972 graduate of Multnomah School of the Bible, Portland, OR. He began attending Stafford Baptist Church and Sunday school when he was in first grade in 1948. His wife, Laurie, has been a member of the church since 1960. They were married in 1963 at Stafford Baptist Church. They have six children: James, Kimberley, Theodore, Anthony, Elizabeth, and Kristina; all of whom were dedicated to the Lord at our church. Both Dennis and Laurie were baptized at our church as were their two oldest children, Jim and Kim. (Karen Mitchell, reporter.)

VALLEYVIEW, AB. Emmanuel Baptist Church has improved the Sunday school program and has extended the outreach through the use of a bus. An average of thirty or more youngsters previously not attending any Sunday school now attend, and our Sunday school attendance is over one hundred. It has also improved the attendance of other Sunday schools in town.

During the fall of 1976 we held our first missionary rally. Sunday school classes set up booths representing the many areas of our North American Baptist missions. We were blessed by the ministries of our two missionaries, Miss Eunice Kern, Cameroon, and the Rev. Fred Moore, Japan, and the multi-media film, "Heritage for a Worthy Future," shown by the Rev. John Binder, secretary of stewardship and

communications. Our children and many adults had never previously experienced this type of rally and presentation. Missions became REAL to us. Our attendance for these three evenings was tremendous. (Bertha Reichert, reporter.)

GETZVILLE, NY. Bethel Baptist Church is a growing church. A baptism and church membership class was held



in the fall of 1976. On Nov. 7, 1976, eighteen candidates (pictured) were baptized. We rejoice in God's goodness. (Larry E. Burd, pastor.)

SPOKANE, WA. Terrace Heights Baptist was one of many Spokane churches participating in the "Here's Life" campaign Nov. 15—Dec. 3. It was an enriching and spiritually rewarding experience for each of us who took the training course and were able to witness and share Christ with others.

Our annual women's combined Christmas meeting was held at the home of Mrs. Leland Friesen. After a time of Christmas carols and devotions, a silent auction was held. A variety of baked goods, canned items, crafts, and plants were brought; each item went silently to the highest bidder as indicated by name and amount under each item. All proceeds went toward our Women's N.A.B. Mission project. A special Happy Birthday was sung to Mrs. Phillip Buchholz on her 86th birthday. The Rev. Leland Friesen is pastor of our church. (Mrs. Dee Rueb, reporter.)

ANAHEIM, CA. Magnolia Baptist Church observed its Twentieth Anniversary in 1976. It has been a wonderful year of ministry and blessings as we have closed two decades in the Lord's service. The Anniversary Bible Conference in September was led by former pastors and members: Dr. Kenneth Fischer, the Rev. Loren Fischer, the Rev. Earl Broce, the Rev. Wayne Bibelheimer, the Rev. Lanny Johnson, the Rev. Fred Jantz, the Rev. Ron Hartman and the Rev. David McNeff. The Rev. Hans J. Wilcke, Western Area secretary, represented the North American Baptist Conference at the week-end festivities.

Many special features of outreach and ministry filled our year. Some of them

included the Brazil Praise Singers, the God's Volunteers, the Grant Children's Crusade and the Ken Poure Family Forum. Our summer 5-day clubs, vacation Bible school and Hume Lake Camp were fruitful and edifying. The Neighborhood Care Program supplemented with "Here's Life America" Crusade extended our visitation and evangelism ministries into many homes. 4,465 homes were reached with Gospel literature and 2,390 of these homes were followed up with personal contacts. The "I Found It" campaign added 3,126 contacts. With regular weekly visitation ministries and the special programs, 6,253 contacts were made with 1,392 opportunities to share the Good News. Although incomplete, available records show 318 first-time commitments through the public and house-to-house labors in the Gospel. The year end shows our financial stewardship reaching a new high in our church's history.

Magnolia's musical ministries have given us special blessings throughout the year. The Chancel Choir has presented two musicals, "I Love America" and "His Love Reaching." The Young Faith Choir presented the "Story Tellin' Man." Our Youth Choir and Adult Ensemble provides special programs throughout the year as well as sharing with other churches in our area.

Magnolia's leadership now includes Senior Pastor Ralph Cooke, Associate Pastor Tom Givens, Director of Children's Ministries Janet L. Wood, Youth Director Tim Smith, Director of Music Paul McNeff, Director of Visitation and Follow-up Bill Fikse, and Organist Todd Wray.

LORRAINE, KS. Thanks to our pastor, the Rev. Charles Priddy, for rightly dividing the Word of Truth. He and his wife gave of themselves lovingly in our times of need.

At the annual fellowship supper the patriotic musical and pageant, "The Spirit of 76," directed by Mrs. Walter Kohrs, was presented to a full sanctuary.

Our pastor was chosen to participate in a Death and Bereavement Seminar given by the Ellsworth County Extension Service.

Kilo boxes were filled and sent to our missionaries in Nigeria and Cameroon by the children under the direction of Mr. Ivan Craig.

We hosted the North American Baptist College drama group.

Our pastor's wife, Wanda, capably led our women in the study of Abraham during the annual series of Bible study.

The Rev. Harvey Motis, missionary, Cameroon, was our guest speaker for Harvest-Mission Sunday.

Our pastor and his wife nurtured the birth of the Muppet ministry. The Muppets and the folding stage were designed and handmade by the young people, their sponsors, the pastor and his wife. The Muppet Messengers have performed in our church and area churches and home for the aged. The ministry gives the young people the opportunity to develop skills in sharing the gospel and spiritual truths, and besides, it's so much fun!

The Christmas Eve program included a musical performance and pageant, "Jesus the Light of Life," written and directed by Mrs. Walter Kohrs. Attendance was near 500.

The New Year's Eve program included a presentation by the Muppet Messengers. Thirteen new members were added to our church making the total 279. (Mrs. Delmar Williamson, reporter.)

GLADWIN, MI. The Round Lake Baptist Church rejoiced as nine candidates followed the Lord in baptism and were received into our membership along with ten others who became members on their personal testimony. They are pictured with the Rev. Winston Decker, second from the left in the back row.

On December 19th, 1976, the adult choir presented the cantata, "Born a



King," by John W. Peterson. The Children's Department of the Sunday school presented their annual Christmas program on December 24. This was a meaningful part of the Christmas season. (Mrs. Jean Kleiss, reporter.)

WINNIPEG, MB. At present the pastor and two members of Grant Park Baptist Church are involved in a visitation program which has resulted in four decisions for Christ in the past year. We are looking to the Lord for six more people to train to present Christ and become involved in visitation.

Our church has much musical talent. Our choir and musical groups have been a blessing to many. Besides singing each Sunday morning, the choir has presented two evening concerts: one in the Spring and one at Christmas; the Christmas concert was also presented at an Apartment for Senior Citizens.

Our ladies have started a "Prayer

Chain," and a Thursday morning Bible study.

Christian Service Brigade and Pioneer Girls participated in winter camp, Feb. 25-27, 1977. (Mrs. K. Tonn, reporter.)

CALGARY, AB. New Year's Eve, 1976, was not only the last day of another year but also an evening of rejoicing and praising the Lord for the Temple Baptist Church. Four candidates followed the Lord in baptism. They were welcomed into the church fellowship the following Sunday.

On Jan. 2, 1977, members and friends gathered for a time of fellowship and farewell for our newly ordained Assistant Pastor Siegfried Koslowski and his wife Edith, who have accepted the call of the Parkdale Baptist Church, Drumheller. Both grew up in our church and have been members of our church since their youth. Siegfried and Edith were very active among our young people and children; they will be missed by many. (Mrs. Irene Wirzba, reporter.)

STARTUP, WA. Startup Baptist Church welcomed in 1977 with a meaningful watchnight service. The Rev. William Neuman spoke briefly on the meaning of baptism after which four persons were baptized. Communion was observed. (Pat Griffin, reporter.)

LEDUC, AB. Four persons were baptized at the Watchnight service, Dec. 31, 1976, at the First Baptist Church, Leduc, AB, by the pastor, the Rev. Herbert Bushkowsky.

The Rev. Floyd Dalzell was speaker at evangelistic meetings. At that time we engaged in a visitation program in the community.

Other speakers at our church have been Jake Plett, author, *Valley of*



Shadows; Karl Grebe, Wycliffe Bible Translators; "The Gospel Road" by Johnny Cash was shown.

Other outstanding events were a youth banquet and a Father and Son banquet. (Mrs. Loretta Miller, reporter.)

EMERY, SD. During the New Year's Eve service the Emery Baptist Church witnessed three persons, pictured with Pastor Charles Hiatt, follow the Lord in baptism.



The church officers and all interested members met at Camp Lakodia, Madison, SD, for an annual leadership retreat in September, 1976, under the direction of Dr. Floyd Moore, North American Baptist Seminary. The objective was to discover better ways and means of serving Christ and seeking his direction to become a church with vision and to set goals for the church. One of the results of these goals was to start two elective classes within the Sunday school open to all ages.

The youth group, under the direction of Dan Van Gerpen, has charge of the evening service each fifth Sunday evening of the month. (Mrs. Leland Terveen, reporter.)

BURLINGTON, IA. We, at Oak Street Baptist Church, rejoice because Dan Payne was ordained in our church on Dec. 5, 1976. He is a 1976 North American Baptist Seminary graduate and is presently serving his home church as interim pastor. The Rev. John Ziegler, the candidate's former pastor, gave the charge to the church; this was followed



by communion. Mrs. Arta Mae Moore gave the charge to Dan's wife, Mona. Dr. Floyd Moore, professor of Christian Education, N.A.B. Seminary, gave the charge to Dan and presented him with a Bible. Laying on of hands by the deacons, moderator, and special guests completed the ordination. The Rev. Dan Payne gave the benediction. The ordination council had been held on November 13, 1976.

in memoriam

GUSTAV ALLERDINGS, was born May 11, 1914, at Plevna, MT, and died Nov. 19, 1976. He married Alvina Fischer on Sept. 26, 1947. He was a life-long rancher and faithfully attended the First Baptist Church of Plevna. He is survived by his wife, Alvina; his father, John; his brother, Herbert; and two sisters, Mrs. August (Emma) Fischer and Mrs. George (Ida) Hart. The Rev. Richard Lawrenz was the officiating minister at the funeral service.

MAGGIE FAUL BAUER, 70, of McClusky, ND, was born May 4, 1906, in Harvey, ND, and died Aug. 27, 1976. She married Sam Bauer on May 31, 1936, at Harvey. Mrs. Bauer had attended the Mennonite Church in Harvey and McClusky Baptist Church; in the spring, 1976, she committed her life to Christ, was baptized and joined McClusky Baptist Church Easter Sunday, 1976. She was a radiant Christian never failing to testify for her Lord. She leaves her husband, Sam; two sons: Morris, at home, and Raymond, Ashley; a daughter, Shirley, Bismarck, ND; two grandchildren; six brothers: Harold, Richard, Adolph, William, Fred and Arthur; and two sisters, Lydia and Emma. The Rev. Myrl E. Thiesies officiated at the funeral services.

EMILIA BERTSCH (nee Stuckle), born Aug. 28, 1908, at Bessie, OK, died Nov. 4, 1976, in Sioux Falls, SD. She accepted Christ at 9 years of age and was baptized. She married Gottlieb Bertsch on Dec. 16, 1932, at Streeter, ND. They farmed northeast of Eureka until 1964 when they moved into Eureka. Survivors include her husband; three sons: Jerome, Eureka, Gerald, Sioux Falls, and Steven, Albuquerque, NM; two sisters: Mrs. Ted (Frieda) Bertsch and Mrs. Albert (Amanda) Knecht, and five grandsons. The Rev. Don Paschke officiated at the funeral service.

MARTHA HOFFER STEIN, 71, McClusky, ND, was born Sept. 27, 1905, and died Nov. 20, 1976. She married Henry Stein Jr. on Dec. 22, 1922, in McClusky. In 1956 Mr. and Mrs. Stein and 5 children, still at home, decided to follow Christ as Savior. They were baptized April 19, 1957, and united with the Lincoln Valley Baptist Church. Later she joined the McClusky Baptist Church. Her husband preceded her in death. She leaves 4 sons: Theobald, Wesley, Roger and Clarence; 7 daughters: Mrs. Albert (Shirley) Dockter, Mrs. Art (Darlene) Groz, Mrs. Jerry (Arvodell) Adams, Mrs. Reuben Meckle, Mrs. Harold (Virginia) Pollak, Mrs. Harley (Marlene) Murray, Mrs. Malvin (Diane) Hintz; 1 brother, Theobald; 3 sisters: Mrs. August Herr, Mrs. Ida Henkel and Mrs. Gust Fandrich; 35 grandchildren and 24 great grandchildren. The Rev. Myrl E. Thiesies officiated at the funeral.

MRS. CONRAD (FRIEDA) RIVINIUS, 60, of Gackle, ND, died Jan. 6, 1977. Frieda Meisch was born to Matthew and Louisa (Moos) Meisch on April 24, 1916, in Stutsman County, ND. Frieda and Conrad Rivinius were married March 8, 1937, in Streeter. They farmed near Gackle; in 1958 they moved to town. Surviving are her husband, Conrad; three children: Merrill, Bismarck, ND, Corrine (Mrs. Cecil Grundy), Portland, OR, Ivan, Streeter, ND; three grandchildren; five brothers and sisters: Theodore Meisch, Esther (Mrs. Joe Kirvida), William Meisch, Arthur Meisch, and Reuben Meisch. She was preceded in death by two sons. Frieda received the Lord Jesus Christ as her personal Savior on Feb. 13, 1929, was baptized, and joined Grace Baptist Church, Gackle. She was a faithful servant of God in the church, where she was active in Gleaners and the Sunday school. The Rev. E. R. Oster officiated at the funeral service.

HELEN KELLER, 77, of Tualatin, OR, was born in 1899 in Clear Creek, IA, and died on Sept. 12, 1976. She is survived by her sister, Frieda Keller, and five brothers. Miss Keller was a member of the Stafford Baptist Church for nine years

and lived in the Stafford area for 75 years. Dennis E. Angell was the officiating minister at the funeral service.

THEOPHILIA GRUENKE, nee Fenske, 90, of Morris, MB, died on Dec. 2, 1976. She was born April 1, 1886, in Russia and came to Canada in 1904. Except for one year in the United States and 5 years in Winnipeg, she lived the rest of her life in the Morris area. She is survived by 1 daughter, Lena, and 2 sons, Arthur and Lawrence, of Morris. She accepted the Lord as personal Savior, was baptized and became a member of the McDermot Avenue Baptist Church, Winnipeg. Later she joined the Emmanuel Baptist Church, Morris, MB, where she was a member until death. The Rev. Bruno Voss conducted the funeral service.

EMMA (HILL) HEIDENREICH, 91, of San Marcos, TX, was born July 27, 1885, and died Dec. 9, 1976. She married Emil Heidenreich Nov. 28, 1906. The survivors are one son, H. J. Heidenreich, Poteet; 3 sisters: Mrs. Henry Schmeltekopf, Kyle, Mrs. Elsie Wiegand and Mrs. Leona Wiegand, San Marcos; 8 grandchildren and 9 great grandchildren. She was faithful to her Lord and Savior, a dedicated member of the Immanuel Baptist Church, where she was a Sunday school teacher for many years. She enjoyed her family and diligently served them as wife, mother and grandmother as long as she was able. Dr. W. H. Barsh, pastor, officiated at the service.

JESKE, MRS. IRMA GISELA (nee Sturm) was born Dec. 18, 1896, in Lodz, Poland, and died June 1, 1976, in Edmonton, AB. She received Christ in her youth, was baptized in 1911 and became a member of the German Baptist Church Lodz-Nawrot. On June 8, 1921, she married Arthur Jeske. This marriage was blessed with four children, of whom one died in infancy. In 1926 the family came to Canada, settled in Edmonton, and joined Central Baptist Church. Mrs. Jeske became active in the Women's Missionary Society and the mixed choir. She is survived by one daughter, Mrs. Erica Brickenden; two sons, Kurt and Harry, and ten grandchildren. The Rev. Richard Hohensee and the Rev. Edgar Klatt officiated at the funeral service.

CAPT. ROBERT E. JONES died Aug. 28, 1976, at Sondrestrom, Greenland. He is survived by his wife, Jan; two sons, Erik and Matthew; his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Russ Jones, and a sister, Mrs. James Richards, all of Portland, OR. Capt. Jones was active in North American Baptist churches. He joined the Glencullen Baptist Church, Portland, at the age of eight. He married Jan Kovenz; they were active in the Memory Lane Baptist Church, Wichita, KS, and the Crestview Baptist Church, Minot, ND, as Bob pursued his military career. In 1974, they rejoined the Glencullen church and opened a Sunday school on the base of the Hebo Air Force Station, OR, under the auspices of the Chapel Program. Before Captain Jones left for Greenland, the Chief of Chaplains, U.S. Air Force, presented a Testimonial of Service certificate to Captain and Mrs. Robert Jones, commending them for "spiritual and moral leadership rendered to U.S. Air Force personnel."

HERMAN KRAMER, 74, was born to the Rev. George and Henrietta Meyer Kramer, Oct. 7, 1902, at Rudd, IA, and died Dec. 4, 1976. He married Lena Roskam Oct. 7, 1931. They moved to Aplington in 1933, where he owned and operated a garage for 40 years. In his early years, he committed his life to Jesus Christ. He was baptized by the Rev. C. F. Lehr on April 9, 1944, and became a member of the Aplington Baptist Church. For many years he sang in the choir; he served as a trustee and assistant treasurer. He is survived by his wife Lena; two daughters: JoAnn, Mrs. William Jacobson, Minneapolis, MN, and Joyce, Mrs. Russell Uehling, Nebraska; 4 grandchildren; and two brothers: Carl and Arthur. The pastor, the Rev. Donald Patet, officiated at the funeral service.

MISSIONS PROFILE

(A Missions Education Resource Book) North American Baptist mission work can become real to you through reading this informative book. Find out

- how our mission fields began and developed
- how God works in lives of missionaries

Reduced price from \$2.95 to \$1.50

Order from the Church Ministries Department, 1 So. 210 Summit Ave., Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181

New Filmstrips

"Letter from Hillcrest"

Children, young people and adults will enjoy this inspiring filmstrip and cassette narrated in part by a boy who describes, through a letter to his missionary parents, life at Hillcrest School, which our missionary children attend in Jos, Nigeria. Can be used in Sunday schools, camps, vacation church schools or as part of an evening service. Filmstrip and cassette 18 minutes. Rental \$2.00. Purchase price \$10.00.

"How to Visit a Child"

Purpose: To help teachers of children in Sunday schools and vacation church schools, teacher training classes, and visitation emphases. Gives examples of the kind of visits and contacts that a children's worker should make. Filmstrip and cassette 9 minutes. Color. Rental \$1.00.

Order from Communications Department, 1 So. 210 Summit Ave., Oakbrook Terrace, Villa Park, IL 60181. (Canadian churches order "Letter from Hillcrest" from North American Baptist College, 23 Ave. & 115 St., R.R. 3, Edmonton, AB, T6H 4N7.)



Communication

by Adolph Braun

SUPER OR SMALL

Recently I read a statement written by a professional church management instructor who critically opposed "super-churches." The questions I asked myself were, "How big is too big?"—"Is God really concerned about winning the whole world?"—"Isn't the Lord pleased to see his churches full and packed out?"

We read that God wants his house full: "And the master said to the slave, 'Go out into the highways along the hedges, and compel them to come in, THAT MY HOUSE MAY BE FILLED'" (Luke 14:23, N.A.S.B.). Even the preacher is inspired to do his best by a full house of souls who come to worship God and to learn from God's Word. There is something inspiring about entering the house of God filled with expectant listeners. It seems to me that any church is too big when it doesn't care to truly worship, when its members do not attend or give or serve or want to work, witness, win souls and build them up in the faith.

However, the Lord will not accept volume alone. Big crowds alone are no proof of God's blessing—else the Beatles would have certainly had it. The Lord is first concerned about value (Luke 14:26-27, 33). He does want the whole world to accept his values in the person of Christ. I am convinced that he wants you and me to pray, teach and try to win every soul we possibly can. "The Lord wishes none to perish, but all to come to repentance" (II Peter 3:9).

Sometimes we may forget that God loved the whole world—that he sent his Son to save whoever believes in him (John 3:16). God sacrificed his own Son to win the world, but he will not sacrifice value for volume. But let us not seek excuses (Luke 14:18) for not winning souls and encouraging God's house to be filled—so we may be forced to build bigger or to start another small church—or both. □

The Rev. Adolph Braun is the pastor of Sunkist Baptist Church, Anaheim, CA.

news & views

Plains Church Denies Membership to King

PLAINS, Ga. (BP)—Black activist minister Clennon King, another black man and a white woman—all out-of-town residents—were denied membership in Jimmy Carter's home congregation here by unanimous votes of both the church's membership watchcare committee and the congregation.

The congregation's vote, on Sunday, Jan. 9, came about two months after Plains Baptist Church, confronted by the application of King, a non-denominational minister from Albany, Ga., voted to drop all racial barriers, name a watchcare committee to rule on membership requests, and retain Pastor Bruce Edwards, who had vigorously urged racial openness.

The other two refused membership were Austin Black, a black, and Charlotte Weinberger, white, both from Los Angeles. No action was taken on the membership request of another person, Mrs. Randy Coleman, a white and wife of an employee of President Carter's brother, Billy, because she had not yet had the opportunity to meet with the watchcare committee.

Church leaders said any non-member, including King, is welcome to attend services and that the vote had nothing to do with race.

They cited three reasons for refusing King: 1. he had not complied with, nor even acknowledged, an invitation to meet with the membership committee; 2. he had not shown a willingness to cooperate with the membership in carrying out the goals and objectives of the church; and 3. it would be difficult for him to carry out the spirit of the church covenant because of the distance of his residence. (Southern Baptists encourage new members to join churches in the immediate community so they may be active.)

Reasons given for refusing the application of Black and Weinberger were the distance of their residence, neither had responded to an invitation to meet with the watchcare committee, and nothing was known of their spiritual commitment.

Edwards, who earlier opposed the deacons' refusal to allow King to enter the church and present himself for membership, told reporters on the doorstep of the church that King had not cooperated with the church's attempts to examine his membership application.

Baptist Evangelist Arrested On Bond Fraud Charges

TULSA (BP)—James Whitby, a Baptist minister and evangelist, has been arrested by FBI agents on a charge he allegedly defrauded a Swiss bank through a \$5 million bond issue.

Whitby, 48, formerly pastor of a Southern Baptist church in Tulsa and formerly affiliated with Youth for Christ, operates Gospel Outreach Corporation.

Federal authorities allege he received a partial payment of \$100,000 from Bank Robinson A. G. of Basel, Switzerland, for the Gospel Outreach Corporation bonds, according to a report by Religious News Service (RNS). He was freed on \$100,000 bond and ordered to appear in U.S. District Court in Los Angeles at an unspecified date.

Bruce Day, director of the Oklahoma Securities Commission, said that Whitby did not register the bonds with his agency or with the federal Securities and Exchange Commission, and therefore could not lawfully sell them outside the state, RNS reported.

According to the FBI complaint, Whitby arranged for proceeds from the bonds to be deposited in a trust account for Gospel Outreach, Inc., and backed the trust indenture with real estate owned by the Arkansas Valley Development Corp. But Mildred Dotson, head of the corporation, said she never gave Whitby permission to use the property to issue bonds, RNS said.

Although the minister signed a contract to buy the California property in 1975, he failed to raise enough money, and the land was sold to other buyers, RNS said. When the Swiss bank failed in that year, Swiss authorities discovered that several million dollars of allegedly worthless bonds, issued by Gospel Outreach, Inc., were among its supposed assets.

Borneo Churches Organize

Seven churches and four chapels from the Malaysian states of Sabah and Sarawak on the island of Borneo met at Tawau, September 3-4, to organize the East Malaysia Baptist Convention.

Departments of evangelism, youth, women, and education were created. A building and loan fund was authorized to assist churches with finances.

The convention adopted three areas of outreach: enlistment of more tribal people, urban evangelism in new housing estates, and establishment of house churches in existing towns. Each church was challenged to begin two new house churches within the next year.

Total financial self-support is planned by January 1978. □

what's happening

■ *The Rev. Donald Paschke*, pastor of First Baptist Church, Eureka, SD, since 1975, has resigned effective the end of March 1977. He is awaiting God's guidance for the future.

■ *Mr. Robert Vogt* is full-time assistant pastor of Faith Baptist Church, Regina, SA. *The Rev. Richard Quiring* assumed the position of senior pastor Jan. 2, 1977.

■ *The Rev. Wilfred A. Bellamy* assumed the position of pastor of Bloomfield Hills Baptist Church, Bloomfield Hills, MI, on Jan. 1, 1977. He had been a missionary in Nigeria.

■ *The Rev. Graham Brotherton* has resigned as the administrator of the Green Bay Baptist Camp, Westbank, BC.

■ *The Rev. David A. Rapske*, youth pastor of the Grace Baptist Church, Grand Forks, ND, was ordained into the Christian ministry on Dec. 26, 1976.

■ *The Rev. Harvey L. Friez* became the pastor of the First Baptist Church, Durham, KS. He is a recent graduate of Dallas Seminary.

■ *Mr. Herman Kesterke*, a January 1977 graduate of the North American

Baptist Seminary, Sioux Falls, SD, has accepted the call of Immanuel Baptist Church, Beulah, ND, effective Feb. 1, 1977.

■ *The Rev. Larry Parker* of Whittier, CA, has accepted the call of the Calvary Baptist Church, Wetaskiwin, AB, effective as soon as immigration proceedings can be completed.

■ *The Rev. Ronald Kernohan*, minister of youth and visitation of Ebenezer Baptist Church, Detroit, MI, since 1970, has resigned effective the end of February 1977 to accept the call of the Brentview Baptist Church, Calgary, AB.

■ *The Rev. Theodore Frey*, St. John, KS, oldest living pastor in our North American Baptist Conference, recently celebrated his 99th birthday. Congratulations!

■ *Moments with God*, our North American Baptist Conference quarterly daily devotional guide, has increased its circulation. Due to popular demand, more than 14,000 copies are now being printed.

■ *Mr. Michael Harper* became the associate pastor of the Glencullen Baptist Church, Portland, OR. He is a recent

graduate of Western Conservative Baptist Seminary, Portland.

■ *Professor R. Lee McDonald*, assistant professor of Biblical Literature, North American Baptist Seminary, Sioux Falls, SD, received his Ph. D. degree on Nov. 27, 1976, from the University of Edinburgh, Scotland.

■ *The Spanish American Mission*, Edinburg, TX, following a council meeting on Dec. 1, 1976, organized into the Central Baptist Church, with 15 charter members. The Rev. Lindberg Ake is part-time missionary and pastor.

■ *Budget Missed!* For the first time in five years, the North American Baptist Conference 1976 mission and ministry budget was not met. The total giving was \$2,439,000, which is about \$253,000 (or 12 percent) more than was given last year. It is \$85,000 short of reaching the goal of \$2,524,000. However, about \$79,000 for World Relief and \$35,000 for some special projects were given over and above the budget allocations; therefore we are about \$200,000 short on budget income. Your special help is needed. The 1977 budget is 18 percent more than was given in 1976.

■ *Dean A. Dalton*, vice president and director of denominational service for Gospel Light Publications, has resigned from that position due to ill health. Serving with Gospel Light since January 1958, Mr. Dalton has established a broad national field services program for the betterment of Christian education in the churches of the United States and Canada.

■ A daughter, *Melody Joy Schlafmann*, was born Dec. 4, 1976, at Banso Baptist Hospital, Cameroon, to missionaries, Mr. and Mrs. Jarvis Schlafmann.

■ *Stimulus*, a publication of the Church Ministries Department, North American Baptist Conference, will be made available to a wider readership. Through arrangements made with Family Concern, Inc., Omaha, NE, *Stimulus* will be issued under their name and label. This is in addition to the present N.A.B. edition. Family Concern sponsors regional seminars on church and family ministries.

■ *The Salem Baptist Church*, Edmonton, AB, voted to disband. The last service was held Jan. 2, 1977. All property of the church was officially handed over to the North American Baptist College, Edmonton, AB, Jan. 9, 1977.



Free Pilgrims Map of the Holy Land Available

"The Pilgrims Map of the Holy Land"—a map of the Holy Land designed especially for those planning a tour of important Biblical sites in Israel—is available free from the Israel Government Tourist Office.

The map is a full color depiction of the Holy Land as it appeared 2,000 years ago. Based upon Biblical accounts of the geography of the area, the map delineates the ancient boundaries of Judaea, Samaria, Phoenicia and Galilaea. It lists over 80 important Biblical sites popular with tourists in Israel, such as the Church of the Holy Sepulchre and the Mount of Olives in Jerusalem, the Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem, and the Mount of Beatitudes on the shore of the Sea of Galilee, and provides a brief description of the significance of each site.

On the reverse side of the 11 x 23 inch map are full color photos of major attractions such as the Via Dolorosa, Nazareth and the Western Wall. In addition to Jerusalem, the map cites most major cities of the modern state of Israel such as Tel Aviv and Haifa.

"The Pilgrims Map of the Holy Land" is an important tool for tourists and a helpful aid to Bible students. It is available free upon request from the Israel Government Tourist Office, Dept. PR, 795 Peachtree St., NE, Atlanta, GA 30308.

GENEROUS SOWING MEANS A GENEROUS HARVEST

(Guest editorial
by Connie Salios)

March is the month to hear about missionary needs and to prepare to give a generous gift to the "Laura Reddig Easter Mission Offering" in April.

Generous giving is what you have been doing for the past four years to meet our budget commitments. Thank God that you have given generously and that you have expressed a desire to do even more for missions by approving a resolution in Portland last year to make a study of a new mission field to enter.

You can be encouraged to know that your investments in the Lord's work through our Conference ministries are paying rich dividends in people coming to know Christ and in believers being established in the faith. I have a file folder in my office labeled "God at Work in Our Conference." I am collecting all kinds of information showing what God is doing through our missionaries and churches. For example, here are some excerpts from reports submitted by our missionaries:

"We saw one girl come to our church

The Rev. Connie Salios is associate secretary for stewardship of the North American Baptist Conference.

and accept the Lord as her Savior. Also, around 300 people attended a Christian film at a community center."

—Reimer and Nobuko Clausen, Japan
"I have had the privilege of baptizing a number of people who accepted Christ in previous evangelistic meetings I held. We have many open doors for evangelism by showing films in schools and at outdoor meetings."

—Ralph Nelson, Brazil
"Two young people who were invited to our church by short-term missionaries have since become Christians and are preparing for baptism."

—Florence Miller, Japan
One of our missionaries in Cameroon was asked to express a prayer request recently. Note his sense of concern and urgency to proclaim the gospel as he requested, "Please pray that we as missionaries and as mission will take advantage of our present opportunities to spread the gospel in Cameroon."

On one occasion Jesus told his disciples that the harvest is now: "Say not ye, There are yet four months, and then cometh harvest? Behold, I say unto you, Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest" (John 4:35 KJV).

And Paul said that the only way to receive a generous harvest is to sow generously: "All I will say is that poor sowing means a poor harvest, and *generous sowing means a generous harvest*" (II Cor. 9:6 Phillips).

My appeal to all of us in our N.A.B.C. family is simple: Will you sow generously by giving a generous gift to the "Laura Reddig Easter Mission Offering" in April, and will you continue to give generously to the work of your church and missions throughout this year?

Generous giving is giving from the blessings God gives to you. Sometimes this kind of giving is called proportionate giving. It goes beyond the tithe.

I was taught to tithe when I became a Christian. In recent years God has been teaching me to be a generous giver. As I have responded in obedience to this teaching I have grown spiritually. I have also learned anew about God's provision for my physical and material needs. Luke 6:38 (KJV): "Give and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again," has become a reality for me and my family.

I have learned that generous givers tend to be willing to give even more. And they do not object to hearing appeals for legitimate needs. It reminds me of the story often told about a Christian who once said to a friend:

"Our church costs too much. They are always asking for money." Her friend replied in this fashion: "Some time ago a little boy was born in our home. He cost us a lot of money from the very beginning; he had a big appetite, he needed clothes, medicine, toys and even a puppy. Then he went to college, then he began dating, and that cost a small fortune! But in his senior year at college he died, and since the funeral, he hasn't cost us a penny. Now, which situation do you think we would rather have?" After a significant pause the friend continued, "As long as this church lives, it will cost. When it dies for want of support, it won't cost us anything. A living church has the most vital message for all the world today; therefore, I am going to give and pray with everything I have to keep our church alive."

Let us take a few moments to think about our giving by asking and answering these questions for ourselves:

Am I a generous giver?

How much did I give to the Lord last year?

How much did I earn?

Will I endeavor with the Lord's help to increase my giving?

Will I give my generous gifts through my own local church?

Missionary Laura Reddig's wish for you and me is: "God bless your living through your (generous) giving." □

God's Perfect Timing

(Continued from page 11)

members of the church, made contact with a lady who was confused in her spiritual conviction because of a previous call by a cultist group. In her confusion she prayed that God would send her someone who could show her the truth. After that call Colleen was encouraged to know that she was a small part of God's leading in the lives of his people.

God goes before us preparing people's minds and hearts to hear his message. We all have a vital part in being his instruments or vessels (II Timothy 2:21).

We thank the following churches for the experiences and times of sharing we were able to have while ministering with them in their communities: Aurora Baptist and Arvada Baptist, Colorado; Thunderbird Baptist, Phoenix, AZ; Fountain Valley (CA) Baptist; Temple Baptist, Lodi, CA; Hollyview Baptist, Boring, OR, and Bethel Baptist, Missoula, MT.



letters to the editor

Dear Editor:

I was reading the BAPTIST HERALD and I liked it. I enjoyed it so much that it occurred to me that I ought to let you know about it. The paper as a whole is very good, and the *November* issue again is a good sample of it.

First the names and places of the God's Volunteers and their schedule for 1976-77. Then a clear picture of the Portland Conference happenings and the names of the denominational officers. I liked that. My wife and I especially cherish articles and names of our own pastors, since we know most of them.

Now about the SENDBOTE which still means much to us, though it is but an insert now. I think by now most of the German readers in USA know enough English to read both sections, the German and the English. They read the German and look through the English section and will discover that they can understand more and more of it, as they keep on with it.

I like the way you open up the *Sendbote* with Psalm 27:1-6 in large print. A fine introduction to the very good article on Psalm 27 by Gunther Balders.

I remember how anxious I was that you should join our seminary faculty family, but I can see now that you made the right decision in staying with the HERALD. By writing and editing the HERALD you can be of greater service to the whole denomination and beyond, than by teaching a group of theological students, though the latter occupation is also a very valuable profession that eventually also benefits the whole denomination through the pastors who were trained at the seminary.

Then your USSR travel report: "Mein Besuch in der Sowjet Union" is excellent. Not only is it very good but also so very true of Russia, as all of us who lived in Russia or Russia-Poland can verify.

Dr. Hugo Lueck, emeritus professor of Church History, North American Baptist Seminary, Sioux Falls, SD.

Dear Editor:

We feel it important and surely of interest to you as editor, to report on how the BAPTIST HERALD is promoted in our congregation.

Our pastor, the Rev. Joseph Harrison, has been making the magazine exciting and stimulating to us. On receiving it in the mail, he reads it through quickly and then, on the first Sunday following, he presents it to the congregation, sharing with us various articles in such a way that everyone wants to rush home and read them right away. The rest of the congregation that does not subscribe either borrows the magazine to read or wants to subscribe themselves. He presents the HERALD this way every few months or oftener, as well as the CHRISTIAN READER.

Perhaps this will give the other pastors or laymen an idea on presenting our own N.A.B. magazine in such a way that their congregations may not want to miss an issue. It has certainly worked here.

Thank you for the effort and dedication you give to your work of publishing an excellent magazine of spiritual up-lift and refreshment. Yours in Christ, Mrs. Bertha Reichert, Valleyview, Alberta

Dear Editor:

I would like to commend the BAPTIST HERALD on the slyness of advertising on the front page. For example, Colson and Jimmy Carter; fortunately God has his own way of doing things. He can place a man where he wants him

Backyard Bible School

(Continued from page 19)

3. While older students work on student books, provide an alternate activity for non-readers. Effective options include:

- Guide children in looking at picture books related to lesson aim;
- Take a discovery walk to find things God has made;
- Enjoy a brief quiet time of listening to music or neighborhood sounds;
- Guide children in using Bible story visuals to retell the story.

4. Evaluate the craft kits to determine difficulty level. Consider these suggestions:

- provide Early Childhood craft kits for younger children;
- Give extra assistance to younger children;
- Assign older child to work with younger child (requires mixing class groups during this time period);
- Select an alternate activity from *158 Things to Make*.

5. Be alert to the needs of your particular group and adapt suggestions accordingly. Daily evaluation by your staff is essential in successfully tailoring any curriculum to your children's needs and interests.

even without the endorsement of the North American Baptist Conference.

Let's pray daily for our new President, and so fulfill our duty as good citizens of this our beloved country, the—UNITED STATES OF AMERICA. In His Love, Mrs. Erna Schlaps, Warren, Michigan.

Prayer Concern

(Continued from page 15)

him what he wanted Jesus to do for him; his tender reply, "I want Jesus to love me."

These children are not unlike the masses of children around the world. "Someone, please love me" is their cry. People who are always moving every three to six months often never know the security of binding friendships. The teachers, myself and Sherry Rupard of Rupert, ID, believe no one loves us like Jesus and desire that many dear boys and girls be told of our Savior's never-ending love.

Will you please pray for this work and that many more men and women will have the desire to reach children in all areas—migrant camps, playgrounds, neighborhoods, apartments, etc. Please pray also as the children move from place to place that others will help them continue to grow in the "grace and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ." □

Each day gather your staff together for prayer. Ask the Lord Jesus to help you be alert to opportunities to express his love to children and parents. Use the outdoor setting to build relationships with each child by sharing discoveries of things God has made. The quality of these relationships is vital to your efforts in introducing children to the Lord Jesus. □

COMING
NEXT
MONTH IN
baptist herald

"Trusting My Lord"

"New York Women's Home"

"Testimonies from Japan"

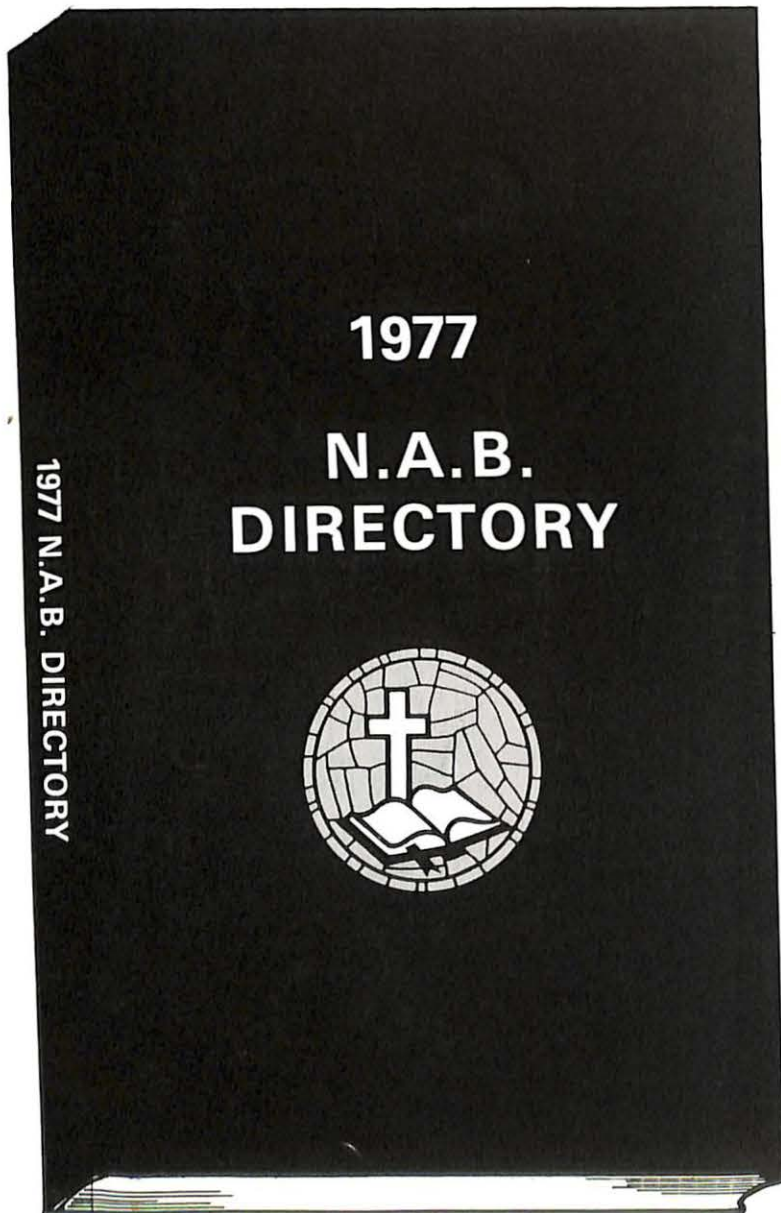
baptist herald

1 So. 210 Summit Ave.,
Oakbrook Terrace,
Villa Park, IL. 60181

Non-profit organization
Second class postage
paid at Villa Park, Illinois 60181
and at additional mailing offices.

Order Your 1977 N.A.B. Directory

For only \$2.00 per copy you can know
all about the North American Baptist
Conference



At your fingertips will be important and valuable information on 152 pages:

1975 Statistics

North American Baptist Conference and Committees:

- General Council
- Association Representatives to the General Council
- Pension Fund
- Communications Committee
- Finance and Stewardship Committee
- Investment Committee
- Church Loan Fund Committee
- Committee on Constitutional Changes
- North American Baptist Ministers' Fellowship

Departmental Committees and Boards:

- General Missionary Society
- Church Extension Department
- Church Ministries Department
- Stewardship and Communications Department
- North American Baptist Seminary
- North American Baptist College
- North American Baptist Camps

Homes for the Aging

Missionaries' Addresses

Ministers' Addresses and Phone Numbers

Church Addresses and Phone Numbers by Associations.

Denominational Activities Calendar for 1977

Church Index in alphabetical order

Order today from:

Communications Department
North American Baptist Conference
1 So. 210 Summit, Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181