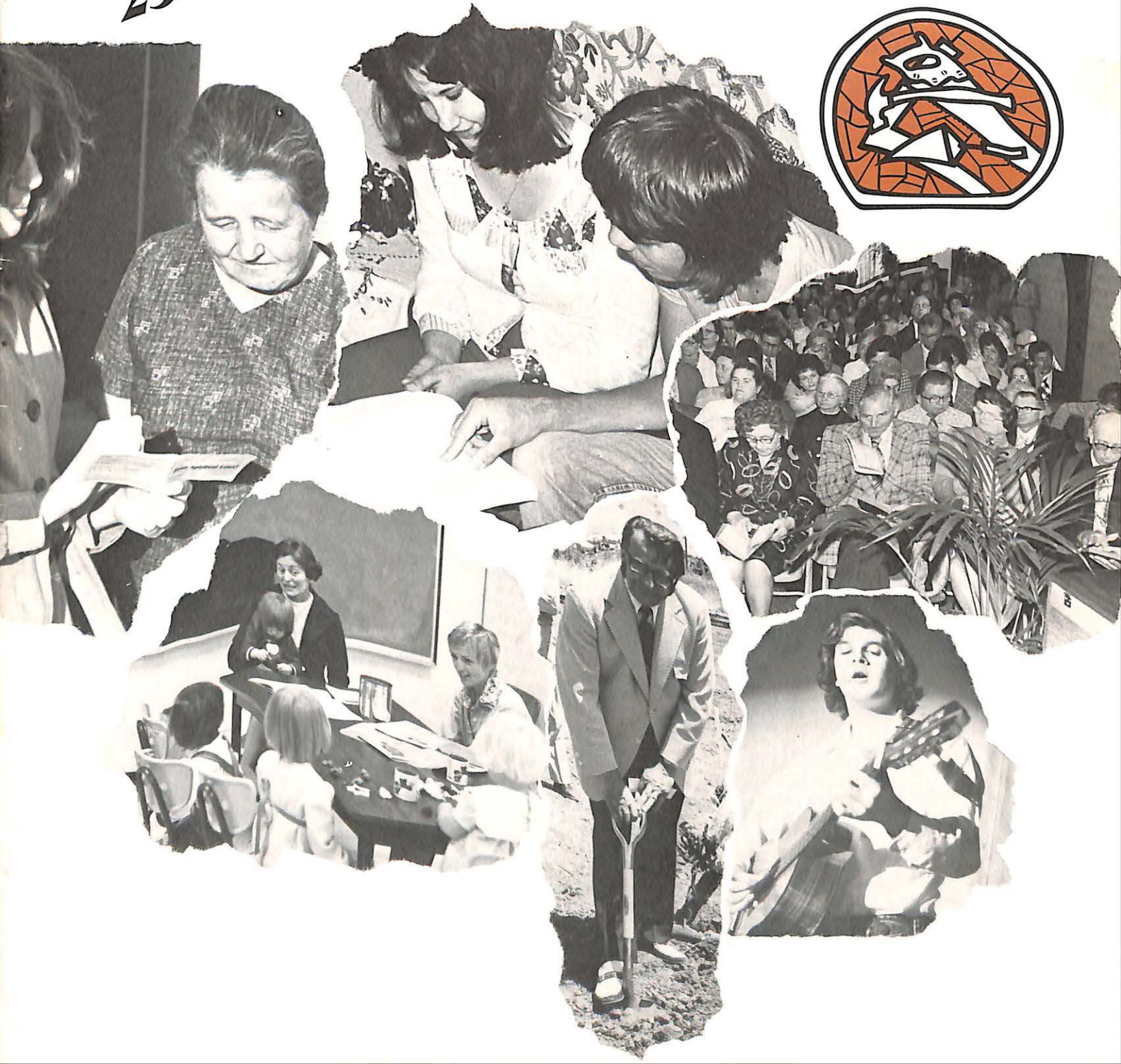


NOVEMBER 1977

baptist herald

25 YEARS OF CHURCH EXTENSION



WHAT CHURCH EXTENSION MEANS TO ME

Testimonies of people whose lives have been changed through church extension

Judy Zajac

It was through Church Extension that I found Jesus Christ as my Lord and Savior.

Last year I was called upon by a summer worker, Randy Knutson, and asked if I would be interested in starting a new church in my community. At that particular time in my life I wasn't interested nor was I a Christian. Yet still I was searching for a peace within myself and was very much undecided about God. At the same time, I was asked to attend a Bible study in the neighborhood. Before accepting this invitation I asked that I wouldn't be called upon to read out loud. You see, I was very poor as a reader and until that time in my life I couldn't bring myself to admit it to anyone. I felt if there was anything to become of my continuing in this study it was that my reading ability would improve. This soon became the first indication of God at work in my life. After a few weeks of study, I became very interested in how the Scriptures related to my life with Christ.

One Sunday afternoon in June an unusual thing happened to me when my family and I were on our way home from Indiana. I felt as if we were coming into some great danger. I prayed silently to God and asked him to spare our lives. Just shortly after I prayed we were involved in a five-car accident. No one was seriously hurt. We were all taken to the hospital for a routine check. It was then that I found out there was a nun in the cab behind us and a pastor in the car in front of us. I was sure God was trying to tell me something!

I was still unwilling to totally turn my life over to Christ until I read Psalm 139 Verses 1-6. It was then I realized that I was saved through faith. This God I've talked of to you is real. He is alive! God has blessed us in Elk Grove Village with a Church Extension ministry and a full time pastor. We call ourselves the Tri-Community Baptist Church. With love and concern for each other, God's people in this church are helping to plant seeds in the lives of others. We want the light of Christ to shine through us at all times. I praise the Lord for my new growth and the spiritual growth in our people. I found Christ through Church Extension and others did too. My hope and prayer is that God uses all of us to reach out and see others come to faith in Christ. Judy Zajac, Elk Grove, IL.

Barry Stedman

A few weeks after becoming a Christian, I was visiting rooms atop a six-story apartment in Calcutta. The windows were covered by Chinese newspapers, but the door was opened, and two students, alone in a strange city, responded to an invitation to the young people's group. Both found Jesus as Savior. This has

been a challenge and inspiration to me ever since.

You might ask what that incident has to do with Church Extension, but I can tell you visitation is everything to the extension church. Shortly after moving to Burlington we had a visitor, it was the Rev. Walter Kerber. As a stranger to Canada his warm welcome drew us to Pineland Baptist Church, and we became founder members. We can now look back on 11 years to see the growth from a few members in a school hall to the present membership of about 274, and still growing.

After a transfer to London, Pastor Kerber approached us with a concern for an extension work here. Following a series of prayer meetings, the project was approved and the Rev. Paul Benson was called as Pastor. Over 18 months London's Forest Baptist Church has grown from three families to morning attendance of 65-75 average.

It is thrilling to see God's work grow and hard to understand how anyone could not want to be involved in such a challenge, but it is not easy.

My involvement in the two extension works has given me the privilege of being asked to serve on the Church Extension Board. To see the challenge and enthusiasm of Church Extension is a real job, and I pray that we may exceed all expectations of growth. If you have the opportunity to join an extension church, don't pass it by. It will give you hard work but a rich blessing. Barry R. Stedman, London, ON.

Dianne West

"I will never leave thee nor forsake thee" Heb. 13:5. Praise God for this promise!

As an infant, my parents dedicated me to the Lord. As a teenager, I made my own decision to accept Christ as Savior. Even so, I remained a babe in Christ for years, for I was unaware of the need to look to him for daily guidance and unknowledgeable of the power that could be mine through the Holy Spirit. Therefore, I went my own way, counting on myself to cope with life's adventures and difficulties.

It was after 4½ years of marriage that my selfish desires caught up with me and I decided to end my commitment to my husband in divorce. But God's hand was still upon me. He had not left me nor forsaken me. He used the loving concern of a Christian businessman to show us that we both needed to surrender our lives completely to Christ. Thereafter, we were further strengthened by love and prayers of those meeting weekly for Bible study and prayer concerning the beginning of an N.A.B. extension church in Tacoma. Since those early days of Olympic View Baptist Church, our faith has grown and our marriage is truly what God intended it to be—SUPER! Dianne West, Anchorage, Alaska.

Dale Smith

I wish my wife, Bobbie, and I could share with each of you who reads this testimony the spiritual rewards that have been ours since we made a firm commitment to begin sharing our faith.

Jesus says, "You shall be my witnesses." He did not say 'expert' witnesses, nor is there an option; we are only to be faithful in our witness. Most Christians don't know why they are alive, and many have not taken advantage of the opportunity to learn how to share their faith. This was my condition for 30 years. Prepare yourself and God will use you to share. Preparation requires effort, but how beautiful it is to see results!

A witness in a court of law must: 1. Be reputable, 2. Have had some personal experience in the matter to be discussed, 3. Verbally state what he knows.

You must learn to verbalize. A good life, as a witness, only shows others how good you are but does not tell them anything about how to have eternal life. You must verbalize!

Use a program as a learning tool; as a tool for communication; as a tool to diagnose where the person is in his spiritual life. We have found Evangelism Explosion (Kennedy's) to be a tremendous help in learning to verbalize.

Some things we feel important in our approach are: 1. Be committed. 2. Pray specifically for someone rather than in generalities. 3. Build a bridge of friendship with unsaved people. 4. Realize that you must earn the right to be heard before you share (it may take months). 5. Make a conscious effort to be with unsaved people socially or otherwise, so they will get to know you (we tend to live in 'Christian ghettos'). 6. Think spiritual as you converse with people. 7. Accept people as they are and go from there. Jesus accepted me as I was and because he did, I gradually came to the point where I received him into my life. 8. Be consistent in your calling or it will fail. Set aside a certain time and stick to it. 9. Take someone with you. Soul winning is more caught than taught. It's more important to train a soul-winner than to win a soul, because you increase your potential when others learn how to share their faith. 10. We are commanded to "make disciples," not merely "get professions." Have a close follow-up schedule to nurture new Christians.

God has been good to us! Praise his name! Outreach is not easy—it is hard; it's scary; but it is rewarding. Jesus said, "It is more blessed to give than to receive." We believe it! If you give God nothing and he multiplies it, you still have nothing. If you give a little, he multiplies it, and you have more than you originally had. You receive in proportion to what you give, and our goal is to die spiritually wealthy. When we are in heaven it will be good to hear someone say, "I am here because you cared enough to share Jesus with me." Dr. Dale L. Smith, Bridgman, MI.

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News Flash

New Czech Bible To Mark 400th Anniversary Of Historic Kralice Version

NEW YORK—The 400th anniversary of the Kralice Bible, whose publication in 1579 was a high point of the Bohemian Reformation, will be marked in Czechoslovakia in 1979 by the publication of a new interconfessional Bible in modern Czech.

The Ministry of Culture has given permission for the printing of 120,000 copies of the new Bible, the Rev. Bohumir J. Sedlisky of the Czech Bible Work has reported to the United Bible Societies, the international association of 59 Bible Societies who conduct Bible translation, publication and distribution around the world.

Portions of the new translation completed in advance have been published in stages ever since 1968, but 1979 will be the first year the whole text will appear in print.

The paper for the new Bible must be bought in Czechoslovakia, but with foreign currency.

The Kralice Bible anniversary is being planned as a national celebration in which both church and secular authorities will jointly participate. Plans call for a mobile exhibition, scholars' symposia, and the establishment of a Kralice Bible museum.

The Kralice Bible was translated by scholars belonging to the Unity of the Brethren (the spiritual heirs of John Huss, the 15th century Bohemian reformer). It has been the favorite Czech translation among the country's non-catholic churches. Its prestige in Czechoslovakia is comparable to that of the King James Version in the English-speaking world. □

CHURCH EXTENSION CELEBRATES SILVER ANNIVERSARY



It all began with a motion: "Mr. Chairman, I move that this conference instruct the General Council together with the General Missionary Committee, as servants of the General Conference, to present to the conference before its adjournment a challenging program of advance here at home that shall aim at no lesser goal than the establishment of 25 new churches during the next Triennium. . . ." This was the resolution adopted at the 1952 Philadelphia Triennial Conference by the Rev. Berthold Jacksteit, then pastor of Bethel Baptist Church, Anaheim, CA.

As North American Baptists, we had a well-organized and functioning overseas missions program but had not organized an aggressive program of carrying out the "Judean and Samaritan" ministries. The truth of the matter was that the N.A.B. Conference had not been overly zealous about "planting" and "developing" new churches in the United States and Canada prior to that time. Until then all church planting was done on the local level by a few churches that reached out into new communities and started missions and Sunday schools which, over the years in some instances, developed into churches.

At the 1952 Conference a Church Extension Survey Committee was appointed. This committee of seven consisted of the Rev. Otto Patzia, Dr. Richard Schilke, Mr. Fred A. Grosser, Dr. Martin L. Leuschner, Mr. Edwin H. Marklein, the Rev. David Zimmerman and Dr. Frank Woyke, ex officio. These men set the wheels in motion by sending questionnaires to all local conference mission secretaries asking for possibilities of church extension in local areas. At the same time, the committee was aware of the larger problems of supplying permanent pastors, buying land and building facilities for each project. The

The Rev. Lyle Wacker is general secretary of Church Extension, N.A.B. Conference.

budget for the first full year of activity in 1953-54 was quite limited; only \$8,000 was appropriated for Church Extension.

CHURCH EXTENSION COMMITTEE APPOINTED ANNUALLY

It soon became obvious to the committee that there were insufficient funds available for a program which had a great deal of competition from other denominations that had more resolved work with. Therefore, it was resolved that a special Church Extension fund of \$250,000 was to be raised under the supervision of the Conference Finance Committee. A special Church Extension Committee was also to be appointed annually by the General Missionary Committee and to consist of the chairman and secretary of the General Missionary Committee, chairman and secretary of Church and Parsonage Loan Fund, general treasurer, comptroller, and the mission secretary of the local conference (when the project under consideration was located in the area of his conference). This committee functioned in this manner from 1954-1959, when the district secretaries were added—with power to vote only in reference to their own area. Mr. Edwin H. Marklein became the first chairman of the Church Extension Committee and served in this capacity until the mid-sixties.

The Church Extension Fund drive for \$250,000 was launched in the fall of 1954. By April 1955 approximately \$135,000 had been received in cash and pledges. However, by May 1955 these funds had already been committed. In order to carry on current undertakings, another \$50,000 minimum would be needed. By March 1956 the fund had increased to \$178,607 cash with unpaid

by Lyle Wacker

pledges of \$22,473. During all of these years, the Church Extension expenses came under the Church Extension Fund, which, with the added specials, had reached a total of \$261,944 by March 1, 1958. By this date 28 different projects had benefited from the Church Extension Fund. Out of these projects, 23 became organized churches, with a charter membership totaling 646 and a total membership of 2,173.

FUCHS APPOINTED DIRECTOR OF EVANGELISM AND CHURCH EXTENSION

At the Triennial Conference in 1958 the General Missionary Society was reorganized with a Board of Missions in place of the General Missionary Committee. Along with this, the office of the Director of Evangelism and Church Extension was created. The Board of Missions appointed the Rev. Daniel Fuchs to this office. Rev. Fuchs, who had been serving as Conference evangelist, began his ministry as Director of Evangelism and Church Extension on Jan. 1, 1959.

REVOLVING FUND BEGUN

The Board of Missions also approved the Church Extension Committee's request that Church Extension be placed in the budget for \$50,000 per fiscal year. This was the first time Church Extension had become part of the budget. In addition, \$100,000 was to be made available from the N.A.B. Conference reserve, \$50,000 as undesignated funds and \$50,000 as a loan at 3¼% for capital investment. This was the beginning of the eventual fund called Church Extension Revolving Fund.

Initially, it was the policy of the Church Extension Committee and the Board of Missions that Church Extension carry the pastor of a project in its budget for one or two years until the Church became fully organized; then it would be transferred to the Board of Missions under the category of mission-aided churches.



Rev. Lyle Wacker

LOCAL AND REGIONAL COMMITTEES FORMED

The Triennium of 1958-1961 saw a number of changes in some policies in Church Extension. By direction of the 1952 Triennial Conference, Church Extension was to be initiated and administered from the Conference Office. However, it was soon discovered that if Church Extension were to become successful in the Conference, there would have to be more grass-roots involvement. Therefore, in 1958, the local Church Extension committees came into existence when for the first time a committee was organized at the California Association at Lodi. Local and regional Church Extension committees developed quite slowly, with only nine such committees existing as late as 1967.

In his report to the Triennial Conference of 1961, the Rev. Daniel Fuchs said, "Our goal is 'Every Baptist Church with a Mission.' One of the most dramatic evangelistic challenges is for every congregation to be a parent church. . . ." Thus a strong plea was made for more grass-roots concern for planting new churches. The report to the Triennial Conference in 1961 stated that approximately 50 new churches in the United States and Canada had been organized and funded under the Church Extension efforts since its inception.

CHURCH EXTENSION BUILDERS LAUNCHED

It was at the Minneapolis Conference in 1961 that Church Extension Builders was launched. Its initial goal was to

have 10,000 builders contribute one dollar per month for a Church Extension Project appeal of that month for ten months of the year. This goal of 10,000 has never been reached. There are approximately 5,000 subscribers today.

During the Triennium of 1961-64, the Church Extension Building Solicitation Fund, later known as Church Extension Area Solicitation, was established. This solicitation was done on a local level on the 50/50 basis, which meant 50% was a grant secured by gift mortgage and 50% as repayable loan. These two areas of Church Extension Builders and Church Extension Area Solicitation were included annually in the Conference budget coming under Special Categories.

WACKER APPOINTED CHURCH EXTENSION DIRECTOR

By 1967 it had become quite evident that a greater need was developing in the area of planting new churches by the Conference. Consequently the Triennial Conference at Detroit decided to again reorganize the General Missionary Society, whereby a full-time office of Church Extension director was to be created. The Board of Missions appointed the Rev. Lyle Wacker to fill this new position, and he began his ministry on Sept. 1, 1967.

The primary emphasis was given to developing a Church Extension committee or council in as many areas as would seem possible and practical. By 1976 there were approximately 30 Association Church Extension Committees or Councils that had been organized. Each of these local committees is responsible for

the development of new churches within their geographical area. Thus the Church Extension initiating which had been done in earlier years by the Conference Office had almost entirely been transferred to the local Association Committees and Regional Councils by 1976. This transition was aided considerably when at the 1970 Triennial Conference at Winnipeg, the nine local conferences were reorganized into 21 local associations. Consequently, each association became an entity which was concerned about the extension of the gospel within its geographical area.

Another strengthening factor was the more precise involvement of area secretaries in developing church extension interest within each association in each respective area.

In 1969 the Conference Church Extension Committee went on record to support a project church until it was totally self-supporting within a seven-year period. Thus the seven-year policy for self-support was launched.

INVESTORS FUND LAUNCHED

It was quite evident to the members of the Conference Church Extension Committee that a weakness in the N.A.B. Church Extension program was church building financing. A new fund, known as Church Extension Investors Fund (CEIF), was launched in 1973. Basically, the program is the Conference's own savings and loan program. Actually, the fund solicits deposits from the N.A.B. constituency to develop a financial base for the program.

(Continued on page 31)



1977 Church Extension Board meeting at Oakbrook Terrace, IL.

Planned Parenthood

by John Ziegler

The real fruit of a peach tree is not peaches, but another peach tree. Just so, the ultimate fruit of a church is another church. Even though there are 330,000 churches in America today, that is one church for every 700 Americans, Dr. Donald McGavran has strongly emphasized, "The number of churches must double if we are to effectively reach the unreached for Jesus Christ. Today the opportunity for establishing new congregations is greater than anytime in recent history."

One of the key reasons why the New Testament church of Antioch grew was because their mission from their very foundation was to plant new churches across Asia Minor. They never neglected their own fellow citizens. According to Acts 11:20, 21, their witness to Jews and Greeks resulted in "a great number of people believed." But, in Acts 13:3 we read "they placed their hands on them (Barnabas and Saul) and sent them off." They were the two top leaders of the Antioch church, but they did not selfishly hold on to them—they sent them off. The result listed in Acts 14:27 of these church planters after their first church planting journey was an astounding report "of the door of faith" being opened to the Gentiles.

Acts 11:29 reports the church of Antioch "decided to provide help (financial) for the brothers living in Judea." This church literally sacrificed itself in a ministry of parenting new churches. The Antioch Christians were multiplying themselves through parenting new churches, rather than merely adding members to their own roles.

Dr. Charles Chaney, who fostered a dynamic church planting program in Illinois (while some existing churches were arguing about God being dead) has noted several factors which have contributed to a prevailing stalemating of church planting:

"1. There is an infatuation with 'giant' churches. To plant new churches is a threat to their 'empire'. Pastors with 'super church' visions have violently resisted any effort to plant new

The Rev. John Ziegler is associate secretary for Church Extension, N.A.B. Conference.



Rev. John Ziegler

churches anywhere near their territory.

2. There is also a Christian policy of 'detente'. Denominations should not plant churches where none of its own people exist to form a nucleus for a new church."

What Church Extension Means To An Association

by Daunavon J. Buyer

Church Extension is the life blood of the Alberta Association. When the area conferences were dispensed and associations were restructured, there was much skepticism until the responsibility of Church Extension administration was given to the local associations. This added purpose to the local Association, as it now became more than Christian fellowship for the older people. It was also a great advantage to Church Extension when the administration was transferred from the Conference to the Asso-

Mr. D. J. Buyer lives in Carbon, AB. He is a member of the Carbon Baptist Church.

I would add that churches resist having to provide funds for the rapidly escalating costs of buying land and building buildings. All these are mere excuses and never an adequate reason for not fulfilling "the Judean and Samaritan" phase of the Great Commission. The Nazarene congregations, in a study of their growth from 1906-1971, discovered that in the beginning, with very limited resources, they grew extremely fast. Toward the end of the period, when they had much greater strength, their growth had plateaued.

Win Arn and Donald McGavran suggest that the time when a church should consider parenting a new church is when they have their own building and their own pastor. "The need is too pressing and the opportunity too great for a church selfishly to consider its own welfare and forget about the unchurched multitudes." If this is a proper yardstick, and this would be difficult to dispute, then every church should begin planning parenthood.

When parenting becomes the spiritual urgency of every church, we will have no problem with achieving growth. The accounts in this BAPTIST HERALD issue of churches that have become parents, points out that every church that plans parenthood is blessed by the experience with growth. There is no question that God's plan for churches is to "be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish" our world with Christian churches. □

ciation level. This meant that our people became involved with Church Extension at the grass roots; they felt part of it, because they now were directly involved with setting policies, administration and financial responsibilities.

Church Extension has done a great deal for the Alberta Association spiritually, numerically and economically.

One of the highlights of our Association session are the testimonies, and progress reports of our new Church Extension projects. With clearer understanding of Church Extension our people can give more knowledgeable support in their prayers, their personal involvement in nearby projects, and also their financial contributions.

Our Association sessions have grown to the point where only our larger city

churches can accommodate them. More than ever our youth are attending.

With the increase in spiritual understanding and enthusiasm, our budget in 1973 of approximately \$30,000 has increased to \$82,600 in 1977 of which 80-90% goes directly to Church Extension. We have set for our churches a guide line of approximately 25% of all mission giving to go toward the Association Budget. We certainly thank God that we have met and even surpassed our budget in these years.

We, as Alberta Association, follow a very definite prescribed plan that is written in our Constitutional Bylaws. Because of our large area and number of churches, we have two area Church Extension councils. The function of each council within its boundary is to select the area and carry out the survey work. In our two major cities, Edmonton and Calgary, we have met with the city planners to review the next ten-year projection of growth, and stated in which areas we would like to have land reserved for church sites. If a new area shows potentials of a viable church, the area Church Extension council recommends to the Alberta Baptist Associa-

tion Executive, which acts in behalf of the Association at large, which in turn makes application to the Conference Church Extension Department.

We encourage larger churches to act as mother churches as soon as possible, and we have a set of guidelines of responsibilities for them to follow.

Once a Church Extension project is approved the N.A.B. Church Extension Board, in consultation with our area Church Extension council, calls a pastor. The salary is paid by the Conference, and the Association provides some assistance in car allowance.

Our Association takes the financial responsibility of housing by providing down payment and monthly payments on a diminishing seven year period. This becomes an outright grant to the new church.

Land purchases for the church site are also funded by the Association through the budget, along with help from the local people. The Conference Church Extension Revolving Fund may also be used, but the Association endeavors to have this repaid by the time construction begins, so that the entire loan can go for the building project.

Once the building project is approved, the finances can be obtained from any or all of the following ways: Church Extension Builders Fund; Church Extension Revolving Fund; Alberta Baptist Budget (capital funds); solicitation, up to \$15,000 from area churches; bonds or loans by the local church; local people, and contributions from the mother church.

As an Association we endeavor to help a new church financially during the first three years and then gradually cut back, so that it will assume the complete responsibility after seven years. This procedure has worked satisfactorily.

We thank God for the way he has blessed us in Alberta, so that we can carry out Church Extension. We are a growing Association with a wonderful spirit of unity and vision of great things God will do for us in the future. Church Extension as well as the new church growth strategy by our Church Ministries Committee of the Association means the one thing for our Association: More souls won and disciplined for Christ—and what is more important today? □

The Mother Church

by Ron Norman

Family planning has become an increasingly familiar and popular topic of discussion over the past decade due to the over-burdening population of our earth. Families around the world are being encouraged to carefully plan just when and how they should increase their family. Information and materials are at their disposal to help them with it.

But what has been true for these families has not been true for most churches in our Conference. Many have never considered giving birth to a daughter-church, and others are between 50 and 75 years old (old enough to be grandparents!), but the thought of giving birth has not occurred.

The latter was the case at Bismarck Baptist Church in Bismarck, ND. But about five years ago a number of people began to pursue the whole idea. Various

The Rev. Ronald L. Norman is pastor of the Bismarck Baptist Church in North Dakota.

stages passed, as surveys and feelings were registered by our congregation. Finally, the count-down began, and despite a few "holding patterns" a "New Church Development Commission" was initiated and plans began to unfold.

There were many aspects that became a part of preparing us for "motherhood." Survey work, the door-to-door kind, began almost immediately, and various areas of the city were canvassed to determine the best location. The "Commission" continued to meet regularly to re-formulate goals and plans. Biblical data were gathered; prayertimes were numerous, and information to the entire congregation concerning progress was continuous.

The goals established were those to be carried out in the immediate future (0-4 months), short-range (4 months to 2 years), and long-range (2-5 years). We are "right-on" when it comes to the fulfillment of these goals.

A special summer worker was brought in to help canvass the area, which was finally selected for the new church location. It became obvious very quickly



Bismarck Baptist Church, ND

that the harvest truly was ripe. During those six weeks of intensive canvassing there were over ten decisions for Christ and as many as 30 solid church prospects.

In the fall of 1976, a nucleus of families began to meet for Bible study and prayer. A pastor was called, and as of Jan. 1, 1977, a child was conceived—Century Baptist Church.

Bismarck Baptist Church is enjoying immensely its role and responsibility of motherhood. Already, in just nine short months, the growth of her daughter has provided more joy than any experience we've had before as a "childless adult!"

What about the daughter church? Read about her life in the following article.

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A Daughter Is Born

by Donald
Ganstrom



Two scenes of the first Sunday worship service at Century Baptist Church.



"A daughter is born!" so the announcement read. One thousand announcements were printed and sent out to one thousand homes, which had been canvassed eight months before by the mother church. The community in the north Bismarck area was informed that Bismarck Baptist had given birth to a new church that would be meeting in their neighborhood. A relationship that is hard to explain has been established between the mother church and the daughter church.

First, there was the welcome the mother church gave to the daughter's first pastor. They sponsored a special pantry shower at a Sunday evening service with greetings from both groups. The pastor and his wife were made to feel a part of the mother church, and as they joined the church in worship services before the daughter started her own services, they were often invited to members' homes and to other fellowship meetings.

Second, the mother church informed her daughter that a good sum of money had been budgeted to help the new work to purchase property or to go toward a

The Rev. Donald Ganstrom is pastor of Century Baptist Church, Bismarck, ND.

building fund. A tremendous communication and close fellowship has developed toward the daughter church by the Advisory Board of the mother church, as she has invited the new project pastor to be their guest at their monthly meetings to bring an up-to-date report on the progress of the new work. This was an excellent way to get good advice from experienced leaders on various projects being proposed by the daughter. As an example, the purchase of a site for the new church became a co-project to such an extent that the mother church became a co-signer on the land mortgage.

As the weeks progressed, the daughter opened her first services, and the mother anxiously awaited word as to how things were progressing. They kept the communication lines open and praised God with the daughter for all progress reported. The families of the daughter church also kept their interest in how the mother was reaching out in other areas and rejoiced with her in seeing new families replace those who had left to help start the new work.

From time to time, families from the mother church will visit the services of the daughter to give encouragement and assurance of their interest and prayers. Members with musical talent from the mother church come to share with the daughter at Sunday services.

The relationship that has developed between the pastors as co-workers in the city and of the shepherding of the two flocks is one of the greatest blessings this writer has experienced. We praise God that he has protected the work from malice, jealousy, pride, division, or other evils that could so easily spoil the beautiful fellowship we enjoy as a daughter church with our mother church.

Developing New Fields As A Student

by Randy Knutson

As one studies Church Extension from a student's point of view, it becomes quite apparent that the reward will be evident but the work will be hard. I have had the opportunity of working in Church Extension for two summers now. Predominantly, this cliché stands out to me: "Christ never said it would be easy, he just said it would be worth it!" This has been my experience with trying to find a nucleus of people in a community for a new church. It's never easy, but for those few it's worth it.

Christ told his disciples the parable of the mustard seed to illustrate that a small seed, insignificant at one point in time, has the potential to grow to a tree in which birds can make their nests. The principle is that Christianity is a living organism. It starts very small with one or two, then reproduces until soon there is a strong body.

This principle was demonstrated to me in the summer of 1976 in Elk Grove, IL. In striking up a conversation with a woman who was not interested in a Baptist church, but in Christ. This same woman allowed Christ to control her life; as a result by the end of the summer she had led eight people into the Bible study. The story did not stop there, for she soon was leading three or four to Christ. And her story goes on.

In all the experiences I have found door-to-door, there is mainly one type of individual to whom we can minister: the one in need and hurting. For this reason I feel developing new fields is worth it. For the ninety-nine sheep that are secure, praise God, but for those who are wandering, we search. □

Randy Knutson has worked as summer student in two Church Extension projects. He is now a student at North American Baptist College, Edmonton, AB.

Spawning New Churches

by Edgar B. Wesner

The Calvary Baptist Church of Tacoma, WA, has been spawning new churches for over thirty years. Even before Church Extension became an official ministry in our N.A.B. Conference at the Philadelphia Triennial Conference

(Continued on page 23)

Introducing Mr. and Mrs. Ronald A. Stoller, missionary appointees to Japan

by Richard Schilke



Ronald and Joan Stoller

Ronald and Joan Stoller are unique. They claim to have two wedding dates. They were married on Dec. 27, 1975, at the Kobe Union Church in Japan. As American citizens their marriage had to be registered with the U.S. Consulate in Japan. Because of the Christmas and New Year holidays, this registration did not take place until Jan. 9, 1976, when they were informed that—for legal purposes—their marriage date would be January 9, 1976. How did all this happen that two American young people from two different mission groups met and were married in Japan and have now returned to Japan as fully appointed missionaries of our N.A.B. Conference to become engaged in a student ministry in Japan?

EARLY CHILDHOOD

Ronald Alvin Stoller was born on Sept. 1, 1947, at Portland, OR, to Mr. and Mrs. Alvin Stoller as the younger of two sons. His mother was a Methodist minister's daughter. He was reared in the Methodist church which later became a Community Church. The family's attendance at church was very regular and faithful. Ron says: "I remember going to church without missing a Sunday for years." Living in a Christian home, he thought that this made him a Christian. However, at the age of 12 he realized that to be a Christian meant more than that. He saw his need of a Savior and in special meetings

Dr. Richard Schilke is the general secretary of the North American Baptist Missionary Society, Oakbrook Terrace, IL.

called to continue student work in japan

was among those who accepted Christ. When he first attended the Bethany Baptist Church in Portland, OR, in the summer of 1969, he further realized that the biblical teaching of baptism by immersion upon one's profession of faith belonged to the steps of obedience in the Christian life. He was then baptized by immersion by the Rev. Bernard Fritzke on Dec. 9, 1969, and joined the Bethany Baptist Church.

Joan Marie Stoller nee Youngquist was born on Aug. 10, 1946, at Warren, MN, as the oldest of four children, to the Rev. and Mrs. Victor Harris Youngquist. Her father was serving a small Baptist General Conference church while completing his education at the University of North Dakota in Grand Forks, North Dakota. Her parents had the mission field as their goal, were appointed as missionaries to Japan with the Baptist General Conference and left for Japan March 23, 1950. The first two years they lived in Tokyo where her parents studied the Japanese language. Following that they moved to the rural town of Katsuura in the southwest part of Wakayama Prefecture. It was there that this writer on his first visit to Japan first met the family, then in their second term of service, and experienced their hospitality for a night's lodging in their home on February 9, 1959. Joan says: "In the spring of 1954 I accepted Christ as my Saviour after listening to the song 'I am Following Jesus,' the theme song in the movie 'Mr. Texas' sung by George Beverly Shea . . . My mother asked me if I was following Jesus each step of the way . . . My answer was 'no' and at that time I prayed with my mother . . ." During their first furlough, the family resided at Kiron, Iowa. On December 18, 1955, their furlough year, her father baptized her on confession of her faith and she joined the First Baptist Church at Kiron, Iowa where she maintained her membership until she transferred it to Bethany Baptist Church in Portland on Dec. 5, 1976.

LIFE'S EDUCATIONAL PREPARATION

Ron graduated from Sunset High School in Beaverton (a suburb of Portland), Oregon in 1965. For the following years he attended the Portland Community College in Portland, Oregon and

received his A.A. degree in business administration in 1967 and his A.A. degree in computer operation in 1969. Then he transferred to Portland State University in Portland, Oregon where he received his B.S. degree in business administration, marketing and management in 1972. He desired to prepare himself for "the secular world and be an effective layman." During his college days he was active in campus Christian groups and attended many of their conferences. In the Community Church he substituted as a Sunday school teacher and one year served as Sunday school treasurer. At Bethany Baptist Church he became a coordinator for the junior high department, served as Sunday school teacher in the primary department, sang in the choir for several years, and also served on the Board of Christian Education. During summers he was active in camp work.

Joan said that her schooling situation "was quite unique." Her missionary parents lived quite far away from any English school in Japan and so her mother supervised her teaching program. "I studied at home through correspondence courses (offered by the Calvert School, Baltimore, MD, and the University of Nebraska Extension Division) from kindergarten through senior high school. My mother taught all of us," she says. From 1964 to 1968 she attended Bethel College in St. Paul, Minnesota where she received her B.A. degree with a double major: Christianity and Psychology. Concerning this period Joan says: "Leaving home to attend Bethel College . . . was a new experience as I had never been away from both my parents for more than one week and this time the separation was three years. I feel that at this point my relationship to God became very important. God definitely led me in the decision concerning my majors of Christianity and Psychology as at that time I felt I may be led into mission work some day."

COMMON MISSIONARY INTERESTS

During his first year at college and at age 18, Ron was faced with the U.S. draft. He had no particular direction in life at that time but did not want to enlist. In a youth meeting he prayed with

(Continued on page 10)

CHURCHEXTENSIONCHURCHEXTENSIONCHURCHEXTENSION

a friend concerning these matters and "promised the Lord two years of full-time service in His work if He would keep me out of the service. Looking back on this promise, it looks very selfish but I now see the leading of the Lord in it," he says. Due to his father's health, Ron received a deferment and was able to complete his college career. On January 15, 1972, his senior year in college, he read in "Moments with God" the devotional written by the Rev. Fred G. Moore, then missionary in Japan. The "thought starter" in that devotional challenged him: "Have you prayerfully considered the possibility that God might want you to serve as a missionary to Japan?" The result of this

was that he spent the summer of 1972 in Japan on his own expense. In 1973 he was appointed by our Board of Missions as a short-term missionary to Japan and after two years extended his service to a third year. During that time he served mainly with students in the Tsu and Matsusaka area, residing first at Tsu and then at Matsusaka during his final year. Missionaries and nationals recognized his unique talents to work with and influence students. Many of them attended services as a result of his contacts and his love for them.

Joan felt led to return to Japan following her graduation from Bethel College. At first it was just a trip to Japan to visit friends since she had not

settled on a job at home. As soon as she arrived in Japan, she was offered English teaching jobs in Japanese public schools, and she accepted that as from God. From the fall of 1968 to the spring of 1976 she taught at the Wakayama University Junior High and several years at the Wakayama Medical College and in the education and economics department of the Wakayama University. Her twenty years in Japan have identified her fully with Japanese ways and culture. "Throughout this time," she says, "I have been able to be actively involved with the local Japanese Baptist Church, teaching Sunday school and playing the organ." She also served as
(Continued on page 28)

Is Short-term Missionary Service a Challenge?

by Richard Schilke

Our short-term missionary service to Cameroon and to Japan has been a challenge to a goodly number of young people from our N.A.B. churches. The short-term two-year program for Cameroon saw the first group of young people go out in 1965, and for Japan in 1971. For all of them it was an opportunity of service to learn something of another culture in an overseas country and to share Christ with those people of that culture. Many have testified that this gave them an opportunity of service and a sense of satisfaction. To some, in both countries, it became a challenge to give themselves more fully to missionary service and seek appointment on a more regular missionary basis of long-term service.

With this article we want to introduce to the readers of the BAPTIST HERALD one who has just received appointment to Japan on a short-term basis and another one who was challenged to transfer from short-term to regular appointment as missionary to Japan.

Miss Diane June Penner

Diane June Penner was born on Aug. 28, 1952, at Portland, OR, to the Rev. and Mrs. Robert F. Penner. She has one older brother. Her father was at that time pastor of the Glencullen Baptist Church in Portland, OR, and was also completing his theological studies at Western Conservative Baptist Theologi-

cal Seminary in Portland. As a pastor's daughter Diane had the opportunity of living in various parts of our country. Of this period she says: "My first year was spent in Portland. My family then moved to Dallas, Oregon . . . In 1960 we moved to Lansing, Michigan, and when I was a junior in high school, we moved to Missoula, Montana. . . . I really appreciated having been brought up in various sized cities in different states. I feel all the richer for the wonderful friends and many opportunities I have had as a 'preacher's kid.' "

Early in life Diane accepted Christ as her personal Savior, was baptized by her father on Feb. 15, 1959, and became a member of the Salt Creek Baptist Church, Dallas, OR. This past year, while teaching at Chehalis, WA, she has been a member of the Mountain View Baptist Church in Centralia, WA (Conservative Baptist) but upon appointment has now transferred her membership to Grace Baptist Church in Grand Forks, ND where her father is presently the pastor. Throughout the years she has been involved in church work in various areas of Sunday school and youth. In 1972 she attended Explo 72 in Dallas, Texas and was active in Campus Crusade as an action group leader during college.

Following her high school graduation in 1970 from Hellgate High School, Missoula, Montana, she attended Seattle Pacific College, Seattle, Washington where in 1974 she received her B.A. degree in sociology and elementary education. For the past several years she has

been teaching in the public schools in Chehalis. Her superintendent gives her the following testimony: "As a teacher, Diane is one of our bright young prospects. I would be unhappy to lose her service as a teacher, but I know she can be of tremendous service in the missionary field also. I can say that Diane Penner would do an outstanding job in this Christian service. I have had a number of opportunities to share the Lord's work with her, and she is a real tribute to his work."

Diane herself says: "While in college, I had the opportunity to share Christ with foreign students from Oriental countries by using the Campus Crusade



Diane June Penner

National Collegiate Religious Survey. I will always remember these friends as being very well mannered, polite and calm spirited. We got along very well." Her missionary purpose is: "To share my faith in Jesus Christ as his servant to the people he has called me to love and teach. My desire is that the Japanese would come to know Jesus Christ as their Savior." Of her parents she says: "Ever since I can remember, my family has had missionaries stay in our home. I was always thrilled to be able to learn first hand about the tasks and interesting experiences of my friends. We have been a mission minded family."

At Portland, during the days of the Triennial Conference 1976, the Lord spoke to Diane "through the influence of friends and the brochure 'Opportunities in Japan.'" The Lord seemed to ask her about her willingness to be used as a short-term missionary in Japan in teaching conversational English, befriending herself to those with whom she can make contact through this avenue of service, and share her faith in Christ with them. To the question of such service as a lifework she says: "If the Lord leads me in that direction." Diane was appointed by the Board of Missions in its April annual session as a short-term missionary to Japan. She left for Japan on August 18, accompanied by the Weick family on their return to Japan. In Japan she will be located at Osaka, where she will find many opportunities to share her faith and find that this short-term service is indeed a challenge.

Miss Rebecca Heerts

Rebecca Heerts experienced the challenge of short-term missionary service in Japan to such a degree that she became



Rebecca Heerts

convinced that God was calling her to give herself more fully to missionary service on a regular appointment basis. For the past five years Rebecca served in Japan as a short-term missionary. From 1972 to 1974 she taught at Osaka Christian School, a school for missionary children (see write-up in BAPTIST HERALD, November issue, 1972). Following that she came home for approximately seven months, did some deputation, and returned to Japan by mid-January, 1975, on the regular short-term basis. She has resided in Osaka for the past two and one-half years. Early this year she wrote: "Four or five months ago I began earnestly seeking the Lord's direction for the future after my short-term is finished. . . . The more I prayed, searched the Scriptures and talked with others, the more I felt the Lord leading in the direction of returning to Japan—working in the same English-teaching and related work field, especially in a missionary capacity in which my contacts would be channeled to our churches. . . . I greatly desire to work again as quickly as possible with our Mission. I feel strongly enough about it that should it not work out to return with our Mission, I would consider another means by which to return to Japan."

In her follow-up application for missionary service, Rebecca wrote: "I have met and become involved with many—perhaps 99% of them are unsaved. As friendships and ties have strengthened, so has my awareness of their lost condition and burden for their souls. In working with the pastor of our church, Yukio Fujie, and full-time missionaries, I've seen unlimited areas of ministry and means of reaching these contacts. The work is thrilling, the learning is enriching, and the results are a stimulus to 'pressing on towards the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.' As a result, I feel the Lord leading on to the next step—that of full-time missionary service, and I eagerly anticipate returning as soon as possible to carry on with the unfinished task of reaching the unsaved of Japan."

Rebecca Heerts was born on Sept. 16, 1947, at Waterloo, IA to Mr. and Mrs. William R. Heerts as the first born of five children, two sisters and two brothers. Her great-grandfather and her uncle were Baptist pastors. Her one sister is a missionary in Europe. Early in life Rebecca accepted Christ as her personal Savior and was baptized in 1956 at the age of nine by the Rev. Ronald McCormick and became a member of the Calvary Baptist Church in Parkersburg, IA. Here she found joy to serve her Lord in various activities of church life: as Sunday school teacher,

vacation Bible school teacher, choir member and in youth activities.

In 1965 Rebecca graduated from Dike Community High School in Dike, IA. Choosing a college was for her "the first major decision." Through winning an essay contest scholarship, she was able to go to Sioux Falls College, Sioux Falls, SD, where she graduated in 1969 with a B.A. degree in elementary education. In her junior year at college she became dorm president, was a member of the college band, choir, madrigal singers, and girls trio. Her convictions deepened during that time and she began to feel a real burden for the unsaved. In 1969-70 she served as a member of our N.A.B. God's Volunteers. Concerning this she says: "Through the experiences of that year the Lord gave boldness in witnessing so that it became a part of my life. . . . With GVs I first tasted the thrill of leading others to a saving knowledge of Christ."

During 1970-72 Rebecca taught grade two at McKinley Elementary School in Owatonna, MN. Early in 1972 a request came from Japan for a teacher to teach missionary children at Osaka Christian School where the children of the Rev. and Mrs. C. Richard Mayforth were attending. When Rebecca heard of this need, she was one of several who applied. She wrote: "Probably the initial cause for considering this possibility was the contact with missionary friends and seeking God's will for my life." The former Miss Lucille DeBoer, now Mrs. Lengefeld, short-term missionary in Japan, was that particular friend from college days. Rebecca then was appointed and taught two years at OCS, followed by the past two and one-half years on the regular short-term basis.

The Board of Missions at its April annual session considered the application of Rebecca for missionary service, and on the recommendation of our Japan Field Committee appointed her as missionary to Japan on the regular missionary appointment basis. She will be given a year of furlough on the short-term basis followed by a year of leave of absence so that she can enroll as a full-time student at the N.A.B. Seminary in Sioux Falls, SD, taking up studies in the area of counseling. By 1979 she is to return to Japan and take up language studies before her actual missionary service is to begin. To return to Japan "as quickly as possible" will thus take these years of further preparation. However, the challenge is great for Rebecca Heerts so that she is willing to commit herself to these years of training as a priority in the next step for missionary service. We are confident that God will continue to lead her every step of the way. □

From Independence to Interdependence through Church Extension

by Richard Methner

I found the Lord Jesus Christ as my Savior through the visitation program of the large Emmanuel Baptist Church of Pontiac, MI. Dr. Tom Malone is the pastor of this church, which has an average attendance of 3,000 in Sunday school. Two months after I was saved (Nov. 20, 1962) God called me to preach the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ. I enrolled at Midwestern Baptist College in Pontiac, MI. There I received my B.R.E. degree in 1966.

I had been saved through an independent church and received my college training in an independent college. We were taught that many denominations were not completely fundamental, therefore to stay clear of them. Midwestern Baptist College and other independent schools have turned out some of the greatest preachers, pastors and evangelists. I will always pray for and support Midwestern Baptist College.

After a short ministry as the associate pastor at Fremont Baptist Temple I began to pray and ask God where he would have me serve him. I had a secular job at the time and taught at Toledo Bible College at night. After two years of praying God laid it upon my heart to start a new independent Baptist church right here in Fremont. On Oct. 20, 1974, we began the work, meeting in Otis School.

Unknown to me, God had already sent the Weinstein family to Fremont from Napier Parkview Baptist Church in St. Joseph, MI. Brother Weinstein saw our advertisement in the newspaper and called me, wanting to know more about our church. Shortly after that, they began attending and joined. Brother Al asked me if I had ever thought of joining a Conference, meaning the N.A.B. Conference. I said, "Let's pray about it." The Penn-Ohio Association was, at the same time, praying about a new Church Extension project in this area. We know that all this was God's Will, and praise him for the way he works things out.

Brothers Lyle Wacker, Helmut Lotz and others came to our home and discussed the work of the North American Baptist Conference and the Church Ex-

tension program with us. I immediately felt God had called us into the N.A.B. There are many advantages in being in a Conference. I will endeavor to list some:

1. I know God directed the Calvary Baptist Church into the N.A.B. Conference, thus the N.A.B. is of God and his blessing is on this great Conference.
2. The Conference believes wholeheartedly in the complete independence of the local church. Therefore I am as independent as I ever was.
3. Through Church Extension I no longer have to work at a secular job as many pastors do, when starting a new work.
4. We have much prayer support: 352 churches and 57,000 Christians in the N.A.B.
5. I have fellowship with other pastors and our church has fellowship with other N.A.B. churches. I can share my burdens with those who are concerned about me and our work.
6. The Conference has a great mission program, and we pray for it and support it 100 percent.
7. Through Church Extension we were able to borrow \$70,000.00 to purchase a church building which seats 350.
8. The N.A.B. College and Seminary are doing a great job, and being accredited is an added plus.
9. The summer camps at Camp Burton along with the Men's and Women's Retreats are an added blessing.
10. I feel that God has accomplished through the N.A.B. Conference in just two years what would have taken an independent pastor, starting from nothing, perhaps eight to ten years to achieve. I am so sold on the N.A.B. that through my efforts the Penn-Ohio Association has recently received two other independent churches into their fellowship (Grace Baptist Temple of Upper Sandusky, Dr. James Reidling, pastor; and Southside Baptist Temple of Maumee, Rev. Ron Heisler, pastor).

Space does not allow me to list all the advantages of being in the N.A.B. Conference, but praise God for it! □

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

Don Miller to Pastor Church



by John Hisel

Don Miller, vice president for development at North American Baptist Seminary, Sioux Falls, SD, for the past eight years, terminated his service effective Oct. 1, 1977, and became pastor of Bethany Baptist Church, Portland, OR, in October.

During the past eight years Don has brought dynamic and enthusiastic administrative leadership to his seminary ministry. His effective skills in the student recruitment effort of the seminary have seen enrollment more than double during the past eight years. His abilities in communications have seen the development of a compliment of seminary publications that have won national recognition for the seminary. Don has endeared himself to students, faculty, staff and our N.A.B. constituency throughout the years. We as a seminary family will miss him.

In a recent letter of resignation to President Draewell, Don said, "When I came to the seminary in March of 1969, I felt it was the right decision. I now feel equally confident that the time is right for me to relocate my time . . . energies . . . and gifts in another direction."

We wish Don, Nancy, Denise, Cheryl and Timothy the blessings of God upon their pastoral ministry. □

Dr. John Hisel is director of church and community relations at North American Baptist Seminary.



THE WINDOW OF TEARS

Put your powerful arms around me,
and let me cry.
Loneliness, I know, is selfish
But my humanness still aches.

Remind me of the way
You were forsaken,
Even by your Father,
And love me, Lord.

Teach me and make me learn
Leaning on your eternal compassion
I climb out of flesh
And explore the heart of him.

It's empty, too, and alone,
Longing for substance.
Show him, Lord, where you are.
Together we find the uniqueness of
your love.

It's gone now, Lord,
You've filled the void
Providing abundance in a new brother.
Eyes are cleansed now and heart
looks outward
—Luann Meissner, Columbus,
Nebraska

REST

I was tired and burdened as I walked
along,
Then Jesus, my Lord, came my way.
He told me to cast my burdens on him;
He said his burden was not heavy,
but light.
I looked all around, shifted my weight
and said,
"I can't do that; it will just have to
wait."
I struggled and heaved and pushed some
more,
till finally I broke down and said,
"Where's my Lord?"
He was close by my side all along,
But he waited until I was ready.
He put out his hand, took my burden
and carried it around
as if it were air!
I felt such relief and I looked up at him
saying,
"Why not before, Lord? Why did I
wait?"
—Rose Merke, Chicago, Illinois

THE DECISION

I am told by many men of great
intelligence
who can grasp the mysteries of this
world
that life has been here hurled—
only by chance.

If this be so, then what beauty is there
in a tree
and what value has love,
joy,
and you or me?
There would then be no worth in such
things.

But seriously now, we should think
twice,
before we accept the destiny—of a
dice;
Because perhaps we'll miss that needed
advice—
for finding a meaningful life!

There was a man who once came here.
He said there is more to life than
misguided cheer.
He brought hope for a better day and
said it was found
only through him, the Way—
to the good life.

So we must make our own choice.
We have, in this situation, a free voice;
But we must abide by what we decide!
Then let us see if what we choose will
make us truly free—
to enjoy life—
as it was meant to be.
—Daniel K. Splett, Calgary, Alberta

FATHER

We are all people here—
With our own needs
and hopes
and fears
and desires.
We come here on Sundays and pull out
a little
cubicle of ourselves, show it and
say—
This is me!
But you, Lord,
Accept each part of our lives, our
whole life—
mind, soul, heart and body.
Why can't we accept each other the
same way?
—Debbie

Faith is . . .
How would you complete this state-
ment? We are looking for young people
to do just that for the *Youth Scene*
page. Type your "Faith is . . ." state-
ment on one page, double-spaced and
send it to Youth Scene, Baptist Herald,
1 So. 210 Summit Ave., Oakbrook Ter-
race, Villa Park, IL 60181.

YOUNG PEOPLES

How apt a description!
We are all young—just on the beginning
footsteps
of our life's journey.

And yet—we are people.
We are all so unique
We have our loves and hates,
desires and passions,
hurts and sufferings.
We are all so vulnerable.

And that is why we are sometimes so
closed.

I ask that You would help each one of
us to be free—
free from our inhibitions
and our fears—
Free to be totally and completely
ourselves
To be honest with each other
and share our lives.

For we pass through life only once,
And what a pity to miss
any of the beauty that is in each of
the kids
here—
in Young Peoples.

—Debbie

LIFE

Life has its ups and downs
as you can plainly see.
And if you need an example friend,
I'll say, just look at me.

When life gets gray and gloomy
And it seems you're beat and
doomed,
You must consider something first—
Jesus' life was much, much worse.

He didn't have a home,
All he ever did was roam.
He didn't have a bed
or a place to lay his head.

On this old, wicked earth
God gave each one a plan;
But Jesus' only plan was to die for
every man.

As you know, he rose again
This truly was a win.
The greatest King around;
And he never wore a crown.

So when things are getting rough
And you think it's way too tough,
Then just remember Jesus—
You'll never give enough.

—Steve Anthes, Parkersburg, Iowa



Meet Francisca Ntui, Headwoman of Pastors' Wives

by Sara Pasiciel,
Cameroon, Africa

Let me begin with something I wrote down when we first came to Cameroon, almost three years ago, when impressions were vivid and overwhelming.

A young girl in a mini-skirt perched on platform shoes, balancing on the rocky market street, bows her Afro-topped head to a lappa-wrapped grandmother. "Good morning, madame, are you well?" Then goes on to buy her skin-lightener and ground corn for foo-foo. The grandmother raises her umbrella over the load of firewood on her head, and carries a bottle of Coca-Cola, hospitality for her next guest.

There is obviously no "typical Cameroonian," just as there is no typical American or Canadian. And the differences and contrasts among the women here are still much more marked than that among the men, differences resulting from location, education, their husbands' occupations and many other factors.

We have been fortunate to live both at the coast and in the grasslands of Cameroon. As the climate differs, so do the crops; as the crops differ, so do the methods of farming; as the methods, so the lifestyle; as the lifestyle, so the people themselves.

I hope to introduce to you in the months to come several of the women we have met and known. The first is Mrs. Francisca Ntui, the wife of David O. Ntui, who is returning to Kumba field as field pastor after two years at



Ndu, taking the advanced level T.C.C. at the Bible school. Francisca is also the "headwoman" or chairwoman of the pastors' wives here at Baptist Bible Training College. Here is a "word picture" of her:

Francisca: tall, slender, straight from years of carrying her head high with a load of firewood, or corn, or market goods. Straight also with pride in her pastor-husband, a man who holds respect from all who meet him because of his own concern and common sense and unfaltering Christian testimony. Straight, too, from carrying four boys: a dignified eight-year-old, small image of his father; a quiet five-year-old, following his older brother, wide-eyed and worshipping; an irrepressible, irresistible three-year-old, whom mischief seeks out, finding a welcome every time; the baby, one and one-half, still riding on his mother's back.

Quiet, capable, beautiful, her dark face framed by bright cloth. A shy smile, a soft lisp, her authority as headwoman is maintained with others' confidence in her Christian stand and reliability. Her suggestions are made softly, with a nod of her head, a whispered word, a smile behind cupped hands.

A child of a Christian mother, the only wife of her non-Christian husband; product of a Christian primary school; molded into wifedom by work on her father's farm and in her mother's kitchen; married at 18 to a man of her choice, only eight years her senior. Francisca is a gracious, capable and true helpmate to her husband, a Christian example in her own right to all with whom she comes in contact.

New Venture in Faith

by Ruth Selby,
Burlington, Ontario

When I first became a Christian I had a very strong desire to be baptized. This seemed to be only a dream, as pastors, Christians and radio Bible teachers alike assured me that it was not necessary to be baptized to be a born-again Christian and that it was enough to have the desire within my heart. This satisfied me

for awhile until I began to attend Pine-land Baptist Church where I was encouraged to be baptized. So I attended pastor's class, very excited about my new venture in faith.

You may wonder, "Why all the fuss about something so simple?" Well, having had rheumatoid arthritis for 27 years, since the age of four, and being totally disabled, bedridden and wheelchair-bound, I had not been out at all for ten years before coming to church. Attending Sunday school and church had been the big adventure of my week for the past two months. And now I was to be baptized in water!

Two weeks before my baptism (I had begun to think of it as "B Day"), I had to enter the hospital for tests. One week turned into two and by Thursday I be-



gan to suspect that two would turn into three or six. I requested permission to go home for the weekend, explaining the reason. I prayed, asking the Lord to work out the details, and felt a sense of peace and trust that all would be well. Then the nurse returned and said I had a pass for the weekend with special permission to stay out late Sunday evening. "Praise the Lord!"

Since I had never been afraid of water, in fact I loved a swim whenever I could get one, I had not thought of this as being a problem. However, as I was being lowered into the pool in the hospital on the hydraulic lift for the first time in 15 years, I experienced a real fear as the water crept up over me. Mentally I was not afraid, and I was wearing a life jacket, but I really panicked and had difficulty breathing for a few minutes. Each day as I went into the pool for therapy this feeling lessened, and on Friday I swam around vigorously and unafraid and pushed my face under water several times. The Lord knew that I needed these several days experience in the water to prepare me for my "dunking," and he provided it for me in such an unusual way.

B-Day arrived! Pastor Kerber asked me if I would give my testimony to the church before my baptism. I had not

spoken in public for many years, and I was quite nervous as I faced the full church.

The other candidates were baptized first. As the men carried me in the wheelchair up that long flight of stairs, I was glad I had not known how steep it was before. Then they pushed the chair to the edge of the tank where Pastor Kerber and a deacon were standing. They took the front of the wheelchair and another deacon had the handles at the back of the chair, and they began to lower me, wheelchair and all into the tank. I praised God in perfect peace as I went into the water. The wheelchair sank to the bottom, but I floated! As pastor opened the curtains my baptismal gown was floating over the water, and I was trying very hard to keep a straight face and not to giggle too much.

I gave my life verse of Scripture, Matthew 6:33. "Seek ye first the kingdom of God and his righteousness: and all these things shall be added unto you," while the men were holding me floating in the water.

Pastor Kerber asked, "Ruth, do you believe in the Lord Jesus Christ and have you accepted him as your personal Savior?"

"Yes, I have," I replied.

"Upon the profession of your faith I baptize you in the name of God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit."

Pastor and the deacons took hold of me and all pushed at once, until they got me under water.

When I was taken back to the hospital that night, the nurse asked what those bruises were all over my legs and body. I laughed as I explained they were my baptismal scars.



by Dorene Walth,
W.M.U. president,
Sioux Falls, SD

Back there, a little farther down the stairway, when I became a Christian, I prayed, "Lord, if you can use THIS

piece of humanity, go right ahead!"

As an eager beaver to serve him, I wasn't aware of the word "no" in Christian service for many years.

Complications of carnality eventually began to set in. I had become self-centered, leading the life of a "martyr." Poor prayer life developed along with jealousy, guilt, worry, discouragement, frustration and aimlessness.

While in this sad situation, I had the unique privilege to visit the Bible Lands. I really didn't want to go because I was afraid that "God would just expect that much more of me" when I came back. I'd have to show slides and tell groups about my trip! God wanted me to go, however, for he worked out wonderful provisions for my "getting ready" concerns. Hesitatingly, I boarded that jet with a prayer on my lips that somehow he would show me, while walking where Jesus walked, that living for him and serving him was truly important. I had my doubts about this!

Majestic Rome and magnificent Greece were marvelous experiences. Landing in Palestine was like stepping into the Bible. What thrills to walk the desert sands of Beersheba, to eat luscious fruit from Joppa, to touch the mineral laden waters of the Dead Sea and to pray on the shores of Galilee.

In 1970 Israel was involved in war activities just as it is today. Our tour bus was ambushed by Arab terrorists using automatic rifle fire at close range. Tourism contributes greatly to the Israeli economy, and this was an attempt to stifle this lucrative business. The attack came just outside the ancient city of Hebron, the home of the Patriarchs.

A bullet whizzed past my head, grazing my scalp slightly but effectively enough to give me the feeling that I had been hit. We all thought we would be killed. A friend, Barbara Ertle, pastor's wife from Grandville, MI, was fatally wounded when a bullet severed her aorta. Two others were wounded very seriously.

In those unusual seconds, my life did not flash before my mind as it had done in other "close calls." Instead, the prayer I prayed while young, inviting Christ into my life, comforted me. I was reminded that I had prepared myself for physical death that day long ago. Now all I could do was say, "Dear Lord, if this is my day to be with you, I'm ready!"

What a thrill for me to experience this test of my faith! Back in my hotel room that night I thought of my husband and children. I thought of my role as a pastor's wife and schoolteacher. Why had God spared me? Just a tilt of my head in any direction could have made the difference between life and death,

for the bullets traveled at an angle toward our moving bus.

I had been taking my life for granted and had been serving my own interests rather than God's. This narrow escape made me realize that one cannot "fool around" as a Christian. God has a purpose and a plan for me in my daily climb with him. If I spend time and energy trying to win human approval and this world's goods, I should never be Christ's servant! I must set priorities and keep occupied with the things that really count—things that have eternal value. Trying to lead a Christian life and do "Christian things" without the power of the Holy Spirit is foolishness!

Coming home was an adventure for me. I resolved anew to trust God with every detail of my life—to put "first things first."

World Day of Prayer



by LaVerna Mehlhaff,
women's work

Baptist women's groups around the world will be meeting on Nov. 7, 1977, for the Day of Prayer. The theme is "A Future and a Hope."

All the women of our churches are encouraged to participate in the meeting planned in your church or in the church in your area. Needs of women, families, churches, community, nation and the world will be shared, followed by prayer for those specific needs. It will be a privilege to be a part of the women praying around the world. Hopefully there will be a continuation of prayer for needs and concerns expressed on that day.

The offerings received are to be sent to the Conference Office at Oakbrook Terrace, designated "Baptist World Day of Prayer Offering." One half of the money will be used to pay for BAPTIST HERALD subscriptions sent airmail to our missionaries, and for scholarships for students attending North American Baptist Seminary, Sioux Falls, SD, and North American Baptist College, Edmonton, AB; the other half will be sent to the North American Baptist Women's Union Office in Washington, DC. Thank you for your faithful support, and God bless you richly as you pray and fellowship together on the World Day of Prayer. □

In Memory of Paul Gebauer, D.D.

Tribute to a Soldier of the Lord

by Richard Schilke

Dr. Paul Gebauer was under appointment as missionary to Cameroon, Africa, from 1931-62 except for the years 1942-46 when he was on leave and served as chaplain in the United States forces in Europe. He first went to Cameroon in 1931 under appointment with the Neuruppin Mission (Baptist Union of Germany) by whom all our missionaries from Cameroon from 1890-1935 were appointed.

I first met Paul during his first furlough in 1934-35 when he visited our seminary in Rochester, NY, where I was at that time a first-year student. It never entered my mind then that we would one day be so closely associated in the work of missions for more than a decade; he as field superintendent of our Mission in Cameroon and I as general missionary secretary at the home office. In 1935 Paul Gebauer returned to Cameroon under our appointment and as newly married, taking with him as wife the former Clara Kratt of Portland, OR. He had fulfilled the two requests which he received as a missionary in Cameroon for thirty years, namely: to return to Cameroon with the appointment of our own Conference and to return married.

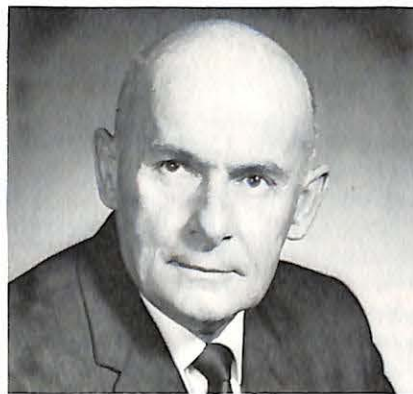
When I accepted the appointment as general missionary secretary, to begin March 10, 1951, I received a letter from Paul Gebauer even before leaving Bethel Baptist Church in Anaheim, CA. It was dated January 20, 1951, was written in military fashion which so characterized his behavior and decisions. It read in part: "You have accepted a terrific assignment and you will need all that

Dr. Richard Schilke is the general secretary of the N.A.B. General Missionary Society.

Tribute To A Great Missionary

by Fred Folkerts

The Rev. Fred Folkerts is the associate secretary for overseas missions.



Dr. Paul Gebauer

God can offer and give to man. You know how to ask God, and you will receive the strength for your turbulent days and years. Accept my personal assurance that you have my undivided support and my loyalty. I am a soldier who has learned to serve and to obey. How good, I must leave to those who have suffered under my discipline and obedience through the past years. But this I state humbly and with determination, that I have learned to serve under those who have been appointed to be my superiors. . . . You have my support and service, however small it may be in the larger frame of your larger responsibilities." Throughout the decade of our association in the work, Paul carried out to the letter what he first wrote me.

During his furlough year of 1951-52, Paul Gebauer gave valuable assistance to a complete re-organization of our mission in Cameroon from an all-missionary-field-council to a representative-field-committee of our missionaries. It was not until 1954 during my first visit to Cameroon when the re-organization was ratified by the missionaries on the field. For most of those eight weeks in Cameroon in the late fall of 1954 Paul Gebauer accompanied me on my travels and visits to the various stations, to tribal chiefs, and to government officials. I was initiated into Cameroon culture not so much by what he said but by observing him in his movements and contacts. He was highly respected in all circles. His decisions may not always have pleased every one, but they were made with keen insight and were the best in his time and for his day. As long as Paul Gebauer was in service, we could not have had another better leader to supervise our mission in Cameroon.

At home in his furlough years he was

Dr. Paul Gebauer was a man with many talents and ministries. He used his great abilities and energies in the service of God and his fellowmen.

I knew Paul as a missionary. When I arrived on the mission field where he had labored for 25 or more years prior to my arrival, the evidence of his work was all around us. Schools, dispensaries, churches and mission stations bore the mark of his handiwork and organization. His appreciation of the art and culture of the people showed in the buildings he helped to erect. Paul was a builder, and he left many simple, func-

tionally, beautiful monuments for the people he served.

greatly desired as a speaker and was much beloved. In his very unique way he captured his audiences and made his points in less time than any speaker I have known. He would not infringe on anyone's time. When his time was infringed upon, he would just say a few words, win the hearts of his hearers and wish them God's blessing. Only Paul Gebauer could get away with it!

When West Cameroon gained independence in 1961 by joining East Cameroon and forming the Republic of Cameroon, Paul Gebauer felt that his ministry in Cameroon should come to an end. He resigned in 1962, and though the Conference would have elected him to a newly created office of stewardship secretary and though the Board of Missions offered him the appointment of Missionary Deputation Secretary, he felt led to give the remainder of his time to teaching and to his family, wife and two children: Anne and Walter. He took a position on the faculty of Linfield College in McMinnville, OR, until his retirement.

Various honors came to him. Queen Elizabeth II of England bestowed upon him the title of Order of the British Empire (OBE) at London, England, on July 23, 1957. Linfield College in McMinnville, OR, granted him the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity in 1952. Our N.A.B. Seminary in Sioux Falls, SD, granted him the same honorary degree in 1962. But the greatest honor was given him by our Lord himself when He first made him a son of God at the age of 13, called him into missionary service in 1931, and called him to his eternal reward on the night of June 22-23, 1977. Paul and Clara Gebauer were on a group tour and had just visited the Grand Canyon. During their overnight stay in a motel in Ely, NV, Paul heard his Master's call and slipped away in his sleep to meet his Master who had first claim on his life.

Upon hearing of his death, I sent to Clara, his beloved wife, the following telegram which I now would also like to have as the final tribute to him: "On behalf of the North American Baptist General Missionary Society, the office staff and the Conference we extend to you and your family our deepest sympathy in the sudden passing of Paul, beloved husband and father, and for thirty years missionary pioneer, leader and statesman in Cameroon. 'Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord . . . they may rest from their labors and their works do follow them' (Rev. 14:13). □

The most outstanding feature of Paul Gebauer as a missionary was his interest and love for people. He had a gift for inspiring those around him to give their best to whatever they were doing. His enthusiasm and zest were infectious. He looked and planned ahead with fellow workers in the ministry to which he was called. He had a special talent for earning the admiration, respect and attention of young people. He used this talent to shape and influence many North American as well as African young peo-

ple toward responsible and obedient service to God and mankind. He was a friend and counsellor to persons from all ranks of the African society. He was committed to proclaim the gospel.

Tribute To The Right Man At The Right Place

by Dr. Frank H. Woyke

The death of Paul Gebauer reminds us of his outstanding contribution toward the Cameroon Baptist Mission over a period of three decades. Although his leadership affected every aspect of the work, I have opportunity here to mention only a few highlights.

The appointment of Paul Gebauer in 1931 marked the beginning of a new era in the history of missionary work in Cameroon, as far as the North American Baptist Conference was concerned. Although young people from our churches had volunteered for service in Cameroon ever since 1891, when Mr. and Mrs. August Steffens first landed there, they had always served under the direction of the Missionary Society of the Baptists of Germany. The changed conditions after World War I permitted our own General Missionary Society to appoint missionaries and to administer their work on certain stations. When Paul and Clara Gebauer, who had been married on his first furlough, went to Cameroon in 1935, the Cameroon Baptist Mission was formed. We all know about the wonderful growth of this Mission during the years that followed.

Paul and Clara Gebauer soon developed a good working relationship with the British Authorities. During the upheaval caused by World War II, these authorities demonstrated their confidence in the Cameroon Baptist Mission by asking our own General Missionary Society to accept responsibility for all of the Baptist Work in British Cameroon. This brought open doors and presented us with many new challenges.

Paul Gebauer's vital contribution toward the growth of the medical ministry of the Cameroon Baptist Mission also needs to be mentioned. At his urging a number of well qualified and dedicated

Dr. F. H. Woyke is the former executive secretary (1946-68) of the North American Baptist Conference, now living in retirement.

nurses soon came forward: Edith Koppin in 1936, Laura Reddig in 1938, and Margaret Kittlitz in 1945. They opened dispensaries and traveled from community to community to provide medicines and teach health care. In 1948 the government offered to donate its small hospital at Banzo to the Cameroon Baptist Mission. Convinced that the response should be in the affirmative, and without waiting to clear the matter with the General Missionary Committee, Paul Gebauer immediately accepted the offer. Now there was a hospital, but where was the doctor? Word came from the Rev. Frank Friesen that he knew of a young Presbyterian doctor who was ready to go. It was Dr. Leslie M. Chaffee, who had for years been preparing himself for just such an opportunity. Within a few months he was on his way to the field. Today the Banzo Baptist Hospital, together with other medical facilities, provides medical care for thousands of patients each year.

Truly, Paul Gebauer was the right man in the right place at the right time. □

1324 Gilorr Street
McMinnville, Ore. 97128
June 23, 1977

Friends of the Many Years:

This letter—duplicated and mailed by Clare Gebauer—informs you that finally I have left this good earth to meet my Lord. What a meeting that will be!

Once more I wish to thank you for your friendship through the years. You helped to make my life one of meaningful fellowship and joyful service. I am grateful for the experiences and the opportunities we shared together. In the realms of eternity we shall meet again and there we shall complete our unfinished talks and tasks. That will be glory.

To the members of my family in America and Europe I express once more my gratitude for their molding influences in the years of my youth. To all of you who made possible the years of service to Africa I owe very much for they were filled with blessed opportunities. To my fellow-soldiers of World War II I remain indebted for their comradeship in the service we rendered to this nation. To you who helped me to a share in Linfield's service to American youth I express once more my deepest gratitude. You permitted me to re-pay, in some small measure, the debt of gratitude I owe to this country, the United States.

My last thoughts were with her who brought into my wandering years and restless years so much of her quiet grace, of her wisdom, and of the depth of her upbringing. To her I owe so much and for ever. Friends, remain mindful of her and her two children—for her sake and mine.

It is my expressed wish that a public funeral be avoided. No memorial service in any form and anywhere is to be observed. It is enough to be remembered by what I have tried to do for others. No tears are to be shed. I have had a full life of gracious fellowship and of service to God and mankind. And this I know that now I enter into a life that is even greater and fuller than the years we have had together. Let us rejoice in this fact and be glad.

Until we meet again,

Yours,

Paul Gebauer

He Stood Before Kings

by Harold B. Johns

"Do you see a man skilled in his work? He will stand before kings. . . ."
Proverbs 22:29 (NAS).

The passing of Paul Gebauer brings back many memories. At a Triennial Conference many years ago (probably Tacoma, 1946) quite a number of us were seated at a long table in an ice cream parlor after an evening service. Our Promotional Secretary and BAPTIST HERALD editor, the late Dr. Martin L. Leuschner, was holding forth at one end of the table and Paul Gebauer was the center of attention at our end. One of the girls then asked the

Harold B. Johns is a Registered Professional Engineer in the State of Illinois and is a member of Forest Park Baptist Church. He has visited our mission work in Africa seven times.

question, "Paul, why do you insist on going back to Africa? You'll die there!"

His answer, "Is there any more glorious way to die than doing the will of God?"

Paul tried for years to get me to come to Africa, and I finally made it in 1954 (my only trip while he was there).

It was a pleasure to see the work that he and our other missionaries were doing. I'm sure he must have been one of the pioneer 35mm camera users. He was sending 35mm pictures to the BAPTIST HERALD editor long before most of us knew there was such a thing as a Leica camera. He also sent hundreds of feet of motion picture film which Dr. Leuschner delighted to show in our churches and in our various Conference sessions. He photographed a number of scenes, customs and rituals seldom witnessed by a white man. We still have a 42 x 63 inch picture of an African village at the Conference Office, enlarged from one of his 1 x 1½ inch (24 x 36mm) negatives. Paul not only knew the necessary techniques but I'm sure his artist wife helped develop his eye for composing pictures.

Paul's thoroughness was evidenced in almost everything he did. Bridges and culvert covering are not always safe especially after a few heavy rains. Paul repeatedly sent an African ahead to check on a bridge before we took the Land Rover or a lorry (truck) over. Sometimes passengers got out and walked across to lighten the load. His thoroughness also involved checking the mosquito netting over the bed to be sure nothing else was under the netting with him at night.

He was careful to maintain good rapport with the authorities—both British and tribal. As we were leaving Bamenda to go to the coast via East Cameroon (French mandate at that time), we stopped to report to the British District Officer. We were told the officer was in a meeting and "could not be disturbed." Paul then said, "Please, just tell him Paul Gebauer is going over East Side." Before we could leave, the officer had left the meeting: "Paul, you're going over East Side. Anything I can do for you?"—"No, thank you, anything I can do for you over there?"—"No, thank you, have a good trip!" and he was gone.

The Africans also liked him. The Chief of Babanki displayed some 15 of his 25 wives and about 25 of his children for my benefit ("white man from America"). I understand, only one other white man saw this sight after I left. (The wives revolted, "We are Christians. We do not think it is right to display ourselves in this manner.")

At the time of being granted the OBE (Continued on page 27)

Tribute to a Teacher, Supervisor, Counselor, Friend

by Peter Fehr

Our personal relationship with Paul was that of new missionaries who needed lots of help in all four of the categories of personal growth and service. Our first meeting was at a Minnesota Association service, where his message was short and very direct.

Traveling with the Gebauers to Cameroon by ship was a seminar in Anthropology of Cameroon. Paul knew the country, history, culture and customs of the Cameroon people as well as those of the English Colonial Service people that we would be dealing with during our tour. The information gained from him helped us make a more appropriate and rapid adjustment to service in Cameroon.

As supervisor, Paul was firm in his requirement of regular reports and helpful in teaching us how to handle the unpleasant chores of bookkeeping and government reports.

Handling a problem with a local government medical doctor became a very

thorny question for a new missionary. Caught between a local chief and his ill son on one hand, and a desire to keep good relations with the local official, Paul and I disagreed on the solution. Despite our choice of a solution that he did not recommend, Paul assisted in the resolution of the disagreement. The final result was that the government doctor became a friend and supportive associate.

When we were asked to serve at the government hospital in Bamenda, our decision was to accept the post and provide a witness in this totally different setting of missionary service. There were many criticisms of the decision from fellow missionaries, but Paul provided the counsel and positive support that allowed us to carry out two years of unusual missionary service in that area.

Paul's role as friend covered experiences of joy and sorrow in our family. He always showed a genuine concern for our needs, our problems, our successes and our failures. We will never forget "P.G." or Clara. Both played an important role in our lives as missionaries. □

Dr. and Mrs. Peter Fehr were missionaries in Cameroon, 1958-1969.



The Paul Gebauer family in Cameroon, 1952

insight into christian education

The Dynamic Power of Small Groups in the Church by Lee Whiston

When I began my last pastorate, I was eager to start a small group, because such a group had been of great value in my previous pastorate. I waited about three months until I became aware that a certain fellow, Jim, was a praying man and one to whom I felt I could open my heart. I called on him that week and said, "Jim, I have come from a church where at least 20 or 30 of the men knew me very deeply. I could turn to any one of them, when I was in need or when I was venturing into a new project, and ask for their prayers. So far I haven't opened my heart to anyone here in this pastorate. I want to tell you about myself so that you can not only be my friend but support me in prayer. Will you listen to me?" He agreed, and for about an hour I opened my heart in depth telling him about my lonely childhood, my hectic teenage years, how I came to this country, the loneliness as a foreign youth, living behind a mask for many years and, after a deep religious experience, the breakthrough when I opened my heart to my wife and then to my fellowmen. What a change came then! An inrush of love, of power and new effectiveness in the Kingdom.

After I had told him this, I said, "Jim, there will be times when I am severely tempted; there will be times when I am lonely and times when I am in deep need. There will be times when I am moving out into new areas of faith and work. I'll need your supportive love."

"You can count on it," he said; then added, "Will you come back next week? I'd like you to know me."

"Of course, I'll come back and listen to you," I replied.

The next week he told me his story; also a story of loneliness and heartache, of alternating defeats and victories. After that we met each week, just the two of us, studying the Bible together, sharing what had happened during the previous week, seeking God's leading and then praying together.

The Rev. Lionel (Lee) A. Whiston resides in Wrentham, MA.

Three or four months later, someone remarked on the change in Jim and said, "How come?" Jim told of our fellowship and this friend said, "Do you think I could come, too?" One by one people came and after about 18 months there were 14 or 15 men meeting regularly once a week. The entire climate of the church was changed because these men had found a new relationship to Jesus Christ and a new relationship to one another—and, of course, new attitudes at home and on the job.

Starting a Group

There is no fixed way to start a group; it can begin in any way. It should be a natural beginning. It may be one couple inviting another couple to their home suggesting that they become fellow discoverers, fellow questors. Above all, it should not be someone or some couple thinking that they have the answers and are trying to pass them on to someone else, but rather people who are willing to become fellow pilgrims, fellow discoverers together. The ways of doing it are legion; it can be an announcement in the church bulletin, blanks passed out in the church asking people to sign up for a Bible study group. It can be just a little coffee klatch where a woman wants to get acquainted with two or three of her neighbors and begins to open her heart in depth. There are so many ways of forming groups. If each person who is lonely got acquainted and shared that loneliness with someone else, groups could easily begin.

A valuable suggestion: If you are going to form a group, have a terminal date at first. Say, "Let's meet for six or eight weeks." Many groups do meet that way regularly: ten weeks in the fall, eight or ten weeks between January and Easter and a similar number of weeks between Easter and Pentecost.

Programming

A suggested method of programming will be described in detail in next month's issue of the *Baptist Herald* on the Insight into Christian Education page.

Group Size

Six or eight is a good size, but that is not to say that God doesn't work with less or more. If the group does get to ten or 12 it is often wise to consider the possibility of dividing it. Some churches plan to have groups of about eight and then at the end of the year, break this eight up into two fours and ask each four to find four others so that two other eights will be formed.

The Leader

On general principles, it is wise for the pastor not to be the leader of the group. The pastor's function is to train leaders. There are many churches that have anywhere from two to ten groups where the pastor meets with the leaders of the groups regularly instructing them in the principles of group leadership and Bible study. The pastor, of course, needs to be a member of at least one group, preferably one of his parishoners where he can be a "lay" and regular member.

When a Group Loses Vitality

In order to move back into power and effectiveness, set people free to be themselves. Let there be no pressuring but just relate to them in deep, caring love. The leader should be relaxed, letting things happen and capitalizing on the happenings. There should be lots of joy, lots of laughter and lots of fun.

Sometimes two or three of the group who have genuine concern can meet together between meetings, open their hearts more deeply to each other, pray for the group, hold it up before God and then when the time of meeting comes they can speak from a greater depth to the group. This will often help others to speak more deeply.

If a group seems to be losing interest, ask the members to consider the purpose of its existence. Why are they meeting? What is their goal? It may happen that a group discovers it has served its purpose. In such a case, it is well to disband for a time until a need for such fellowship again becomes apparent, as it usually does. Do not continue a group just for the sake of continuance!

One of the most important and exciting tasks of a group is for its members to affirm one another. Most of us are well aware of our shortcomings. We frequently condemn ourselves. We need others to affirm us and to point out our gifts. God has given gifts to everyone. Our tendency is to be afraid to use them (Matt. 25:25). It is exciting to take time to think of and discover the gifts of each member. Try spending part of an evening directed toward one member each saying in turn what he believes is this particular person's gift; then let him respond as to what he feels is his gift or gifts.

N.A.B. FAMILY CONFERENCE

Reflections From Green Lake

Anticipating God's blessings at the 1977 Green Lake N.A.B. Family Conference began at the 1974 N.A.B. Family Conference at Estes Park, because we were thankful for experiences shared there. Renewing acquaintances, sharing in the restful atmosphere of the Green Lake facilities and selecting scheduled learning opportunities provided exciting and meaningful involvements.

Learning options selected were good; we could not get involved in all of them. Dr. Draewell's seminary sharing and clear Bible studies on "God's Pattern for Kingdom Growth" challenged our hearts. Dorothy Norman was a blessing to us as she led in the singing; we enjoy singing the "Mustard Seed" chorus. Our girls did come to life during the evening sessions when the missionary children participated in the skits, singing and slide presentations. Children's Center activities provided good learning options for the girls and freed mom and dad for morning sessions. Greatly anticipated was the contact with four missionary families plus N.A.B. Conference workers; this was an exceptional opportunity in the life of a family from a smaller church. World Team Tennis will never reach the heights of fellowship attained by the George Baab-Harold Lang (Africa) and Connie Salios-Milton Luginbuhl (USA) duos on the blistering courts (100°+) of Green Lake. How many people get an opportunity to meet their missionaries on the tennis court?

God's power through praying Christians was repeatedly evidenced in sharing by missionaries, Conference workers and conferees; it was good to participate in N.A.B. family prayer requests during the lakeside sing and share time. Dr. Schilke's visionary exhortation from Isaiah 54:2 fittingly challenged and concluded the Friday evening service.

We cannot say that the conference concluded, for it lingers in our minds as we reflect on a week of experiences that enlarged, lengthened and strengthened our appreciation of and involvement with the N.A.B. family, a part of the family of God.

—Milton, Gaye, Vanessa and Heather Luginbuhl of Trenton, IL.

Our Family's Impressions Of The Green Lake Family Conference

Our plans to attend the 1977 Green Lake Family Conference began when the dates were announced at the Triennial Conference in Portland last July. Because of the pleasant memories of a past experience in these already familiar surroundings, our family, including two teenagers, was eager and confident in anticipating this vacation.

As we were comfortably located in one of the trailer sites, we were again over-awed by



Boating, swimming and sunning were some recreational choices at the conference.



Willis Potratz, member of the program planning committee, announced another Family Conference for 1980.



Dr. David Draewell, Bible speaker



Jeanine and Willfred Weick and family, missionaries to Japan, challenged us concerning our work in Japan.



George and Marjore Baab and baby, just returned from Cameroon, brought up-to-date news about our work there.



William and Elsie Jeschke led two sessions on communication in the home.



Richard Russell, in action, was director of planned recreation: golf and shuffleboard tournaments.

A Lakeside Gathering

Thursday evening the conference spent time by the lake in prayer for various persons in our N.A.B. Conference.

At the lakeside service, Mrs. Kathy Miller, Watertown, WI, shared that one goal they had for the Green Lake Family Conference was to spend time together as a family. The highlight for them came as they hiked through the woods. Halfway, they stopped at the Chapel in the Pines where they spent time in family devotions. Russell Miller, her husband, had earlier shared with the group how the emphasis of Dr. Draewell's Bible study in Acts 4:29 had been his own personal experience. He had asked for "boldness in witnessing," and the next day the Lord answered this prayer by leading him to someone who wanted to know how to find Christ as Savior.



Richard and Beth Rabenhorst, Murray and Marcus—Melody was there, too—told about the work in Brazil and gave a dramatic presentation.



The Paschke family from Manitoba and Alberta was the largest family at the conference.



Henry Ramus, conference coordinator, reported 174 registered: 125 adults, 20 youth and 29 children, and a mission offering of \$796.75.



Marg and Harold Lang and family, just returned from Nigeria, told of experiences at Hillcrest School and enlightened us about Nigeria.

Another couple expressed how this week was an opportunity to grow closer to each other and to Christ.

Herbert and Esther Seipke from Grosse Pointe Baptist Church in Michigan related the following: "We had the privilege of being at all Family Conferences at Green Lake, WI, and at Estes Park. We enjoyed this conference the most. The program with the missionaries and Dr. Draewell as speakers was excellent; the quality of presentations was greater. Though the conference was not as well attended, we did not have the quantity, the quality was greater. The only disappointment was that there were not more people here. The largest group from one church was that from Grosse Pointe with 36 in attendance."

Another shared: "It was a rare opportunity to fellowship with missionary families for a week. There was real anticipation to hear the reports about the Seminary and to hear the Bible Studies from Dr. Draewell."



Everett Barker led Family Money Management seminars each day. Alfred Weissner assisted in an Estate Planning workshop.



Connie Salios sharing with the Miller family from Watertown after his mission workshops.

1977

God's Pattern For Growth

Dr. David Draewell, Bible study speaker, from North American Baptist Seminary, brought thought-provoking messages each morning. He used an acrostic, GROWTH: God Reconciling our World to himself, to define God's pattern for growth.

He emphasized various areas in the daily Bible studies:

1) Growth and our giving: John and Peter gave what they had and gave in the name of Jesus (Acts 3).

2) Growth and our praying: God's working is not dependent on imperfect people but on a perfect God; God gives more than a person asks for; this is demonstrated in the early church's experiences in prayer (Acts 4 and 14).

3) Growth and our witnessing: Philip (Acts 8) a) was prepared to witness. He had the moral, spiritual and practical qualities necessary. He also b) was sensitive to God's direction. He developed a greater responsiveness to the Spirit by saying, "yes." c) His witness was offered without respect to persons. d) Philip showed interest in the person first; then stayed with the Word. e) Talked about Jesus. f) Witnessing was a way of life for Philip.

4) Growth and our experiences of testing: From Acts 16 we learned that all testing does not come from God; most comes from evil men. Although God doesn't always bring testing, he always understands and is in control of testing; he understands because of his experiences in testing. Testing can make a difference in our lives; it can bring Christian growth.

Mission Education

IN THE HOME

Rev. C. Salios gave ten suggestions for educating ourselves and our children in missions today: 1) Help teach missions in local church through S.S. and V.B.S.; 2) Have missions a priority in your personal attitude and way of life; 3) Entertain missionaries in your home; 4) Write letters to missionaries; 5) Put missionary pictures on your home bulletin board; 6) Encourage the reading of missionary biographies; make them available; 7) Talk about missions at your table; 8) Give to missions and be sure your children know you do and why; Encourage them to give; 9) Pray for missionaries as a family; if not every day, set aside one hour a week to pray and share as a family in the home; 10) Christian magazines, books, pictures and plaques in the home help to give missions proper emphasis; give gift subscriptions to the BAPTIST HERALD to put missions in front of people.

IN THE CHURCH

The biblical basis for mission education is found in Deuteronomy 6, where Moses told the people to teach their children at home, away, resting, awake, keeping the instructions always before them; in other words, at every possible opportunity. Mission education in the church is for all ages, not just the children. It should be an essential learning period, not an option.

Ask yourself: 1) What are you doing as a church, specifically? 2) Who is doing it? 3) What would you like to do, or see done? 4) Who should do it? Mission education should be planned a year at a time, perhaps laying it out on a calendar, with a different field and area for each month.

MISSIONARY OPPORTUNITIES TODAY

There is a great need for theologically-trained men on all our mission fields today, because the national pastors need someone to help them with their responsibilities.

Why is there a shortage today of pastors both for churches at home and for missions? Perhaps the affluence of society has deafened ears to hear God's call; perhaps the pressures faced by a pastor of today discourage young people; in the past we've always had plenty. This is the first year there have been no candidates for the mission field for full-time theological service.

Pray for laborers, and encourage your young people to hear God's call. There are still approximately three billion people in the world to be reached.

(Kathy Miller, reporter) □



CHURCH EXTENSION BUILDERS REPORT

WEST EDMONTON, AB, CHURCH EXTENSION PROJECT

by Len E. Johnson

November 1977

Jesus said, "I will build my church," and the realization that it is "He" who is continuing to build, gives us incentive and motivation to cooperate with him. It is Jesus who is at work in the hearts and lives of his people, expanding the church into new communities.

The Westland Baptist Church is located in the west end of Edmonton, which is one of the fastest growing areas of the city. The population of this area is 11,000 people, with expected growth to 18,000 by 1978, and projected to 60,000 in ten years. At the present there are no churches of any denomination in the area, thus the opportunity for growth is great.

Bible studies, prayer and planning meetings have been taking place each week in various homes since June. Through these meetings a nucleus of committed Christians is being formed into a core group to supply the direction and dynamics to the Westland Baptist Church.

The first services of Westland Baptist Church were a Sunday school program and a worship service on September 11. The services are being held in the local school. A strong Bible teaching program by our Sunday school, headed by Mr. Henry Edwards, is seeking to ground them in the Word of God.

There are 15 families who have given a positive response to become involved in the work. A warm fellowship has developed within the group, and with Mr. Jim Glover as moderator, we are excited and enthused with the prospects of this young church.

The Rev. Len Johnson, formerly of McKernan Baptist Church, Edmonton, who previously had been working with the group, became the pastor of this new church on September 15. Rev. Johnson, his wife, Thelma, and their children will move from their present home and take up residence in the new area.

"I thank my God in all my remembrance of you. . . in view of your participation in the gospel" (Phil. 1:3-5). Just as the people of Philippi shared through their financial support, you too are able to participate in the work of Christ in the Westland Baptist Church by sending your gift to the North American Baptist Conference International Office and designate it for "Westland Baptist Church." □

The Rev. Len Johnson is the pastor of Westland Baptist Church, West Edmonton, AB.



Pastor and Mrs. Len E. Johnson



Bible study group meeting at the parsonage.



The parsonage served both as church office and meeting place.

Spawning New Churches

(Continued from page 8)

in 1952, Calvary was involved in planting new churches in the Pacific Northwest.

Recognizing the spiritual needs of the many thousands of people, who were crowding into the Federal Defense Housing areas of Tacoma in 1944, our church took action to purchase land located at the end of the Salishan Housing Project and opened the "Portland Avenue Chapel." This new outreach ministry gradually developed from a Sunday school status until it became a fully organized church in 1958, known as the Portland Avenue Baptist Church. The parent church transferred 35 members and all properties to this new offspring at that time. During the past 19 years, it has been a great joy to watch the spiritual and numerical growth of our daughter church.

After the Conference Church Extension program was established in 1952, the Calvary Baptist, Portland Avenue Baptist and Startup Baptist Churches were greatly challenged by the population growth in the greater Seattle area. This interest, along with the vision and support provided by the Pacific Northwest Association, led these churches to look for a needy, growing, unchurched area in which to plant another N.A.B. church.

It seemed that the Lord was directing these churches to Renton, a growing community just a few miles southeast of Seattle and 30 miles northeast of Tacoma. It wasn't long before the Lord supplied a location and a pastor to begin a new Church Extension project. This ministry, which began in 1961, developed into the Sierra Heights Baptist Church of Renton. It was received into

The Rev. Edgar B. Wesner is pastor of Calvary Baptist Church, Tacoma, WA.

Calvary Baptist Church



Portland Avenue Baptist Church



Olympic View Baptist Church

the Pacific Northwest Association in 1962.

Now there were four N.A.B. churches in the Puget Sound area. These churches in cooperation with four other churches in the eastern part of the Pacific Northwest Association (Odessa, Spokane, Colfax and Missoula) formed a Church Extension Committee which continued to search for other promising areas in which to spawn new churches. The Calvary Baptist Church, through its representatives, played a large, supporting roll on this committee, because it was the largest church in the Association and most capable of giving financial support to possible new churches. In fact, Calvary Baptist began to vote sizeable amounts of money into its budget each year, specifically designated to the Northwest Church Extension Committee for the purpose of establishing new churches.

The Cypress Baptist Church of Lynnwood, WA, (North Seattle) was the next project to be developed. Calvary Baptist gave support with people and finances, along with the other area

N.A.B. churches. This work had a good start in an expanding neighborhood. It developed and grew very rapidly. A pastor was called, property was purchased and a building constructed within a relatively short time. The Cypress Baptist Church was received into the Pacific Northwest Association in 1965.

The above projects were followed in rather quick succession with the establishment and development of several more N.A.B. churches in the Puget Sound area. The Evergreen Baptist Church of Renton was added to our Pacific Northwest Association in 1966. The Valley View Baptist Church of Everett followed in 1969, and the Hazelwood Baptist Church of Auburn in 1972. Other attempts were made to develop Church Extension projects which did not materialize or succeed, but valuable knowledge and experience were gained from these efforts.

Then in 1971, a group of members from the Calvary Baptist Church, living on the west side of Tacoma, began a weekly Bible study. This endeavor grew in interest and number, so that by spring of 1972 it became established as a Church Extension project, and a pastor was called. Again Calvary Baptist contributed 26 members and a goodly number of young people to this project, which was received into the Pacific Northwest Association as the Olympic View Baptist Church that same year. It has continued to show rapid growth and development in a very challenging community.

How has this spawning of new churches in the Pacific Northwest affected the Calvary Baptist Church? As a result of its interest, support and involvement in Church Extension ministries, our church has grown larger, wealthier and more spiritually influential in its witness for Christ in the community and Association. It now stands at its highest point in membership (509) and budget (\$104,835). Calvary has relocated (1959), doubled its Christian educational facilities (1965), doubled its off street parking (1974), added another full-time staff member, and acquired a second parsonage (1975).

The blessings of the additional fellowship among the nine churches now in the Puget Sound area is most inspiring. Our N.A.B. churches in this area can promote ministries never attempted before in youth activities, evangelism, missions and the spawning of more Church Extension projects. Does it pay for a church to really get involved in Church Extension? It not only pays, but the dividends resulting are, both physically and spiritually, beyond all expectations. □

ONE YEAR IN RETIREMENT

by William Hoover

Recently we observed our first anniversary of retirement from the active pastorate! In prospect, forty-three years in the active ministry and evangelism would seem like an eternity, but in retrospect, it is but a dream! One feels like the little girl, who on her fourth birthday said, "How come I was three yesterday, and am four years old today?" How true are the words of the song writer, "Life is like a summer day; even our life's longest day, fades swiftly into night. Oh, how soon the time will flee, that the Lord gave to me."

Sunday, May 23, 1976, was destined to be the climactic day agreed upon by pastor and church to consummate my active pastorate of forty-three years and the ministry at the Sunkist Baptist Church of Anaheim, CA. This event was in conjunction with the Tenth Anniversary of the church. The church spared no efforts nor cost in preparation to give this occasion a worthy commemoration. Manifold were the happy surprises that they lavished upon pastor and wife, which have left their indelible impressions upon our memory. Thanks be to God for the appreciative people at the Sunkist Baptist Church of Anaheim!

The first major endeavour as a retired pastor and wife was launching a trip by motor-home, which was destined to cover 12,500 miles and to last five months. We followed the West Coast, visiting N.A.B. churches enroute, former church members, and many friends. An enjoyable time of fellowship was spent at Capital Manor, Salem, OR, with the Rev. and Mrs. H.G. Dymmel and the Rev. Eric Kuhn, who is superintendent of the home. This was followed by a visit to the Portland Baptist Manor and then the Evergreen Baptist Home at White Rock, BC, where we had a delightful visit with Pastor Phillip Daum, a retiree of the home.

A Sunday spent with the Rev. Klaus Hildebrandt and his dear people at German Zion Baptist Church, Edmonton, AB, resulted in an inspirational time of fellowship.

The Sunday morning of July 4th was spent with the Rev. Morley Schultz and his congregation at Central Baptist Church, Yorkton, SK. The Good Spirit Lake Baptist Camp, north of Spring-side, SK, was our next engagement for a

week of services at the Family Camp. The mornings were spent in Bible study on "Successful Family Life," and the theme for the evening services was "Evangelistic Emphasis in the Church's Program." The beautiful facilities of the Camp are a tangible testimony of the faith of God's people in action. It makes you justifiably proud to be a part of the N.A.B. family!

What is it like to be a retired pastor? How much time is there for relaxation and recreation? Is it boring? Here is a testimony from a pastor who is retired.

Following a request by Faith Baptist Church, Regina, SK, the Sunday of July 18th was spent with God's people in that church. God's Spirit was so evident that souls were saved and a revival witnessed among his people.

A week and two Sundays were spent in a cooperative endeavor with thirteen churches in Winnipeg, MB. At the final service over two thousand people were present. The Rev. and Mrs. Henry Goliath were our congenial hosts for that week.

Our next week of meetings was with Oakridge Baptist Church, St. Joseph, MI, in October. Pastor Oscar Fritzke and his wife were most cooperative in laying the ground work for these meetings, a training ministry for personal evangelism. The meetings at Oakridge Baptist Church also gave us the opportunity to visit our daughter and her family, plus the many friends of our former pastorate at the Napier Parkview Baptist Church.

After five months on the road, we were homeward bound to Fullerton, CA, just in time to escape the inclement weather and drastic changes of climate.

Having ministered in the North American Baptist Conference for over forty years but never visited or spoken in any of our Texas churches, Mrs. Hoover and I started out on Jan. 18th of this year on a trip to Florida via Texas. Our first stop was Phoenix, AZ, where we visited many friends who



Pastor and Mrs. Wm. Hoover in front of their motor-home at Lorraine, KS.

come as "winter birds" to this area. We were impressed with our new Church Extension group, known as the Thunderbird Baptist Church, led by their energetic pastor Lanny Johnson. This could become a very promising field, and I would covet your prayers and gifts for them.

In Dallas, TX, we visited North Highlands Baptist Church, arriving just in time to participate in the evening service, Sunday night. We have beautiful property here and a wonderful new area of opportunity.

At Waco, TX, we met the Rev. Richard Lord and his wife and enjoyed their congenial hospitality. Then we drove on to Greenvine Baptist Church, Burton, TX, where I spoke at the Wednesday night prayer service. We tried to encourage the people with the Word, knowing that they are pastorless.

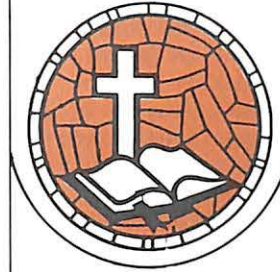
Having friends at Weslaco, TX, we learned of our Central Valley Baptist Church at Donna, TX, nearby. We were visitors in the morning service and heard an inspiring message by their pastor, the Rev. James Harris.

We briefly met the Rev. Jakob Klingenberg in Houston, TX, and then went on to Mowata, LA, where our Conference has a lovely church edifice in the country. Speaking at their prayer service, I was able to thank them personally for their most helpful contribution of rice which was sent to Europe in 1946. A wonderful time of fellowship was enjoyed in the Bieber's home.

From here we were Florida-bound, where we were privileged to visit relatives and many former church members. It was good to meet in the home of a former co-worker, the Rev. and Mrs. A. Husmann, with whom I had had six evangelistic campaigns and who is now

(Continued on page 28)

PERSONAL ESTATE PLANNING



The Testamentary Trust—How It Works

by Alfred Weisser

The testamentary trust (a trust created by your will) is a useful device in estate planning to take advantage of tax laws as provided by the Internal Revenue Code. It can be applied to estates of \$175,000 and over, depending on the needs, wishes and living standards of the people involved.

Divide the Estate Into Separate Ownership for Tax Purposes			
HUSBAND		WIFE	
\$100,000.00		\$100,000.00	
5,000.00	last illness & funeral	5,000.00	last illness & funeral
95,000.00		95,000.00	
5,000.00	settlement expenses	5,000.00	settlement expenses
90,000.00		90,000.00	
21,000.00	tentative tax	21,000.00	tentative tax
30,000.00	tax credit	30,000.00	tax credit
-0-	no tax due	-0-	no tax due

Illustration of a \$200,000 Estate

When the husband dies first, the estate tax, allowing for the full marital deduction, is zero. When the wife dies the tax is \$24,800. The \$24,800 can be saved in estate taxes, plus savings in State Inheritance Taxes, probate and legal fees with proper planning.

The Rev. Alfred Weisser is estate planning counselor. He lives in Sioux Falls, SD.

Our courts have held that it is the duty of a person to arrange his affairs in such a way that he and his estate will not pay unnecessary taxes. To implement the testamentary trust, the husband and wife need separate wills providing for such a trust. The property is then divided by separate ownership or tenancy in common (one half to each spouse). The trust, however, does not become active until after the death of the first spouse.

The surviving spouse may be the trustee of the trust with the right of supervision of the investment and income. He or she receives the income from the trust as long as the survivor lives, and after the second death the trust assets pass to the children or to whomever designated. It is assured for the children, or as designated, and cannot be passed to a future husband, wife or anyone else. The surviving spouse may also receive from the corpus (principal) of the trust (5) percent or \$5,000.00 annually, whichever is greater.

A secondary trustee is needed—a well trusted individual who has the welfare of the family at heart. He has control of the corpus (principal) of the trust to remove it from the estate for federal estate tax savings. He may allow the surviving spouse to invade the principle of the trust for emergencies, or to live as he or she has been accustomed to live, but not to allow the use of the principle of the testamentary trust as long as their own share of the estate is not used. The surviving spouse may leave the trust earnings in the trust and may also gradually put his or her own estate into the testamentary trust to eliminate liability for estate taxes. Because each person has a \$30,000 federal tax credit, the survivor can retain approximately \$120,000 or more in the estate without incurring estate taxes. This retained amount is left

Any gift to a qualified charitable organization is deductible from the estate for tax purposes. It is recommended that a percentage be given to the Lord's work or to heirs instead of a specified amount. Percentages are always available if anything is left, but stated amounts may not be. Larger estates may give \$25,000 to \$50,000 or more to the Lord's work at a reduced cost to the heirs because the federal estate tax scale ranges from (18-70%), and the gift cost will be reduced accordingly. In addition, when assets are taken out of the estate for tax purposes, there may be capital gains tax savings and, if placed in a Charitable Remainder Trust, can earn approximately 8 percent annually for life.

Neither the author, the publisher, nor this organization is engaged in rendering legal or tax advisory service. The advice of a competent attorney, or other professional person well versed in estate planning, should be sought so the requirements of the laws in various states be met and the advantages of the testamentary trust be fully utilized. □

There's Will-Wisdom in a Testamentary Trust

(A Trust Created by Will)

Advantages

1. Flexibility.
2. Estate Tax Savings.
3. Benefits to Family and God's work.
4. Provision for minor children.
5. Management of Assets.

Write today for the brochure, "There's Will-Wisdom in a Testamentary Trust," and learn more about this flexible vehicle.

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- ☐ "There's Will-Wisdom in a Testamentary Trust."
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WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Mr. and Mrs. Jelinek of Edmonton, AB, celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary, July 16, 1977, and also Mr. Jelinek's 90th birthday with an open house. They have been members of Central Baptist Church since 1931.

The 50th wedding anniversary of **Mr. and Mrs. M. J. Schnabel** of Ashley, ND, was observed at Ashley Baptist Church on July 10, 1977.

BILLINGS, MT. The annual Central Dakota-Montana Association convened in the convention facilities of the Ramada Inn, June 30-July 3, with Calvary Baptist Church and their pastor, the Rev. Alvin Auch, as hosts.

"That Exhilarating Joy" was the theme for the workshops and the messages by the guest speaker, the Rev. Connie Salios, associate secretary for stewardship. Mr. and Mrs. Ron Stoller and son, missionaries, Japan, gave us a view of the homes and cities of Japan and helped us see and feel the needs of the individual persons living in that culture.

One hundred and seventeen delegates were registered with additional guests. The joy of the Lord was expressed in many ways, including the service avenues of church extension and missions through the financial budget. Two new avenues of service have been opened to us, namely, Century Baptist Church in north Bismarck, ND, and the new work in south Fargo, ND.

The officers elected for the 1977-78 association year are moderator, the Rev. Edward Oster; vice moderator, Mr. Floyd Roehl; recording secretary, Mrs. Mary Lou Brenner; and treasurer, Mr. Art Buchwitz. (Mrs. Wm. C. Giedt.)

GRAND FORKS, ND. The Northern Dakota Association convened June 23-25 at Grace Baptist Church, whose gracious hospitality was appreciated. The Rev. Robert Penner was host pastor. We witnessed the presence and spirit of the Lord in our midst during these days.

The theme, "A More Excellent Way," I Cor. 12:31, was followed through with messages on "The Way Is Love," "The Way of Missions," "The Way of Worship," "The Way of Stewardship," "The Way of Commitment" and "The Way to Walk." Guest speakers and Conference workers included: Dr. G. K. Zimmerman, N.A.B. executive secretary, Oakbrook Terrace, IL; the Rev. and Mrs. Edwin Michelson, Cameroon; the Rev. Clarence Walth, North Central area secretary; Melvin Bergstresser, family counselor, Winnipeg, MB, and Lloyd Omdahl,

professor, University of North Dakota.

Mr. Arthur Johnson, moderator, presided at the sessions.

The youth presented an excellent musical program Friday evening. Slides of N.A.B. Seminary were also shown. The Rev. Adine Harsch was in charge. Mrs. Edwin Michelson spoke at the ladies banquet on Saturday and Melvin Bergstresser at the men's banquet. The closing session of the Association included installation of new officers by the Rev. Clarence Walth and an impressive communion service with the Rev. Robert Penner, in charge.

The newly elected moderator is the Rev. Douglas Sathren, Harvey, ND. The Association for 1978 is scheduled for Minot. (Mrs. Frank Unruh, association reporter.)

PRINCE RUPERT, BC. Pastor Doug Kellough recently baptized four believers at Bethel First Baptist Church. The sermon was "The Meaning of Baptism," Colossians 2. It emphasized the symbolism of baptism by immersion that they were dying to sin and rising to new life in Jesus Christ. The service was a valuable witness to many family members and friends who were present for the event. The church, dually aligned with both the Baptist Union of Western Canada and the North American Baptist Conference, has a membership of sixty (forty-eight resident members) and an average morning attendance of over eighty persons. Pastor Kellough has the joy of building on the previous ministry of the Rev. Wilf Highfield who is now pastoring in Nipawin, SK. The church is planning to begin studying and applying Biblical evangelism this fall and expects to have more baptized in faith in Jesus Christ!

WESTBANK, BC. On June 5 approximately 700 persons gathered at Green Bay Baptist Camp to participate in the official dedication of a recently completed lodge. This new facility is fully winterized and can accommodate up to 128 campers in 16 sites, each complete with private washroom facilities. This lodge is the culmination of several years of planning and a year of construction. Most of the construction was carried out by volunteer effort provided by members and friends of churches of the British Columbia Association.

Among those participating in the festivities was Premier Bill Bennett, who also happens to be a neighbor of the camp. The dedication message was delivered by Prof. W. Muller, N.A.B.C. He challenged his audience to prepare for change, including changes resulting from increased leisure time. As Christians, we have a particular responsibility

to use leisure time to God's glory.

With the completion of this lodge, our camp has taken an important step in our long-range plans to operate the camp as a year-round camp and conference center. During the next two months the entire camp was buzzing with activities. An estimated 1,000 persons were involved in the various camping programs. (Bill Hemerling, camp board chairman.)

DALLAS, OR. On July 3, 1977, a welcome reception was held for a new senior pastor, the Rev. George Breikreuz and family. Speaker for the service was the Rev. Hans J. Wilcke, former pastor of the church, and now Western Area secretary. Representatives of the Dallas Ministerial Association, Oregon-Idaho Association, and organizations of the church welcomed the family. Mr. Breikreuz's former pastorate was in Jamestown, ND. His family includes his wife, Esther, a daughter and a son. The Rev. Emmanuel Wolff, another former pastor of the church and former area secretary, has been serving as interim pastor for the past eight months. (Grace Voth, reporter.)

WINNIPEG, MB. A feast of music was enjoyed during the month of June at McDermot Avenue Baptist Church. The young people of the Manitoba Association presented the musical, "Share," under the direction of Mrs. Karoline Lohse, accompanied by a brass and drum ensemble. After receiving many requests for this fine musical with a message, it has been presented in several Manitoba Churches.

Karoline also directed our Children's Choir in a musical, "They All Sang Jesus."

Our church choir under the leadership of Hans Rogalski presented the cantata, "The Sound of Singing," by J. W. Peterson. (Alice Parr, reporter.)

LA CROSSE, WI. Young adults who attended faithfully the After-Glow fellowship following the evening services at Bible Baptist Church made a trip to Chicago with Pastor and Mrs. William H. Heisler, Jr. The youth visited Moody Bible Institute, toured the North American Baptist International Office, Oakbrook Terrace, and visited the Museum of Science and Industry. LaVerne Samb, reporter.)

MORRIS, MB. The W.M.S. of Emmanuel Baptist Church invited ladies from the Grant Park and Fort Richmond Baptist Churches to an evening entitled, "Fashions of Love." The evening included special music, a fashion

show of 19 wedding gowns owned and modeled by our group. We had a guest speaker and also enjoyed a delicious lunch.

Our choirs have been busy. Two special programs by our junior choir and a cantata by our adult choir were given. A musical evening was provided for us by McDermot Avenue Baptist Church.

Our Pioneer Girls concluded an active year with a weekend camp at Lake Nutimik. A good number of boys, girls and teens attended our camps in July.

We have a Church Planning Committee. This Committee met weekly during the winter taking an indepth look at the purpose and outreach of the church in our community. A number of suggestions were presented to the congregation and accepted by them. We will begin meeting again on a regular basis in the Fall. Our pastor is the Rev. Bruno Voss. (Mrs. C. Bergstresser, reporter.)

PRINCE GEORGE, BC. The Fort George Baptist Church welcomed the delegates and guests of the 28th British Columbia Association. In large letters the theme, "Equipped for Service," was mounted on the front wall of the sanctuary as we gathered May 19-22 to hear messages by our guest speakers, Dr. J. Sonnenberg, president, N.A.B. College; the Rev. Ray Harsch, director of evangelism, N.A.B. Church Ministries Department; and Miss Ardice Ziolkowski, dean of women, N.A.B. College.

On Saturday morning all business was transacted under the good leadership of the vice moderator, Mr. Ron Martin, Ebenezer Baptist Church, Vancouver; the moderator, the Rev. R. Hohensee, became ill after the opening service and could no longer participate. The Rev. H. Wilcke, Western Area secretary, was present, serving in various ways and directed a good presentation of the Conference Ministries. The 1977-78 budget for the Association Ministry, especially Church Extension, was greatly increased to a total of \$39,100.00.

We experienced days of edifying fellowship. All who attended were spiritually enriched. (Ervin Strauss, reporter)

PRINCE RUPERT, BC. Pastor Doug Kellough was ordained into the Christian ministry by Bethel First Baptist Church on June 12. The service was led by the Rev. Larry Kliever, pastor, Baptist Church, Kitimat, who also gave the ordination prayer. Deacon Art Sweet gave the report of the ordination examining council held at the Baptist Union Convention, Regina, SK. The senior choir, under the direction of Mrs. Roy (Gloria) Hooper, sang.

Dr. M. R. Cherry, professor of Systematic Theology and associate dean of

in memoriam

JEAN NORMA (ARCHER) FABA, Lewiston, NY, died March 15, 1977, at age 47. She was the wife of Rev. Harold Faba, pastoral counselor, Niagara Falls Community Mental Health Center. She was born in Buffalo, NY, daughter of James and Bessie (Beuerman) Archer, Temple Baptist Church, Buffalo; graduated from Christian Training Institute, Edmonton, AB, 1951; married for twenty-five years; housemother in various children's homes; assumed leadership roles as pastor's wife and in women's work of American Baptist Churches of Niagara Frontier, and is survived by her husband, mother, nine-year old daughter, Joy Noelle, and sister, Mrs. Thomas (June) Richards.

MATILDA CAROLINE FAUSER was born Aug. 25, 1899, in Burstall, Russia, and died suddenly on July 29, 1977, at Medicine Hat, AB. As a young mother, she received Christ as Savior and was baptized on June 12, 1921. She became a member of Annethal Baptist Church near Golden Prairie, SK, and in the early 1950's of Grace Baptist Church, Medicine Hat. Being gifted in writing, she served as secretary for the church and various organizations. Mourning her death are one son, four daughters, six grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren. Funeral services were conducted from Grace Baptist Church by the Rev. I. H. Schmuland.

MRS. ANDREW (SOPHIA) KLEIN, 78, Carrington, ND, died Aug. 2, 1977. She was born to Christian and Elizabeth Wagner on July 21, 1899, in Lincoln Valley. She married Andrew Klein in 1924. She was a faithful member of Calvary Baptist Church, Carrington. Surviving her are her husband; one daughter, Mrs. Don (Gladys) Zink, Port Angeles, WA; one son, Kenneth, Carrington; nine grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; one foster daughter, Mrs. DuWayne (Donna) Weber, Sheyenne, ND; and two brothers, Emil and Albert. The Rev. N. E. McCoy officiated at the funeral service.

JOHN LANDGRAF was born Jan. 9, 1890, in Russia and died July 18, 1977. As a youth, he accepted Christ as his Savior and was baptized. At the age of 18 he immigrated to

Canada and later to Detroit, MI. In 1936 he married Emily Majeske. He was a faithful member of Ebenezer Church of Detroit, MI, for 30 years and later of Highland Park Baptist of Southfield until his death. He is survived by his wife, one son, one grandson and one sister. Pastor Albert Kee, the Rev. Carl Witt and Dr. John Landgraf officiated at the funeral service, July 21.

JAKE MOSER, son of Simon and Lydia Moser, was born March 20, 1907, on a farm northwest of Pollock, SD, and died on Aug. 11, 1977, in Rapid City, SD. Mr. Moser attended school north of Pollock and lived in this area his entire lifetime. He married Frieda Naasz in 1930. She died in 1941. In 1942 he married Magdalena Fischer. Mr. Moser accepted Christ and was baptized into the fellowship of Herreid Baptist Church in 1931. He was a former trustee of the church. He is survived by his wife; two sons, Reinhold and Wilbert, and one daughter, Joan Bauer; 11 grandchildren; one great-grandchild, and four sisters. The Rev. Edward Kopf officiated at the funeral service.

EARL STUKENBERG was born Dec. 1, 1911, in Grundy County, IA, the son of August C. and Rennie Popkes Stukenberg, and died Aug. 6, 1977. At the age of 22, he received Christ as his personal Savior, was baptized on Dec. 31, 1933, and became a member of Aplington Baptist Church. Earl married Josephine Anderson on Sept. 11, 1935, in Nevada, IA. They farmed in the Parkersburg and Aplington Areas. He served faithfully for many years as an usher in the church, extending warmth and friendliness. He is survived by his wife, Josephine; one son, David, Cedar Falls; two daughters, Mrs. G. G. (Ruth) Diers, Cedar Rapids, Mrs. Donald (Jana) Hegg, Denver, CO; his mother, Mrs. Rennie Stukenberg, Aplington; one sister, Mrs. Louis (Anita) Schoeneman; one brother, August C. Stukenberg, and nine grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his father, one brother, one sister, and one granddaughter. The funeral was conducted August 9 with the Rev. Donald Patet officiating.

AMALIGE WIESNER nee Krueger died Aug. 16, 1977. She was born in Russia, Sept. 27, 1902. In 1920 she gave her life to Christ and was baptized. Her love for Christ was evident in all she did. In 1927 she married Edward Wiesner; they immigrated to Canada in 1928. In 1932, after a brief stay in Fenwood, SK, and Winnipeg, MB, they settled in the Morris area and resided there until death. Her husband predeceased her in 1976. She is survived by two daughters and sons-in-law, Doris and Raymond Lehman, Winnipeg; Violet and Ernie Bachler, Edmonton, AB; one son and daughter-in-law, David and Mary Jane Wiesner, Robin; and eight grandchildren as well as many relatives and friends. Pastors Richard Goetze and Bruno Voss officiated at the funeral service.

Theology, Acadia Divinity College, Acadia University, Wolfville, NS, spoke on "The Gifts of the Ministry," Eph. 4:1-16. Dr. Cherry, Pastor Kliever and pastors of other Prince Rupert churches participated in the laying on of hands.

In three services that day, over five hundred persons were present including three hundred at the evening service when the Des Moines, IA, Y.M.C.A. Choral Bell Choir performed. Mr. Kellough received the M.Div. degree from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, KY, in 1976. Doug is from Edmonton, AB, where he was a member of Zion Baptist Church and later, Laurier Heights Baptist Church. The Kelloughs have one child.

He Stood Before Kings

(Continued from page 18)

(Order of the British Empire), Paul was two seats away from the Queen and

across the table from Prince Philip. He reported the Prince as being a "fine fellow—nice to talk to."

Paul's regard for the nationals probably is nowhere more evident than when he and Clara decided to stay an extra year after sending their two children to schools in America. Paul felt the people would need help in this first year of their independence from British rule and in the union with French Cameroon.

As far as I know, Paul had no trouble with tropical diseases. Whether the German army (World War I) had inoculated him so thoroughly or whether he became hardened from early automobile race driving (one broken jaw), who knows? He once had an appendectomy by a drunken surgeon in Africa.

As an Army Chaplain during World War II, he was appreciated by both rank and file. Twice recommendations for a higher officer's rank were turned

(Continued on page 29)



Spurgeon, a Gifted Teacher

by Adolph Braun

It is amazing that sermons are being reprinted which were preached over one hundred years ago. Book printers are putting out Spurgeon's sermons in paperback, and many people are enjoying reading his exposition of Scripture. His sermons were issued each week and then appeared in annual volumes for over 40 years. Some volumes extended to over

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700 pages, in rather small print. They were also printed in some of the leading newspapers around the world.

Many have speculated concerning the reason for his success. God has his own way of preparing and using people in his time and for his purpose. Spurgeon's grandmother paid him, as a boy, two pennies for every hymn which he memorized. He later thanked the Lord for being able to use them in his preaching.

Praying men at Metropolitan Tabernacle believed God was going to "pack the place out" someday. When some of these same men later complained because they could not find a seat, others reminded them of their prayers.

His predecessors were among the most outstanding in Great Britain: Benjamin Keach, John Gill, John Rippon and Joseph Angus—each serving for a period of about 40 years. Spurgeon had great competition in the city: H.P. Liddell at St. Paul's Cathedral; Joseph Parker at the City Temple; F.W. Farrar at Westminster Abbey; F.B. Meyer at Regents Park Chapel were his contemporaries. And outside of London were men like Alexander MacLaren in Manchester and Alexander Whyte in Edinburgh. These seven gifted preachers were born within a period of eight years

(1829-1836). However, for over 30 years Spurgeon preached to over 5,000 people each Sunday morning and evening and on Wednesday evening.

I believe that one of Spurgeon's most outstanding assets was his faith in and love for the Word of God. In an old worn personal Bible, Spurgeon wrote: "C.H. Spurgeon, 1856—the lamp of my study"; "The light is as bright as ever—1861"; "Oh, that mine eyes were opened—1864"; "Being worn to pieces, rebound in 1870, the lantern mended and the light as joyous to mine eyes as ever."

His humble reliance upon God's Spirit was another secret of his power. He once said, "Without the Spirit of God, I am utterly unable to speak to you. I have not those gifts and talents which qualify men to speak; I need an afflatus from on high." D.L. Moody said, "It is not Mr. Spurgeon after all, it is God."

The greatest set of sermons ever published, by one man, is being republished as relevant material, because he always preached the Word with the conviction that it was God's Word to desperate, confused and lost people. "Preach the Word." D.M. Lloyd-Jones said, "Nothing can substitute for preaching." □

One Year In Retirement

(Continued from page 24)

retired in Boca Raton, FL. It was inspiring to be an eye-witness of our N.A.B. Church Extension project at Boca Raton. A choice piece of property, ideally situated across from a golf course and in a good residential area, has been purchased for their building site. Their church board is a spiritually dedicated group of mainly businessmen. With their devotion to Christ, together with their experienced pastor, the Rev. Norman Vernon, they have a promising future. As a guest speaker, it was my privilege to share some of the basic principles for success in their new venture. They are very deserving of our prayers of intercession and our gifts.

Forty-three years as pastor-evangelist, of which forty were spent in only three places, I have gleaned much from "bumps" which I never got from books. Experience has taught me that we must change our methods but never our message. Having witnessed more than average success in the churches I served, I now aim to put to good use the proven ideas by applying them in other churches. One feels that there is a great mission in our N.A.B. churches in encouraging pastors and training their leadership in a personal evangelism outreach. It is my conviction that as

churches and as a Conference our only hope in the future is in the area of personal evangelism. Inasmuch as the unsaved are coming very sparingly to church services, we need to motivate the Christians to go out in a witnessing ministry. I would like to make myself available to assist churches and instruct them in this area for periods of Sunday to Wednesday or for a week.

Recently the Lord had called us to interim work at the First Baptist Church of Lorraine, KS. We found this to be a most effectual door of service.

Travelling and living in a motor-home can be an exciting experience. However, doing it for months at a time, it can also become an exacting adjustment for its occupants. One must remember that you are going from a 2000 sq. ft. to a 200 sq. ft. livable space. This results in very close fellowship for the travellers! However, we believe it to be a very flexible arrangement for both the interim pastor and the churches served. It is an easy conversion from that of a travelling vehicle to that of a liveable home at a minimum cost. In our first year of retirement, we have covered a total of 21,500 miles with our motor-home.

My next endeavor will be to act as a tour guide for a Christian group going to Palestine for 16 days. We will be departing on November 21 and returning December 6. □

Called To Continue Student Work In Japan

(Continued from page 10)

treasurer for the district church association for four years. She says, "Although I have not been a full-time missionary, it has always been my desire to serve God where I am."

MISSIONARY APPOINTMENT

Ron and Joan met at one of the Bible Fellowships for missionaries in Japan. This was followed by a period of courtship leading to engagement. When I met Ron and Joan in Japan in October, 1975, they were engaged and their wedding date was already set for December 27. In our Japan Field Committee meeting during those days, I heard the Rev. Hisashi Murakami say that he would very much like to have someone like Ron Stoller work with him and the church at the Tsu Student Center. In committee we discussed this matter and I asked our missionaries whether they had thought of approaching Ron. Their answer was nebulous since they were constantly thinking in terms of full theological training for full-time service, and they felt that Ron was not interested in full theological training. I expressed my conviction that exceptions could sometimes be made and they are

I realize, I do not know all the facts in the matter of the Eldridge Church exclusion. Therefore I feel that the readers of the HERALD be given further information. Also, I strongly feel that the First Baptist Church of Eldridge be given an opportunity to present a defense of their practices. We have had articles with noncharismatic viewpoints (e.g. Rev. Braun's, June '75), but never the charismatic viewpoint with which many people sympathize.

In conclusion I would like to reiterate my main point: Let us love and accept all fellow Christians. We will not always see eye-to-eye on all issues, but this should not be a stumbling block to fellowship with others. After all it is not doctrine that is our basis of fellowship, but our relationship with Jesus Christ. Kurt Remus, Edberg, Alberta.

Silver Anniversary

(Continued from page 5)

At first, it was felt one CEIF program would be sufficient for both United States and Canada, but it was soon discovered that a separate fund had to be created and designed for the Canadian membership. Today more than one million dollars exists as owned and borrowed capital in the fund. New churches can obtain loans for church building by requesting a loan from CEIF. The goal, eventually, is to have 10 to 12 million dollars in this fund.

In 1975 a new frontier was opened when Church Extension was launched in the state of Florida. For several years it had been our concern to minister to the many N.A.B. families relocating to Florida. The first church was begun successfully at Boca Raton and the second at Coral Springs. It is hoped that eventually enough churches will be developed for a separate association. At the present time, all Florida churches identify with the Michigan Association.

DEPARTMENT FORMED IN 1976

By 1976 the Conference Church Extension Committee discovered that the small child had grown to maturity. Since 1952 the Church Extension program had been under the umbrella of the Board of Missions, but now it was felt that it should become a separate cooperating organization of the Conference and a separate department. At the 1976 Portland Triennial Conference the delegates decided that the Church Extension program should be given greater emphasis; therefore a separate department for Church Extension was created. A new office was also created in order to have two persons working within the department. Today the Rev.

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Lyle Wacker serves as general secretary and the Rev. John Ziegler as the associate.

RESULTS OF OUTREACH

As we look back upon the Church Extension program, we see 108 organized churches with approximately 20 additional projects on the waiting list. The Conference is almost 13,000 members stronger today as a result of those new churches.

As we reflect on God's goodness, which is evident in the program, we can rejoice because of the many souls that have been reached for Jesus Christ. More than two-thirds of the almost 13,000 members are in these new churches as a result of a first-time decision coming through the ministry of the Church Extension program.

The more recent goals are ten new churches in each year of the Triennium. In addition, the department has set a goal to solicit at least six independent churches into the greater Conference fellowship within three years.

From its small beginning in 1952, we have a Church Extension Revolving Fund today in which the Conference has an equity of approximately \$1,300,000. There is a Church Extension Investors Fund of more than one million dollars. Just recently, a Conference backed N.A.B. Bond program was launched for building purposes.

There is a Church Extension Board made up of a pastor and lay representative from each of the six areas of the Conference. At present forty-five churches are under the care of this Board. There are more than 30 local Church Extension committees and councils that are busy developing new opportunities for churches. There has been

a definite shift of concern from Conference Office to the associations, the grass-roots level.

Above all, there is an air of excitement and interest because we are reaching out with the gospel of Jesus Christ to new communities, homes and individuals. It's an exciting prospect, and it's good to know that God is freshly at work in many of the N.A.B. churches where there is a new level of commitment and partnership with each other under the leadership of Christ. □

CHRISTMAS SPECIAL!!!!

Give yourself the gift of your dreams ... a complete piano course based on the old hymn tunes. *If you can't afford expensive lessons, this is for you!* Now it is possible to play hymns from your very first piano lesson! You will receive five books and five cassette tapes (a regular \$49.00 value) for the CHRISTMAS SPECIAL of only \$30.00!!!! Amaze your friends by playing hymns only a few short weeks from now. **YOU CAN PLAY HYMNS THE DAY YOUR BOOKS ARRIVE! Dozens of beloved hymns plus hundreds of dollars worth of private instruction for only \$30.00!** Order several for gifts. **SATISFACTION GUARANTEED.** Order from: **MARY JO MOORE, DEPT. BH, 286 Poland Ave., Struthers, Ohio 44471.** (Ohio residents add 4% sales tax, please.)

Dear Christian Friends:

This letter is about Church Extension Investors Funds. But first let me quickly give you some information as to how the N.A.B. Church Extension work is progressing.

The Church Extension Department has reached its goal of planting ten new churches every year in this triennium for the second year in a row. This year twelve projects have been approved. Seven of these have pastors who have begun, or will shortly begin their ministries. Three new churches will be received into our fellowship who formerly were independent Baptist churches. They will be partially supported by the Church Extension Department.

While there is growth as a Conference through Church Extension, and the growth goals are being reached, we must also reach the financial goal of increasing deposits to \$2,000,000 in the Church Extension Investors Fund. Currently our fund stands at \$906,500.00. Achieving this goal is essential to continue reaching the goal of planting ten churches each year. The constantly escalating land and building costs add weight to the need for greater financial support.

C.E.I.F. is a painless way of providing money for new churches. C.E.I.F. is a kind of Savings and Loan Program. More than that, it provides double benefits.

1. It is an excellent way for the investor to save money and earn competitive interest returns on the investment.

2. These monies are loaned to new churches to build their first units. Now that C.E.I.F. Canada, Ltd., has become a reality this is true in both Canada and the U.S.A.

You can invest your savings in multiples of \$100 in C.E.I.F. for from one year to five years. U.S. investors can gain higher interest returns by purchasing a Revocable Charitable Gift Bond—not available to Canadians. Interest returns vary according to the length of time the money is invested ranging from 5½% interest for one year, to 6¾% interest for five years. Canadian investors earn 1% more in interest due to the higher interest rates being paid in Canada.

The really beautiful part of your investment is that this money is made available as a first mortgage loan to new churches. These new churches, as they concentrate on reaching burgeoning communities for Christ, cannot readily gain loans for buying property and building church buildings, because they do not meet standard loan institutions' requirements of an established financial history. But we believe that Christ will build these churches. It is this faith in Christ that urges us to help these churches by making available lower interest loans for land and buildings. The rate of interest on a C.E.I.F. loan is 1% above our costs.

Thus your investment money brings two important returns:

1. It is a secure source of income to the investor, enhancing his financial security.
2. The money is used to spread the Gospel through planting new churches all across North America. (No church has yet defaulted on these loans.)

We invite you to write to the Church Extension Department for further information regarding C.E.I.F. A new 12 minute film, "NAB Church Extension Investors Fund," can be shown telling you about C.E.I.F. Conference personnel, and members of the C.E.I.F. Board are available to present the film in your church. It is suitable for use in your church or for a small group. We are glad to invite you to invest your money for God's honor and glory.

One in Christ's service, Dennis Krug.



Mr. Dennis Krug is chairman of the Church Extension Investors Fund. He lives in Lodi, CA.