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# MAN



April 1979

# baptist herald



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## news Flash

### Anita Bryant Voted Most Admired Woman for Second Year Running

In the tenth annual Most Admired Woman Poll of *Good Housekeeping Magazine*, America's leading woman's magazine, Anita Bryant had claimed first place, as she did last year. On the ballots received by *Good Housekeeping*, which has a readership of 17 million per issue, readers noted that they were impressed by Anita's courage, her faith and her willingness to stand up and be counted, despite obstacles and bitter controversy.

Anita Bryant and her husband and manager, Bob Green, have been the objects of national controversy since their stand against militant homosexuality in the Dade County, Florida, referendum. Homosexuals failed to win the right to teach in private schools in that state because of the Greens' efforts in spearheading an organization called "Save Our Children." To defend her position, Anita Bryant wrote *The Anita Bryant Story*. Since then she has written *Raising God's Children* which was then followed by *At Any Cost* (Revell, \$6.95). These and other of Anita's books, some of which are co-authored with her husband, have sold in the millions.

Quite a few of the voters in this year's *Good Housekeeping* poll felt strongly enough about their choices to include letters. One said about Anita Bryant: "She is the kind of spirited woman we need more of. Whether you stand with her or against her, you have to hand it to her for courage in hanging in there despite criticism and loss of income." □



# Ebenezer Baptist Church

## 1898-1978

by Edgar Baird



Over the weekend of Dec. 2-3, 1978, Ebenezer Baptist Church of Detroit, Michigan, celebrated its 80th anniversary. On Saturday evening a gourmet dinner was served in fellowship hall, followed by an exciting program in the sanctuary. Challenging messages were brought by Dr. Roy Gustafson, associate evangelist with the Billy Graham Association, former pastor Dr. Jack Scott, and Detroit area V.C.Y. director and former member Al Kuhnle.

The congregation also greatly enjoyed a 16 mm film of a Belle Isle Sunday school class picnic in 1931. The theme was the "gay 90s," and the appropriate costumes that were worn caused much hilarity among the present-day viewers. The film was taken by a Bell and Howell camera and projected on a Bell and Howell projector, both from circa 1928. These antiques are to become part of the historical heritage of Ebenezer along with the film. There was great amusement among the audience as it watched the antics on the horse-drawn wagon (the first Ebenezer bus) and attempted to associate the youthful persons on the screen with the staid and dignified elders of our congregation some 47 years later. There was also a note of sadness, for many of those on the film are no longer with us, having moved to the south to a warm climate, or having passed on to glory.

Following the film, slides were shown recording the ground breaking, the construction progress, and the dedication services of the latest building program completed in 1970. In addition, there were hallway displays of memorabilia from past years including pictures, building program brochures, past anniversary brochures, scrapbooks and annual reports of long ago, which recorded very interestingly the annual contributions of members.

A highlight of the program was the presentation of a commemorative plaque to 34 persons who have been members for 50 or more years. A Thanksgiving Offering brought \$54,000 toward the anniversary goal of \$80,000.

Ebenezer Baptist Church, now in its 80th year of existence, began on Nov. 17, 1898, when sixty-six members of the First German American Baptist Church organized a new church and selected the name, "The Ebenezer German American Baptist Church." Services were first held in a

*Mr. Edgar Baird is the chairman of the Board of Deacons at Ebenezer Baptist Church, Detroit, MI.*

hall on Gratiot and Mt. Elliott Avenues in Detroit. A new church building was erected at Moran and Leland Streets and dedicated on the last Sunday of February 1899. The cost of this was \$2,344.

As the membership increased in the ensuing years, it became necessary to build a larger church home. A more spacious building was erected at Mt. Elliott and Canfield Avenues and dedicated in 1907. Its cost was \$23,000. The membership at that time was 224. Later the church building was enlarged and improved at a cost of \$15,000. In 1932, the building adjacent to the church on Mt. Elliott was purchased.

The present Moross Road site of 4½ acres was purchased for \$15,000 in 1947. The first unit of the building on this site was dedicated in December 1949, and services were held in the church basement until dedication of the sanctuary on April 29, 1951. Membership at that time was 453. The cost of land and building was \$258,163.



In March 1952, the parsonage was completed, and the educational building and additional wing were built and dedicated on Nov. 20, 1955. These additional facilities with furnishings involved an expenditure of \$191,000. In 1970 the sanctuary was completely refurbished and construction completed on an addition, joining the two buildings into a single large structure. The cost of all present buildings and equipment is about one million dollars. Present church membership is 679. The average attendance at the Sunday morning worship service is 400, the Sunday evening service, 230, Sunday school 325, and the Wednesday family night 150.

Ebenezer Church has been blessed with pastors who preached the Word of God and worked diligently with

dedicated members to make Christ known in the community.

The following pastors have served at Ebenezer: the Rev. Wm. Raebel, 1899-1903; the Rev. Wm. J. Appel, 1903-1909; the Rev. G. Mengel, 1909-1913; the Rev. J. G. Draewell, 1914-1925; the Rev. John Leypoldt, 1926-1935; Dr. G. H. Enss, 1935-1937; Dr. George Lang, 1938-1944; Dr. E. A. McAsh, 1944-1962; Dr. Jack Scott, 1963-1974, and the Rev. Wm. L. Cummins, 1977-.

All of the physical structures of the church, from the beginning until the present, were made possible by the sacrificial gifts, many hours of work, the continuing prayers of the members and the faithfulness and blessing of God. They endeavor to maintain this heritage of

## Initial Impressions After Arriving in Cameroon

by Oryn Meinerts

Following are excerpts of a letter from Rodney Zimmerman written in September 1978.

"Dear Friends in the N.A.B. Conference,

"Warm greetings from Cameroon. Already two months have passed since I arrived here. My initial impressions can best be described by the words of the song, 'Let's Just Praise the Lord!' Even in such a new and unknown environment, I can be thankful that my Lord is the same unchanging friend who is always near, even as he has promised.

"Stepping off the plane into the dark muggy night was quite memorable: With knocking knees and arms full of luggage—my plane was 'only' two hours late—the place really looked deserted. As I checked my bags through, the small group of missionaries, who had been patiently waiting for me those several hours, came to my rescue. I'm sure I talked as if I'd known them for years. During the next hour, we drove into the black of night with tall elephant grass lining the road. My thoughts raced, and excitement about being here went through me. I was thankful for encouragement from family and friends before I had left. God's promise, 'Seek ye first the kingdom of God . . . ' had been a blessing to me.

"After some sleep with cockroaches, crickets and chameleons all around me, we traveled the whole day to the

*The Rev. Oryn Meinerts is Cameroon field secretary, home on furlough, and assigned for six months to administrative responsibilities at the North American Baptist Conference International Office at Oakbrook Terrace, IL.*



Rodney Zimmerman

faithful giving of time, talent and treasure, as well as service to their fellowman, as they follow the Master's command to reach the lost for Christ. Ebenezer has an outreach into its neighborhood and community through Sunday school, youth activities, a radio program, and a telephone counseling service, called "Life Line." Sunday School and church programs are designed and dedicated toward proclaiming the Good News of the Gospel and bringing others to know Christ as Savior.

The 80th anniversary Sunday services were well attended by many former members from around the United States and Canada. The evening service climaxed the celebration with a challenge to carry on the work begun in such a small way by a few faithful servants of God so many years ago.

grassland. All along we were waved at when we stopped and greeted by warm handshakes and the words in Pidgin English, "come fine" (welcome) or "walka fine" (safe journey).

"The first week at Mbingo was a blur of activity . . . time to enjoy sunny fresh mornings and breath-taking view . . . meeting the missionaries . . . good home cooked food . . . games and times of sharing . . . meeting staff and patients. There was a spirit of cooperation and purpose present.

"The past weeks were filled by not just hospital and medical work, but also welding, counting cattle, erecting a windsock. Never a dull moment.

"I hope you have been able to understand and feel with me some of my impressions. What more can I say but, 'Let's just praise the Lord!'

"Continue in prayer even as you are also remembered in prayer."

Rodney, a short-term missionary serving at Mbingo Baptist Hospital, Cameroon, says he feels terrific—a personal peace and joy about serving the Lord there. Filling in for Dr. Jerry Fluth while he is on furlough, Rodney has found he is not only a leprosy doctor but also director of the medical library and "head cowboy of the cattle herds." Rodney sees the Lord at work in patients recovering from serious illnesses, through the simple but beautiful testimonies and faith in Jesus Christ of the leprosy residents of New Hope Village, and in the sensitivity of the youth to correct Christian living. Experiences Rodney has as a short-term doctor other than surgery and his medical work are crossing a rushing river without a bridge in a VW, working with the cowboys inspecting cattle and tagging newborn calves, receiving an emergency transfer patient flown in to the hospital's airstrip, and hauling bricks by Landrover. "Getting to know the N.A.B. missionary family," says Rodney, "is fantastic!"

Dr. Rodney Leon Zimmerman, born July 1, 1951, was the first of Leon and Gladys Zimmerman's six children. He grew up on a farm near Napoleon, ND, where this Christian family still lives.

Vivid in Rodney's mind is a summer night in 1960 at Crystal Springs Baptist Youth Camp, when he responded to the invitation to receive Christ as his personal Savior. He was baptized by the Rev. Carl Weisser in his home church of Streeter, ND, where he learned much about the Bible. Now he is a member of Gackle Baptist Church, Gackle, ND.



Upon entering college, Rodney had no sense of direction for his life. He had his private pilot's license and was drawn to military service as a jet pilot. As a junior, he was also attracted to the medical profession. Rod applied for entrance in medical school and was accepted. He is convinced this was the leading of the Lord.

While in college, he was also accepted as a participant in the Experiment in International Living program and spent seven weeks living and working in Israel. He states, "I was profoundly touched by that experience and have a deep yearning to return there."

Our four-week journey to Africa (December 19 to January 17) was both a joyous homecoming and an impressive first-hand, on-site encounter with North American Baptist missionaries, schools and hospitals. African nationals, including nurses, midwives, pastors, chaplains, leprosy patients and old-time missionary associates enthusiastically welcomed Ardice with warm, respectful greetings and loving embraces. It was all tremendously impressive and almost overwhelming for Ralph as together we toured all our mis-

sion stations, Bible schools, the theological college, technical college, boys' and girls' secondary schools, Cameroon Baptist primary schools, school for missionary children, maternity centers, hospitals, nurses' training and midwifery schools, leprosy settlement, churches and chapels throughout Nigeria and Cameroon. In addition to these visits, there were trips to the central treasury of Kumba and the mission and convention headquarters at Bamenda.

The main purpose for the trip was our participation at the annual Cameroon Missionary Fellowship, December 28 to January 2, at Bamenda. Ardice led Bible studies and presented Christian life messages to the missionary children who were in attendance. Her theme was "Our Place

# A Momentous Return & a First Visit to Nigeria & Cameroon

by Ralph and Ardice Powell

concerns, recreation and social activities. A family atmosphere prevailed; it was, in fact, very much a family conference with babies, children, young people and adults (young and old). A highlight was the Saturday evening banquet with David Steinhart as M.C.—the skits were a scream! Another highlight was the New Year's Eve meditation, fellowship and communion service led by Peter Schroeder—the interpersonal dynamics were profound!

Fred Bartel did a splendid job as program chairman, and Betty Mantay outdid herself as food chairwoman, with help from Sue Krier (who smoked the hams in the chimney of an outdoor fireplace). We were kept informed about world news and sports by David Burgess' daily commentaries. Energetic Esther Hoffman kept things alive and moving for the children with assistance from "Papa" Michelson, Pat Lenz and others. The music, arranged by Harold Lang, delighted us all and helped to draw each person into a family circle of song. Under Kathy Kroll's direction, prayer groups

and Myrna's recovery progressed quite well during the days following C.M.F. Adding to the cheer of the koinonia were the attractive decorations and bulletin boards done by Marlis Lemke, Pat Lenz, Wilma Binder, Terry King and Bee Westerman. But causing pain to nearly everyone were the shots administered by all the nurses present, while the doctors signed the immunization cards.

Not only were N.A.B. missionaries present at C.M.F., but also included were Christian personnel from several service organizations: Peace Corps (Mike Kirshman), Christian Service Corps (Terry King), Volunteer Service Organization (David Narroccott), and two Baptist General Conference nurses (Eleanor Sorenson and Barbara Knudson), who are stationed from the Baptist General Conference field in Ethiopia, because of the threatening political conditions there. Our missionary work benefits in a very substantial way by the assistance of other agencies and organizations without cost to our denomination. We can be most

lifted to the throne of grace the burdens and problems of African ministries, mingled with praise and thanksgiving for victories and accomplishments. Dieter Lemke made sure that the athletes among us had plenty opportunities to develop sore muscles and good appetites.

Unfortunately, nurse Myrna Goodman no sooner arrived when she developed severe abdominal pain and had to return to Bansa with Dr. Helen Marie Schmidt and Trudy Schatz (over terribly rough and dusty roads) for emergency surgery. Everything went well in the procedure,

thankful for all that this means to the quality and extent of our ministry in Cameroon.

The fact that Ardice had spent twenty-two years in Cameroon as a nurse made our trip and visits with the missionaries much more productive. Ardice explained historical and cultural aspects of missionary ministry as well as the particular problems faced in different areas and phases of the work. Her ability to speak Pidgin English fluently helped us engage in profitable dialogue with African pastors, hospital patients and employees, custom officers and immigration officials. Together we observed the amazing long-range contributions made over decades by our missionary personnel, very much in evidence in many specific and concrete ways—buildings, trained pastors, teachers, evangelists, nurses, midwives, healed leprosy patients, able church leaders and mature Christian church members. The most gratifying element of progress has been the development of the indigenous church. Many positions of leadership, formerly occupied by missionaries, are now filled by trained nationals.

Christmas Day was exciting for many reasons. We had breakfast at the Peter Schroeder's home at Mbu. Before we could leave on our trip to Warwar with the Schroeders and the Ed Hoepner family, we were invited to eat fufu served with chicken at the house of Peter Tomnyi, the principal of Mambilla Baptist Bible School. Then the journey began by Land Rover, canoe across the Donga River, and slowly up the steep hills (in places only rock piles), finally to Warwar with the Ron Hiller family and Minnie Kuhn. The Christmas service at the church was already in progress and continued for two more hours after we arrived. There were many recitations of Scripture, numerous special musical numbers and several choir selections, plus a long sermon.

After church we were invited again to have fufu at the pastor's house with a



Participants at the Cameroon Missionary Fellowship in Bamenda.

group of people. The honored guests received the prized piece of meat (a large chunk of boiled liver) to eat with the corn



Missionary Ray Hoffman receiving immunization shot from Eleanor Sorenson, assisted by Barbara Knudson.

meal cakes. All those who attended the church service brought food, and everyone, plus any passersby, was invited to share in the common meal, as they sat in groups according to their residential areas. It was a big, festive occasion, and there was an abundance of food for all. Following this meal and a trek back to the Hiller's house, all the missionaries sat down to a turkey dinner, complete with all the trimmings, in a joyous Christmas atmosphere.

The most fascinating part of Christmas Day began with a tour of the hospital with the expert guidance and description of Dr. Hiller and Minnie Kuhn. Suddenly, in the midst of the tour, a woman was ready to deliver, and Minnie Kuhn asked Ardice whether she would like to take over. Enthusiastically Ardice said, "Yes, of course!" For the first time in his life, Ralph had the opportunity of watching the full process of delivering a beautiful baby boy. Ardice did a good job! As soon as the new baby was delivered, Minnie sang, "Praise the Savior..." The baby was cleaned, weighed and dressed in a White Cross layette provided by some Women's Missionary Society from the U.S.A. or Canada.

The day after Christmas was just about as exciting. It began with a Caesarean section performed by Dr. Hiller at 6:30 a.m. After breakfast we went with Ron Hiller and two Africans to a junction, where Ed Hoepner met us to take us on another leg of our journey over terribly rough, rocky road as far as Lip, where Kathy Kroll met us to continue over more steep, narrow, rocky roads to Mbem. Here Kathy is the only nurse, together with a Cameroonian midwife and a few ward helpers, who manage a maternity and rural health center, which serves 7,000 outpatients, more than 600 inpatients and has almost 500 deliveries each year.

The really big days for Ardice were those spent at Bansa, where she served for 21 years as a nurse, assisting in surgical procedures, in teaching and supervision of African nurses, midwives and auxiliary medical staff. Here we saw Dr.



Ardice & Ralph Powell with leprosy patients at New Hope Village, Mbongo.

Schmidt perform a tubal ligation and a skin graft. The Bansa hospital annually serves 35,000 outpatients and 5,500 inpatients with a staff of two doctors (sometimes one of the doctors is on furlough), four missionary nurses and about 15 trained national nurses and midwives, plus about 40 ward helpers. About 1,600 deliveries, 550 major operations and almost 3,000 minor operations are performed annually.

Climaxing the days at Bansa was the evening, when Trudy Schatz entertained some of the finest Christian nationals with whom Ardice worked during her years here. It was for her a deep satisfaction to have close fellowship with these leaders, who have stood firm for the Lord and grown to be stalwarts in the faith through many trials and difficulties. Paul Fanka, the Bansa church pastor, spoke of the lasting influence Ardice has had on his life, leading him to an unquestioned assurance of salvation and making it possible for him to go to Bible school to prepare for the ministry, in which he is now engaged.

(Continued on page 11)



My first visit to Brazil took place just 15 years ago, February 1964. That was for the purpose of surveying Brazil and other South American countries concerning a possible mission field and missionary outreach for our Conference. The survey resulted in pinpointing the southern part of Brazil, particularly the state of Rio Grande do Sul, and if possible to include also the neighboring state to the north, Santa Catarina. Two years later we sent our first two missionary couples, the Effa and Rabenhorst families, to Brazil for a year of language study at Campinas. During that year they made a more detailed survey of the two states and chose the northeast area of the state of Rio Grande do Sul, where they located in 1967.

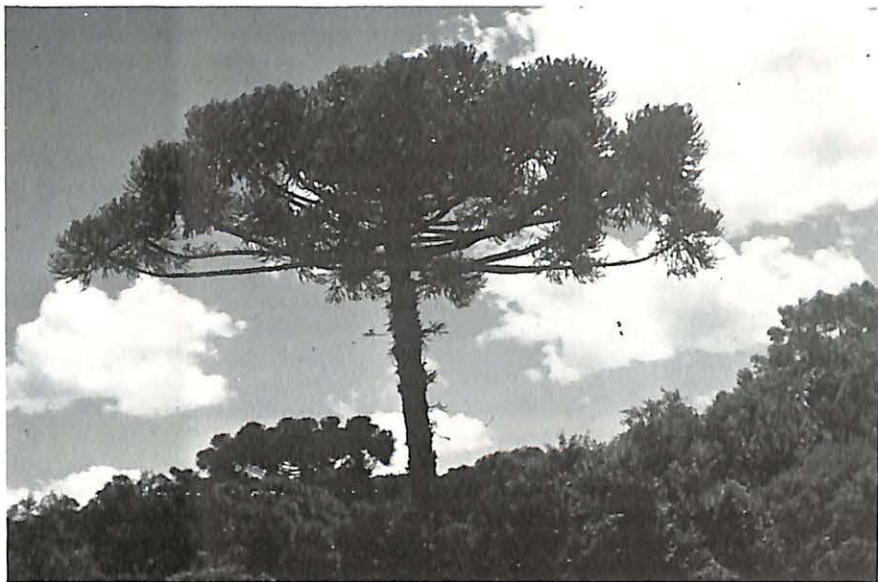
My second visit to Brazil I made in October 1967, shortly after our missionaries had moved to two cities about 25 miles apart, Caxias do Sul and Bento Gonçalves. These cities had an approximate population of 100,000 and 35,000 respectively and were in the heart of the northeast section of the state, an area known as the "grape capital," a stronghold of the Catholic Church. The area had many former Italian immigrants. My third visit took place in December and early January 1973/74 and resulted in our expansion over the entire state on invitation of the State Convention. The Nelsons, our third missionary family to Brazil in July 1971, were residing in Santo Angelo, west of Caxias do Sul. My fourth visit five years later was again the end of December and early part of January 1978/79. How do I view our ministry in Brazil, past, present and future?

#### A Decade of Beginnings

From the very beginning, we worked within the framework of the Brazilian Baptist State Convention of Rio Grande do Sul; thus we entered on the basis of an official invitation from the State Convention office and also from the existing organized Baptist Church in the northeast area, the church at Caxias do Sul. All beginnings are difficult, and ours was no exception. There were many trials and frustrations.

Our missionaries had to become more fluent in the Portuguese language, because one year of formal language study did not bring fluency in speech. Our missionaries had to learn to adapt to Brazilian culture and ways of doing things. It is never easy for an American to shed his American culture and to identify with the people he serves, but this is a necessity. Our missionaries were fortunate that they

*Dr. Richard Schilke is general secretary of the North American Baptist Missions Department.*



## CHURCH EXTENSION OPPORTUNITIES IN SOUTH BRAZIL

by Richard Schilke

could work with a Brazilian pastor in those early years and thus observe and learn in a student-teacher relationship.

Though we worked within the framework of the Brazilian Baptist State Convention, it still became necessary that our Mission incorporate and be legally recognized in the state under the name of "Brazil Rio Grande Baptist Mission."

Bento Gonçalves had a small mission and chapel with a Brazilian pastor, but the work had not yet been organized into a church when the Rabenhorst family settled in that city. With their help the mission became an organized church. Though on one occasion during their two terms of service, missionary Rabenhorst had to serve as interim pastor, the church now has a Brazilian pastor, and the Rabenhorsts did not return to Bento Gonçalves when they began their third term of service.

The First Baptist Church in Caxias do Sul needed a new church building very badly. Under the leadership of the Effa family and with the help of a construction loan of \$15,000, this could be completed. The church now has adequate facilities, one of the finest in the state. It was dedicated just before the Effa family

came to the U.S.A. for their second furlough in December 1975.

The Nelson family came to Brazil in July 1971. They were first stationed in Farroupilha (halfway between Caxias do Sul and Bento Gonçalves), but after 1½ years moved west to Santo Angelo. Brother Nelson is serving the Northern Association as evangelist and is directing lay training programs in various cities within this Association.

Before the close of the first decade, a fourth missionary couple, the Ostercamps, could be sent to Brazil in 1975. After a year of language study in Campinas, they moved to Caxias do Sul and occupied the only mission-owned residence. The Effas had purchased and completed this house during their stay in the city. It is our mission office in Brazil. The church was again pastorless and had even experienced a split under its previous pastor. It was thus a delicate situation for the Ostercamps, and as newly arrived missionaries, they experienced many frustrations. God led through those critical periods and brought about a unification of the church.

The close of the first decade had both a crowning and a saddening episode. The

crowning episode for the church in Caxias do Sul was without doubt the completion and dedication of its new church building. For our mission the crowning episode was the concert tour of the "Brazil Praise Singers" from Dec. 8, 1975 to March 7, 1976, consisting of eight Brazilian young people plus the Effa family. Our churches in the U.S.A. and Canada will long remember them and the blessings they brought through their concerts. The saddening episode came after the tour, when the Effa family felt led to resign as missionaries and remain home to see their children through college. God is blessing their ministry in the pastorate at Napier Parkview Baptist Church in Benton Harbor, MI.

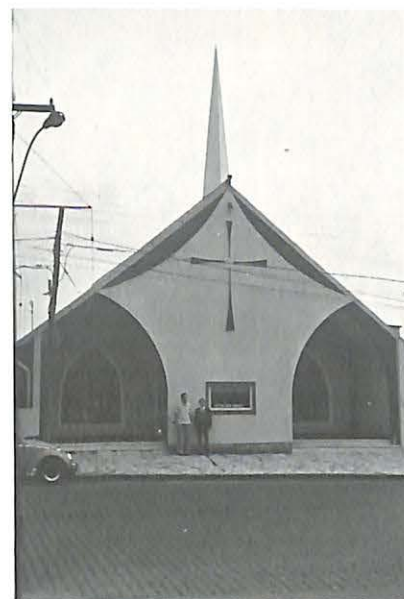
pastor of the church, Pastor Darcia Mattos.

With the return of the Rabenhorst family to Porto Alegre in 1977, Brother Rabenhorst was appointed by the State Convention to serve in the field of evangelism and church planting as its director. In addition he is serving as field secretary of our Mission, succeeding Herman Effa in that office. Throughout the past year Richard Rabenhorst has conducted church growth clinics and seminars throughout the state. In full cooperation with the State Convention and under the directorship of its general secretary, Pastor Wilson Alves de Oliveira, the vision of church growth and church extension has been enlarged.

Vacaria	with a population of 50,000
Canela	with a population of 30,000

#### A Decade of Great Needs

To carry out the vision of church planting and church growth goes far beyond the ability of the churches within the State Convention. It is the desire and request of the State Convention that a missionary couple be placed in each of these cities, either by the Brazilian Baptist Home Mission Board, our Mission or by the Southern Baptist Mission, with whom we cooperate fully. Not only is missionary personnel needed and requested, but financial help in this outreach is also re-



The beautiful Baptist Church building at Caxias do Sul.



The Gaucho Baptist Church at Porto Alegre, where the Rabenhorsts attend.



Picnic with the missionary families Kaiser and Rabenhorst.



The Baptist camp at Santa Maria.



From l to r: The three N.A.B. missionary families, Nelson, Kaiser, Rabenhorst with Dr. R. Schilke.

## BRAZIL

#### A Decade of Anticipated Growth

Just at the time when the Effa family did not return to missionary service, the Board of Missions was able to appoint the Kaisers to Brazil. They were not considered replacements but additions. The vacancy caused by the Effa resignation has not yet been filled for lack of candidates. At the same time, the appointment of the Kaisers kept our number at four couples. After one year of language study in Campinas, Brazil, the Kaisers were placed in the city of Porto Alegre, to work at the Gaucho Baptist Church, particularly with the youth. This gave them an opportunity to work closely with the

At the time of the annual meeting on Jan. 5, 1979, Pastor Wilson listed eight places where new churches are to be started in the next several years, two in each of the four Associations of the state:

Novo Hamburgo	with a population of 120,000
Montenegro	with a population of 50,000
Rosario do Sul	with a population of 50,000
Alegrete	with a population of 70,000
Sao Borja	with a population of 70,000
Sao Luiz Gonzaga	with a population of 70,000

quested on the basis of special projects both in the maintaining of a ministry and in the loaning of funds for land and churches. Experience has taught us that church growth must be under the leadership of God's Holy Spirit, but that it is also very dependent on financial aid in one form or another.

The above will show that many needs exist if we are to see church growth, particularly in cities where no Baptist witness exists. The opportunities are now. The response in Brazil is unprecedented. The field is ripe unto harvest. In such circumstances Jesus said: "Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he send forth laborers into his harvest" Luke 10:2.



Our Mission is requesting that by 1980 we fill the present vacancy and appoint an additional couple: thus two couples by 1980. This will only partially fill the need for more missionaries. Our Mission is also requesting that in a future Capital Funds Drive, we help in capital investments. With more missionaries, more homes and cars are needed. Transportation is vital. Also a certain portion in the Capital Funds Drive should be designated to meet the special needs in church construction in the area of grants, which the State Convention can use as construction loans.

These needs can only be met if we all prayerfully and sacrificially undergird the work of the Lord in this missionary outreach.

lies of the Southern Baptist Convention in a combined missionary retreat at a Baptist camp at Santa Maria. This time I again met in a combined missionary retreat at this camp setting. We had three of our missionary families present (the Ostercamps are home on furlough) and two Southern Baptist missionary families present. Again we evidenced the fine cooperation between the two Missions and their missionaries. I was privileged to serve them as guest speaker.

The annual meeting of our Mission took place during that same week, and I could assist our missionaries in planning and budgetary requests. Pastor Wilson of the State Convention also met with us for part of the time, and we discussed with him the goals of the convention. Our mis-

spread over a period of years. The spirit of cooperation is excellent.

On the two Sundays, December 31 and January 7, I could serve in three churches with the Word of God: in Caxias do Sul, in Porto Alegre and in Santa Angelo. The latter was a combined service of the German Baptist and the Brazilian Baptist church. This gave a good attendance. The message had to be interpreted into the Portuguese language. At the first two churches mentioned, the pastors can speak English and served as my interpreters. In Santo Angelo I was asked to preach in German, and the pastor of the German church served as interpreter.

God's blessing was evident everywhere, and we were encouraged in every way. We pray that this decade may be one of con-

## A MOMENTOUS RETURN . . .

(Continued from page 7)

Still another highlight of our experiences was the visit to the hospital at Mbingo and the New Hope leprosy village, where Ardice has served for one year. Dr. Dieter Lemke's surgical feats are astonishing; Pat Lenz's work in physical therapy is "something to behold;" Dr. Rod Zimmerman's assistance in the huge work load of the hospital and leprosy settlement is indispensable; Betty Mantay's administration of the hospital is highly competent, and the Mbingo station couldn't operate without the skilled management of Don Goltz.

One of the deepest emotional experiences anyone could have is to hear the leprosy patients clap their stubby, fingerless hands and sing (many of them toothless) "Jesus died for we (sic)." To hear them thank God for their leprosy, because through this dreaded disease they came to know Christ as their Savior, is an experience of a lifetime! The Mbingo hospital has about 24,000 outpatient visits, 2,500 inpatients, 300 major operations and almost 700 minor operations per year.

Time and space do not permit a detailed account of many other important experiences and a report of what all our missionaries are doing in Nigeria and Cameroon; although the work and contribution of each of our missionaries deserve a lengthy description. We felt an overwhelming gratitude, admiration and respect for what our missionaries are do-

ing and have done in the past. One has to appreciate deeply the great personal sacrifice (they do not like us to say this) they are making in the capable performance of their many difficult tasks with inadequate resources, personnel, supplies and salary. Everywhere we saw long-term results of devoted, skilled labors of many years of missionary service.

We were startled by the exorbitantly high cost of living, caused by run-away inflation and the drastic devaluation of the American and Canadian dollars. This is true of imported goods, but is increasingly becoming true also of local products, because of the high cost of labor. Prices in the stores for basic necessities are ridiculously high. It is hard to know how missionaries manage at all, but they are both ingenious and tremendously industrious (many grow their own vegetables, and some raise animals.) The cost of vehicles is outrageous; usually at least 80 percent duty is charged on imported cars and trucks. The price of fuel (petrol) is out of sight, but vehicles must keep moving if the work is to go on—evangelism outreach, Theological Education by Extension (T.E.E.), etc.

A basic characteristic of our missionaries is versatility; they fill many roles, including some they never dreamed of. In spite of all the difficulties, limitations and discouragements, they are able to maintain a good spirit and a high level of performance. It isn't hard to know why. Somehow we at home must learn to match their dedication and commitment

to the will of God and the call of the gospel in the stewardship of our own lives and possessions.

We learned much about theological education in Africa, especially about T.E.E., the in-service, on-the-field continuing program of education for pastors and lay leaders. Efforts are being made to get better textbooks and library materials for the training of national pastors who are studying in mission schools. Additional courses and revisions of existing courses are under progress for T.E.E.

From numerous conversations with missionaries and nationals, there seems to be a growing conviction that African pastors and teachers should stay in Africa when training for pastoral and educational ministries. A growing spirit of nationalism is very much in evidence. The problems of culture and cost in sending Africans to America or Canada seem to indicate the practicality of increasing indigenization.

Again, time and space do not permit many other interesting and important reflections and observations from our visit to Nigeria and Cameroon. A strategic aspect of our African journey is the examination of our own stewardship of gifts and financial resources. We are asking ourselves what our priorities and values in life are: how much do we have a right to own and spend for ourselves, and how much should we give for our own N.A.B. missionary enterprise and share with the "have nots" who live in pitiful poverty? □



Dr. Schilke (center) meeting with the Brazil Field Committee.



Table fellowship at the Nelson home in Santo Angelo.



From l to r: Martha & Ralph Nelson, Richard & Karen Kaiser, Richard Schilke, Beth & Richard Rabenhorst.



Church of the German speaking congregation in Santo Angelo.



Baptist Church in Santo Angelo where the Nelsons attend.

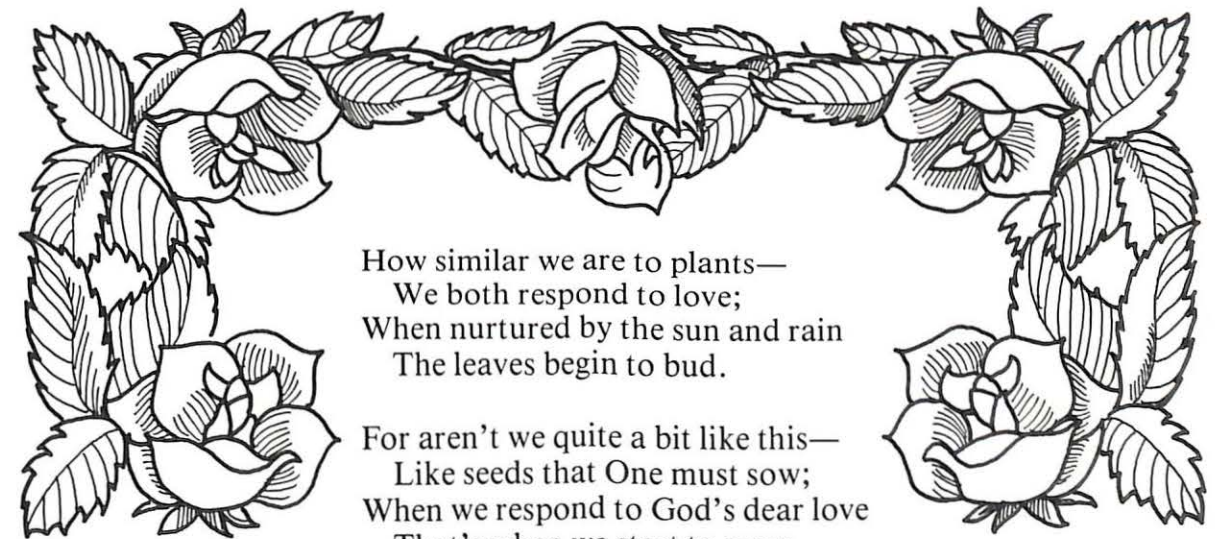
## BRAZIL

sionaries were also advised to seek priorities, for it became quite evident that, even with the help of both Missions, the goals of the Convention must be

tinued blessings in cooperation, in missionary and church outreach, and in church growth throughout the state of Rio Grande do Sul. □

### A Decade of Continued Cooperation

Five years ago, on my third visit to Brazil, I met with our three missionary families and with four missionary fami-



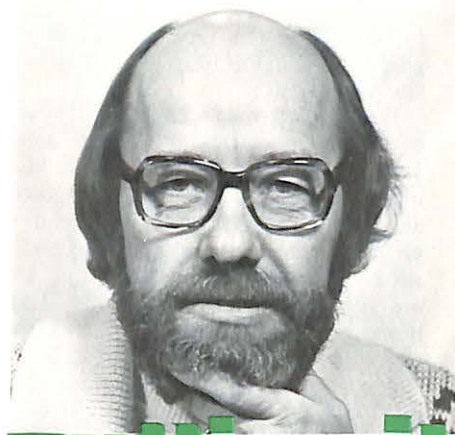
How similar we are to plants—  
We both respond to love;  
When nurtured by the sun and rain  
The leaves begin to bud.

For aren't we quite a bit like this—  
Like seeds that One must sow;  
When we respond to God's dear love  
That's when we start to grow.

As plants need both the rain and sun  
To strengthen and to nourish,  
We, too, need both the trials and joys  
So that our lives may flourish.

Sue Soldin





## putting it together

by Ernie Zimbelman

There is too much guilt and shame in people and not enough love. People who

Dr. Ernie Zimbelman is professor of Pastoral Counseling at North American Baptist Seminary, Sioux Falls, SD, and is in charge of the Sioux Falls Psychological Services Clinic. Address letters to Dr. E. Zimbelman, 1605 S. Euclid Ave., Sioux Falls, SD 57105.

are filled with feelings of guilt and shame are unable to have feelings of love for themselves or others. Our emotional systems which make and store love are the same ones as those which make guilt and shame. Therefore, if I'm obsessed with my feelings of guilt and shame, I will be doing little that is productive in regard to love.

There are many Christians who want to be free, open, happy, loving people. But instead they are critical, depressed, and often aloof and withdrawn. Why do they miss the mark?

Shame is a rather simple emotion. Feelings of shame are heavily related to embarrassment and self-consciousness. We can feel very ashamed without having done a great wrong. Recently, in my eagerness to find a restroom in a busy airport, in spite of words and pictures, I opened the door to the women's room. When I discovered my error, I was embarrassed. I felt foolish and ashamed. But because I was among strangers, the feeling quickly passed.

Shame is defined as a painful emotion arising from the consciousness of something dishonoring or ridiculous in one's conduct or circumstances. It relates to one's sense of modesty or decency. Usually there is no right or wrong involved in a moral sense. We have simply done something that is quite different from the way we think it should be done. We can laugh about it, and at times we share with others "my most embarrassing (shameful) moment."

If our feelings of shame are light, we usually can laugh them off, and we feel all right again. But there are many individuals who have deep feelings of shame, and they cannot laugh them away. Such individuals need to have someone with whom they can share these feelings and find acceptance and reassurance, that although they were deeply embarrassed, they really are loveable people. Inappropriate feelings of shame and embarrassment are related to low self-esteem.

A story I find very interesting is the one of Jesus in the temple at age twelve (Luke 2:41-51). From all appearance, in regard to his parents, he was inconsiderate and irresponsible. But when they discovered him in the temple after a three-day search, he showed no shame, guilt, or embarrassment. How do we account for this?

We can answer by saying he was a "shameless young boy." I think this is true. But he was shameless, not because he was insensitive to the needs of his parents, but because in comparison to their needs he was involved in something of far greater worth. "Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" (Verse 49)

No, Jesus was not an insensitive rebellious boy. He had temporarily forgotten the travel arrangements. We are then told "he continued in subjection to them" (verse 51). For three days he had not been in subjection to his parents, but he felt no shame. This is an example of a healthy self-image. □

## WHAT'S IT LIKE TO BE GOD'S VOLUNTEER?

by Le Ann Wolitarsky

This question has been asked of us many times by people wherever we go, as well as by our friends and family back home. It's a fairly general question, and I could write a book filled with all kinds of exciting and interesting things. But I'll break it down into some of the more specific and often-asked questions we hear. Maybe you've been wondering some of the same things, so now's the time to find out.

Q. How do you get to be a part of G.V.'s?

A. Many young people become familiar with the ministry of God's Volunteers simply by having them in their own church. By speaking to one of the section leaders or the director, or by writing to the Rev. Ray Harsch, evangelism director at the N.A.B. International Office, you will obtain an application form and find

LeAnn Wolitarsky is the God's Volunteers reporter. She comes from Turtle Lake, ND.

out more detailed requirements. You will be asked to submit a taped personal testimony of your Christian commitment, a solo and a duet. If you wish to be a part of the music section, you will also have a personal audition.

Q. What do the two sections do?

A. If you are a part of the music section, your day might consist of group Bible study at 10:00 a.m., practice for the evening service, lunch, door-to-door calling in the afternoon and an evening program after supper. These programs have a variety of music, drama, skits, multi-media, puppets, children's stories, and musicals. Members share their own personal testimonies in these services. Occasionally the section is able to sing in schools, nursing homes and shopping malls.

Follow-up section members also start their day with Bible study. Then they meet with core group members (6-8 church members) and share with them the basics of witnessing and discipleship. After lunch they will go calling with core

group members. On occasion the girls will conduct "coffees" where the ladies of the church invite unsaved friends to their homes. At these coffees a special recipe or handcraft is shared and actually made for the women to learn themselves. The gospel is shared by team members. These offer fantastic opportunities for ministry. Evenings vary with more core group training and calling. Other activities include youth seminars and seminars on daily devotions.

The sections may be in the same church or in different churches at one time. If it is possible, sections spend Monday together for a day of relaxation and other activities.

Q. How long is the tour, and where do you go?

A. Our tour begins in September and continues through May. Each year the tour will take a different route. This year our route includes Iowa, Illinois, Minnesota, Manitoba, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas, Colorado,

California, Oregon, Washington, British Columbia, Alberta and Montana.

Q. Who chooses you?

A. Each year in February the Church Ministries Board meets at the Conference Office in Oakbrook Terrace to choose the new team for the following year.

Q. How long can you be on G.V.'s?

A. Most members of our team travel for one year. It is possible to reapply for a second year. This year we have four returning members.

Q. What are the financial responsibilities?

A. Each team member is expected to pay for his or her team outfit, as well as transportation costs to training, home at Christmas break and then back to join the

### SHORT-TERM

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## 1978 CONTRIBUTIONS OF ASSOCIATIONS TO THE CONFERENCE MISSION AND MINISTRY BUDGET

NAME OF ASSOCIATION	1977	1978
Alberta	\$ 354,176.72	\$ 418,089.06
Atlantic	70,791.08	65,916.13
British Columbia	232,062.50	256,861.02
Central Dakota-Montana	136,402.81	146,775.54
Eastern	77,272.26	100,933.36
Illinois	113,799.62	127,222.61
Iowa	129,888.64	155,346.94
Manitoba	213,630.98	223,945.66
Michigan	300,938.28	326,675.00
Minnesota-LaCrosse	76,397.09	99,824.55
Northern California	90,759.43	91,763.95
Northern Dakota	141,857.08	124,917.72
Oregon-Idaho	87,503.97	124,025.25
Pacific Northwest	174,782.38	90,323.69
Penn-Ohio	48,438.50	60,282.80
Saskatchewan	53,074.74	78,894.17
South Dakota	119,930.11	137,233.61
Southern	38,502.58	40,887.70
Southern California	84,192.33	87,698.73
Southwestern	159,260.45	178,225.22
Wisconsin	72,039.24	68,320.16
Inter-Association	10,530.94	14,401.72
Total	\$2,786,231.73	\$3,018,564.59

## book reviews

by B.C. Schreiber

**GOOD MORNING, LORD, Devotions for Today's Family**, by Paul Martin. \$2.45.

**GOOD MORNING, LORD; Day-Starter Devotions** by Robert A. Featherstone. \$2.45.

**GOOD MORNING, LORD, More Five-Minute Devotions** by Ron Hembree. \$2.45. Grand Rapids, MI. Baker Book House.

There are more than thirty of these small, attractive and meaningful books in this series for almost every occasion. Try them for a change.

**A SHEPHERD LOOKS AT THE GOOD SHEPHERD AND HIS SHEEP.** By Phillip Keller, Grand Rapids, MI. Zondervan Publishing House. \$6.95.

Mr. Keller is known for his first book, *A Shepherd Looks at Psalm 23*, which sold more than 400,000 copies and was translated into fourteen languages. Born in East Africa, he actually was a shepherd for many years.

His present volume is based on John 10 which gives us a beautiful picture of the relationship between Christ and the good shepherd and his sheep. As his sheep, we know how easy it is to stray, but we also know how lovingly the Good Shepherd draws us back into the fold and into his abundant life.

**WHEN GOD FIRST THOUGHT OF YOU.** By Lloyd J. Ogilve, Waco, TX. Word Books. \$6.95.

As a penetrating speaker and writer, Mr. Ogilve is known to thousands as an author of at least nine books. He came to the attention of the public almost immediately when his first book, *Drumbeat of Love*, appeared.

In this volume Mr. Ogilve addressed himself to us, but not before he experienced the blessing that came to him when a friend said, "Lloyd, I want your life to be as beautiful as it was in the mind of God when he first thought of you."

The thirty short chapters are based on the three letters of John, because he believes that this is what John wanted to happen to his beloved friends. □





## The Lord Was My Stay

by Jeanne Wittmann,  
Stevensville, MI.

I am the wife of a sober alcoholic, delivered and restored; a mother of two born-again teenagers; a working woman in the business world dedicated to serving people through Jesus Christ, and a "Cracked Pot" that God in his love and mercy saw fit to use as his instrument.

Five or more years ago my husband crossed over the thin line from social drinking into alcohol addiction! It started with beer at the age of sixteen and ended with beer plus hard liquor years later. One day he came to the painful awareness he had a drinking problem that was causing a general breakdown in all areas of his life. He sought to overcome the problem through his own power and self-will, only to find he would fail time and time again. During one of his many short periods of sobriety, he came to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ and found freedom. This freedom was short-lived, and again he became enslaved to the power of alcohol. My heart cried out within me, "How long, Lord?" There seemed to be

Max and Jeanne Wittman and family.



no more comfort or peace for me! I had grown weary! Each time my husband slipped further into despair, a part of us slipped with him. The family suffered the painful consequences of what alcohol does to a person's mind, body and spirit. The Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde personality manifested itself many times in one day: the irrational behavior, blaming everything and everyone for his misfortune and hoping to alleviate the extreme guilt and remorse suffered in moments of sobriety, the periods of loss of memory, the financial bind incurred by not being able to reason or handle responsibility, and hardships and situations brought upon by an angry and distraught man, who was on the verge of insanity or death.

What did God mean by "all working for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose"? I asked, "What could possibly be his purpose for THIS?" During this time God, by the power of the Holy Spirit, directed me into new paths. He showed me that I needed changing, dealing first with my thought life, motives and attitudes. I had not known it then, but he was preparing the table before me. Alcoholism is a family illness and we, as a family, had to learn to "let go and let God" work and lead. This meant we had to allow the alcoholic to assume the responsibility for his action, no matter what! God showed my children and me how to live above the circumstances and receive a heart filled with compassion and understanding for our suffering loved one.

First, he showed me who the enemy was to my spirit and to my husband. Satan! Through weariness came discouragement, Satan's "in" to preventing God's plan from unfolding in my life.

Second, he commanded me to "be thankful in all things!"

Third, I learned I was to pray even more earnestly and fervently and *not faint!* Having prayer partners gave a source of healing to my spirit.

Fourth, I learned I was not to "forsake the fellowship of one another."

Fifth, I was to saturate myself in the Word and learn more of Jesus *and* of illness which had power over my husband.

How I thank the Lord for that day when he allowed my "cup to be drained." He taught me great truths. "Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on Thee." I found God is faithful to his promises, but I am weak in claiming them for my life.

Christ said there is faith, hope and love—the greatest is LOVE! Living victoriously through Jesus Christ in the midst of trying and difficult circumstances is the only hope to reaching a suffering alcoholic for Christ. To receive God's love, I surrendered to the Holy Spirit each time a struggle of testing would arise. Asking

within my spirit that Christ be glorified, and not "self," I would ask, "What did the Holy Spirit want to perfect in this situation? Love? Patience? Self-control?" He had proven to me time and again his way was best. Mine was destructive. If I had my way, I'd be running away or retaliating with all the fire and fury, all the while justifying it through my husband's actions. Praise God, "I can do all things through Christ which strengthens me." I found God's love to be the strongest force which united the family and kept it in perfect peace with JOY in the valleys! The love that sees beyond the defects and ugliness of sin and wipes away all the tears and heals the brokenhearted and restores them unto the joy of their salvation. The love that never lets go!

My husband "hit the bottom" of his life and took the first step toward sobriety in April 1977. He asked for help and admitted himself into a hospital to treat his illness. Today he lives one day at a time, depending on Jesus Christ as his source for a happy, fulfilled life. Also, the patience, support and sense of working together as a family is vital towards his continuous recovery.

We know nothing is impossible with God. Nothing is hopeless! Struggles are now opportunities. People are potential children of God. There is a guarantee: Jesus said, "I will never leave you nor forsake you!" The entire Word of God is a guarantee to life fulfilling and everlasting!

"The Lord was my stay" (Psalm 18:18-21). □

## Your Privilege



by La Verna Mehlhaff,  
women's work director

Every believer can have the joy of full-time Christian service. It involves making a daily decision to seek and obey God's will in all our activities. Sensing the presence of our living Lord in our daily living is an incomparable experience.

MAY'S PROJECT. We suggest that all offerings during May be designated for the purchase of land for churches and missionary homes in Japan. Joy will be ours as we see God blessing and multiplying what we have given, so that precious lives in Japan will be reached with the good news of salvation. □



## My Sincere Appreciation

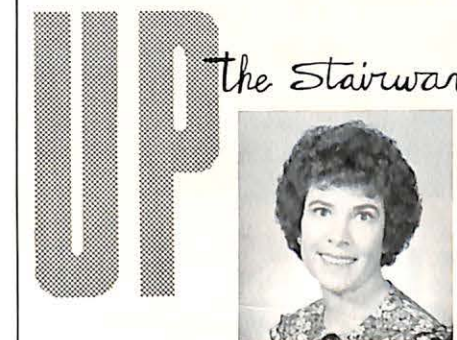
by Becky Heerts,  
Sioux Falls, SD

"Faithful is he who calls you, who will also do it." Those words gave me assurance that I was going in the right direction as I came back from Japan for two years of furlough and schooling. I knew the Lord was calling me to seminary, but I was apprehensive about fitting into an academic setting after being away from school for so long, and I also wondered where all the resources were going to come from!

How great it is to be able to say, as I'm

three-fourths finished, that again God has been true to his Word, and he's accomplished part of his work through you—the women of our North American Baptist Conference. I would like to express my sincere appreciation for your provision of the scholarship for this school year. It means more than I can say to be the recipient, and I pray that God will bless each of you for your labor, prayers and love given through this. A great big THANK YOU goes from me to all of you!

The Lord really has helped in many ways as I've studied, have been challenged with new ideas and concepts. I have



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

One thousand thirty-seven households in a white, upper middle class community indicated some interesting statistics in a recent survey. Ninety percent said they believed in God; although only thirty-four percent claimed to be churchgoers. Seventy-four percent believed there is a heaven, but only forty-four percent believed there is a place called hell.

Someone recently stated, "Everyone wants to go to heaven, but most people just don't want to go with the crowd that's leaving today!" We would have to add that most people just don't know the WAY to heaven!

The above statistics really point out the lack of knowledge and understanding that our society holds regarding eternal truths. One person sat working at his cluttered desk and said, "I may look busy, but I'm only confused!" Many people keep busy, hoping to get to heaven, but are only confused about the way to get there.

Who has the time and the means to reach out to these people and inform them of their ignorance in such a way that they will not be turned off? Too

often a zealous Christian without tact has become a stumbling block for me for a long time.

My childhood worship experiences were in a formal setting where God was holy, almighty and revered above all else. One did not stir in the sanctuary where God's word was read and preached. The act of worship included doing the right thing at the right time, as the order of service dictated. God was heard, and God was honored by the awe and behavior of the participants. Music was majestic, worshipful and of classical quality. In such a setting, it is easy to realize a "shot" of Christianity—just enough to be inoculated against the real conversion experience that Paul describes. Outsiders who tried to convert me simply did not understand the barriers with which they had to contend.

When I saw "religious fanatics" on our town street corners on Saturday nights, proudly claiming they were SURE they were SAVED as they radiated innuendos that the rest of us were not, I could not accept their message. The jazzy gospel songs they loudly quavered to the accompaniment of a wheezy accordion seemed to cheapen all that their God might represent. I, along with the crowd, poked fun at them and felt thankful that I was not so foolish and could worship my God with the dignity he deserved. These people often stirred my emotions to nausea. I was repulsed by their audacity, dowdiness and shouting. They appeared ridiculous to me. They meant well, and were doing what they thought was their best to win souls, but in effect they became a stumbling stone for me and possibly for the other onlookers.

Now that I am a Christian, I have insight into why the "fanatics" revealed themselves so openly in our town. I have forgiven them for "insulting" me. I do

come to more of a realization of who I am, with my strengths and weaknesses, and have been made more aware of how the Lord continually molds and shapes me in his unending process of refinement.

As I was returning from Japan, I thought: "Nothing can be as good as these past two and one half years." But perhaps because of the dynamic, maturing relationship we have with Christ, these two years at home are the best of my life so far! Experiencing the Lord's faithfulness through these soul-searching times, and the "piece-of-cake" times too, helps me know that God will show his great power in the future.

(Continued on page 26)

not feel so negative about such groups today; although I have often had an emotionally negative reaction to the sounds of certain gospel songs, which I first heard on the streets of my home town, and to Christians who demonstrate their faith with gusto and raising of voices. I still prefer a rather peaceful, thoughtful type of worship.

How I wish that same message of salvation they tried to proclaim could have been more clearly and palatably presented in my own church. There I would have gladly received it!

According to the survey referred to earlier, fifty-six percent of those polled who believe in God do not attend church. Could it be that some of them at one time worshipped or were affiliated with churches or Christians who just weren't getting the gospel out in relevant, meaningful language? Could I, by my attitudes and conduct, be turning off seekers of the Lord?

Is it possible that I might be a stumbling block to someone else? Am I a judgmental person? Do I give others the impression that I have arrived? Witnessing takes on many forms, but the Holy Spirit must be in the center of every attempt and in control at all times in order for it to be effective.

It has been said that we take nothing with us when we go to heaven. I would change that statement a bit. All I can take with me on my stairway climb to heaven is other people!

God, help me to walk in your Spirit so completely that I will have your tact and charisma to LOVE people into your kingdom, rather than repel them from you!

"Not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit, says the Lord of hosts. You will succeed because of my Spirit, though you are few and weak" (Zech. 4:6). □





# UNITY IN THE CHURCH

by Wayne Jorstad

G.V.s  
1978/79

Have you ever looked at a jigsaw puzzle and realized how each piece of the puzzle fits together so uniquely? No one piece can replace another. No matter how hard you try to fit a piece that looks like it might fit together, if it's not the correct piece, it will leave gaps. When this happens it causes the whole puzzle to look unfinished. Perhaps you have experienced that frustrating time, when you have spent many long hours piecing your puzzle together, only to find that your last piece is missing, thus giving your puzzle that unfinished look once more.

This illustration can be used to describe how I see the team of God's Volunteers. Each member has a unique position and

*Wayne Jorstad is the reporter for God's Volunteers.*

function. Without each member fulfilling that function our team loses that finished look.

At this time of the year, God's Volunteers experience many things that try to break up its unity. Sickness is one weapon of Satan that can be effective if not guarded. Many of the team members are constantly battling colds, flu and sore throats. There have been times when one or even two of the members have been so sick they were unable to participate either in a concert or training a core group. When this happens, many spontaneous decisions have to be made, so as to make up for the one or ones who have fallen sick. Often another team member is assigned to replace the one who is missing. Just like the puzzle piece that left gaps between the other pieces, so it happens within God's Volunteers. There is a replacement, but there still is a definite gap. The replacement is not fully able to substitute the original piece or person on the team.

This principle is biblical, and I believe it should be practised within our churches. If there is one thing I've learned while being on G.V.'s, it would have to be the understanding of unity. No wonder our churches are not as effective as they could be. We have so many replacements

that the church has many gaps. I wish the reason for the gaps were only because of sickness, but unfortunately it's the lack of commitment. We as churches are missing the original pieces designed by God to fit so uniquely into the puzzle. These original pieces lack the desire to fulfill their functions within their churches; thus God has to use replacements which limit the church.

God's Volunteers feel the extra strain when one of the members is missing. Applying the same principle, don't you think that the church feels the same strain when it is missing its members? It is my hope that we, as unique puzzle pieces within our churches, are fulfilling our function. □

## USE AUDIO-VISUALS TO TELL THE STORY OF MISSIONS

### Brazil

**BRAZIL! AWAKE... AND RESTLESS.** Begins with the history of our missionary interest in South America. Tells the story of our work in Brazil up to the present time. Color. Tape and script 22 minutes. Rental \$2.00 or missionary offering. Purchase price \$10.00.\*

**YOUR JUNIOR MISSIONARIES IN BRAZIL.** Allan, son of the Rev. and Mrs. Herman Effa, is the narrator in this informative presentation of how missionary children live in a foreign land. Color. Tape and script 14 minutes. Rental \$2.00 or missionary offering. Purchase price \$5.00.\*

**BAPTIST WITNESS IN BRAZIL.** Young Brazilians are searching for the truth. The son of missionaries to Brazil tells the story of this interesting country and Baptist witness there.

### Cameroon and Nigeria

**LETTER FROM HILLCREST.** Inspiring filmstrip and cassette narrated by a boy who describes life at Hillcrest School in a letter to his missionary parents. Filmstrip and cassette 18 minutes. Rental \$2.00. Purchase \$10.00.

**HOW GREAT THOU ART!** Photographed and recorded on the campus of Saker Baptist College, a school for girls in Cameroon. Gives a personal report of the opportunities for witnessing through education. Color. Tape and script 26 minutes. Rental \$2.00 or missionary offering. Purchase price \$10.00.\*

**AN END TO EXILE.** Produced by the American Leprosy Mission, this film presents some of the problems and procedures used in the treatment of leprosy on the mission field. The same kind of ministry carried on at the Mbingo New Hope Settlement in Cameroon. Color. 25 minutes. Rental \$8.00.

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**JOY IN SERVICE.** A presentation about the White Cross ministry. It is an inspiring story of the medical services North American Baptists are providing in Cameroon and Nigeria. Cassette and filmstrip, 14 minutes. Rental, \$2.00. Purchase, \$10.00.

**WINDOW ON NIGERIA.** A Committee of the N.A.B. Conference discusses the Nigerian mission work. Color. Filmstrip and cassette 23 minutes. Rental \$2.00. Purchase price \$10.00.\*

### Japan

**BUILDING BRIDGES FOR CHRIST IN JAPAN.** A realistic portrayal of our missionary work in Japan, relates the problems, possibilities and procedures involved in reaching orientals for Christ. Color. Tape and script 18 minutes. Rental \$2.00 or missionary offering. Purchase price \$10.00.\*

**PIERCING THE SHADOW OF SHINTO.** Gives insight into ancient Japanese religious practices and describes how the people are still gripped by the shackles of heritage and customs which they find hard to break. Color. Tape or cassette and script 17 minutes. Rental \$2.00 or missionary offering. Purchase price \$10.00. (German tape also available.)\*

**COFFEEHOUSE ENCOUNTER.** The Rev. Hisashi Murakami, a Japanese pastor, takes Jack, an American student, to a Japanese coffeehouse where university students discuss their studies, personal problems and political issues. During the discussion Jack senses a hunger for God among the youth of Japan and he becomes aware of the opportunity of becoming a short-term missionary by teaching English and witnessing at the same time. Color. Tape and script 17 minutes. Rental \$2.00 or missionary offering. Purchase price \$10.00. (Cassettes also available.)\*

**TADASHI SPREADS THE GOOD NEWS.** The filmstrip begins with a captivating setting of baseball. Through a flashback sequence, that reveals Japanese children, customs, language, schooling and religious culture, it shows how Tadashi, a Japanese sixth-grader, used an opportunity to tell his friend, Hiroshi, about Christ. Missions is compared to baseball, with its teamwork and dedicated players. Tells how children can be part of the mission team. Color. Tape and script 11 minutes. Rental \$2.00 or missionary offering. Purchase price \$10.00. (Cassettes also available.)\*

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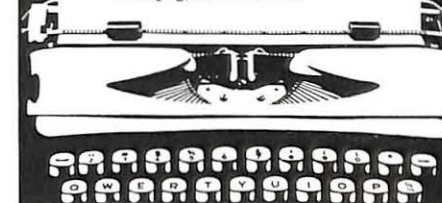
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# the GROWING edge

## Features from your Church Ministries Department

Brief, provocative articles to expand the growing edge of the mind and soul—to suggest, perhaps, new avenues of thought and action.

## Things That Shape My World

*Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but be a new and different person with a fresh newness in all you do and think. Then you will learn from your own experience how his ways will really satisfy you. —Romans 12:2 (LB)*

Conform. Rebel.  
Do my own thing. Follow the crowd.  
I wonder. . .  
if I don't copy the behavior of others or

the customs of this world, what would I be like?

Would I wear jeans because I want to wear jeans instead of following the thoughts of everyone else—the fads?

Would I dress differently in an effort to be myself, and forget what others would think?

*Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. —1 John 2:15 (KJV)*

If I were a leader and not always a follower, would I stand tall for what I know is right?

Would I be so anxious to belong to the group instead of living the example I ought to be?

Would I be real in a world that's full of plastic people?

*Don't let anyone think little of you because you are young. Be their ideal; let them follow the way you teach and live; be a pattern for them in your love, your*

*faith, and your clean thoughts. —1 Timothy 4:12 (LB)*

If I don't copy other's behavior, what would that do to my attitude and outlook concerning church?

Would I put more of myself into the experiences I find in church and realize that I need to grow as a Christian and as a church member?

Would I have a different motive for going to church than I do now?

*A single day spent in your Temple is better than a thousand anywhere else! I would rather be a doorman of the Temple of my God than live in palaces of wickedness. —Psalm 84:10 (LB)*

If I really were to let God's ways satisfy me, would I have to change much of my life?

Would I give my time as freely to doing and knowing God's Word as I do to following my favorites on radio and television?

Would I spend as much time in God's presence as I do in front of the tube?

*And this world is fading away, and these evil, forbidden things will go with it, but whoever keeps doing the will of God will live forever. —1 John 2:17 (LB)*

I wonder. . .

*Don't let the world around you squeeze you into its own mold, but let God remold your mind from within. Romans 12:2a (Phillips)* □

(From *Event*, August 1977. © Copyright 1977 The Sunday School Board of the Southern Baptist Convention. All rights reserved. Used by permission.)

ing two part-time jobs. I didn't enjoy one of the jobs, and I felt trapped within it. And then a more attractive job option came to my attention. What should I do? Between trying to do everything and worrying, I wasn't getting my homework done.

I kept praying, "Take it, Lord. It's all yours." And before I even said "Amen," I was figuring out the answers in my head. They didn't work. What was God's plan for the next 20 years of my life? No writing on the wall. And then I caught the flu. My head was spinning. I heard people talking about me. I blew things out of proportion. My car broke down. I overdrew my bank account.

I got to the point where I was a blob of uncertainty and had no self-confidence whatsoever. I knew with certainty that I would fail at everything I tried.

Introspection. I kept looking within myself to try and figure out what was wrong and how to be at peace with myself and God—a labyrinth.

When does healing begin?

I had to come to the point where I felt utterly alone and lost. When I could finally admit what a big mess I was making of things, I could open myself up to Christ.

What it seems to come down to is this: taking a step towards God in faith. It means letting go of the feeling that only you can solve your problems.

Discouragement and depression are two things which usually don't just disappear. It is something which can only be settled by letting God take control.

A book that has been influential in helping me back from discouragement is *The Edge of Adventure* by Keith Miller and Bruce Larson. Keith Miller reflects that it is only after he confesses (discouragement), that he can realize that only in God has he known hope in his own past. He says that you must leave the results of tomorrow alone, in order to work with what God has given you today.

It is not that God will make your problems magically disappear (although he may). He may help to put things in perspective, give you inner peace, increased sensitivity to others' problems.

Often it is enough to be able to smile and know that you're never in it alone.

"O my soul, why be so gloomy and discouraged? Trust in God! I shall again praise him for his wondrous help; he will make me smile again, for he is my God" (Psalm 43:5, LB). □

## How God Answers

I asked God for strength that I might achieve;

I was made weak that I might learn humbly to obey.

I asked for help that I might do greater things;

I was given infirmity that I might do better things.

I asked for riches that I might be happy;

I was given poverty that I might be wise.

I asked for power that I might have the praise of men;

I was given weakness that I might feel the need of God.

I asked for all things that I might enjoy life;

I was given life that I might enjoy all things.

I got nothing that I asked for, but everything I hoped for.

Almost despite myself my unspoken prayers were answered.

I, among all men, am most richly blessed.

—Author Unknown

## How To Paralyze Your Sunday School

by Cyrus N. Nelson,  
Gospel Light Publications

Is your Sunday school making progress, or is it paralyzed by resistance and indifference to needed changes and improvements? It's natural to resist something different; the status quo is comfortable, if not always efficient. Do you ever hear others (or yourself) making these paralyzing remarks when new ideas are introduced?

**We Tried That Before.** Was it the same thing, or something remotely similar that did not have the possibilities of this new plan? Or perhaps the idea is the same, but it was poorly handled the first time. Often the idea doesn't fail, we do. Edison had a good idea in the light bulb, and he tried thousands of experiments before he got it to work.

**We've Never Tried That Before.** Exactly. If it's a good idea and your Sunday school needs it, why waste any more time getting started?

**We're Too Small for It.** This kind of talk is often why a Sunday school stays small. Can the idea be adapted to fit your school? The size of an organization often has little to do with how well an idea can be made to work. In fact, size may get in

the way. Gideon and his 300 were determined men who "weren't too small for it."

**We Can't Afford It.** The smaller church may be tempted to think "we can't afford it." But perhaps the new idea is worth cutting a corner somewhere else. A good idea should not have to grow stale while it waits its turn for funds. The first consideration should be, "What will benefit the Lord's work the most?"

**It Won't Work Here.** Most of us feel that no Sunday school has exactly the same kind of problems ours does. But problems are always generally the same. The circumstances are what differ, and any good idea can be adapted to fit almost every kind of circumstance.

Every one of the "paralyzers" quoted above can make excellent sense in certain instances. That is precisely why they are so dangerous. As you read and study or hear Christian education specialists, as you discuss plans with your Sunday school workers, never write off an idea with remarks like "we tried that before." When you come across an idea, think—and pray—it through. Examine it from every angle. Don't feel you have to accept it verbatim. Take an idea apart. Apply it to your Sunday school. Mold it, twist it, shape it, reverse it, but if it's something you need, USE IT! □

## Denny's Column

by  
Denny  
Miller



*(Denny is a college student, living in Portland, OR, and she invites youth (or parents) to send in questions. She (and other young people) will do their best to provide helpful answers.)*

Pow! Things can be going so incredibly well, when, all of a sudden, that ugly monster hits you square between the eyes.

Discouragement.  
When it hits, you feel it.

For several weeks this past January, I was about as low as I could get. The spring semester began, and it was as if I lost all my energy and enthusiasm. No zap. I was confused because I couldn't find any explanation. I couldn't write. I had a heavy class schedule and was work-

## Our Committed Best

The Colonial Hills United Methodist Church, San Antonio, TX, has a church school that has grown from an average attendance of 40 to more than 275 in the last eight years. Concerned over the quality of the education in church school, they initiated a program called "Our Committed Best." It calls for specific commitments to be made by both the education leaders and the individual church school leaders and teachers in the classroom. These commitments are symbolized in the signing of a covenant by both groups.

**The classroom teachers/leaders covenant:**

(1) to be in the classroom 15 minutes before class begins;

(2) to give the superintendent a five-day notice of an anticipated absence on Sunday (emergencies excluded);

(3) to enroll in a nine-month course called "Basic Christian Tools" taught once a week;

(4) to be present at all four quarterly workshops and to go to at least one lab school;

(5) to abide by the provisions and procedures of the leader's handbook.

**The education leaders covenant:**

(1) to provide adequate equipment and space for learning;

(2) to provide adequate orientation and training;

(3) to give support and evaluation.

**The purpose of the program is twofold:**

(1) It is an attempt to take seriously the role of Christian education. Underlying the entire program is the belief that what occurs during the church school hour is more important to those present than any other form of education, even public school.

(2) This program is an attempt to take seriously the role of the church school leaders. We reject the notion that because someone is volunteering his/her time to the church, the church should be grateful, even if the person is willing to give only his/her uncommitted worst.

**Benefits of the program:**

(1) The level of the teacher's understanding of the biblical materials has been

greatly deepened from the Basic Christian Tools course.

(2) A new sense of confidence among these new classroom leaders as they realize they have been prepared for their task.

(3) The last-minute phone calls on Saturday night telling that a teacher cannot be in class the next morning are virtually nonexistent except in case of illness.

(4) No more last minute Sunday morning substitutes for those teachers who didn't even bother to call and say they would not be there on Sunday.

(5) An excess of leaders in the classroom for 1977-78.

(6) The church in general is growing more aware of its need for more learning experiences such as book reviews and pastoral editorials on controversial issues.

(7) A growing sense of appreciation for the church school among the membership.

Information on their program of training can be obtained by writing to Colonial Hills United Methodist Church, 5247 Vance Jackson, San Antonio, TX 78230. (by William M. Easum writing in *The Church School*, June, 1978. Copyright © 1978 by Graded Press, used by permission.)



# N.D.'s Unique Radio Preacher

by Bernard Edinger

When the delegates and friends of the North American Baptist Conference will travel to the 1979 Triennial Conference at Bismarck, North Dakota, this summer, especially from East, North and South, they may discover on their radios that North Dakota has its own "famous radio preacher," the Rev. N. E. Mc Coy, who has been broadcasting on the Jamestown station, KSJB, for over forty years!

Immediately following the 9:00 a.m. news, they will hear the homey announcement: "And now we bring to you, right from their home, the Rev. and Mrs. N. E. Mc Coy!" The familiar chorus, introducing the broadcast, also gives the theme and purpose which have provided support for the program through the years:

"Got any rivers you think are uncrossable?

Got any mountains you can't tunnel through?

God specializes in things thought impossible,

And He will do what no other power can do."

Though not a member of one of our churches at the present time, he has many ties in our Conference. He served the Calvary Baptist Church of Carrington for seven years just prior to his move to serve as radio preacher on KSJB in Jamestown. Daughter Arva Dell is the wife of the Rev. Elmo Tahrn, pastor of South Canyon Baptist Church, Rapid City, SD. Many of our pastors trace either their conversion or possibly their dedication to the Lord's work to a series of special meetings, where McCoy served as evangelist. He was the pastor of the writer for the seven years he served at Carrington. Pastor George Robinson of Temple Baptist Church, Jamestown, is often heard on his program, as he brings a special speaker or one of our singing groups from the seminary or college, or God's Volunteers. Many representatives from the Conference have been heard on his broadcast, and a standing invitation is given to them to appear on his program. He is ever alert to make his broadcast a medium of publicity for any and all evangelistic churches of the area.

His broadcast reaches to a five-state area as well as to two provinces of

*The Rev. Bernard Edinger is pastor of Washburn Baptist Church, Washburn, ND.*

Canada. The influence of his broadcast has been felt in the some 100 or more of our N. A. B. churches which are in the listening area. It would be interesting but difficult to determine just how much our churches have benefited from the publicity and assistance given by his announcements of events and activities.

A day's routine begins early in the morning for this energetic Irishman, who, incidentally, has learned a little German, which has endeared him to many of the people in the Dakotas, who are of German descent. As he enters the hospital in Jamestown in the early morning, he will often find a list of those who have requested a visit. They know that it will result in a few words of Scripture, a moment of cheery conversation and a prayer for their comfort and recovery. Then, when he is on the air, he will report the condition of those visited for the benefit of family and friends. This service is especially appreciated during the severe North Dakota winter months, when many wait at home for news of improvement of the sick, or word to the family, when the patient is ready to go home. His is probably one of the few radio programs left, where such personal service is offered.

The broad listening audience for his broadcast is revealed by the fact that many advertisers specifically request that their ad be aired either before or after "Rev. Mc Coy's Church of the Air." In his earlier years, his broadcast served as much more than "the Gospel on the Air." During one especially difficult winter, Rev. Mc Coy teamed with a local pilot who would fly over farms of the area and observe emergency messages spelled out in the snow with ashes, hay, or tramping. Rev. Mc Coy then would announce on his program, when they could expect their needs supplied "from the air." Because there were practically no phones in the rural area, this proved to be a boon to many.

One of his most effective and most appreciated ministries has been to "the forgotten, the last and the least." Early in his work, he established a ministry to people in jails and in the state prison. He served as chaplain to the penitentiary at Bismarck until 1974, when he retired from that position. "I don't suppose there is a jail in the state that I haven't visited at one time or another," Reverend Mc Coy reported to an interviewer of the



The veteran team: The Rev. N.E. McCoy at the microphone and Mrs. McCoy at the piano.

*Bismarck Tribune* at the retirement ceremony attended by a large number of inmates, prison workers and a special guest, Governor Arthur Link. As they honored him for 37 years of service as chaplain, they surprised him when they placed a guitar in his hands—a guitar has been his musical companion down through the years—and the entire audience joined in as he strummed, "What a Friend We Have In Jesus."

Quoting further from the *Bismarck Tribune*, "The pastor's lifelong devotion to social work with lawbreakers and others went along with service to many small town congregations. Reverend Mc Coy used to join as many as a hundred people at the penitentiary and state farm in services conducted there. He also supervised Bible classes and correspondence courses for some of the prisoners. Pastor Mc Coy knows many leading good lives now, who once were behind the walls, and through his influence, along with that of others, they are now living useful lives."

Because of his deep interest in humanity without consideration of creed or status, many honors, unsolicited but greatly deserved, have been heaped upon this man. "Mc Coy," as he is known by the man on the street and to the governor of the state, has been recognized and honored from his local community to the state legislature. Jamestown College, a Presbyterian affiliated school, conferred on him the Distinguished Service Award. Part of the citation reads, "He is known and loved for his radio ministry, and revered for his unequalled record of service to people of all sorts, without regard to religious creed or social status, to prisoners, to the forgotten, the last and the least. With rare insight into human nature and understanding of human need, he has conducted an extraordinary

(Continued on page 27)

## PERSONAL ESTATE PLANNING



## TAXES AND GIVING

by Everett A. Barker

About this time of the year, many of us have completed our 1978 income tax returns. Some who had to pay additional tax may feel unhappy, while those who get a sizable refund are happy, because they can spend more money. However, remember that a refund is an over-payment of tax money which the government used interest free.

Some people are calling 1978 the year of the taxpayers revolt. *Proposition 13* and other tax limitation measures seem to signal a message to politicians everywhere that taxpayers are not willing to provide a carte blanche ticket to endless spending.

The struggle between taxpayer and tax collector is an age old struggle. The birth of Jesus took place in Bethlehem of Judea, because there was an enrollment taking place and Jesus' parents journeyed to their home town. On another occasion the disciples asked Jesus about their obligation to pay taxes to Caesar (the hated

*The above information is of a general nature. Tax laws vary in the United States and Canada. Application to specific situations requires competent tax counsel.*

Romans). Jesus wisely answered that Caesar (government) has its domain of authority, and God has his domain of authority, with no conflict. As much as we may dislike taxes, there is no biblical support not to pay taxes.

One of the realities is that tax laws do not treat all people equally. In some instances tax preferences are granted for what are deemed to be in the public good. In other instances, the tax benefits are a result of pressure groups and their interests.

When one studies the history of taxation, it becomes obvious that taxes tend to rise with occasional reductions or reforms, which are intended to stimulate the economy to improve business so tax revenues will rise. In spite of *Proposition 13* and other tax limitation measures, it is unwise to underestimate the ingenuity of politicians and bureaucrats to raise revenue.

It finally boils down to the fact that individuals must cope with their own handling of taxes. Some people pay more taxes than necessary, because they are unable or unwilling to plan in a way that would reduce tax liability.

This leads me to a discussion of charitable giving and taxation. The United States and Canadian governments are very generous in allowing tax savings for charitable causes. Why is this so? Basically, our system of government has been built around the philosophy of encouraging religion, medicine, education and philanthropic efforts to further the common good of society. The more help the private sector of society gives, the less the government has to underwrite with taxes. In the United States, an individual can give up to 50 percent of the adjusted gross income, and there is even a five-year carry-forward for unused deductions. The Canadian government allows up to a 20 percent deduction. The government is in effect saying, if you are willing to make a gift, we are willing to help you by providing a tax reduction. This is certainly very fair.

I have written much about deferred gifts through wills, trusts and annuities, which is an important way to give to God's work. However, there is something to be said about "giving while living." One of the benefits of giving now is the joy of seeing your gift at work today. Gifts of cash, securities, real estate, insurance policies, art, jewelry, etc., can bring blessing to you now. Another benefit is potential tax savings generously provided by the United States and Canadian Governments. It is true that our primary giving motivation should be our grateful response to God's gift of salvation and spiritual provision for our needs. It is also true that we are stewards (managers) of God's benefits, and if we

neglect to use available tax savings with our giving, we are not maximizing our stewardship.

I suggest that you review your personal giving to see whether you are using the best methods available to maximize your stewardship. Our Personal Estate Planning department is available to provide literature and answer your questions without cost or obligation to you. Please contact: Everett Barker, North American Baptist Conference, 1 So. 210 Summit Ave., Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181. (312) 495-2000. □



☐ Please send a free copy of, "What Every Giver Should Know About Taxes."

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





# CHURCH EXTENSION BUILDERS REPORT

## RICHLAND, WA, CHURCH EXTENSION PROJECT

by Larry Salsburey

April 1979

**NEW LIFE.** The work began with a miracle. When Chuck Kopp, Church Extension Committee chairman, of the Seattle area, was visiting the Tri-Cities, he met with Milo Bauder, a Christian land developer. Through this meeting three acres of land were purchased for less than the wholesale price of one acre. In August, Pastor Larry Salsburey, Annette and Joshua were called to begin organizing the new church. The first three months of visitation resulted in one family responding to the Bible study. During the fourth month, children's clubs were begun. This was a key step in gaining contact with twelve families. Two of those were represented in our first worship service. Carol Horne, one of the mothers, helps with our pre-school club and brings as many as five children to the clubs in her van.

**ANSWER TO PRAYER.** People all over the world are praying for our church: The N.A.B. Conference, the Pacific Northwest Association, First Baptist Church of Colfax—our mother church—our families and friends. After seven months we finally received approval to use Kamiakin High School. This was a definite answer to prayer and a major step in providing a place for Columbia Heights Baptist Church.

**RELATIONSHIPS WITH PEOPLE** were established over the first four months. All fifteen of the people attending the first service on Jan. 14, 1979, live within one block of our home. These people braved one of the worst Sunday snowstorms in years in the Tri-Cities, where there is little provision for snow removal. The Mitchels, Hornes and Johnsons helped in the worship service in music, ushering and setting up equipment. Heather, from our Bible club, recorded the service.

**HELP CAME FROM EVERYWHERE.** Our support comes from the N.A.B. Conference and the Pacific Northwest Association. Specific donations of items have come from Colfax, Olympic View and Terrace Heights. Local churches have assisted in printing and photos. With all that help we have an organ, hymnals, Bibles and chairs. We especially appreciate the help in canvassing and a treasurer from First Baptist, Colfax, where we are officially members.

**YOU CAN HELP, TOO.** Please pray that more families will respond and that we can reach our goal of teaching

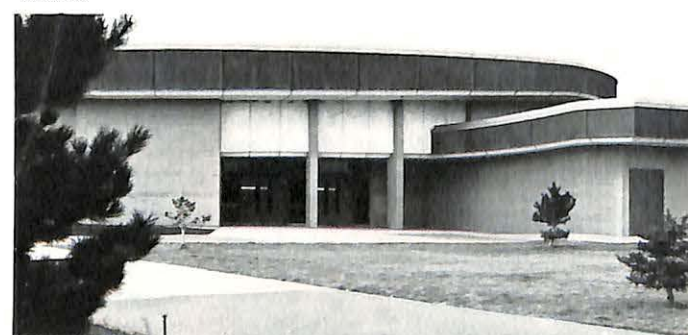
them to use the tools of faith, hope and love. Pray that we will build on our site according to God's will. If you are considering a new job, ask the Lord to help you locate where you can help in an extension project. Ask God to help you decide what financial support you can give to the Church Extension ministry. □



Pastor Larry Salsburey in his study



Pastor Salsburey fascinates children during Eager Beavers Story Time with "Charlie."



Kamiakin High School, the temporary meeting place of the congregation.

*The Rev. Larry Salsburey is pastor of Columbia Heights Baptist Church, Richland, WA.*

The North American Baptist Conference sponsors a Personal Estate Planning program. Full-time and part-time personnel are constantly seeking to be of help to North American Baptists who seek estate planning help.

The Rev. Alfred Weisser, a retired pastor and home administrator, has traveled more than 200,000 miles across the north central states to offer his free counseling service. Some of the time, his wife accompanies him on his trips. The editor has asked Rev. Weisser to give a brief account of his activities. His greatest joy comes in helping individuals preserve their estates for their families, bring about substantial tax savings and designate some of their estate for the Lord's work, which will be a continued blessing after they have died. Weisser says, "You've worked for your estate, make it work for you."

## The Odyssey of an Estate Planner

by Alfred Weisser

WITH about two hundred thousand miles logged in six years covering ten states, visiting up to fifteen camps and Associations in one summer and conducting many Will Clinics during the rest of the year, by camper, car and plane, one is inclined to stop for a moment and ponder.

We sometimes feel like the pony express rider of old: "In spite of rain, sleet or snow, the mail must go." When the weatherman says: "There'll be no snow," we go merrily on our way, only to find before we reach our destination there are ten inches of the white stuff piled up. Even though proceeding down the road with considerable caution, I feel the "stuff" packing under the car and throwing it out of control. I find myself, as the Psalmist of old, crying unto the Lord, and he helped me.

Further down the road at different places there are three semi-trucks: one jackknifed, one ditched and one upset. *Widows get awfully upset when affairs concerning the estate are not in order; they don't know where things are and there is no will.*

After a long day of interviews, we take off 150 miles down the road to our next destination in an effort to beat the impending storm. Finally arriving at 12:30 a.m. and looking for a reasonable place to stay, we find ourselves in a motel with dirty towels, rumpled sheets and the fan bringing in the pungent odors of a nearby garbage can. Rest and sleep don't come easily!

*Maybe you could rest a lot easier if your will were done. It's probably the most important document you will ever write.*

Restaurants are not too plentiful in some of the small towns. In one place, the woman was apparently owner, cook and

*The Rev. Alfred Weisser, part-time estate planning counselor, lives in Sioux Falls, SD.*



The Rev. and Mrs. Alfred Weisser in front of their motor home.

waitress. Her baby was there for her to babysit. She found it necessary to stop her cooking to change the baby, but she was too rushed to wash her hands afterward, so she just went on serving the food "Bon Appetite!"

*By the way, who would raise your children if something happened to you? Sure, the court would appoint someone, but it may not be the one you would select. The one selected by the court may not have the same, or any, religious faith, or may not be able to handle the funds very well.*

Then there was the little place where liver and onions was the special of the day. The liver was already green (and not with envy either) and so tough, the knife couldn't cut it. Luckily, I had good teeth to bite it!

*Could you "chew" it out with an attorney, or should you get competent advice from an estate planner, so you know what you want before you see an attorney?*

Be the places large, medium or small, we go! It may be even more important to conserve and plan for your family's use

*of a small estate. Whether you are single, double or mixed up, if you have any property, you need a will. The road sometimes seems endless, and the days are long and wearisome. By the sweat of your brow, you have built up your estate. Are your children competent enough to handle an estate at age eighteen, or will they just blow it, thinking it will last forever? Or should you set up a trust for them to conserve it for their future needs?*

There are also times when the blizzards hit, and only by a miracle of God's grace, do we make it to a stranger's house who is kind enough to take us in. *There are those who are ready to serve you when you need help in your plans.*

We travel on over treacherous roads hoping to make our next appointment, only to be snowbound for three days in a motel and restaurant, where even the food finally runs out.

*Do you feel "snowed in" by paying tax on your income all your life and then again on your estate at your death? Like us shoveling out of the snowdrifts after*

(Continued on page 27)



## WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Albrecht celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary, Jan. 5, 1979, in Boca Raton, FL. A dinner party for about 50 guests was given in their honor



by their three daughters. Many blessings were shared as relatives and friends recalled many happy memories. Mr. and Mrs. Albrecht are members of Fellowship Baptist Chapel, Sterling Heights, MI.

**SHAKOPEE, MN.** The Rev. John Fraser, was ordained June 4, 1978, at Faith Baptist Church of Minneapolis, MN. Churches in the Minnesota-LaCrosse Association joined in the time of worship and rejoicing; several of the pastors participated in the service. The message was brought by Dr. Lee McDonald of the North American Baptist Seminary.

Rev. Fraser graduated from the North American Baptist Seminary on May 21, 1978, with a Master of Divinity degree. He is currently serving as pastor of the Shakopee Baptist Church in Shakopee, MN.

**RIDGEWOOD, NY.** The Ridgewood Baptist Church celebrated its 124th anniversary January 28, 1979. Our pastor, the Rev. A. Lamprecht, in his message challenged us to greater loyalty to the Lord and his church.

Mrs. Gus Beck, choir member with most years of faithful service, received a token of appreciation. Ella joined our choir at age 14 and has enriched the hearers of her beautiful soprano voice through countless solos in the 65 years of her singing career.

At the dinner, reports were presented on the work of the church. A plaque honoring those who left monetary legacies to the church was displayed. A revised constitution was adopted. Margaret Macoskey spoke about her happy association with the Evergreen and Ridgewood churches. (Marion von Ahnen, reporter.)

**PLEVNA, MT.** Mrs. Ron Mayforth, Bismarck, ND, was guest speaker at the Mission Circle's annual salad supper on Sept. 6, 1978. On October 15, Lloyd Dale, Lem-

mon, SD, spoke at the Harvest-Mission Festival of First Baptist Church.

Special Christmas programs included the Christmas cantata, "Down from His Glory," sung by the choir, which was directed by Bob Burke, on December 17 and the Christmas play, "And There They Found Christ," presented by the Sunday School Department and the Baptist Youth Fellowship on Christmas Eve.

The Rev. Richard Lawrenz, pastor, led the prayer meeting group through a ten-week course on witnessing, "Good News Is for Sharing," by Dr. Leighton Ford. (Paula Fuchs, reporter.)

**WINNIPEG, MB.** Grant Park Baptist Church rejoiced that after being without a pastor for six months, a new pastor arrived. On Jan. 7, 1979, the church welcomed Mr. Edward Hughes and his wife Helen at a service held in their honor. Many sister churches from Southern Manitoba extended words of welcome. The Rev. Isador Faszer, area secretary, gave the charge to the church and the charge to the pastor. Concluding this happy occasion, all participated in a time of fellowship and refreshments. (Joyce Zilkie, reporter.)

**CALGARY, AB.** Six young people (pictured with the pastor and three deacons) were baptized at Temple Baptist Church during our New Year's watch night service. The evening included a program presented by the youth the first hour, followed by fellowship and food. The year ended with the baptismal and communion services and the hand of fellowship being extended to the baptismal candidates.



On Jan. 21, 1979, a challenging missionary film, "Survivor Number Three," was shown. (Irene Wirzba, reporter.)

**MINOT, ND.** First Baptist Church held its annual Friendship Banquet in January 1979 with about 140 people in attendance. It was held in a beautiful banquet room on the local college campus. A time of fun and fellowship was enjoyed along with the dinner. To highlight the evening, guest speaker, the Rev. Delmar Dahl, Minneapolis, MN, held the audience in rapt attention with an entertaining and inspirational message.

The Rev. Ralph E. Cooke is the pastor. (Inez Rhone, reporter.)

**WEST FARGO, ND.** At a special missions night at Grace Baptist Church on January 26, the Rev. Hisashi Murakami of Japan

told us of his work in his church there. He also gave his personal testimony telling of his conversion to Christianity. An informal time followed with singing and refreshments. The Rev. Lester Buenning is pastor. (Frances Abrahamson, reporter.)

**NOKOMIS, SK.** On Dec. 31, 1978, four persons were baptized on confession of their faith by Pastor Rudy Lemke at Nokomis Baptist Church. The following Sunday morning, prior to the communion service, the four young people were welcomed into the fellowship of the church. (Marianne Patzer, reporter.)

**PARMA, OH.** Redeemer Baptist Church enjoyed a Sunday with Missionary Art Helwig on January 28. He told a story in the Sunday School opening, explained his ministry in the morning service, and gave a memorable slide presentation in the evening. We kept him busy, and he kept us informed! The Rev. Elmer Strauss is the pastor. (Ruth Strauss, reporter.)

**WINNIPEG, MB.** Pastor Stanley Grenz, his wife and their son Joel, began their ministry on Jan. 6, 1979, at the Rowandale Baptist Church.

During a get-acquainted fellowship, January 13, the church family and the Grenzses came to know each other. At the following Sunday morning service, various representatives welcomed the pastor and his family.

Instead of an installation service, a supper was held on Monday, January 14. At this occasion, the Grenzses met the deacons and their wives as well as the pastors and their wives of the N.A.B. churches of this area. The missionaries, the Rev. and Mrs. Reimer Clausen and Miss Tina Schmidt, were also present. (H. Kahler, church reporter.)

**BURLINGTON, ON.** On January 14 the Rev. Walter Kerber concluded his ministry at Pineland Baptist Church after twelve and a half years. Pastor Kerber's farewell message challenged us to be an effective witness.

Various groups and organizations in the Church expressed appreciation to Pastor Kerber, Elsie and the girls at a farewell fellowship on January 13.



Sunday afternoon the various pastors in Burlington and the Eastern Association extended their words of appreciation and

farewell. Many tokens of appreciation and love were presented to the Kerber family including an organ from the Church and a monetary gift. We praise the Lord for the many souls that were won, the number of persons baptized and the growth of the Church during Pastor Kerber's ministry. (Dinah Herd, church clerk.)

**CALGARY, AB.** Many blessings have come through the ministry of music at Temple Baptist Church. On December 17, 1978, the choir presented the cantata, "Come to the Manger." The Sunday School presented a musical, "Sunshine and Snowflakes," on December 24. The Band and the Laura Reddig Mission Circle presented a special program in November. Six new members joined the Band.

The adult couples had a Christmas banquet on December 9, and the youth had a banquet on December 16. The Laura Reddig Mission Circle invited their husbands and all senior citizens of the church as guests to their banquet on December 11. The pastor of the church is the Rev. Franz Schmidt. (Irene Wirzba, reporter.)

**WINNIPEG, MB.** God is blessing us richly at Southdale Community Baptist Church. God's Volunteers were with us from October 26-November 8. The music section presented several concerts, and we, as a church family, were trained for witnessing in the community. We're thankful for the positive influence of GV's in Southdale and our church.



More than 100 people attended the Christmas program, "His Love Reaching," presented by the children (pictured).

Discussion sessions, singing, sharing and lots of winter sports were enjoyed by the church family at a winter retreat on February 2-4 at Lake Nutimik Baptist Camp. Pastor Jerry Edinger and the adults discussed the topics: "Self Image," "Com-

munication," and "Relationships." We made further plans for the formation of a church constitution. In addition to the Sunday services, we meet weekly for Bible study and visitation, which gives us encouraging results. (Beth Gust, reporter.)

**SHATTUCK, OK.** The Rev. Harry Haas, pastor of Zion Baptist Church, Okeene, OK, spoke at the Harvest-Mission Festival of Ebenezer Baptist Church, on Nov. 12, 1978. A missions offering and a church extension offering were received. At noon a delicious meal was served. The week following, revival meetings were held every evening.

The Christmas program, given on Christmas Eve, included a dialogue, "Christmas Is a Miracle," presented by the teenagers and children. The young adults presented the cantata, "Immanuel Forever."

For the New Year's Eve service, a vespers request program was planned. However, due to inclement weather, this was held Jan. 7, 1979. The program proved to be a blessing to all. After the program, the pastor and wife, the Rev. and Mrs. E. C. Ollenburger, invited the congregation to a reception in the church dining hall in appreciation for all the kindness shown them. (Mrs. E. C. Ollenburger, reporter.)

**HILDA, AB.** The Rev. Ron Kernohan, Brentview Baptist Church, Calgary, was guest speaker at special meetings held at Hilda Baptist Church with the Schuler Church of God as co-sponsor, Nov. 11-19, 1978. The attendance, in spite of the cold weather, showed Kernohan's ministry was needed and appreciated.

Thirty-five children attend the Wednesday evening Children's Hour which includes stories, singing and crafts. The pastor, Dale Schlenker, and several members conduct religious class in a school in the neighboring town of Richmond. Pastor Schlenker through his ministry encourages and challenges the congregation to grow in personal relationships with the Lord and each other as well as to find ways to put their faith to work to influence and benefit the church and the community.

December activities in the church included the W.M.S. hosting an annual Christmas social for couples on December 12. The Christmas program, built around the dramatic musical, "Mary Had a Little Lamb," was held December 20. New Year's Eve was observed by the church

with a potluck supper followed by a program presented by the youth. (Betty Kirschenman, reporter.)

**REGINA, SK.** Faith Baptist Church will celebrate the 25th anniversary of its founding in June. The evenings of June 10-15, 1979, will be special meetings with the Rev. E. Lutzer. Former pastors participating will be the Rev. Homer Edwards speaking at the Saturday evening banquet; the Rev. R. Grabke, the Rev. L. D. Potratz and Rev. R. Vogt speaking on Sunday, June 17. The congregation and the Rev. R. Quiring, pastor, extend a cordial invitation to all former members and friends to join us in celebrating this happy occasion. (Helen Kupp, reporter.)

**SHAKOPEE, MN.** Over the past few months, Shakopee Baptist Church, a church extension church, welcomed eight new members into the membership.



In December, a joint baptismal service was conducted with the mother church, Faith Baptist of Minneapolis. Four young people and one adult followed the Lord in baptism during that service. (John Fraser, pastor.)

**VALLEYVIEW, AB.** Sunday, Jan. 7, 1979, was a joyous and blessed day for Emmanuel Baptist Church. We celebrated the installation of our new pastor, Laurie Taylor. The town mayor, representatives from neighboring churches, and church representatives brought greetings and welcomed the pastor and his wife Marilyn and two children. Prof. W. Muller, N.A.B. College, guest speaker, challenged us with a timely message, "A Man Sent by God." Our church looks forward with joy and eager anticipation to the work God has before us under the leadership of Pastor Laurie. (Bertha Reichert, reporter.)

## in memoriam

**HAROLD B. LIPPERT**, born near Tripp, SD, to John M. and Christina (nee Warnke) Lippert, May 12, 1912, died Aug. 27, 1978. He

married Clara Villmow on Sept. 8, 1932. The two farmed for 42 years. Harold had a lifetime interest in the work of the North American Baptist Conference. He was baptized and joined the church in 1925. He served on various state and national boards and solicited funds for the N.A.B. Nursing Home in Madison and N.A.B. Seminary in Sioux Falls. Upon retirement in 1975, they moved to Parkston and joined Memorial Baptist Church. He served as Sunday school superintendent,

trustee, deacon, treasurer, and taught Sunday school for 48 years. Currently he was serving as chairman of the board of deacons and chairman of the pulpit committee. Survivors include his wife, Clara; four children: LeRoy, Danville, IA; Rose Marie Stoeber, Rapid City; Henry, Tripp, and Merlyn, Larchwood, IA; two sisters: Leona Fawcett and Elsie Mudder; one brother, Raymond, and twelve grandchildren. The Rev. Bert Itterman officiated at the funeral service.



EMIL C. DELZER, Ashley, ND, born Dec. 19, 1909, died Jan. 20, 1979. He lived in the Venturia and Ashley, ND, area all his life. He was a member of Ashley Baptist Church. On Nov. 19, 1932, he married Emilia Lutz. Survivors include his wife; three children: Mrs. Darvin (Leona) Werth, Hanford, CA, Bruce, Bismarck, ND, and Mrs. Robert (Debra) Wingenbach, Minot, ND; eight grandchildren, and two sisters: Mrs. Friedericka Buchholz and Mrs. Emma Dohn. The Rev. Allan Gerber officiated at the funeral service.

ALMA DRUDE (nee Radke) born July 2, 1900, at Zgierz, Poland, died June 25, 1978, in Vancouver, BC. In 1927, the entire Radke family immigrated to Ochre River, MB. She married Friedrich Drude in 1930 in Winnipeg. The following year they moved to Ochre River, leaving in 1935 for Vancouver, BC. Her husband preceded her in death in 1939. As a child she received Christ as Savior and was baptized in 1914. In Vancouver she joined the Ebenezer Baptist Church and later transferred to Bethany Baptist where she remained a faithful member to the end. In her younger years she was active in the Women's Missionary Society. Survivors include one son, Harry; one brother, Erwin, and several other relatives and friends. In the absence of her pastor, Dr. H. Waltereit, the Rev. W. Schroedter officiated at the funeral.

MRS. PAULINE GRABIA (nee Hein), born in Russia on Dec. 8, 1896, died at the age of 82 on Jan. 6, 1979. Early in life she was converted, baptized, and became a member of First Baptist Church, Leduc. On July 2, 1919, she married Rudolph Grabia. They farmed in the Frederiksheim district until 1969 when they moved to Planeview Manor in Leduc, where they joined the Temple Baptist Church. She is survived by her husband, Rudolph; three daughters: Violet (Mrs. Alan Burritt), Vancouver, Lorraine (Mrs. Herman Reirson), Edmonton, and Ruth (Mrs. Dennis Hammer), Sardis, BC; two sons: Waldemar, Edmonton, and Ivan, Millet; 12 grandchildren; two great-granddaughters; two brothers, and two

sisters. The Rev. J. Martens and the Rev. H. Bushkowsky officiated at the service.

JOHN HEINLE, 78, Lodi, CA, born April 4, 1900, died Jan. 4, 1979. He farmed near Denhoff, ND, prior to moving to Lodi, CA, in 1937. He was the custodian for First Baptist Church of Lodi for nine and one-half years, where he was also a member. He is survived by his wife, Frieda; one daughter, Adeline Fachner, Lodi, CA; one son, Elder Heinle, Sacramento, CA; one brother, Art Heinle, Galt, CA; two sisters, Emma Leicht, Lodi, CA, and Anna Schauer, Ashley, ND; eight grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren. The Reverend Jake Leverette and Aaron Buhler were the officiating pastors.

MINNIE KERBER, 94, born May 5, 1884, in Russia to A. R. and Bertha Rappuhn, died Jan. 12, 1979. She married William R. Kerber in 1902 in North Dakota. She became a Christian as a young woman and for many years was a member of Startup Baptist Church, Washington. She was preceded in death by a son, George, in 1923, and her husband in 1972. She is survived by five daughters: Elsie Copenhaver, Alma Froelich, Luella Ebbert, Lauretta Haley, all of North Dakota, and Evelyn Tarbell, Minnesota; three sons: William of Iowa, Roland of California, and Wardell of Seattle; one sister, Mrs. Ed (Selma) Rappuhn; 15 grandchildren, 41 great-grandchildren, and 11 great-great-grandchildren. The Rev. William Neuman officiated at the funeral service.

MRS. KAROLINE KLINKSIEK (nee Noltmier), born in Germany on May 23, 1899, died Dec. 14, 1978. She married Herman Klinksiek in Germany, where they were involved in the bakery business. They came to Windsor, ON, Canada in 1956, where they owned and operated the International Bakery. Karoline was very much loved by all. Survivors include her loving husband Herman, Windsor, ON., four children:

Guenther and wife Magdalene, Erika and husband Peter Berg, Windsor, Magret and husband Otto Simon, Germany, and Rosemary and husband Henry Kuhn, Germany; two sisters: Marie Noltmier and Anne (Mrs. Willy Held), one brother, William Noltmier; 12 grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

WILLIE STURTZ, born Jan. 24, 1908, at Shattuck, OK, died July 28, 1978. He reached the age of 70 years, 6 months and 4 days. As a young lad, upon confession of faith, he was baptized and became a member of Ebenezer Baptist Church, Shattuck. He married Rosalea Miller, Aug. 7, 1932. To this union were born three sons, Edgar and his wife Grace, Ellinwood, KS, Haskell at home, and Marvin and wife Betty, Norman, OK, seven grandchildren, and one sister, Mrs. Crist Pshigoda. Funeral services were conducted by the Rev. O. E. Ollenberger.

CHRISTINA ZIMMERMAN, was born July 26, 1881, to Christof Maier and Maria Knudle Maier in Friedenstal, Bessarabia, Russia, and died Dec. 30, 1978, at the age of 97 years and five months, at the Baptist Home, Bismarck, ND. She married Konrad Zimmerman on November 11, 1901. They immigrated to America in 1905. She was baptized in 1914 and had been a member of a Baptist church ever since. She was noted for her commitment to God and her faithful reading of the Bible, reading it four times during her 22 years of residence at the Baptist Home. One son, Fred, and two daughters, Elsie and Bertha, and her husband, Konrad, preceded her in death. Survivors include one daughter, Mrs. Lydia George, Ashley; five sons and their wives: Arthur and John of Jamestown, Gotthilf of Lehr, Rev. Ben of Madison, SD, and Dr. Gideon K. of Glen Ellyn, IL; a daughter-in-law, Mrs. Emma K. Zimmermann, widow of Fred; one sister, Mrs. Cathryn Mutzenberger; 18 grandchildren, and 26 great-grandchildren. The Rev. Clemence Auch and the Rev. Allen Gerber officiated at the funeral services held at the Baptist Home, Bismarck, and Ashley Baptist Church.

ripe and ready to be harvested." The crops can't wait.

We, and all Brazilian Baptists, are thankful to North American Baptists for all they did and are doing through the missionaries. They can't do everything, but they are doing very well in their different fields. Their influence and work are seen everywhere they go. Evangelization, Christian education, music, church growth—this is what we need. Persons are needed to preach the gospel and to help the new Christians grow in Christ.

The missionaries need to know not only how to communicate the Word of God, but also how the gospel will meet needs in individual lives. These needs are very real—food, clothes, medicine. In Brazil the greatest difficulty is socio-economic differences: the rich get richer and the poor get poorer.

The Effas spent part of their lives in our country, and our people still miss them. What they planted there is grow-

ing. The Rabenhorsts, Nelsons, Kaisers and Ostercamps are working hard to reach the Brazilians for Christ. They need your prayers, your support and especially they need you! □

## Conference Corner



by Mrs. Arthur Link,  
governor's wife,  
Bismarck, ND

I was raised in a fine Christian home with a loving and kind but firm mother and father. I have tried to carry this atmosphere into our home. I have tried to set a good example for our children by being considerate and loving, honest and sincere. I made an effort to be the kind of

person that I was asking them to be. I also let them know I was happy and contented in my role as wife, mother and homemaker. I have used the Bible and prayer as my guide through the years; especially whenever I have a problem big or little. My favorite Bible verses are:

"Trust in the Lord with all thine heart, and lean not unto thine own understanding" (Prov. 3:5) and

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son that whosoever believeth in him should not perish but have everlasting life" (John 3:16).

I think my philosophy for life is: Accept the fact that life is not easy, face the challenge with strength, integrity and a love for God. Do quality work, take pride in your work, be honest and sincere in all you do.

I extend a warm welcome to all the women interested in attending the Conference to visit our State of North Dakota. It is a great honor for Bismarck to host this Triennial Conference. □

### N.D.'s UNIQUE RADIO PREACHER (Continued from page 20)

service without the institutional support of the church or state."

The state legislature honored him in 1975 with a resolution by both the house and the senate, which read in part: "Whereas during his 51 distinguished years of ministry, Reverend Mc Coy has demonstrated his concern for the troubled and less fortunate as a sponsor for prisoners on parole, supervising them until they secured employment, as he served as official prison chaplain for

many years, as he has influenced and enriched thousands of citizens of North Dakota during his years on the radio, having been recognized in his own community by Jamestown College, by the local Chamber of Commerce, and by the Sertoma Club International, therefore the house and senate are honored by the presence of Rev. N. E. Mc Coy, chaplain for the day."

The Mc Coys, recently honored for their 50 years of marriage, and for 40 years on the radio, continue their ministry unabated in spite of the years. Born in 1902, Reverend Mc Coy still continues his daily rounds, which would tire a man half his age. Mrs. Mc Coy assists him in his radio program, as she sings and plays for

their daily broadcasts. Occasionally they get to see their grandchildren, and just recently they became great-grandparents. Though their fame may not have reached the coastal regions of our nation, hundreds and thousands of people in the middle west will "rise up and call them blessed," as they appreciate their unselfish ministry.

Their children, Arva Dell (Mrs. Elmo Tahrán) and Noel, a local businessman in his home city, have also found their own niche in society, and arranged the recent observation of the 50th wedding anniversary of their parents. We who have benefited from their unselfish service salute them, as they continue to serve the Lord "until He comes." □

### WOMEN'S WORLD (Continued from page 15)

## The Influence Of Our Missionaries In Brazil

by Silvia P.  
D'Avila,  
Sioux Falls, SD

As a Brazilian, I  
was so happy to learn



that the fastest-growing church in the world is in Brazil and that 75 percent of the Brazilian population is under 25 years old. Brazil is a young country, 90 percent Roman Catholic, which has her doors open for the gospel. The Brazilian Baptists' Centennial comes in 1982. We are working to reach several goals and to strengthen the body of believers in our country. We now have 450,000 church members, and we are hoping for 1,000,000 by 1982.

In John 4:1-42 we read that the gospel is for everyone, and I like to think of the Samaritan woman. The water that she went to pick up wasn't important any more after she met Jesus. She left the

water jar beside the well. Something good happened in her soul. The meeting with Jesus had changed her ways. This experience was so big and so good that she wanted to tell everyone. She ran to the city to tell her friends.

The reality, the sincerity and the assurance of her testimony convinced the people. She did her part by telling what Jesus did for her. Even four years later, when the evangelist Philip came to preach in Samaria, the fruits of this woman's witness were still in evidence.

The testimony of a Christian can be a light that shines in others' lives. "Take a good look at the fields; the crops are now

### ODYSSEY . . . (Continued from page 23)

*sliding off the highway into the ditch, do you shovel out and shovel out tax dollars to no end? If there's no way out, or around, maybe you can tunnel through with some help. A famous judge, L. Hand, has said: "Everyone may so arrange his affairs that his taxes be as low as possible."*

It's not only the snow, the cold and the blizzards; sometimes the heat is on, like 105 degrees and 95 percent humidity with no air conditioning. *There are laws to give relief when they put the heat on you tax wise. A vine of shade can be raised that will not shrivel and die when the heat is on. The estate planner has come to do your Will—what you want and need after*

*you have the facts. We feel we have been sent of the Lord into this phase of his work to help you plan your estate, to conserve it and to disperse it for the best interests of your family and heirs. What you have is of the Lord. He is the one "who gives you the power to get wealth." Will you remember that when you make your wills?*

*A percentage is a good way to give in a Will as the Lord directs. If the estate is large, the heirs still have a good inheritance. If it is small, the heirs are not robbed, but it is a testimony of your faith, and you continue working for your Lord even after you are gone. The way things are in North America, what we give to our children won't be worth much if we don't keep the Lord's work going.*

*Planning is vital. It should be more*

*then the wife who said to her husband: "What will we do when one of us is gone?" "I'm going to Florida."*

Though the odyssey is often long and wearisome, there are more days of sunshine, joy and blessing. It's like preaching the Gospel—it is the Gospel—not everyone comes running, when they hear the good news proclaimed. But the response has been good, and it is gratifying as we see the joy and relief experienced by those who get their estate planning done.

Yet many wait too long, and their families suffer untold anxiety and problems as well as shrinkage of their estates when settlement time comes. A little advance planning can bring peace of mind to all. We are ready to help. The odyssey goes on! □



## DALLAS COWBOYS HEAD COACH PICKED FOR CHRISTIAN AWARD

FORTH WORTH, TX (BP)—Tom Landry, head coach of the Dallas Cowboys football team, will receive the Christian Service Award for his commitment to Christ on the playing field and off.

The award will be presented March 1 during the 10th Annual Abe Lincoln Awards program, sponsored by the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission.

"Mr. Landry's continuing commitment to the cause of Christ challenges us with the possibilities of service available to us all," said Paul M. Stevens, commission president. "In addition, his significant contributions to the game of football, both as a player and a coach, have captured the imagination and earned the respect of a generation of Americans. But his willingness to let God call the plays in his life have far exceeded his winning endeavors in the sports arena."

Landry is former chairman of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes national board of trustees and since 1966 he has served as chairman of the Dallas Chapter of FCA. He is also on the board of Dallas Theological Seminary and a member of Highland Park Methodist Church in Dallas.

Landry, who became a Christian in 1958, states, "When I became a Christian my outlook changed tremendously. Because I had a commitment I knew I was in God's hands. From that point on I have never had to worry about the future."

Landry has led the Cowboys from a

winless first season to five Super Bowl appearances and two Super Bowl championships. His team was in Super Bowl XIII Jan. 21.

## NONSMOKERS' APPEAL GOES UP IN SMOKE

WASHINGTON (BP)—Nonsmokers lost a legal battle as the Supreme Court declined to hear an appeal which sought to outlaw smoking in the Louisiana Superdome.

The modern New Orleans facility, which is completely enclosed, is the site of athletic, entertainment and cultural events. A group of Louisiana citizens had sued the controlling board which operates the facility, asking the courts to forbid all smoking inside the arena.

Although the nonsmokers insisted that they were concerned with regulation of smoking in a public facility rather than with prohibition of smoking altogether, they did claim that individuals have a constitutional right "to be free from the forced inhalation of hazardous tobacco smoke."

"Tobacco smoke is a clear and present danger" to the "health and bodily integrity" of citizens, the argument continued, "not merely a tolerable inconvenience of minor discomfort." A report from the department of Health, Education and Welfare released Jan. 11 has reaffirmed laboratory proven evidence that smoking is casually related to a host of lung and heart ailments.

The nonsmokers acknowledged that their legal and constitutional arguments were novel, but argued that the privacy implications of the First Amendment and the Fifth Amendment's guarantee of liberty presented the justices with sufficient justification to hear their appeal.

Without comment, however, the justices unanimously declined, leaving in effect the rulings of two lower federal courts, which had declared that the matter should be left to legislative rather than judicial bodies.

## BAPTIST FILM PROJECT PREMIERES ON NBC

FORT WORTH, Texas (BP)—"This Other Eden," a documentary of England's history and the role religion has played in shaping the nation, was shown nationwide on NBC on February 4.

The hour-long special, produced in cooperation with the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission, provided an overview of England's history from Stonehenge to the present. Actor Alexander Scourby was the narrator.

"This documentary is unusual because it combines some of the best history, travel and religious experiences," said Truett Myers, head of the commission's television department.

John Lord, noted World War II documentarian wrote the film, which was produced and photographed by Joseph Vadala.

Some scenes featured in the special include the early Roman baths, ruins of Glastonbury, Bamburgh Castle, whose lord encouraged the first Christian missionary, and Runnymede, where King John signed the Magna Carta.

Also included are such modern points of interest as William Carey's cottage at Moulton, and H.M.S. Victory at Portsmouth (Lord Nelson's flagship during the Battle of Trafalgar) and the Wesley Chapel of the Methodist Church of London.

## chuckle with bruno

Installment loans have revolutionized our society. Never before have so many lived so far advanced while being so far behind.

We can't keep folks from having bad opinions about us, but we can keep them from being right about them.

Isn't it sneaky the way the government calls it a "tax return," as if your money was going to make a round trip.

The last totally accurate weather forecast was when God told Noah that there would be a 100 percent chance of precipitation.

If someone tells you that you can't take it with you, don't complain. It's the only place you can go without it.

The congressman's wife shook him vigorously in the middle of the night.

"Wake up, Adam," she whispered frantically, "there's a thief in the house!"

"No way," came the sleepy reply. "In the Senate maybe. But in the House? Never!"

Mother knows best:

Mrs. Morse: "Sam, stop tapping your fingers on the table. It's driving me crazy."

Mrs. Lindbergh: "Charles, can't you do anything by yourself?"

Mrs. Armstrong: "Neil, you have no more business taking flying lessons than the man on the moon."

■ *Sierra College Baptist Church* is the name chosen for the Church Extension project in Rocklin-Loomis, CA, where the Rev. Phil Putz is pastor.

■ *Dr. Frank Veninga* has accepted the call to become pastor of Forest Park Baptist Church, Forest Park, IL. He has been the executive vice president of Eastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Philadelphia, PA, since 1970.

■ *The Rev. John Fraser* was ordained on June 4, 1978, at Faith Baptist Church, Minneapolis, MN. Mr. Fraser is pastor of Shakopee Baptist Church, Shakopee, MN.

■ *Mr. Randy Paugh* became the pastor of First Baptist Church, Buffalo Center, IA, on April 22, 1979. He formerly served as youth pastor.

■ *The Rev. Siegbert Zukowski*, pastor of Ellice Avenue Baptist Church, Winnipeg, MB, since 1976, has resigned. He is awaiting the Lord's guidance as to his future plans.

■ *The Rev. Ronald W. Patterson* is the pastor of Mary Hill Baptist Church, Port Coquitlam, BC.

■ *Norbert Stubel*, a 1979 graduate of the North American Baptist Seminary, Sioux Falls, SD, has accepted the call to become pastor of the Memorial Baptist Church, Parkston, SD. He began his ministry there March 4.

■ *The Rev. Edward Broadway* is the pastor of the Brooks Baptist Church in Alberta. On Nov. 11, 1979, the Brooks Baptist Church and the Brooks Chapel merged into one church.

■ *The Rev. Wilfred Bellamy*, pastor of Bloomfield Hills Baptist Church, MI, has resigned. His future plans are unknown.

■ *The Rev. Jake W. Neudorf* died on Jan. 15, 1979. He was pastor of Fort George Baptist Church, Prince George, BC, since 1971. He served the following N.A.B. churches: Fenwood Baptist Church, SK, 1958-66; Melville Baptist, SK, 1963-66, and Creston Baptist, BC, 1966-71.

■ *Dr. M. Vanderbeck* died Feb. 25, 1979, in LaCrosse, WI, where he was serving as minister of visitation at Bible Baptist Church. During his ministry, he served as a missionary to the Indians; as a pastor of N.A.B. churches; as administrator of Central Baptist Home, Norridge, IL; as an evangelist, and as an interim pastor of many N.A.B. churches.

■ *The Rev. Doug Anderson*, pastor of Bethany Baptist Church, Hunter, KS, resigned effective April 22, 1979.

■ *The Rev. Marc Munson*, pastor of Canaan Baptist Church, Crawford, TX, since 1977, has accepted the pastorate of a church with the Southern Baptist Convention.

■ *The Rev. Henry Barnett* has accepted the position of chaplain at the Yakima Convalescent and Yakima Retirement Center, Washington. He resigned as pastor of First Baptist Church, Paul, ID, effective May 27, 1979, where he has served since 1973.



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# From Kansas to Kachins



A Guest Editorial by  
Thelea Wessler

There is a time when looking back can energize one's forward look.

Since both my husband and I are grandchildren of charter members of our centennial-celebrating church, Lorraine Baptist Church, Kansas, I was asked to write the pageant portraying our German Baptist colony's origin with its emerging church. It would become a story of faith, determination, and raw energy of pioneer immigrants.

My research plan followed the advice of Alex Haley, author of *Roots*: "Hurry to the oldest people in the family, and

*Mrs. Thelea Wessler is a vice-president of the Baptist World Alliance for North America and is chairperson of the BWA Division Committee on Communications. She is a member of First Baptist Church, Lorraine, KS.*

search out . . . look in old trunks, books, Bibles, church archives, put it down in writing." I found with our church-related "roots" an amazing correlation of family, denominational, and even worldwide discoveries.

In the mid-1800's, Europe's Rev. J. G. Oncken of Hamburg and Berlin dared to follow God's directing his movement toward a personal relationship with Jesus Christ according to the dictates of the New Testament.

The clergy was violently opposed to this movement, so when my grandfather and his brothers were converted and baptized by Rev. Oncken, they were ostracized and persecuted. Thus, much of the migration to America was the result of religious intolerances along with the economic and military situation. These pilgrims were seeking an opportunity to worship God as they chose.

Now, one hundred years later, we discover a kinship deep in those roots.

As a part of our centennial celebration, C. Ronald Goulding, associate secretary of the Baptist World Alliance, told us an exciting story about another group celebrating a centennial—the Convention of the Kachin Baptist people of Burma.

More than 100,000 people came when they expected and planned for half that many for their convention celebration. New converts numbered 6,125, and 300 volunteers are now training to evangelize and go out with the good news in the second century. All of this took place in a country where missionaries have not been allowed since 1966. Indeed, missionaries had fulfilled God's timing.

We were amazed at this story of faith. But the best was yet to come.

Our century-old church and ladies'

missionary society minutes were translated from the German language for me. I discovered there that our forebears were already praying and giving sacrificially to missions, and specifically giving to Burma's Kachin people. This was 100 years ago, at the time when our 25 charter members, mostly immigrants, were just establishing their homes.

A few years later, I discovered, our North American Baptist Conference sent missionaries to the Kachins. Time and again our ladies society treasurer had recorded "sent \$50 again to Burma." I recall my grandparents speaking of Burma and the Telugu people of India. They constantly remembered them in prayer.

God greatly multiplied those gifts from the grateful and poor immigrants. And today, though oceans apart, our small church was privileged to celebrate a centennial along with the Kachin Baptists. A passion for evangelism and missions outreach remains vital to the life of the church even today.

Reflecting upon these 100 intervening years, we can see the changes that took place in the Christian world. Martin Luther's "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God" is still being sung. But may we say to today's tune, using the phrases by John W. Peterson in his cantata *Love and Kindness*: "Love this world through me, Lord. Broken lives are everywhere lost in sin and dark despair. Only you can help them, save and set them free. Use my life to reach them Lord. Love this world through me."

And so the message remains the same, Christ is the same, yesterday, today, and forever. May I suggest that there are times when looking back can energize one's forward look? □

In February, the BAPTIST HERALD reported about the 1979 Mission & Ministry Budget of \$3,500,000 and the goals of the North American Baptist Conference. Because of a severe shortage in the 1978 Conference budget, the

1979 budget has been revised.

The following article is a special General Council report explaining the decisions and listing the budget reductions.

## NO MORE DEFICIT SPENDING

God has blessed His work through the local churches and the larger fellowship of the North American Baptist Conference; even though the 1978 Conference budget goal of \$3,200,000 was not achieved. Because the budget was not met, the General Council and the Finance and Stewardship Committee of the North American Baptist Conference recently adopted a firm policy that no department will be allowed to expend more than its approved budget or the actual income in 1979, whichever is less. Also, about \$300,000 was cut in programs and staff for 1979, which originally had been approved in June 1978.

This decision was made after both groups received reports that the 1978 Conference operating expenditures exceeded income by \$398,396. In addition to this deficit, there was a shortage of \$92,684 in 1977 and \$280,000 in 1976. The Conference once had significant operating reserves, but these have been depleted. Now there is a deficit of about \$800,000.

These over-expenditures have occurred even though departments tried to stay within their budgets. Some expenses such as currency exchange rates, devaluation of the dollar and inflation have run havoc with anticipated costs, especially in 1978. Also, approved expenditures were considerably higher than actual income.

Some may ask, "Has the General Council been unrealistic in adopting budget goals during these years?" It may seem that way, but they heard the needs and opportunities presented by the various departments and set the goals in hope and faith that they would be met. Now there is no other alternative but to cut some programs and ministries for 1979 and make a firm commitment for a balanced budget.

Others may ask, "Have the members of the Conference churches failed to do a good job in giving?" The churches increased their giving to the Conference budget by 11 percent in 1976, 14 percent in 1977 and 8.5 percent in 1978. In addition, several hundred thousand dollars were given for special capital fund campaigns and projects.

The following is a listing of cuts for 1979 which have been approved by the General Council.

The final determination of how these reductions are to be applied will be made by the respective departments.

The following are some probable ministry and staff cuts, which are necessary to implement the dollar cuts.

### MISSIONS

- Postponing the replacement of more than 10 missionaries who have resigned or are on leave of absence.
- Reducing all of the field operating budgets
- Discontinuing some promotional materials

### CHURCH EXTENSION DEPARTMENT

- Reducing the number of churches to be started from 10 to about 5
- Canceling a Board meeting and instead have a meeting at the time of the Triennial Conference in Bismarck
- Not replacing the second staff member in the department at this time (There is a vacancy due to the untimely death of Lyle Wacker.)
- Discontinuing some promotional materials

### CHURCH MINISTRIES DEPARTMENT

- Terminating one staff member in the position of "Leadership Education"
- Discontinuing mission education publications and reducing the size of STIMULUS
- Canceling the Board meeting and instead have a brief meeting at the time of the Triennial Conference in Bismarck
- Discontinuing the financial support of Youth Service Opportunities and Campus Ministry
- Cutting back most programs, ministry and promotional materials

### N.A.B. COLLEGE

(No reduction in program being planned.)

### N.A.B. SEMINARY

(No reduction in program being planned.)

Department	Reduction in 1979 Budget	Revised 1979 Basic Budget
Missions Dept.	\$104,000	\$1,221,802
Church Extension Dept.	44,000	458,020
Church Ministries Dept.	15,000	217,578
N.A.B. College (subsidy)	15,000	242,000
N.A.B. Seminary (subsidy)	30,000	345,914
Pension Fund Subsidy	3,000	48,000
Aged Ministers Assistance	---	9,660
Conference Bldg. & Admin.	34,801	54,101
Stewardship & Communications	20,000	206,460
Area Secretaries	30,000	124,465
Provision for 4% salary increase	---	100,000
Contingencies	10,645	34,000
Challenge Fund	---	100,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$306,446</b>	<b>\$3,162,000</b>

### STEWARDSHIP AND COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT

- Terminating one part-time editorial assistant and reduction of a second part-time editorial assistant
- Canceling the Communications Committee meeting
- Reducing the size of N.A.B. NEWS from four pages to two pages for a six-month trial
- Reducing the number of issues of BAPTIST HERALD from 11 to 10 for this year
- Discontinuing some promotional materials

### AREA SECRETARIES

- Asking each Association to assume about \$1,500 of their respective Area Secretary costs or reduce the number of Area Secretaries from six to five. With this a new plan is also being considered to probably relate each Area Secretary more directly to an executive committee of his area for identifying needs, goal setting and planning strategies.

### GENERAL COUNCIL—CONFERENCE BUILDING—ADMINISTRATION

- Reducing one office secretary and professional janitorial services
- Canceling one Conference Staff Workshop session

Some tough decisions have been made by the responsible leadership of the Conference. God is still blessing the various ministries with good results of people coming to know Christ and growing in their service for him.

Now it is up to each of us to pray for God's continued direction and blessing as well as to search our own hearts to see if we are doing all that God expects of us.

Let us commit ourselves to do our very best so the cause of Christ will continue to go forward. If the giving increases substantially in 1979, then some essential ministries may again be expanded. □



letters to the editor

Dear Editor:

The January 1979 issue of BAPTIST HERALD is very interesting and readable. There are several articles that I especially appreciated.

I just loved "Two Days I Will Never Forget" and "Faith Amidst Adversity." Your editorial on the Jonestown tragedy was helpful to me personally.

The entire issue was a credit to the entire staff of the BAPTIST HERALD.  
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