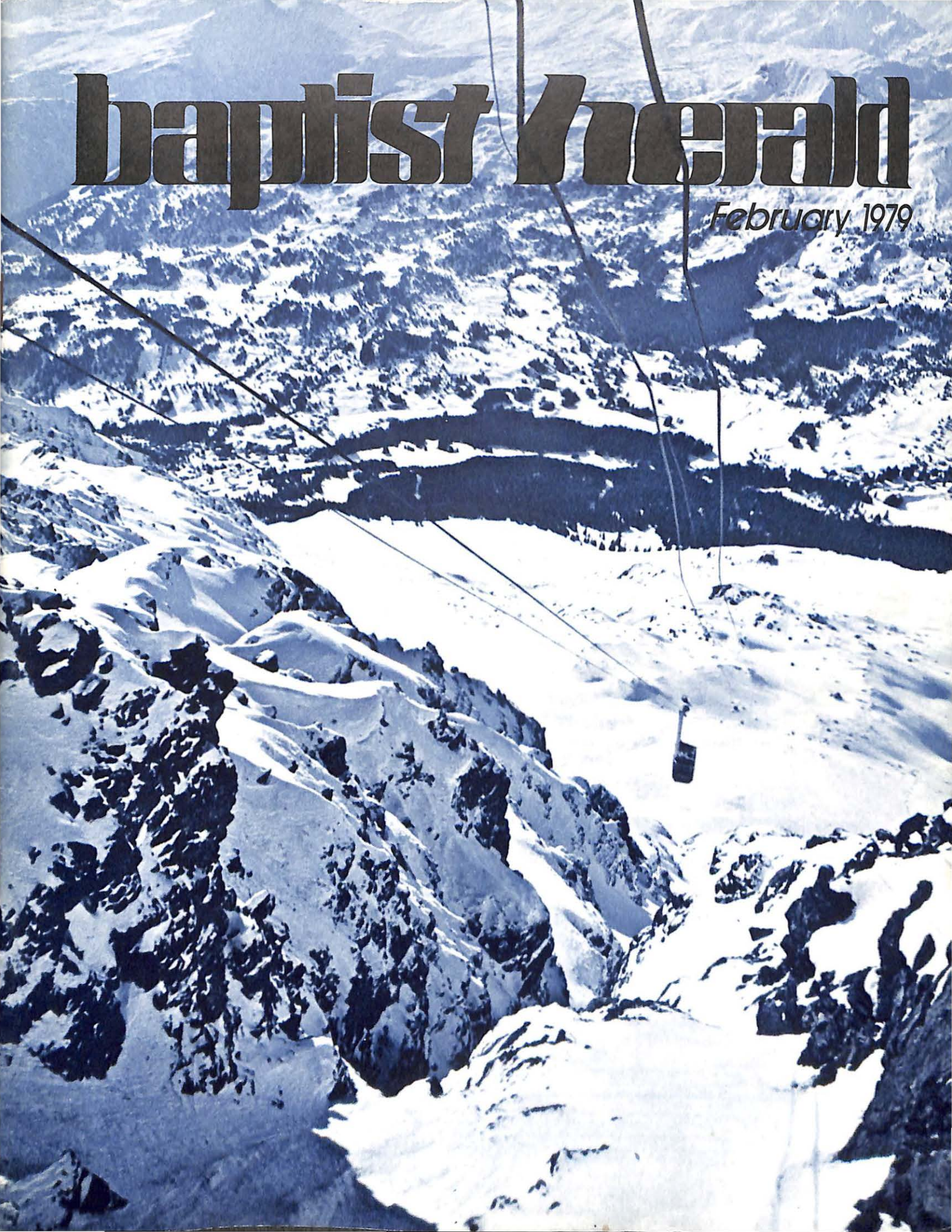


# baptist herald

*February 1979*







During our recent travels, Mrs. Wong and I have had the privilege of meeting many Baptists from many unions and conventions. To mark our visit, some groups arranged Baptist World Alliance (BWA) rallies. At these get-togethers, Baptists from different conventions were unified in the bonds of Christian fellowship. For some, these meetings were "firsts." It was a thrill for me, as president of the Baptist World Alliance, to realize that it was in the name of the BWA these different Baptist bodies were coming together as brothers and sisters for Christ, one in the family of God.

Representatives from Chinese, Korean and Spanish fellowships participated, as about 600 people attended the meeting in Harvard Terrace Baptist Church in Fresno, California.

"Gathering '78" was the culmination of efforts over years to have an inter-Baptist rally in the greater Boston area. Over 1000 persons present from seven Baptist conventions were so happy to be together. It was agreed that the BWA would continue to be used in the future as the instrument through which more cross-convention projects and fellowships could be promoted in the Boston area.

Walmer Road Baptist Church was the meeting place for 1200 Toronto Baptists. We experienced, on that occasion, a preview of the fellowship we can anticipate when the 14th Baptist World Congress will meet here July 6-13, 1980. In Japan, a reception was held for us which was sponsored by three different Baptist groups.

The significant opportunity of unifying Baptist bodies in Christ's ministry to the peoples of our world uniquely belongs to the Baptist World Alliance. Across the world, many projects are being carried out more effectively under the sponsorship of the BWA as Christians work together. The BWA works, not by developing programs to duplicate what conventions are already doing, but by encouraging conventions to work together with existing programs and resources. With a growing spirit of cooperation, much more of this type work can be accomplished.

Deep gratitude must go to the many individuals who have made a personal commitment to support the work of the Alliance. Contributions from these "FRIENDS of the ALLIANCE" undergird and strengthen work carried out by every phase of the BWA. I can foresee that these individuals will become increasingly more instrumental in affording opportunities for an enlarged ministry around the world.

The Baptist World Alliance has much to say to us as we seek to share Christ's message with the world. If we are to ever bring God's light to all corners of the world, we must not be divided. We cannot work alone, we must work together.

David Y. K. Wong, Hong Kong  
BWA President 1975-80

# baptist herald

Volume 57

February 1979

No. 2

Baptist World Alliance Day .....	4
The World Baptist Family 1978 .....	5
Worldwide Baptist Growth Continues .....	5
The Blessing .....	6
Angela Keith Benedict	
What a Holy Land Tour Will Do for You.....	8
Dorothy J. Buitendyk	
North Dakota Badlands.....	9
Ken Jorgensen	
Baptist Men's Worldwide Day of Witness and Prayer.....	10
Stephen S. Steeves	
Why STEER Inc.?.....	10
LaRue Goetz	
Student's Impressions of N.A.B. International Office.....	11
Jerry Mathis & Jeanne Stubel	
Putting It Together .....	12
Ernie Zimbelman	
God's Volunteers Involved in Extension Churches .....	12
LeAnn Wolitarsky	
Book Reviews.....	13
B. C. Schreiber	
Woman's World .....	14
Worry or God's Peace, Ardath Effa	
Up the Stairway, Dorene Walth	
World Day of Prayer, LaVerna Mehlhaff	
Conference Corner, Sylvia Auch	
Our Extended Baptist Fellowship, Sharon Mayforth	
Effective Changes in Our Japan Mission.....	16
Richard Schilke	
The Growing Edge.....	18
Try on Some "Teacher Shoes," Sandra Ziegler	
Denny's Column, Denny Miller	
A Teenager's Prayer	
Reaching People	
Creators of Low Morale	
Wisdom	
Your Provincial Will.....	21
Lawrence G. Bienert	
Sioux City, IA, Church Extension Project .....	22
Fred M. Penner	
Rosenfeld Marks 75th Year .....	23
Mrs. W. Isaak	
Our Conference in Action .....	24
In Memoriam .....	26
News and Views .....	28
What's Happening.....	29
Editorial Viewpoint .....	30
God Lives Also in the Country, RJK	
Open Dialogue.....	30
See Central North Dakota.....	30
Ken Jorgensen	

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## Presidential Prayer Breakfast for Palau Team

**La Paz, Bolivia.** The most "explosive" evangelistic campaign ever held by Argentine evangelist, Luis Palau, and his team resulted in almost 20,000 public decisions for Christ in Bolivia in November 1978. When the two week, three city campaign had ended, local churches had 18,916 persons to visit and incorporate into their congregations.

National and international attention was focused upon this country of six million, landlocked between Argentina, Chile and Brazil, when General Juan Pereda Asbun, Bolivia's new President, accepted an invitation to attend a Presidential Prayer Breakfast where Palau was the principal speaker. A total of 150 attended, including eight cabinet members, the 25 highest ranking military personnel and local church leaders.

In his 20 minute address, Dr. Palau explained how the Gospel can be the greatest blessing any nation could have. Speaking from Deut. 28:1-14, the Argentine evangelist outlined the positive national benefits that result in a country that obeys the voice of God.

President Pereda responded to Palau's challenge by emphasizing the importance of taking time out "to set personal and national spiritual priorities." He said, "This crusade is of national interest and we commend it to all our people." After the 1½ hour breakfast meeting, Dr. Palau and President Pereda met privately to speak in depth about spiritual matters and to pray for the country. □

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# baptist world alliance day february 4, 1979



## Sermon: "A Vision of the World Family" Revelation 7:9-12

Sermon by: Nilson do Amaral Fanini, Brazilian Baptist Convention

The Baptist World Alliance gives me a vision of the size of the family of God. When I look at the BWA I see that our Brotherhood extends to every point of the compass and into every corner of the globe with followers of Jesus Christ.

The Baptist World Alliance makes me believe that it is possible to have union and harmony even in the midst of the apparent differences in today's world. For there is no nation or people great or small, no differences in color, no rich nor poor, we are all one in Christ Jesus. We are all part of the great family of the living God!

The Baptist World Alliance is a preview of what heaven will be like, as it is the church on a grander scale, when we all stand before Jesus as one in Him. But we need to work to bring heaven to earth. "Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven."

The Baptist World Alliance challenges me to love a world lost and without Christ. The challenge is to cry with those who cry, to share with the humble and rejoice with the strong. I see, then, that I must work and pray towards the establishment of the kingdom of God on the earth, through His church.

The Baptist World Alliance leads me to believe that through the Holy Spirit we can bring down the things that divide us in the world in which we live, to communicate the Love of God that unites hearts, and

to provide a way to share the joys, frustrations, victories, and dreams with one another. We must support and cooperate with each other in meeting the needs of our brethren in evangelism and through religious education if we are to reach our world with the gospel.

To cooperate means uniting our forces and our resources, and our plans, all of us, together, now, toward the same goals and marching in the same direction.

It is told that a man bought a pair of trousers, but that they were much too long to be of any use. He arrived at his house and asked his wife to cut 8 centimeters off. She agreed to do it but forgot. After two or three days he then asked his mother-in-law to do it. She said that she would but she too forgot. One day the wife remembered and cut the pants off by 8 centimeters. Two days later the mother-in-law also remembered and cut another 8 centimeters off the pants. The following Sunday morning the man put on the trousers but, alas, they were much too short. It is easy to see that both women said "yes", both of them fulfilled their word and both worked well—but they did not cooperate.

Let us cooperate . . .

the task is too important . . .

defeat too costly!

"For we are laborers together with God."

1 Corinthians 3:9

# THE WORLD BAPTIST FAMILY 1978

	Churches	Members	Total Preaching Places	Total Baptist Community
Africa	6,572	989,971	12,880	2,029,109
Asia	11,846	1,445,511	21,195	3,486,340
Central America and Caribbean Islands	1,768	245,614	4,238	606,991
Europe	11,673	1,177,362	19,969	2,148,196
Middle East	42	2,176	94	4,510
North America	101,855	29,191,348	111,483	37,404,555
Oceania				
(Southwest Pacific)	1,446	127,453	1,551	245,713
South America	4,915	551,439	8,174	1,315,309
—Grand Totals—	140,118	33,730,784	179,584	47,240,723

## WORLDWIDE BAPTIST GROWTH CONTINUES

WASHINGTON (BP)—Continued, steady growth of Baptist groups around the world increased the Baptist world population by 1.39 percent in 1977.

The Baptist population of Africa has more than doubled in 10 years to its current 989,971, according to statistics released by the Baptist World Alliance, which has 111 member bodies representing 87 percent of the world's Baptists. The Southern Baptist Convention in the U.S., topping 13 million, is the largest.

Last year mission fields of British and Canadian Baptists had 17 churches in Angola. This year Angola has 474 churches, a "remarkable" growth attributed primarily to a resurgence of vitality in the previously war-ravaged country and to the return of refugees from Zaire.

Zaire is the African nation with the largest number of Baptists—286,968—followed by Nigeria's 208,637. Baptist membership in Angola, not affiliated with the BWA, exceeds 24,000.

The United States and North America continue to dominate the numbers among the world's 33.7 million Baptists. All but 236,000 of North America's 29.2 million Baptists live in the United States.

The number of Asian Baptist churches increased 317 to 11,529. Total membership is 1,445,511, up 24,402 from last year. India contains more than half of Asia's Baptist churches and over half the membership.

Similarly, Brazil dominates South American statistics,

which have nearly doubled in the past decade. Brazil contains 450,273 of South America's 551,439 Baptists.

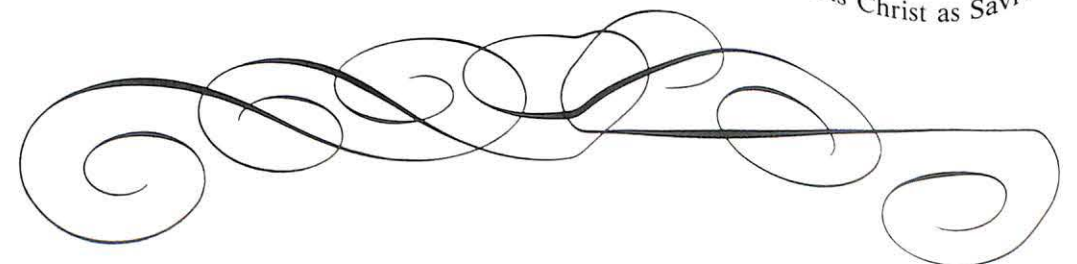
The USSR has the largest Baptist population in Europe, with 530,000, followed by the United Kingdom, with 258,326 and Romania, 164,000.

The United States continues to lead all other countries in church membership. The ten largest Baptist populations (church membership) are:

1. United States	28,955,259
2. India	832,944
3. U.S.S.R.	540,000
4. Brazil	450,723
5. Burma	350,771
6. Zaire	286,968
7. United Kingdom	258,326
8. Nigeria	208,637
9. Canada	193,207
10. Romania	164,000

The order is the same as a year ago, except Nigeria climbed from 10th to 8th in the chart. The BWA said an additional 13.3 million people are part of the Baptist community, which includes children and others under pastoral care. It roughly compares to the "inclusive membership" figures of other denominations.

Baptists accept into membership only persons who have reached an age of discretion and have voluntarily professed faith in Jesus Christ as Saviour and Lord. □





# The Blessing

Based On a True Experience  
by Angela Keith Benedict



"It's mother," I began, knocking.  
Silence.  
"Are you in there?" I asked.  
"Uh huh."  
"May I come in?"  
Before he could answer, the doorbell rang. Margaret! I thought. I had forgotten about her for a moment.  
"I'll be back," I told Jimmy through the door.  
He didn't reply, so I shrugged and hurried downstairs.  
It was probably

some minor thing, I told myself. Jimmy had always been a sensitive child, after all.

"Am I early?" Margaret wanted to know.  
I forced a smile. "No, right on time. I was upstairs with Jimmy."

She frowned. "Jimmy? I thought this was the night he—"

"Came home a little while ago," I interrupted. "I was trying to find out what happened."

"Listen, go back up there if you want to," Margaret insisted. "I'll just get my quilt out and start working."

"Won't be a minute," I promised, heading up the stairs again.

Jimmy was lying on his bed, fully clothed, when I entered the room. He turned away when he saw me, but not before I got a glimpse of his red eyes. He had been crying.

"What's wrong?" I asked gently, pulling up a chair.

"Nothing."

"Then why are you here instead of at Mark's?" I wanted to know.

"Just wanted to come home."

"Maybe I should call Mrs. Reese—"

That produced the desired reaction. "No! I mean, you don't have to." He swallowed. "I'll tell you."

"You didn't break anything, did you?" I questioned.

He shook his head.

"Did you and Mark fight?"

More head shaking.

"Well, what did happen?"

Slowly, painfully, he told me what had occurred after he arrived at Mark's house. It was nearly time for supper, so the two boys had washed up together.

"I remembered not to get the towel dirty," Jimmy added.

"Good," I said, smiling. "Go on."

"There was all kinds of food on the table, so I just reached over and helped myself to this big chicken drumstick," Jimmy continued. "I was going to take a bite when I noticed that everybody else was just sitting there, looking at me. I felt kind of funny, but I didn't

know what I was doing wrong."

"Did you remember to put the napkin on your lap?" I questioned, puzzled.

He nodded. "But then Mark's mom said, 'Jimmy, would you like to ask the blessing?' I thought she meant would I like *her* to ask the blessing, so I told her yes and bent my head over, like people do when they pray at church."

"Only she really wanted you to ask the blessing," I surmised.

"Uh huh. But I didn't know how, so Mr. Reese did it instead."

I frowned. "And that's why you came home?"

He swallowed again. "I felt kind of funny all while we were eating. And then afterwards, too. Mark's family is different than ours. They always say a blessing and then after they finish eating, they read the Bible." He looked at me. "Mom, I didn't even know what they were talking about half the time!"

"What did you tell them when you left?" I wanted to know.

"That I didn't feel so good. And I didn't."

"Are you okay now?"

"I guess so."

"I'll come up and see you later," I promised. "Aunt Margaret's waiting for me downstairs."

"Why don't we ever pray or read the Bible?" he asked.

"We'll talk about it another time," I said, hurrying out of his room. I didn't go right downstairs, though. I couldn't, not the way I felt at that moment.

Roy made no bones about his spiritual condition. He wasn't a Christian, period. I knew it when I married him, convinced that I would make such an impact that he would accept Jesus Christ as Savior within weeks after we became man and wife.

It hadn't worked out that way at all. Just the opposite, in fact. I didn't like going to church alone; so eventually I stopped going altogether except on special occasions, like Easter and Christmas. I told myself that it didn't matter and that I didn't need to attend church services to stay close to the Lord. Even my Bible reading became one of those things I planned to do but never got around to.

Then Jimmy came along, and I was busy being a mother. I loved it. Oh, I prayed, of course, but they were the prayers of an anxious mother whose child had the measles or mumps or whatever; when the crisis passed, the need to pray seemed to pass as well.

"What was wrong with Jimmy?" Margaret asked when I joined her.

"Nothing serious," I replied, refusing to go into detail. "My, what a beautiful quilt!"

"My own design," she said proudly. "Each square tells a story."

It was a pleasant evening on the surface, I suppose, but I didn't even listen to what Margaret was saying half the time. What did I feel? I wondered. Was it guilt, realizing that my son knew nothing of Jesus and his saving grace? Or was it conviction, realizing how far away from the Lord I had strayed?

Whatever it was, I didn't sleep much that night. So

many thoughts flooded my mind, not only the camp service where I had surrendered my life to Christ at the age of sixteen, but also another time when I had dedicated myself to serve the Lord however he directed.

"God, forgive me," I prayed. My spiritual deterioration had happened so gradually that I wasn't even aware that it had happened at all.

Roy slept late the next morning, same as always when he worked the Friday night shift, so Jimmy and I had breakfast together. If he still felt bad about the previous night's experience, it wasn't evident. I was tempted to let the whole thing pass. Somehow I couldn't.

"I'll say the blessing," I told him as we sat at the table.

He stared at me. "Mom, do you know how?"

That cut through me like a knife. "I think so," I managed. "Bow your head."

It wasn't much of a prayer, but it was better than nothing. "Next time you can do it," I told my son. "It's just talking to God."

Sunday morning Jimmy and I went to church with Mark and his parents. I had called Saturday afternoon, and Mrs. Reese said they would be delighted to have us along. Roy wasn't impressed, but shrugged when I asked if he minded Jimmy and me going.

"Do what you want," he replied.

Much to my surprise, Jimmy loved going to church, and so did I. Just being in a house of worship again was a good feeling, and I knew we would be coming all the time.

A few weeks later, an evangelistic crusade was announced. I wanted Roy to attend with me, but he wouldn't even consider it. I prayed for his salvation regularly, though, and so did Jimmy.

"I'm not sure what we're going to do," Mrs. Reese began as we drove to church the Sunday before the crusade was scheduled to begin. "Our pianist's sister was in a fairly serious automobile accident out west. Eileen is leaving right after the service this morning to be with her."

"My mom can play the piano," Jimmy volunteered.

"Jimmy!" I protested.

"Can you?" Mr. Reese asked.

"She can," Mark answered. "I've heard her lots of times."

So I wound up playing the piano for that series of meetings, hoping that my active participation might encourage Roy to attend at least once. He just wasn't interested, however.

Jimmy was, though. He didn't miss a service, sitting right up front. And he didn't come alone, either. One night several of his friends came along.

I was a bit rusty, but somehow managed to play well enough for congregational singing, if I concentrated totally on what I was doing. That final night of the crusade, however, they had to sing the invitation hymn without accompaniment. The last three verses anyway.

When I glanced up after the first verse, a skinny boy with tousled blond hair was standing meekly before the altar, giving his life to Christ. I left the piano at that point, tears in my eyes, to stand beside my son and re-

(Continued on page 28)



# What a Holy Land Tour Will do for You

by Dorothy J. Buitendyk

"Touring the Holy Land will make you wish you'd paid more attention in school," I jokingly told our adult Sunday School class at Napier Parkview Baptist Church, Benton Harbor, Michigan. This is not as shallow a statement as it might appear at first. But it is one of the lesser benefits. A Holy Land tour could change your whole outlook on life. It could, if you are unsaved, cause you to seriously consider the claims of Christ. At the very least, it most surely will change your perspective.

For instance, when was the last time you thanked God for the privilege of turning on a faucet in your home and being able to drink water without fear of contamination? That was one of the luxuries I enjoyed most after returning from a three-week tour to Egypt, Syria, Jordan, Israel and Greece. A serving of common, ordinary green beans never tasted so good to me before. In the countries visited, I'd had to carefully consider whether or not to eat food that was served. Yes, there are some precautions necessary when an American visits Middle East countries.

Men, do you complain about large lawns to cut? In most Holy Land countries, you wouldn't have that chore. If an Israeli has a lawn at all, it will be a small one. City

*Dorothy J. Buitendyk is a member of Napier Parkview Baptist Church, Benton Harbor, MI.*

dwellers often have nothing green unless a potted plant graces their property.

A deeper appreciation for the conveniences and luxuries of the U.S., even in this day of inflation, is bound to be felt. Not only are we blessed materially far beyond the average Egyptian or Syrian, but also our spiritual heritage becomes priceless. Suppose you'd have been born in Cairo, Egypt, instead of Cairo, Illinois. You would have to search diligently for a Christian witness. Your background most probably would be Muslim. Your forefathers would have worshipped cat-headed gods. Your future life would hold dread and fear for the after-life.

If a woman, you'd be a second-rate "believer," not required to go through the rituals of bowing down five times a day facing Mecca as the men are required to do. If you were a widow in Egypt, you and your children would bring flowers to decorate the small, cement burial chamber in the mile-after-mile "City of the Dead." In Israel, a woman *can* worship at the Wailing Wall, but a woven screen divider would separate her from the men in her family.

Literally millions of Holy Landers have never had the opportunity to hear of Christ. Seeing them milling around the cities, your heart longs to cry out, "Oh, please, let me tell you of One who loved you and can give you peace and hope." Steeped in traditions, some of which date back 3,000 years, or bound by pagan rituals that offer no security, they seek to satisfy and serve impersonal gods. It makes you wonder where you'd be spiritually had no one told you of Christ's redeeming love.

The Middle East is as great a mission field as Africa or China. As you stand in the marble-pillared mosques, beautifully and impressively structured, yet cold, you sense the emptiness of the souls, as they vainly worship Mohammed.

Another fringe benefit of a visit to the Middle East, particularly now, is that it quickens your interest in the political "goings on." Catching a glimpse of Prime Minister Menachem Begin of Israel made him seem more real when viewed on TV after returning home. Anwar

Sadat's visit to Israel a year ago, the Camp David meetings, the P.L.O. and the battle over the west bank and the Gaza strip become very real. Your appetite is whetted for study of Bible prophecy as well as the history and geography of the region.

A visit to Qumran where the Dead Sea Scrolls were discovered by a young goatherdsman in 1947 authenticates Scripture back to the first century A.D. The faithfulness, diligence and devotion of the Essenes, a pious group who meticulously copied the Scriptures and then sealed them in earthen jars, storing them away in caves for posterity, when forced to flee for their lives when Jerusalem fell to the Romans, and the area was besieged, thrills your soul. Visiting Qumran leaves you with a deep sense of gratitude for those who preserved Scripture at great personal sacrifice. The fate of the Essenes is not definitely known, but the sect vanished from history, apparently the victims of the Romans.

A climb up Masada's steeps is unforgettable. The fortress stronghold where 960 Jewish patriots chose mass suicide rather than surrender to Titus' Roman legions is a tribute to courage and devotion such as is rare, if not non-existent, in 20th century living.

Rubbing shoulders with a turbaned Bedouin, a Jewish rabbi, an Athenian sailor or an Israeli soldier is like a peek into a story book. Experiencing a sudden windstorm on the shore of the Sea of Galilee reinforces Matthew 8:23-27 where Jesus calmed the angry Sea. Who can capture the emotion with mere paper and ink of standing on the very stones at "The Pavement," the place where Jesus was condemned by Pilate? Or the sanctity of viewing Golgatha, "The Skull," from the Garden of Gethsemane? The olive trees, if not the actual trees Jesus knelt by in his hour of agony, at least are bona fide sprouts from those very trees. The story of Jesus and the woman at the well can be relived as one takes a drink from that very well, Jacob's well. Seeing ruts left on the pavement by Roman chariots at Jerash or the fallen walls of Jericho dramatizes eloquently the life in those eras. Viewing the Jordan Valley from Mt. Nebo, one can

relive Moses' disappointment from being deprived the privilege of entering the Promised Land.

Distances, altitudes, topography, climate, vegetation, as well as military preparedness gives body and substance to both biblical and secular study. The distance from Dan to Beersheba seems amazingly short considering how much history has been lived there over the centuries. Civilization built upon civilization—sometimes four or five layers—each a different culture, makes you amazed at the tenacity of God's people to survive. You wonder about the utter futility of war and its destruction. How much further advanced could civilization be if men did not destroy what others laboriously built? Where will the U. S. be 500-1,000 years from now? Buried under some succeeding civilization, should the Lord tarry?

Perhaps the most important benefit of a Holy Land tour, though, is what it will do for your personal

witness. Doors open even to unsaved as you share your pictures, souvenirs, and recount your experiences. It's hard for an atheist or an agnostic to deny the irrefutable evidence of fulfilled prophecy which you can weave through any presentation on the Holy Land. Because of its significance in the daily news, many who otherwise would not listen are intrigued with hearing someone who has actually visited the areas.

You can testify to other believers as to the sufficiency of God. Travelling thousands of miles over oceans, deserts, through countries where ancient animosities are still evidenced in today's bitterness, confirms faith in the power and protection of the Lord. Finding God faithful and sufficient for every emergency—whether it be sickness, lost baggage, or gruelling schedules—can strengthen your own faith and the faith of others as you share with them. Whether or not they are ever

privileged to personally visit the Holy Land, the thrill of going there can be communicated, at least in part, to people who are usually attentive and anxious to hear. Each person visiting the Holy Land will be impressed differently, so the telling of essentially the same itinerary will never be identical.

My tour to the Holy Land was the realization of a long-time dream. I continually thank the Lord for making it possible. If I ever have the good fortune to be able to go again, I would eagerly grasp the opportunity. There's so much more to be digested even in a short three-week tour that many who have gone once, go time and time again. My prayer is that my love for God's people and his land may continue to increase.

I'm looking forward to going to Israel again—if not in this lifetime, surely when Christ returns to set up his kingdom, headquartered in Jerusalem, his holy city. □

## North Dakota Badlands, Land of Beauty & History

by Ken Jorgensen

"A plain where a round-up is taking place offers a picturesque sight. I well remember one such. It was on a level bottom, in a bend of the river, which here made an almost semicircular sweep. The bottom was in shape of a long oval, hemmed in by an unbroken line of steep bluffs so that it looked like an amphitheater. Across the faces of the dazzling white cliffs, there were sharp bands of black and red drawn by the coal seams and the layers of burned clay."

So young Teddy Roosevelt described a scene along the Little Missouri River during his ranching days in the North

*Ken Jorgensen writes for the North Dakota Travel Division.*

Dakota Badlands. Theodore Roosevelt came to western North Dakota as a young man in 1883 on a hunting trip. He was so taken with the land that he purchased the Chimney Butte Ranch south of present day Medora. He went back east after leaving two local ranchhands in charge and later purchased another ranch, the Elkhorn, about forty miles north of Medora.

After the deaths of his mother and wife in a 24-hour period, Roosevelt returned to the Badlands. He ranched and hunted the area, as well as wrote his experiences in the Dakotas. After the severe winter of 1886-87, when almost eighty percent of the cattle in the Badlands died, Roosevelt sold his acquisitions in the area. He went on to become president of the United States, but never forgot western North Dakota, where he had acquired a love for the land and conceived his conservation ideas that would establish the National Park System, the first such system in the world.



Theodore Roosevelt Maltese Cross Ranch Cabin at the Visitor Center, Theodore Roosevelt National Memorial Park—South Unit

Before Roosevelt left the Dakotas, he encountered a man that also left his mark on western North Dakota. The Marquis de Mores, a French nobleman, came to western North Dakota to fulfill his dream of establishing a meat-packing empire. The Marquis arrived on the west river bank of the Little Missouri at a town by the same name in April of 1883. He was told there was no room for him or his kind in Little Missouri, so he promptly bought land across the river, pitched his tent and vowed to wipe out the town, which he did.

His new town, Medora, named for his beautiful New York-born wife, grew. In

*(Continued on page 13)*



Saturday, April 21, 1979

## BAPTIST MEN'S WORLDWIDE DAY OF WITNESS AND PRAYER



### "Striving Together in Prayer"

In a world that is torn by its many divisions, where disunity, prejudice, envy, greed and hatred are evident in all societies and among all people, the People of God strive for unity in service and witness to the glory of the name of Jesus Christ.

Baptist men, united together in the Baptist Men's movement, have long realized the seriousness and urgency of Christ's call and have dedicated themselves to his glorious service.

Dispersed as we are in countries across the wide world, divided as we are by distance and by language, we nevertheless proclaim the unity there is in Christ the Savior. Further, Baptist men believe and proclaim that we are never more united than when we join in common cause in prayer.

The Baptist Men's Worldwide Day of Witness and Prayer provides just the very opportunity to demonstrate "togetherness" and a unity of concern and purpose.

The Apostle Paul speaks to the Romans in chapter 15:30 of the epistle urging them to "strive together with me in your prayers."

In the same strong words the call goes out today to the men of our churches and congregations to enter into the call of the Kingdom in the ongoing every moment, every day, every place battle against the evils of the "kingdom of this world."

April 21, 1979, is the day! Your home and your church is the place! You will know the areas of prayer concern which surround you. They must have a place in our prayer program. However, on this particular day and at this particular time we are called to remember each other and to share in the concern and needs, the aspirations and hopes of each other worldwide.

## Why STEER Inc.?

by LaRue Goetz

Have you ever wondered why the ministry of STEER, Inc. was ever

Mr. LaRue Goetz is executive director of STEER, Inc.

brought into being? Let me give you a few reasons:

First . . . STEER, Inc. was born because its founder had a burden to help support missionaries, projects, etc., through evangelical missions which had already proven effective in their outreach.

Second . . . STEER, Inc. was born to give people from all walks of life an opportunity to make investments by purchasing Cow and Steer Unit Plans and to see these perpetual investments multiply over and over again.

Thirdly . . . STEER, Inc. was born to give the grass roots people—farmers and ranchers—a tremendous opportunity to become tangibly involved in missions through the raising of livestock and crops which they can designate to one of our approved mission societies, thus supporting missionaries, projects, etc.

### The Chairman's Message

Dear Fellow Baptists:

*We urge you, as a body of Christians, to get together a group of concerned Baptist men for a prayer time on April 21, 1979, or as close to that date as possible. This group could be members within one church, several churches or even an association.*

*At this meeting, use the attached material as guidance for your program, but remember this is primarily a time of prayer and girding ourselves for witnessing.*

*At these meetings an offering is taken, with one-half of it being sent to the Men's Department of the Baptist World Alliance, and one-half to the National union, convention, or association.*

*The address of the Men's Department is as follows:*

*Baptist World Alliance  
1628 Sixteenth Street, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20009*

*May God bless you as we utilize this day to bring glory to His Name.*

Stephen S. Steeves

STEER, Inc. provides the funds to purchase animals and crops by using the donors' investment. We have farm families who are stewards of from one to twenty head of livestock per year and others who raise from five to twenty acres of crops in the "God's Acre Plan."

As a result of this fantastic method of raising money for missions, we have, in 21 years, channeled almost a million dollars to missions through our 72 evangelical mission societies.

I want to share a short testimony from one of our "God's Acres" farmers:

"... It has been a joy to be able to watch a special portion that we know will be going to the work of the Lord and how He will supply.

(Continued on page 11)

## Student's Impressions of NAB International Office

by Jerry Mathis

Headquarters is a term that means many things to many people. As an ex-serviceman, the term headquarters has always conjured up images of authority and bureaucracy in my mind, and I know that many people are not really aware of what goes on in a headquarters.

One of the highlights of the senior year at the Seminary is the opportunity to visit our N.A.B. Conference International Office in Oakbrook Terrace, Illinois, and see for ourselves what our headquarters people are doing to serve the needs of our N.A.B. churches.

The trip this year took place from November 1-4, 1978, and was a tremendous experience for all who participated. The tone for the sessions at headquarters was set in chapel Thursday morning by N.A.B.S. student body president, Norbert Stubel, who brought a moving message on our need to build up and affirm each other, rather than criticizing each other as we so often do. Throughout the rest of Thursday, and on Friday morning and Friday evening, were sessions in which the leaders gave presentations detailing the work of their various departments. I was very impressed by the spirit displayed by our Conference leaders and their obvious desire to help build up our churches. It became clear to all of us from the Seminary that these men and women are

Jerry Mathis is a senior student at North American Baptist Seminary, Sioux Falls, SD.

not only our leaders but also, more importantly, are our servants.

The senior visit to headquarters was not all work and no play. Time was built into the schedule for a tour of Chicago. Chicago is a very dynamic and exciting city, and we were able to briefly visit only a few of its many important and historic buildings. Among the places visited were the Sears Tower, the tallest building in the world; Moody Bible Institute; Moody Memorial Church, and the Pacific Garden Mission. A sense of history pervaded my mind as we visited these places where such great things have been accomplished for God, and I wondered what future generations will think about us and about how we have handled our commission from God to spread the Gospel.

The things we heard during our visit to N.A.B. headquarters gave us cause to rejoice and cause to be concerned about the future of our Conference. There is a great potential for ministry to the needs of a hurting world, both in our churches at home and in our mission efforts abroad. But that potential is threatened by increasing pressures, especially financial pressures. However, the overall picture we were presented with was a very challenging one, I am personally very excited about being part of such a dynamic and spiritually alive Conference. I urge every N.A.B. member who has the opportunity to visit our headquarters to do so, I am sure that you, too, will become very excited about the future of the N.A.B. Conference.



NABS Seniors at International Office.

## NABS Senior Trip

by Jeanne Stubel

The senior trip was a worthwhile adventure to engage in. I've been a N.A.B. person all my life and lived only 100 miles from headquarters. I never really had any idea what all the dynamics behind our Conference were.

We were kept busy from the time we arrived till the time we left. There were sessions, tours and, of course, a lot of good food and fellowship.

I think I enjoyed getting to know the personnel the most. They are a dedicated people, and the Conference is growing to prove it. Now I know for whom, what, and why to pray.

This was a growing experience for me. I'm looking forward to serving our Conference to my fullest.

As a N.A.B. Seminary, we need to be constantly mindful of the work being done and uphold the work in our prayers so that we may continue to make an impact on the world.

Jeanne Stubel is the wife of a senior Seminary student and is also employed at the Seminary besides taking some courses there.

### WHY STEER . . .

(Continued from page 10)

"We thought at the first of the season that the portion of the field we designated wasn't doing as well and we wondered if we had done the right thing, but when the year progressed and at threshing time it was the better part of the field; so the Lord takes care of His needs, if we just make an effort."

In the last five months alone, our Christian farmers, scattered in twenty states, have raised over \$50,000 for missions. Presently, we have around 200 missionaries and various projects receiving support from STEER.

Last spring the General Board of

Directors took a real step of faith and purchased a 4-wheel-drive, ¾ ton Chevy pickup and a 6 × 20 ft. trailer to haul livestock within a 300 mile radius of Bismarck, which is where our largest concentration of farmers live. Already this pickup and trailer, which we call PROJECT '78, has been a great help, as we have now driven over 7,000 miles in picking up and delivering livestock. This pickup and trailer became a necessity due to STEER, Inc.'s expanding program. When the doors of opportunity open up to place cattle with Christian farmers in this area, we are now ready to meet this need; and thus as more farmers become involved, more funds can be directed to approved mission societies. □

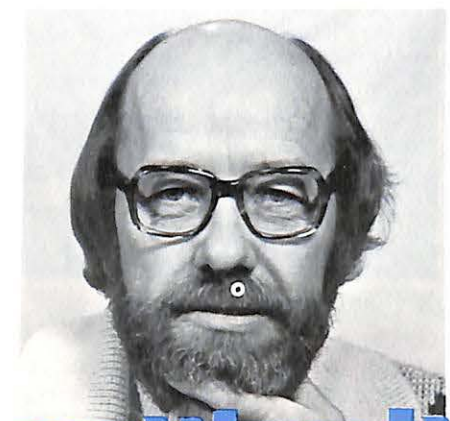
### HAWAII TOUR

March 17-30, 1978

A specially designed and personally escorted tour includes sightseeing in Los Angeles, four islands in beautiful Hawaii, excellent hotels, the best of sightseeing, many meals included.

You are cordially invited to enjoy wonderful Christian fellowship on this special, private tour. Send for brochure and explanation: Al Bolden & Co., 23100 Mack Avenue, Grosse Pointe Woods, MI 48236. (313) 882-4575.





## putting it together

by Ernie Zimbelman

February with Valentine's Day can be considered the time of the year when special emphasis is given to love. Many churches will sponsor sweetheart ban-

*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.*

quets for couples of all ages. All kinds of jokes will be told about people "in love."

What is love and romantic love all about? It's potent, and it's dangerous stuff! Erich Fromm, a foremost love analyst, stated: "There is hardly any activity, any enterprise, which is started with such tremendous hopes and expectations, and yet which fails so regularly as love."

Tennyson said: "It is better to have loved and lost than never to have loved at all." I know many individuals who in their actions disagree with Tennyson. They feel they have loved and lost, and it hurt so badly that they will never be close to anyone again.

To make this discussion meaningful, we must separate the concepts of romance and love. The word "romantic" means "without a basis in fact: fanciful, fictitious or fabulous, not practical, visionary." It is a feeling that is highly individualized and idealized. Reason and reality are utter non-essentials. This is "romantic love."

That individuals can be in this state is obvious. The condition can last anywhere from a few hours to months. Anyone who marries while in this state, and even because of this condition, is headed for disaster. Romantic love is not made of the stuff that can deal with warts, the bathroom, bills, diapers, and garbage. It is totally unrelated to commitment and stability.

Romantic love is fabulous; it is fun; it is exhilarating, and it continues to flow—but it is also misnamed. In my opinion, romantic love should be con-

sidered as a state of temporary insanity. The word "love" should not be associated with this condition. When people act this way, it may be said that they are romanticizing or are infatuated—but definitely not in love.

We have many examples today of romancing. We see it in movies, on television, in books, between parents, and often with partners other than spouses. It's depicted as glamorous and exciting. But it is also sexy, shallow, competitive, and often callous.

The state of love is well defined in I Corinthians 13:4-8a:

"Love is very patient and kind, never jealous or envious, never boastful or proud, never haughty or selfish or rude. Love does not demand its own way. It is not irritable or touchy. It does not hold grudges and will hardly even notice when others do it wrong. It is never glad about injustice, but rejoices whenever truth wins out. If you love someone, you will be loyal to him no matter what the cost. You will always believe in him, always expect the best of him, and always stand your ground in defending him. All the special gifts and powers from God will someday come to an end, but loves goes on forever" (*Living Bible*).

We need more love today. People are dying of loneliness. Children's personalities are being warped for lack of it. If someone loves me, they have an attitude toward me which is nurturing, supportive, and affirming. It builds me up; it makes me grow! Please love me. □

days we'll be there. There will be door-to-door calling, a high school singing assignment, a children's rally at the elementary school, some programs right in people's homes, and a special night for the entire family.

While calling in the area of the school building, where the church meets on Sundays, we find many families who have moved here recently and have no church home. Some are looking for a church and are interested in finding out more about the new church. Many are open to hearing what our Lord Jesus has done for them. The possibilities we see for the church to minister in these new areas are tremendous.

For a couple of evenings, we present programs right in the homes. These are great times! We get to know the families in a deeper way and see their commitment to the Lord and to the work begun in their area. It is also an opportunity to minister directly to the community, because the host family has invited

neighbors and friends, who do not know Jesus, to join us. What a terrific way to share the love and joy of Christ!

It's hard to pack up and head on to another ministry after getting involved with the work and beautiful people in this Church Extension church. We'd like to stay and share in the excitement of its growth. But the Lord has made every crusade very special and rewarding in its own unique way, as we work with the new and the established churches of our Conference.

As we continue to minister as "New Day" of God's Volunteers, we recognize how crucial it is to encourage one another. This is basic to our ministry, and the same is true in the local body of believers, be it a new church or established church. In order to grow and minister effectively, we need to encourage and support our spiritual brothers and sisters in prayer. Each of them has a specific and special contribution to the fellowship. □

## book reviews

by B.C. Schreiber

**A HALF CENTURY OF THEOLOGY.** By G. C. Berkouwer (translated and edited by Lewis B. Smedes), Grand Rapids, MI. William B. Eerdmans Publishing Co. \$6.95.

The author is professor emeritus of Theology, Free (Reformed) University of Amsterdam. He is also noted for his fourteen-volume *Studies in Dogmatics*.

"Anyone who tries to clear a path through the underbrush of the past half-century's theology, and tries to find the central motifs, discovers very soon that theology has not been a clear, single-lived process." Berkouwer goes on to say that it has never been that way in theology or in the church. When he delineates the movements and motives around more than three hundred theologians, one can understand how difficult it is to come to one final conclusion.

There is no doubt that Karl Barth dominated the scene, exerting enormous influence into our own time. Most theologians kept in contact with him either in conflict or friendship. Barth is the only one who seems to be worthy of a special chapter in this survey. His commentary on Romans (the most difficult to understand, according to the author), brought the phrase "crisis-theology" into common currency as a label for Barth's thought. Barth never used the phrase; it was Paul Tillich who first coined it.

Berkouwer touches on the questions about the authority of Scripture: is it the church, tradition, or is Scripture its

own best interpreter?

In the chapter on *Faith and Reason-ability*, he points out that faith is not against reason; though it is above reason. Often it has no answers except private ones. Such personal answers, however, often closes the door to open discussion.

His lecture on *The Earthly Horizon* alerts us to our limitations. We are not as sure as we used to be. Our information has quadrupled, and we have become less sure of the truth. Nevertheless, our ongoing struggle can give us a longing for a consensus that the source and power of our human action lies within the love that God has for this world. It blazes the way into the future that God prepares.

Berkouwer ends on a note of concern for the faith. Protestants are tied to a fear that the complete trustworthiness of Scripture is somehow being subverted. For Catholics, it is related to a loss of respect for the authority of the church as the last word for questions of faith. Hope is found in the quest for a deeper and richer understanding of the unsearchable riches of the gospel. There remains the correlation between seeking and finding. Light comes in the form of a promise: "Seek and ye shall find."

For the student of the Bible who would like a change from pleasant meditation to constructive thinking, this volume is highly recommended.

### HELP WANTED

Couples desired as houseparents (couples with children accepted) for a home for troubled boys. No experience necessary, as training and support staff are provided. For salary, fringe benefits and job specifics, please call 219-956-3125, Christian Haven Homes, Rt. 1, Box 17, Wheatfield, IN 46392

### NORTH DAKOTA

(Continued from page 9)

the fall of that same year his meat-packing plant, built at a cost of \$250,000, began operation. By January 1884 the town of Medora contained eighty-four buildings.

To accommodate his wife in the manner in which she was accustomed, the Marquis built a 28-room chateau on a bluff overlooking the Little Missouri River. It contained English China, French wines, fine furniture and books of several languages, as well as the hunting trophies of the Marquis and Medora (she was known to be quite a good shot).

All this seemed almost too good to be

true—and it was. A series of incidents, both local and back east, and the harsh winter of 1886-87 eventually caused the Marquis to abandon his dream and leave the Badlands of North Dakota.

The town of Medora remains today, not only as a tribute to the Marquis and his dream but also to all the people who helped establish it. The packing plant no longer stands, except for the brick chimney, but there are many reminders of the days of Theodore Roosevelt and the Marquis de Mores. Buildings in Medora have been rebuilt to depict that colorful time, among them the Ferris General Store and the Roughrider Hotel. Original buildings from the 1880s include a house the Marquis built for his inlaws when they came to visit (to-

25TH ANNIVERSARY  
1954-1979  
CRYSTAL SPRINGS  
BAPTIST CAMP  
MEDINA, ND 58467

**ANNIVERSARY DAYS**—will be held on June 7-8, 1979, at the Camp.

**HISTORICAL ITEMS**—If you have any information to share that could be included in a commemorative booklet, please label it carefully and send it to the address above.

**PICTURES, PAPERS**—If you have any pictures or old camp brochures to share in special display, please label them carefully on the back, so they can be returned. Also, package them carefully and send to the above address.

**STOP BY TO T.C.**—While on your way to the Triennial Conference at Bismarck, stop and see the camp.

Green Bay Baptist Camp, located on Okanagan Lake in southern B.C., requires the services of a full-time *Managing Director* to assume overall responsibility for a year-round camping and conference ministry, as well as a *Program Director* to supervise the summer 1979 camping program.

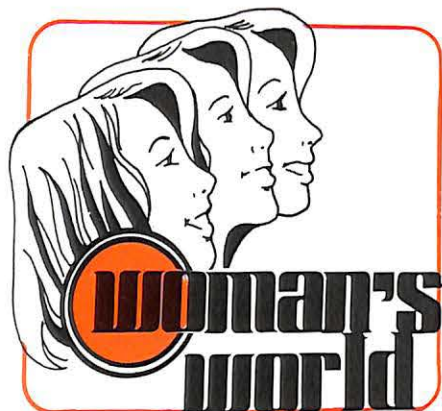
Written applications from interested persons, stating experience, availability, references, salary expectations, etc. should be sent to W. Hemerling, 6929 Ash Street, Vancouver, BC, V6P 3K5, Canada.

day containing a doll collection), St. Mary's Church, and nearby, the Chateau de Mores complete with all its original furnishings.

Also at Medora is the entrance to the south unit of Theodore Roosevelt National Memorial Park. This 70,000 acre park is formed by three separate units. The rugged natural beauty of the Badlands along the Little Missouri River, formed by centuries of erosion, is exemplified by Theodore Roosevelt National Memorial Park. Wildlife, including buffalo, deer and prairie dogs, are frequently seen while driving in the Park. Do not miss the view of the Painted Canyon from the scenic over-

(Continued on page 27)





## Worry or God's Peace

by Ardath Effa,  
Benton Harbor, MI

Do you ever worry? It seems that women and worry go together. Worry is primarily born in the imagination. The devil plants a seed of worry in our imagination, and before we know, it has grown way out of proportion.

The Lord has given me victory over worry, and I'd like to share some of the things I've learned. It still surprises me whenever I find that, in spite of adverse circumstances, I don't worry. Just a year ago, that's all I would have done—prayed and then worried! Prayer and worry just don't go together. Why commit the problem to the Lord in prayer, and then take it from him again through worry?

Just this fall, our children left on their 2,000 mile trip to attend the North American Baptist College in Edmonton, along with three other young people from our church. The van was loaded to the hilt with college "necessities" for the five young people. We wondered if the old van would make it to Edmonton once more with its precious cargo. We committed it and the young people to the Lord. According to our calculations, they should have arrived in Winnipeg, the first lap of their long journey, by at least 9:00 p.m. our time. They were to phone us as soon as they arrived. Eleven o'clock came, no phone call; 11:30, still no call. Maybe they forgot to phone. So we phoned to find that they hadn't arrived yet, but they would be told to phone us as soon as they did. What could have happened—a breakdown, an accident, problems at the border? I thought, "Oh, oh, Ardath. Now you're going to worry, and that's a sin." I prayed again. To my surprise, 20 minutes later I was awakened by their phone call. I had actually fallen asleep in that time. Thank you, Lord, for vic-

tory over worry! The delay was only due to their heavy load which kept their speed way down.

### What is worry?

In Philippians 4:6 it says, "Be anxious for nothing." When we worry, we are being anxious and thus disobeying God's command. So, (1) worry is a sin. Don't call worry a family trait or a weakness. There's no forgiveness for traits or weaknesses, but there is for sin. (2) Worry is not trusting. "Trust in the Lord with all thine heart" (Prov. 3:5).

We're saying, "Lord, I trust you for salvation and eternal life, but this problem is too great for you—you can't handle it." So, we worry. (3) Worry is *self* in control instead of the Lord. Romans 8:5 states, "for they that are after the flesh do mind the things of the flesh." We need to dethrone self and enthrone the Savior.

### What do we worry about?

Earl Nightengale once made a study on what people worry about and found that 40 percent of our worries are about

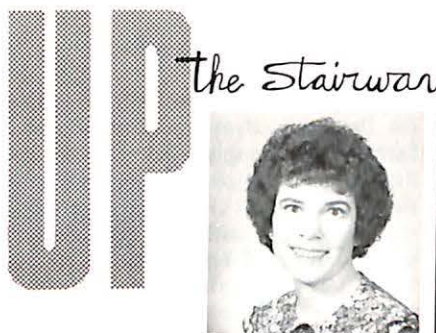
vary the "ingredients." He loved getting wheat from the granary to add to the "batter." His father scolded and told him never to do that again. Wheat was too valuable to waste that way. Sometime later, Leon made mud pies again and reasoned that if he would just use a small amount of wheat, his father would never know about it. The pies were done and were out in the sun several days. No one was the wiser until the wheat seeds sprouted, and the secret was out!

When my husband was a young boy, he was told by his older brothers that touching one's tongue to the outdoor water pump in sub-zero weather would result in the tongue freezing to the pipe. He had to try it to find out and, of course, had to endure the pain of it all!

This same little boy was not allowed to light matches but was always fascinated when his mother would light the wood-burning cookstove in the kitchen. One day, when all alone in the house, he decided to light the fire in the stove. After a few unsuccessful attempts, he poured kerosene onto the wood. This time it lit with a big "poof" that singed his eyebrows and hair and "scared the tar out of him!" He had to wear a cap to church for several Sundays to hide the damage!

"A man (woman) who refuses to admit his mistakes can never be successful. But if he confesses and forsakes them, he gets another chance. A man is a fool to trust himself! But those who use God's wisdom are safe" (Prov. 28:13, 26).

*Lord, each day on the stairway of life, there are lessons to be learned. I'm surprised that any of us live as long as we do! Some days I tend to trust in myself and am not very teachable! Help me to be honest in my relationships and open with you. You advise and caution me through your Word and through other people. Thank you for your wisdom and patience!*



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

The new bride made her first attempt to bake bread. She was unhappy with the consistency of the dough. Not wanting her husband to learn of her failure, she buried the dough in the front yard and went about her other chores. When her husband came home late that afternoon, he was quite alarmed to find a big swollen mound in the flower bed! The hot sun had caused the bread to rise out of control.

The teens of a rural family were left alone for three days while their parents were away on a short business trip. They had been instructed not to have other teens over during this time. They did, however, have a party. During the fun time, one of the mother's favorite serving dishes dropped to the floor in pieces. To keep the incident a secret, the group swept the floor and decided to drop the fragments down into the well. No one would find them there. Later in the week, when the parents returned home, the mother walked into the kitchen. When she turned on the light, her keen eye instantly fell upon a glistening blue portion of the broken dish! An explanation had to be made!

Leon, a young farm boy, enjoyed making mud pies and would often

things that never happen; 30 percent are about things that are in the past and can't be changed; 12 percent of our worries are about our health; ten percent are petty, miscellaneous worries, not worth worrying about; eight percent of our worries are real, legitimate concerns. It would be good for us to note the specific things we worry about and see in which area they fit. Most of them would be in the first four categories.

### How do we overcome worry?

1. As soon as a worry creeps into our minds, STOP! Confess it as sin, ask for forgiveness and for victory over worry. We may have to do this a hundred times before we have victory, but victory will come.

2. Commit everything to the Lord—family, problems, health, future, work, possessions. Psalm 37:5 contains the challenge: "Commit thy way unto the Lord; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass." After you have committed it all to Jesus, don't take it back again through worry. Leave it with him. If you start worrying again, go through steps 1 and 2 again. Then, thank him for what he is doing and will do to "bring it to pass." "By prayer and supplication, with *thanksgiving*, let your requests be made known unto God" (Phil. 4:6). Thanking him is the first step of faith.

3. Guard our minds. Since worry begins in our imagination, we need to watch what we feed our minds. What magazines or books do we read? What do we watch on television? Many Christian women have their thought-life warped by watching soap operas. The

## World Day of Prayer



by LaVerna Mehlhaff,  
women's work director

The World Day of Prayer, with the theme, "Spiritual Growth," written by Mrs. Beverly Stout of Pittsburgh, PA, will be held on March 2. It will be a privilege for us to meet again in prayer with believers around the world.

Our project for the month of March is giving toward the purchase of a vehicle for our missionaries in Brazil.

woman on TV finds fulfillment in an extra-marital affair and before long, we think of trying it, too. Marriage, home, husband, all look so glamorous and inviting on TV, and soon we become dissatisfied with life and want something else. We should print Phil. 4:8 on a large card and set it on our television set: "Whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue and if there be any praise, think on these things." Does what we read or watch on television pass the test of Phil. 4:8?

## Conference Corner

by Sylvia Auch,  
Bismarck, ND

Every effort is being made to make your stay in Bismarck during the 1979 Triennial Conference a comfortable and happy experience for the whole family. Child care and activities are being planned during the business sessions, and nursery care will be available for all sessions. Modern and clean motels are available within easy driving distance from the Civic Center. For those who have campers, a very nice campground is located just five miles south of the Civic Center in a wooded area near the Missouri River where 70 sites have been reserved. Two other camping areas are also available with good facilities.

## Our Extended Baptist Fellowship

by Sharon Mayforth,  
Bismarck, ND

I once read an article which said that women's groups were members of the Five G's Club—"Gather, Giggle, Gossip, Gobble and Git." Some of these may be true of Baptist women; we enjoy fellowship together. However, I have found women's groups to be deeper than the Five G's Club. Love! Love! Love! The love of God shed about in our hearts constrains us to do his good work. As we, Baptist sisters, give ourselves to Christ and his Kingdom's

4. Start praising the Lord. Phil. 4:4 says, "Rejoice in the Lord always!" That's a command, not an option. We can't rejoice when we worry. Nor can we worry when we rejoice! Whether we feel like it or not, we can start praising and rejoicing. Singing is a marvelous way to chase away worry. When we make ourselves rejoice by an act of our will, the feelings will come!

My experience has been that following these steps brings victory over worry. Phil. 4:7, "the peace of God, which passeth all understanding shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus," will become a reality in your life.

Registration forms are being mailed to your church from our N.A.B. Conference Office in Oakbrook Terrace. Fill them out and mail with the registration fee as soon as possible to the Bismarck Convention Bureau.

Conference time is a good time to meet new people as well as renew old friendships. In Bismarck, you will find many coffee shops and quiet restaurants to accommodate you for just such meetings. Hospitality rooms are also being provided for us in some of the larger motels.

Send your registration early, so reservations can be made at your first choice. We are anticipating a large Conference because of the central location and the fact that many North American Baptist people still refer to North Dakota as their "home state." We are looking forward to meeting each one of you on July 10, 1979, in Bismarck. Have a safe and enjoyable trip as you come.

work, we grow together, loving one another in the Lord. Greater things are done for his cause, and we have joy in our service.

In the last year, I have learned in a deeper sense that we are not alone in our efforts. I am privileged to be a member-at-large of the North American Baptist Women's Union Executive, a branch of the Baptist World Alliance Women's Department. The first meeting of the new Executive was held in Kansas City, MO, with Mrs. Marena Williams, presiding. There were six different countries represented together with the heads of women's departments and women's union presidents from 17 Baptist denominations. Each leader shared the leading of God in her area of work. Although our goals are the same, the different methods of promotion gave us

(Continued on page 27)



Three years ago, following a visit to our Mission in Japan, I wrote on "Proposed Changes in Our Japan Mission," see BAPTIST HERALD issue, January 1976. I suggest that the reader of this article review the previous one of three years ago for a better understanding, since this article is in a sense a follow-up of the previous one. I myself reviewed the previous article before writing this one.

Once again I visited our Mission in Japan, my sixth visit there, Oct. 5-16, 1978. I possibly would not have paid a visit to Japan this year, had it not been for the necessity of continuing the search for a possible new mission field, in fulfillment of the Conference request at Portland in 1976. Two countries in the Orient were visited in October for that purpose, the Philippines and Indonesia. It was thus very fitting to stop in Japan for ten days and following that to spend a week each in the Philippines and in Indonesia. Several more countries were visited to the south of us in January in connection with a visit to our Mission in Brazil. The report of these surveys must first go to my Board of Missions and then via the regular channels to the Conference, in session at Bismarck in July 1979. However, as it turned out, the visit to Japan was most timely and very beneficial, since the year 1978 marked the transition from our Mission organization in Japan to the Japan Baptist Conference, within whose framework we are now fulfilling our ministry in Japan.

**Transition from Mission to Conference**  
Upon hearing of my proposed visit to Japan in October, the brethren of the Japan Baptist Conference arranged for a special day of observance, in recognition of what has taken place these past few years. October 10 was set aside as a day for this special observance. A large hall was rented in the city of Tsu, because none of our church buildings are large enough to hold such a gathering of representatives from our churches. Of the three services held that day, especially the forenoon service was marked as the recognition service. It was fittingly called "a recognition service," because the organization of the Japan Baptist Conference had already taken place several years ago. But now our Mission became more fully a part of the Japan Baptist Conference and will carry on its ministry within the framework of the Conference organization. The service also marked the official and ceremonial turning-over of Mission to Conference,

and thus the year 1978 marks this transition.

The forenoon service was under the able leadership of the Conference moderator, the Rev. Yoshio Akasaka, pastor for almost 20 years of the church at Ise, the first church of our Mission in Japan. I had been asked to speak on "The Unity of the Church," and so I chose the word from Philippians 2:2 according to Phillips translation: "Live together in harmony, live together in love." The Rev. Hisashi Murakami, pastor of the church at Tsu since 1966, who studied for several years at and graduated from our N.A.B. Seminary in Sioux Falls, SD, in 1965, was my able interpreter. The choir of the church at Tsu, under the able leadership of Mrs. Ronald (Joan) Stoller, beautified the service with several selections. The closing part of the service was the official and ceremonial handing over of Mission to Conference, read and affected by the field secretary of our Mission, the Rev. Wilfred L. Weick, to the moderator, as representative of the Conference. This marked the transfer of all church properties (not missionary homes) from Mission to Conference. These transfers will be brought about as soon as the Japan Baptist Conference becomes legally recognized within the laws of the country and as soon as the remaining details of such transfers can be worked out with the necessary safeguards for the Conference. I had also been asked to close with prayer, invoking God's blessing on this historic event.

The noon hour marked a period of fellowship, as people gathered around tables to participate of the noon meal. The first part of the afternoon service was arranged to be an inspirational service with a mission challenge. Pastor Tomokuni Aoki, from the church in Kyoto, led the service. The choir of the church at Nagoya, under the able leadership of Mrs. Wilfred (Jeanine) Weick, beautified the service with several selections. The Rev. Douglas Woyke rendered a trumpet solo. The Rev. Robert Penner of Grand Forks, ND, who with his wife were visiting their daughter Diane in Japan, had been asked to bring the mission challenge. He spoke on "Faithfulness to God," based on Luke 5:1-11. Pastor Yukio Fujie, from the church at Ikeda in Osaka, ably interpreted. The people were challenged to take an offering for the evangelism outreach fund of the Conference.

The second part of the afternoon service was set aside for the ordination of two pastors: Tomokuni Aoki, pastor of the church in Kyoto, and Hiroshi Arita, pastor of the church in Nagoya. These two brethren were already pastoring these churches in 1973, when they ac-

# Effective Changes in Our Japan Mission

by Richard Schilke



The well-attended recognition service in a rented hall at Tsu.



The Rev. Robert Penner with the mission challenge, interpreted by Pastor Yukio Fujie.



Handing-over ceremony. From l to r: R. Schilke, Y. Akasaka, W. Weick, H. Murakami.



Joan Stoller directing Tsu choir at the recognition service.



Pastor Y. Fujie baptizing Dr. Ida, a professor at Osaka University.



The author in workshop sessions with Japan missionaries and nationals.



Pastor Hisashi Murakami and family of the Baptist church in Tsu.



Student Center at Tsu.

companyed the "Young Ambassadors from Japan," a drama group which toured our churches in USA and Canada and appeared at the Triennial Conference in Wichita, KS. I brought the ordination message, and my friend Hisashi Murakami again interpreted. The Weick family sang, "The Longer I Serve Him." Brother Murakami spoke words of encouragement to the churches, and Pastor Akasaka spoke the prayer over each of the brethren. Thus ended a great historic day of inspiration and blessings, to which all present gave evidence.

## Proposed Changes Completed

Several of the previously proposed changes had been completed and were in effect. The Japan Baptist Conference had already adopted a new constitution, both a legal one and one called "Operating Constitution." The legal one had been completed, and J.B.C. awaited word of acceptance and recognition of its Conference as a legal entity in Japan. Concerning the Operating Constitution, a few more changes will be submitted for approval at the next session in March. Within this operating constitution, our former Mission has become a Department of Missionary Affairs (DMA), to which strictly missionary matters are referred. However, all evangelism outreach and all ministry in Japan is now fully a part of the Conference, and our missionaries carry on their ministry within the framework of the Conference organization. The former Japan Field Committee (JFC) ceased as of April 1978. It has been replaced by an Executive Committee of the Japan Baptist Conference, on which our missionaries have representation. The legal name of "North American Baptist General Mission in Japan" will, however, be maintained as long as properties, such as missionary homes and mission owned vehicles, will be held in that name.

In the report of three years ago, I also wrote of negotiations in the settlement of Osaka Biblical Seminary, which for some fifteen years was a cooperative ministry between three Missions in Japan: The Mennonite Brethren Conference, the Baptist General Conference and the North American Baptist Conference. Though we deeply regret the dissolution of Osaka Biblical Seminary, we can report that an amiable settlement was reached between the three. The Mennonite Brethren Conference, through its Mission in Japan, offered to pay out the two Baptist Conferences, if sufficient time were given them to sell the vacant land and the administration building, giving them their share by retaining the dormitory building. An

agreement was reached in February 1977, that each of the Baptist groups was to be paid \$336,000 with a \$35,000 down payment to each. By the end of 1977 the balance was paid in full. Except for the down payment, which was affected here at home between Conference offices, the Board of Missions agreed to re-invest the balance in Japan in land for churches and missionary homes, in construction of chapels, in evangelism outreach and in scholarships. The \$35,000 down payment was set aside here at home and invested as a scholarship fund. Its interest income only is to be used in providing needy scholarships, mainly for students from or in Japan.

What happens to continued theological education in Japan within the framework of the Conference? Three years ago steps were already suggested and initiated to seek affiliation with an evangelical seminary in Tokyo. Upon those initial contacts, the Japan Bible Seminary in Tokyo extended an invitation to our Japan Baptist Conference for the purpose of affiliation. Tentatively JBC has accepted the invitation, but officially it is still withholding final acceptance until such time the Conference will consider itself in a position to also contribute financial support; for it feels strongly that financial support goes along with affiliation. Some financial support is already being given. The day after my arrival in Tokyo, Brother Weick and I paid a visit to the seminary, and I addressed the student body in its chapel service on October 6. The seminary has presently 35 full-time students and about 20 part-time students. It has a three year theological course, with the incoming class taking a first period of three months prior to their full enrollment.

## Continued Changes Considered

A full day, October 9, was spent in fellowship with our missionaries, who all came together at the church in Tsu. Two full days, October 11-12, were spent in a workshop of missionaries and national pastors, and workers. The wives and children of our missionaries as well as the short-term missionaries were not at this workshop. My only assignment was to bring a Bible study on the church at the opening of the workshop, with the rest of the time to be devoted to discussions. Some of us wondered, how we would fill the time in such an open workshop; but as it turned out, we possibly could have added a third day. The Rev. C. Richard Mayforth was moderating the workshop, and between him and the Brethren Murakami and Fujie, interpretation was

(Continued on page 20)

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



# the GROWING edge

Growing Edge pages come to you from the Church Ministries Department, and we plan to keep them filled with brief, interesting, provocative articles. *Denny's Column* will be a regular feature, especially for youth. Denny Miller 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.

## Try on Some "Teacher Shoes"

by Sandra Ziegler

What makes a good teacher? Good pupils! If your Sunday school class is a bore, something you'd like to ignore, you are probably at least half of the reason.

Try on some "teacher shoes." What would you do if:

—The people you face stayed out late

and came to your class tired, cross and wishing they were still home in bed?

—Nearly every class member got up too late to have breakfast, and the major thought was, "I'm starving."

—No one but you took time to read over the lesson for the day; consequently they had no questions to ask and no thoughts to contribute?

—No one would talk; or worse yet, everyone insisted on talking at once but not on the subject?

Every teacher has a bad day now and then, and so do the pupils, but there is no reason to suffer in silence. If going to class is a chore, try a surprise defensive action. Employ these Ten Ways to Stop a Stuffy Teacher:

1. Get all the sleep you need the night before class and arrive rested and feeling tip-top.

2. Set your Sunday alarm early enough to eat a relaxed breakfast and pray for your teacher and the class before you leave home.

3. After class, look to see what the next lesson will be about and where the Scripture portion is found. See if your curriculum suggests daily Bible readings.

4. Read some suggested references, the lesson text, or some Scripture every

day during the coming week.

5. Write down any questions you have about the Scripture you read or a lesson presentation you try to digest.

6. Try to relate what you read to what you do, to the happenings that make up your days. If you run into conflicts, have questions, or have some experiences to talk over, write yourself notes to remind you to mention them in class.

7. Put up your hand in class and ask something, relate what has happened to you as it applies to the lesson. Find out if others feel the same as you do. Get a discussion going.

8. Try to find out one new thing about your teacher or a class member every week, so that you get to know them as people and friends, not just as teacher and students.

9. If you think of somewhere to go, something to do, or someplace to see that would be a good learning experience and help make the Bible truth seem more relevant to you and your class members, suggest that you do it.

10. See if you can't work together as a group to make your learning environment a place you really like to be. Try some new seating arrangements. Redecorate your walls. Move out your chairs and use pillows for seats. Add some audio-visual tools.

Most of us get out of our Sunday school class what we put into it: nearly nothing. How many times have you heard a teacher say, "I learned a lot getting ready for this lesson"? It could happen to you, too!

(from *The Lookout*, © Standard Publishing Co., October 15, 1978. Used by permission.)

## Denny's Column

by  
Denny  
Miller



*I think I know Adam and Eve inside out. I know the dimensions of the ark so well, I could've built it. Do you understand what I'm trying to say? Why do I need to read my Bible? I've read it so many times, I feel like I know it all."*

At first I stuttered when I heard my friend. But the more I thought about it, I realized I could answer the question both experientially and biblically.

Reading the Bible over and over is

similar to anything one does frequently. Take, for example, reading a book or watching a television show. The first time through, you get the basic thrust of it—the plot, the tone, a little insight into what was really meant. The next time you watch the show or read the book, you already know the characters and the plot. You are freed up to see many details previously overlooked. You devote more time to why things happened as they did and why people acted as they did. Each time through, your emphasis imperceptibly shifts—you gain new insights and truths. A really good show or book never grows old no matter how many times you see it, because there is always something you hadn't noticed or another level on which it may be interpreted.

It's the same way with the Bible, only more so. Not only is the Bible more complex than any show or book, but

also it is God's Word.

I realize how important it is to read the Bible when I reflect on the times that I have neglected the Bible. At first, things seemed normal, and I thought, "See? Things are the same. You don't need the Bible." And then while I wasn't watching, the joy slipped from my Christian life. I made decisions that seemed okay. ("Denny, pat yourself on the back again. You make it without the Bible.") Life goes on. And then one day I woke up and felt that things just weren't as good as they could be. What's wrong? Well, when all else fails, read the Bible. You know, that felt kinda good. Slowly it dawned on me. "Well, Denny, you messed up again. You didn't do so terribly, but you definitely didn't do too good." (I'm sure glad God doesn't count the number of times that he's forgiven me!)

If Bible study has become stagnant in

your life, there are many ways in which to revitalize it:

1. Before you read your Bible, offer up a quick prayer for God to aid you in the reading of his Word and to reveal his truth to you.

2. Set aside a specific time for Bible

study daily.

3. Try a different time daily.

4. Use a study guide.

5. Take notes on your own study.

6. Do a cross reference study.

7. Follow one theme throughout the Scriptures.

8. Read a chapter.

9. Just read several verses.

10. Memorize something you've read in your Bible study and carry it with you until your next Bible study.

11. Study with someone else.

12. Try your own new idea.

## A Teenager's Prayer

Oh, Almighty God, teach me to tolerate my parent's hangups, as I cherish my own; let me understand that these differences are intrinsic in the human character and form the rich fabric of your brotherhood of man.

Let me hold my tongue, Lord, lest I say in haste and arrogance what I may regret in later life, make me understand that if I have learned much in life that is useful, so have they. Help me to be humble.

May I not put down the home they provide for me nor compare my lot with that of other teens. Let me not measure love by material standards, remembering that your Son's precious gift to us had no monetary value.

If my parents be short with me, may I understand that they have problems I don't know about. When I am forbidden something, let me try to figure out the reasons why. Grant that I may earn, not demand, my parent's trust and confidence, let me make no requests in shouting voice, for surely more is wrought with a calm approach and soft speech.

Help me regard my parents as friends; teach me to go to them in time of trou-

ble. Give me the maturity to realize that they once were teenagers, too, suffering the same frustrations and enduring the same defeats. Grant me the good sense to avail myself of their counsel and lean on their life and support until I am grown, for you in your wisdom have given children to parents and parents to children, each for his own need.

May I see my home as a sanctuary, for it is here where live those who love me most on earth, forgive me the most and pay my bills—my family!

Let me honor my father and my mother, Lord, remembering that their flesh is mine, and that when I keep thy commandment I honor myself in your sight also. Amen.

## Reaching People

How are people reached most effectively with the gospel? The recent research of the Institute for American Church Growth offers some provocative statistics on additions to church membership:

6 to 8 percent "walk in off the street";

2 to 3 percent are attracted by some church program;

8 to 10 percent are drawn by the pastor himself;

3 to 4 percent had special needs met by the church in its ministry;

1 to 2 percent responded through a church visitation program;

3 to 4 percent were introduced to the church through Sunday school;

0.0005 percent responded through evangelistic preaching services;

70 to 80 percent were brought into the church through a relative or friend.

(from *Update*, Covenant Department of Christian Education)

## Creators of Low Morale?

Some churches are very good at this! Impossible goals are set. Failing to reach them creates an attitude of disheartenment and gloom. Victory is sometimes turned to defeat when people belittle successes, because they haven't reached their particular standard of perfection. A third is the failure to celebrate the success we do have. (from *Parish Paper*, published by Yokefellow) □

## Wisdom

Study of the Scriptures will make you wise: wiser than people around you, wiser than your professors. Notice, I said wiser, not more knowledgeable. A wise man is one who can distinguish what is fundamental from what is trivial, who knows what life is about and who acts appropriately whatever the circumstances.

Wisdom is always humble and open to learning.

The Bible is not a horoscope. Never try to read into Scripture mysterious instructions about your daily activities.

Scripture imparts peace by showing

(Continued on page 27)





## EFFECTIVE CHANGES

(Continued from page 17)

made from Japanese to English (for my benefit) and from English to Japanese (for the benefit of the national brethren).

What are some of the continued changes which came under discussion and consideration?

1. The Operating Constitution of the Japan Baptist Conference was reviewed and further clarified.
2. The bylaws of the Japan Missionary Fellowship were discussed, and the Department of Missionary Affairs (DMA) within the Conference was further clarified.
3. The eventual official affiliation



Church Extension congregation in Heijo with Missionary Woyke interpreting the author's message.

with the Japan Bible Seminary in Tokyo was referred to.

4. The evangelism outreach of the JBC and missionaries came under scrutiny.
5. Missionary membership in the churches in Japan, a question already discussed several years ago but not resolved, again came under discussion, and its desirability was strongly expressed.
6. The launching of an English Institute with evangelism as its foundational base was already under consideration, and a committee had already been appointed and was at work. The city of Tsu is a possibility for the establishment of such an English Institute, but a study report was awaited. The present small Student Center is in a good location, only several blocks away from the University of Mie Ken; but more land needs to be acquired, and a better and more attractive student center and Conference office need to be erected.

7. The revolving church loan fund for the purpose of church building construction came under strong discussion. Sentiments were expressed that a definite rate of interest on loans may have to be set, and that loans as high as 80% from the fund may no longer be the norm in the future. The JBC Executive Committee was planning to take up these issues in its next meeting and if need be in subsequent meetings. The high cost of construction in present-day Japan calls for a drastic revision of the policies which served thus far.
8. Financial independence of the Japan Baptist Conference from the Mission, as far as overseas support is concerned, was set as a goal to be striven after and accomplished in the not too distant future. The brethren are seeking avenues of financial support within their own constituency.

### *My Expectations of the Japan Baptist Conference*

Following the workshop, the Rev. Tomokuni Aoki from Kyoto called me by telephone, while I stayed at Nara City with the Woyke family. He

asked me whether I would be willing to write a brief article for the conference publication, of which he is the editor. Just then I could not see clearly how I could find the time to fulfill that request, but the Lord provided inspiration and time while at the Woyke residence. I could hand the brief article to Brother Aoki the following day at his church. I quote from it as follows:

"1. First and foremost of all I expect and desire that the J.B.C. remain true to the Word of God, as revealed in the Bible as God's inspired Word to man. Such faithfulness to God's Word will be blessed of God, for it will have God's pleasure and God's seal upon it.

"2. I expect that the J.B.C. will keep the emphasis on evangelism as a priority in all its planning. Everything it plans and undertakes with reference to its churches and with reference to the community, where these churches are located, should always have in mind the winning of the lost for Christ, the making of disciples according to the commission of the Lord, as found in Mat-

thew 28:19-20; Mark 16:15-16, and Acts 1:8.

"3. I expect that the J.B.C. be faithful in its stewardship with reference to the trust given. The transfer of church properties from Mission to Conference will require faithful stewardship and administration on the part of J.B.C. in its further transfer of such properties to the local churches. Wise counsel and guidance are required in such steps, and great responsibility is thus given to the J.B.C.

"4. I expect that the J.B.C. continues its co-labor relationship with the Mission, and likewise that the N.A.B. missionaries continue their co-labor relationship with the J.B.C. Only in such a co-labor relationship can the proper advances in evangelism, church planting and in the training of Christian workers be made and accomplished.

"5. I expect that the J.B.C. seek financial independence in the near future. The new responsibilities, which it has taken on, carry with it a progressive planning for such financial independence. This must be brought about step-by-step in a well-planned program and according to the abilities of the churches.

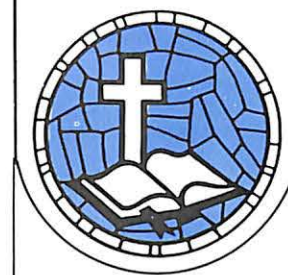
"6. I expect that the J.B.C. maintains the unity of the spirit. For such unity Christ himself prayed in John 17. Such unity the Apostle Paul greatly desired not only of the Philippian church, where he specifically expressed it but also for all churches, today's church included. If this unity will be maintained, the J.B.C. will have every promise in God's Word for a blessed future, and it will see significant growth in its midst. God himself will multiply the believers."

### *Blessings, Challenges and Encouragements*

Of the two Sundays spent in Japan, I could visit four of our churches and minister to them. The forenoon, October 8, was given to Ise. Mrs. Ronald (Joan) Stoller interpreted my message to the church. The evening of that day was given to the church at Matsusaka. The Rev. Hisashi Murakami interpreted my message to the church. The forenoon, October 15, was spent with the congregation at Heijo, where the Woykes are in the process of organizing the group into a church and together with the people are laying plans for the construction of a church building. They see a great challenge in this. The site had already been purchased. Brother Woyke interpreted my message to his people. The late afternoon of that day was spent in fellowship with the congregation from Ikeda, Osaka, who came to the church

(Continued on page 27)

## PERSONAL ESTATE PLANNING



## Your Provincial "Will"

### Primarily for Canadians

by Lawrence G. Bienert

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

forgotten, but should be periodically revised and adapted to new circumstances as they arise.

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

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

## CANADIAN Gift Annuities

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

EXAMPLE: A gift of \$10,000 to North American Baptists, Inc. (Canada) for a single person age 69 provides a 8.6 (\$860.00) annual return. Payments made semi-annually.

EXAMPLE: A gift of \$10,000 to North American Baptists, Inc. (Canada) for a single person age 69 provides an 8.6 (\$860.00) annual return. Payments made semi-annually.

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

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

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

Province \_\_\_\_\_

Zip \_\_\_\_\_

ages \_\_\_\_\_

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





# CHURCH EXTENSION BUILDERS REPORT

## SIoux CITY, IA, CHURCH EXTENSION PROJECT

by Fred M. Penner

February 1979

Tri State Baptist Church is off to a good start. We are in "Sioux-per-land," a suburban area of Sioux City, IA. We can reach into three states: Iowa, Nebraska and South Dakota, hence our name "Tri-State."

Fifteen families are meeting regularly. We have another ten homes from which we've had children in Sunday school or adults who have visited us. We are building on a sure foundation, with Christ as our cornerstone (Eph. 2:20).

We have been "brought close by the blood of Christ" (Eph. 2:13). The church began over two years ago as an independent church led by Rev. Crosby, a non-N.A.B. pastor, who left about a year ago. While praying and searching for a pastor, a lay leader, Louis Fowler, contacted our N.A.B. Seminary. Then the Rev. Milton Zeeb visited, along with laymen and pastors from the Iowa Association. Marvin Dewey and Jim Church, students from the Seminary served on weekends. God drew the church together in love. Pastor Fred Penner arrived in mid-September 1978 to serve full-time. Four deacons provide excellent lay leadership.

How great to be part of the "family of God" (Eph. 2:19). The genuine love and concern of brothers and sisters in Christ from the Seminary, Conference Office and Iowa Association have encouraged our church family. It is an example of the joy and strength found within the family of God. We are emphasizing Christian fellowship in our regular services, in housewarmings, socials and in our home visitation program. The Bramble family ministers to all ages, sharing a story each Sunday morning excellently performed by puppets.

We're a building, "fitly framed, a home where God lives" (Eph. 2:21-22). The church has excellent temporary facilities in a double-wide 80' trailer, located in the Freeway Homes Trailer Park at the southwest corner of South Sioux City. We can seat 60 to 80 people. Our Sunday morning services average in the 30s and 40s, while the evening services average in the 20s. God is blessing and answering our prayers to attract additional families who can become Sunday school teachers and youth workers. The pastor began teaching a teenage Sunday school class. His first two pupils were his sons. In three weeks the class grew to 10, and three weeks

*The Rev. Fred M. Penner is pastor of Tri-State Baptist Church, South Sioux City, IA.*

later a social drew 20 teenagers.

Pray with us to be able to move when the Lord will open a door for us to find land, where we can locate permanently. Pray also for stewardship needs in our young and small congregation, where every month it is an act of faith to match income and expenditures. Send contributions designated for this project to North American Baptist Conference, 1 So. 210 Summit Ave., Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181. □



Pastor Penner in front of mobile type church building.



Mr. and Mrs. Clay Bramble and their puppets used to share messages with children.



Pastor's home.



Teen Sunday school class with teacher, Pastor Penner (r).



Adult Sunday school class with teacher, Clay Bramble (r).

## Rosenfeld Marks 75th Year

by Mrs. William Isaak

The Rosenfeld Baptist Church of rural Drake observed its 75th anniversary Saturday, July 1, and Sunday, July 2, 1978.

The Rosenfeld Church was organized February 1, 1903, with the Rev. August Heringer, pastor of the church at Casselman, now Martin, as the first pastor. There were about 91 charter members.

A parcel of land was given by Brother

years; among these 17, seven are deceased. Of the remaining ten, seven were able to be present for the anniversary and take part in the program. Two sons of the church have gone into the ministry: Samuel Blumhagen, son of Ferdinand Blumhagen, who has died, and another Samuel Blumhagen, son of Christ Blumhagen, now retired and residing in Cedar Falls, Iowa.



Christof Maier. Members and friends of the congregation began constructing a church. In the fall of 1903, it was completed and still stands on the same site. Church dedication services were held October 30, 1903. At this time, there was already a membership of about a hundred.

In the fall of 1905, the Rev. Benjamin Schlipf accepted a call from the church and became the first resident pastor. He also served the station of Tabor, near Mercer, some 25 miles away, driving many times with a horse and buggy.

Shortly after the church was completed, a parsonage was constructed just north of the church. During the years, it was remodeled and enlarged. Trees that were planted then, still stand today, 75 years later.

At one time during the 75 years, there was a membership of about 215. There were 17 pastors who served through the

*Mrs. William Isaak is the church clerk of the Rosenfeld Baptist Church.*

Another important event in the history of the church was the observance of the church's 50th anniversary, December 1 and 2, 1953.

The Rev. Gustav Rauser of Lodi, CA, who was ordained in the Rosenfeld Church in 1931 and served the church through 1935, was among the attending pastors. He delivered the main message Sunday afternoon at the special anniversary service. Other participating former pastors were Mr. Wesley Simonson of Bemidji, MN, the Rev. Reuben Stading of McLaughlin, SD, the Rev. Reuben Grueneich of Rock Rapids, IA, and the Rev. Alvin Auch of Billings, MT. The present pastor of the church is the Rev. Myrl Thiesies, who also pastors the McClusky Baptist Church. The Rev. Alfred Bibelheimer, Saugus, CA, the Rev. Russell Schmidt, Grand Rapids, MI, and the Rev. Erhard Knoll, Parma, OH, were unable to attend.

One of the highlights of the anniversary was the fact that all the services were held in a large tent adjacent to the

church. With the weather cooperating, the meetings not only proved inspirational but brought back many memories of the five-day association meetings held so long ago in a huge tent on the church grounds, with hundreds of people attending from the area churches, many traveling by horse and buggy.

The celebration began Saturday evening with a 6:30 P.M. banquet, served by the Naomi Circle of McClusky. An 8 P.M. service followed. The Sunday services were at 10 and 11 A.M. with a potluck fellowship dinner at noon, and the special anniversary service at 2:30 P.M.

Many stirring messages in word and song were presented throughout all the services. Neighboring Baptist pastors and members of the church also took part in the program. The Rev. Ronald

Mayforth, North Central Area secretary, Bismarck, was present to extend N.A.B. Conference greetings. An estimated 250 members and friends from the area and points in California, Florida, Minnesota, Illinois, and Canada attended the Sunday afternoon service.

Anniversary cake and refreshments were enjoyed by all following the final service, and many old acquaintances were renewed. A picture gallery of old and recent photos proved most interesting. Souvenir programs were available to all who attended. Special anniversary books are available at \$2 a book. The books contain the Church history, comments by the present pastor, names of the charter members, photos of most of the former pastors and families as well as of the present pastor and family members, and photos of the organizations of the church. Anyone wishing to purchase a book contact Bennie Martin, treasurer, Kief, ND 58747. Ph. 626-7474.



## WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

On Dec. 3, 1978, members and friends of Temple Baptist Church, Leduc, AB, honored Mr. and Mrs. Peter Ohlmann on the occasion of their golden wedding anniversary. They have been church members



for 40 years and are very active in the church. Mr. Ohlmann served as deacon for 32 years and is now honorary deacon; he also served as treasurer and supervisor for the building of the church in 1950-51.

Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin Erman, Maple Creek, SK, were honored on their golden wedding anniversary. A program was



held in the Elks Hall, followed by a tea served by the ladies of the First Baptist Church, Golden Prairie, SK.

Trinity Baptist Church recently honored Mr. and Mrs. Philip Fischer on their golden wedding anniversary following a Sunday evening service. Philip Fischer and Emily Makus were united in marriage on Nov. 24, 1928, by the late Rev. Henry Schatz, in Golden Prairie, SK. (E. Hoffman, reporter.)

**KANKAKEE, IL.** The Rev. Fred Folkerts, associate secretary for overseas missions, was the special speaker for the dedication of the new activity center and pipe organ on Sunday afternoon, Nov. 20, 1978, at Immanuel Baptist Church. The Rev. Walter Dingfield, pastor; Arthur Pearce, assistant pastor; officers of the church; the architect; building contractor; Gilbert Luhrs, chairman of the building committee, and Dr. Douglas Gallagher, former pastor, took part in the service.

Total cost of the new addition, parking improvements, remodeling of the Fellowship Hall and other fees was \$330,000.

The activity building has square footage of 6,350 feet, playing floor area of 48' by 68', two classrooms in the balcony, equipment room on the second floor and two complete washroom facilities for boys and girls.

The new Zimmer organ, completed by Franz Zimmer on Sept. 15, 1978, was dedicated also. Timothy Nelson, organist, played a solo. (Alice Luhrs, reporter.)

**ST. CATHARINES, ON.** The Eastern Association youth met at the Immanuel Baptist Church for the annual fall conference. The Rev. Connie Salios was guest speaker with the theme being "Relationships."

Young people from most N.A.B. churches participated in the weekend activities which were well planned by the youth of the Immanuel Church. 190 young people were registered for the weekend activities with well over 200 attending the banquet. (Wenzel Hanik, reporter.)

**GRAND FORKS, ND.** On Nov. 12, 1978, the Redemption Sound Quartet gave a sacred concert at Grace Baptist Church. The music was beautiful and stirred one's heart.

On Nov. 18, 1978, the first annual mission banquet was held at Grace Baptist Church with Dr. Laura Reddig as our speaker. Dr. Reddig also spoke Sunday morning and evening, November 19. She told of the missionary work in Cameroon and extended a call to the congregation for workers; four individuals responded to this call. Sunday evening she showed slides of the current work in Cameroon. The congregation was richly blessed in hearing Dr. Reddig. (Mrs. Bonita J. Shambaugh, reporter.)

**ROCK RAPIDS, IA.** Members and friends of Faith Baptist Church celebrated their birthdays together with a potluck supper. The Rev. Helmut Strauss and family of George presented the program.

The women of Faith Baptist hosted women from First Baptist, Central Baptist and Tabernacle Churches of George for the Baptist Women's Day of Prayer on the evening of Nov. 6, 1978.

More than 130 gathered for the groundbreaking ceremonies on November 5. Those taking part in the program were Ben Aning of the Iowa Church Extension Committee, George; the Rev. Helmut Strauss, First Baptist; the Rev. Morris Motley, Central Baptist; Ivan Jaspers, Steamboat Rock, and the Rev. Paul Obinger. The Rev. Reuben Grueneich, pastor of Faith Baptist, led the service.

The group then proceeded to the building site, South 12th Avenue, east of Highway 75. As the local paper summed it up: "The groundbreaking was not formalized by the turning of a few shovels of dirt. Rather, a walking plow was harnessed to long ropes, and church members took hold of the ropes. Rev. Grueneich guided the plow, as it was pulled across the site." (Eleanor Stump, clerk.)

**EDMONTON, AB.** The Northern Alberta Missionary Conference was held Oct. 24-29, 1978. During the Conference 23 persons indicated an openness to follow God's leading with regard to missionary service. The missionary offering was over \$14,000, which will be divided between the four continents of our missionary endeavours. God is so good. The Rev. Gerald D. Scheel, pastor of Central Baptist Church, Edmonton, was chairman of the missionary conference. (Gerald Scheel, reporter.)

**STRASSBURG, KS.** On Oct. 29, 1978, after the Sunday evening church service, a time of fellowship and refreshments were enjoyed at the Strassburg Baptist Church honoring the Rev. and Mrs. Harvey Foyle, Kevin and Doug. Rev. Foyle of Hillsboro came to us in June as interim pastor and has blessed our hearts in the five months he has served.

As a gift from the Strassburg Baptist Church, the Rev. and Mrs. Foyle, Kevin, and Doug were each presented a corsage of money. (Mrs. Jacob Stenzel, reporter.)

**STRASSBURG, KS.** The Marion Emmanuel and Strassburg Baptist Churches held a combined evening worship service for the new minister, the Rev. and Mrs. James Brygger at the Strassburg Church. The evening welcome service featured musical selections and words of welcome from a layman from each church and response from Rev. and Mrs. Brygger. A reception followed. A money tree was presented to them. (Mrs. Jacob Stenzel, reporter.)

**STRASSBURG, KS.** Sunday evening, Nov. 19, 1978, the Strassburg Baptist King's Daughters Anniversary Program was held. Mr. and Mrs. Daryl Dachtler ministered to us in testimony and song with Lisa Dachtler accompanying them on the piano. The Dachtlers plan to go into full-time Christian service. A time of fellowship and refreshments followed. (Mrs. Jacob Stenzel, reporter.)

**MCINTOSH, SD.** On Oct. 1, 1978, ten young people (pictured) were baptized



during the services at the Isabel Baptist Church. Two boys were from the McIntosh Church. The Rev. James Porterfield serves the Isabel and McIntosh Baptist Churches. (Marilyn Brockel, reporter.)

**STRASSBURG, KS.** The Strassburg Baptist Church observed its annual Harvest-

Mission Festival on Oct. 15, 1978. The Rev. Everett A. Barker of the North American Baptist Conference Office was the guest speaker for the morning and evening services.

For the evening service, the Marion Emmanuel and Durham Baptist Churches were guests, with each church bringing a musical number. Offering for the day amounted to \$4,475.00. (Mrs. Jacob Stenzel, reporter.)

**CHEEKTOWAGA, NY.** Pastor Bernard Thole dedicated two babies to the glory of God. Thanksgiving morning we had our annual Continental Breakfast, serving a large group of faithfuls. On November 26, 1978, our ten-piece orchestra presented a concert, thanking God for all our blessings. (Bernice Hartman, reporter.)

**HUNTER, KS.** Dr. J. C. Fluth, missionary doctor to Cameroon, was the guest speaker for Harvest Mission Sunday, Sept. 24, 1978, at Bethany Baptist Church. The offering of \$3,152.03, the bountiful fellowship dinner and appropriate display of garden produce was evidence of God's blessings.

The New Day singers of God's Volunteers and their director, Bob Walther, Mrs. Walther and Jeremy were our guests Nov. 16-19.

The church hosted the Kansas Fellowship on Nov. 17 and 18, 1978, using the new church annex. The theme was "Do the Work of an Evangelist" (II Tim. 4:1-5). The host pastor, the Rev. Doug Anderson, gave inspirational Bible studies from Genesis. The God's Volunteers provided music, led workshops and gave the program at the banquet.

The Rev. Rudie Matheusik, Memory Lane Baptist Church, Wichita, was moderator. The newly elected moderator for 1979 is the Rev. Herbert Vetter, First Baptist Church, Lorraine, KS. (Mrs. Robert Wirth, reporter.)

**GOLDEN PRAIRIE, SK.** The First Baptist Church bid farewell to several members following a recent morning service. The ladies were in charge of a fellowship dinner and a short program in their honor. In the evening the W.M.S. presented its program. Various musical selections and program. "A Missionary Clinic," brought a challenge concerning missions and service in the Lord's work. We presented this same program at the Grace Baptist Church, Medicine Hat, two weeks later. The combined offerings for missions was \$284.10.

Recently the ladies of the church served turkey dinner to the delegates of our local annual Pine Crest Camp meeting. The Rev. A. W. Riegel is our pastor. (Leota Fritzke, reporter.)

**LEDUC, AB.** The Lord was with us again at Temple Baptist Church on Nov. 5, 1978, when the hand of fellowship was extended by Pastor John Martens to 16 new members who came to us by letters of transfer. They are already actively in-

involved in our church activities. We are thankful and happy for God's love and grace. (Vi Fleck, reporter.)

Darrell W. McKay was installed as pastor of Bethel Baptist Church on Aug. 6, 1978. The Rev. Willis Potratz, area secretary, participated in the service, along with several pastors from the Wisconsin Association. A reception followed the worship service welcoming the new pastor and his family.

Pastor McKay is a graduate of Wheaton College and Moody Bible Institute, Chicago, IL. While attending school, he served as staff announcer at the Institute radio station (WMBI). The Rev. Daniel Fuchs, Oak Park, IL, served as interim pastor for four months prior to the McKays arrival in Sheboygan. (Mrs. Maurice Joslyn, reporter.)

**RAYMORE, SK.** Missions were again placed before our eyes at our Harvest and Mission Festival on the weekend of October 22, 1978, as Raymore Baptist Church, Nokomis Baptist Church and Hudson Baptist Church, Saskatoon, shared in a missionary "round-robin." Missionaries Tina Schmidt, Cameroon, and Curtis Radke, Nigeria, ministered to us in the morning and afternoon services. In sharing their total work, it was impressed on us that the work of missions is not only theirs but also ours as well. We are co-workers together. We appreciated their presentations and enjoyed their presence. (Dorothy Lemke, reporter.)

**TURTLE LAKE, ND.** On Nov. 22, 1978, ordination services were held for Dennis Goodin (pictured, center) at the Turtle Lake Baptist Church. One week prior to this, pastors and delegates from nine Northern Dakota churches and the Rev. Ron Mayforth, area secretary, served on the ordination council. Pastor Ralph Cooke, Minot, was elected moderator of the council and Pastor Herman Kesterke as clerk.



Pastor Ralph Cook, (pictured r.) First Baptist Church, Minot, delivered the message. The charge to the church was given by Pastor Daniel Heringer, Goodrich, with the charge to the candidate given by Pastor Myrl Thiesies, McClusky. As the laying on of hands was taking place, Pastor Douglas Sathren, (pictured, l.) Harvey, gave the ordination prayer, after which Pastor Wesley Gerber, Underwood, welcomed Pastor Goodin into the ministry. Pastor Sathren presented him

with the ordination certificate. Pastor Goodin gave the benediction.

Pastor Goodin is a graduate of Dallas Seminary with a Master of Divinity degree in 1977. His wife Mavis attended Criswell Bible Institute, Seminary Wives' Fellowship, Child Evangelism Course, and a course in Lay Institute in Dallas. (Doris Lindteigen, reporter.)

**LETHBRIDGE, AB.** On Oct. 7, 1978, delegates from Southern Alberta formed an ordination council at Bethany Baptist Church to examine Ervin Kelbert for ordination into the Christian ministry. After hearing Mr. Kelbert's presentation, the council voted to recommend that the church proceed with the ordination service.

The Rev. Bruce Merrifield, pastor, Park Meadows Baptist Church, Lethbridge, presided at the ordination service. The Rev. John Ziegler brought greetings from the N.A.B. Conference Office. The charge to the pastor was given by the Rev. Gerhard Kalmbach. The Rev. Ron Kernohan presented the charge to the church, and Mrs. Joseph Sonnenberg challenged Mrs. Lilly Kelbert concerning her role as the pastor's wife.

The president of N.A.B. College, Dr. Joseph Sonnenberg, gave the ordination message. The Rev. Isador Faszer, area secretary, led in the ordination prayer. Special music was presented by the choir and the Kelberts' children. A love offering was presented to Rev. Kelbert. The newly ordained pastor, Rev. Kelbert, led in the benediction.

Ervin Kelbert graduated from North American Baptist College in 1977 and has served the Bethany Baptist Church as pastor since his graduation in 1977.

**LACROSSE, WI.** The Bible Baptist Church celebrated its 85th Anniversary Oct. 29, 1978.

The First German Baptist Church, "Erste Deutsche Baptisten Kirche" was organized on Sept. 19, 1893, with a membership of eleven people. The first deacon was August Kaaz. The first pastor was the Rev. Frederick Heineman, followed by the Rev. Solomon A. Kose, who served the church from 1894 to 1905. In 1899 a church was organized in Mound Prairie, MN, by members of the LaCrosse Church.

The church experienced many good years and lean years. Missionaries and mission pastors served the church for several years. The faithfulness and personal sacrifice of August Kaaz and his wife, Francis Splitter Kaaz, maintained a Sunday school and some services. In 1938 the Rev. M. Vanderbeck accepted a call as minister. He served the church for ten years.

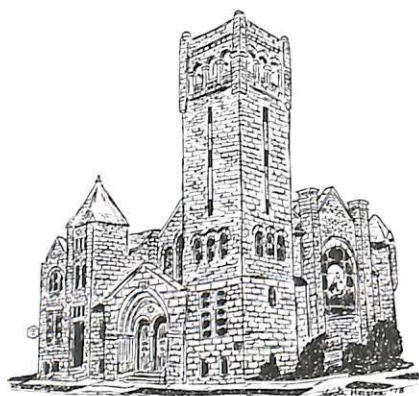
Dr. Gideon Zimmerman, executive secretary, was the speaker for the anniversary service. The Rev. William Heisler organized the entire program. Visiting former pastors recalled highlights of their experiences in the LaCrosse Church.

Former pastors present were Dr. M.





Vanderbeck (1938-1948); the Rev. Fred Lemmert (1949-1953); Dr. C. H. Seecamp (1959-1963), and the Rev. Leon Franck (1964-1972). The Rev. Frederick Sweet (1973-1975) sent special greetings to the church.



We thank God for the leadership of Pastor and Mrs. Heisler. The sketch of the church was drawn by Mrs. Linda Heisler. (LaVerne Samb, reporter.)

**FAIR OAKS, CA.** On Nov. 3, 1978, the Sunrise Baptist Church called an ordination council of the Northern California Association for the examination of the candidate, Don Wright, a member of Sunrise Baptist Church. Upon presentation of his doctrinal statement and numerous questions and remarks, the Council voted unanimously to present the ordination, Don Wright, for ordination.

The Sunrise Baptist Church hosted the ordination service for the Rev. Don Wright on Sunday evening, Dec. 3, 1978. Pastor Gene Kern presented the evening message, and the Rev. Ernie Rogalski, council moderator, led in the ordination prayer.

Rev. Wright and his wife Marilyn have two children. He will become a Chaplain

in the California Air National Guard Unit at Sacramento. (Rev. Gary Vossler, clerk of council.)

**DALLAS, OR.** "Discipleship: God's Design for Growth" was the theme of the 91st meeting of the Oregon-Idaho Association held Nov. 3-5, 1978, at Salt Creek Baptist Church, Dallas, OR.

Dr. R. Lee McDonald, associate professor of New Testament, N.A.B. Seminary, spoke on discipleship. Two workshops, "Principles of Discipleship," led by Dr. McDonald, offered help for people with leadership responsibilities, and "Lay Evangelism," led by the Rev. Bernard Fritzke, gave help for sharing personal faith.

Larry and Bonnie Scheffler, missionaries to the Cameroon, shared the needs, concerns, and joys of the mission work. They spoke at the men's and women's banquets, respectively.

Hans J. Wilcke, area secretary, reported in the form of a slide presentation. Walter Schmitke, General Council representative, spoke on Conference finances.

Officers elected for the coming year are vice moderator, the Rev. George Breittkreuz; General Council representative, the Rev. Fred Moore; alternate General Council representative, the Rev. Don Miller; recording secretary, Mrs. Lorraine Fritzke; statistical secretary, Mr. Mark Fritzke, and treasurer, Mr. Melvin Becker.

Included in association business was a report on the investigation of Albany, OR, as a possible site for a Church Extension project. Included in the new budget was \$500 to go toward Church Extension projects in areas which our Conference does not currently have Associations. (Denny Miller, reporter.)

**GRAND FORKS, ND.** On Nov. 26, 1978, during the evening service, Pastor and Mrs. Robert Penner shared their experiences and showed slides of their recent trip to Japan to visit their daughter Diane, who is a short-term missionary in Osaka. Evangelism in Japan is hard work, but a few people are receiving Christ. There are more seekers all the time wanting to know more about the Lord. Pastor Penner spoke at different times in Japan through an interpreter. Mrs. Penner gave her testimony through an interpreter, also. (Mrs. Bonita J. Shambaugh, reporter.)

**MRS. MARTHA DELZER**, 71, Bismarck, ND, died Oct. 26, 1978. The former Martha Diede was born April 2, 1907, at Ventura, ND. Following her marriage to Henry Delzer in 1927, the couple lived in Ventura until moving to Bismarck in 1951. He died in 1965. She was a member of the Bismarck Baptist Church. Survivors include five daughters: Pauline, Mabel, Bernice, and Mrs. Harold (Irene) Perman, all of Bismarck, and Mrs. Al (Olive) Mattheis, Auburn, WA; a son, Leo

**NORTH FREEDOM, WI.** The ninth annual meeting of the Wisconsin Association was held Oct. 20 and 21, 1978, at North Freedom Baptist Church. 85 delegates represented our 15 churches. The Rev. Dave Rushton, pastor of the Church Extension project at Sun Prairie, was welcomed to the Association. He reports good progress. They held the first worship service on Oct. 29, 1978. The N.A.B. Conference reports given by the Rev. Willis Potratz and the Rev. Ray Harsch challenged us to increase our giving even by one percent; so many more needs would be met.

A highlight of this association were the ten-minute spots allotted to seven of our pastors speaking on the theme, "Called to Be," as found in the text in Phil. 4:8-9. Missionary speakers at the Saturday night banquet were Mr. and Mrs. Gary Ostercamp, Brazil. The Rev. Jothan Benke, Kenosha, was elected moderator. (Alice Gates, recording secretary.)

**GOODRICH, ND.** November 5, 1978, was a memorable day for the members and friends of First Baptist Church. Approximately three and one half years after the completion of the new church building, we observed a mortgage-burning ceremony, thanking God for his blessings enabling the church to retire the mortgage in that period of time. Words of encouragement from the Rev. Ron Mayforth, area secretary, added to the meaningfulness of the ceremony.



Rev. Mayforth was our speaker for a series of spiritual growth meetings held November 5-8. We appreciated his messages.

Pictured with our pastor, the Rev. Daniel Heringer, are members of the building committee, the trustee board during the building period, the vice moderator and Rev. Mayforth. (Mrs. Judie Seibel, reporter.)

of Bismarck; nine grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; a sister, Mrs. Milton Zimmerman, and a brother, Ephrein Diede. The Rev. Ron Norman officiated at the funeral service.

**FRED HAMMER**, born in Leduc, AB, in 1896, died Aug. 27, 1978. In 1908, at the age of 12, he was converted to Christ and baptized. Mr. Hammer attended the

First Baptist Church of Leduc from his birth until 1951. There he served as member of the board of trustees. On June 19, 1928, Mr. Hammer married Lilly Fleck, Yorkton, SK. They observed their 50th wedding anniversary this summer. The Hammers moved to Edmonton in 1951, where they attended Central Baptist Church. They became one of the founding families of the Greenfield Baptist Church. Survivors include his loving wife, Lillie; two daughters; Mrs. Joyce (Richard) Ziegler of Leduc and Mrs. Jeanne (Harry) Jeske of Edmonton; eight grandchildren; one sister, Mrs. Hannah Brown, and two brothers: Julius and Adolph.

**MRS. OLGA KUHN** (nee Houseman), born in Russia June 10, 1901, died at the age of 77 on Oct. 29, 1978. She had been a resident of Lansing, MI, since 1930, when the family moved there from Canada.

## NORTH DAKOTA

(Continued from page 13)

look along Interstate 94 east of Medora.

Camping areas, motels and restaurants are all found in or around Medora. The Medora Musical, featuring a professional cast including the Burning Hills Singers, is performed nightly

Together with her husband, she spent many years of dedicated service in the Colonial Village Baptist Church, Lansing. Survivors include her husband, Adolf; three sons: Walter of Lansing, the Rev. Eric D. of Salem, OR, and Erwin of Hartland, WI; nine grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren. Dr. Arthur W. Boymook officiated at the funeral service.

**ROSE STRADINGER**, Born in Russia, Dec. 7, 1878, died at the Bismarck Baptist Home, Nov. 29, 1978, eight days short of 100 years. She married Henry Stradinger in Harvey, ND, Jan. 3, 1900. At 16 she was baptized. Survivors include four daughters: Mrs. Martha Moen, Mrs. George (Dena) Young, both of Denver, CO; Mrs. Karl (Esther) Akeson, Woodburn, OR, Mrs. Donald (Ruth) Stewart, Hampton, VA, and one son, Edward Stradinger, Walnut Creek, CA. Her hus-

in a nearby natural amphitheater from mid-June through August. Watching the last rays of the sun playing on the colorful buttes surrounding the amphitheatre will be a memorable experience. A visit to the Medora Zoo will acquaint the family with the wildlife of the area or enjoy the nearby tennis courts and

band preceded her in death in 1971. Services were conducted at the Baptist Home by the Rev. Orville Meth, and at First Baptist Church, McLaughlin, SD, where she was a member, by the Rev. R. C. Stading.

**E. LOUISE TERVEEN**, 60, of Emery, SD, was born in Waco, TX, on Dec. 21, 1917, to the Rev. and Mrs. Lawrence Hoeffner. She died Nov. 3, 1978, at her home. On June 8, 1937, she married John V. Terveen in Donna, TX. She is survived by her husband, John, Emery; two sons: Grant, Mebane, NC, and the Rev. John Luke of Dallas, OR; one daughter, Gloria Biermann, Springfield, IL, and four grandchildren. She was a member of First Baptist Church, Emery, where she was active in WMS and choir work as well as the North American Baptist Seminary Auxiliary. She was baptized in Hebron, ND, on July 10, 1927, by her father. The Rev. Charles M. Hiatt officiated at the service.

swimming pool.

To experience the flavor of the old west, visit the North Dakota Badlands and Medora. Discover the land that inspired a president and a prince, and find out for yourself why Theodore Roosevelt said, "I owe everything to the west! It made me! I found myself there!" □

## WOMANS WORLD

(Continued from page 15)

something new to take home and put to use. Problems were also shared, and we prayed together for God's help and wisdom. The enthusiasm for the work of Christ was renewing to my life.

Each business session closed with devotions. One day a touching story was told of a retarded boy who prayed each

morning upon awaking, "Good morning, Lord. I'm available."

One evening we were entertained royally at the St. Stephens Baptist Church with a delicious meal and a concert of praise to God by their choir. It was a beautiful climax to the day, and the singing lifted us to God.

Ephesians 6:18 says: "Keep praying earnestly for all Christians everywhere." We are not alone. There are many more who seek to promote the cause of Christ

to a broken world. Widen your vision. Take time to read the *Baptist Herald* and the *Tie* from the Women's Department of the Baptist World Alliance along with other literature from the BWA. When you pray for that one in need and for your own group, remember Christian women everywhere. From your reading you can bring specific requests to God who answers prayer. Leave a place in your women's group prayertime for the NABWU.

## GROWING EDGE

(Continued from page 19)

you how to resolve the inner conflicts that destroy peace.

Peace is more than the absence of anxiety. It is a positive quality arising from inner harmony. A peace which is destroyed by external threats is no peace. God's peace, which will grow the more you understand Scripture, defies

uncertainty and danger. It is a peace which comes from the understanding that God is in charge, that you belong to him and that chaos and uncertainty around you represent only the surface of reality, not the depths.

## EFFECTIVE CHANGES

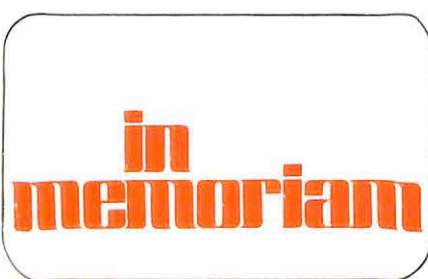
(Continued from page 20)

at Kyoto to carry out a baptismal service, since they have no baptism in Ikeda. Pastor Yukio Fujie interpreted my message to his people and then baptized Dr. Ida, a university professor,

who gave a good testimony how he became a Christian and how the Lord led him to this step of identification with the Christian church. His wife has not yet professed salvation and was in fact much opposed to her husband in this step of baptism. For the first time, however, she did accompany him to a Christian service. They both need our prayers: he for steadfastness in his

Christian testimony and she for salvation.

This last service became symbolic to me. The ministry in Japan is a one-to-one ministry, and the baptism of one person into the death of Christ is indeed a great victory. May it be a great encouragement to all, national workers and missionaries in Japan, and to all of us here at home. Pray for Japan! □





## BRD BAPTISTS REPORT ON SOVIET VISIT

**BAD HOMBURG, Germany (EBPS)**—A four-person delegation from the Baptist Union in the Federal Republic of Germany has brought reports of new church buildings and large numbers of baptisms after a recent visit in the U.S.S.R.

Union Vice-President Harold Eisenblatter of Berlin and Wilhelm Gerwig, director of the youth seminary in Hamburg, said they were surprised to discover increasing freedom for Christians.

Accompanied by their wives, they attended six church services in Dushanbe, Kurgan-Tjube, Tashkent, Irkutsk and Moscow. They said this impression was confirmed by talking to church members in each city.

The delegation, invited by the All-Union Council of Evangelical Christians-Baptists in the U.S.S.R., reported that Baptist church membership will increase by about 10,000 this year through baptism of new converts—mostly young people. They also mentioned the recent permission to import 25,000 Russian-language Bibles and 5,000 Bible concordances duty-free. They said that nine new church buildings have been inaugurated in the Estonian and Lithuanian republics during recent weeks.

One of the visitors said, "For us as a delegation from the West, believers in the U.S.S.R. showed a meaningful example through their clear, enthusiastic piety and their true Christian hospitality."

## FILIPINO WITNESSES AMONG 80,000 HOGS

**MARIKINA, Philippines (BP)**—Nick Arellano works to the constant sound of "oink, oink." He's the chaplain at a piggery in Marikina, Philippines.

Located about two hours from Manila in an isolated area, the piggery covers nearly 500 acres and houses 80,000 hogs. But it's surprisingly clean. Seven hundred men live and work there. Arellano is their chaplain.

The idea of a piggery chaplain originated in the Chinese Baptist Church in Manila where several piggery managers and the owner's brother are members. The church now sponsors Arellano's work.

A 1977 graduate of Philippine Baptist Theological Seminary, Baguio City, Arellano has held weekly Bible studies in the men's dormitories and Sunday worship services and fellowship in his apartment for a year and a half. Thirty men have become Christians, and one new Christian resigned his manager

position to attend a Bible school. He says he feels the Lord calling him to full-time service.

## DALLAS FIRST BAPTIST TOPS \$5 MILLION BUDGET

**DALLAS (BP)**—Members of First Baptist Church, Dallas, recently pledged \$5,116,138 on "Victory Sunday," exceeding their proposed budget by \$125,000.

The church, which has more than 20,000 members, had 7,294 pledgers.

## SPIRITUALITY FACADE IN FACE OF HUNGER

**RIDGECREST, NC. (BP)**—Modern Christianity's "pious justification of the neglect claimed at a Southern Baptist Convocation on World Hunger.

"Our real problem is conscious neglect which the Bible can only call sin," said Francis DuBose, professor of missions at Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary, California. "Jesus Christ was the epitome of love and his beautiful life sits in judgment upon our indifference to the stark phenomenon of world hunger."

"Moreover, when we link this pious justification with the typical middle class contempt for the poor," DuBose added, "we not only place ourselves clearly outside the biblical tradition, but we reflect spiritual blindness. The Bible makes it clear that this kind of neglect is



oppressive. It is tyranny—and all in the name of spirituality."

"What the Bible says and implies on the subject no doubt would totally revolutionize our thinking and our lifestyles if we took its message seriously," he said. "If we do not respond seriously and radically, how can we continue to call ourselves Christians?"

## EVANGELIST TO CZECHOSLOVAKIA

**PRAGUE, Czechoslovakia (EBPS)**—A European Baptist Federation evangelist, the Rev. Bill Thomas of Strasbourg, held evangelistic meetings among seven Baptist congregations in Czechoslovakia from November 12-20.

His itinerary included Bernolakovo, Bratislava, Nesvady, Brno, Cheb, Litoměřice and Prague. Although invitations were by word of mouth only, the churches were filled and a total of 86 inquirers were counseled.

Mr. Thomas, a black evangelist from the U.S.A. who works with the European Baptist Federation's Evangelism and Education committee, was invited by the 4,000-member Baptist union.

Accompanied by several Baptist pastors, he also had a luncheon meeting with an official of the government department of religious affairs who, according to Thomas, expressed his appreciation for Baptist contributions toward peace and the hope that the evangelist would return to Czechoslovakia.

**James E. Wood, Jr., executive director of the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs, congratulates Gideon K. Zimmerman (r) upon his election as chairman of the Washington-D.C.-based agency. Dr. Zimmerman is executive secretary of the North American Baptist Conference.**

The Baptist Joint Committee serves nine U.S. and Canadian Baptist bodies through programs of government relations, information services, research services and denominational services.

Dr. Zimmerman assumed his position in October 1978.

no match for a Christian wife and son who prayed for him consistently day in and day out. Many years later, Roy accepted Christ. In fact, it was a grown up Jimmy who led his dad to the Lord.

Jimmy, a sensitive boy, had cried because he didn't know how to ask the blessing. His ignorance turned out to be a blessing in disguise. □

## THE BLESSING (Continued from page 7)

dedicate my life to the Savior. I had lost a lot of years, but I was determined with God's help not to lose any more.

Roy? He was a very stubborn man, but

■ **The Rev. Delvin Bertsch** became pastor of Central Baptist Church, Yorkton, SK, January 1979. He was pastor of Minnetrista Baptist Church, St. Bonifacius, MN, since 1972.

■ **The Rev. Ervin Kelbert** was ordained by the Bethany Baptist Church, Lethbridge, AB, on Oct. 7, 1978. He is pastor of the church.

■ **Mr. Rick Foster** is youth director at Austin Street Baptist Church, Buffalo, NY. He is a 1978 graduate of North American Baptist College and is originally from Immanuel Baptist Church, Kankakee, IL.

■ **Mr. Michael Pennington** is the pastor of the new Church Extension work in the Naperville-Warrenville, IL, area beginning Jan. 15, 1979. He received his M.Div. degree from Grand Rapids Baptist Seminary, MI, in 1978.

■ **Mr. Robert Cornwell** is the new pastor of First Baptist Church, Bison, KS, as of Jan. 15, 1979.

■ **The Rev. Wilbert Harsch** became associate pastor at Northgate Baptist Church, Edmonton, AB, in January 1979. He served as pastor of College Heights Baptist Church, Prince George, BC, since 1975.

■ **Mr. James Zier** became pastor of First Baptist Church of Dickinson County, Hope, KS, on Nov. 19, 1978. He is a member of the Temple Baptist Church, Cheektowaga, NY, and attended North American Baptist College.

■ **The Rev. Peter Duncan** has accepted the call to be pastor of Baptist Mission Church, Chicago, IL. He has been pastor of Calvary Baptist Church, Edmonton, AB, since 1975.

■ **The Rev. Richard Macha** accepted the pastorate of Grace United Methodist Church, Marion, ND. He resigned as pastor of Anamoose Baptist Church, ND, on Nov. 12, 1978, where he had served since 1976.

■ **The Rev. Lee Boleyn** became pastor of Sierra Baptist Church, Arvada, CO, Jan. 1, 1979. He was pastor of First Baptist Church, Buffalo Center, IA, since 1974.

■ **The Rev. Klaus Issler**, minister of Christian education at Parma Heights Baptist Church, Cleveland, OH, re-

signed effective Dec. 13, 1978, to accept a teaching position with the new School of Theology of the International Christian Graduate University (sponsored by Campus Crusade for Christ.)

■ **Dr. Ernest Pasiciel** joined the faculty of Winnipeg Bible College, MB, in December 1978. He and his wife Sara served as N.A.B. missionaries at Cameroon Baptist Theological College, Ndu, since 1975.

■ **Mr. Lorne Hamp** is the assistant pastor ministering to youth and preaching at the English services at Central Baptist Church, Kitchener, ON, where the Rev. John Goetze is pastor.

■ **Mr. Norman Allen** is pastor of Pioneer Baptist Church, Pound, WI.

■ **The Rev. Lanny Johnson** is the new pastor of Calvary Baptist Church, Parkersburg, IA. He resigned from the pastorate of Thunderbird Baptist Church, Phoenix, AZ, effective Jan. 14, 1979, where he has served since 1975.

■ **Mr. George Webb** resigned as minister of youth at Ebenezer Baptist Church, Vancouver, BC, on Nov. 19, 1978.

■ **The Rev. Ben Lautt** becomes pastor of Lehr Ebenezer Baptist Church, Lehr, ND, in February 1979. The Rev. Arthur Fischer, Linton, ND, served several months as interim pastor.

■ **The Rev. Ervin Gerlitz** became pastor of Calvary Baptist Church, Tacoma, WA, on Feb. 4, 1979. He served Sierra Heights Baptist Church, Renton, WA, since 1961.

■ **The Rev. Don Wright** was ordained Dec. 3, 1978, by the Sunrise Baptist Church, Fair Oaks, CA. He is a chaplain in the California Air National Guard Unit, Sacramento, CA.

■ **The Rev. Don Harris**, associate pastor of South Calgary Community Church, Calgary, AB, was ordained Aug. 6, 1978.

■ **The Rev. Dennis Goodin** was ordained Nov. 22, 1978, by the Turtle Lake Baptist Church, Turtle Lake, ND.

■ **Mr. Don Harder** is the youth pastor at Capilano Baptist Church, Edmonton, AB. He is a recent graduate of Winnipeg Bible College.

■ **The Rev. Walter Kerber** becomes pastor of Grace Baptist Church, Calgary, AB, effective Feb. 1, 1979. He has been pastor of Pineland Baptist Church, Burlington, ON, since 1966.

■ **The Rev. Duane Westing** was ordained on Nov. 15, 1978, by the Plum Creek Baptist Church, Emery, SD, where he is pastor.

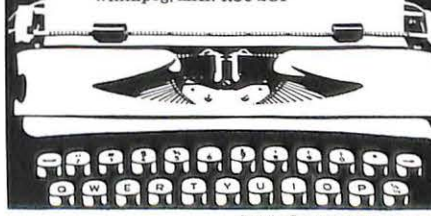
■ **The Rev. Gerald Froese** resigned from the pastorate of Onoway Baptist Church, AB, and has moved to Saskatoon, SK, where he is engaged in secular work.

■ **The West Center Street Baptist Church**, Madison, SD, had an explosion and fire in the educational wing that destroyed the roof and most of the pastor's study as well as did water and smoke damage to the sanctuary on Nov. 11, 1978. The congregation has been meeting in the basement since the fire. **The Rev. Doug Bittle** is pastor.

## money:

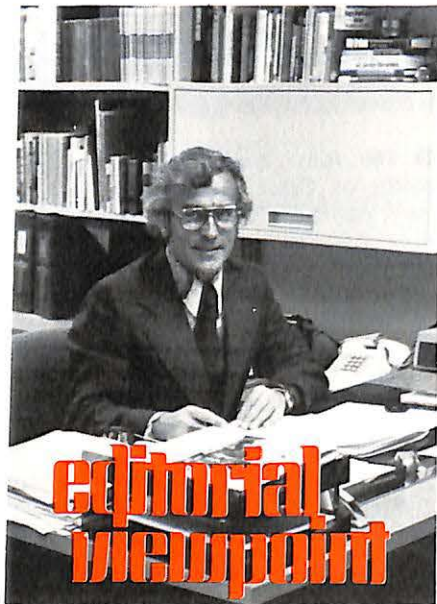
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## editorial viewpoint

### God Lives Also in the Country

At the end of the past year North American Baptists reviewed their ministries and had much reason to be grateful. In spite of inflation at home and overseas, in spite of ministerial shortage in our churches, most of the 350 N.A.B. churches reported growth and numerous baptisms. Especially the Church Extension churches came up with encouraging statistics and results. By the rule of expediency and efficiency, just about all of our new churches have been established in or close to population concentrations. "We have to go where the people are," was the marching order. And it is true that a modern-day exodus of rural people is converging upon big cities everywhere in North America and all over the world.

Only about one hundred years ago, there was no nation with a primarily urban population. The world was mostly rural. But from 1900 on, with England leading the trend, more and more na-

tions became urbanized. Today all of the highly developed nations have predominantly urban societies. About 35 percent of the world population lives in cities. According to a recent chart of the United Nations, about 70 percent of all Americans in the United States live on 1.5 percent of the land.

Has this trend any significance for our church work? Our Conference has many of its established churches in once thriving small towns across Canada and the U.S.A. One-time bustling communities have dwindled to insignificance. Have our churches in these communities lost their importance too?

In the past mainly our rural churches supplied our pulpits with ministers and our churches with musical and other talents. There seemed to be more leisure in rural homes to see to it that the children learned to play one or more instruments and to sing in a choir. This trend is just about over. Historian Arnold Toynbee is convinced that "in the near future, the normal human being will be a townsman; all but a fraction of mankind will be living within the confines of a World-City that will occupy only a fraction of the planet's land surface. . ."

It is good to keep our eyes open to the changes of society in our days. Toynbee may have overstated his case, but we know that existing economic and social pressures are calling for fewer and fewer farmers, especially as farming becomes more mechanized and industrialized. Farm boys and girls, consequently, migrate to cities for jobs as mechanics and factory or office workers. Many go to college. But most of them are lost to the rural area and, therefore, also to the rural churches.

There is certainly no special blessing in city living. Smog, traffic congestion, pollution, crime, hectic life-style—all these seem to speak against a move to the city. But on the other hand there are the services, conveniences and better paying jobs.

In the meantime the rural communities and churches keep on losing people.

#### Dear Editor:

Thank you so much for sending me the current issue of the BAPTIST HERALD. I have been reading it this evening with such great interest. Especially did I appreciate your fine editorial entitled, "Thanking is Celebrating." Here's hoping the North American Baptists will respond to the challenge in a great way. Our pastor is challenging our congregation with equal vigor. So much can happen especially on the mission field, if the whole church of Christ will respond to the call.

Are we as Conference coping with this need?

About one and a half years ago, I pointed to the troubled downtown churches and ended my editorial with this comment: "Yes, the downtown churches are troubled, but with God's help and the prayer support of all North American Baptists . . . all of our downtown churches will be victorious and will continue to render the God-given ministry in their communities" (July/Aug. 1977).

This time I would like to speak up on behalf of our rural churches. You farmers, who have not traded plows for hammers and hardhats and trekked to the city, do you feel that our North American Baptist Conference has a continued interest in the services you are rendering? Does our Conference show enough understanding to your problems, and is it ready to support you in these days of land flight?

Just the other day I was thinking that we, city dwellers, could hardly survive even a short national emergency, such as might happen in wartime, if transportation lines were severed. There would be no food supply. Urbanites, who have little time and know-how to raise crops, would starve. No, life without a farmer and his work is unthinkable.

Equally so the life of our Conference, without the support of our rural churches, is unthinkable. On the surface there may be more glamour in the activities of a city church. But a closer look at our churches reveals that God is very much alive in both the country and city churches. Let us have respect for each other's work. Let us pray for each other. And above all, let us be content with where we are. Whether God has put us in a rural or an urban church, he wants our very best. He does not measure our ministries by the standards of demographers and city planners. He is not impressed with slick city methods of boosted growth. His Spirit guides us in whatever church we are. Praise the Lord! And remember: God lives also in the country. RJK

I appreciated also the splendid article by Gladys M. Peterson, "Who Ministers to the Ministers?" Likewise the review of Dale Pace's book, "Jail and Prison Ministries." This is another area that the churches too often neglect, with the same lack of compassion with which people ignore the hitchhikers. Pastors, who have more access into the jails and prisons than most people do, should become more sensitive to the needs of the men and women behind prison walls.

Congratulations on the whole October

issue of the BAPTIST HERALD. Keep up the good work! Edwin Dahlberg, author of "I Pick Up Hitchhikers," Phoenix, AZ.

#### Dear Editor:

The Hymn Society of America will hold its 1979 National Convocation on April 22-24 in the Dallas-Fort Worth area. Major presentations will be on the hymns of Wesley, the recent developments in Hispanic and Black hymnody, Hymns of the Social Gospel and the influence of Fanny Crosby on congregational song. Workshops on hymn writing and current trends in hymns will be offered. Leading hymnologists and church musicians from the 50 states and Canada will participate. A special guest

## See Central North Dakota

by Ken Jorgensen

A tour through part of central North Dakota will be scenic and historical, provide recreational areas and give one a look at some of the state's industry.

Fort Lincoln State Park, south of Mandan, is both a scenic and historical area. It is located at the confluence of the Heart and Missouri Rivers and the wooded banks contain a modern campground and picnic area. The 7th Cavalry, under the command of Colonel George A. Custer, left this fort in 1876 to march west to the ill-fated battle of the Little Big Horn.

Across the river in Bismarck is the

Ken Jorgensen writes for the North Dakota Travel Division.

speaker will be Father Joseph Gelineau from France.

The Hymn Society of America is a national organization of over 3,000 members and has as its purpose the promoting of hymn singing and hymn writing for all denominations. Write to The Hymn Society of America National Headquarters, Wittenberg University, Springfield, OH, for further information. □

#### Dear Editor:

I do not know if this will be an unusual request or not, as I have never written one of this nature before. But I would be extremely grateful and appreciative to any consideration given.

North Dakota State Capitol standing 19 stories high. It is known as the "skyscraper of the prairies" and is one of the most efficient state capitols in the United States.

Also on the Capitol Grounds is the North Dakota Historical Society Museum. It is considered by some to have the best collection of Indian artifacts in the country.

Highway 1804, going north from Bismarck, follows the Missouri River and the route Lewis and Clark took. This highway offers beautiful views of the Missouri and surrounding bluffs and takes one past Double Ditch Historic Site, which was once a large Indian village.

A trip to Lake Sakakawea, to view this large body of water and rugged buttes, would be worth the time. The lake, named after the Indian woman who guided Lewis and Clark, is over 200 miles long and covers more than 600 square miles. The fishing, boating, water skiing and sailing are great.

The nearby Federal Fish Hatchery and Garrison Dam Power House can be

I desire or rather desperately need correspondence of a Christian nature with anyone willing to write to me. I am now in prison, serving ten years for an act that I truly regret. I have found new faith in the Lord and know that I have been forgiven.

This is a sincere plea for anyone to write to me and hopefully to have correspondence on a regular basis. I am thirty-two years of age, single, and, as I have said, I've a new and deep Christian faith.

Again, please, any consideration will be greatly appreciated. I write to you because I am not a member of any individual church. Thank you very much. Sincerely, John P. Preston, #281317, Ellis Unit, Huntsville, TX 77340.

toured. Also on the lake near the dam is Lake Sakakawea State Park containing a campground, store and marina.

To the west and south of Lake Sakakawea is the lignite coal area of North Dakota. Several large open pit mines and coal-burning electrical generating plants are located here. Tours are available.

North Dakota contains variety, a close relationship with history, a mixture of scenes and industry for the future.

#### Make Plans to Attend the 1979 TRIENNIAL CONFERENCE

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letters to the editor



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# 1979 Mission & Ministry Budget & Goals of the North American Baptist Conference

**MISSIONS****\$1,393,762 40%**  
84,000**Special Projects**

- To proclaim the gospel through evangelism, church planting, church work, education and medical services (when needed) in Cameroon, Nigeria, Japan, Brazil and the United States, through the witness and service of 120 missionaries and short-term missionaries.
- To proclaim the gospel by providing hospital treatment and medical care for more than 100,000 patients in Cameroon and Nigeria.
- To maintain a Bible college in Cameroon with an enrollment of at least 120 students.
- To establish more firmly the Bible school in Nigeria with an enrollment of 40.
- To establish a new pastoral training program in Japan during 1979.
- To expand the number of centers for Theological Education by Extension (TEE) in Brazil
- To provide consultation to associations in becoming involved in inner city ministries in their area and to assist them with subsidies in establishing such ministries.

**CHURCH EXTENSION****\$534,892 15%**  
40,000**Special Project**

- To start 10 new churches.
- To assist in supporting 56 projects.

**NORTH AMERICAN BAPTIST SEMINARY****\$375,914 11%**

- To increase the total enrollment to 275 students.
- To expand the facilities for student housing and construct a modern multi-purpose educational center.

**NORTH AMERICAN BAPTIST COLLEGE****\$257,000 7%**

- To increase the full-time enrollment to 220.
- To expand the library facilities.

**DEVELOPMENT AND ADMINISTRATION****\$330,285 9%**

- To assist local churches in stewardship education by providing resource materials.

- To provide reliable estate planning information and counseling regarding wills, trusts and tax savings opportunities to our people.
- To secure additional commitments for N.A.B. ministries through wills, trusts and other estate planning agreements of \$3,500,000.
- To raise \$3,500,000 for the Conference mission and ministry budget.
- To increase deposits in the Church Extension Investors Fund to a total of \$2,000,000.

**CHURCH MINISTRIES****\$240,608 7%**  
2,700**Special Projects**

- To make 240,000 church growth contacts resulting in a net membership increase of 3,100.
- To provide services which will help churches to grow in all phases of church ministry such as, spiritual growth, leadership ability, unity, maturing in faith and increase in the body of Christ.
- To further the ministry to the aging by sponsoring conferences on "Ministry with the Aging" for Baptist Home leaders and other interested persons.

**AREA MINISTRIES****\$159,106 5%****MINISTERS AID****\$60,660 2%**

- To distribute financial aid and pensions to pastors, pastors' wives and other Christian workers.

**CONTINGENCIES****\$74,367 2%****SPECIAL PROJECTS****\$73,406 2%**

Baptist World Alliance

\$10,500

Bible Distribution

2,500

Challenge Fund

60,406

**FELLOWSHIP****Associations**

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

**Conference**

- To provide fellowship, inspiration and decision making opportunities for N.A.B.'s at the 1979 Triennial Conference in Bismarck.

**TOTAL GIVING GOAL****\$3,500,000**

(This is a 10 percent increase over the 1978 budget.)