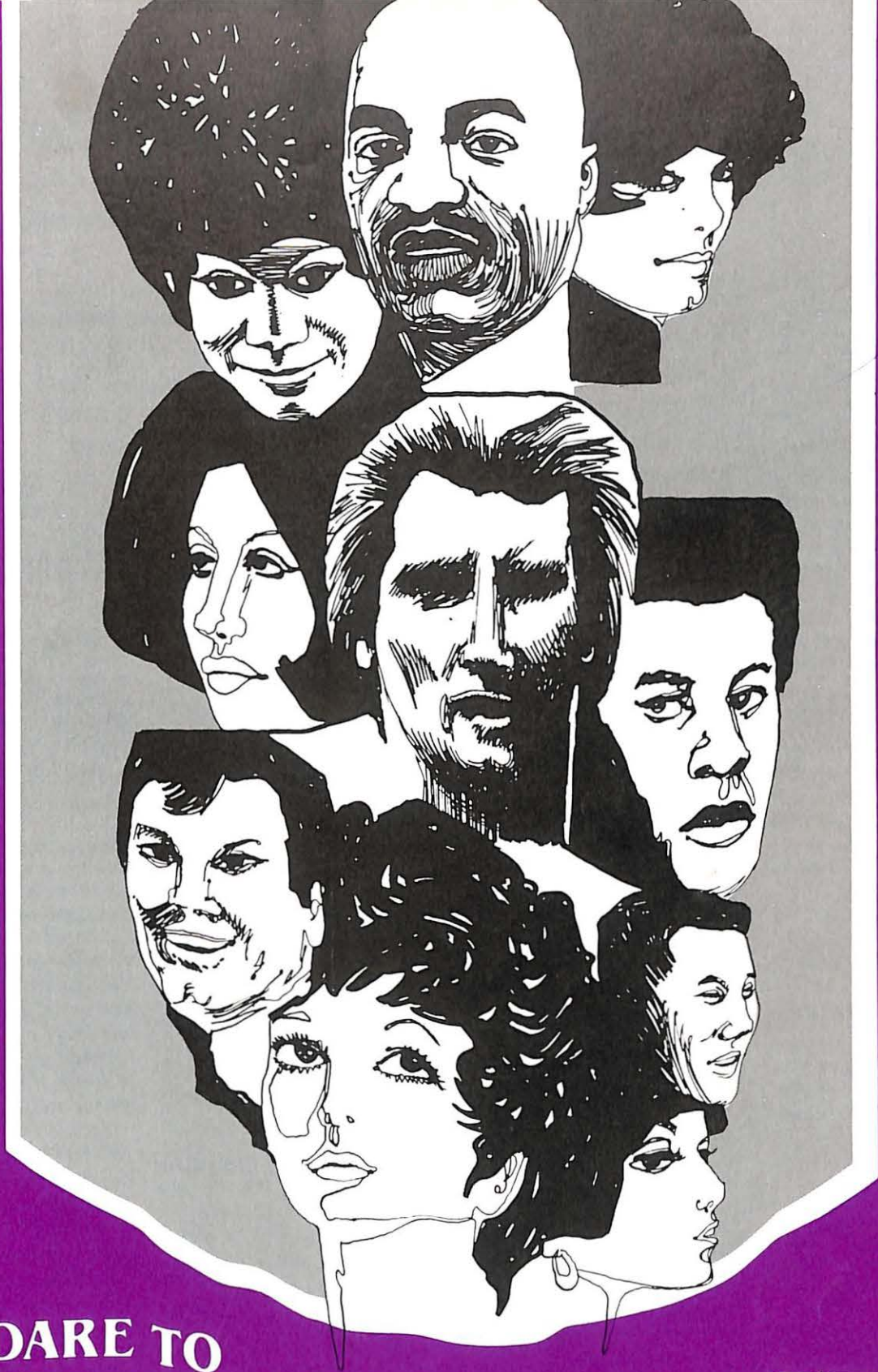


March 1979

Baptist Herald



DARE TO

REACH OUT

LAURA REDDIG EASTER MISSION OFFERING

1979 GOAL \$300,000

WHO IS LAURA REDDIG?

Why Should North American Baptists give her \$300,000?

- Laura Reddig is a real person. She has served for forty years as a missionary in Cameroon.
- Laura Reddig is a symbol of the loving, sacrificial service rendered by all of our missionaries.
- Laura Reddig does not get the offering which bears her name.
- Laura Reddig Easter Mission Offering is the name of the annual Easter offering which goes for the Mission and Ministry Budget. The goal of \$300,000 will help support more than 105 missionaries serving in five countries.

Here are samples of what the Laura Reddig Easter Mission Offering will help provide:

IN CAMEROON

\$ 1,000	Radio work.	9,200	Mission vehicles and travel.
2,000	Scholarships.	16,500	Rent for missionaries and Japan church workers.
2,600	Theological Education by Extension.	30,800	Japan church workers salaries.
3,900	Youth and women's work.		
9,000	Accounting department on the field.		
19,000	Maintenance of twelve mission stations.		
20,000	Coordination and direction of field ministries.		
27,000	Evangelism by missionaries in all fourteen fields.		
40,000	Training Cameroon pastors.		

IN NIGERIA

\$ 2,500	Evangelism in two fields.	4,500	Retreats, camps and evangelistic meetings.
6,700	Maintenance of two mission stations.	7,400	Missionary home rentals.
7,300	Training of Nigerian pastors.	18,900	Mission vehicles and missionary travel.
9,000	Coordination and direction of field ministries.		

IN JAPAN

\$ 2,000	Christian education and evangelism.	\$ 1,500	Camping program for Del Norte and Monte Vista.
2,200	Language study.	2,150	Coordination and direction of ministries in Rio Grande and Edinburg.
2,500	Maintenance of buildings and equipment.	3,000	Subsidy for Baptist Health Center, Monte Vista.
4,800	Insurance and legal expenses.		
6,300	Public transportation and communications.		

IN BRAZIL

\$ 550	Language study.
900	Church supplies and equipment.
1,000	Training of pastors.
1,000	National workers salary.
1,800	Communications.
2,800	Maintenance of buildings and equipment.
4,500	Retreats, camps and evangelistic meetings.
7,400	Missionary home rentals.
18,900	Mission vehicles and missionary travel.

IN COLORADO AND TEXAS

\$ 1,500	Camping program for Del Norte and Monte Vista.
2,150	Coordination and direction of ministries in Rio Grande and Edinburg.
3,000	Subsidy for Baptist Health Center, Monte Vista.

baptist herald

Volume 57 March 1979 No. 3

Cover Art: Dare to Reach Out Louis Neibauer	
Dare to Reach Out.....	4
Barbara Binder	
The Saga of a Young Pastor's Wife.....	6
Marva Radke	
My Bible.....	6
Kenneth Goodman	
The Adventure of Being a Christian.....	7
Hisashi Murakami	
These Men You Will Hear.....	8
Committed to the World: Class of 1979.....	9
David J. Draewell and senior students	
Putting It Together.....	12
Ernie Zimbelman	
Woman's World.....	14
My Maryland Summer, Fran Hoogestraat	
Up the Stairway, Dorene Walth	
Conference Corner, Sandy Bauslaugh	
Preparation Time, LaVerna Mehlhaff	
Executive Committee Meeting Report, Caroline Zeitner	
In Memoriam: Lyle O. Wacker.....	16
My Tribute, R. Schilke	
What's a Real Friend Worth, Stan Johnson	
Our Loss—His Gain, G. K. Zimmerman	
I Miss Him, John Ziegler	
A Genuine Friend, Bruce Ewing	
The Growing Edge.....	18
What Children Need, Lillian Katz	
Denny's Column, Denny Miller	
On Choosing Sunday School Teachers	
Praying Our Lord's Prayer, James L. Christensen	
Some Contemporary Blesseds, Joan Rosenthal	
Cheers for the Small School	
We Felt the Holy Spirit Was Leading Us.....	20
Oryn Meinerts	
Supported by Prayers From Home.....	21
Oryn Meinerts	
Sun Prairie, WI, Church Extension Project.....	22
Dave Rushton	
N.A.B. Gift Annuities.....	23
Everett A. Barker	
Our Conference in Action.....	24
In Memoriam.....	26
What's Happening.....	29
Editorial Viewpoint.....	30
Dare to Reach Out, RJK	
Open Dialogue.....	30

Monthly Publication of the North American Baptist Conference
1 So. 210 Summit Ave.,
Box 159, Oakbrook Terrace,
Villa Park, IL 60181

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



Victory for Press Freedom

A recent State Supreme Court action dismissing a libel suit by the Unification Church against the author and publisher of a book that called church indoctrination techniques a form of brainwashing was hailed by the American Jewish Congress—which represented the author—as “a significant victory for freedom of the press.”

Dusty Sklar who wrote “Gods and Beasts: The Nazi and the Occult,” and Harper & Row, which published the book last year, were sued for \$4 million by the Unification Church (Rev. Moon) in a libel action.

The suit was dismissed by State Supreme Court Justice Edward J. Greenfield on the grounds that (1) “the complaint is based on statements reflecting the author’s opinion” and (2) “no issue of fact as to knowledge of falsity or reckless disregard for the truth has been shown to exist.”

Nathan Z. Dershowitz of the American Jewish Congress, who served as attorney for Mrs. Sklar, welcomed the ruling. He stated:

“The decision by the Court is a significant victory for freedom of the press. It makes it clear that the Unification Church cannot invoke the state’s power in order to prohibit fair comment and expressions of opinion about its practices and beliefs.

“In her book, Mrs. Sklar compared the organizational structure and procedure of the Unification Church and occult groups in Nazi Germany. She wrote also that the Church’s indoctrination techniques could be characterized as a form of brainwashing and that the Church represented a danger to American society.” □

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

DARE TO REACH OUT

by Barbara Binder

God is working! Praise his Name! Because you have reached out through the years and continue to reach out, souls are being saved on our mission fields in Brazil, Cameroon, Japan and Nigeria. God reached out to you in love and through you he has spoken to and provided ways for people, such as the seven missionaries featured on these pages, to reach out overseas. These missionaries were chosen from among the 108 N.A.B. missionaries who tell the story of Christ's love and who demonstrate his teachings through their lives. As we celebrate their ministry, we recognize the selfless and sacrificial way in which all of our missionaries serve in many different roles and in different places. We also recognize that others—you—in congregations throughout Canada and the United States are making a positive witness for Christ—daring to reach out!



KENNETH GOODMAN ministers to the people through the Mambilla Baptist Mission in Nigeria. Here Kenneth is the Director of Theological Education by Extension as well as treasurer. Not only Kenneth but also our other missionaries in Nigeria, including those in medical work, teach TEE or home study courses in English to the national pastors. The pastors, in turn, reach out by teaching what they have learned to other pastors and their people at the grass roots level in their own vernacular. In this way, natural leaders of the churches are taught where they live. Eventually, they become pastors and enroll at the Bible School in Mbu. Kenneth just completed the writing and testing of a new TEE course on

Christian ethics. Kenneth teaches Religious Knowledge at the Gembu Secondary School where he has reached many students for Christ. Deepening of spiritual growth is evidenced in the lives of the students, who plan their own morning and evening Sunday services, daily prayer times and Bible studies. The officers of the Fellowship of Christian Students now share in teaching and training the new converts in preparation for baptism.



DOUGLAS WOYKE, as a missionary, serves not only as the field treasurer of our mission in Japan but also in the area of church planting. This is his fourth year working with the Heijo Christian Church. Regarding this church Doug states, "The small group of believers at

Heijo Christian Church has taken a big step of faith by deciding to organize as a church and to go approximately \$75,000 to \$80,000 in debt to put up a church building. This is a big project for eleven members. This group of Christians believe that God can meet their need and bless their evangelistic efforts to a greater extent with a church building to use. That was a decision of faith!" Since the pastor of the church resigned in October 1978, Doug preaches in Japanese every Sunday. He fulfills the duties of pastor as well as his duties as mission treasurer, committee member, and English teacher.



REINHARD AND MILDRED NEUMANN, houseparents, live in

Woyke House, the N.A.B. home for our missionary children attending Hillcrest School, Jos, Nigeria. The School is not only a place to educate children but also an evangelistic outreach opportunity due to more Nigerian and expatriate non-mission children being enrolled each year. Neumann writes, "Andre, a 12-year-old boy, and a fine, hardworking student, surrendered to Christ recently. What a joy to observe his joy in the decision he made! When I first came to Jos, I asked God for souls at Woyke House. In fact, I asked God for at least two souls a year." Five have already been converted in the two years Neumanns have been there. Uncle Reilly works with each convert in follow-up studies. A 16-year-old Indonesian girl, Linda Tan, says, "I've always thought of myself as a Christian, believing it meant only the religion one believed in—Christianity as opposed to Islam or Buddhism or any other religion. Coming to Woyke House really made things clearer concerning Jesus, God and the Bible to me. I became a Christian in the true sense of the word—accepting Jesus as my personal

Savior. I have a life now which has meaning and is filled with inner peace."



ARTHUR HELWIG, as an area coordinator in Cameroon, stimulates evangelism and church growth through church visitation, conducting training courses and crusades for Christ and providing literature and other materials. Art says, "Church growth in Cameroon is happening mainly because of the work of the Holy Spirit and interest on the part of the Cameroon pastors. Crusade ministries are an effective method of evangelism and stimulate church growth effectively. In four areas alone, more than 1,200 decisions were recorded. Local churches revive, and this influences the entire community, association and field." Early morning prayer sessions coupled with witnessing teams of Cameroonian Christians meeting people in their homes, farms, villages, shops, offices or along the highway plus tract distribution brought many people to the crusades and to Christ. National pastors, won to Christ through and educated by our missionaries, were the effective evangelistic speakers at the Crusades.

Attendance at some churches doubled following the crusades. People were restored to the church. Persons making first-time decisions now meet in "inquirers" classes. One witnessing team captain said, "What has interested me much in these crusades is that so many people are willing to listen to the Word of God."



GARY AND COLLEEN OSTERCAMP, missionaries in Brazil, reached out to their neighbors, a lady and her two teenagers. They accepted Christ as Savior and have grown so they accept not only the "milk" of the good news but also the "meat." "It is impressive," say the Ostercamps, "how the Lord has worked in this woman's life." She and her children were baptized a year later. Once the gospel enters a home, there are reactions. The women's sister attended a Crusade and was won to Christ. Later the woman's daughter-in-law attended the Caxias Baptist Church and accepted Christ. The Ostercamps also teach music to prepare persons to serve in the churches through music. These Christian students sing and play instruments regularly in the

church services as well as compose their own music and arrangements. The Lord is putting a new song in their hearts and reaching out through them and their music.



PAT MEINERTS relates that women's lives changed in Cameroon as a result of them living their theme, "Don't just pretend to love others, really love them (Rom. 12:9a). One woman said, "In my local women's meeting, a fellow Christian woman stopped greeting me for years. I tried to make it right with her, but my efforts proved futile. But when this theme was introduced, she one day came to me and recited the theme verse, 'Don't just pretend to love others, really love them. Although we have attended one woman's meeting, I have never truly loved you. So let us forget and become good friends again.'" Pat, former women's advisor in Cameroon now home on furlough, says the women, many of whom are illiterate, are conscientious about memorizing Bible verses. They attend women's meetings primarily to learn the verses which have real meaning to each one per-

sonally. Beginning with 1979, the women's goal is "Each one win one," so that all women in Cameroon may know Christ as Savior.



RONALD E. HILLER, medical doctor at the government hospital in Warwar, Nigeria, also served as field secretary of Mambilla Baptist Mission. He feels that if it were not for the opportunities to witness at the hospital and through mobile clinics we probably would not remain in medical work there. More than 100 persons accept Christ each year at the hospital, and they reach out to others. Kwareh, a prominent elder in his village, came to the hospital for treatment. Ron and Joseph, the hospital headman, witnessed to Kwareh, who accepted Christ, was later baptized and joined the church. Kwareh eagerly participates in worship and witnesses to others. His wife and daughter have accepted Christ, also. While receiving treatment at the hospital, Mada accepted Christ. He returned home, led four others to Christ, and they were baptized. Mada was chief man in the juju society and his four friends were from that society. □

The Saga of a Young Pastor's Wife

by Marva Radke

What do you think of when you hear the word, Africa? Missionaries . . . grass huts . . . spears . . . hospitals and self-sacrificing doctors and nurses . . . drums, dancing . . . wild animals . . . witchcraft and sorcery?

Africans are very prestige-oriented. Social standing based on education and job position, along with acquirement of material possessions, is becoming more important all the time. With more and better communications, they are seeing the desirable possessions and lifestyles that people elsewhere in the world have. Just like any other people, they want these things for themselves. Too often the Christians are drawn into the vicious circle of sinful practices, such as the giving and taking of bribes, in order to attain the things they want. Many times the means of attainment, whether good or bad, is considered justified as long as the end is desirable.

We see this problem all the time among our Christians in Mambilla, Nigeria. They see all the desirable things that others have: the well-paying jobs, the radios and tape recorders, the nice clothes, the motorcycles and Land Rovers. As normal people, they want what they see. How-

Mrs. Marva (Curt) Radke has been a missionary in Mbu, Nigeria, and is now home on furlough.

My Bible!

by Kenneth Goodman

Daniel Ndong, top student at Government Secondary School, Gembu, president of the Fellowship of Christian stu-

Kenneth Goodman is a N.A.B. missionary in Nigeria.

ever, they are frustrated, because many of them are poor, uneducated, subsistence farmers who simply do not have the means of acquiring the things they see. Rather they are struggling just to feed their families; yet the temptations remain.

Many times our pastors suffer greatly. They feel called of God; yet how can they even raise a family on the equivalent of \$60 or less per month, when they have to pay approximately \$1.80 for a pound of beef and anywhere from \$8.00 to \$15.00 for a live chicken. They struggle to live. Still the demands of prestige face them constantly. Here is one very interesting facet of African life.

The dowry or bride price is a very important part of African culture. As soon as a young girl is "intended" to marry a young man, he begins to bring gifts of money, clothes, food goods and animals to present to his "intended," her family and relatives. The greater the value a family places on their daughter, the greater the dowry price the young man will have to pay to win her hand in marriage. Family prestige, the girl's education, and the wealth of the young man enter into the question of how much dowry will be asked.

Japheth and Deborah Sanjo are a young couple in class two at our Bible School. As a young girl of 15 or 16 years, Deborah saw in Japheth the person she would like to marry; Japheth felt likewise. However, Japheth was orphaned as a very young boy and had no family to help him make a bride price; so the gifts he presented to Deborah were very small. Deborah is a very beautiful and talented young woman, who could have commanded a very nice dowry price. When people knew that she was "intended" to Japheth, they began to tease and shame her, asking why she was wasting herself on such a poor young man who was unable to pay well for her beauty and talent. But she insisted that it was her feelings towards him, rather than his ability to pay dowry, that was important.

At the time they were intended, Japheth was a Muslim. Deborah told him that unless he became a Christian, she could not marry him. He accepted Christ

as his Savior; they were baptized at the same time. Some time after that, Japheth felt God calling him into the pastorate. He attended the prep class at the Bible School for two years and then entered the regular Bible School program for two more years. Since then he has pastored three churches, been chaplain in one primary school and is now back at the Bible School for more training.

Similar to the Easter parade of new clothes in North America, we might speak of a Christmas parade in Africa. There is great social pressure to try to have the nicest clothes on festive occasions and at marriages. On festive occasions, the Christians meet in the church for worship. Afterward they sing, dance and eat.

On one such occasion, Japheth and Deborah were joining in the celebrations, but because of their poorness, Japheth was unable to buy new clothes for Deborah. Her mother began to shame her in front of the other Christians, because she was married to a poor pastor, unable to buy her new clothes. Deborah ignored the jests and continued to dance, but her mother became so incensed that she interrupted the dancing and ripped Deborah's clothes from her body in shreds. Deborah picked up her clothes and wrapped them about her as best she could and continued to dance. She said, "We are celebrating to praise God, and I do not need new clothes. My old clothes are good enough, so I will continue to praise God."

Shocking? Yes, I suppose. Yet, are we North Americans really any different in our mad rush for prestige, success and material gain? We may be more subtle but not really different.

We praise the Lord that Deborah had her priorities right! What of our own, are they right?

Pray for Japheth and Deborah that they will continue to keep their priorities straight and put the Lord first. Pray that the Lord will keep them true to himself, and that Japheth will not be tempted, under the pressure for success and gain, to leave the pastorate and seek higher pay as a teacher, as many have already done. Pray also for others as they face similar difficulties. □

bank of the stream, he trudges back up the hill. Something urges him on. Faster and faster he walks. The smell of smoke is in the air. Just as he comes in sight of his brother's house, the roof caves in. A big gush of soot and smoke fill the air. The grass roof had caught fire.

"My books, my books, my Bible!" Daniel cries. But it is too late. Everything is gone except the few clothes drying down the hill on the bank of the stream.

(Continued on page 31)

The Adventure of Being a Christian

by Hisashi Murakami

It was December of 1955 when I was led to believe in Jesus Christ as my personal Savior and Lord. That was the very year I came to study at a university in Kyoto from Okayama. It so happened that where I found my lodging, the Rev. and Mrs. Clemence Auch, a missionary family, came to live, also.

Rev. Auch began an English Bible class in his home. Having little interest then in what he taught from the Bible in the class, I began to attend it to make use of every opportunity to learn English. Sometime later, a person in the class gave me a Japanese Bible, the New Testament, and suggested that I begin to read the Sermon on the Mount. And I read Matthew 5 through 7. In fact, this was the first passage of Scripture I have ever read in my life. Reading it, I was at times astonished by the freshness of its teachings and its high standard on ethical teachings. Having read many other books, I noticed in it something fresh and authoritative. I wanted to know more about it.

I started going to a church where I could hear the Bible in my own language. This church was a house church in a missionary residence. There the Rev. Walter Sukut preached through an interpreter.

As I attended services of the church, I became more and more aware of myself in sin and spiritual darkness. I felt the need for forgiveness and cleansing. It was there that I came to know God, the Creator of the universe and of my life. I was told that he is the God of love who loved us in giving his son to die on the cross for us. My heart was so hungry and thirsty for the living water. If there is God who truly loves me, I wanted to be in right relationship with him. On December 5, 1955, I put my trust in God and accepted Jesus Christ by the leading of the Holy Spirit upon the invitation which Rev. Sukut gave in the worship service.

Even though my Christian life started then, I knew nothing of how to live my Christian life. Since there was no Japanese pastor, I was mainly nurtured by missionaries. They were the Reverends

The Rev. Hisashi Murakami is pastor of Tsu Shinmachi Christian Church, Tsu, Japan, and since January 1979 has been pursuing advanced studies at North American Baptist Seminary, Sioux Falls, SD.

Clemence Auch, Walter Sukut, Edwin Kern and Miss Florence Miller. Especially through the ministry of Rev. Auch and Miss Miller, I was led to dedicate myself for the gospel ministry for the rest of my life.



The members of Euzuka Home Bible Study with Rev. Murakami at left. Mrs. Goto (front center with daughter) was baptized this day.

to a final decision. The years of training at the Seminary in Sioux Falls and the personal fellowship with many Christians in America and Canada have enriched my Christian life and expanded my perspectives in many ways. It was truly great to meet people who had made it possible for me to hear the message of Jesus Christ by sending missionaries to Japan. It is one thing to talk about oneness in Christ and another thing to experience it. How close we can become simply because of our being in Christ. I still cherish these wonder-



Lay leaders of home Bible study groups.

ful sharing and caring experiences in my Christian life.

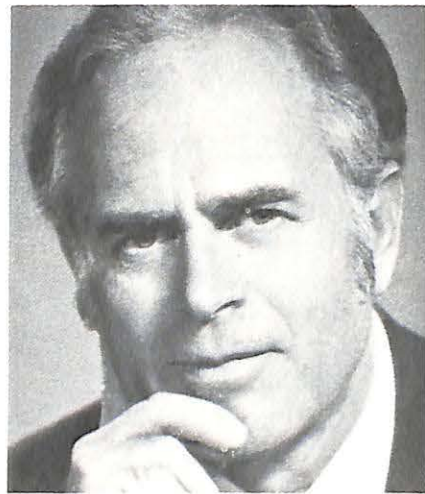
Since returning to Japan in 1966 and becoming a pastor of Tsu Shinmachi Christian Church, the Lord has been leading us in our difficult, yet meaningful, ministry. Our work does not indicate a rapid growth but a steady growth, for which we are thankful. Our church in Tsu now has a membership of eighty-one, including twelve non-resident members.

A recent and new development of our work began in April 1976. This is our five-year plan set up for the growth of the church. One of the pillars for the plan is church growth through Bible studies in homes. Our people have the idea that anyone who comes to a church must be a holy, an intelligent, and a mature person. As you know, this is not the case in any church in the world. Non-Christians usually hesitate to come to a church through a front door unless led by a Christian friend.

It is imperative for us to reach out to them for Christ. How can we? Many attempts have been made. What we have come to understand is that any program must be coupled with a strong leadership of laity and their training. What we have adopted is not something new. In fact, it is one of the methods early Christians used, and many other religious circles are using it.

(Continued on page 28)

THESE MEN YOU WILL HEAR AT THE 1979 Triennial Conference in Bismarck, ND July 10-15, 1979



Dr. Stephen F. Olford
Founder and president of *Encounter Ministries, Inc.*, Holmes Beach, FL. He is regarded by many as the finest expository preacher of our day.



Rev. Ben Haden
Pastor of First Presbyterian Church, Chattanooga, TN. Former attorney, newspaperman and author. Well-known speaker on weekly radio-television program *CHANGED LIVES*.



Mr. Lloyd B. Omdahl
Professor of Political Science at University of North Dakota and director of the Bureau of Governmental Affairs. Member of Grace Baptist Church, Grand Forks, ND, where he also holds membership in the Young Life Committee, the Fellowship of Christian Athletes executive committee and the City Mission Board.



Rev. Herman L. Effa
Pastor of Napier Parkview Baptist Church, Benton Harbor, MI. Former missionary to Brazil.



Dr. Kenneth Fischer
Pastor of Temple Baptist Church, Lodi, CA. Has served on various Conference committees. Presently moderator of the North American Baptist Conference.



Rev. Pete Unrau
Pastor of Redeemer Baptist Church, Warren, MI. His 15 years of pastoral and five years of teaching experience have made him a man whose motto is: "Rooted in the Word—Reaching for the World."

Class of 1979 COMMITTED TO THE WORLD

by David J. Draewell

Within the Preamble to the Constitution of the North American Baptist Conference are these significant words: "We, as New Testament Baptists, . . . believe in . . . the inspired authority of the Scriptures in matters of faith and conduct . . ."

North American Baptist Seminary fully subscribes to this statement of its parent denomination. Indeed the first of the seminary's "Six Basic Commitments" states its strong resolve to be a biblical school:

The Bible is the inspired Word of God. It is our infallible and authoritative guide for faith and practice. As such, it is our single most important resource.

God's Word is at the heart of our curriculum. It is in the Bible that we learn of Jesus Christ. It is in the Bible that we discover God's purposes for mankind. And it is in the Bible that the ultimate destiny of the world is revealed.

Our faculty is unitedly committed to the conviction of the Bible as the source and standard of all theological

truth. We do not stand in judgment of the Scriptures but seek to live and teach under the authority of the written Word and the power of the Holy Spirit.

Because of the biblical emphasis at NABS, we have asked our graduates to help introduce themselves this year by briefly stating what the Bible means to them and their ministry. In their responses below, I believe you will be impressed by the fact that they do not see their relationship to the Bible primarily in intellectual/theological terms. Rather, they see it in the context of authority, of life, of commitment and of ministry relevance. The true test of Christianity is never the mere verbalization of truth but rather a commitment to truth in daily experience. Jesus underscored this fact by stating: "And why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say?"

We at the seminary thank God for the privileges we have had in helping prepare for ministry the members of the class of 1979. These men and women have been gifted by the Spirit and have sought to develop these gifts for effective Christian service. Their commitment to Christ, to the Bible and to the Church is strong and continues to grow. Pray for them as they seek God's direction to that portion of God's vineyard in which he desires them to minister his Word.

Dr. David J. Draewell is president of North American Baptist Seminary, Sioux Falls, SD.



DUANE D. BOICE

The Scriptures witness the revelatory acts of God in time and space, acts which culminated in the definitive act of Jesus Christ. This authoritative witness contains all that is necessary for salvation and therefore frames the structure of my proclamation and designates the content thereof. The Scriptures also illumine the present-day unceasing acts of God, which would escape our notice and proper interpretation without this infallible attestation of his dynamic presence.

Duane is a Master of Divinity student, pastor of Judson Memorial Baptist Church in Sioux Falls, is married to Lois. They have two children. Duane is from Pierre, SD.



JOHN W. BROOKER

The Bible is more than a book to me. It is God speaking to his Church today. God speaks through his people, and in bringing that message, my personal opinions and biases have no part. Instead, it is the task of the man of God to seek in the Word of God a word from God. God has called me, as he has many others here at NABS to bring his Word to the Church. That is an awesome responsibility, and one that can only be discharged by unwavering fidelity to the Scriptures, total commitment to Jesus Christ, and absolute dependence on the Holy Spirit. I pray

John is a Master of Divinity student and is married to Maureen. John is from Edmonton, AB.

that I would be faithful to what God has willed for my life; for I am striving towards "that day when I will finally be all that Christ saved me for and wants me to be" (Phil. 3:12, Living Bible.)



LAUNDA CARROLL

Today there are many people in "people-helping" professions. There are counselors, therapists and psychologists who are trained to help people with their problems. The Bible and my faith in Christ are

Launda is a Master of Arts in Counseling student. She is married to Richard, who is the pastor of the United Church of Christ, Garretson, SD. They have three children: Alyson, Aaron and Aricka. Launda is from Watertown, SD.

key aspects in distinguishing my ministry in counseling from some of the various other helping professions. It is important for my ministry that the Bible be part of the changing process in people's lives.

In my ministry as a Christian counselor, there is an aspect that goes beyond merely helping people cope with their problems. That aspect is being able to introduce Christ into the person's life and letting him find God's healing power as a source of strength in his own life.

The Bible is a means by which to do this. The Scriptures provide us with the insight and guidance we need in the growing process. The Bible stresses the importance of relationships—both our vertical relationship to God and our horizontal relationship to others. We can learn and grow by observing the examples the Bible provides and by experiencing the truth it holds.

The Bible helps my ministry by helping to change the head knowledge a person has into heart knowledge. It helps us get away from theorizing and helps us toward internalizing—and that is the point at which growth can really take place.



RICHARD CARROLL

Ministry for me is centered within the concept of "equipping the saints" for their own ministry for the Lord. With that objective, I have come to depend greatly upon God's Word as a resource in my "facilitating" ministry.

My ministry is but a reflection of my relationship with God. A relationship that has grown and matured through the influence of God's Word. I have shared times of pain and sorrow. There have been frustrating experiences that have found me throwing my hands up in disgust, only to be reminded of God's love and patience for me. I have been convicted of sin in my life and reminded of the break I have caused between myself and God, only to have God's redeeming love and grace revealed to me once again. I have been ready to give up everything

Richard is a Master of Divinity student. He is married to Launda (also a graduate 1979) is pastor of United Church of Christ, Garreston, SD. They have three children; Alyson, Aaron and Aricka. Rich is from Watertown, SD.

that I have worked for as the world seemed to pass me by, only to hear God's encouragement to press on. And because I have had these experiences in life and have found their solution through an encounter with the revealing Word of God, I feel confident in my ability to minister to the needs of mankind.

The Bible does not offer me a rule book, by which I can measure everyone's behavior, including my own. Instead it is a resource of God's infinite wisdom and love, a resource that is offered to each one of us; and yet so few choose to use it to its fullest. In a world that is continually looking for a miracle, I thank God for the miracle of a personal encounter with him, through his Word.

The Bible offers me the opportunity to share that miracle and its life changing results with the world. Through my preaching ministry, God's Word is proclaimed to offer that personal encounter with God, for which the soul of each person cries out. It becomes the power, through which the Holy Spirit can touch the lives of each person where they are, and begin the "mending" process of maturing faith.

Without God's Word there is no power. Without that power there is no miraculous encounter. And without that encounter there is no reason for my ministry.



TIM CARLSON

As I reflect on my childhood, warmest memories surface that capture our family in the living room, seated in varied places, listening to Dad read the Bible and joining Mom in singing, as she played the piano.

The Bible today is not the same for me as it was then. Its contents have not changed, its origin has not, its beauty and life-changing force have not changed either. I am the one who has changed. God through his Son has touched my life. I'm forgiven and able to love myself to approve of myself and to share this love with others. The precepts and concepts are becoming almost unconscious influences on my behavior, my interactions

Tim is a Master of Divinity student, married to Judy; children: Alida, Elnona and Elizabeth. Tim is from Pipestone, MN.

with others, and my entire lifestyle.

The Bible will never be less than primary in my ministry. It is an urgent word from God concerning crucial and ultimate issues of man. Because of the Bible I know that "if any man be in Christ, He is a new creation, old things have passed away, indeed all things are becoming new."



JIM CHURCH

The Bible is central, not only to my personal life but also to my future ministry. It is God's "Living Word" to all mankind, and I find it relevant for every aspect of life. Its inerrant revelations speak to each of us of God's love and reconciling action (both to God and our fellowman) through the work of Christ Jesus.

I believe the duty of the Christian is not to sit in judgment on its message but to proclaim it intelligently throughout the ends of the earth. My authority for its proclamation rests in the fact that it is God's Word to men (and not man's word about God), and from its pages I find my mandate—Matt. 28:19-20.

Jim is a Master of Divinity student. He is manager of the bookstore at NABS. He is married to Carol. Carol is an RN at Sioux Valley Hospital. Jim is from Regina, SK.



STEVEN CROUCH

Throughout the Bible, God does his work by means of his Word. Whenever he speaks, great things happen. From the very first "And God said . . .," to the Word becoming flesh, right to the final summing up of all things in Christ—God

Steve is a Master of Divinity student. He is married to Rebecca, who is employed in the development office of Sioux Falls College. Steve is from Milton, WI.

always uses his Word to accomplish his purpose. It was through his Word that he gave me salvation, when I chose to believe his promises and put my faith in Christ.

It is because of this that the Bible, God's written Word, is and will continue to be the main resource for my ministry as a pastor. This is why I am so grateful for the strong emphasis on the Bible at N.A.B.S. The preaching courses, especially, have shown me how effective the ministry of God's Word can be in the church.

Therefore I look to God and his Word for the unlimited resources, which he has made available for my ministry.



MARVIN DEWEY

To me the Bible is the most important written resource I possess. Through the Bible, God has communicated to man the basis for faith/hope in Jesus Christ and has given the principles by which man's lifestyle is to be shaped.

As a minister of God, my calling is two fold: reconciliation and making disciples. Saying this, the Bible must be the basis of ministry, since the message of reconciliation—which is God in Christ reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them (II Cor. 5:18-21)—is communicated to us through the Bible. In addition to this, the call of making disciples—teaching others to observe (put into practice) all the things that Jesus commanded (Matt. 28:20)—must be based on the Bible, since that is where Christ's teachings are preserved for our growth.

"Teach me, Lord, the meaning of your laws,
and I will obey them at all times.
Explain your law to me, and I will obey it;
I will keep it with all my heart.
Keep me obedient to your commandments,
because in them I find happiness."
Psalm 119:33-35 (Good News Bible)

Marvin is a Master of Divinity student. He is single. He is associate pastor of Good Shepherd Mennonite Church, Sioux Falls. He is a member of our musical group, EVENSONG. Marvin is from Seward, KS.



DANIEL EDWARDS

Man cannot come to a saving knowledge of God without special revelation. That special revelation has been made available to us in the Bible. Without it, man would be lost, doomed to everlasting separation from God. Because of the teachings within the Scriptures, I have come to know Jesus as my personal Savior and have had ignited within my heart a desire to share the "Good News" to those with whom I come in contact.

The Bible is also authoritative in matters of faith and practice, because the essential truths within the Holy Writ are eternal and come from God. This avails the Bible to be applicable to me and to those to whom I will minister. I especially want to be an instrument of God in making the Bible relevant to young people, for they are the leaders of tomorrow. If we ever needed a back-to-the-Bible emphasis, now is the time, for tomorrow might be too late.

Dan is a Master of Divinity student. He is the choir director at Emmanuel Baptist Church, Sioux Falls, is not married, and is from Emery, SD.



WALTER FOTH

As a born again believer and minister of the Gospel, the Bible means very much to me, because it is the record of God's revelation to mankind, manifested in the providence of salvation through Jesus Christ. It is the message which tells me that I am loved by God, and that coming in faith and repentance to him, he will accept me. As I read the Bible, it becomes

Walter is a Master of Divinity student, is married to Graciana, and they have a daughter Miriam. Walter is from Edmonton, AB.

alive to me so that I must exclaim with the Psalmist: "Thy Word is a lamp to my feet, and a light to my path" (Psa. 119:105). The Word of God gives directions and principles for Christian living and helps me to grow spiritually and as a person, giving me strength and courage.

In my ministry, the Bible also means much to me, because it is God's instrument, which he has given me through the inspired writers, to tell others about the salvation through Jesus. It is the truth of God to be declared and taught to men for salvation, reproof, correction, righteousness and maturity in Christ.



RONALD GUNTER

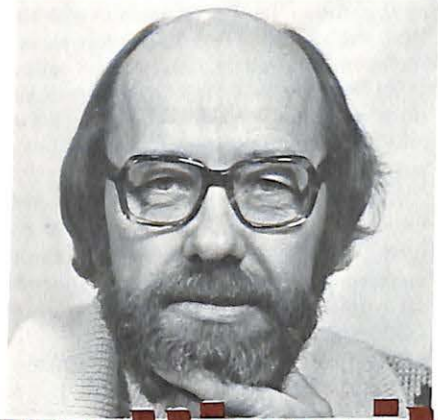
Ronald Gunter is a Master of Arts in Counseling student. He is married to Pamela; their children are Jennifer, Joshua and Christopher. He is from St. Joseph, MI.



JOYCE HARRIS

The Bible to me is not only a spiritual book but a personal-human book. It speaks to man's soul as well as his personal needs and struggles in everyday life. The primary message of salvation and forgiveness provides man a loving and accepting relationship with God, with others, and with oneself. In ministering to the personal struggles and pain of the inner life, I depend upon the Bible as a source of guidance that allows for the uniqueness of each individual that gives meaning, purpose and direction in life, and that assures a place for each person in God's created order.

Joyce is a Master of Arts in Counseling student. She is married to N.A.B.S. professor, J. Gordon Harris. They have two daughters, Joy and Jami. Joyce also teaches voice lessons to N.A.B.S. students. She is from Sioux Falls, SD.



putting it together

by Ernie Zimbelman

Faith. Hope. Optimism. Trust. These are key words in Christian thinking. Christian theology is totally absorbed in the

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

concepts contained in these words.

The Psalmist expresses this thought: "And now Lord, for what do I wait? My hope is in thee." (Psalm 39:7) Paul begins his first letter to Timothy by stating that he is "an apostle of Christ Jesus by the command of God our Savior and of Christ Jesus our hope" (I Timothy 1:1). The role of religion is to give people hope—a feeling of optimism about their existence. In fact, the word "faith" is sometimes used interchangeably with the word "religion"—what is your faith? or of what faith are you?

It is important that we examine our lifestyle in regard to our faith practices. I'm not talking here about what doctrines we hold, but rather how we regard life as a whole.

Am I basically an optimistic person? Am I a person that readily trusts other people and life situations? How much hope do I have for a good life in the present, the immediate future, the long-range future, eternity?

How I think, work, play, and generally function depends on the kind of person I am. Your happiness does not depend on your situation, but on how you regard your situation, how successful you are in your career, family life, or church depends on your mood.

People who have an optimistic outlook on life tend to be happy, joyful, carefree

and successful in literally all of their endeavors. Pessimistic, discouraged, depressed people generally feel life is dull, worthless and too demanding. They frequently feel that life is probably not worth the effort it takes to live it, and they can give you unlimited evidence to prove their point.

What causes some people to be optimistic while others are pessimistic? Is it body chemistry? There is considerable evidence to support this. Moods and attitudes can be changed through the use of drugs such as alcohol and anti-depressants. Does this imply that I do not have control over my own attitudes and moods? How much control I have over these factors in my life is the basis of a great deal of discussion.

I know that people who have a deep-seated feeling of hope and optimism about their lives are fortunate. I also know that to the degree that a person is not hopeful about life situations life becomes joyless, and they become unhappy and depressed.

Examine your life to see how fulfilled you feel, how hopeful you are about your life. If you do not find the joy and hope there that you want, then go to your Christian church and ask about the "WAY" to optimism and hope. Jesus said: "My purpose is to give life in all its fulness" (John 11:11 LB). □

and why I plan to keep the Bible at the center of whatever ministry into which the Lord may lead me.



LOREN KOPF

Loren Kopf is a Master of Arts in Religious Studies student. He is single and is from Milwaukee, WI.



SAMUEL N. NGUM

"Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path," said David thousands of years ago. Centuries later Jesus confirmed that all things will pass away but not the Word of God (Ps. 119:105; Matt. 24:34). As God is eternal, so is his Word. Hence I accept it and also accept fully its counsels, counsels that will never change, because he from whom they flow never changes.

In the days of old, God led Israel by fire in the night and by cloud in the day. In this age, he leads new Israel, the Church members of his body by his Spirit and by his Word. None contradicts the other. His Word, therefore, is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path. By it I know something concerning God, his eternal purposes and some things concerning myself, without which I would never know. It directs me in the choices I make and guides my steps in each direction I face. I am saved, called and trained to declare the wonderful works of him that has called me out of darkness into his marvellous light (1 Peter 2:0), but for the Bible, I would not find my way to the Savior, not to talk of knowing what those wonderful works of him are. Hence, it

Samuel is our international student from Cameroon. He is married to Susannah and has the following children: Emmanuel, Esther, Eunice, Victorine, Peter, Grace and Patience. He is in the Master of Arts in Christian Education program.

serves not only as a lamp unto my feet, a light unto my path and a source of assurance and strength to me, but also, being God's Word, the source of all aspects of my ministry in the Church of Jesus Christ.



DOROTHY J. NORMAN

A friend of mine was very depressed and overburdened with tests and papers. He wanted to do more with his other responsibilities in the church and community. I was facing similar pressures and assured him I'd pray for him, but wished I had something to say, some comforting answer. That evening as I opened my Bible for devotions, I caught a glimpse of an underlined verse in Isaiah: "They that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint" (Isaiah 40:31, RSV). That's the answer! I was convinced the Spirit wanted me to share this wonderful verse with my friend. But how and when? The next day as I prepared for a speech class, the verse fit right into the outline. I gave that speech on Isaiah 40:31. My friend heard that speech, and others were encouraged, too. I've relied on that verse many times since that speech. God's Word has answers for any situation we face!

Dorothy is in our one year certificate program (religious studies). She is single, is in our new musical group, NEW CREATION, and is the pianist. Dorothy is from Watertown, WI.



KRIS PETERSEN

As a senior counseling student at N.A.B.S., I feel that I have been given a
Kris is in our Master of Arts in Counseling program. He is married to Dorothy who is an RN at the Veterans Hospital. Kris is from Sioux Falls.

great opportunity through my course work to explore the Scriptures and determine what the Bible has to say about Christian counseling. I believe that II Cor. 1:3-4 states it most appropriately, "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our afflictions, so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction." The Scriptures provide us with strength, insight, and the healing message of Jesus Christ to be shared with those who suffer and are in need.



WILLIAM RAMSEY

William Ramsey is a Master of Divinity student, is single, and is from Portland, OR.



DAVID A. RAPSKÉ

"For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope" (Romans 15:4).

Hope! It is something I have always wanted; yet I never connected hope with the study of Scripture. Seminary studies have provided me with three very simple, yet profound, principles that have reassured me of hope in my life.

First, it is possible for me to know what the Scriptures say to me; however that will only happen if I READ THE WORD. Second, I can determine scriptural meaning, but only if I am responsible with the skills I have been taught; I must STUDY THE WORD. Finally, I

(Continued on page 27)

David is a Master of Divinity student. He is married to Kathy; they have two daughters: Jana and Candy. He is the pastor of First Congregational Church of Humbolt, SD. David is from Surrey, BC.



BECKY HEERTS

A mirror . . . authority . . . the Source of life . . . God speaking . . . The Bible is all of those and more to me, and because the Word is Truth, I know that it is more powerful than anything I can say in trying to help others find Jesus Christ as their personal Savior. "The Word of God is living, active and sharper than any

Becky is a Master of Arts in Religious Studies student. She is single and works part-time in the business department of the Seminary. She is a member of our musical team, EVENSONG. She formerly was a short-term missionary in Japan. Becky is from Stout, IA.

two-edged sword." This has been especially evident in my work in Japan, where people have turned to the Lord because of studying the Bible.

I'm thankful for these two years here at N.A.B.S. because I have gained a broader, deeper foundation for my own life, and I feel much better equipped in knowing how to study God's Word and to share it with others.



SHELLY HARTSOOK

Shelly Hartsook graduated with the Master of Ministry degree from N.A.B.S. in 1977 and will receive the Master of Divinity in May 1978. Shelly is single, lives in Sioux Falls with her parents, and plans to be a chaplain.



JERRY MATHIS

What does the Bible mean to me and my ministry? It is the heart and soul of everything I teach and preach. Without the Bible, we would have no written source of knowledge about the life and teaching of the One we proclaim as Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Without the authority of the written Word of God, our faith would become a very subjective thing and incapable of offering any real hope to a world which desperately needs something to hope for. That is why we must uphold the authority of the Bible

Jerry is a Master of Arts in Religious Studies student. He is married to Beverly who works in the Library at N.A.B.S. Jerry is from Cleveland, OH.



My Maryland Summer

by Fran Hoogestraat,
Brookings, SD

Wild strawberries and honeysuckle, magnolia trees and rose gardens. Pictures in books were coming to life in the backyard of my new "summer home." Privileged to live on a Maryland country estate, I was awed by the sights I thought existed only in picturesque travel folders.

A summer spent in the east was an incredible change from my midwestern background and rearing. A farm girl accustomed to the slower, casual traffic of country roads, learned to appreciate the soft hum from the Baltimore Beltway. My concepts of freedom and "trust in fellow man" were altered as I adjusted to private property, police dogs and burglar alarms. As the ground rules of my job were laid out, my maid work became a "game" I learned to love.

The game had numerous rewards and simply living with an eastern politician and his family was foremost. I acquired a deep love for the family that made pictures in books dance in color before my eyes. God touched me through the lives of Mark and Ellen Farrell.

As a former foreign ambassador, Mr. Farrell had an international viewpoint that I admired. I loved to hear him talk about his involvement with people I had only read about. God was broadening my own horizons through my boss.

Mr. Farrell's sights helped to open my eyes a bit wider. I realized that God's vision is the broadest of all, and how much I had yet to see! Just a glimpse had overwhelmed me!

I counted my job as maid as one of privilege. A friend and I were responsible for cleaning the mansion and tidying after the houseguests. We worked in the rose garden, served the meals, and assisted in the maintenance of the estate.

I began to believe that God wanted me, as a maid, to give of my very best in my every task. The job of maid became a treat, once I realized it was a job God had especially designed for me. How true that

my behavior was a reflection of Jesus in me! At the point that I dedicated myself to Jesus' will, I felt a strength and joy for his service. Most of all, I learned that my devotion to Jesus determined my effec-

UP the Stairway



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

Who can understand the mysteries of God's ways?

A prison inmate, given 25 to 50 years for kidnapping after an early life of crime, relates how grateful he is to have been imprisoned, for it was there that he was given his first Bible, which ultimately led him to become a Christian.

Members of a family tell how communication barriers, which had existed for years, were broken, and a new relationship of love for each other resulted from the mother's serious cancer surgery, which left her without a voice for the rest of her life. God answered her prayers for a united family after many lonely years. She said she gladly gave up the use of her voice, in order that her children would come to a right relationship with God.

Then there is Bill's story. He grew up on a small farm in North Dakota. It was tough having four older brothers who persisted in teaching him "humility"! As a young boy, Bill sensed a calling to become a minister someday. Sometimes he "preached" sermons to bales of hay while helping with field work.

Because he felt inferior and inadequate, Bill never told a soul about this calling. He knew he didn't have the ability and assumed others might laugh at him if he should mention it.

At age eight, his father died, leaving a colossal void in the home. Teen years were lonely and frustrating. High school had little meaning, so he dropped out during his senior year. Marriage eased the loneliness. They were both 19—high school sweethearts.

Two years of industrious farming proved satisfying and financially rewarding. However, a continuing, gnawing restlessness seemed to permeate everything he did.

The decision was made to sell the farm and enroll in teacher's college. Hopefully, this would serve to "get the Lord off his back" about the ministry.

The culmination of those happy college years came, when both Bill and his wife accepted teaching positions in a beautiful location "out west." This would be the "they lived happily ever after" era.

A few short weeks into the school year, his wife became ill and had to be hospitalized. It was a terminal blood disease. Bill was told she would not live very long.

Stunned, he stayed by her bedside day and night. Suddenly, Bill realized their sixth wedding anniversary was a few days away. "God, if you must take her from me, spare me that day," he pleaded earnestly.

She died on their anniversary. Should he be bitter and curse God? No, for a verse came to his mind: "Whom the Lord loves, he chastens" (Heb. 12:6). Could it be that God loved him so much, he would permit this loss to get Bill's undivided attention?

"Yes, Lord. I understand now what you have in mind for me. I will quit running from you. I will share my calling with concerned loved ones and friends, and prepare myself for the Gospel ministry. You give me ability as I give you my availability," was his prayer.

That was about 30 years ago. I am the direct beneficiary of God's leading in this man's life. I was one of the first persons Bill pointed to Christ after he had gained his own sense of direction. Bill's real name is Clarence. He is my husband. I thank God for 25 wonderful years of serving Christ with him. Those earlier years of experience have given him a stability in his calling, which in turn gives me stability in "climbing my stairway."

"Oh, what a wonderful God we have! How great are his wisdom and knowledge and riches! How impossible it is for us to understand his decisions and his methods! For everything comes from God alone. Everything lives by his power, and everything is for his glory. To him be glory evermore" (Rom. 11:33 and 36).

tiveness in my work. I spent my working hours with Jesus by my side, thanking him for all he had provided for my enjoyment. With Jesus, I was strong and confident. I strove to provide the cleanest house I could.

Taste and poise describe the lady I worked for, Mrs. Farrell. I admired her

Conference Corner

by Sandy Bauslaugh,
Bismarck, ND

July 10, 1979, marks the beginning of a very exciting week for North American Baptists. There are special programs set up for all ages, starting with the nursery

Preparation Time

by LaVerna Mehlhaff,
women's
work director



During March our thoughts turn to planting and gardening in preparation for a harvest. When growing up on the farm, I remember the careful soil preparation which was necessary before planting a garden. It took time. When it was ready, we dug holes or made furrows with the hoe in which to plant the seed; after the seed was in the ground, the holes and furrows were closed with care. We did all we could to insure that, with the rains, the seed would take root, grow and bear fruit. That was the purpose of planting.

Good roots are needed for plants to bear fruit. In the same way, it is important for God's children to be rooted and grounded in the Lord Jesus Christ in order that each one produce fruit. The difficult situations and experiences, which are ours, will help us to be well rooted so that we will not be swayed by every wind of doctrine but will be firm and steady in our service to God. We need to take time and care to become strongly rooted in the Lord so that during the course of our lives, we will be fruit-bearing Christians. □

Still available! A number of 1979 German and English Program Packets are still available from our office at \$3.00 per packet.

gentle touch with those around her. Her soft-spoken manner replaced all the words many people would have needed to accomplish what she did. A highly-respected woman, socially and culturally, yet on simple, sincere terms with people she met. God showed me that her priority of humility was my textbook. I watched

and going right through to single adults.

The nursery will be adequately staffed to keep the younger children busy and happy, while Mom and Dad take in the Conference sessions.

Grades one through six will enjoy a number of interesting tours, including a trip to Fort Lincoln, a museum, and a chance to see Clyde, the largest bear in captivity!

Junior highs will have their own activities during the day—Bible studies and discussions, as well as the opportunity to spend a complete day at Crystal Springs, our N.A.B. summer camp!

Senior highs and collegians will be stay-

ing at St. Mary's College, which is air-conditioned and has a swimming pool. Their Bible studies and meetings will all be held on campus. They will, however, come to the Civic Center for the evening meetings.

They invited me; I was quick to accept. They taught me; I was excited to learn. Whatever they had, they offered to me. I worked; yet the time went by quickly. Suddenly it was a memory of a family that gave me the finest they had to offer.

The single adults will be staying at the Best Western Townhouse Motel. The motel facilities have been made available to them for the week.

These are only a few of the Conference "goings-on" planned for our young people and single adults during the week. Encourage your entire family to come along. We don't want them to miss out on a week full of blessings in Bismarck, ND.

Executive Committee Meeting Report

by Caroline Zeitner,
W.M.U. secretary-treasurer,
Edmonton, AB

When the Woman's Missionary Fellowship Executive Committee met Sept. 14-16, 1978, it was with great anticipation. We were looking forward to meeting each other as good friends, sharing ideas, making plans, and enjoying precious Christian fellowship. We had the privilege of staying in the homes of friends. Our first afternoon and evening session was at the Forest Park Baptist Church, where we were also served a delicious supper. The expectancy with which we came

was fulfilled. As we listened to Mrs. Freda Reddig unveil plans for activities at the Triennial Conference in Bismarck, our excitement grew. Ladies, you will want to be there to participate in what will surely be a blessed time!

Though we sat and planned, listened and discussed, and sometimes yawned, and then talked some more about Conference luncheon plans, about White Cross, about themes, about financial goals, and much other business, we were not discouraged. The joy of the Lord was our strength. Each session was begun with a devotional time and prayer. These times of spiritual sharing were a highlight.

One thing we'd like to share with you is the urgent need for additional White Cross postage funds. We will be asking you to send one dollar per pound instead of sixty cents. The rates have increased tremendously.

God is so good to us! Our executive committee experienced that again. He gave us a beautiful unity from all the varied viewpoints we brought together. In three very full days, he showed us his faithfulness again. I praise him!

"The East Olds Baptist Church of Olds, Alberta, is celebrating its 50th anniversary on June 30 and July 1, 1979. An invitation is extended to all former members and friends."

JOIN A MISSIONARY TEAM SHORT-TERM SERVICE

Because of the continuing need for teachers in Cameroon, we are seeking four qualified persons for the 1979-1981 academic years.

CALL
(312) 495-2000

or
WRITE

N.A.B. Missions Department
1 So. 210 Summit Ave,
Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181

My Tribute

by Richard Schilke

The North American Baptist Office staff observed its annual Christmas dinner on Thursday evening, Dec. 14, 1978. Lyle Wacker had not been at the office since Thanksgiving week due to illness. He and his wife Alice joined us at the Christmas dinner, sat at our table, and took in the festive program. We observed that he was not feeling well, but none of us dreamt that in less than 12 hours the sad news of his sudden passing would shock us. Early Friday morning, December 15, he collapsed while getting ready to be taken to the hospital for his regular dialysis treatment. The Rev. Fred Folkerts offered to take him to the hospital and was at the home when Lyle collapsed. Mouth to mouth resuscitation was of no avail, and before medical help could come, the Lord had taken Lyle to his heavenly abode.

I was asked by their pastor, the Rev. Robert S. Hess, and by the family to make some comments about my relationship to Lyle Wacker at the time of the funeral service at the Village Green Baptist Church in Glen Ellyn on December 18. What I said then, I would want to be my tribute to my good and departed friend and brother in Christ, Lyle O. Wacker.

I have known Lyle since his student days, following college graduation and when he began his seminary training in 1955. I vividly recall our first meeting at the Triennial Conference in Waco, TX, in 1955. A common interest in photography started a conversation between us. I followed with interest his ministry in his two churches after seminary graduation: Shell Creek Baptist in Columbus, NE, 1958-62, and Calvary Baptist in Corn, OK, 1962-67. I ministered to both churches during his pastorates and fellowshipped with the family. During his ministry at Corn he also served as mission secretary of the Southwestern Conference and thus as member of the Board of Missions, half of that time as chairman of the Board.

In 1967, immediately following the Triennial Conference in Detroit, MI, the Board of Missions, whose chairman Lyle then was, turned to him in its search for a full-time director of Church Extension and appointed him to that position. He accepted the challenge and began his ministry at the N.A.B. Conference Office in September 1967. This brought us into a very close working relationship, because Church Extension was within the Department of Missions during those years. By 1976 Church Extension became a cooper-

ating department of the Conference with its own Church Extension Board, and Lyle Wacker was elected as its general secretary at the Conference sessions in Portland, OR.

Throughout these years I found Lyle Wacker dependable, trustworthy, very devoted and committed to his work, which he greatly loved. We were very supportive of each other and usually saw things alike. God gave him wisdom for his ministry. The work of Church Extension and the number of new projects started each year more than doubled during the time of his ministry. This is not an easy task with present-day inflationary costs. One of his greater contributions was the launching of the Church Extension Investors Fund in 1973, which at the present time has reached the 1½ million dollar mark.

However, his greatest contribution through the founding of these new churches was the outreach to many souls who were won to the kingdom of God by these churches. Though his passing at age 48 is untimely in our eyes, it is otherwise with the Lord, who at this time called his faithful servant to his eternal reward.

I would liken my relationship to Lyle somewhat to the relationship of David and Jonathan. Read I Samuel 20:16-17 and II Samuel 1:25-26 from the *Living Bible* translation, and let me quote herewith the latter: "Jonathan is slain upon the hills. How I weep for you, my brother Jonathan; how much I loved you!"

What's a Real Friend Worth?

by Stan Johnson

Lyle and I were friends. We were not only human friends, we were Christian friends. Lyle and I had a lot of fun working together in Church Extension. I always knew when Lyle really enjoyed one of my humorous stories, because he would start grinning and soon the grin would reach from ear to ear; he couldn't hold it back. LeRoy Schauer, my pastor, and Lyle were good buddies, and I would always enjoy trading stories from their past between us.

I can say without reservation that Lyle and I had a deep Christian love for each other. We all knew the expertise Lyle had in the area of starting churches. The statistical facts speak for themselves. The many churches he helped start, including our own church, Olympic View Baptist, are a tribute to Lyle.

Mr. Stan Johnson is chairman of the Church Extension Board. He lives in Tacoma, WA.

We all miss Lyle but thank the Lord we will see him again. There's no way you can estimate the value of a real friend. He is priceless.

Above all else, Lyle had a deep and abiding personal commitment to Jesus Christ, that transcended all of his work and activities. The example Lyle taught by his life was the fact that Jesus is coming and we should take every advantage to share Jesus with our friends and contacts.

Praise the Lord for Lyle!

Our Loss—His Gain

by G. K. Zimmerman

The Rev. Lyle Wacker, our co-worker for Christ, had a deep passion for the unreached people. He would frequently unburden his concern to me about

the new communities he had visited and how sharing the Gospel was so greatly needed. He recognized that at times his vision of needs for a particular area was ahead of what Associations were prepared to add to their already heavily involved ministry in Church Extension projects. Lyle would share his vision with Association or regional Church Extension committees, and often after much prayer and faith in God's leading, another new Church Extension project would be on its way. I can truly characterize Lyle Wacker as a man of divine visions which have brought virtually thousands of people into a meaningful relationship with God through Faith in Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord.

Lyle often shared his observations of how a small nucleus of believers, who became the foundation of a new church, characterized the quality of New Testament Christians. He would describe their contagious fervor to witness for Christ and move forward boldly toward establishing another church. Lyle was a man of deep Christian concern. One could feel the burdens upon his heart as he came to

Dr. G. K. Zimmerman is executive secretary of the North American Baptist Conference.

IN MEMORIAM

Lyle O. Wacker

1930-1978



the Pastoral Recommendations Committee sessions, asking for names of possible candidates to shepherd another new project. The lack of pastors for new projects was one of his weightiest burdens, because it often required that such pastors would have to leave large established churches and commit themselves to "shepherds of a small flock" of new Christians. Lyle's prayers reflected his concern that God would call pastors to home mission fields in order to establish more churches.

More than one-third of our North American Baptist churches have been started as Church Extension projects in the last 25 years. Many of these exist today because there was a Lyle Wacker, a man of God with a passion for the unreached; a man with a vision and also a burden that there was

need to bring the Gospel to new communities. We as a Conference feel the great loss in our Brother Lyle Wacker's absence from this world, yet we know that he is in the presence of the Lord and Savior.

"It is the Spirit himself bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him. I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us." (Romans 8:16-18 RSV).

I Miss Him

by John Ziegler

It is with a great sense of mixed emotions that I write about a very close friend and my associate in the ministry of Church Extension. The shock, the loss and the deep sadness make this a difficult task. On the other hand, the inspiration and challenge of his life and ministry has had

The Rev. John Ziegler is acting general secretary of Church Extension of the North American Baptist Conference.

a profound impact on my life. It causes me to rejoice and praise God that it was my special privilege to link heart and hand together with Lyle in a work that was far more than a job, or a response to a call. He was divinely motivated by a sense of mission. He was fulfilling God's mandate to him—to respond to the "Judean and Samaritan" segment of the Great Commission.

Lyle was a spiritually motivated person. He made it very clear that Church Extension to him was not a denominational program, but a God given mission. Consequently, the hours at the office and the weeks of travel were done never grudgingly or of necessity, but always cheerfully and as unto the Lord. There were times of sleepless nights, bearing huge burdens of others, but always dominated by the joy of the Lord. How I delighted in his enthusiasm and good humor. His unstinting devotion to Christ was an inspiration and challenge.

Lyle was a progressive, forward-looking person. He was constantly seeking ways and means of strengthening the ministry of Church Extension. His leadership ability led to the development of major programs, such as the Church Extension Investors Fund. However, the ability to do detail planning and develop workable office procedure demonstrated his administrative gift. He developed spiritual gifts and served the Lord effectively because of it.

Even as I write these words, I realize that if Lyle should have read them, he would be somewhat embarrassed and self-effacing in his response. He never sought personal glory and preferred to bypass public roles. Nevertheless, because his abilities and intelligence were readily recognized he was thrust into responsible positions, for which his sense of mission gained positive response. Because of this he established many friendships. His influence will be widely missed.

Should you have had the opportunity to be close to him during the last year of his life, when illness began to take its physical toll, you would have also grown in your love and respect for Lyle. He never responded to physical decline with bitterness. He sometimes expressed regrets and frustrations, because he was not able to pursue his work as in the past. He had so many new exciting things he wanted to initiate. He had set challenging goals and was determined to see them come to fruition. He regretted not being able to spend as much time with all those who worked with him. We took all this quietly to the Lord and hoped for better days. His love and trust in Christ were his peace and strength. He, of course, loved his family and sorrowed at this temporary separation. Now absent from the body, he is present with the Lord. We thank God for him, his life and his works. We

commend him to God with the words of Revelation 14:13 (GNV): "Blessed are those who from now on die in the service of the Lord! . . . they will enjoy rest from their hard work, because the results of their service go with them."

A Genuine Friend

by Bruce Ewing

Perhaps the word "genuine" is one of the most significant words one might choose to describe a respected and deeply loved friend. If the friend is a Christian, the word has even greater significance.

Lyle Wacker was a genuine Christian friend. With Lyle there was nothing artificial, nothing plastic. He was real, straight-forward, and committed to Christ and his Great Commission in that order.

It was with love, wisdom and confidence that Lyle allowed and expected one to feel free to disagree without fear of rejection. With Lyle there was never a need to be anything but 100 percent honest about feelings, fears, facts, or impressions. He loved with honesty and warmth—nothing interfered with his love for a brother or sister.

Lyle Wacker had a very sensitive heart for the needs of the non-Christian. He had a mature and biblical understanding of the Church and its purpose in a contemporary society. Change did not threaten Lyle. His security was in knowing that he was an active part of the mission to which God had called him. He understood the balance of biblical principles and organizational structure. One of the elders at our church commented more than once that "Lyle was a true missionary."

While many organizations were asking questions about how to meet the needs of a changing, disintegrating society, Lyle was giving answers that were both biblical and realistic. As he labored under the leadership of the North American Baptist Conference, Lyle was a forerunner of effective ministry through the local church. To many of us at Fellowship Bible Church, Lyle brought credibility to the institutional church.

When Lyle met with us in Tulsa, he candidly voiced his concern for strong evangelism and discipleship. He encouraged us to touch those who had been bruised. He challenged us to baptize in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Lyle was patient yet demanding. He

(Continued on page 30)

The Rev. Bruce Ewing is pastor of Fellowship Bible Church, Tulsa, OK.

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

the GROWING edge

THE GROWING EDGE
Features from your Church Ministries Department
These brief, provocative articles are meant to expand the growing edge of the mind and soul—to suggest, perhaps, new avenues of thought and action. Denny's Column is 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.

What Children Need

1. *A sense of safety.* This feeling comes as a child perceives that what he or she does matters enough to others to get an appropriate reaction from them.
2. *Adequate, not excessive self-esteem.* Self-esteem does not develop in a vacuum, but results from a youngster's evaluation of himself against criteria or standards acquired very early in life. Self-esteem waxes and wanes according to the child's experiences with the people in his life.
3. *The experience of life as worth living.*

"We must resist the temptation to settle just for what amuses children and try for activities that give youngsters a chance to use their own experiences and environments in play."

4. *Help in making sense of experience.* "Our major responsibility is to help the young to improve, refine, develop and deepen their own understanding of their own worlds." As they grow older, they must be helped to understand other people's worlds.
5. *Adults who accept the authority that is theirs by virtue of greater experience, knowledge and wisdom.* Children flourish from contact with authoritative adults who are not afraid to exercise their considerable power, but do so with warmth, supportiveness, encouragement and ade-

quate explanation. Such adults treat children's feelings, desires and opinions with respect, even when disagreeing with them.

6. *Association with adults and older children who are models of the personal qualities.* Do youngsters spend enough time with people who exemplify such qualities as honesty, kindness, the capacity to respect and care about others, acceptance of difference, love of learning, etc.? Or are they too much exposed to appealing glamorous figures who exemplify the very qualities that we do not want to foster?

7. *Relationships with adults who are willing to take a stand for their own values.*
 —Dr. Lillian Katz, early childhood education expert, University of Illinois.

Denny's Column

by
 Denny
 Miller



"Lord, somehow as years and experiences built my world, I was fortunate. My world is a circle. Each link fits. My family. My church. My relatives. My job. My old and close friends. My school. It is a kingdom of rich colors and deep affection. Within me exists a warm glow. A feeling of security."

Sometimes, many times, I feel secure and confident in the situations into which I am thrust. There are times for most of us when we feel as though "we fit." These times may be few and far between, or they may be a reality of everyday life.

Regardless, it's a great feeling knowing what to do and what to say. Knowing that people accept you. That you're needed. And loved. A warm cocoon assured of a future as a butterfly. Guaranteed.

A basketball cheer: "When you're hot,

you're hot. When you're not, you're not. I'm hot, you're not." Why is it that when we're on the top of the world, it is so very difficult to really remember how it feels to be lower than low? It feels so good to bask in the sudden sunshine. Have I been there so long that I am unable to remember cold winter nights? Or do I just savor those rare moments so possessively that no one else matters?

Reach out. Risk your security. Share your warmth. Can you remember or imagine being new in a group—be it church, or school, or work, or just an unfamiliar situation? And how nice it would have felt to have been at ease? Draw someone into Christian fellowship. Sit and talk with a loner or someone who is often left alone. Listen to someone you've never taken the time to before. And maybe never wanted to. Take the extra step to help someone feel comfortable. Introduce the new person in the group, and make him your protege.

Christ's commandment: "Love one another. Love thy neighbor as thyself" (Matt. 22:39). Reach out. Take risks. Expose yourself. Take responsibility. Galatians 6:2-3—"Share each other's troubles and problems and so obey our Lord's command. If anyone thinks he is too great to stoop to this, he is fooling himself. He is really a nobody."

A goal. To become more Christlike. "How would Christ behave in this situation?" Christ always had time for the other person and not always the "beautiful people." Christ helped people when and where they hurt. The adultress. The lame man. "Be full of love for others, following the example of Christ who loved you and gave himself to God as a sacrifice to take away your sins" (Eph.5:2).

"The more lowly your service to others, the greater you are" (Matt. 23:11). "Even as you did it unto the least of these, you did it to me" (Matt. 25:40).

The benefits of reaching out, of caring, of listening, of hurting, of healing, of loving. The benefits far outweigh the benefits of "safe and secure." Each time you extend a tentative hand, you grow. You learn. You are blessed as much or many times more than the person whom you reach out to.

Scared? Pray about it. It's hard risking security for the unknown. (Ask me!) But we've got a great God. We can act in his far greater sufficiency.

So . . . out of our Lazy Boy recliners. In the midst of our security of belonging, there must be concern for the other guy. Whether he is a fellow brother or from the world, he is worthy of love, of God's grace. "Lord, turn our eyes outward."

On Choosing Sunday School Teachers

Churches frequently pick the wrong kind of teacher for Sunday schools, according to Dr. Larry Richards, president of Renewal Research Associates. The criteria for teaching Sunday school should be love of God and love of people who want to learn, according to Richards, instead of following the public school model of selecting teachers.

"In our public schools, the teacher is the authority by virtue of his knowledge. But in Scripture, the teacher is the one

who knows the reality of what he is teaching," he continued. "His relationship with the learner is one of closeness, friendship. He shares his own experience and gets a response to what he is teaching."

Elimination of the "knowledge approach" to selecting teachers has an effect on the students, Richards believes. "When you have the approach that puts an emphasis on knowledge, the kid who grew up in Sunday school can put down the kid off the street who doesn't know the difference between Adam, David and Jesus. But if the school is based on relating the Bible to life experience, knowledge doesn't make that much difference," he said. "The kid off the street may have a more valid experience of life-

changing encounter with Christ than the one who has the knowledge, but has never applied it to his life. That kind of teaching makes the Bible the living Word of God. The Bible stories give guidance in the lives of the kids. There is a transfer of learning," he explained.

Richards also urges churches to change the atmosphere of the Sunday school room from a classroom to a living room. "Much research shows that students don't feel it is valid to talk about their personal lives and feelings in a school setting," he said. "But the Bible relates to those things. So it is important to have a setting where they can share and feel it is valid to talk about their feelings and experiences." (from the *Covenant Companion*)

Praying Our Lord's Prayer

by James L. Christensen

I cannot say "Our" if my religion has no room for other people and their needs.
 I cannot say *Father* if I do not demonstrate this relationship in my daily life.
 I cannot say *Who art in heaven* if all my interests and pursuits are earthly things.
 I cannot say *Hallowed be thy name* if I, who am called by his name, am not holy.

I cannot say *Thy kingdom come* if I am unwilling to give up my sovereignty and accept the reign of God.
 I cannot say *Thy will be done* if I am unwilling or resentful of having him in my life.
 I cannot say *on earth as it is in heaven* unless I am truly ready to give myself to his service here and now.
 I cannot say *Give us this day our daily bread* without expending honest effort for it or by ignoring the needs of my fellow man.
 I cannot say *Forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors* if I continue to harbor a grudge against anyone.

I cannot say *Lead us not into temptation* if I deliberately choose to remain in a situation where I am likely to be tempted.
 I cannot say *Deliver us from evil* if I am not prepared to fight in the spiritual realm with the weapon of prayer.
 I cannot say *Thine is the kingdom, the power, the glory* if I do not give disciplined obedience, if I fear what neighbors and friends may say or do, if I seek my own glory first.
 I cannot say *Amen* unless I can honestly say also, "cost what it may, this is my prayer." (from *Creative Ways to Worship* by James L. Christensen, © Fleming H. Revell Company, Old Tappan, NJ. Used by permission.)

Some Contemporary "Blesseds"

by Joan Rosenthal

Blessed are they who encourage their coworkers, for they shall work among friends.

Blessed are they who take pride in their work, for their work shall speak well of them.

Blessed are they who welcome criticism, for they shall need little of it.

Blessed are they whose boss is the Lord, for they shall enjoy good labor-management relations. (from *A.D.* magazine, September, 1977 issue. © 1977 by A.D. Publications, Inc. Used with permission.)

Cheers for the Small School

A major study on higher education indicates that a small, private college is likely to be the most effective for students in

getting degrees, carrying out career plans and developing new attitudes. The study

(Continued on page 31)



That was the experience of Don and Anne Goltz as they considered missionary service a year ago. They sent in their application, and today they are serving at Mbingo Baptist Hospital, Cameroon, where Don is manager. Some of their first impressions as missionaries are as follows:

- "... very nervous about the entire undertaking, insecurity of leaving Canada.
- "... making sure we leave our homeland debt-free, selling our house and car.
- "... breathtaking view of airlight and realization of

We Felt The Holy Spirit Was Leading Us

Introducing Missionaries Don and Anne Goltz
by Oryn Meinerts

how small our world is.

"... praising God for safety and late arrival, for by then customs were closed, and we just walked through.

"... lost one suitcase with all our Bibles, some missionaries we are, no sword!

"... excitement of seeing our new home."

Don and Anne are well qualified for the management position they now fill at Mbingo. Donald Gladwin Goltz was born on Aug. 7, 1946, in Yorkton, SK. He is the oldest of the three children of Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Goltz of Springside, SK. Don grew up in a Christian home. His family loves the Lord and supports his present mission involvement. Several relatives are missionaries, including Miss Betty Mantay, in Cameroon and Herman Effa formerly in Brazil. Don accepted Christ as his personal Savior when he was eight years old and was baptized in 1957 at Central Baptist Church, Yorkton.

Don completed high school in Yorkton in 1965, earned his teacher's diploma from Regina Teachers College in 1967, and graduated from the University of Alberta in Edmonton in 1972 with a Bachelor of Education degree majoring in history. While in college, he met and married Anne Petrich. They are both members of the Lakeview Heights Baptist Church, Kelowna, BC.

Mrs. Anne Goltz was born on Feb. 13, 1945, in Poland. She is the first of the three children born to Mr. and Mrs. Wilhelm Petrich of Kelowna. She states, "My parents are

both born-again believers, and it was this strong faith in Jesus Christ that reunited our family in West Germany." The family immigrated to Canada in 1952, settling in Trochu, AB. Anne accepted Christ as her personal Savior during an evangelistic service in Three Hills, AB. She was then baptized by the Rev. Bob Hoffman and became a member of the Trochu Baptist Church in 1958. She was already interested in mission work.

After high school, Anne went to the North American Baptist College in Edmonton and received her B.R.E. with



Ann and Don Goltz

a major in Christian Education and a minor in music in 1969. She and Don were married on Aug. 9, 1969. They have two children, Taunya Anne-Marie, born Feb. 27, 1971, and Timothy David, born June 28, 1973.

When Don graduated from University, they moved to Ponoka, AB, where Don began his teaching career in a Hutterite colony which, he states, he found very exciting. Two years later, he accepted a teaching position in Kelowna. While there, they became active in the Lakeview Baptist Church Extension work. This was their second experience in church extension, having worked with the Greenfield Baptist Church Extension project in Edmonton while they were attending school.

Regarding his call to missions, Don says, "My sense of mission has not always been the desire to go to the foreign field, although I did consider going a few times as a teacher when I was single. The work of a smaller church or church extension was where my mission lay for a time. I believe it was George Baab who first initiated the idea about going to the foreign field. The great need for the type of service we could give was greatly impressed on my mind." As Don was being drawn to missions, Anne saw her call to missions being fulfilled. After talking and praying about missionary service, Don and Anne came to the conviction that this was the direction in which the Holy Spirit was leading them. They applied for service and went to Cameroon in September 1978. Don is now serving as manager of the Mbingo Baptist Hospital and New Hope Village. Anne is teaching their daughter. They are active in the church work and in the many extra assignments that arise. Let's join them in prayer that the Lord will use them and that he might receive the glory. □

Supported by Prayers From Home

Introducing Missionary Joel Michelson

by Oryn Meinerts



Joel Michelson

Joel and his sister, Carol, visited them in 1977. During this visit, Joel was presented with the opportunity of short-term missionary service. In January 1978, he applied for this as a teacher. In June 1978, he graduated from the University of Colorado with a B.S. in Geology. In September he left for Cameroon to serve, to adjust, and to face new challenges as a teacher at Joseph Merrick Baptist College, Ndu. He was met by his parents on arrival in Cameroon and now has the unique experience of being a mis-

“When he left in September 1978, to begin two years of short-term missionary work in Cameroon, Joel Michelson said, “I am both apprehensive and optimistic. The apprehension is due to the natural fear of the unknown. Although my parents have served many years in Cameroon, and I have had the opportunity to briefly visit there, there are many things that I know I will have to adjust to in regard to culture, diet, language and living conditions. But as I prepare to go, I am also optimistic that I will be able to face whatever challenges I may meet with God’s help. I know that I am supported in my work by prayers from home. I am also optimistic that I will be able to perform a useful service for the Lord as a teacher and Christian friend to my students in secondary school and that, by example, they might better understand what it means to be a Christian and live the Christian life, regardless of the pressures which society may impose. I realize what a great responsibility I will have in caring for and shaping these young lives and pray that I might be mentally and spiritually up to the task, whatever the conditions in which I find myself.”

Joel Charles Michelson is the fourth of five children born to Edwin and Verna Michelson. He was born on Oct. 10, 1954, in Bango, Cameroon, during his parents’ first term as missionaries. The Michelsons returned to the United States for the time the children attended school and grew up. During this time, the family lived in McLaughlin, SD, Wichita, KS, LaSalle, CO, and Peoria, IL, where Rev. Michelson pastored North American Baptist churches. Joel received Christ as his Savior as a child, was baptized in 1962 by his father, and joined the North Sheridan Baptist Church in Peoria.

Joel was active in sports and a number of honor societies during his school years. He states that the main influences in his spiritual development were his parents, an older brother and sister, and the writings of C. S. Lewis.

After the children were through high school, Joel’s parents returned to Camer-

The Rev. Oryn Meinerts is a N.A.B. missionary home on furlough from Cameroon.



**YOUR INVESTMENT CAN NOW YIELD
A DOUBLE DIVIDEND
through the
CHURCH EXTENSION INVESTORS FUND
or
CHURCH EXTENSION INVESTORS FUND
CANADA, LTD.**

1. Your investment will be earning interest to secure your future.
2. Your investment will help qualified new churches construct facilities for worship and study at reduced interest loans.

Yes, I want to earn Double Dividends.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City _____ State/Prov. _____ Zip _____

I wish to invest \$_____ (multiples of \$100 please). I am aware that I will earn quarterly interest.

Investment period: 1 yr.—5½%. 2 yrs.—5¾%.
3 yrs.—6%. 4 yrs.—6¼%. 5 yrs.—6¾%

Please send me information concerning Church Extension Investors Fund.

Send coupon to:
Church Extension Investors Fund
1 So. 210 Summit Ave.
Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181

The Rev. Oryn Meinerts is a N.A.B. missionary home on furlough.



CHURCH EXTENSION BUILDERS REPORT

SUN PRAIRIE, WI, CHURCH EXTENSION PROJECT

by Dave Rushton

March 1979

It was Sunday, October 29, 1978. We had taken a definite step of faith to rent a building and begin Sunday morning worship services. As pastor, my faith was there, but it was small. I had purchased ten hymnbooks, feeling that would be adequate for the 15 to 20 people I thought would actually be in attendance. What a joy it was when the Lord so blessed that we had to share those ten hymnbooks among 55 people.

That was the unique story of our first Sunday, but it demonstrates the way the Lord has been at work here in Sun Prairie. For the past few years, the Wisconsin Association Church Extension Committee felt the leading of the Lord to start a church here. Sun Prairie is a community which has grown from 2,000 to 17,000 in the past ten years. The need for another balanced evangelical ministry was there. On April 17, 1978, that committee, along with the Church Extension Department of the North American Baptist Conference, called Dave and Carol Rushton to start the work. They moved to Sun Prairie on July 1, 1978.

The Lord had been at work preparing for this church long before that, though. We found that there were people here already to start a church. There were even some who had prayed for it for years. We were brought together by the Lord for our first Bible study on July 27, 1978. We also have a women's Bible study group on Wednesday morning.

The church chose the name, Community Baptist Church. As we shared together our hopes for the future of the church, we arrived at a common goal: *being* the church to one another and in the world. We are spending a great deal of our time openly studying God's Word together so that he might make us the people individually and collectively that he wants us to be. While we don't have much in terms of program at this point, it has been thrilling to see the body minister to one another, as we have need.

In the very near future, we are hoping to establish a Sunday Bible School and a regular time of sharing and growth for the men of the congregation. We are also looking forward to God's direction concerning land and a multipurpose facility. Your prayer and financial support is needed. Send financial gifts to North American Baptist Confer-

Dave Rushton is pastor of Community Baptist Church, Sun Prairie, WI.

ence, 1 So. 210 Summit Ave., Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181, designated for Church Extension project in Sun Prairie, WI. □



The congregation of Community Baptist Church



Children's church.



Pastor Dave Rushton and family.



The congregation at worship.

PERSONAL ESTATE PLANNING



N.A.B. Gift Annuities

(A Guaranteed Income and Gift While Living)
by Everett A. Barker

What are N.A.B. Gift Annuities really about? What benefits can they provide for you?

WHAT IS A GIFT ANNUITY?

A gift annuity, regardless of which charitable organization offers it, is two things: a gift for the organization and a lifetime income for the individual or couple. Charitable organizations are the only ones that legally qualify to issue gift annuities. Insurance companies sell commercial annuities but not gift annuities, and there is a difference. A commercial annuity offers a greater dollar return because no gift is being made. If you have limited dollars and must have maximum income, a commercial annuity is better for you. Because a gift annuity is partially a gift, the United States and Canadian governments provide tax savings on the income which has the effect of raising the rate of your return. The higher your tax bracket, the greater your return. In addition, the United States allows a tax deduction on the gift portion for the year contributed with a five year carryover privilege. An annuity should not come from money you need for living expense but rather from investment type dollars to provide income.

HOW DOES A GIFT ANNUITY WORK?

You permanently give a specified amount of money to the Conference in return for a guaranteed life income determined by your age. You also receive an income tax deduction for the gift portion and exclu-

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

sion amount from the annual income, as computed by government tables. The Conference invests the money in a Segregated Annuity Fund to draw interest so that you can be paid; it is legally bound to this agreement as long as you live. Your gift does not go directly to the work until you die.

Incidentally, statistics indicate that people who have gift annuities live longer than average. After death, the gift is released from the fund to the Conference ministry to which you designate it, such as home or overseas missions, Church Extension, N.A.B. College, N.A.B. Seminary, to name a few possibilities.

HOW CAN YOU FUND A GIFT ANNUITY?

Cash or securities can be used. If you fund a gift annuity with appreciated securities, there may be a reduced capital gains tax under the complicated bargain sale rule, but there are ways to prorate the tax over your life expectancy.

WHAT DOES AN N.A.B. GIFT ANNUITY OFFER YOU?

1. Safety of investment.
2. Tax savings for the gift and income.
3. Good returns—(see column to the right).
4. A contribution to the Conference.

Gift annuitants have found satisfaction in receiving a good return on their investment and peace of mind in knowing that the gift will ultimately benefit the Conference ministries. We have annuitants who have as many as eleven separate annuities. Have you considered an N.A.B. Gift Annuity to provide you with an income now and a gift for the Conference later? □

NORTH AMERICAN BAPTIST GIFT ANNUITY RATES (N.A.B. Gift Annuities since 1899) SINGLE LIFE

Age	Rate	Age	Rate
35 & under	4.5%	63	6.1
36	4.6	64	6.1
37	4.7	65	6.2
38	4.7	66	6.3
39	4.8	67	6.4
40	4.8	68	6.5
41	4.8	69	6.6
42	4.9	70	6.8
43	4.9	71	6.9
44	4.9	72	7.1
45	5.0	73	7.3
46	5.0	74	7.5
47	5.1	75	7.7
48	5.1	76	7.9
49	5.2	77	8.2
50	5.2	78	8.4
51	5.3	79	8.7
52	5.4	80	9.0
53	5.4	81	9.3
54	5.5	82	9.6
55	5.6	83	9.9
56	5.6	84	10.2
57	5.7	85	10.5
58	5.7	86	10.8
59	5.8	87	11.1
60	5.8	88	11.4
61	5.9	89	11.7
62	6.0	90 & over	12.0

(These rates apply in the United States. Canadian rates differ and are available upon request.)

Two Lives—Joint and Survivor table available upon request.

Send today for the following information without cost or obligation:

- "Questions and Answers About Gift Annuities."
- Canadian Gift Annuity Rates
- Gift Annuity Slide Calculator (U.S. only)

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

STATE/PROVINCE _____ ZIP _____

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

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Mr. and Mrs. Samuel J. Rich of Hillsboro, OR, were guests of honor at a reception held at Bethany Baptist Church on Nov. 12, 1978, celebrating their 50th wedding



anniversary. Hosts at the open house were their four sons, Robert of Hillsboro, Donald of Astoria, Bruce of Glendale Heights, IL, and Sam, Jr., of Portland, and their wives.

Mr. and Mrs. William Scheller of Chilliwack, BC, celebrated their 50th wedding



anniversary at Victoria Avenue Baptist Church with a service and banquet on Nov. 24, 1978. They have one son Clarence.

Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Smith of First Baptist Church, Appleton, MN, celebrated



their golden wedding anniversary on July 30, 1978. Their son, Allen, was the master of ceremonies. The Smiths have six children.

EMERY, SD. Members of the W.M.S. of First Baptist Church sponsored a drive for good used clothing in November 1978 to send to our Spanish-American Mission in the San Luis Valley, Colorado. A total of 900 lbs. of clothing was received and delivered to the Rev. Earl Ahrens by Mr. and Mrs. Ed Decker of Emery, who drove to the Mission.

The Board of Trustees supervised the project of painting the walls in the church basement. Members volunteered their time and service.

On December 24, the Birthday Offering for Missions, in which each member was challenged to contribute the total amount resulting from twenty-five cents for each year of their age, reached the sum of \$3,975.35 and brought the grand total for mission offerings to \$35,050.00 for 1978, exceeding the \$32,000.00 goal by \$3,050.00! The Lord is to be praised for the evidence that stewardship has been practiced in many areas in the past year. The Rev. Charles Hiatt is pastor. (Mrs. Otto V. Bleeker, reporter.)

CARRINGTON, ND. On Sunday evening, Dec. 3, 1978, a beautifully arranged candlelight service, consisting of solos, duets and appropriate readings centered around the birth of Christ, was presented by the music committee of Calvary Baptist Church. The Christmas story was given by Pastor Frank Unruh. The congregation participated in carol singing.

At our Christmas program, the play, "The Inn Keeper's Daughter," was presented.

A voluntary number from each home was given at the New Year's Eve service, followed by a candlelight service at which we had the opportunity to dedicate or rededicate our lives for the coming year. (Vi Pepple, reporter.)

WEST FARGO, ND. On Dec. 10, 1978, at the Grace Baptist Church, Miss Barbara Kieper, our missionary from Warwar, Nigeria, spoke of her work there, and the needs and concerns of the missionaries.

During the evening service, she showed slides and led a question and answer period. This was followed by a turkey dinner. The Rev. Lester Buenning is pastor. (Frances Abrahamson, reporter.)

VENTURIA, ND. The Venturia Baptist Church held its Harvest-Mission Fest on Oct. 8, 1978. The guest speaker was the Rev. Milton Falkenberg of Gackle. A potluck dinner was held in the church basement following the morning worship service.

The Venturia Baptist Church had special meetings from Oct. 30 to Nov. 5, 1978. Rev. James Porterfield from the McIntosh and Isabel Baptist Churches was the speaker. Special music was given by various people. Rev. Porterfield's messages were meaningful and inspiring. The Rev. Randall C. Tschetter is pastor. (NyLetta V. Heupel, reporter.)

WINNIPEG, MB. The services of Walter D. Schroedter, son of the Rev. Walter Schroedter of Vancouver, at German Baptist Mission Church this past summer were much appreciated by the young people and the congregation. He accepted the call by the church as youth pastor and will begin his ministry in May 1979 after the completion of his theological studies.



At the watchnight service, we were privileged to baptize ten young people. The Rev. Siegfried Hoppe is pastor of the church. (Arthur Arndt, reporter.)

STAFFORD, KS. On the evening of Dec. 10, 1978, at Calvary Baptist Church, three persons followed the Lord in baptism.

On Jan. 7, 1979, they received the hand of fellowship along with three persons who joined our church by letter. The pastor is the Rev. Elton Kirstein. (Mrs. Alfred Hildebrand, reporter.)

KELOWNA, BC. Lakeview Heights Baptist Church, with the Rev. Ed Hohn, pastor, dedicated the new church building on Dec. 3, 1978. Five hundred and twenty-five persons crowded into the sanctuary intended to seat 350. The Rev. John Ziegler, acting secretary for Church Extension, Oakbrook Terrace, IL, brought two dynamic messages. The choir of 20 voices in addition to a youth choir and a junior choir provided music. The pastors from the other two N.A.B. churches in Kelowna as well as from Vernon and Osoyoos also participated in the service.

In its early beginnings, the church met at the Green Bay Baptist Camp. By September 1974, it had 33 members. The congregation later met at a neighborhood elementary and then secondary school. Attendance the first Sunday in the new building was 185. Necessary personnel came just when they were needed: Trevor Steen, choir director, and Carl Larson, youth leader. The area consists of approximately 15,000 people, with our church as the only place of worship.

Our church, only four years old, has sent out three missionaries: Don and Anne Goltz and two children to Cameroon and Bob Simpson, Literature Crusades, Chicago. (O. Zimmerman, secretary.)

SWAN RIVER, MB. Sod-turning ceremonies were held Thanksgiving Sunday for the congregation of Temple Baptist Church. The next day saw 60 to 70 members and

friends removing articles and lumber from the old church, before it was moved off the site. The old building is to be moved to Ethelbert, MB, where it will serve as a place of evangelical worship.

Winter set in with much vengeance, and temperatures dipped to -25°C. But the tremendous task of building went forth. Thus far the basement is in, and the main floor has been laid. By Jan. 2, 1979, the first wall stood. The majority of the work being done is volunteer labor. The cooperation, unity and warmness of members working shoulder-to-shoulder has often been expressed as one factor in making the job in -25°C. weather bearable. The Ladies Aid of the church provided coffee and lunch each afternoon to the men.

The regular services are held at the nearby Seventh Day Adventist Church. Pastor Leland Bertsch is dearly loved by the congregation here, and for him we thank God. (Kay Betcher, reporter.)

APPLETON, MN. At a candlelight baptismal and communion service held on New Year's Eve, two youth were baptized and welcomed into the First Baptist Church by the pastor, the Rev. Terry Jarosch (pictured back row, right). Prior to this, during an evening outdoor service in the summer, nine adults were baptized, and eight persons joined the church.



Miss Daphne Dunger, missionary to Cameroon, was guest speaker at the Harvest-Mission Festival in November.

In November the members of the First Baptist Church helped in every area of five-day evangelistic crusade by the Lundstroms at the Appleton High School Auditorium, where 150 persons accepted Christ as Savior. (Gloria Giese, church clerk.)

ST. BONIFACIUS, MN. The Minnetrista Baptist Church hosted the Minnesota-La Crosse Association in September 1978. The Jerry Fluth family, missionaries in Africa who are home on furlough, presented an excellent picture of missionary family life in Africa.

On November 18, we celebrated Thanksgiving. Monie and Jerry Fluth shared the message during morning service. A traditional Thanksgiving dinner followed for everyone in the dining area.

The Church, founded in 1858, observed its 120th anniversary on November 20. The Sunday evening service consisted of a summary of the history of the Church read

by Mayda Bergs. Reminiscences were given by Irene Maas. Both the above are grandnieces of the church's first pastor, the Rev. John Wendt. A letter of congratulation from Jimmy Carter, President of the U.S.A., was read. During the service, many people shared their talents through music, poetry, and a children's story.

With a great feeling of regret, we met in a farewell gathering to honor the Rev. Delvin Bertsch and family. Pastor Bertsch's last message was given on Dec. 24, 1978. He is now pastor of Central Baptist Church, Yorkton, SK. (Irene Maas, reporter.)

LA SALLE, CO. On Dec. 24, 1978, a beautiful stained glass window was dedicated to God in memory of Mrs. Josephine Meyer Croissant at First Baptist Church. On



Christmas Eve our annual Sunday School program was presented to a large audience. The Rev. Ronald Stevens is pastor. (Mrs. Virginia Jepson, reporter.)

MEDICINE HAT, AB. On Nov. 26, 1978, the Grace Baptist Church had a combined baptismal service with the Hilda Baptist-Evangelical Church. Altogether four persons were baptized. Both churches participated in the Lord's Supper at which the four young people were extended the hand of fellowship from their respective churches.

On November 5, the Grace Baptist Ladies Aid Society presented their annual Thanksgiving Program.

A highlight of the year was reached on Christmas Eve when the church choir presented their Christmas cantata, after many months of practicing. Once again the church was filled to capacity. The members of the choir were greatly blessed, as was the audience, as we heard of God's plan for us. (Renita Graham, reporter.)

RIDGEWOOD, NY. The Sunday School children of the Ridgewood Baptist Church presented a program the afternoon of December 10 around the theme: The Sights and Sounds of Christmas. With the manger scene as central, through singing, speaking and playing the violin, they

presented the beauty of Christmas as only children can. The program was under the able leadership of our superintendent, Edith Mangino. A supper and fellowship followed.

The following Sunday the ordinance of baptism was observed when one of our young women took that step of obedience in the worship service. The annual candlelight service at 5 p.m. was presented by the choir and included soloists. A beautiful picture of Bethlehem on Christmas night was drawn in chalk by our talented pastor, the Rev. A. Lamprecht. Fellowship and refreshments followed. (Marion von Ahnen, reporter.)

FESSENDEN, ND. The Omega group sponsored the Good News group who brought an evening of singing. A highlight in our church year was our Harvest and Mission Festival. The Rev. Ron Mayforth, area secretary, was our guest speaker and a noon meal was served. For laymen's Sunday, the men of our church had charge of the evening service. Several men shared "What the Church Meant to Them."

We were greatly blessed by having a music festival with a men's quartet, the Adine Harsch family, Pat and Dennis Hoffman, and our own church groups.

Our young people were asked to present the play, "Born in the Barn," again this year. The Rev. Fred Fuchs is pastor. (Regina Pepple, reporter.)

JAMESBURG, NJ. On December 2, 1978, an ordination council of the Atlantic Association convened in Jamesburg, NJ, in order to consider George O'Carroll for ordination. George is a member of the First Baptist Church of Jamesburg. He is graduate of Rutgers University (B.S. 1961) and of Gordon-Conwell Theological Semi-



nary (M.Div., 1968). The council recommended that the First Baptist Church of Jamesburg proceed with the ordination. Rev. Karl Bieber made all necessary arrangements, and the ordination service was held that same day at 4:00 p.m. (Ulrich B. Laser, council clerk.)

WOODSIDE, NY. The Immanuel Baptist Church celebrated a baptismal service with five candidates on Dec. 3, 1978. The ages of the candidates ranged from nine to 22 years. (Evelyn Wondracek, church clerk.)

WINNIPEG, MB. During December 1978, in the absence of a pastor, several groups of the Rowandale Baptist Church prepared meaningful programs instead of evening services.

The W.M.S. presented a bilingual advent program by candlelight explaining many symbols in relation to Christian living, with Christ being the supreme light.

Mrs. Garry Streuber directed an enlarged choir and instrumentalists in the musical, "The Best of News," by Bryan J. Leech and Tom Fettke, on December 17.

On December 24, the Sunday school delighted old and young with a program.

January 7, 1979, marked the first Sunday with our new pastor, Dr. Stanley Grenz. Dr. Wm. Sturhahn had served as part-time interim pastor since August. (H. Kahler, reporter.)

BROOKS, AB. A remarkable event took place in the life of Brooks Baptist Church on Nov. 11, 1978. More than 80 people gathered at Willow Pines Motel, where, following a supper, the services of merger of two fledgling congregations began.

The area secretary, the Rev. Isador Faszler, in his opening remarks set a high spiritual tone for this occasion. One by one the members of Brooks Baptist Church and Brooks Chapel gave moving

testimonies of their spiritual pilgrimage. Those present who were not committed Christians were stirred by these accounts of how a personal experience with Christ can make a radical change in human lives. The service closed in a fellowship circle as all sang "Blessed Be the Tie."

On Sunday morning, the formal service of merger was conducted by the Rev. Edwin Broadway, the interim pastor of the merged congregation. Members of both congregations participated in a meaningful way. The Rev. John Ziegler, acting secretary for Church Extension, brought the message. A candlelighting ceremony beautifully portrayed the significance of the merger. The moderators, Ted Schmodt of Brooks Baptist and Ed Talbot of Brooks Chapel, lit a central candle, then extinguished the ones they held to signify the merger of two congregations to bring a brighter witness of the redeeming light of Christ's saving grace into the world.

Today the congregation enjoys 80 in attendance, with a membership of 30. A young man has received Christ as Savior since that service, and several families have made application for membership in Brooks Baptist Church. It is one of the stronger witnesses in the rapidly growing city of Brooks. There is a beautiful spirit of love and fellowship in the merged congregation. New officers have been elected to lead the congregation in its aggressive outreach ministry. (John Ziegler, reporter.)

ST. JOSEPH, MI. Oakridge Baptist Church had a dedication service on November 26. A steeple, carillons, and a road sign were

added to the church seven years after the church was built. The chimes were donated by Mr. Tuttle and family of Pennsylvania. Several numbers on the carillons were played during the morning service. The organ was purchased from donations made to the memorial fund.

We also celebrated Pastor Oscar and Joyce Fritzke's 25th wedding anniversary this summer. (Ingrid Hartwig, reporter.)

SPEARFISH, SD. We were privileged to witness the baptism of eleven people (pictured with Pastor Robert Brown, far left) on Dec. 10, 1978, at the Mountain View Baptist Church. Ten of these baptized,



plus three others through transfer and testimony, were received into membership. Our membership now exceeds the 100 mark for the first time. (Robert Brown, pastor.)

vived by her mother, Mrs. Hannah Thole; two sisters: Mrs. Marie St. John and Mrs. Philip Eisenhour, and three brothers: Charles, Collins, and Samuel. Viola was a member of the Calvary Baptist Church, Stafford. Pastor Elton Kirstein officiated at the funeral service.

RUBEN GEORGE, son of Fred F. and Katherina Hausauer George, was born near Lehr, ND, Jan. 13, 1905. He was united to Bertha Goebel on Jan. 17, 1931. They established a home near Lehr and moved into town in 1963. He is survived by his wife Bertha; one son, Larry; one daughter, Mavis Schnabel; six grandchildren; three brothers, and four sisters. In 1954 he was baptized and became a faithful member of the Ebenezer Baptist Church. He died Dec. 7, 1978. Services were held on December 11. The Rev. Perry Schnabel (a grandson) assisted the Rev. A. J. Fischer who officiated at the funeral service.

REV. LYLE O. WACKER, 48, of Glen Ellyn, IL, died Dec. 15, 1978. He was born July 4, 1930, in Underwood, ND, the son of Lydia and the late Edwin Wacker. At the age of 11, he accepted the Lord as Savior in Turtle Lake. In 1950 he married Alice Auch. He

graduated from Sioux Falls College in 1951 and North American Baptist Seminary in 1958. In Oct. 7, 1958, he was ordained by the Turtle Lake Baptist Church, ND. He served as pastor of the Shell Creek Baptist Church, Columbus, NE, 1958-1962, and Calvary Baptist Church, Corn, OK, 1962-1967, then as associate secretary for Church Extension, 1967-1976, and general secretary of Church Extension Department, 1976 until his death. He was an active member of Village Green Baptist Church, Glen Ellyn, IL. Survivors include his wife, Alice; one son, Kevin; his mother, Lydia, and one brother, DuWayne. The Rev. Robert S. Hess, Dr. Gideon Zimmerman, and Dr. Richard Schilke officiated at the memorial service.

OLAVUS B. WINJE, born April 10, 1896, died Nov. 18, 1978, at the age of 82. He married Carrie Ninneman on March 31, 1926. He accepted Christ in 1930, was baptized and joined the First Baptist Church of Appleton, MN. He lived and farmed in the Appleton area most of his life. The couple celebrated their golden wedding anniversary two years ago. To this union two children were born: one son, Lyle Winje, and one daughter, Lois (Mrs. Marvin Osterman). The Rev. Terrance Jarosch officiated at the memorial service.

CLASS OF '79
(Continued from page 13)

will experience the power of Scripture if I will OBEY THE WORD.

In this manner, Scripture becomes more than an intellectual experience for me, but rather I pray, will become a steppingstone to a lifelong Christian maturity.



JOHN W. TUCKER

There is no other book comparable to the Holy Bible, when it comes to wealth of content and the potential effect produced by it in the lives of the living! I depend on the Bible as The Source Book, which provides freshness and meaning for daily living for me and my ministry. It is the Source of Truth: as God's authoritative word to mankind concerning a worthy lifestyle through Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit. It is the Source of true security and safety: offering personal protection for man's soul and providing spiritual weapons with which to successfully defeat our greatest enemy, Satan. The Bible is the Source of Wisdom and Knowledge: from which come the good counsel and effective guidance of God, and the wise insights of experienced men, women, and children who served God in differing cultures, among a variety of peoples, and with similar problems to those we face today.

Finally, the Bible is the Source Book of Correction and Inspiration, for as I continue reading and studying it, it keeps me in touch with my true needs—for dependence upon Jesus, a self-confidence that is humble before God, and confession of my sins that block communication; it rebukes my wrong motives, convicts me of subtle sins, and it stirs up my spirit with God's Spirit until it results in enthusiasm for his work! It is the Source Book of Inspiration: as it has inspired people to write poems, songs, and hymns throughout the ages; plays and radio dramas, and out the ages; books on a variety of subjects, both fiction and non-fiction. The Bible has been and will be a Library of Sources for my family and my ministry.

John is a Master of Divinity student. He is married to Vidella. He is from Arvada, CO.



JIM SCHNEIDER

If I were to pick one word to describe the Bible in relation to my personal life and ministry, it would have to be the word, authority. The Bible, God's Word, has authority over me, God's child. My relationship to God, which has been made possible by the loving act of Christ's death, makes his Word authoritative in my life. The implications of this in ministry are enormous. As a Christian counselor, I believe the Bible presents a relevant pattern of living for man today. I believe man can find answers to life's problems and the key to fulfilled living by following the principles found in Scripture. Because I believe the Bible to be the relevant, authoritative Word of God, I am able to approach a counseling ministry with a unique confidence based on the promise found in Philippians 1:6: "For I am confident of this very thing, that He who began a good work in you will perfect it until the day of Christ Jesus."

Jim is a Master of Arts in Counseling student, is single, and is the editor of our weekly newsletter, "Community Calendar." He is a member of our musical group, EVENSONG, and is from Calgary, AB.



MARK ROBERTSON

Indeed, few of us could look at the Bible with emotional neutrality. Wherever I go, I find that the mention of the word, Bible, evokes either love—or hate; either reverence—or resentment; either peace—or anguish. Perhaps the reason for the varied reactions is that the Bible confronts man in his sin and calls him to

Mark is a Master of Arts in Counseling student. He is single and is from Casper, WY.

humbly forsake and cast himself at the feet of the Mighty One.

The Bible is my staff of life. It tells me of the One in whom I rest. It is the written form of my hope, the only hope. Its message is always contemporary, and its words are true. It is the Gospel, telling me of the wonderful love and forgiveness of him who made me. It comforts me in my sorrow and is my beacon in the storm. It calls me to my glorious destiny.



NORBERT STUBEL

"Jesus loves me this I know, for the Bible tells me so" are the simple words to a familiar children's song, but their meaning is quite profound. How do we know God loves us? Because he has revealed this truth to us in his word, the Bible. In an age when people are craving for love and are seriously questioning their own self-worth, the Bible tells us that "God loved the world (mankind) so much that he gave his only son that anyone who believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life." God's love for man and his subsequent salvation through his son Jesus Christ are vital truths which would be unknown were it not for the Bible. The Bible is God's authoritative Word to man. Therefore, it has a central place in my life and ministry. Without it, I would have no ministry, no message, and no proclamation of hope.

Norbert is a Master of Divinity student. He is pastor of State Line Ebenezer Presbyterian Church, Ellsworth, MN. He is married to Jeanne, who is the receptionist at the seminary, and they have one son, Brent. He is from St. Joseph, MI.



JIM ZURBRUGGEN

I am thankful for the early contact I had with the Bible through my home

in memoriam

LYDIA BERTSCH, 75, of Spearfish, SD, died Dec. 26, 1978. She was born Sept. 22, 1903, at Eureka, SD, accepted Christ as a young person, was baptized and joined the Eureka Baptist Church. She was married to Julius Bertsch on Nov. 4, 1924. Lydia was a charter member of the Isabel Baptist Church, an organist, and was active in the WMS and in many other areas of the church. In 1970 they retired and moved to Spearfish. She was also a charter member of the Mountain View Baptist Church and was active in the Women's Missionary Society. Survivors include her husband, Julius; one son, Elmer, both of Spearfish; two grandchildren; two great-grandchildren, and one sister, Mrs. Sam (Martha) Clemensen. The Rev. Robert F. Brown officiated at the funeral service.

VIOLA PEARL FLANDERMAYER, 69, was born Feb. 8, 1909, at Stafford, KS, and died Dec. 12, 1978. She married Arnold Flandermeyer on Oct. 12, 1926. She is sur-

church and family. I was taught to respect the Bible, because its message was important to people who cared for me as a person. Through God's Word, I came to know Jesus Christ as my personal Savior and Lord. The Bible has come to mean more to me as I have grown in my Christian life. I have had faithful teachers in the local church and here at N.A.B. Seminary who have given me a love for God's Word.

Now I want others to hear the message of the Bible. As I continue to study God's Word, I will be able to proclaim and teach its life-giving truths to others. First, I must let God speak to me through his Word. Then I can challenge people to find the Bible can change their lives and be their guide for living a fruitful life. His Word must always be the most important textbook for my own life and for my ministry to others.

Jim is a Master of Divinity student. He is married to Rebecca. Jim is from Elgin, IA.



FRANK THOMAS

To the child, a loving father has the final word in everything he does. Without the father's commands of love and words of guidance, the child would be lost, confused, and frightened. In the same way, the words of our loving Father in heaven which come to us through the Holy Scriptures are his revelation to guide us in the

Frank is a Master of Divinity student. He is assistant pastor of Linwood Wesleyan Church, Sioux Falls. He is married to Lori, who is a ward secretary at Sioux Valley Hospital and a fulltime student at Stenotype Institute. He is from O'Neill, NE.

THE ADVENTURE . . .
(Continued from page 7)

Another important matter in Bible studies in Christians' homes is that it is a church-centered plan and is not based merely upon individual Christians' zeal and interest. It is to be the church's evangelistic outreach and not a few people's

way of holiness. Without the Bible, I could know nothing about God, for I can only understand his nature and his wisdom for living as he reveals himself in the Word. I consider the Bible my source of strength and inspiration. Through the Scriptures, God leads us to salvation as the Holy Spirit illuminates, and by the Scriptures, God leads his Church. I believe the Bible is infallibly God's final word in all spiritual matters, authoritative in all our conduct, and the primary tool God uses to convict the heart and sanctify his people. In my ministry, the Bible is the final authority, and I subject myself to its mandates while believing on its promises as God's words for me and my people.



CARLO WALTH

This is a day in which change takes place faster than we can comprehend. The changes of the last 50 years are incredible, showing more "progress" than the previous 100 years. What about 25 years from now? What will life be like on my 25th wedding anniversary in the year 2001? Is there anything solid for me to hold on to in this fast moving society?

"Heaven and earth will pass away, but God's words will not pass away" (Mark 13:31). Praise God for his unchanging quality. The same influence that God's Word has had on my life and lives of others will be experienced throughout days to come, as we are faithful to it. Lives will

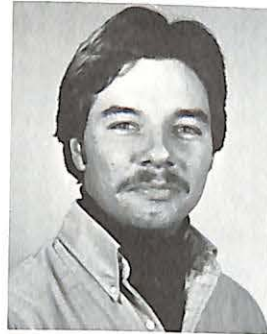
Carlo is a Master of Divinity student. He is minister of youth and music at First Baptist Church, George, Iowa. He is married to Jean Ann who is a student at Sioux Falls College. Carlo and Jean Ann are members (Carlo is team leader) of our musical group EVENSONG. Carlo is from Bismarck, North Dakota.

dedicated endeavor. It is of significance to recognize that it is not what these Christians are doing in their homes, but what the body of Christ as a whole is doing. We now have four Bible studies in homes in the morning and five in the evening.

In the first year and a half, we faced difficulties in getting response and frustrations in little seen results in view of the

continue to be changed and renewed wherever there is careful and regular commitment to its precepts. Without its daily impact in our lives, we surely compromise with the world and are shaped into its mold.

As a servant of the Word, I am assured an unending opportunity to know its powerful effect in my life and to have opportunity to see its effect in the lives of others. This is exciting motivation for a lifetime of ministry.



JOEL ZIMBELMAN

Christians of all stripes, from Conservative Evangelical to Radical Marxist Catholic, seem to be rallying around a new dedication to the primacy of Scripture. Indeed, I feel we are witnessing a vibrant new emphasis concerning the necessity of the Bible in our lives. The crucial concern, however, is what to do with the Bible once we accept Christ as the norm for our lives. How does it affect my actions and my relationship to my fellow man? At this point, we need to re-examine the basic tenets of Christ's life and allow him to serve as a guide for our further actions, especially in those sticky areas we encounter: divorce, ministry to the poor and exploited, questions concerning our accumulation of wealth, and our national and personal concerns of justice and power. An "evangelism explosion" is a great idea, but when it aims only at numbers and commitment without any outward change reflecting inward piety, it's time for us to go back to the primary source, the life of Christ, as a living example pointing to the right priorities.

Joel is a Master of Arts in Religious Studies student. He is single and is from Sioux Falls.

hours and hard work. But this was what we all had to go through in God's sight. We fought in our own strength, even though we said that we depended upon God. He led us to the point that we gave up and expected nothing from our work. We were made to empty ourselves before him. And then strange things began to happen. We began to see people come to these Bible studies in homes. We never

Walter D. Schroedter becomes youth pastor at German Baptist Mission Church, Winnipeg, MB, in May 1979, following the completion of his theological studies.

Carlo Walth accepted the call as minister of youth at Bethany Baptist Church, Portland, OR, effective following his May 1979 graduation from the North American Baptist Seminary.

The Rev. Jacob Neudorf died suddenly on Jan. 15, 1979, at age 51. He had served the following N.A.B. pastorates: Fort George Baptist, Prince George, BC, 1971-79; Creston Baptist, BC, 1966-71; Melville Baptist, SK, 1963-66, and Fenwood Baptist, SK, 1958-66.

Larry Turner resigned as minister of youth at Bethel Baptist Church, Anaheim, CA, and is engaged in secular work at present.

Laurie A. Taylor assumed the pastorate of Emmanuel Baptist Church, Valleyview, AB, on Jan. 1, 1979. He previously was pastor of Rabbit Hill Baptist Church, South Edmonton, AB, since 1976.

Willis Carrico is the new pastor of Thunderbird Baptist Church, Phoenix, AZ, effective Jan. 21, 1979.

The Rev. Rudie Matheuszik accepted a leadership position at a conference, study, and vacation center for the ministry of the International Fellowship of Evangelical Students, which is the umbrella organization for the Inter-Varsity Christian Fellowship organizations around the world, in Austria. He has served as pastor of Memory Lane Baptist Church, Wichita, KS, since 1970.

The Rev. Eugene Thompson resigned as pastor of Grace Baptist Church, Sheffield, IA, in July 1978.

ceased to distribute tracts and visit from house to house. We did this more energetically, leaving consequences completely in his hands. The largest group we have now is thirty persons and the smallest, three. Through this ministry, we are blessed with people being made disciples and incorporated into the Body of Christ through baptism.

The usual pattern for their coming to

The Rev. John Ziegler, has been named acting general secretary of the Church Extension Department until the election at the Triennial Conference in Bismarck, ND, in July 1979.

The Rev. Kenneth E. MacDonald accepted the position of senior pastor of Meadowlark Baptist Church, Edmonton, AB, effective April 1979. He served at First Baptist Church, Arnprior, ON, since 1973.

Charles Collett resigned from the pastorate of Bethel Baptist Church, High Prairie, AB, and is enrolled in the graduate program at Biola College in California.

George Dunn is the new pastor at Bethel Baptist Church, High Prairie, AB. He formerly was a missionary with Christian and Missionary Alliance.

The Rev. Len Johnson, pastor of Westland Baptist Church, Edmonton, AB, resigned effective Jan. 31, 1979. He served there since the church's beginning in 1977.

The Rev. Michael Relton resigned from the pastorate of Esterhazy Baptist Church effective March 31, 1979. He has served there since 1976.

The Rev. Norris Helms was ordained by Sunkist Baptist Church, Anaheim, CA, on Oct. 26, 1978. He is assistant to the pastor of the church, Dr. Adolph Braun.

The Rev. Marvin Busenius resigned as pastor of Tri-Community Baptist Church, Elk Grove Village, IL, effective March 31, 1979. He has been pastor of the Church Extension project since 1977. He will become Director of Program Guidance of Church Growth Services, South Bend, IN, April 1979.

faith in Christ is that they first attend Bible studies in homes for a while, sometimes over a year, and begin to express their desire to come to a church service. I think it is important to recognize that they are coming to know Christ not merely through these meetings themselves, which are instrumental and useful, but mainly through the quality of life they have seen in Christians in their homes.

The Rev. Lyle Wacker, general secretary for Church Extension of the North American Baptist Conference since 1967, died Dec. 15, 1978. Tributes to his ministry appear on pages 16 and 17.

The Rev. William J. Loge became pastor of Grace Baptist Church, Sheffield, IA, on Jan. 17, 1979. He previously served as pastor of First Baptist Church, Valley City, ND. Mr. Loge continues to be available as a speaker and vocalist for deeper life meetings.

Ed Hughes became pastor of Grant Park Baptist Church, Winnipeg, MB, on Jan. 7, 1979. He previously was associated with Winnipeg Bible College.

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

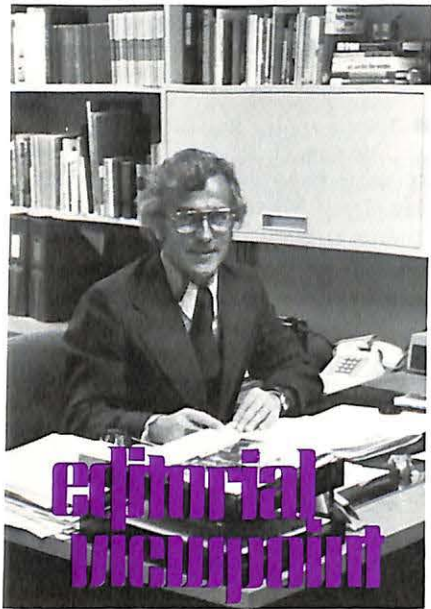
ANNIVERSARY DAYS—will be held on June 7-8, 1979, at the Camp.

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.

Thus the key to make this kind of program work effectively is to train lay leaders and those whose homes have been set apart. From the beginning, we had training classes. We learned to suffer together and to share each other's problems. The laymen take the responsibility of leading Bible studies in homes. In



Dare to Reach Out

The title page of this issue has a clear message: Dare to Reach Out! The first few pages tell the story of people who did dare to reach out and who, in doing so, had life-transforming experiences.

Turning once more to the title page, I can imagine that some of the readers will be turned off by the people portrayed. The women look more like street walkers and the men like hustlers. Why should such people appear on the cover of a Christian magazine?

Even though the artwork was not

specifically designed for the BAPTIST HERALD, but rather for the promotional program in all North American Baptist churches, I was very happy to incorporate it in this magazine. Are these not the very people Christ has commissioned us to search out and look after? What risk is there in taking care of the nice, law-abiding citizens, who occasionally even attend our churches and thank the pastor for "blessed sermons"? We feel comfortable with them.

It's the other kind of people who irritate and even annoy us. We have a hard time to relate to those who ignore or even make fun of our church, the pastor, family devotions, prayer and our faith in God. No doubt, we love all people for the sake of Christ, but it's these characters with no respect for the things we treasure who kindle our anger.

The cartoonist Schultz had hit the nail on the head when he has Charlie Brown say: "I love mankind; it's people I cannot stand."

And how are we to react? God showed his love for us "in that while we were yet sinners Christ died for us" (Rom. 5:8). He dared to reach out, and this risk cost him the life of his only-begotten son, Jesus. But it also won him countless children, who in their sins up to then had been followers of Satan.

Are we willing to follow the example of our Lord God in reaching out to those who are not yet his children? We might come across some very unlikeable persons who might even frighten us.

I am not speaking for instance of the monetary grant the World Council of Churches has given to support the so-called "Patriotic Front" in Rhodesia. My

sympathy is with the two large church bodies who suspended their WCC membership when their protest went unheard, not to support this organization of guerilla fighters and terrorists, who had massacred thousands of innocent blacks and whites.

Rather, I am thinking of the unlimited possibilities of individuals to spend themselves on other people, loving them, understanding them and winning them for Christ.

I am praising God for the outreach efforts of the North American Baptist Conference. For many decades N.A.B.s have given time, talent and money to reach out to people at home and overseas. We have built churches, hospitals, schools and houses for needy people of many races. Often the risk was great, because we did not know whether we would have enough funds to keep our missionary work going. But we did not stop. Inflation has threatened us for many years. As the outreach work grew, so did the demand for support. Were we to pack up and go home to a more comfortable environment?

Again I want to praise the Lord for many, many North American Baptists who would not quit. While some felt offended by the open appeals for support, so many others joyfully gave and sacrificed.

This year, the goal for the Laura Reddig Easter Mission Offering is \$300,000. We don't apologize for making a strong appeal. We know "that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ" (Phil 1:6).

Dare to reach out! Support your missionaries—they count on us. RJK □

work in our lives too. There were other testimonies—they were all good. Thank you for including them in BAPTIST HERALD.

I especially liked your editorial perspective on the Jonestown tragedy. I'm glad you exposed this as a work of Satan, a cult which takes the truth and twists it into a lie. We need to expose other cults, also. Our people need to know the truth. This is the only way we can expose Satan for what he is. If we don't—he'll continue to confuse even God's elect.

Thanks again for a great issue of BAPTIST HERALD. Rosa B. Bieber, Branch, LA.

grow under his feet, and that seemed contagious. To us, Lyle was very human. He understood who we were, what we are, and what we are becoming. He opened himself to us. He shared what was important to us.

We at Fellowship Bible Church, a Church Extension work, have a special fondness in our hearts for Lyle. For us there is no need of flowers, carved stones, or other reminders, although these are good and proper. From coast to coast

there are hundreds and soon to be thousands of living memorials to testify to his life and purpose as God's vessel.

We are thankful for Lyle's life and call ordained by God. We are thankful for the

North American Baptist Conference and our continuing relationship initiated by Lyle. We are also deeply grateful to Alice and Kevin for freeing Lyle to be used in all of our lives.

Lyle Wacker was a truly genuine Chris-

tian friend and brother. Many who have never met him will be changed because of his mission. Those of us who knew him will never be the same because of his life. □

MY BIBLE!

(Continued from page 6)

The shock is still on Daniel's face when he comes to tell us.

"Daniel, do you believe all things work together for good to them that love the Lord, to them that are called according to his purpose?"

"Yes, I do," he says. "Pray with me. This is hard to take."

"Daniel, can you give thanks to the Lord?"

"It says in 1 Thess. 5:18, 'In everything give thanks.' Yes, yes, it does say that. I

will give thanks. I do not know why, but if God says, 'Give thanks,' then I will give thanks." We prayed together. Slowly the shock wears off.

School begins again. Daniel is at a loss, for all of his notes of five years have burned. It is now time for the West African School Certificate Exam. Daniel puts everything in the hands of the Lord.

The results of the exam do not come and do not come. Why? Has he failed? No! He remains confident in his God.

Finally the day comes. The results are out. Daniel finds he is first out of the 64 students who took the exam. He has passed and has gained entrance into the university.

"Praise the Lord. Praise the Lord. I must go at once to Rev. and Mrs. Goodman to share this good news and give thanks with them to God."

The Lord, school, books, education—this is the order of priority for Daniel's life. Pray for him. □

THE ADVENTURE . . .

(Continued from page 29)

order to have more home Bible studies, it is necessary to have them take full responsibility in leading these meetings, so that I am available for other opportunities.

All of these have the aim of building the body of Christ in Tsu and its vicinity. We are hoping to establish a central church, around which are placed as many preaching stations and Bible study groups as possible, making them the front bases for the outreach within a range of 25 kilometers in diameter. We are confident in God that he will use our dedicated Christians to manifest his love, concern, and care for those who are in need of the source of life. □

GROWING EDGE

(Continued from page 19)

was based on a ten-year research project called Cooperative Institutional Research Program (CIRP). It includes data from questionnaires and grade reports on more than 200,000 students at 300 colleges and universities. Small colleges were generally found superior to larger ones in student achievement and involvement; however, students found social life better at larger schools. (from *Youthletter*, March 1978.)

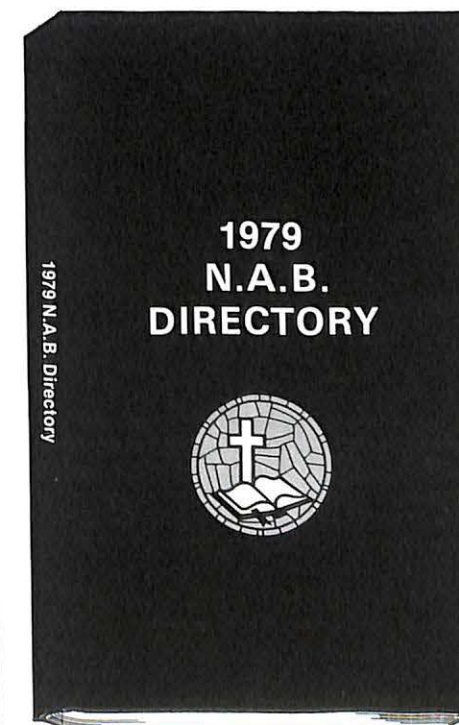
Order Your 1979 N.A.B. Directory!

For only \$2.50 per copy you can know all about the North American Baptist Conference

At your fingertips will be important and valuable information:

1977 Statistics
North American Baptist
Conference Committees and
Boards:
General Council
Association Representatives to
The General Council

Committee on Constitutional
Changes
Communications Committee
Finances and Stewardship
Committee
Investment Committee
Church Loan Fund Committee
North American Baptist
Minister's Fellowship
Pension Fund
Church Extension Department
Church Ministries Department
General Missionary Society
North American Baptist College
North American Baptist
Seminary
Stewardship and
Communications Department
Homes for the Aging
Missionaries' Addresses
Chaplains' Addresses
Ministers' Addresses
Church Addresses
Conference Activities Calendar
for 1979
Church Index



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

Name _____

Street _____

City _____

State/Prov. _____ Zip _____

\$2.50 enclosed for N.A.B. DIRECTORY

LYLE O. WACKER
(Continued from page 17)

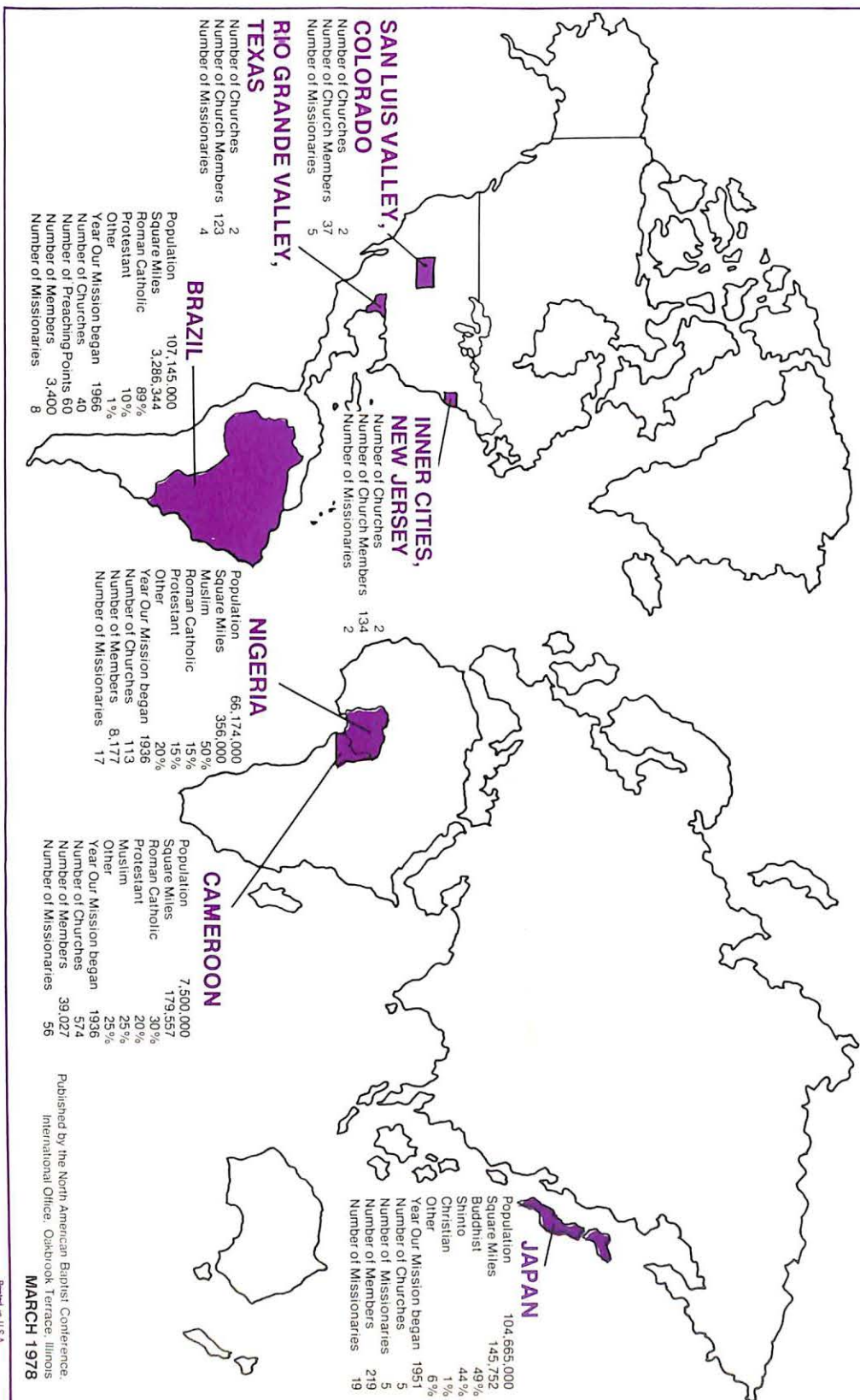
was specific with love. He was grafted into us as a body of believers. Grass did not

baptist herald

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

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

HOME & OVERSEAS MISSION FIELDS OF THE NORTH AMERICAN BAPTIST CONFERENCE



Published by the North American Baptist Conference,
International Office, Oakbrook Terrace, Illinois
MARCH 1978