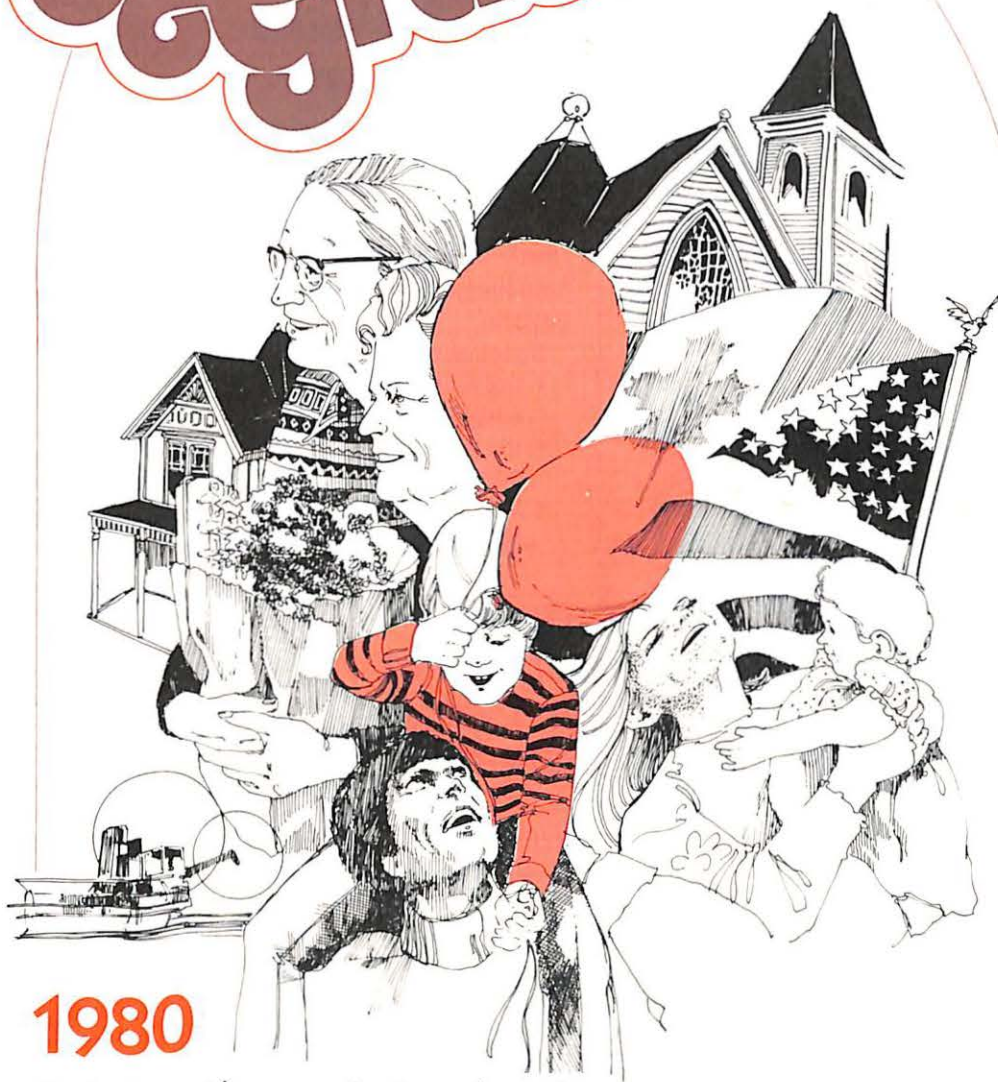


Baptist Herald

October 1980

North American Baptists

People of Gratitude



1980

Celebration of Gratitude

Offering Goal **\$400,000**

People of Gratitude

GOD'S BLESSING IN MISSIONS:

—Today we have 89 overseas missionaries sharing the Good News in Brazil, Cameroon, Japan and Nigeria. In addition, we have seven missionaries working in North America.

So let us express gratitude for:

- the faithfulness of these missionaries
- the continued conversions on all fields
- the strong prayer support from our people.

GOD'S BLESSING IN CHURCH EXTENSION

—Today we support 50 church extension projects in North America.

So let us express gratitude for:

- the 427 conversions that took place in church extension churches in the past year

- 416 members who joined church extension churches in the past year
- The five new churches which have been planted already in 1980.

GOD'S BLESSING IN EDUCATION

—Today we have over 250 students at North American Baptist College in Edmonton, Alberta, and over 200 students at North American Baptist Seminary in Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

So let us express gratitude for:

- the steady increase in student enrollment
- the steady progress in construction of new facilities
- the deep devotion of all faculty members.

GOD'S BLESSING IN CHURCH MINISTRIES

—Today the North American Baptist Conference has more diversity and vitality in Church Ministries than ever before.

So let us express gratitude for ministries such as:

- the "Body" Building Seminars which are strengthening fellowship and opening new channels of communication among N.A.B. church members
- the Women's Missionary Fellowship ministry which has seen significant growth
- the effective ministry of God's Volunteers.

Indeed, we have much to be grateful for. We would hope this Thanksgiving, as you give to the Celebration of Gratitude Offering, you will do so out of a true expression of gratitude to God. Think of what he has done and is doing in your life as well as through N.A.B. ministries and your own church.

Your gift of \$20, \$30 or more will be a great help in reaching our \$400,000 goal. Ask God to help you in deciding what to give.

May this Thanksgiving be a time of great blessing for you. And let us join in prayer, believing that God will do great things with this year's "Celebration of Gratitude Offering."

1980
Celebration of Gratitude
Offering
Goal \$400,000

baptist herald

Volume 58 October 1980 No. 10

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news flash

Evangelism Central at Baptist World Congress

TORONTO, Canada—Evangelism figured largely in the 14th congress of the Baptist World Alliance which was held here July 8-12. Twenty thousand Baptists from 85 lands and every continent met for the international function.

The concluding session of the congress was an evangelistic rally in Maple Leaf Gardens which had been the site for daily meetings. Evangelist Billy Graham, who had brought the concluding address at the past five congresses, addressed a packed arena.

He reminded his fellow Baptists that they had marching orders from Jesus Christ. "Jesus had two great verbs in his vocabulary," he told them. "Those verbs were 'come' and 'go'." Christians, he pointed out, were those who had come to Christ for salvation. Upon conversion, they were under compulsion to go out to reach the world for their Lord, the evangelist told the cross-section of the world's Baptists.

"It is my prayer that Baptists will go out with a fervor that will put all worldly enthusiasm to shame," Graham stated in an arena that has hosted great sports events.

Although he did not minimize the perilous international situation, he cautioned against hopeless despair. Ahead could be Armageddon, he admitted, but Christians should be expectant that the future could hold a mighty turning to God.

The evangelist challenged the Baptists from around the world to let "the Holy Spirit have a monopoly on you." In response to his call, the vast congregation rose to signify commitment. □

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North American Baptists — People of Gratitude

In the Gospel according to Luke we find one of the most heartwarming yet saddening stories in the Bible. The story is the healing of the ten lepers.

This story is a beautiful example of God's mercy. Ten lepers were desperate and in a seemingly impossible situation. They had nowhere to turn. Their only hope was to throw themselves on the mercy of God.

As Jesus walked by that day, the ten lepers cried out "... Jesus, Master, have mercy on us." This is exactly what he did. Without exception, he told them to go and show themselves to the priests.

In a mixture of hope and excitement the ten were off. Luke records that "... as they went, they were cleansed." In desperation they had cried out to God, and in faith they had followed the command of Jesus.

The story might have ended there, but it doesn't. Luke goes on to tell us about the gratitude of one of the ten lepers. This leper, we are told, turned back. In gratitude he returned to Jesus, fell on his face, and gave thanks for what God had done.

Luke then reports the saddening part of the story. Jesus asked two questions: "Were not ten cleansed? But where are the nine?"

Have you ever wondered what you would have done if you had been one of the ten lepers? Hopefully, you would have been the leper of gratitude.

All of us were once very much like the ten lepers. We were lost and desperate. But God by his loving mercy made us whole. Without exception, God invited us to become joint heirs with Jesus Christ and gave us hope for the future.

I am personally very grateful for the mercies of God that have come to me through the ministries of the North American Baptist Conference. First of all, the N.A.B. helped me to know Christ. I became a Christian at age 19 while attending North American Baptist College in Edmonton, AB. I had grown up in a Christian home and attended an N.A.B. church regularly in Swan River, MB; but I rebelled against everything for which they stood. I wanted to do my own thing. I thought my own way was better than the Christian way.

I had many doubts about God. There were times when I cried out in the woods or across the water of a lake, "Is there anybody out there?" I had trouble believing that Christ really had lived on earth, that he had died and was resurrected.

One fall my parents persuaded me to attend N.A.B. College. I had no interest in attending the college, but I thought this was a good way of getting away from home and to be on my own. My secret plan was to go from Swan River to Edmonton, attend the college for a brief time and then to go on to Vancouver, BC, at the west coast of



by John
Binder

Canada, to get a job and be on my own for a while. After about two weeks at the College the whole student body was praying for me, the one and only pagan among them that fall. I did not know about it at the time, but I was in-

formed later. One evening a student asked me to come into his dormitory room to just talk. After some preliminary conversation, he shared with me his personal experience with Jesus Christ. Many people had done that before and tried to lead me to accept Christ, but I always rejected it. This time I felt the Holy Spirit convicting me of my condition as never before. I knew I had to make a decision. I yielded my life to Christ and immediately experienced a tremendous transformation and simultaneous calling into the Gospel ministry. Before that I had never ever thought of being a minister. But as I began to sense the reality of this new life in Christ, I felt there was nothing more important in life to do than to share this experience with others and to help them come to know the Lord as well.

I didn't know how I could ever follow through on that sense of calling into the ministry, because I had quit school after completing grade 8. Now I was already 19 years old without having completed my high school. But the sense of calling grew as I studied the Scriptures and searched for possibilities of getting my education. After two years attending N.A.B. College, I discovered a high school course by correspondence and completed the four years of high school in less than two years. I then applied to Sioux Falls College in Sioux Falls, SD, where I was accepted only as a special student for the first semester, because I did not have a regular high school diploma. However, after the first semester, I registered as a regular student. After two years of study at Sioux Falls College, I transferred and graduated from Augustana College in Sioux Falls. Then I attended North American Baptist Seminary in Sioux Falls, graduating in 1959. So I am very grateful to N.A.B.s, not only for helping me to know Christ but also to receive a lot of my education.

North American Baptists also gave me many opportunities for ministry. First I was thrilled by the opportunity of accepting a call to one of our churches in Morris, MB, as their pastor. Not long thereafter another challenge came to me to accept the responsibility of Director of Youth

Ministry for our Conference, then Editor of the Baptist Herald, then Secretary of Stewardship and Communications and now as Executive Secretary. I am most grateful to God and N.A.B. for these many challenging opportunities of ministry.

The N.A.B. Conference has also helped me to grow as a Christian. There have been many enriching experiences and also some very difficult ones. In 1966 I was hospitalized with a very serious condition of what was called a "virus" of the heart. The doctors did not expect me to live and advised my wife to have my parents brought to Chicago, as well as her parents, if they wanted to see me once more. After the crisis was over in five days, the doctor told me that I would have full recovery, but it would take several months. After a month in the hospital, I was so weak that I had to learn to walk again like a child. But I felt God had given me a second chance to live on borrowed time and, therefore, I made a new commitment to take full advantage of every opportunity that God would give me to serve him.

Service and Gratitude at the Seminary

A seminary conjures up a variety of images in people's minds. For most, I suppose, there are vague impressions of the withdrawn and serene pastoral life of theological study. While we no longer pad softly through cloistered halls in monkish habits and well-worn sandals pondering ancient illuminated manuscripts, as the medieval clerics once did, the image remains that seminarians somehow live in a strange, idyllic, semi-monastic, ivory tower world.

Those who have actually encountered the stark reality of daily life at North American Baptist Seminary—or any other seminary, for that matter—know this is not true. We in fact live in a microcosm of the real world, a microcosm that includes all of the rigors of life that everyone encounters. There is here boredom, fatigue, disillusionment, complaining, competition, and the desire to absorb and possess all others just as there inevitably is in any other institution of human creatures, though we probably do not admit it as often as we should.

Of course, that is not all there is at the Seminary. If it were, I am sure there would be very few of us who would stay around long. In addition, there is that other dimension, an overriding sense of camaraderie in and commitment to Something and Someone greater than ourselves—that experience of "the Beyond in our midst." In spite of the harsh realism of our corruptible and frail humanity, there is also the realism of Christ's presence among us, that peculiar assurance of the movement of Christ's Spirit in the heart and mind and life of a people who have gathered together under the banner of the Lamb to learn together about service to him.

If we, as a seminary community, are a people of gratitude—and I believe we are—it is a sense of gratitude that has come out of those most precious, almost inexpressible moments when we have experienced the healing, hopeful and helping hand of Christ through serving one another.

Dr. Stephen Brachlow is assistant professor of Christian Heritage and Historical Theology at North American Baptist Seminary.

Another very humbling and encouraging experience was to receive the honorary doctorate from the Seminary in Sioux Falls in the spring of 1979. To me it was another motivator to rededicate my life to serve God in the best way I knew.

Finally, I am most grateful to God that each of our three children has received Christ, has been baptized, has become member of the church and is seeking to serve him. I believe this is primarily a tribute to my wife and the influence of pastors and people of First Baptist Church of Bellwood. I am convinced the most important thing in anyone's life is his or her relationship to God through Jesus Christ. The best things in life then come to us through our relationship and experiences as a part of the family of God.

As a people of gratitude, let us continually be aware of the blessings of God. Let us give thanks for what God is doing in our individual lives as well as show gratitude for the many ways God is blessing the overall ministries of the North American Baptist Conference. □



by Stephen
Brachlow

That does not always happen, and we are ashamed and deeply saddened when we fail. But when it does, we know and immediately recognize it as the authentic, active Word of the Lord in our midst. That experience is in itself the source of a profound

sense of gratitude for the privilege to share and serve one another.

Actually, those moments come often in our life together, more often than we realize, but certainly often enough for us to be in a genuine sense a people of gratitude, thankful for that experience of incomparable joy and strength gained through real service toward one another in the concrete situation of seminary communal life.

I personally have experienced that here in a myriad of ways, but especially through the simple joy of abiding friendships among students and colleagues. The listening ear, the warm embrace, the attentive eye and the helpful hand that has been my privilege to give as well as receive is, I now realize after some reflection, that which also produces a deep sense of gratitude to God for what we have as a seminary community.

There is, I believe, good reason for this mysterious connection between service and gratitude. The Apostle Paul put his finger on it in

People of Gratitude

his second letter to that community of Christian learners gathered at Corinth. While urging them to take seriously their relief offering for the Jerusalem church, he added that the Lord would indeed bless them in several ways for their service: "You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity, which through us will produce thanksgiving to God; for the rendering of this service not only supplies the wants of the saints but also

Speak to one another with words of psalms, hymns, and sacred songs; sing hymns and psalms to the Lord with praise in your hearts. In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, always give thanks for everything to God the Father.

Ephesians 5:19-20 TEV

I recently visited a congregational meeting of Jewish Christians. Many were new in the Lord and very excited to be saved. After singing a number of Psalms, the worship leader began to pray. When he expressed his deep feelings concerning God's faithfulness and goodness, the congregation suddenly began to clap enthusiastically. I was taken aback! Were they applauding the worship leader for praying so well? Then it occurred to me, they were clapping for God! In unity they were expressing their thanks to God for all his mercy and grace.

Let us all give God a standing ovation! Just think what he has done for us!

The remnant of Israelites remembered his faithfulness:

When the Lord brought us back to Jerusalem, it was like a dream! How we laughed, how we sang for joy! Then the other nations said about us, "The Lord did great things for them." Indeed He did great things for us; how happy we were!

Psalms 126:1-3

And we remember:

God has shown us how much He loves us—it was while we were still sinners that Christ died for us!

Romans 5:8

This gift of salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ is the greatest of all gifts. And because we become his children, God continues to bless us for "every good gift and every perfect present comes from heaven (James 1:17a)." God took the initiative and began a divine "gift exchange" with his people. A Christian responds with gifts of time, energy and financial resources. The Christian claps for God!

So then, my brothers, because of God's great mercy to us I appeal to you: Offer yourselves as a living sacrifice to God, dedicated to his service and pleasing to him.

Romans 12:1

The Rev. Dennis A. Kee is pastor of Neshaminy Valley Baptist Church, Bensalem, PA.

overflows in many thanksgivings to God" (II Cor. 9:11-12).

I suspect the gratitude Paul wrote about would be the experience of those in Corinth who performed this "test of service," as he called it, as well as those in Jerusalem, who received their expression of love and concern. This at least has been my experience in Seminary life at Sioux Falls. We have become a people of great gratitude to God for what he has given us through occasions of service . . . an experience which, I pray, will multiply as students leave here to serve God's people in our churches. □

Clap For God

Gratitude in Church Extension



by Dennis Kee

The Christian gives, but God gives more! Through our giving and service the Lord Jesus is exalted, but we are made strong! We sacrifice our time to spread the Gospel, but God transforms sinners! We, as his disciples, teach

the Word, but God gives us the knowledge and wisdom to lead a meaningful life!

God says by his gifts, "I have confidence in you!" What a morale builder! Let me explain. I am the pastor of a Church Extension project in Pennsylvania, called Neshaminy Valley Baptist Church, located in Bensalem Township, Bucks County, just northeast of Philadelphia. We began searching for land soon after the project was started in June 1977. After two years of running down every lead without success, we were becoming discouraged. Where was the land that God was reserving for his church? Our realtor, a Christian man, made the search a top priority in the winter and spring of 1979. His efforts turned up a possibility that was a long shot and perhaps our last hope. The local Jewish congregation owned nine acres and needed funds in order to build a synagogue. Would they sell three acres to a Baptist church? A meeting was arranged between the realtor, the chairman of the synagogue's building committee and myself. We met over a cup of coffee in a local delicatessen. The situation was awkward, since both of us had reservations. Finally, the synagogue's representative said to me, "Our men love to play baseball, do you think your men would like to form a team and play with us?" I hesitated then answered, "Yes, I think we can play ball together." Negotiations were

started, then culminated in March, ten months later, when the final papers were signed. We are sincerely grateful to the investors of the Church Extension Revolving Fund for making the money available.

Notice this: when God shows confidence in us with a gift, he is challenging us to "play ball" on his team as a *responsible* player. This brings to mind the research of an anthropologist into the life of two mountain tribes in Indonesia. Apparently, both tribes had been at war for many years and each was facing extinction as a result. Then one day a member of one of the tribes made a gift of a pig to a member of the other tribe. Not to be outdone, two fat pigs were given as a gift in return. In time this idea of a "gift exchange" as a new form of relationship, instead of war, caught on. The tribes stopped fighting and began competing in an effort to out-give each other. This relationship imposed a great *responsibility* upon each member of the two tribes. They were challenged to learn how to raise more and fatter pigs for the "gift exchange," which became a yearly custom. The tribes became stronger and prospered. In the same way, when we participate with God in "exchanging gifts," we become stronger in faith. Since God has given land to Neshaminy Valley Baptist Church,

It doesn't seem all that long ago that I came to the realization that God was calling me to a ministry at North American Baptist College. Arriving on this campus, quite unsure of what was ahead of me for the year, I derived a peace of mind knowing that this was God's doing, his calling for me! There was to be a constant bombardment of so many new experiences, new tasks and new responsibilities. There was to be frustration, excitement and fulfillment! I began to observe NABC in action! As I began to become a part of that action, I came to a new awareness of the kind of caring and commitment that is woven into the fiber of the College.

This was a great year to look at the heritage of the College—it was the 40th anniversary of its founding. As I heard about people from its past and met alumni, I noticed in them a caring attitude. They were grateful for how the College ministered to them as students and how they found direction for their lives. I also heard of the dreams and hopes many of these people had for the future of the College. That caring attitude became a tangible gift, as they provided the College with a director of alumni affairs to aid in the future development, providing a ministry of love, sacrifice and giving.

Even the campus provided me with an understanding of this ministry. As you enter the campus, a certain beauty welcomes you: the park-like atmosphere, the layout of the campus, the quality of the residences. The Bernard Schalm Memorial Library is quickly becoming the central focus of the campus providing quality atmosphere for research and study. Again, I became aware of the sacrifices that have given us this appealing campus.

I watched the faculty. I saw in them a definite call to ministry. I observed them teaching each student with a caring attitude. A student to them was more than a name.

Linda J. Ebel is dean of women at North American Baptist College, Edmonton, AB.

for example, we will build a center for worship and education as a gift to God. In this way we will clap loudly to God with our giving and service.

As we give, we learn a great lesson. That is, our lives are meaningful only when we give out of love. "We love because God first loved us (I John 4:19)." Gift for gift, love for love!

And because of the proof which this service of yours brings, many will give glory to God for your loyalty to the gospel of Christ, which you profess, and for your generosity in sharing with them and everyone else. And so with deep affection they will pray for you because of the extraordinary grace God has shown you. Let us thank God for his priceless gift!

II Corinthians 9:13-15

When will this "gift exchange" with God reach its climax? Let us persevere until the time when we join the heavenly choir singing, "To Him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb, be praise and honor, glory and might, forever and ever" (Revelation 5:13).

Clap for God!! □

Committed to Serve

Gratitude in Education

by Linda Ebel



Rather, a student became a person with potential to be developed and energy to be channeled, a person with needs to be met. I watched the faculty minister to one another, drawing the faculty families into a larger family circle of caring. I

saw the faculty minister to the community around us, the local constituency of churches and the Conference as a whole. I saw them being encouraged and supported in return.

I observed the students. With a record enrollment of students, I met students from varied backgrounds. My role allowed me to penetrate deeply into the lives of these students. I saw young people eager to deepen their relationship with Jesus

People of Gratitude

Christ. I experienced young people wanting to develop standards based on biblical principles. I met young people challenged by their home churches to prepare for ministry. I prayed with

young people struggling with their Christian identity. I became familiar with the standard set by those who

What a wonderful Christmas present we received from the Lord and from his people! We traveled to Africa in order to visit our mission stations in Cameroon and Nigeria, participated in the annual Cameroon Missionary Fellowship Conference, and learned to know many of our missionaries personally. It would take much space and time to describe the various experiences, some of them pleasant, others not so pleasant, but nevertheless they are things that our missionaries live with continually without complaint or self-pity. In short, we experienced Africa.

Our hearts were burdened to write this report, because of our constant need to be informed, and to keep a clear vision for the work of the Lord. As missionary personnel has decreased, and other difficulties have arisen, many of us have questioned the future of missions in these two countries. It is our prayer that this report may add a positive note to the other varied kinds of information we receive.

Our missionaries. In spite of many limitations and hardships in receiving guests, our missionaries have been most gracious hosts. How much we appreciated this! The time and fellowship we had with them gave insight into their labor of love, their many sacrifices and dangers. By viewing the advances of missionary outreach and ministry to the Africans we were impressed by the faith of God's servants, even those of the past. In Africa we saw many footprints of faith and love.

The Rev. Richard Hohensee is pastor of Trinity Baptist Church in Kelowna, BC. The Hohensees wrote this report following their visit to Cameroon and Nigeria.



came before me in this ministry. I saw the need for me to be willing to be the modeling lifestyle, commitment and discipleship. Ouch!! That was just the thing that caused some of my frustrations, excitement and fulfillment this past year! That has always been the central theme in the ministry of North American Baptist College. My need to care, love and sacrifice.

Thank you, North American Baptists, for giving me this heritage of ministry!

We Saw Africa

Gratitude in Missions

by Richard and Inge Hohensee

The need is so great. We were deeply impressed by the beauty of Africa, the lack of so many conveniences, the tropical heat; but nothing left a deeper impression on us than the African people. There are many of them, mostly younger people and children, and most of them are not Christians. We reminded ourselves that each of them is a living soul for whom Christ died. We were surprised to see people still living in such primitive conditions, but many more are still living without a hope in Jesus Christ.

The need for more leaders. We met several fine Christian leaders among the nationals; some were influential Christians and true witnesses of our Lord. There seems to be a crying need for more leadership in all areas of God's work in Cameroon and Nigeria; medical ministry, Christian schools, evangelism, and the training of pastors. Most leadership positions are presently filled by our missionaries. Without their strong influence and support the Christian cause would suffer a great loss. Because several missionaries found it necessary to resign from overseas service, there is a desperate plea for others to replace them. The need is urgent!

The response of the home church. No doubt every concerned North American Baptist, and especially our leaders, have asked this question, "How can my church be supportive of the overseas mission field?" On the local level, the establishment of a mission committee to inform, plan and promote missions would be a step in the right direction. Nigeria and Cameroon reminded us of the white harvest field, ready to be harvested, and the specific instruction of our Lord from Matthew 9:38, "Pray therefore the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest."

How can we be involved in fulfilling this command? We can pray more fervently, give more generously, and some of us can present ourselves practically to the Lord's cause in Africa. "Here am I, send me." □

I. Baptism in the Ikeda Church

On May 25th Pastor Fujie had the joy of baptizing Mrs. Kikue Yoshida. It was the second baptism since he came to Ikeda Church about five years ago. Mrs. Yoshida studied English at the Y.M.C.A., where her conversation teacher was short-term missionary, Diane Penner, and her English Bible teacher was Florence Miller. She was a good student and often stayed after class to ask questions concerning the Bible. Diane and she became good friends. When Diane's parents came to Japan to visit her, Rev. Penner was asked to preach at Ikeda Church. Diane urged Mrs. Yoshida to come to hear her father speak. Out of a sense of obligation and curiosity, both she and her husband attended. Mr. Yoshida enjoyed the fellowship and meal following the service. He said that his social life had previously been limited to company colleagues. They began to attend church services quite regularly, and later the pastor had a special Bible study for them. Mr. Yoshida became busy with his work and dropped behind. But Mrs. Yoshida wanted to be baptized. At her request a baptismal service was conducted at Rakuyo Baptist Church in Kyoto. It was a happy day for her and all the members of Ikeda Church. The cooperative efforts of the short-term missionary, the regular missionary, the American pastor and the Japanese pastor resulted in a new member being added to the church.



Pastor Fujie and Mrs. Kikue Yoshida.

II. English Camp

A one-day English Bible Camp was held at Seki Lodge, June 14-15. Over forty campers from all of our Japan Baptist Conference churches attended. Missionary Ron Stoller and Pastor Hatta were in charge. The short-term missionaries offered conversation seminars on topics such as vocabulary, idioms, pronunciation, etc. Florence Miller had an English Bible session. Pastor Hatta of Higashi Muko Machi Church gave three Bible messages and clearly explained the way of salvation in Japanese. A questionnaire at the end of the camp revealed that many wished to study the Bible and to attend church, although some had done so before coming to camp. We are praying that the cooperative efforts of the short-termers, regular missionaries and pastors will encourage those who have not previously studied the Bible to do so.



Campers at English Bible Camp with Jan Willeke and Florence Miller.

III. Continuing Theological Education for Pastors and Missionaries

The Japan Baptist Conference initiated a concentrated two-week course in Pastoral Theology for pastors and missionaries. It was held at the new Christian Education

Working Together in Japan

Gratitude in Missions

by Florence Miller



Florence Miller and Dr. Wayne Peterson, with pastors and missionaries in the continuing Theological Education class.

Center in Tsu, June 17-20 and June 24-27. Dr. Wayne Peterson, dean and professor at N.A.B. Seminary in Sioux Falls, SD, was the instructor. All six of our pastors, five regular missionaries and one short-term missionary were enrolled in the "Theology of Shepherding" course. Three took the course for credit. Classes were held for six hours a day, four days a week, allowing everyone to

return to their churches for the weekend. Except for those already living in Tsu, everyone stayed at the center dormitory. This provided a good opportunity for fellowship. Pastors Fujie and Murakami served as interpreters. Dr. W. Peterson skillfully wove together principles of pastoral care, counseling and biblical theology and illustrated the lectures with his own pastoral and counseling experience, making it very practical. Discussion periods permitted questions and comments relating to the application of the lectures to the work in Japan. Most of the pastors felt that they had lacked this aspect in their training and expressed appreciation for this opportunity.

IV. Japan Missionary Fellowship

The week after the continuing Theological Education Course, July 1-4, all of our N.A.B. missionaries gathered at Amanohashidate on the Japan Sea, for our annual Missionary Fellowship. Dr. and Mrs. Wayne Peterson were our guest speakers. As a team, they presented a five-session seminar on Inter-Personal Relations. The afternoons and evenings afforded time for sight-seeing and recreation. Amanohashidate is considered one of the three most beautiful places in Japan. Its unique feature is a long strip of land covered with pine trees which forms a natural bridge across the bay. Tourists are told to take a lift to a high mountain in order to get a good view. Then they are told to stoop over and look at the strip of land through their legs. It appears to be a bridge in the sky, hence the name "Heavenly Bridge" (Amanohashidate). A patriotic evening allowed our missionaries from three

People of Gratitude

countries, Canada, U.S.A. and Japan, to each make and wave their flag as we marched around the room. Some Americans discovered that they did not know how to make an American

flag. Humorous patriotic skits were followed by some serious reflections about our three countries and prayer for our leaders.

V. Tomoshihi (Light) Camp

Another cooperative effort of the Japan Baptist Conference (JBC) is our annual Youth Camp which is held at a sandy pine grove on the Pacific Ocean. This camp site is owned by the JBC. The camp is planned and run by the youth with one pastor acting as advisor. A guest speaker is invited for the main messages, and missionaries and pastors lead the other meetings. This year the camp was held from July 25-27 with about 35 campers. Pastor Akasaka's son, Izumi San, who is now a college sophomore, was the camp chairman. It was a joy to see him capably taking charge, as his father previously had

I want to tell you about a young grandmother whose name is Monica. She was brought to the Mbingo Baptist Hospital by a government official who felt sorry for her. As soon as we saw her, we had the impression that she was someone special. She was taller than the average Cameroonian woman, but what attracted us to her immediately was her friendliness, her smile and the twinkle in her eye in spite of her severe leprosy condition. Her feet were covered with multiple leprosy ulcers, that we knew could not be cured but only checked to prevent further damage.

During the morning devotional period she listened attentively and showed intense interest, when the hospital staff witnessed to her personally. Within six months she learned to know Jesus as her Savior. When this newly-found faith burst in upon her, she literally exploded with joy. The hospital and the surrounding area became her mission field.

One day she learned that Dr. Fluth was planning to open clinics in outlying areas. Many patients who did not have infectious leprosy could simply pick up their medication without being hospitalized. They could, in addition, have the comfort and convenience of remaining at home and in their tribal environment.

When Monica heard this, she begged Dr. Fluth so often to open a clinic in Wum that he decided to do something about it. Monica was not only homesick, but had a strong desire to witness for Jesus to her own people. As soon as the clinic was opened, she made preparations to leave the hospital. She made such a beautiful impression on the members of Mbingo Baptist Church, that the women gave her a fond farewell party. No one, however, could imagine how wonderfully Jesus would be working through her.

On the first day, at the opening of the clinic, the leprosy patients lined up, hands extended, ready to receive their

Dr. Laura Reddig, missionary nurse in West Africa for 42 years, presented this inspirational report in a recent chapel service at the N.A.B. Conference International Office.

done. Praise the Lord for his goodness and greatness demonstrated daily in the Land of the Rising Sun. □



Participants of the Japan Missionary Fellowship of Amanohashidate (Heavenly Bridge, visible in background).

Florence Miller is missionary in Japan since 1951.

Monica—An African Church Builder

Gratitude in Missions

by Laura Reddig

medication. But Monica said, "Oh no! we not fit to begin so, we go begin at how we first go hear whatte God go talk for we in He book." (No way! First of all we have to start by reading God's Word.) Because she was illiterate she asked the leprosy inspector to read from God's Word before the medication and treatment began. After the reading she said, "God is helping us to start this clinic, and God is going to make us well, and we are going to start a church here, and we want everybody to learn to know Jesus."

Although Monica could neither read nor write, she nevertheless started the little Wum Baptist Church. The town people called it the "sick church" because only leprosy patients attended. But it did not stay that way very long. Today, after about 14 years, there are 18 churches that have come out of the church started by "Mother Monica."

Monica is much older now, and it is difficult for her to get around. Although the leprosy is arrested, the damaged muscles and tendons in her feet prevent her from walking any great distance. She walks with much difficulty. But when these churches in the Wum Division have a conference, the women get together and present her with a new head tie, a new dress and, if possible, a new sweater, because it often gets quite cold in this area. They also pro-

vide her with tennis shoes, because her feet won't fit into any other kind. Then they have a special session of prayer, expressing their gratitude to God because Mother Monica was faithful. After the prayer service, officers of the conference provide transportation and bring her to the meetings.

When I think of Monica, who had never gone to school,

can neither read nor write, never had any special training, I pray, "O Lord, what have I ever done with all the training and blessings that you have given me compared to what Monica has done with so little?"

"Much is required from the person to whom much is given; much more is required from the person to whom much more is given." (Luke 12:48b TEV). □

From Catholic Priest to Baptist Pastor

Gratitude in History by Elaine Eisele Strobel



Ebenezer Baptist Church

During the weeks that followed, however, he could not forget the message he had heard at that Baptist church. The message was in his thoughts daily, and the more he thought about it, the more he realized the truth of what he had heard, until he was forced to admit to himself, "That preacher was telling the truth!"

Several months passed, and his friend approached him again. "Benedict," he said, "let's go to my church tonight. I know you'll like it. The preacher was maybe a little bit off that other night, but he's not always like that. He is a good speaker and is very interesting."

"Well," Benedict replied, "I don't have anything else to do, so I guess I could go." He listened attentively to the message that night, and when the invitation was given, he was the first one to go forward. He said to the congregation: "I'm sure there are a number of you that know who I am. I was here once before, and I went away mad—mad at this church and mad at my friend who invited me. But I couldn't forget what I heard, and tonight I surrender to God." The next day he went to the Catholic headquarters and turned in his credentials.

Then began a time of intense studying of the Bible, sometimes until the early hours of the morning. Shortly after this, the pastor of the Baptist church resigned and left. A group from the church came to my great-grandfather asking him to become their pastor. He declined be-

cause, as he said, "I have to be versed not only in the Bible, I have to be versed in church life. I don't know anything about how your church is run."

Six months later, the committee came again and said, "We're giving you a call and we are urged to tell you that you are not to say 'no', because we feel that you should become our pastor."

Asking for several days to think about it and pray about it, he came to the decision: "I believe the Lord has called me to accept."

He served as pastor of that German Baptist church for 10 years. Then followed pastorates in Shelby, Ohio, and Springfield, Illinois. During this time he married and had a family.

His wife had relatives living in Kansas. They began writing and trying to persuade Benedict to move with his family to Kansas, "... so your boys can grow up on a farm."

A conflict arose at this time. Benedict had received a call from a church in Indiana. In trying to decide where to go, he told the Lord he would take as a sign from him that the place he received a letter from first, would be the place he was to go.

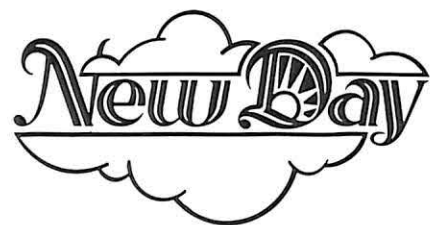
The letter from Indiana came first, but being impressed with the theme, "Go west, young man!" that was prevalent then, he moved his family to Kansas. He later admitted he had made a mistake in doing this, because he had broken a promise to the Lord.

However, the Lord redeemed that mistake and used him in Kansas in establishing several churches.

In 1879 the Dickinson County Baptist Church, with its three mission stations,

(Continued on page 31)

People of Gratitude



Reaching Out to People

by Ray Harsch

Christ's command to proclaim the Good News has rarely seemed so urgent. Christians are called to bring the message of redemption to individuals, just as Christ did, when he revealed himself to a fisherman, a blind man, an invalid, a prostitute and a thief.

Rebecca Pippert said in her book, "Out of the Salt Shaker and Into the World," that "Christians and non-Christians have something in common. We're both uptight about evangelism. Christians are afraid of offending, and non-Christians are afraid of being assaulted. We need to follow the pattern set by Jesus; his whole way of life as well as his approach to presenting God's truth."

We are told by Jesus, in the Sermon on the Mount, that we are the salt of the earth. He challenges us not to lose our savor, our saltiness. What that really means is that we are to be active in the world as his representatives. Get out of the salt shaker and get into life itself, to be witnesses to Jesus as Lord and Savior who is the one who gives life and meaning to a dying world.

"NEW DAY" is a team of committed Christians who proclaim the Good News of salvation. They come from our North American Baptist Conference churches, giving of their time and talent voluntarily to evangelize and disciple Christians to do evangelism. They do it by means of music and discipling on a one-to-one basis.

The month of September was spent in training the team. Instructors were the Rev. Ray Harsch, evangelism director; the Rev. Dan Heringer, director of NEW DAY; and Paul Dykstra, who previously served on the team as a member and as assistant director. A full itinerary, starting September 28, 1980 to May 25, 1981, will take them to churches of western United States and Canada.

The Rev. Ray Harsch is evangelism director of The North American Baptist Conference.

The objectives of ministry for NEW DAY are:

- To engage in a joyous, positive ministry of public and personal evangelism.
- To conduct witnessing seminars to help young people and adults share their faith.
- To train people to disciple others within the church in spiritual growth and outreach.
- To help the church grow.
- To radiate enthusiasm and excitement as to the role of the local church in the life of persons and the community.
- To inform churches about our North American Baptist Conference ministries.
- To encourage young people to attend North American Baptist sponsored schools.

To carry out these objectives, NEW DAY is prepared to minister in a number of ways:

- concerts
- discipling a core of believers to disciple others
- family fellowships
- ladies' evangelistic coffees
- men's outreach breakfasts
- youth rallies
- puppet ministry
- visitation
- radio and T.V.
- concerts in shopping malls, service clubs, schools

The financial support for NEW DAY is provided by offerings during crusades and budgeting provisions made annually by North American Baptist churches. We are grateful for their faithful support.

We want you to be familiar with the "NEW DAY" members who will be serving their Lord in our churches this year. Please pray for them in a personal way throughout this year. The "NEW DAY" members are:

Director: *Rev. Dan Heringer*

Dan and Geri Heringer reside in Bismarck, ND, with their three children; Danny (5), Donita (3½) and Larisa (1½). Previously Rev. Heringer served as assistant pastor at Steele Heights Baptist Church in Edmonton, AB, for five years. We welcome them and wish them God's blessings in this new ministry.

Assistant Director: *Tim Walker*

Tim Walker, Grace Baptist, West Fargo, ND, will give very able assistance to Dan Heringer, having served as a member of the Discipling Section 1979-80 tour year.

Music Section

Brenda M. Arndt from Regina, SK, has worked as a secretary/receptionist. Her home church is Springside Baptist, Springside, SK.

Ruth Ann Harr is from Sioux Falls, SD, where she is a member of Trinity Baptist Church. She was employed at KNWC Radio as a secretary.

Carla Sue Joy comes to us from the Ripley Blvd. Baptist Church in Alpena, MI. This past year she was a student at Alpena Community College.

Elizabeth Anne Wright leaves her employment at a music store in Grand Forks, ND, to be on the team. She is a member of the Grace Baptist Church.

Dean Buseman comes from Chancellor, SD, where he is a member of Chancellor Baptist Church. Dean graduated from Sioux Falls College.

Mark Hildebrandt is a member of the Riverview Baptist Church in West St. Paul, MN. He was co-manager of an automotive store.

Philip Olney was employed by a printing company and comes from Medicine Hat, AB. He is a member of Temple Baptist Church.

Ron Rogalski comes from Winnipeg, MB, where he is a member of McDermot Avenue Baptist Church. He attended N.A.B.C. in Edmonton.

Paul Schroder is the sound technician for "NEW DAY." He resided in Pella, IA, where he was an engineer at Rol-screen Company. He is a member of First Baptist Church, Avon, SD.

DISCIPLING SECTION

Brenda Jean Martin is a student at Southwestern Oklahoma State University. Her home is in Corn, OK, where she is a member of the Calvary Baptist Church.

Benita Betty Oelke makes her home in Calgary, AB, where she worked as a dental assistant. She is a member of Thornhill Baptist Church, Calgary.

Viola Margaret Ulrich was a clerk for an insurance company in Winnipeg, MB, where she is a member of Rowandale Baptist Church.

Peggy Sue Walther is a member of First Baptist Church of Underwood, ND. She attended Mary College in Bismarck, ND, this past year.

Curt Barker attended Bismarck Junior College and is a member of Century Baptist Church of Bismarck, ND. Employment has been with Sears Roebuck Company.

Denny Ostercamp comes from Woden, IA, and is a member of First Baptist Church, Buffalo Center, IA. He was a student at Hawkeye Institute of Technology in Waterloo.



Tim Walker



Brenda Arndt



Ruth Harr



Carla Joy



Beth Wright



Dean Buseman



Mark Hildebrandt



Philip Olney



Ron Rogalski



Paul Schroder



Brenda Martin



Benita Oelke



Viola Ulrich



Peggy Sue Walther



Curt Barker



Denny Ostercamp

The 1980-81 schedule for NEW DAY includes the following churches of our Conference:

"NEW DAY" SCHEDULE FOR 1980-81			
TEAM DATES	TRAINING-LANSING, IA	SECTION DATES	
August 25-Sept. 26	First Chancellor, SD	Sept. 28-30	Music
Sept. 28-Oct. 2		Sept. 28-Oct. 2	Discipling
Oct. 1	First—Avon, SD		M
Oct. 2	South Canyon—Rapid City, SD		M
Oct. 3-16	Gillette, WY	Oct. 3-5	M
		Oct. 4-9	D
Oct. 8-12	First—Plevna, MT		M
Oct. 15-16	Melville, SK		M
Oct. 17-30	Central—Yorkton, SK	Oct. 17-19	M
		Oct. 18-30	D
Oct. 22	Thornhill—Calgary, AB		M
Oct. 23-26	Onoway, AB		M
Oct. 28-29	Temple—Calgary, AB		M
Oct. 30-Nov. 13	South Calgary—Calgary, AB	Oct. 30-Nov. 2	M
		Nov. 1-13	D
Nov. 4-5	Wiesenthal—Millet, AB		M
Nov. 6-9	Greenfield—Edmonton, AB		M
Nov. 11	First—Leduc, AB		M
Nov. 12-27	Northgate—Edmonton, AB	Nov. 12-16	M
		Nov. 15-27	D
Nov. 18-19	Bethel—High Prairie, AB		M
Nov. 20-23	Grace—Calgary, AB		M
Nov. 25-26	Carbon, AB		M
Nov. 27-Dec. 10	Park Meadows—Lethbridge, AB	Nov. 27-30	M
		Nov. 29-Dec. 10	D
Dec. 2	Brooks, AB		M
Dec. 9-10	Hilda, AB		M
Dec. 11-			
Jan. 2, 1981	CHRISTMAS VACATION		
Jan. 3-6, 1981	Immanuel—Beulah, ND	Jan. 3-6	M
Jan. 7-22	Hillside—Dickinson, ND	Jan. 7-11	M
		Jan. 10-22	D
Jan. 13	Fredonia, ND		M
Jan. 14-18	Ashley, ND		M
Jan. 20-21	First—Minot, ND		M
Jan. 22-Feb. 3	First—Sidney, MT	Jan. 22-25	M
		Jan. 24-Feb. 3	D



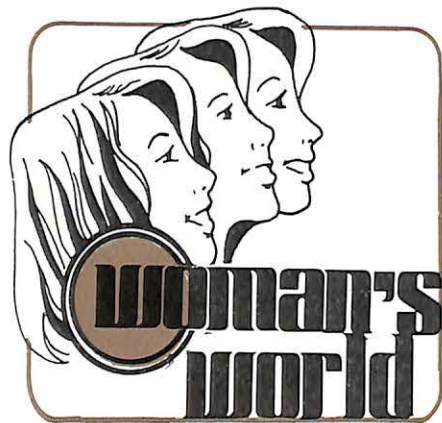
Rev. Dan Heringer, Director

Jan. 28-Feb. 1	Calvary—Billings, MT	M
Feb. 5-19	Bernal Road—San Jose, CA	M
		D
Feb. 10	Fort Ord, CA—Chaplain	
	D. Rapske	M
Feb. 11-15	Willow Rancho—Sacramento, CA	M
Feb. 18-26	Sunkist—Anaheim, CA	M
		D
Feb. 28-Mar. 5	Corona Heights—Corona, CA	
Feb. 25	Sunrise—Fair Oaks, CA	M
Feb. 26-28	Nor-Cal Association—Lodi, CA	M
March 1-4	Temple—Lodi, CA	M
March 6-8	Southern California Association—	
	Bethel, Anaheim, CA	M & D
March 9-16	RETREAT FOR NEW DAY	
March 17	Salt Creek—Dallas, OR	M
March 18-26	Trinity—Portland, OR	M
		D
March 25-April 2	Immanuel—Portland, OR	M
		D
April 1-5	First—Colfax, WA	
April 4-9	Columbia Heights—Richland, WA	D
April 8-23	Immanuel—Vancouver, BC	M
		D
April 14-16	Mary Hill—Port Coquitlam, BC	M
April 17-19	Ebenezer—Vancouver, BC	M
April 22-May 7	Trinity—Kelowna, BC	M
		D
April 28	Lakeview—Kelowna, BC	M
April 29-May 3	Faith—Vernon, BC	M
May 6-17	College Heights—	
	Prince George, BC	M
		D
May 12-14	Bethel—Prince George, BC	M
May 15-17	Zion—Terrace, BC	M
May 21-27	Century—Bismarck, ND	M
		D
May 26-27	First—Goodrich, ND	M

Pray for this effective evangelistic ministry to continue the experience of God's support and blessings. Pray for the team members and the churches they will serve.

Churches interested in their services in your area are encouraged to write to the Evangelism Director,

Rev. Ray Harsch
1 So. 210 Ray Harsch
Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181. ☐



Women at Toronto

Officers and representatives of national Baptist women's groups from around the world met for pre-Congress sessions of the Baptist World Alliance in Toronto, July 3-12. Dorene Walth, Iona Quiring, Sylvia Auch and LaVerna Mehlhaff represented our national Women's Missionary Fellowship at these meetings and workshops. Sharon Mayforth, of Edmonton, AB, also attended as an elected member of the North American Baptist Women's Union national committee, a department of the Baptist World Alliance.

Our representatives, along with other N.A.B. women attended workshops on communications, aging, leadership, missions, witnessing and personal Christian living. Women and men active in these various fields led training groups which provided information, ideas and opportunities for exchange and sharing.

This month, these women's pages include the impressions and reactions of the women who represented us at these sessions. We're grateful that they were able to take part and look forward to what their participation will mean to our own denomination.

Impressions . . .

by Sylvia Auch,
WMF secretary-treasurer,
Bismarck, ND

You cannot imagine what it has been like to sit at tables with different people at each meal usually representing three to four different countries for ten days. To visit on a one-to-one basis and become acquainted with so many fellow believers in Christ from all parts of the world was an experience I did not think would ever happen to me this side of heaven. I feel as

though I have traveled around the world without actually leaving the continent.

The music, panel presentations, afternoon workshops and evening assemblies inspired me to live a more committed life to Jesus Christ, not just merely to an organization. We were encouraged to do all that is within us and leave the results to God. The truth of the fact that real freedom does not consist of having our own way, but of humbly seeking God's will and plan for our lives, was made more profound and clear to me after listening to Esther Byu from Rangoon, Burma, as she spoke about life in Burma.

I was deeply impressed with the spiritual strength and maturity of the Christians from deprived countries. Their peace and happiness come from the Holy Spirit living within, not from the materials of this world—they have walked the path of persecution and famine. I felt humbled to be in their presence.

Much of what I heard and saw will probably slip from my mind through the years, but the experiences and emotions felt will never be forgotten. I am deeply grateful for the privilege of having been able to attend the pre-Congress Conference for Women's Leaders and the Baptist World Congress.

Memories . . .

by Iona Quiring,
WMF vice president,
Minneapolis, MN

"Nations of the world, rejoice, Jesus Christ is Lord. The spirit of the Lord builds fellowship in love, creating harmony in the family of God. Nations of the world, rejoice, Jesus Christ is Lord."

Singing these words with 20,000 enthusiastic Baptists from around the world, accompanied by piano, organ and a terrific band, was a thrill I will never forget!

But the best part of our nine days in Toronto, for me at least, was the pre-Congress Conference for Women's Leaders. We prayed, sang, listened, talked, cried, laughed, waited, walked, shopped,



slept and ate together. Countless blessings kept on coming by way of people we met, messages we heard, music we enjoyed, challenges we faced. By the end of the Congress, Sylvia Auch (my roommate) and I felt like saturated sponges! We thought we couldn't hold any more, and we were afraid many good things were just running off.

I'm so thankful for the wonderful memories I collected, for instance:

1. The optimistic joyful spirit of

Now . . . Go and Tell

by LaVerna
Mehlhaff,
women's
work director



The 1980 Baptist World Congress is now history, but decisions and commitments made will have long-lasting effects. We experienced a sense of unity and strength as the more than 20,000 Baptists from 140 countries met together in worship and praise to God. A Scripture verse came to mind many times as I observed God's people during the pre-Congress sessions as well as during the Congress: "Behold how they love one another." It was an awesome experience to see so many of God's people together in one place praising God through music, message and prayer. We left Toronto rejoicing in all that we had heard and seen.

Go and Tell was the theme of the women's meetings held prior to the Congress. These four-day meetings were made possible by offerings women around the world gave on the Baptist World Day of Prayer. A portion of that offering is used to give assistance to women from all parts of the world to attend continental meetings as well as the Baptist World Congress. Thank you for your faithful support of this ministry.

The Baptist World Day of Prayer is coming up on November 3. The theme for this year is "A Call for Committed Living." The materials have been mailed to each local WMF president and each pastor's wife. God bless you in your activities on that day.

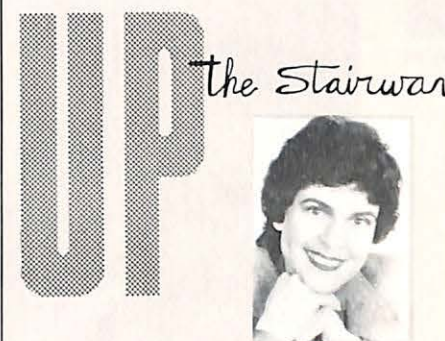
The 1981 Program Packets, in German or English, are available at \$3.50 per packet. Order them from our N.A.B. Conference International Office.

Renata, evident as we visited on the bus about the work she and her pastor husband are doing in a Baptist church in East Germany.

2. The energy and dedication of tiny Susan, a women's worker in India, who is in charge of Bible women working in 3,000 villages.

3. The beautiful banners depicting the parable of the sower, lovingly stitched by a Canadian woman, providing a fitting backdrop for our women's meetings.

4. The indescribable feeling of seeing the huge stage fill up with lovely Baptist women from all over the world, dressed



by Dorene Walth,
WMF president,
Citrus Heights, CA

GO QUICKLY AND TELL! That was the theme of the women's pre-Congress sessions at the Baptist World Alliance gathering July 3 through 12 in Toronto, Canada.

Spiritually uplifting and challenging messages from women of over 80 nations firmly held our attention. Learning of God's working around the world evoked varied emotions causing reactions from chills, to tears, to goose flesh.

My response is to "go quickly and tell" our N.A.B. women all about these exciting days. It would be impossible, though, for I feel like a tongue-tied Christian, not knowing where to begin.

How does one describe fellowship at breakfast with women from Norway, England, Australia, Israel, Czechoslovakia and New York seated at your table of ten? Every meal provided a different setting with such friends.

If only I could describe the array of national attire! Colorful gowns, unique headdresses, sequins and lace were everywhere. A Burmese lady completed her national outfit with bare feet!

What would our women back home like to hear about? Maybe I could detail my own feelings throughout the week—

in their colorful costumes.

5. The spontaneous expression of joy and gratitude as we responded to the message of Esther, who was able to come to the Baptist World Alliance Congress after being refused permission to travel outside of her country (Burma) for 17 years.

6. The gentle lady from South Africa, Stella, who led a small group session on private prayer. I learned from her that *anticipating* (planning for, thinking about, looking forward to) meeting God alone each day, at a special hour and place, can make my time with him so

the tiredness of being "in session" all day while trying to overcome the jet lag of a three-hour difference in time zones. There were times of feeling lost or confused, and times of frustration in not being able to understand another's feeble attempts at the English language.

Lines in registering and crowded subways tried our patience and caused us to exercise trust in the competency of those in charge. A foot massage at night relieved the soreness of aching feet dismissed from dress shoes.



Delegates from around the world, many in their national dresses, met at the World Fellowship Celebration on July 9 at Toronto's Exhibition Place.

There was laughter among us as we mused over our bunglings and human habits. Cameras clicked constantly, and we practiced courtesy while those more decorative than we snapped our pictures.

Perhaps it would be best to zero in on the development of the theme, as speakers of numerous cultures interpreted it. We were reminded that it was women who first were given the command to GO AND TELL the news that Christ had conquered death and provided eternal life for all who believe in his name.

Local customs often dictate the way in which women continue to carry out this order, but God's creative ladies in-

much richer.

7. The moving testimony of Mona, a pretty pastor's wife from Lebanon. She and her "praying sisters" learned the hard way that prayer is asking, fasting, thanking and trusting—when food and water are scarce, when the lives of husbands and children at work and at school are in danger, when the future is a question mark. She said it feels *good* to be healthy, well fed, safe in your home with your family. But you feel *God* when these things are taken away. My faith

(Continued on page 31)

numerated methods used: Bible studies, medical ministries, practical teaching in sewing and cooking, personal hygiene and grooming. Help for the impoverished, the aged, the handicapped, the illiterate and the lonely is given in many different ways resulting in fruit for Jesus. My mind has been so stretched! My tolerance, understanding and acceptance of other people have grown so much!

As I make my way up my stairway, why should I be so privileged to attend

and consume so many blessings? I realize it is impossible to convey this experience to the women I serve. The fact that I am grateful to them and to God does not seem enough. I only pray I will be faithful in my responsibilities that go with this honor.

The world will never be the same again as a result of this gathering, and neither will I!

"Then the angel spoke to the women. 'Don't be frightened!' he said. 'I know you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified, but he isn't here! For he has come back to life again, just as he said he would. . . . And now, go quickly and tell his disciples that he has risen from the dead. . . .'" (Matthew 28:5-7, LB).



"... I joined with other Christian women of the area to observe the Baptist Women's Day of Prayer."



"Together we studied about the universal need of prayer for all people of all nations..."

"After each part of the lesson, we stopped to pray for specific things."



"Kneeling, we prayed together for the universal needs of our sisters in Christ."



"In small groups we shared personal joys..."



"Then we prayed for each other..."

Observe Baptist Women's Day of Prayer!

Text and Photos by Nancy Palmer

As I attended the Baptist Women's Day of Prayer at Ashley Baptist Church, Ashley, ND, in 1978, I secretly wondered, "Are women all over the world *really* observing today as a day of prayer, or is this just a North American observance?" In September 1979, my family and I were privileged to move to Cameroon, West Africa, as your missionaries. On November 5, 1979, I joined with other Christian women of the area to observe the Baptist Women's Day of Prayer. My heart was blessed by the unity that I felt with these Christian women, even though I was still just a newcomer to their country and culture.

Together we studied about the universal need of prayer for all people of all nations, about bearing one another's burdens, and about the Holy Spirit guiding us in our prayers and pleading to God on our behalf (Rom. 8:27). We discussed the unlimited power we as Christians have through prayer (1 John 5:14), and the part thanksgiving should play in our prayers (Phil. 4:6).

After each part of the lesson, we stopped to pray for specific things. Kneeling, we prayed together for the universal needs of our sisters in Christ. In small groups we shared personal joys and needs. Then we prayed for each other, for our Women's Union officers and for our up-coming Bible Conference. Individually we confessed our sins, and prayed for ourselves and our families.

As Baptist Women's Day of Prayer again approaches, I challenge you to take an active part in your local observance, as women all over the world will be doing. □

Nancy Palmer and her husband are missionaries stationed at Banso Baptist Hospital in Cameroon, West Africa. Baptist Women's Day of Prayer is on November 3, 1980.



"Individually we confessed our sins and prayed for ourselves and our families."

the GROWING edge

FEATURES FROM YOUR CHURCH MINISTRIES DEPARTMENT. Brief, provocative articles to expand the growing edge of the mind and soul—to suggest, perhaps, new avenues of thought and action.

Denny's Column

by Denny Miller, short-term missionary in Cameroon



Although I knew it wasn't true, somehow I still expected that once my application for short-term missionary service was officially accepted, I would somehow turn into a "Super Christian."

Presto! Zap! I would win souls for God's kingdom right and left! All of my previous problems and rough areas would disappear. Past hurts would heal. I would have no problems. God and I would be as close as possible.

What a rude awakening to find out that it wasn't true! Not only was I the same Denny with the same hang-ups, frustrations and problems, but things became

even more complicated.

I've never made a big deal about advertising among my friends and acquaintances that I was a "Preacher's Kid." If they saw anything different about me, I wanted it to be because I was a Christian, not a PK. Now I had the added stigma of being a (hush, hush) missionary.

People seemed to expect a certain behavior of me and, to a certain extent, I expected it too. So I sat around and waited for a great load of spirituality to be bestowed upon me. And I felt let down when it was not forthcoming.

At a summer concert, the North American Baptist College Choristers said something which made sense to me: "Christianity becomes too easily a beliefism . . . there is no commitment. Christianity doesn't come without sacrifice. You can't go halfway. You must give Christ total submission."

I had been trying to have total results with half-way efforts. The only way you can become closer to the Lord and to be a more effective witness is by disciplining yourself to get to know him . . . submit-

ting to his will and plan for your life . . . praying, reading the Bible and reaching out.

There's no shortcut.

Too often we seem to insist that the missionary, as any other "good" Christian, should exhibit a trial-free life. We refuse to acknowledge our humanness.

In *Three Steps Forward, Two Steps Back* Charles Swindoll says, we have several misconceptions about Christian spirituality and maturity: Because you are a Christian, all of your problems are solved, and if you are having problems, you are unspiritual. These are two fallacies which he points out.

It doesn't say in the Bible that once you become a Christian or are appointed as a missionary, all of your problems will go away. He even seems to indicate that the road may be tougher. But, even though we still walk through the fire (Isa. 43:2b), we will not be consumed. We have Christ to depend upon. We have the assurance of his undying love and a secure destiny. But in the here-and-now, we must walk in faith and obedience.

Say It!

by Rudy Thomas

Several years ago a fine article in *Reader's Digest* told of the experience of a school teacher who endured a long period of convalescence following surgery. The "get well" cards had long since stopped coming, and she felt depressed and lonely. Then the mail arrived one day with a note from a casual acquaintance, who was also a school teacher. Her correspondent wrote:

My class is about to begin, but I must write these few words before my students arrive. I missed your smile and your wave this morning, just as I have every day since you've been ill. I pray you'll be well soon. You're probably surprised at receiving this note, but the world for me is a less happy place without you. And HOW WILL YOU KNOW UNLESS I TELL YOU?

When Jane Linstrom read that note she said, "Suddenly the paralyzing sense of despair slipped away. *Someone missed me; someone needed me.* That medicine proved more effective than any medicine the doctor could prescribe."

Somewhere I came across this wise word: "You cannot do a kindness too soon because you do not know how soon it may be too late." It isn't that we do not have many impulses to do the thoughtful thing, it's just that we do not act on our impulses. The goodness that is in us too often remains in us, unexpressed.

It must have been something like that the Apostle Paul had in mind when he wrote his fellow Christians in Phillipi, "Greet my fellow laborers . . . they have cheered my heart, and yours too . . . you ought to appreciate them."

How many people have blessed our lives or those of our children? We should let them know how much we appreciate them. How will they know if we don't tell

them?

How often we forget what a telephone call, a letter, a thoughtful act of remembrance might mean to someone who has meant much to us. Dr. Bernard W. Spilman reminds us just how important it is that we "say it":

"You have a friend—a man, a woman, a boy, a girl. For some reason you love that person very much. Have you told that person so, lately? Perhaps they would like to have you SAY IT."

"Your friend has helped you along the way in days gone by. Gratitude is in your heart. Do not let it be buried there—SAY IT."

"Some great joy comes to a friend. You rejoice with him—or her. But they will never know unless you SAY IT."

"Your friend succeeds in some task which he or she has undertaken. You feel a grateful pride that he or she has done it. SAY IT."

"A sorrow has come to a friend. It may

have been the loss of property. Or some loved one may have gone wrong. Disease may have laid its hand on your friend taking the glow of health. You would share that sorrow with your friend—SAY IT."

"A personal word, a telephone call, a postcard, a letter, a telegram, and only a few minutes of time. Silent sympathy doesn't help much. Your own life may be better because of it; but your friend may go to the end of the journey and never know. You may add to the joy; you may

lighten the load, you may brighten the way if you only will take time to SAY IT."

This very day take the time to "say it" to someone, for how will they know if you don't tell them? To say a word of concern and love is such a little thing to do and yet can mean so much to some lonely, discouraged, sorrowful fellow human being. It is this kind of giving of ourselves that God wants from us. God wants us to set loose the immense forces

for good, the impulses to do thoughtful things, so they don't just remain impulses but rather become acts of love and mercy. God expects us to move from "noble thought to valiant deed."

Oh, yes, I almost forgot. Maybe we ought to remember to "say it" to God, too. How will he know of our gratitude, if we do not tell him?

(From *Church Educator*, Vol. 5, No. 6, © June 1980. Used by permission.)

12 Myths About Careers

by John William Zehring

(Editor's Note: This series of articles on Career Myths started last month in the September issue. Use them as a test or guide for your own thinking as you consider possible career alternatives, which you feel fall within the area of God's will for your life.)

Myth No. 2: I should do what my parents (friends, counselor, pastor) tell me to do.

What do you do when you don't know how to make a decision? Ask someone else. And the results can be devastating. Not because they don't care or intentionally give you bad advice. But because no one, not even your parents, can know

you as well as you know yourself. When you ask for advice, people feel the burden is placed on them to respond. And out of love and kindness, they try to provide the best advice they can.

There is absolutely nothing wrong with asking for advice. It's a good idea. But we must make our own decisions and be responsible for them. To have someone else "hand it to us" makes them accountable for our choices. And if the choice turns sour, we may blame them, tending to sour relationships.

Your parents love you and want the best for you. It is natural for them to want to provide suggestions, which they should. Yet they are not unbiased, objective parties and may, without even knowing it, be more concerned with what they want for you than with what you want for yourself.

Suppose your parents want you to become an engineer, with a secure future

and large salary. To them, that makes a lot of sense. But you want to do something else, something without that security or financial reward. If you follow their wishes, it may make them happy and proud, but you may become miserable—which would then make them unhappy and perhaps even guilt-ridden. If you follow what you know is best for yourself, it may temporarily disappoint them, but they can say, "At least our son/daughter is happy and that's what counts." Make your own decision, since you are the one who must live with the consequences.

(John Zehring is the director of Career Planning and Placement at Earlham College in Richmond, IN. Reprinted by permission from *GROUP Magazine*, copyright 1979, Thom Schultz Publications, Inc., Box 481, Loveland, CO 80537.)

I Love to Tell the Story

by Joe Bayly

I failed today.

The lesson didn't come off. I know it and the class knows it.

First, there was that tangent. I should have stuck to the lesson when Matt raised that question; I should have said, "Matt, if you want to, we can discuss that after class. Or sometime during the week. I

want to get through the lesson, and I don't think enough people are bothered by that to justify taking the time to discuss it now."

I know, and Matt knows, that some questions bother so many people that it's necessary to consider them in class, even if you never get back to the lesson. But this wasn't one of them.

So we wasted 15 minutes. I mean, I wasted 15 minutes.

Then I tried to cover everything, rushing through the material in the time remaining. I even said, "There's no time for questions," when Grace raised her hand.

I know I should have settled for getting the main point across. But I didn't. I had to dump the whole load because I'd prepared it.

The culmination of that miserable class session was when Frank disagreed with me and I cut him off. I could see people's heads jerk back.

I'll have to tell them I'm sorry next week. I hope they'll forgive me.

I hope You'll forgive, Lord. Thanks.

(Reprinted by permission from *I Love to Tell the Story* by Joseph T. Bayly, © 1978 David C. Cook Publishing Co., Elgin, IL 60120.)

To Better Love Her

Talk may be cheap when it lacks action, but talking to your wife is one of the most valuable gifts you can give her. A recent study reveals that the average couple spend a mere ten minutes a day in conver-

sation.

In reporting on 250,000 cases of marital failure that have come before his domestic relations court, Judge John Warren Hill of New York expressed the conclusion that "bottled up resentments constitute one of the greatest dangers to marriage." His formula for success is, "talk it out."

Talking doesn't mean merely exchange-

ing information about the weather, the children and the day's mishaps. It means letting your wife know where you are—emotionally, physically and intellectually.

If consistency at talking daily comes hard, *try these ideas.* Determine a regular time and place to talk. One man uses a rocker in the kitchen. He and his wife

(Continued on page 21)

Evangelical Teacher Training Association: 50 Years Serving Christ Through Leadership Training

October 1979, Evangelical Teacher Training Association initiated the anniversary celebration of its "50 years serving Christ thru leadership training" with a luncheon in the Chicago area for member school delegates. In fifty years of ministry, more than 60,000 Teachers Diplomas have been granted by the more than 200 member colleges and seminaries to graduates qualifying to teach E.T.T.A. certificate courses. These courses have been taught to over two million persons in 83 countries throughout the world.

The 50th anniversary of E.T.T.A. and the 200th anniversary of the Sunday school are being celebrated the same year. A survey of the recent history of the Sunday school shows why this is symbolic. Although the early years of the Sunday school movement brought growth and worldwide impact, in the early 1900s trouble was evident. Sunday schools were placing a greater stress on child psychology and unbiblical teachings than upon teaching God's truth from Scripture. Many Bible-believing Christians, therefore, raised doubts concerning the future of the Sunday school. It became clear that if the movement was to survive, there would need to be a revival of its biblical base.

In 1930 Dr. Clarence H. Benson, Christian education professor at Moody Bible Institute, called a meeting of Bible institutes to discuss the status of the Sunday school. After considering several options, the Institute representatives concluded that a new organization, dedicated to the training of Sunday school teachers in evangelical Bible and doctrinal beliefs as well as teaching methods, was necessary. This was the beginning of the Evangelical Teacher Training Association. Dr. Charles G. Trumbull, then editor of the *Sunday School Times*, responded to this action by saying, "No event in the Sunday school field has been of greater importance than the recent formation of the

Evangelical Teacher Training Association."

Dr. Benson was asked to develop certificate courses for teacher training. Soon Sunday school teachers throughout North America were being prepared through E.T.T.A. courses. As teachers began to better understand biblical teachings and effective teaching methods, the Sunday school was once again able to become a prominent force in evangelical Christianity. Since E.T.T.A. has had such an impact upon the Sunday school movement—by increasing the quality of its teachers and reinstating its biblical base—it is certainly appropriate that this anniversary year is shared by the Sunday school and the Association.

Trained teachers still hold the key to a successful Sunday school ministry. The heart of the Sunday school is the teacher. Only as teachers are adequately prepared to teach God's truth in life-forming ways will the Sunday school successfully progress. E.T.T.A. is committed to this task. The need for and impact of trained church teachers is increasing, making the Association's ministry as necessary now as it was at its inception 50 years ago.

Each year 100,000 persons throughout the world study E.T.T.A. courses. These training experiences benefit a church's Sunday school program by . . .

HELPING TEACHERS BE SUCCESSFUL: After all the plans for a Sunday school program are made, this fact remains—the success of a Sunday school depends upon the success of the teacher in the classroom. Continual training—pre-service and in-service—aids teachers to minister effectively.

ELEVATING THE SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHER: Teaching a Sunday school class is perhaps the most thrilling of all experiences. Unfortunately, teaching often becomes a chore rather than a joy. E.T.T.A. training not only makes teaching more joyful but more desirable as well. And the fact that teachers are being trained makes Sunday school teaching important.

INCREASING THE SUNDAY SCHOOL PROGRAM: Continual

by Paul J. Loth

Sunday school growth takes place only as the Sunday school program is successful. Since effective teachers make a successful Sunday school, trained teachers are the key to Sunday school increase.

Because the Sunday school is dependent upon the quality of its teachers, teacher training should be one of the first plans made in increasing the ministry of the Sunday school. Unfortunately this is not always so. May the day soon come when each local church recognizes the immediate imperative of teacher and leadership training.

The North American Baptist Conference shares in the ministry of E.T.T.A. by providing the Association certificate programs for training in North American Baptist churches. The North American Baptist College and North American Baptist Seminary are member schools of E.T.T.A., thus preparing teachers for the certificate courses in N.A.B. churches and granting teachers diplomas to qualifying students. E.T.T.A., then, is the official training program of the North American Baptist Conference, the Church Ministries Department granting the internationally recognized E.T.T.A. awards to teachers and leaders of North American Baptist churches. These training experiences not only develop quality Sunday school teachers but also dedicated Christian believers for many varieties of Christian service.

PRELIMINARY TEACHERS CERTIFICATE PROGRAM

Old Testament Survey—
Law and History
Old Testament Survey—
Poetry and Prophecy
New Testament Survey
Understanding People
*Understanding Teaching

or
*Teaching Techniques
Sunday School Success
*Either course may be used for certificate credit

ADVANCED TEACHERS CERTIFICATE PROGRAM
Your Bible

The Triune God
Biblical Beliefs
World Missions Today
Evangelize through Christian Education
*Church Educational Ministries
*Vacation Bible School
*Either course may be used for certificate credit

Students receive an E.T.T.A. Award Credit Card after each course, provided the instructor is an E.T.T.A. approved teacher and the requirements for credit are met. Teacher Certificates are granted by the Church Ministries Department at the completion of each certificate program.

Substantial numerical and qualitative growth have been the result in churches making training a top priority. Consider the following principles for successful use of the certificate courses:

- teach Bible survey courses during the midweek Bible study;
- teach E.T.T.A. courses as Sunday school adult electives;
- teach *Understanding Teaching* or

Teaching Techniques in a six-week course for teachers (two sessions per night);

—survey the interests of prospective students concerning possible class time:

prior to the Sunday evening service
before, during, or after the midweek service
on Saturday morning
prior to the Sunday morning service or Sunday school
on weekday evenings

—recruit a "training director" to coordinate the E.T.T.A. courses:

—enthusiastically promote the classes with the help of:

posters
bulletin inserts
pulpit announcements
radio announcements
public presentation of E.T.T.A. awards in a church service determination of a requirement of training and explain this re-

quirement to each teacher recruited

Any North American Baptist church desiring to begin an E.T.T.A. certificate program for training teachers and leaders may do so by planning a schedule of E.T.T.A. courses to be offered, securing an instructor qualified to teach the courses, and enthusiastically promoting the program. Further information may be received from the Church Ministries Department of the North American Baptist Conference.

It is the continual prayer of the Association that the Pauline principle of church development will be the experience of each local church throughout the world: "The things which you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses, these entrust to faithful men who will be able to teach others also" (2 Timothy 2:2). May each adult be prepared and active in lovingly serving Christ and thus edifying the body of Christ. This has and will continue to be the calling of the Evangelical Teacher Training Association.

Excerpts From the Diary of a Church Extension Pastor

February 7—Looking for a place of worship besides our home. Some people are reluctant to come to a private home for worship.

February 13—Made contact with group that may allow us to use their facilities for worship.

February 24—Area Secretary visited us today. Greatly encouraged.

February 27—Place of worship rented.

March 2—First service in new facilities. Attendance doubled from last month.

March 16—Little congregation numbers in the 20s and 30s.

April 6—Easter Sunday sets a new record in attendance.

April 20—Association Church Extension Committee has come to look into the possible purchase of land for a church site. Prices very high. Seventeen sites observed, the Lord provided another one much better. Some hindrances besides finances still exist. God will have to remove them too.

These are the factual diary notes of an N.A.B. Church Extension pastor, whose name has been withheld by request.

May 3—Getting people to come as a result of canvassing and visitation is very difficult. Interest in spiritual things is very low in the community.

May 11—Attendance is fairly regular but no record attendances lately.

May 13—Some of the hindrances in the purchasing of land seem to be removed. Further thought, prayer and negotiations necessary.

May 25—School is out and attendance is down.

June 8—A very low attendance in Sunday school and worship service.

June 13—Because of the great responsibilities of the field, the physical drain on the body is very heavy.

June 14—Young couple led to the Lord. They are very responsive to the message of the gospel. Lack of sufficient income may force them to move.

areas of growth and accomplishment. Share the tensions you have from frustrations and failures. What are your dreams? Have you asked your wife what ambitions or skills she wants to develop and how you can help her? When did you last talk about the gifts and potentials you see in each of the children and what you can do to encourage them? What habit patterns in your family are the most productive or the most harmful?

And when you're talking, *don't forget to listen*. Really listening means reading the body language and the expression that lie beneath the words. It's hearing the

"I'm low right now and need some stroking," behind the hearty, "I'm fine." It's sensing the hurt or pride of accomplishment behind the casual recounting of some event.

And at the end of a good conversation, refocus your talk upward in *prayer*. Thank the Father for your joys, seek his counsel and power for your problems, and express your appreciation for his listening ear. He answers.

(From *Dads Only*, Vol. 3, Vol. 1, January 1980, Julian, CA)

The Rev. Paul J. Loth is Director of Certificate Programs with the Evangelical Teacher Training Association. His father, Dr. Paul E. Loth, is president of the organization.



CHURCH
EXTENSION
PROJECT

A Friendly "Hi, Y'all" From Texas

by Robert Walther



Congregation in worship.

CARROLLTON, TEXAS! Where is it? Why a Church Extension project? Carrollton is a growing north suburb of Dallas. It is the fastest growing suburb in the Dallas area. In February 1980, an average of 70 new families moved into Carrollton weekly. This growth continues.

People are coming from all over the United States and the world. The Dallas area has many major companies transplanted from other cities. People are lonely and eager to visit; and since they are making some new beginnings, they are eager to work also in a new church. We have not even scratched the surface of making contacts in this area, and we are told that by 1985 we will see an additional 6,400 family units in Carrollton.

We are pleased with the families attending North Carrollton Baptist Church. Many of the families who attended our first service have decided to make this church their spiritual home. We had many visitors, and it has been exciting to see many of them return. We now have eight families who want to be part of the church and many other families are attending. As I was visiting in the community, one man said, "It would be exciting to be part of a church in the beginning stages." Another said, "In moving to Carrollton many changes have taken place, and I am glad

The Rev. Robert Walther is pastor of North Carrollton Baptist Church, a Church Extension project begun in 1979.



Pastor Bob Walther with wife Marilyn, Jeremy and baby Tammy.



Cindy Adolf, summer church worker, leading in Children's Church.

this church has helped me." Recently I was told, "I want to use my new home to reach people for Christ and this church." Praise the Lord for people like this and many others.

Land is very difficult to find for church use, because it is being developed either for commercial or residential use. The Lord has opened up a beautiful piece of land right in the area where we are ministering and the growth is taking place. Land is expensive, but we are confident the Lord will supply as he has thus far. We are presently meeting in an elementary school. There was only one school available, and it was the closest to the area of our ministry. These have been the kind of assurances of God's will in this new project.

We have appreciated the encouragement of North Highlands Baptist Church in Dallas, the Southern Association and all North American Baptists. We as an entire fellowship have a definite ministry here in the south. There are even North American Baptists moving to this area. We hope to keep contact with them. If you know of people moving south to the Dallas area, please let us know, so we can contact them.

We would appreciate your prayer and financial support to help us purchase land for this growing project in Carrollton. Designate your donations to "North Carrollton Baptist Church." Thank you for your interest in us, your southern brothers and sisters.

PERSONAL ESTATE PLANNING



Gift Annuity Rates Are Increased

by James D. Frey

On May 8 of this year, the National Committee on Gift Annuities met and approved an increase in the rates for new gift annuities. Our Conference has adopted these new increased rates for use with our own gift annuities. This means that you can now receive greater income when you purchase a gift annuity than you could a year ago. This is encouraging news for individuals living on fixed incomes. You may be interested to know what a gift annuity is and what it can do for you.

What is a Gift Annuity?

A gift annuity is an investment that provides double return; one for the Lord's work and one for yourself. As the name implies, it is, in part, a gift that will help supply a nurse for a hospital in Africa, launch a new church, train young men and women in our College and Seminary or perhaps pay the salary of a missionary

in Brazil. In short, your gift enables the N.A.B. Conference to continue its work throughout the world. "Go, then, to all people everywhere and make them my disciples" (Matt. 28:19a TEV). This investment gives you another benefit. You will receive an income that is payable to you for your entire life. You cannot outlive it, and it is guaranteed by the Conference. You also are able to take advantage of favorable tax treatment as to the gift portion of your investment, plus income tax relief on the annuity income you receive each year.

How is This Possible? When Does it Work?

When you give the Conference a specified amount of money, in return the Conference provides you with a Gift Annuity Bond that guarantees you a life income. The Conference invests the money you give to earn interest in order to pay you a life income. The Conference is legally bound to this agreement as long as you live. When the Lord calls you home, your gift is then directed to the ministry you had previously selected such as home or overseas missions, Church Extension, the N.A.B. College or the N.A.B. Seminary, just to name a few.

Can A Gift Annuity Provide for You and Your Spouse?

It most certainly can. Many husbands and wives invest in a joint and survivor gift annuity which provide an income as long as either one remains alive. As a matter of fact, any two people can participate in a joint and survivor annuity. Sisters and sisters, brothers and brothers.

How Can You Fund A Gift Annuity?

You may use cash, securities or even real estate. If you fund your gift annuity with appreciated securities, there may even be a further benefit to you in possible capital gains tax savings.

Summary

A gift annuity offers you the following:

1. New increased annuity rates . . . greater income
2. A gift to the Lord's work
3. A guaranteed life income
4. A number of tax savings

NORTH AMERICAN BAPTIST GIFT ANNUITY RATES

(N.A.B. Gift Annuities since 1899)

Women: Subtract two (2) years from your actual age to get your "annuity" age

SINGLE LIFE

Age	Rate	Age	Rate
35 & under	5.0%	63	6.4%
36	5.1%	64	6.5%
37	5.2%	65	6.6%
38	5.2%	66	6.6%
39	5.3½%	67	6.7%
40	5.3%	68	6.8%
41	5.3%	69	7.0%
42	5.4%	70	7.1%
43	5.4%	71	7.2%
44	5.4%	72	7.4%
45	5.5%	73	7.5%
46	5.5%	74	7.7%
47	5.6%	75	7.9%
48	5.6%	76	8.1%
49	5.7%	77	8.3%
50	5.7%	78	8.6%
51	5.8%	79	8.9%
52	5.8%	80	9.2%
53	5.9%	81	9.5%
54	5.9%	82	9.9%
55	5.9%	83	10.3%
56	6.0%	84	10.7%
57	6.0%	85	11.2%
58	6.1%	86	11.7%
59	6.1%	87	12.2%
60	6.2%	88	12.8%
61	6.3%	89	13.4%
62	6.3%	90 & over	14.0%

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

Send today for the following information without cost or obligation:

☐ "Questions and Answers About Gift Annuities."

☐ Canadian Gift Annuity Rates

☐ Two Lives—Joint & Survivor Table

Name _____

Street _____ Address _____

City _____ State / Province _____ Zip _____

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

our conference in action

EAST DETROIT, MI. Mr. Bernd Rist, a 1980 graduate of North American Baptist Seminary and a member of Ridgemont Baptist Church, was ordained on June 8, 1980, in an inspiring afternoon service.

An ordination council, consisting of 14 delegates from five churches with the Rev. Willis Potratz, Great Lakes Area secretary, and Dr. Stephen Brachlow, associate professor at N.A.B. Seminary, met and questioned the candidate on biblical doctrine and heard his testimony. They recommended his ordination to the Gospel ministry. Dr. H. Waltereit, a former pastor of Ridgemont Baptist brought the ordination sermon, "Made a Minister." The ordination prayer, also offered by Dr. Waltereit, was inspiring and a highlight of this service.

The candidate responded with thanks and a prayer of praise to our Lord. He became associate pastor of the German Zion Baptist Church in Edmonton, AB. (Bruno Schiemann, reporter.)

FARGO, ND. Metropolitan Baptist Church held a Sunday school contest during the month of May; the winning team was rewarded with a potluck supper on June 8. After the meal, during the evening service, the junior high class of five girls presented the musical play, "Sam." Mrs. Ted Keck directed, and Mrs. James Bertsch was pianist. The Rev. Ted Keck is pastor. (Lorraine Kahler, reporter.)

RAPID CITY, SD. South Canyon Baptist Church extended a call to the Rev. Walter Hoffman to serve as assistant pastor. Rev. Hoffman accepted the call and started his ministry with us on Sept. 1, 1980.

The Lindquists conducted our Daily Vacation Bible School, June 16-20. They presented a musical program on Wednesday evening for the public, and they also shared in the Sunday morning and evening services. The Rev. Elmo Tahrán is pastor of the church. (Maxine Bettenhausen, reporter.)

SHATTUCK, OK. Ebenezer Baptist Church, after being without a pastor for only six weeks, greeted their new pastor, the Rev. Rodney Poppinga, on June 11, 1980. Pastor Rod, his wife, Daylene and son Zack (pictured), are from Sioux Falls, SD, where he graduated from North American Baptist Seminary in May 1980.



The members extended a hardy welcome to the Poppingas by honoring them with a supper and a pantry shower.

They are a blessing surely sent to us from God, and we thank him. (Marlene Longhofer, reporter.)

REGINA, SK. The annual Saskatchewan Baptist Association meetings were held at Faith Baptist Church on June 12-15, 1980, led by the Rev. Delvin Bertsch, moderator, of Yorkton. Our Northern Area secretary, the Rev. I. Faszer, was also able to attend. Professor L. Sawchenko of North American Baptist College was the speaker. (Mrs. Helen Kupp, reporter.)

REGINA, SK. The Saskatchewan Baptist W.M.F. under the leadership of Mrs. Isabelle Hoffman, president, met June 13, 1980 in Regina for the annual meeting of inspiration, business and fellowship. The budget includes scholarships to two students at North American Baptist College, support for the local church extension project, as well as support for the Conference W.M.F. project. Former missionary Jean Berkan reported on her recent trip to the Cameroon field to update lab technicians on new techniques. Mrs. Vera Rosom told of her impressions of mission work in Cameroon after visiting her sister Betty Mantay. Mrs. Gladys Goltz (mother of missionary Don Goltz) challenged mothers and grandmothers to let God use our children as he wills in his vineyard. (Mrs. Isabelle Nornberg, reporter.)

PRINCE GEORGE, BC. On the evening of May 6, 1980, College Heights Baptist Church was privileged to have our North American Baptist College Choristers with us for a delightful evening of music. Our mother church, Fort George Baptist, and grandmother church, Bethel Baptist, joined us for this occasion. We do not have a choir of our own as yet, so this was really a special treat for us.

We are enjoying our new church building, and on Sunday, May 25, 1980, during the evening service, we witnessed our first baptism in the new sanctuary. Eight candidates followed the Lord in baptism and joined our fellowship. Two others also became members by way of personal testimony. The Rev. E. Klingenberg is pastor of the church. (Mrs. V. Kwiatkowski, reporter.)

JAMESTOWN, ND. Sunday, May 4, 1980, was a very happy, exciting day for Temple Baptist Church, when we were able to celebrate our 15th anniversary since the beginning of this Church Extension church. The church had its beginning on July 14, 1964.

Pastors who served here were M. Vanderbeck, Irvin Schmuland, Gordon Voegelé, George Breikreuz, George Robinson and Jim Dick, who is the present pastor. Youth and choir directors have been Doug Bittle, Vergil Schmidt and Mr. Bryan Hochhalter. Larry L. Moser also served as a youth director.

Special guests for the day were the Rev. Gordon Voegelé, now of Beulah, ND, the Rev. Connie Salios of Oakbrook Terrace, and the Rev. Ron Mayforth of Bismarck. The Rev. Doug Bittle of Madison, SD, provided special music. The ministers,

Connie Salios, Doug Bittle, N. E. McCoy, Ron Mayforth and Gorgon Voegelé are pictured, singing "Happy Birthday, Temple Baptist."



Letters were received from former members and a phone call from the Rev. George Robinson of Edmonton, AB, brought special greetings.

The ladies of the church provided a delicious supper, with a "birthday cake" being served after the last service.

A special offering was taken for debt reduction to N.A.B. It was the help received from Church Extension Builders which enabled this church to be built.

The theme for the day was Psalm 126:3 "The Lord has done great things for us; we are glad." (Mrs. Theodore Meisch, reporter.)

MEDICINE HAT, AB. Temple Baptist Church began 25 years ago, with Grace Baptist Church as the mother church. At present, we are delighted to be the mother church to the new Brooks Baptist Church in Brooks, AB.

June 6-8 were days which will long be remembered by many, as the 25th anniversary was celebrated by our church.

Taking part in the services were: Mrs. Clara Milbrandt and Mrs. Lottie Schmuland, each representing their husbands who were former pastors; former pastors Rev. Walter Hoffman, Rev. Henry Schumacher, as well as our present pastor, Rev. Norman Dreger and the associate in Christian education, Loren Kopf.

The anniversary choir was directed by Roger Grose, former member and now on staff at Brentview Baptist, Calgary, AB. We are thankful for the past 25 years, and are looking forward with great anticipation to what the Lord has for us in the next 25 years. (Mrs. Vi Tilleman, anniversary committee secretary.)

FESSENDEN, ND. It was a joyful time when missionaries Ray and Esther Hoffman were with us. The Rev. Hoffman brought the message in the Sunday morning service, followed by a noon meal. In the evening they showed slides and told about their work in Cameroon.

The Brotherhood hosted the Northern Dakota Association men's hymn sing. The theme was "Giving is Growing."

In the absence of our pastor, Mr. Gary Throlson was our speaker for a Sunday morning service. He gave his testimony as a layman.

The Omega group was in charge of a

Sunday evening service. They presented readings, musical selections and a skit, all pertaining to the family.

Five young people followed their Lord into the waters of baptism, conducted by our pastor the Rev. Fred Fuchs. (Regina Pepple, reporter.)

BANFF, AB. The 24th annual Alberta Baptist women's retreat was held at the Banff Springs Hotel, Banff, AB, on May 8-10, 1980. The theme of this retreat was "Let Him Have His Way With Me." The theme verse was Proverbs 3:6. 337 women attended. We were privileged to have Mrs. Gladys Peterson, Sioux Falls, SD, as our guest speaker along with missionary speakers Dr. Laura Reddig and Mrs. Mildred Neuman.

Mrs. Peterson reminisced about her life history, keeping our theme in mind. Mrs. Neuman updated us on Rev. Neuman's condition and requested our prayers as they seek the Lord's guidance for the future. Dr. Laura Reddig related and recalled with slides her most interesting experiences on the mission field.

Virginia Jaster, music chairman for the retreat, led us in uplifting times of inspiration. Special selections were rendered by the Grace Baptist Church choir, Calgary, under the direction of Mrs. E. Kerber. A number of other churches favored us with solos, duets and quartets.

The ladies of Alberta enjoyed a time of spiritual refreshment, relaxation and warm fellowship.

The budget adopted for the coming year was \$13,000.

The new executive for the 1980-81 term is as follows: president, Mrs. Caroline Zeitner; vice president, Mrs. Hilde Renz; secretary, Mrs. Lois Hiller; treasurer, Mrs. Sandra Davis; White Cross chairman, Mrs. Dorothy Kuhnert. (Lois Hiller, secretary.)

LEDUC, AB. A baptismal service was held at First Baptist Church on June 1, 1980, when eight candidates (pictured) publicly confessed their desire to follow Jesus Christ and were baptized. The Rev. Herbert Bushkowsky is pictured at the left.



A Fathers Day program was also held on June 15, and a special morning program was presented by the Sunday school children, young people and ladies of the W.M.F. This was followed by a time of fellowship in the lower auditorium honoring the fathers.

our conference in action

A Sunday in June was set aside as "Operation Andrew" day in our church as special emphasis day in connection with the Billy Graham Crusade which will be held in Edmonton in August 1980. Many of the area also attended the Christian Life and Witness Classes which were held in the community. What a blessing and concern is ours to pray for and win others to Christ during these exciting days. (Mrs. Loretta Miller, reporter.)

PARMA, OH. On June 27, a church family get-together was sponsored by Redeemer Baptist Church College / Career Class. Articles were brought together to be used by Karin Haas, a short-term missionary appointee to Cameroon. It was sort of a "Cargo Party."

The entrance to the fellowship hall was decorated with green foliage and branches, while the lights were covered with green paper to give a forest effect. Authentic Cameroon music was playing in a nearby room to add to the jungle illusion.

A program of music, speeches, and refreshments enhanced the bringing of gifts for the honored guest. A fine attendance attested to the continuing interest in our work in Cameroon, and in Karin, who will be leaving in fall. (Ruth Strauss, reporter.)

JAMESTOWN, ND. The Central Dakota-Montana Association sessions were called to order by moderator, Art Bender, on June 27, 1980. The Association was ably hosted by Temple Baptist Church, Jamestown, at the Holiday Inn. One of the largest number of delegates were present, and business was conducted by carrying out the theme of the sessions, "Living Love," based on 1 John 3:18. Seminars were held challenging us to manifest our love by caring for our pastor, the aged and those with special needs. Devotional thoughts on the "Love of God" and "Prayer" were brought by the Rev. and Mrs. Walter Hoffman and Mrs. Carol Grenz. The guest speakers during the days were Dr. J. Gordon Harris, N.A.B. Seminary, and missionaries Miss Lucille Wipf and the Rev. and Mrs. Ray Hoffman.

The Rev. Ron Mayforth, North Central Area secretary, welcomed three new pastors and their wives into the Association. He also brought words of farewell because his family is moving to Edmonton, AB, where he will assume teaching duties at N.A.B. College.

The two Church Extension churches, Century Baptist, Bismarck, and Metropolitan Baptist, Fargo, are experiencing God's blessings and continuing a steady growth. We praise the Lord for the share we can have in this work.

The budget approved for the coming year is \$22,000. The next Association will be at Calvary Baptist Church, Aberdeen, SD, June 26-28, 1981. (Mary Lou Brenner reporter.)

SAN JOSE, CA. During the month of June, Bernal Road Baptist Church hosted a six-day revival. The Rev. Merle Booth of Oakhurst, CA, was the evangelist. Eight persons received Christ as Savior and many

others made meaningful commitments for Christ. On Sunday, June 22, Pastor Aaron Buhler baptized five persons on confession of faith in Christ. Of the 300 members that have been received into Bernal Road Baptist, 105 have come by baptism.

In June and July, we saw the series of seven films entitled, "Focus on the Family." (Nancy Glover, church clerk.)

PHILADELPHIA, PA. On Sunday morning, June 8, the congregation of Pilgrim Baptist Church expressed their farewell to Mr. James Frey who accepted the new responsibilities as associate secretary for Estate Planning with the North American Baptist Conference. James Frey, who is pictured



with the Rev. Paul Meister, pastor, has been a young enthusiastic influence on our deacon board for the past years and has been searching for God's purpose in his life. We as a congregation rejoice with Jim, his wife Barbara and daughter Kristin as they enter their new work serving Christ in this expanded area of estate planning. We pray that God will bless him in his work at our N.A.B. Conference International Office. (Rev. Paul Meister, reporter.)

WINNIPEG, MB. On April 9, 1980, Fort Richmond Baptist Church was privileged to have a 43-voice nurses choir from Chicago present a concert. It was a very enjoyable evening and we were very blessed by their songs and testimonies.

On Mother's Day, May 11, 1980, our Primary Sunday school, under the direction of Mrs. Jannette Scott and Mrs. Dorothy Lake, presented a touching program for all the mothers. Also on that day we had baby dedication which fit in very appropriately with Mother's Day. After that the children of the Sunday school presented each mother with a red carnation. On April 13, 1980, our church had baptism. Two young people were baptized and joined our church. We are looking forward to an exciting summer with VBS in August. The Rev. David Lake is pastor of the church. (Arlene Kuenstler, reporter.)

SACRAMENTO, CA. The Ordination Council for Dale Gonçalves was held Thursday, June 5, 1980, at 7:30 p.m. at Willow Ranch Baptist Church. The Rev. Arthur Brust, host pastor, convened the meeting. The Rev. Phyl Putz was elected to serve as chairman. The candidate recently graduated from North American Baptist Seminary receiving a Master of Divinity Degree.

our conference in action

Following an extended time of examination and discussion related to the candidate's doctrinal beliefs, the Council voted to conclude its questions and went into executive session. The Council voted unanimously to recommend that Willow Rancho Baptist Church proceed with the ordination of Dale Concalves on Sunday, June 8, 1980. The candidate and his wife Coleen were congratulated and committed to God's care by a prayer led by the Rev. Gene Kern. Ladies of the host church served refreshments.

Seven churches from the Northern California Association were represented by 25 delegates. (Clarence H. Walth, clerk.)

VANCOUVER, BC. Immanuel Baptist Church is pleased to announce the ordination of Ronald Graham Kelway into the ministry of the gospel.

On Saturday, June 7, 1980, 25 delegates representing 11 churches were present to examine and confirm God's calling into the ministry of Rev. Kelway. Honorary delegates included the Rev. Larry Bienert, the Rev. Ray Harsch and the Rev. Ron Susek. During the executive session the council declared itself satisfied with the candidate's presentation and commended him for his thoroughness, conciseness and obvious love and knowledge of God's Word.

On Sunday afternoon the ordination service took place, followed by an informal time of refreshments. The guest speaker was a friend and former professor of Rev. Kelway, Dr. J. H. Pickford. An offering was received and, as agreed upon by the council on Saturday, was designated as a gift to Rev. Ronald Kelway towards the purchase of books for his personal library.

Rev. Kelway and his family begin their ministry at First Baptist Church in Minnetonka, MN, in August of this year. (Harold Schroeder, reporter.)

ODESSA, WA. On Sunday evening, May 4, 1980, we were privileged to share in a beautiful baptismal service at Odessa Baptist Church. The ten candidates are pictured with the Rev. Albert Richardson.



The service also included congregational singing, special music, and a message from the pastor. After the baptismal service everyone met in the social room for refreshments and a time of fellowship. A wonderful blessing was received by all who attended. (Gerald Goetz, reporter.)

GROSSE POINTE WOODS, MI. On Sunday, April 20, the people of Grosse Pointe Baptist Church, celebrated their 25th anniversary of ministry at their Grosse Pointe location. Actually the church dates back to 1897 when the first 82 members met on New Year's Day and organized The Third German-American Baptist Church of Detroit. Among the great achievements of the church was when the congregation had out-grown the Burns Avenue facilities and purchased the present property in Grosse Pointe Woods, changed their name from Burns Avenue Baptist to Grosse Pointe Baptist and on Easter Sunday, in 1955, dedicated their church to the glory of God. As a testimony of their vibrant faith they claimed Romans 5:1 and carved it on the corner stone.

It is this rich and glorious history that helped to make the 25th anniversary such a meaningful occasion. As the congregation celebrated this special day, they wanted it to be an expression of praise and thanksgiving for God's faithfulness as well as a challenge for the future. Dr. Reinhold Kerstan, associate secretary of communications for the N.A.B., represented the Conference and brought a message in both the morning and evening services which was tailor-made for the occasion. It was a great blessing to those who helped plan this celebration to see how Dr. Kerstan caught the significance of what the congregation was trying to say in recognition of ministry past and challenge toward the future. In a capsule, he emphasized the significance of making this occasion a stepping stone and not a capstone of ministry.



Highlights of the anniversary service included the special choir numbers of "Hallelujah" by Beethoven and "A Festive Psalm" by Butler, a brief historical review read by Mr. Henry Holzimmer, who was

moderator of the church in 1955, a litany of dedication led by Pastor William Taft, and the anniversary challenge by Dr. Kerstan.

Following the morning service, the congregation gathered on the front steps to have pictures taken of the members who were present in 1955 and the congregation as it is today.

In the evening service four representative members of the 1955 congregation gave impromptu testimonies entitled "Moments of the Past." Following the evening service the day was concluded with a delightful anniversary fellowship reception.

Presently serving on the staff with Pastor William Taft are Miss Ruth Platz, secretary and director of Christian education; Dr. Herbert Hiller, minister of membership; Mr. Robert Kiteley, minister of music; and Mr. Raynor Hammill, organist and minister of youth.

WINNIPEG, MN. On May 9, a Mother-Daughter Banquet was held at the Grant Park Baptist Church. The theme was, "By Our Love." The Pioneer Girls put on a skit centered on this theme, showing the right and wrong way of handling situations between mother and daughter. A time of sharing was also spent as several shared mother-daughter experiences that were special to them.

May 25 was an eventful day for friends and members of this church. A baptismal service was held in the morning, when Pastor Edward Hughes baptized three young boys and a young woman. In the evening our Junior Choir rendered a musical, "Down By The Creek Bank," by Dottie Rambo. This musical consists also of dialogue sprinkled with a little humor as well as some serious thoughts. The choir did a splendid job, thanks to the capable directing of Bernieta and Ewald Nikel who put much time and effort into making it such a success. In closing the congregation was asked to join in the singing of the chorus to the last song, "Is There Anything I Can Do For You." (Joyce Zilkie, reporter.)

PORT COQUITLAM, BC. Father's Day turned out to be an interesting event at Mary Hill Baptist Church. During a Church Fellowship Supper the plans for an addition to our church building were unveiled and appeared to generate enthusiastic approval, which became even more apparent when the amount of money, contributed toward the building fund that evening, exceeded all expectations. Preceding this exciting Sunday, we experienced an even more exalting occasion when Pastor Gohl, during his first baptismal service in our midst, very solemnly administered the sacrament of baptism to seven young people who had accepted Christ. To fully describe only this one service and do justice to such a blessed experience surely would take more space. (Wm. Westera, reporter.)

NAPOLÉON, ND. A baptismal service was held on Sunday, May 11, at Napoleon Baptist Church. Two candidates publicly con-

fessed Christ and followed him in baptism.

On Sunday morning, June 1, 1980, Mr. and Mrs. Larry Moser, and Wade Moser were received as members into our church fellowship, (pictured with the Rev. Edwin Walter).



An impressive recognition and farewell service was held at Napoleon Baptist Church on June 1, in honor of the Rev. and Mrs. Edwin F. Walter for their six years and 10 months as pastor of Napoleon Baptist Church, and also completing 40 years and two months in the gospel ministry. The congregation sang songs and had special music; various organizations expressed words of appreciation. A monetary gift and a beautiful friendship quilt was presented to them with love.



After the service open house was held in the church dining room and lunch was served. A beautiful 40th anniversary cake (pictured) was served to every one. Pastor and Mrs. Walter have retired from the full-time ministry and will reside at the Cedar Shakes Apartments in Freeman, SD. (Helen Walter, reporter.)

ANAHEIM, CA. The Southern California Association of N.A.B. Women's Missionary Fellowship met at Bethel Baptist Church for a spring rally and luncheon with speaker, Miss Pat Peck, who told about "Translating in the African Jungle." She is one of the Wycliffe Bible Translators who has been stationed in Ndu, Cameroon, translating the gospels and epistle of James into the Limbum language. She emphasized that Jesus is the "Yes" to all God's promises.

Bethel Baptist Church was the only church selected for the tour of beautiful and unusual buildings during the annual Anaheim Historical Society Tour. Visitors were impressed with the beauty of the church, which was built in 1926 and has

been the religious center for many faithful N.A.B. members.

A year's course of study was completed by a good number of women in the community who did an in-depth study of Genesis under the Joy Bible Studies Plan. There were 29 different churches represented by those attending the meetings each week over the previous eight months.

A delightful evening for Mothers and Daughters included a dinner prepared by the young women, followed by a fashion show for all ages, even a three-year-old boy, who delighted all the ladies with his professional ease and winning smile.

Another occasion was a May Fellowship Brunch by church women of Anaheim whose theme was "Walk in the Spirit." This event covered a Bible study session participated by leaders in three different groups. Each was a real spiritual uplift. The Rev. Ray Niederer is pastor of the church. (Mrs. Walter Gooden, reporter.)

WEST FARGO, ND. Upon confession of their faith in Jesus Christ, and desiring to join our church, three people were baptized by Pastor Les Buenning on June 1. Another lady was given the hand of fellowship upon her testimony and also joined our church. The service was closed by all taking part in the breaking of bread.

On June 3, at 7:30 p.m., "Joyful Praise," a singing group from the N.A.B. church in Apple Valley, MN, shared with us in music and song. Several testimonies were given. The group's director is Mr. Tim Blackburn. The group included his wife and five young people. (Frances Abrahamson, reporter.)

SURREY, BC. The 31st assembling of the British Columbia Association was held at Sunshine Ridge Baptist Church, May 15-18 1980. "Today's Church in the Light of Prophecy" was the major theme considered by our guest speaker, Dr. Norman Archer, pastor of First Baptist Church, Calgary, AB. As the subject was unfolded every evening, we were made more fully aware of the task the Church has before itself to "be the Salt of the World." It was pointed out by Dr. Archer that (morally) times have not drastically changed from before Christ's time. Therefore it is essential that we confront the world with the spirit of Christ which is the Spirit of Love.

Miss LaVerna Mehlhaff was our Conference guest. She basically shared about the work of our women in our Conference. It was great to have her perspective of what is going on in our Conference.

Among the momentous decisions made were the adoption of an \$80,000 budget, most of which will be directed toward Church Extension work in our province. It was also decided to begin a new work in the Kamloops area. Our moderator, Ed Hohn, and vice moderator, Don Roller, led us in these days in both our business and worship sessions.

We accept the challenges to which we were exposed with anticipation and trust in the Lord as we wait upon him for his leading in this next year. (Leonard Strelau, reporter.)

our conference in action

RENTON, WA. On Easter Sunday night the Rev. Myrl Thiesies (pictured with candidates) had the privilege of baptizing eight candidates and later welcoming them into the fellowship of Evergreen Baptist Church, during the communion service. Later a time of fellowship and refreshment was held to celebrate the occasion.



On May 13, the N.A.B. College Choristers presented their message in song and word, which was of special blessing to each one attending. (Mrs. Myrl Thiesies, reporter.)

VANCOUVER, BC. On April 25, the ladies of our W.M.F. prepared another delectable dinner for the members of Bethany fellowship. This annual dinner was enjoyed by all and the proceeds of this evening, amounting to \$4,120, will be sent to Mambilla Baptist Bible School in Nigeria, \$3,000 for library books, and the remainder for the administration building.

This occasion was also the time we chose to say farewell to our pastor and wife, Dr. H. G. and Mrs. Waltereit. It is with heavy heart that we say goodbye. We have appreciated their ministry and are confident God will continue to use them in their retirement years.

On May 25, with joy and thanksgiving, the fellowship at Bethany Baptist Church was able to welcome our new pastor, the Rev. U. Laser and family, in a special afternoon service.

We were challenged by several speakers, including area secretary, Hans Wilcke, who delivered the keynote address. This was a unique occasion in that Dr. H. Waltereit, our retiring pastor, was able to be present at this service and reflected briefly on the past. In a very moving manner he complimented the church on its past performance, but as well assured the new pastor and congregation that the "best is yet to come."

A time of fellowship with cake and coffee followed. (Trudy Zindler, reporter.)

EMERY, SD. On Sunday evening, June 1, First Baptist and Plum Creek Baptist Churches of Emery held a joint service with Miss Penny Jucht, missionary to Africa, as the speaker. Miss Jucht spoke on "What Is a Missionary," and also favored us with a solo entitled, "To Be Used of God." Allan Effa, student pastor of Plum Creek read Scripture. Barry Siefert, youth and music director at First Baptist led the congregational singing. A time of fellowship was spent following the service. Miss Jucht will be leaving in July

our conference in action

for her second term in Africa. The Rev. David Korb is pastor of First Baptist Church. (Mrs. Bob Weber, reporter.)

KANKAKEE, IL. Mr. Elmo Herman, Immanuel Baptist Church youth pastor, presided at a farewell reception for the Rev. and Mrs. Walter Dingfield Sunday evening, June 1. Mrs. Dingfield was presented with a corsage. Mr. Gilbert Luhrs spoke on behalf of the Board of Deacons; Dr. Philip Standley, the Board of Trustees; Mr. Stever Twait, for the Board of Christian Education. Mr. Orville Foster, moderator, spoke on behalf of the church and presented an engraved plaque and a check from the church. Both Pastor and Mrs. Dingfield responded, and Pastor Dingfield quoted several appropriate passages from the Bible in his remarks.

Music was provided with a solo by Mr. Darrell Larkins and a Ladies Trio.

A reception followed in the fellowship hall in charge of the Deacon's Board. The Rev. Walter Dingfield has accepted a call to First Baptist Church, Lodi, CA. (Alice M.

Luhrs, reporter.)

VANCOUVER, BC. On April 13, 1980, we had the joy of witnessing a baptismal service at Pilgrim Baptist Church. Eight young people (pictured with the Rev.



Walter K. Schroedter, pastor) were baptized upon the public confession of their faith in Jesus Christ as their Savior and Lord.

In the evening service on May 14, (Mother's Day), we were blessed with a musical program by our "Praise Group"

under the leadership of Winfried Illig. (Gerhard Manzel, reporter.)

PARKERSBURG, IA. We tried something new at Calvary Baptist Church this summer. A seminary student, Mr. Neil Nelson, was with us during June, July and August to work mainly with our young people.

Neil majored in nutrition at University of Wisconsin and is now half way through his last year at our N.A.B. Seminary in Sioux Falls, SD. He has sensed God's calling to the ministry and wants to spend his energies feeding men's souls instead of their bodies.

Neil ate his meals in various members' homes, getting acquainted and supplying his physical energies.

Our youth are excited, and we pray for many opportunities to reach and share the plan of salvation with our young people. Neil also filled the pulpit during our pastor's vacation and held special youth night meetings. God blessed this special ministry! The Rev. Lanny Johnson is pastor of the church. (Bonnie Buss, reporter.)

children. Officiating at the funeral service was Dr. Arthur W. Boymook, pastor of Colonial Village Baptist Church.

MRS. PAULINE DAUDRICH, nee Gudi, 72, of Winnipeg, MB, was born in Karmeshek, (Freudenthal) Crimea on July 30, 1908. She died on July 10, 1980, in the Meadowood Personal Care Home, Winnipeg. Married in 1926 to Henry Daudrich, the young couple left Russia to immigrate to Canada. They were settled with the assistance of the German Baptist Immigration Society in the Overstoneville, Manitoba area. They affiliated with the small group of German Baptist believers, and in 1930 Pauline accepted Christ as her Savior through the ministry of the Rev. Albert Itterman, pastor of Emmanuel Baptist Church, Morris, MB. In 1934, the Daudrichs moved to Morris, and in 1960 to Winnipeg, where they became members of McDermot Ave. Baptist Church. Among those missing her are her husband Henry; Leonard and Irma Bayer, Harold and Liese Daudrich, Ken and Kathie McKnight and Valerie; eleven grandchildren; one great-grandchild; two brothers, Samuel and Emil, and one sister Irma, still in Russia, with numerous nieces and nephews. Pastors Richard Goetze, Richard Hoppe and Wm. Sturhahn officiated at the funeral service.

EMILY EPP, nee Bartel, 66, of Corn, OK, was born near Fairview, OK, on Aug. 25, 1914. During her childhood Emily received the Lord Jesus as her personal Savior, was baptized, and received into the North Fairview MB Church. She married Albert Epp on March 8, 1936, and was blessed with three daughters. As a pastor's wife, she faithfully served the Lord in her home, teaching her children in the ways of the Lord, loving and encouraging her husband. She worked with activities such as VBS, cooking at summer camps and children's church. She also served with her husband as missionaries to South Texas

for ten years. Emily died on July 18, 1980. She and her husband were members of Calvary Baptist Church, Corn, OK. She leaves to mourn her husband, Albert; three daughters: Gloria Ilene Sissom, Mary Lou and her husband Dr. Edgar Hooze, Barbara Kay and her husband Dr. John Stobbe; eight grandchildren, two great-grandchildren; six sisters. The Rev. Tom Klose officiated at the funeral service.

GEORGE FRANK, 79, was born June 3, 1901, in Romania and went to be with the Lord on May 19, 1980, in Calgary, AB. He came to Canada with his family in 1913 where they homesteaded in Saskatchewan. They attended Rosenfeld Baptist Church where he was saved and baptized. In 1935 he married Julia Reiling. As farmers they raised their family of one son, Ernest, three daughters: Mrs. Melton (Ethel) Wutzke, Mrs. Marvin (Mildred) Borst and Mrs. Linda Goplen. One son, Vernon, predeceased him in 1951. In 1967 they retired to Calgary where they attended Brentview Baptist Church and were very active in the Senior Citizens Group and White Cross work. The funeral service was held at Brentview Baptist Church with Pastor Ron Kernohan officiating.

MARTHA FRITZKE, nee Hoffmann, 88, was born on April 7, 1892, at Ebenezer, SK. She died on April 21, 1980. She grew up near Kenmare, ND. In December 1910, she married William Fritzke and returned to the Yorkton, SK, area where they farmed. At the age of 16 she accepted Christ, was baptized in 1912, and joined West Ebenezer Church. In 1948, the family left for British Columbia and joined Ebenezer Baptist Church in Vancouver. Her faithfulness to the Lord was an inspiration to many. Mrs. Fritzke is survived by her 13 children: Mrs. G. (Esther) Harris, White Rock, BC; Mrs. J. (Frieda) Tiede, Kelowna, BC; Dorothea, San Diego, CA; Harold, Maple Creek, SK; Mrs. Wilma Weigle, Dilworth, MN; George, West Bank, BC;

What's Happening

■ **Professor James Long**, since 1974 instructor of music at North American Baptist College, Edmonton, AB, resigned effective Aug. 1, 1980. He will become director of a U.S. Air Force band.

■ **Dr. Benno Przybylski** will become associate professor of New Testament at the N.A.B. College in the Fall of 1981.

■ **The Rev. Ulrich Laser** received the M.Th. degree in Pastoral Theology from Princeton Theological Seminary in Spring 1980.

■ **The Rev. Charles Littman** will begin his ministry as North Central Area secretary in November 1980. He was pastor of First Baptist Church, St. Joseph, MI, since 1969.

■ **Mr. Elmo Herman** was ordained on Aug. 23, 1980, at Immanuel Baptist Church, Kankakee, IL. He is the director of youth and Christian education.

■ **The Rev. Monte Michaelson** became the pastor at Calvary Baptist Church, Aberdeen, SD, on Sept. 1, 1980.

■ **The Rev. R. Lee Boleyn** began his ministry as a U.S. Air Force chaplain on Sept. 1, 1980. He is stationed at Williams Air Force Base, AZ.

■ **The Rev. Ronald Habermas** resigned as associate pastor for Christian education and youth at Trinity Baptist Church, Kelowna, BC, where he served since 1976. He became associate pastor at Bloomingdale Baptist Church, IL, on Sept. 1, 1980.

■ **Dr. James T. Dyet** became pastor of Sierra Baptist Church, Arvada, CO, on Sept. 1, 1980.

■ **The Rev. Robert Coombe**, since 1977 assistant pastor at Riverview Baptist Church, St. Paul, MN, resigned and became pastor at Dayspring Baptist Church, Maple Grove, MN, in September 1980.

■ **Dr. William Sturhahn**, N.A.B. pastor, 1936-50, immigration secretary, 1950-54 and area secretary, 1959-73, died suddenly on Aug. 10, 1980, at his home in Winnipeg, MB. Funeral services were held on August 14, at McDermot Avenue Baptist Church. A tribute to Dr. Sturhahn's varied ministries will appear in the November issue of this magazine. □

in memoriam

MINA BEGLAW, nee Jaster, 80, was born May 5, 1900, in North Dakota. She came to Canada in 1912. Here she accepted Christ in her teens, was baptized and added to Rosenfeld Baptist Church at Big Stick Lake, SK. Mina was united in marriage to Reinhold Beglaw, May 10, 1915. She was preceded in death by an infant son, Herman, her husband, and son, Martin. On June 6, 1980, she went to be with the Lord, and leaves to mourn her passing, five daughters: (Elsie) Mrs. J. Gugyelka, Medicine Hat, AB, (Ruth) Mrs. J. Varga, Kelowna, BC, (Monda) Mrs. L. Nagy, Arnes, MB, (Rose) Mrs. J. Tyo, Taber, AB, (Esther) Mrs. I. Bateman, Bowden, AB; six sons: Arnold, Willard, David and Edward, all of Vancouver, BC, Clifford, Burnaby, BC, Robert, Monarch, AB; 35 grandchildren; 37 great-grandchildren; three great-great-grandchildren; two sisters, five brothers, many nephews and nieces and a host of friends. Her brother, the Rev. Robert Jaster, officiated at the funeral service.

HOWARD A. BROWN, 82, a member of Colonial Village Baptist Church of Lansing, MI, died May 18, 1980. Mr. Brown was born in Hillsdale County, MI, Nov. 3, 1897. He was a member of the Gideons International and was retired from Pontiac Motor Division in Pontiac, MI, in 1959. Surviving are his wife, Margaret A.; two daughters: Mrs. Jack (Donna) Baker and Mrs. Janet Goff both of Lansing; one brother, Laurel Brown, Jackson, MI; one sister, Mrs. Florence Leathead of Jenison, MI; six grandchildren and three great-grand-

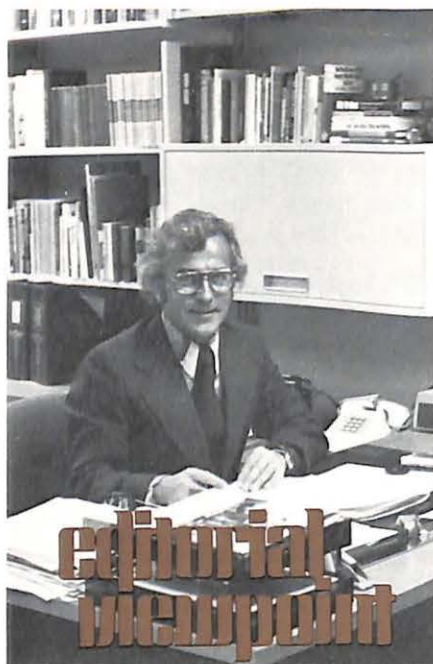
children. father served N.A.B. churches in Milwaukee, WI, Madison, SD, Aplington, IA, in addition to Erie, PA. When she was 11 years old, Klara came to know Jesus Christ as her personal Savior, and was baptized by her father in April 1901. On Feb. 18, 1925, she was united in marriage to Frank Lindaman, with her father performing the ceremony. To this union were born three sons. Frank and Klara farmed near Aplington for several years, until moving into town in 1946. Klara was a faithful and devoted member of the church, having served as a Sunday school teacher for 36 years, and also holding the offices of deaconess and president of the Benevolent Society. She was also active in community affairs. About three years ago she became a resident of the Presbyterian Home in Ackley, IA. She passed from this life on July 15, 1980. She is survived by her three sons: Eugene and Ivan Lindaman, both of Aplington; Paul Lindaman, of Charlotte, NC; 12 grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren; a sister, Mrs. Frieda Priestley, of Sioux Falls, SD. She was preceded in death by her husband in 1971, one grandson, three brothers and two sisters. The funeral service was conducted at Aplington Baptist Church with the pastor, the Rev. Donald Patet, officiating.

MARGARETE GIESE was born on June 9, 1952, in Germany. She passed away on May 31, 1980. Together with her parents she came to Canada in 1953. After years of high school and university Margarete worked as office administrator and clerk. In 1962 she accepted the Lord Jesus Christ as her personal Savior. In September of the same year she was baptized by Pastor Erwin Babel and added to Immanuel Baptist Church, Edmonton, AB. Margarete faithfully served the Lord in the work of the church as a choir member, Sunday school teacher and in other capacities.

ities. She leaves to mourn her parents, Heinz and Else Giese; her brothers; Karl-Heinz, Bernhard, Hubert; her sister Annemarie, and many good friends and relatives. Margarete was predeceased by her younger sister Susanne, who passed away in 1976 at the early of age of 16. Pastor Reinhold Wilde officiated at the funeral service.

WALTER C. MARTIN, 84, of Dayton, OH, passed away on July 20, 1980. He was born on Oct. 26, 1895, to Carl and Auguste Martin. He accepted Christ, was baptized and became a faithful member of Fourth Street Baptist Church in Dayton. In 1961 he joined the Community Baptist Church of Xenia, OH, where he used his talents in helping to build our present building. Walter married Marie Creamer on Sept. 25, 1924. Mr. Martin is survived by his wife Marie; two daughters: Miss Geraldine Martin and Mrs. Richard (Doris) Coffelt, and one son Ralph W. all of Dayton; four grandchildren; one sister, Mrs. Esther Strauss and one nephew the Rev. Elmer C. Strauss of Parma, OH. The funeral service was conducted at Community Baptist Church by the Reverends Art Bollaert and Elmer C. Strauss.

EMIL WEISERT, 84, was born in Jamesburg, NJ, on July 9, 1896, and passed to his eternal home on July 23, 1980. Emil was a life-long resident of the Jamesburg-Helmetta, New Jersey area, where he was actively engaged in business and banking. Emil was a member of First Baptist Church of Jamesburg, NJ, faithful in attendance and service. Surviving Emil are his wife, Nellie Shinn Weisert; a daughter, Jean Weisert Menninghaus of Wayne, NJ; a brother, William of Tallahassee, FL, and two grandchildren. The Rev. Karl Bieber was the officiating minister at the funeral service.



Leaving You in Gratitude

This is my last editorial as editor of this magazine. Beginning with October 1, I am the Associate Secretary of Communications and Study / Research of the Baptist World Alliance, with headquarters in Washington, DC.

Looking back at the 12½ years of my work as editor, I cannot praise the Lord enough for his daily gift of strength, health, joy, friends and thankful readers.

Frankly, when I began this new ministry on April 1, 1968, I felt a mixture of both eager anticipation and hesitant fear. Although I had free-lanced for daily newspapers and Christian magazines in Germany and America, I did not know how well I would fit into the mold of an editor rather than a reporter and writer. The Lord helped marvelously. For three and one half years I did my job excitedly and gratefully as Editor of German Publications, until in September 1971, I became the Director of Publications, which included being the editor of the BAPTIST HERALD. At that time the 24-page SENDBOTE magazine was reduced to an eight-page insert in the BAPTIST HERALD, which was enlarged from 24 to 32 pages. However, already as editor of German Publications I was involved in more and more English publications,

such as N.A.B. NEWS, N.A.B. DIRECTORY and MISSIONS PROFILE. From 1971 on, I could put all of my energy and skill into the production of just about anything in printed form that our Conference Office published. In addition I visited and spoke at many, many camps, retreats, associations and churches. Attending our Triennial Conferences was almost like an anticlimax compared to the work that had gone into the preparation and promotion of such meetings.

Yet, in all of these varied tasks and duties, I experienced a never-ending happiness. The more North American Baptists I came to know, the more I was convinced that they are among the dearest and most cooperative people in the world. Yes, North American Baptists are "People of Gratitude!" I met literally thousands, and just about all of them radiated the joy of being children of God and therefore brothers and sisters in Christ.

How can I adequately express my thankfulness for the privilege of serving such a "wonderful bunch of people!"

North American Baptists, you have been my inspiration! The many gracious responses to the BAPTIST HERALD issues have been most gratifying. I have received suggestions, ideas and just plain lovely letters from various parts in the world. Whenever I was in the midst of your congregations or conferences, you made me feel at home. When a sudden ruptured appendix a few years ago brought me close to death, it was you, my brothers and sisters, whose prayers helped guide the doctor during hours of delicate surgery and me in the ensuing days of recovery.

Now "the world is my parish," as John Wesley described his field of service. Although I am at the B.W.A. Office, you still will receive one additional issue (November) under my editorship. This is part of the rather complex procedure of working with advance deadlines. From then on the North American Baptist Conference will be a treasured memory of my life. My new job demands that I give equal treatment to 120 Baptist bodies in just about 100 different countries. I gratefully acknowledge that God may have groomed me for this present job over many years: Born in Germany—so I am German. Grew up in a part of Germany that is now Polish—so the Poles claim me as their own. I have lived in Czechoslovakia, Switzerland, Canada and U.S.A. Citizen of the U.S.A. My Swedish wife is my Scandinavian connection. Our three children were born in Switzerland, U.S.A. and Canada. The Baptists in U.S.S.R. say I have a Russian soul. You see, the Baptist World Alliance with its worldwide ministries just seems to be the custom-made place for me.

However, more than all these characteristics and features I treasure the fact

Open Dialogue

Dear Editor:

Anyone that cares about our Christian heritage and cares to be free, will not help to reelect Jimmy Carter. Those who gave away the Panama Canal, they have it all planned, how they are going to push for world government.

The NAACP are the Civil Liberties Union, and they are communists. What I'm telling you is all documented.

The evil news media are going cut Reagan to pieces. They don't want no man in the White House that will be for America. Lena Liedtke, Spokane, WA.

PLEASE NOTE:

It was my intention to have several reports on the Baptist World Congress in this October issue. Because of heavy space demand by the Celebration of Gratitude emphasis, the plan had to be postponed to November. Only Woman's World, pages 14-15, is dealing with the BWA Congress. Look forward to reading about this great Congress attended by more than 20,000 people in the November issue of BAPTIST HERALD. The Editor

that I am a child of God and a servant of Jesus Christ.

As you celebrate your gratitude to the Lord in Canada and U.S.A., let me be a part of your celebration. Over the last 12 years I have attempted to be your "ear" and "mouth" to share the Good News of salvation and of Baptist life and activity. As I am moving to another field of service, I pledge to stay in touch with you and the Lord. My task will be to communicate the presence of Christ to Christians and non-Christians worldwide. Please stay in touch with me by meeting me in prayer before the throne of God daily. He takes care of us according to our needs.

So, I am not really leaving you, N.A.B.s! I'm just passing on to a related field of labor which is owned and managed by the same Master. Together let us continue to live and spread the Good News of salvation in Jesus Christ.

Reinhold J. Kerstan



WOMANS WORLD

(Continued from page 15)

seemed very shallow and untried as I listened.

8. The chance to spend time with fellow North American Baptists; the excitement of meeting Mrs. Nokuri and Mrs. Yuzawa and hearing their testimonies at our Humbervale Baptist Church on Sunday morning.

9. The cheerful spirit with which the Toronto women and the officers of the BWA Women's Department looked after the innumerable details involved in a Conference of this size, even when they were tired.

10. The satisfaction of being able to find our way around town on the subway.

11. The fun of being waited on at mealtime and having someone else make my bed and clean the bathroom!

12. The welcome sound of my husband's voice on the telephone.

13. The realization that there are women in all parts of the world who love God and serve him faithfully, many under circumstances much more difficult than mine.

Afterword . . .

Editor's Note: Many of you met our sisters in Christ from Cameroon and Japan, Mrs. Nokuri and Mrs. Yuzawa, as they stayed to tour some of our churches after the BWA sessions. We were pleased to visit with Beatrice Nokuri before she spoke at the Mission Church in Winnipeg, MB. One of the many questions we asked her was, "What do you think of Canada? How do you feel about being here?" Here is her answer:

"When I first landed in Toronto, I thought so many white faces, white, white, white. . . . But after I was in Burlington and Toronto awhile, I met many people and talked to them and learned from them. So when I was leaving, I spoke to a church meeting there and told them, 'You are no longer strange to me . . . now your faces are all black!' It's wonderful that because of Jesus Christ we can forget about the color of our skin and the place we come from, and remember only that we are brothers and sisters in Christ."

Because of meetings such as the one which took place in July, thousands of Christians from most of the countries of the world will return to their homes, reminded again of this bond of love and encouraged to continue in the work and ministry God has given them.

FROM CATHOLIC PRIEST . . .

(Continued from page 11)

was without a pastor. At a business meeting, it was decided that each station should take care of its own business and call its own pastor. It was at this time the lower Turkey Creek station was organized to become Ebenezer Baptist Church. Benedict Eisele was elected chairman. He served intermittently with Brother Roh as pastor until 1892. At that time the church officially called Benedict Eisele as their first full-time pastor, and he served there until 1897.

From the ministry which was begun by those early settlers, a witness for the Lord

Book Reviews

by B.C. Schreiber

THE PREACHING EVENT. By John R. Claypool, Word Books, Waco, TX. \$5.95.

Dr. Claypool is pastor of Northminster Baptist Church, Jackson, MS, and one of the outstanding pastors in the Southern Baptist Convention. Yale Divinity School recognized his ability when they chose him as Lyman Beecher Lecturer on Preaching in 1979.

I have read other Lyman Beecher lectures and was left with the impression that they are profound, some were elegant in their expression, and some were illustrated with humor. Claypool's lectures are different. None has dared to bare his soul more freely, (unless it is Augustine in his Confessions) than John Claypool. His lecture on *The Preacher as Gift-Giver* should be read by every seminary student and pastor. His presentation is charged with heartfelt emotion, meaningful experience, deep compassion and true confession.

Minister and congregation will be benefited by the reading of these lectures.

THE BOOK OF JAMES. By David Hubbard. Word Books, Waco, TX. \$4.95.

The Book of James has frequently been misunderstood. Martin Luther called it the "straw epistle" because of its lack of emphasis on believing and its insistence on doing. We have learned in the meantime, that James proclaims a well-

continues to reach out from Ebenezer Baptist Church. Their testimony continues to be, "Hitherto hath the Lord helped us." □

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balanced Christianity based on faith and works.

When James uses the word "wisdom" he does not refer to intelligence, but to good, everyday Christian common sense. This wisdom, which comes from God through faith, prayer, Scripture and the Holy Spirit, can be revealed and cultivated so that we will know right from wrong, good from evil.

Dr. Hubbard presents a practical study of James, and how he offers solutions on problems relating to temptation, money, prayer, relationships and many others. Can be used for personal inspiration and help in study groups.

A FIRST-CENTURY MESSAGE TO TWENTIETH-CENTURY CHRISTIANS. By G. Campbell Morgan, Baker Book House, Grand Rapids, MI. \$3.95.

The past generation of pastors has appreciated Mr. Morgan's expository preaching. The present generation has an opportunity to evaluate his preaching by means of this reprint.

This volume helps the student of the Bible to understand better the letters to the seven churches in Revelation and their practical application for today.

QUIET TALKS ON PRAYER—SERVICE—FOLLOWING CHRIST—PERSONAL PROBLEMS. By S. D. Gordon. Baker Book House, Grand Rapids, MI. \$2.95 per volume.

These four volumes are reprints of S. D. Gordon's Quiet Talks which were very popular a generation ago. Although the author was not an ordained minister, nor a pastor of a church, he nevertheless had deep spiritual insight into areas that are vital to every Christian's life.

Mr. Gordon served as state secretary of the Ohio YMCA, and later dedicated his life to public speaking throughout North America, Europe and the Orient.

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