

# Baptist Herald

December 1981





may the  
**Lord,**  
 make you  
 an instrument of his  
**Peace.**

# Baptist Herald

Volume 59 December 1981 Number 12

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

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BAPTIST HERALD: Send editorial and business correspondence to Barbara J. Binder, 1 So. 210 Summit Ave., Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181. Advertising rate: \$8.00 per inch single column (2 1/4 inches wide) black and white. Send address changes to Baptist Herald Subscriptions Department, 1 So. 210 Summit Ave., Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181. Six weeks notice required for change of address. Furnish effective date and address label from recent issue. Published monthly (except July/August and January/February bi-monthly) by the North American Baptist Conference, 1 So. 210 Summit Ave., Box 159, Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181. Second class postage paid at Villa Park, IL 60181 and at additional mailing offices. Subscription rates in the United States and Canada: \$7.00 one year; \$13.00 two years. Church Family Plan: \$5.00. Single copy -70 cents. Member of Evangelical Press Association. News reported and views expressed are not necessarily the position of the North American Baptist Conference. (Printed in the U.S.A.) USPS 042560



# Bethlehem Beckons at Christmas! by Wilmer Quiring

Can you imagine a time in history when Christians would pass a law forbidding people to celebrate Christmas? It happened during the time of Cromwell in England under a Puritan-controlled Parliament. This was their reaction against the pagan merrymaking which had become so widespread on the Lord's birthday. Shops were ordered to stay open on Christmas. Work was to go on as usual. In many places, the town criers went about calling loudly, "No Christmas! No Christmas!"

We almost shudder at the thought. If such a law were passed by our lawmakers today, there would be organized marches in our cities in protest. How dare they outlaw Christmas?

It is possible to go through all of the happy times of gift-giving and card-sending of Christmas yet not celebrate the birthday of Jesus. It

seems strange that some can make such a grand display at Christmas, but when the last light is turned off and the tree dismantled, no thought whatever is given to the One who came out of the manger. One may stop at the manger scene and say, "How cute!" yet never follow the Christ of Calvary.

To avoid this danger, we need to turn to the Bible and see again the account of the first Christmas. Bethlehem beckons, so let us join the shepherds and experience with them the joy and wonder of the birth of our Savior. "Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened . . ." (Luke 2:15).

Let us follow the shepherds into the town of Bethlehem and see what is meant then, and what it can mean to us today. Careful examination reveals that they heard a sermon from God. To them, it was God speaking. They listened carefully

and then acted upon their new-gained knowledge. This comes out of our text. Here we see the mind convinced, the heart warmed, and the will moved.

## God Is Speaking

The announcement by the angel of the birth of Jesus and the singing of the angel chorus left the shepherds thoroughly frightened. But as they regained their composure, we find them convinced that "this thing that has happened" was that "which the Lord has made known to us."

Unless God speaks, we cannot know him satisfactorily. The history of the religions of the world is a history of man's struggle upward trying to know and appease God. This is as true of the Hindu who prostrates himself before his shrine, as it is of the African who places a food offering beside a tree outside his village. They look, but they do not find God.

This reaching for God is reflected in the words of the Psalmist, "As a hart longs for flowing streams, so longs my soul for thee, O God. My soul thirsts for God, for the living God, When shall I come and behold the face of God?" (Psalm 42:1-2).

Christmas tells us that God has spoken. "Behold, I bring you good news of a great joy which will come to all the people; for to you is born this day in the city of David a

Savior, who is Christ the Lord" (Luke 2:10, 11). □

Simeon, waiting for the consolation of Israel, saw the baby Jesus in the temple at Jerusalem and said, "Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace . . . for mine eyes have seen thy salvation . . . a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for the glory to thy people Israel" (Luke 2:29).

## The Lowly Can Hear

Our text tells us that God did not reveal himself to the King on his throne nor to the religious leaders in Jerusalem, but to the shepherds tending their flocks. Who were these men that God should single them out to be the first to hear his message? They were but ordinary men doing an ordinary task whose hearts were extraordinarily prepared for a visitation from God. They were waiting for the promised Messiah. They were citizens of two worlds. These shepherds could tend their sheep, but they could also turn aside and wrestle with God's angels. Their hearts were tuned to God.

We often try to separate the sacred from the secular. We try to put life into compartments and call one "holy" and the other "earthly". The secular, we believe, is the earth-side of the sacred. The New Testament does not so divide life. All of life is sacred.

It is interesting to see how often heaven's revelations came to a man in the moment of earthly toil. While tending the flock belonging to Jethro, Moses was beckoned aside by the burning bush. Heaven's messengers found Gideon threshing wheat. Elisha was plowing the field when God spoke to him. The disciples were busy at their daily work when Jesus called, "Follow me!"

God passes by those who are not ready to hear. The wise men from the east went to Jerusalem, the center of religious life, and found the leaders totally unprepared for the coming of the Christ. History reveals the fact that when God is ready to revive his people and the church is not, he goes outside of organized religion.

Martin Luther, searching the Scriptures while alone in a monk's cell, heard the voice of God, "The just shall live by faith." He had to

leave the organized church because the leaders were not ready to walk the way that God had revealed to Luther.

Years later, God spoke to a Dr. Spener within the Lutheran Church of Germany and there began the Pietist Movement. It resulted in an outpouring of God upon the common people.

One need not be wealthy or wise or widely known to hear the voice of God. He just has to be ready when God reveals himself. That is why, at this Christmas season, we should be ready to hear as Bethlehem beckons and catch the message of hope and love.

It is possible to miss what God has to say while we are busy with our Christmas celebrations. To avoid this, we need to be prepared so that when God allows the winds of revival to blow, we will be ready to put up the full sail and catch its full force.

## Action Is Vital

Bethlehem beckons us forward. "Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened." First a look, then go and tell. When the shepherds had seen the fulfillment of God's promise lying in a manger with Mary, his mother, they returned, "Glorifying and praising God for all that they had heard and seen" (Luke 2:20). Once convinced,

these humble shepherds could no longer keep quiet.

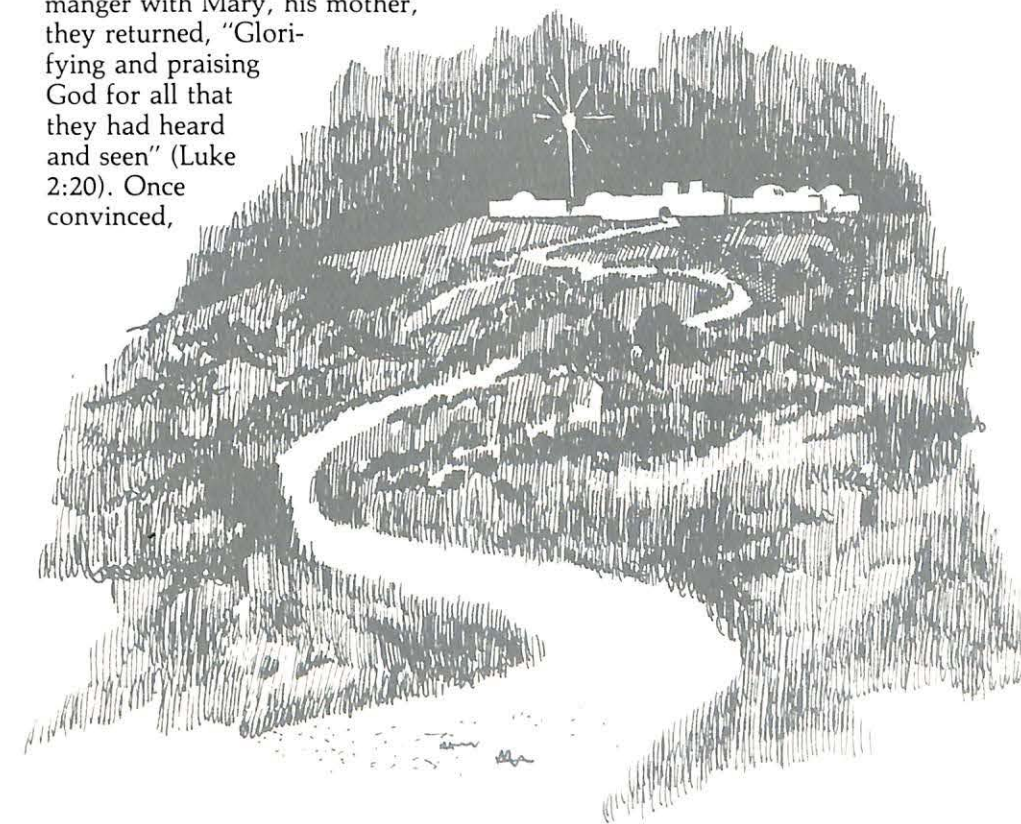
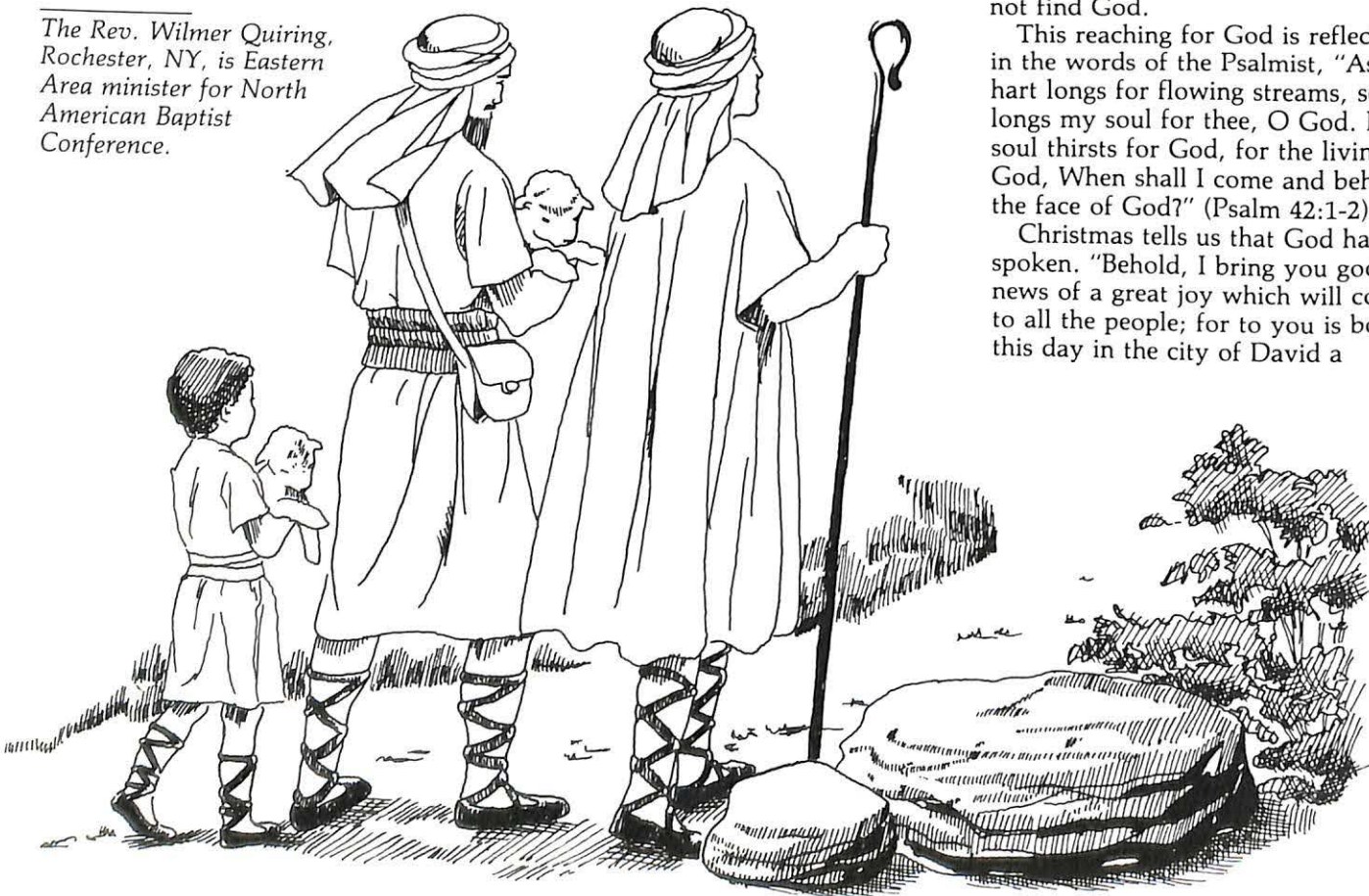
When the disciples ran to see the empty tomb on that first Easter, they heard the angels say, "Come and see . . ." and when they had seen, they were to "go and tell" (Matt. 28:6, 7).

The one hundred and twenty members of the early church were told to remain in Jerusalem until they received the promise of the Father (Acts 1:4). After that experience, they were to go out and be Christ's witnesses. When God speaks, we are not to stand still.

The shepherds went with haste. They dropped everything and ran. Let God speak to your soul this Christmas season. Then respond as did the shepherds when they saw the fulfillment of God's promise. See what happened to these men: "And when they saw it, they made known the saying which had been told them concerning this child" (Luke 2:17).

Bethlehem beckons at Christmas, for God is here. I go to Bethlehem and can never look at life in the same way. Here is the Good News, and if I possess it, I cannot help but share it.

*The Rev. Wilmer Quiring, Rochester, NY, is Eastern Area minister for North American Baptist Conference.*





# Celebrating Christmas—and "Missing Out" on Christ

by Klaus Hildebrandt

I had to apologize to the lady. I had met her some time ago, I knew she was related to some of the members of the church. The problem arose when I completely failed to recognize her as I walked by the cash register in the Sears Sports Department. She was insulted that I, a pastor, did not even say, "Hi," to her.

Could I excuse myself by blaming it on my shortsightedness? Or should I be more honest and blame it on my short memory? In any case, it was very embarrassing . . . to see that lady yet not to see her.

This seems to happen all the time. It seems to happen to others, too. It also seems to happen around Christmastime. And it may be very embarrassing and very insulting if one happens to miss out on the

most advertised person of the Christmas Season, the Lord Jesus Christ.

"I, a Christian, should miss out on Christ?" "That's not possible," you say. The historic fact is that people did miss out on Christ when they had every chance to meet him.

**What really scares me is the fact that even the pious, the religious, the believers, walked right past Christ. They should have been able to discern and experience the true meaning of Christmas**

## The Landlord Missed the Event

Remember the landlord in the Christmas Story? He is not mentioned directly, but according to Luke 2:7 he existed. Being extremely busy because of the census, he missed out on the greatest event of the day: The family of Jesus coming to Bethlehem, obediently following the decree of Caesar Augustus.

Mary and Joseph knocked at the landlord's door. They stood in front of his desk. The child Jesus, the Messiah, was born right there in the stable of which he was the owner. Yet this landlord missed out on the greatest event. God himself came so close to touching his life, and he was not sensitive to God's action.

There are a lot of people like that today. Their excuses? "Do you know what it takes nowadays to run a business, to be a landlord?"

Everyone becomes a number. Everything is turned into statistics. Everything is reduced to figures and material. The individual is not valued as a person.

There are people all over the world who do not see the living Christ because business; gifts; parties; social activities; postal, air, and other strikes; Christmas cards; shopping lists, and all the many other things are more important in their lives.

It is not surprising then that we see so many empty and depressed faces in our cities, on the streets and in the huge shopping centres, and in our own families, yes, even in our churches. Poor people who miss out on Jesus Christ, because they are so involved in their false activities.

## King Herod Missed the Opportunity

In the Christmas Story it was not only the landlord who missed out on Jesus Christ, it was, also, a king who passed by the greatest event in his life. Yes, King Herod, king of Judaea, missed his chance.

Herod was quite a character, this king. Not only did he have at least one wife and three sons, but also he was quite ruthless in other areas of his life. Wherever he could, he would murder his enemies, of which he had many. Later on Jesus called him "a fox."

King Herod should have recognized the importance of that hour. He knew that a Messiah was expected by the Jewish people. He certainly knew where to get all the information concerning this newborn king.

When the Wise Men came from the east, following the star of the newborn king, he invited them to have an interview with him. During that discussion he told them:

"Go and make a careful search for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him" (Matt. 2:8).

His intention, of course, was murder, not adoration and worship. His own person, his position of power, had priority and needed to be worshipped first.

Times have not changed much. People around us are preparing to celebrate the birth of the King of kings. In spite of all they know, they still set their hopes on their possessions, their power, and their own homemade securities. In their lives of greediness and selfishness, they do not know of true friendship, love, peace and beauty.

They are missing out on Jesus and his love. "What good is it for a man to gain the whole world, yet forfeit his soul!" (Mark 8:36).

## But What about the Pious, the Believers?

I agree, up to now, we have been looking at people of this world, pagan, unsaved, worldly people. But what really scares me is the fact that even the pious, the religious, the believers, walked right past Christ. They should have been able to discern and experience the true meaning of Christmas. After all, they had Scripture; they had the Bible. What a source of information!

And they did have the right answer at the right time. When asked where the Christ was to be born they answered: "In Bethlehem of Judaea, for this is what the prophet has written: But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for out of you will come a ruler who will be the shepherd of my people Israel." Why did they not go with the Wise Men?

The problem was and is indifference. To know the contents of the Bible is not enough. To be familiar with prophetic pronouncements is not sufficient. To go to church on Christmas and Easter will not do. Not even my name on a church membership list will qualify me for the Kingdom of God.

Yes, it is true. To miss out on Christ this Christmas 1981 can very

well happen even to us, North American Baptists, strong and faithful church members.

## Will We Step in Line with the Wise Men?

Should we not rather step in line with the shepherds? They were simple people, but they experienced God. I would definitely prefer to turn away from all the things and activities of this world and of this season, if they prevent me to experience Christ, the King. Wouldn't you?

The shepherds witnessed the presence of the angels. They learned what true joy means: "Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ, the Lord" (Luke 2:11). They were honest enough to admit: "We do need a Savior."

They were humble enough to confess: "We accept the Lord Jesus Christ by faith to be our Lord and King."

They were the real winners. They were the men who were truly wise.

Are you one of the wise men? Only the wise men, whether they be kings, shepherds, or scientists, find true fulfillment and the joy of celebrating Christmas in Jesus Christ. □



*The Rev. Klaus Hildebrandt is pastor of German Zion Baptist Church, Edmonton, AB.*



## Mere Dough—"Bread on the Waters" by Maria Rogalski

A recipe for a rich honey spice dough that makes delicious Christmas cookies is one of my mother-in-law's legacies to me.

For years, at Christmastime, I have been making large batches of it. Besides cutting it into the traditional bells and stars, it has been transformed into winsome gingerbread men, baked to a golden crisp, with crunchy whole almonds as buttons all the way down the trunk and almond chips for eyes, nose and mouth. I would see to it that the corners of the mouth were turned up. The baking process would give each one of them a distinct personality. The dough rising a bit all around the almond buttons would inevitably make them look pleasantly plump and inviting to bite into.

I would fasten them to the top of the Christmas presents for our children and all our nieces and nephews. The neighborhood children were delighted to receive a gingerbread man along with parents.

The gingerbread men would also top the little boxes of homebaked Christmas goodies for the shut-ins, as cheery messengers of my love and care. They were a tangible offering of my time and effort. Even the ladies from my home Bible study enjoyed seeing these delectable fellows turn up on their Christmas napkins beside their coffee cups at our last Bible study before Christmas break, often taking theirs home for their children.

Each year I've been making more of them than the year before, as I would always run short in the end. This year, I was going to make sure that I would not run short as I planned to take some to our Christian Writers Club for the December meeting.

So intent was I on making sure that I would have enough of them that I got carried away baking and

ended up with more than a hundred before I realized it. This annoyed me somewhat, for now there was only a little dough left for the required stars and bells still to be baked which meant I would have to mix still another batch of dough. I was not looking forward to that at all, and time was short.

But the Lord must have had his fingers in my cookie dough, as I soon came to realize.

At the Writers Club, the chubby gingerbread men proved to be a unique and delectable surprise. During our coffee break, Clara, one of the ladies, took me aside and shyly voiced a request. She had been looking for a special treat for her Sunday school class of 11 and 12 year olds for the next day and had prayed the Lord would show her what she could use. (She is handicapped by an inherited disease which makes any kind of detailed work with her hands impossible).

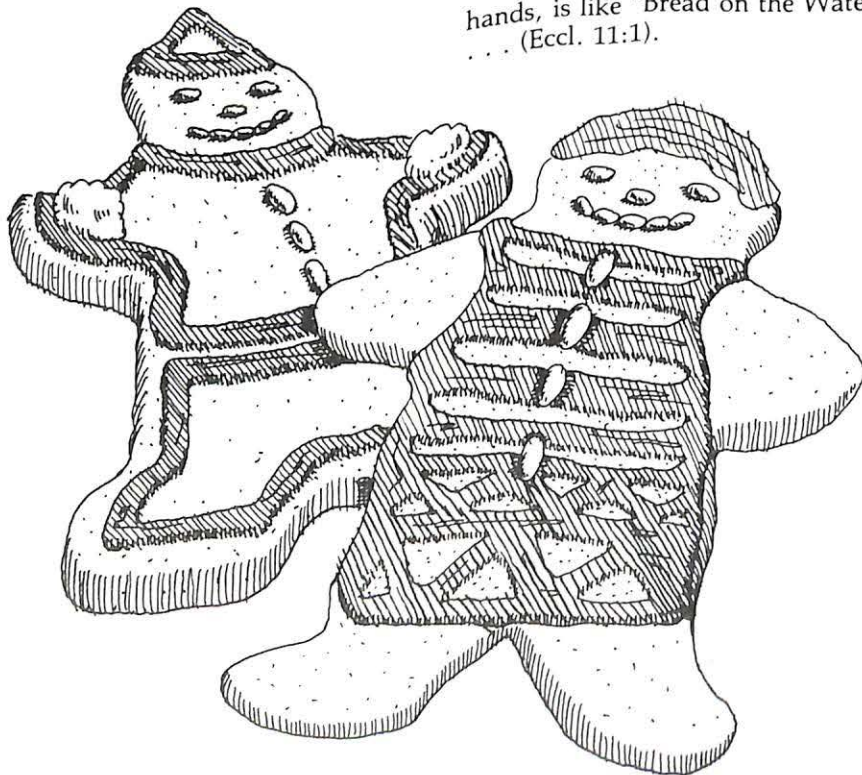
"Could you possibly sell me seven of those gingerbread men for my Sunday school class tomorrow?" she asked pleadingly.

"Seven?" I exclaimed, quickly making a mental calculation of how many I would still require for my own distribution.

Then I remembered that this year I had "inadvertantly" made an ample supply and could afford to be extra generous. Suddenly I knew why I had had to make so many extra and recognized God's fingers in my cookie dough. I thanked him for being able to grant her request, at no charge, of course.

But as it turned out, the Lord not only met Clara's need in supplying a special treat for her class that day, but provided a unique opportunity for them for a spontaneous spiritual experience. Their lesson that day happened to be about the last supper Jesus had with his disciples before his crucifixion. Under the Spirit's guidance, without having planned it that way beforehand, Clara was able to very naturally lead them into their very own celebration of the Lord's Supper, using the "bread at hand." For the first time in their lives, they grasped and experienced its meaning in a unique and unforgettable way.

Mere dough, in the Master's hands, is like "Bread on the Waters" . . . (Eccl. 11:1).



Maria Rogalski is a member of Mc Dermot Avenue Baptist Church, Winnipeg, MB.

## "He Who Drinks of the Waters of the Nile Shall Return" by Harold Lang

"He who drinks of the waters of the Nile shall return." It was not long after our own family's arrival in Cameroon as missionaries that we heard this African proverb. We were assured that these same magnetic qualities applied to the Niger, the Benue, the Donga, the Mencham, and the thousand other rivers and streams of this beautiful continent. This year the truth of this proverb asserts itself, as all the new missionaries appointed by the Board of Missions are those who have tasted and feel God's call to taste again and drink deeply.

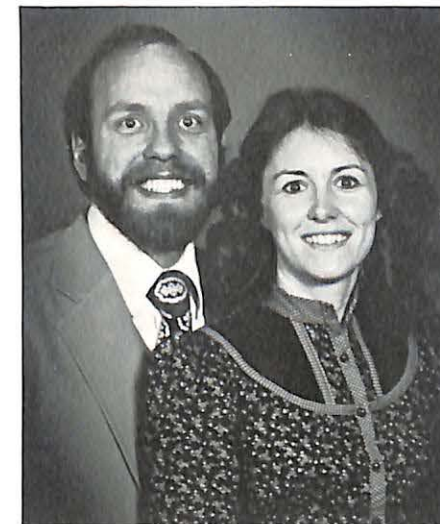
### Dale and Sharon Wilcke Return to Africa

In 1972 Dale and Sharon Wilcke agreed to extend their short-term mission service in Cameroon to a third year. At that time, they taught at Saker Baptist College in Victoria and assisted in the churches. As they extended their service, it was as field missionaries for the Victoria Field. The following year, they returned to the United States, still very much interested in missionary service in the future. Here's how they describe their feelings:

"There are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit . . . distributing to each one individually just as He wills" (I Cor. 12:4, 11b). This verse has been important to us,

The Rev. Harold Lang is associate director for promotion and personnel, N.A.B. Missions Department.

because we realize that God has given to us unique gifts, abilities, talents, and resources with which to serve him. We feel that we can best use our lives ministering in Africa.



Dale and Sharon Wilcke

Since our service in Cameroon from 1970-1973, we have sought to return to Africa. We applied to the Board of Missions in 1973, but they requested that Dale pursue a seminary education. It was a frustrating period—sensing God's leading back to Africa but not experiencing joy in further

education. After more than a year of studies, we decided to move to eastern Oregon where Dale began teaching high school science and math. But the Lord was not done with us yet.

With another family, we started a Baptist Church which grew rapidly and was meeting our needs and the needs of those around us. And we found our dream house in a valley with a stream and a small farm.

Then on the very day we moved into it, the Rev. Fred Folkerts, N.A.B. Missions Director, called and asked us to consider returning to Cameroon. The following day, Sharon gave birth to our third child. God had opened all the doors at once! We stayed in Oregon confident that God had confirmed our call to Africa but not at that time.

Only now, more patient and mature, and eight years after we came back, could we again apply to return. Not when or where or how we felt best, but as he would direct.

(Continued on next page)



And now the pieces of the puzzle fall into place. To be houseparents in Jos, Nigeria, explained why we had taken on the added responsibility of foster children, why Dale was a storyteller instead of a seminary-trained theologian, and why Sharon had started a Good News Club, and one hundred percent of the school kids had come. Even the "bad" experiences had their place in God's plan. And in Jos, our family can be together.

We see our future in Nigeria as an opportunity to use what God has given us to his glory. We set as a priority to make disciples of the children in our hostel. We desire also to lead Nigerians to Christ through our witness and preaching."

The Wilckes, Dale and Sharon, Andrea (8), Chantel (5), and Susan (4), left in June to assume responsibilities as houseparents of Woyke House, replacing Mr. and Mrs. Don Goltz, who have returned to Canada for furlough. Woyke House is the hostel where children of missionaries stay while attending Hillcrest School in Jos, Nigeria.

*Rev. Gilbert Gordon Returns to Cameroon*

One year—eight years—eleven years. Eleven years ago, the Rev. Gilbert Gordon returned to the United States after having served for

ten years as a missionary in Cameroon.

During those years, Gilbert had dedicated his diverse abilities to service at Cameroon Protestant College, Bali. His home there gave evidence of his dedication and interests—a harpsichord which he had constructed from a kit, beautifully panelled with Cameroonian art; a room stacked high with books in the process of being repaired and rebound; a library filled with books of his own. And always there were students—talking, questioning, learning.



Rev. Gilbert Gordon

Gilbert writes, "The ten years I spent at Bali were close to being the happiest of my life, and I am grateful to the Lord for allowing me to experience those years."

As Gilbert returned to the United States in 1970, he knew his father was not in good health. A year previously, he had visited his father who had suffered a severe heart attack. As he returned to the United States on furlough, he telephoned home from various points on his journey. When he arrived home at 3:30 p.m., it was to learn that his father had died at 10:30 that morning. And so Gilbert requested a leave of absence to remain in the

United States to care for his stepmother.

During the decade of the 70s, Gilbert was involved in work as a bookkeeper. He was active in church work, especially at Riviera Baptist Church in Salem, Oregon. He took a special interest in one of his former Cameroonian students, David Ghogomu, and assisted him through college.

In the fall of 1980, his stepmother passed away. At about the same time, David Ghogomu was accepted into a doctoral program at the University of Pittsburgh and was able to be completely independent.

Gilbert puts his thinking in this way, "Both of these changes coming rather close together have made me conscious that the Lord may have a change for me in mind. Possibly he does not intend that I continue to live in our comfortable American milieu."

So Gilbert felt he should complete his "leave of absence" and return to missionary service. Initially serving at the Field Treasury in Kumba on his arrival in June, Gilbert looks forward to future service in areas of evangelism and Bible training.

Eight years . . . eleven years . . .

"He who drinks of the waters of the Nile shall return."

Pray for your "returning" missionaries.

# Church Extension Project

## A Strong Evangelical Witness for Airdrie

by Harold Weiss

On July 12, 1981, the first service was held at Airdrie to launch another new church extension project in the rapidly growing western province of Alberta. Phil Zylla, graduate of North American Baptist College, served as the summer student worker under the direction of Pastor Walter Kerber and his congregation, the Grace Baptist Church in Calgary. Grace Baptist is graciously serving as the parent church.

Surveys and visitation conducted in this mushrooming bedroom community, only 12 miles north of Calgary, indicated considerable interest in a strong evangelical Gospel church. Some people surveyed indicated, "We need a good Baptist church as a strong evangelical witness in Airdrie."

A Bible study group had already been meeting since December 1980 in the home of a concerned North American Baptist family. Mr. and Mrs. Lonie Neis, a young couple of Airdrie, felt burdened and ready to be used of God to help draw interested families together in Bible study and prayer. A vision of what God could do in this bustling and quickly expanding town near the foothills of the Rockies brought excitement to their hearts which was gradually shared by other enthusiastic and concerned families.

Airdrie was a quiet village on the Edmonton-Calgary No. 2 Highway. It was hardly noticed until the last three years. During 1981 the population jumped by 40% and is expected to climb this year to 10,000 people. Growth has been sparked by industry and by more moderate housing than in the neighboring "oil city" of western Canada.

*The Rev. Harold E. Weiss became pastor of this Airdrie, Alberta, church extension project on October 12.*

Population projections indicate continued growth to 50,000 in the next 25 years or less.

Having seen God perform untold miracles in Church Extension in a similar bedroom community of Spruce Grove 12 miles west of Edmonton, we are excited to see what God might do in Airdrie. The beautiful support of sister churches in the Alberta Association in the past encouraged us to consider helping another project get underway. This will be one of four new projects starting in Alberta this year to try to help minister to the many people moving to western Canada in recent years.

Our first service with the nucleus of about 30 people of Airdrie was held October 18. Our address is Box 806, Airdrie, Alberta TOM OBO. With the help of our mother church and other supporting churches, a church site will be purchased. This kind of support encourages us in a day when interest rates are rather frightening and unstable. Presently the United Church education building is being used for our services, but with severe limitations.

Please pray with us that better arrangements for a meeting place will soon develop to permit us to attain our priorities of establishing a strong Gospel witness, to encourage spiritual growth and maturity in the believers, and to strengthen family relationships in a day when many families are hurting or breaking up.

Thank you so much for your interest and prayers, also for your gifts designated for Airdrie Baptist Church Extension Project. Send your contributions designated for Airdrie Baptist to North American Baptist Conference, 1 So. 210 Summit Avenue, Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181. By God's grace as we pray, plan and work together, we shall see the birth and development of a new dynamic Gospel witness in Airdrie, Alberta.



The congregation of the Airdrie church extension work on October 4.



Ruth and Harold Weiss began their ministry in Airdrie October 12. Their two oldest children, Rod and Carolyn, are working in Edmonton. Their youngest son, Dan, is attending North American Baptist College.



The congregation joins hands at the communion service with Lloyd Dredger, interim pastor



# Inspiration, Education, and Fellowship—Keys at Ministers' Conference

Pastors, their wives, and their children streamed into the stately, worshipful chapel at the North American Baptist College, Edmonton, AB, the opening night of the Ministers' Conference, August 4. As Fred Jantz, president of the Ministers' Fellowship greeted those in attendance, he succinctly stated personally why he came to this Conference. The reasons he gave summed it up for most of those present. And for most people, these expectations were met. WE CAME . . .



Fred Jantz



We came to learn—never ceasing

We came yearning for a spirit of cohesiveness . . . to be drawn together even though we have different styles of ministry and come from different areas.



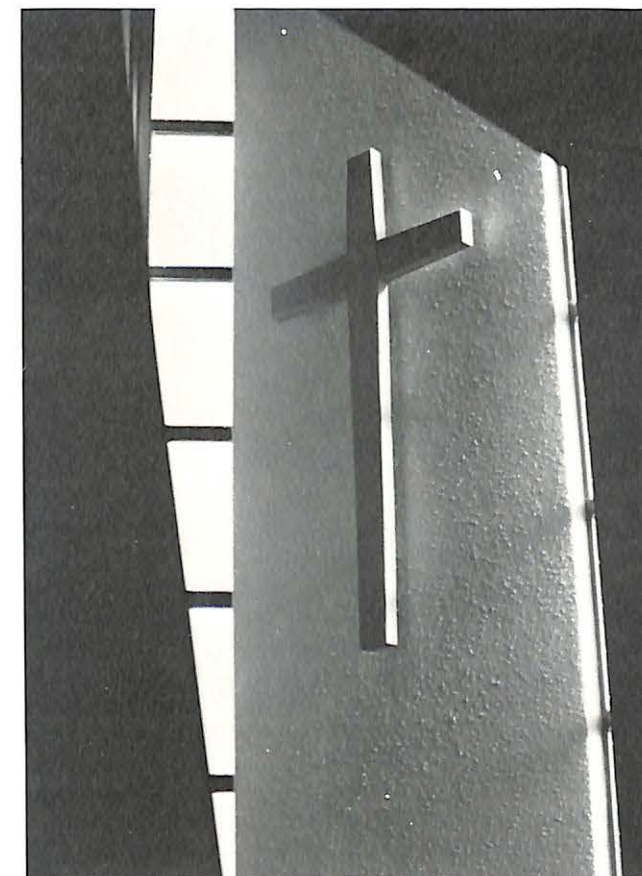
We came to fellowship with the known and the unknown



We came to be taught and challenged



We came to recommit ourselves to God's call



We came to worship







We came to be renewed—to exchange thoughts and ideas

## Ministers' Wives Conference Reflections

by Janet Erb

"There is a sweet, sweet spirit in this place . . ." These familiar words capture for me the Ministers' Wives' Conference that was held in Edmonton, AB, August 4-7.

As a new pastor's wife in the Alberta Association, I was somewhat fearful of being left on my own to attend the women's sessions. I knew that there would be a few women there that I would know, but the majority would be strangers to me. It didn't take me long, however, to realize that these women were not strangers, but sisters in Christ. And what a pleasure it was to renew old friendships and begin new ones.

*Janet Erb is wife of James P. Erb, one of the pastors of Park Meadows Baptist Church, Lethbridge, AB.*

Our special speaker, Jeannette Clift, author, speaker, playwright and actress (she starred in the movie, "The Hiding Place"), was humorous, inspirational, and instructional. I know that she touched my life and



Ministers' Wives discussed topics assigned by President Sharon Mayforth

ministered to me in a very special way. She was so practical and shared so honestly and openly her own life, that when I left I felt like I was leaving an old friend behind.

Mrs. Elenor Kern, women's ministries co-ordinator at Sunrise Baptist Church, Fair Oaks, CA, was our workshop leader. The workshops were very informative as she explained how the Women's Ministries



We came for renewed motivation—not a spirit of fear

began and are functioning at Sunrise. I am sure that everyone that attended this conference will join me in thanking all of those that made it so enjoyable. A special word of thanks to North American Baptist College and



Mrs. Eleanor Kern had splendid ideas for Women's Missionary Fellowship groups in the local church

Divinity School, Edmonton, for allowing us to use their beautiful campus. Yes, there was "a sweet, sweet spirit in that place . . ." and I know it was the spirit of the Lord." □



## NORTH AMERICAN BAPTIST TRIENNIAL CONFERENCE August 10-15, 1982, Niagara Falls, New York

*Against the beauty and majesty of Niagara Falls, North American Baptists will celebrate "Being the People of God" at the 1982 Triennial Conference to be held in Niagara Falls, New York, Aug. 10-15, 1982. This theme, based on 1 Peter 2:9 and 10 will be illustrated and expanded by guest speakers. Sensing God's very real presence at the various events and enjoying warm fellowship with new and old friends are two blessings which draw people back to Conference after Conference.*

*Won't you plan to come and join this part of God's family as they celebrate the privilege of being his people.*

### Speakers

Our keynote speaker, **Dr. Harold A. Carter**, pastor of New Shiloh Baptist Church, Baltimore, Maryland, is known as a pastor, speaker and author. Two books that he has authored are: *Myths That Mire the Ministry* and *The Prayer Tradition of Black People*. A book on Jonah is in process.

**Dr. Warren Wiersbe**, our Bible study leader, is best known as a teacher, radio speaker, and author. His last pastorate was with Moody Memorial Church in Chicago; he is with Back to the Bible in Lincoln, Nebraska.

**Pastor Georgi Vins**, a Baptist Christian, comes out of a background of persecution as a result of his preaching in Russia. You won't want to miss hearing this man of God.

**Dr. Howard Andersen** served as president of Northwest Baptist Theological College, as special consultant for Trinity Western College, and is pastor of our Ebenezer Baptist Church, Vancouver, British Columbia.

**Dr. Herbert Dickerson** from our N.A.B. Seminary, comes with a background of pastoring and teaching at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas.

Youth leader, **Dawson McAllister** returns by popular request after serving as guest youth leader at the 1979 Triennial Conference.

### Workshops Offered

Both men and women will want to take in several of over 20 workshops being offered on Thursday afternoon, August 12. Each leader was chosen for his or her experience in that particular area of ministry. Among the workshops being offered are:

*Is the Ministry for Me?*  
*Improving Your Preaching*  
*A Discipling Ministry with Youth*  
*How "Churches Alive" Works*  
*New Trends in Church Music*  
*Growing Your Church Through Your Sunday School*  
*Marriage and the Home*  
*Special Urban Ministries*  
*A Caring Ministry in the Church*

### Milestones

You will have the opportunity to celebrate three special anniversaries of North American Baptist Ministries: The Seminary will celebrate its 125th anniversary; the General Missionary Society will observe their 100th anniversary; and the Women's Missionary Fellowship will celebrate their 75th anniversary with a Diamond Jubilee luncheon.

### Special Programming for Children and Youth

"Summit Assault '82" is the theme chosen for youth in the **High School** and **College** age bracket. Dawson McAllister will teach on the theme, "A Walk With Christ to the Cross." Youth will also rehearse and present a musical drama, "Mountain Top Celebration." They will be housed and have their program on the campus of Niagara University.

"Living Letters" is the theme for **young teens**. In addition to Bible study and discussion on building a Christ-centered lifestyle, they will enjoy a tour of the Falls, Fantasy Island, roller skating, and an outdoor Olympics.

**Children.** Tentative plans are made for: Missionary speaker; New Day puppets; a ventriloquist; and a gospel magician. They will learn songs, Bible verses, and enjoy a Bible story each morning. Afternoon tours include the Aquarium, old Fort Niagara, and the Buffalo Zoo.

**Nursery** care will be provided for younger children.

### Singles Program

"God's Single People" is the theme for the singles programming. Margaret Clarkson, author and speaker, will be their featured speaker. A block of rooms has been reserved at the Quality Inn motel for singles.



## HOUSING AND REGISTRATION INSTRUCTIONS

Complete the housing application and registration form and mail it directly to the North American Baptist Conference Office **before June 30**. Confirmations will be sent by the hotel to the individuals named in the application. **Do not send hotel payment with housing application. A deposit is required upon confirmation from the hotel.** Hotels will not accept reservations directly nor will reservations be accepted over the telephone. ALL RESERVATIONS AND CHANGES MUST BE MADE IN WRITING THROUGH THE NORTH AMERICAN BAPTIST CONFERENCE OFFICE.

If accommodations of your first choice are not available at the time your request is received, you will be assigned the next available choice. Should more than one room be needed, duplicate the housing form and submit *one form for each room*.

HOTEL SPACE AND RATES CANNOT BE GUARANTEED PAST JUNE 30.

## CAMPGROUNDS

ALL ARRANGEMENTS FOR CAMP SITES MUST BE MADE DIRECTLY WITH THE CAMPGROUNDS.

U.S.: Niagara Falls KOA  
P.O. Box 9  
2570 Grand Island Blvd.  
Grand Island, NY 14072  
Phone: (716) 773-7583

\$11.50 per night, average cost. They will give a 10% discount to Conference guests.

[7 miles to Convention Center]  
35 cents toll on to Island only

Canada: Scotts Trailer Park and Campgrounds  
8845 Lundy's Lane (Highway #20)  
Niagara Falls, ON, L2H 1H5  
Phone: (416) 356-6988

Prices for up to 6 people  
\$9.50 - full hook-up / \$9.00 - water and electric / \$7.50 - no hook-up

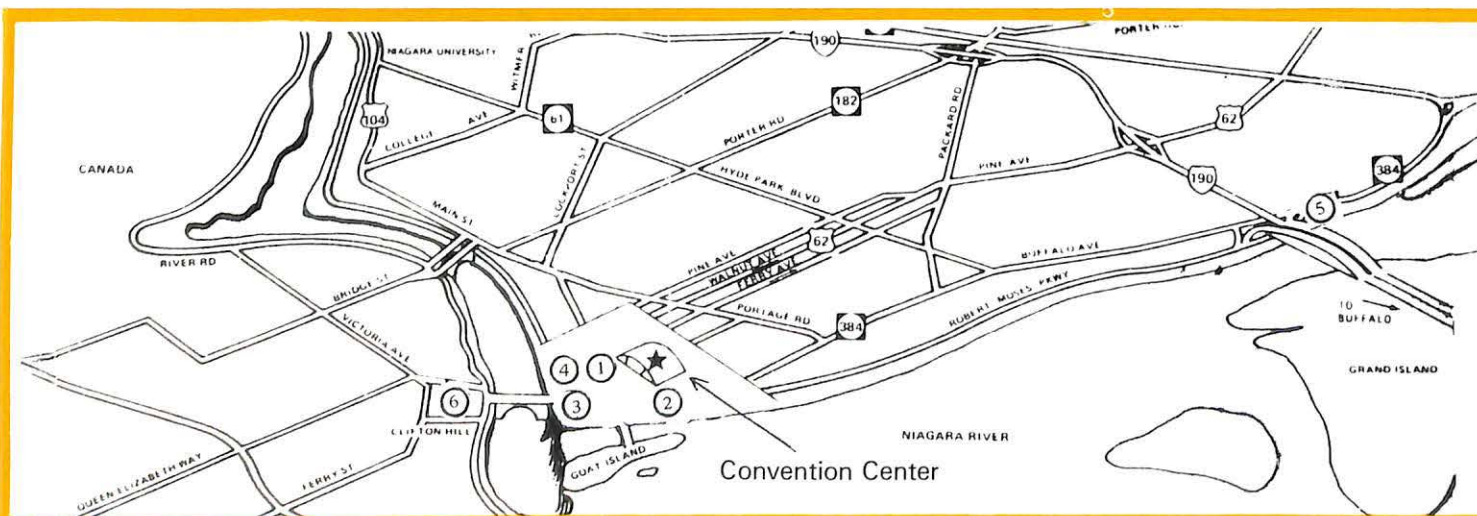
[5 1/2 miles to Convention Center]  
25 cents plus 10 cents per person toll each way

Location on map	26 Accommodations	RATES**					Parking	Distance from Convention Center
		Single (one person)	Double (two persons)	Triple (three persons)	Quad (four persons)	Suites		
1	Hilton/indoor pool (headquarters)	\$45.00	\$55.00	\$65.00	\$75.00		\$1.00 per day	1 block
2	Ramada Inn / outdoor pool	45.00	50.00	55.00	60.00	67 & 74	FREE	2 blocks
3*	John's Niagara Hotel / no pool	34.00	48.00	58.00	65.00	80.00	FREE	2 blocks
4*	Quality Inn / outdoor pool	34.00	48.00	58.00	65.00		FREE	3 blocks
5	Red Jacket Best Western / outdoor pool	40.00	50.00	56.00	62.00		FREE	4 miles
6	Canada: Sheraton Brock / Village Inn / outdoor pool	50.50	56.50	62.50	68.50		FREE	1 mile

\*\*All rates subject to 9% tax [except Canadian hotels]

\*No charge for children 16 and under in same room with parents.

All other hotels: No charge for children 18 and under staying with parents.  
Singles' Program will be held at Quality Inn.



## HOUSING APPLICATION FOR ADULTS

MAIL THIS REQUEST TO: Joyce Kells  
North American Baptist Conference  
1 So. 210 Summit Ave.  
Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181  
Phone: (312) 495-2000

### HOTEL / MOTEL PREFERENCE

1st Choice \_\_\_\_\_  
2nd Choice \_\_\_\_\_  
3rd Choice \_\_\_\_\_

### TYPE OF ACCOMMODATION REQUESTED

Single	_____	Rate Requested	_____
Double	_____	Rate Requested	_____
Triple	_____	Rate Requested	_____
Quad	_____	Rate Requested	_____
Suite	_____	Rate Requested	_____

Date of Arrival \_\_\_\_\_ Time \_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Departure \_\_\_\_\_ Time \_\_\_\_\_  
Guarantee: ☐ Visa ☐ American Express ☐ Master Card  
☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_  
Card Number \_\_\_\_\_  
Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_

SEND ONE APPLICATION PER ROOM (If you will be occupying two rooms, send two application forms.)

NAMES OF OCCUPANTS: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Your application must be received by June 30, 1982**

### MAIL CONFIRMATION TO:

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: Area Code ( ) \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State/Prov. \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Please complete for our information:  
(Indicate number of passengers)

Arriving by: Plane \_\_\_\_\_ Train \_\_\_\_\_  
Bus \_\_\_\_\_ Car \_\_\_\_\_

### Flight Information:

Carrier \_\_\_\_\_ Flight No. \_\_\_\_\_ Arrival Time \_\_\_\_\_  
Carrier \_\_\_\_\_ Flight No. \_\_\_\_\_ Departure Time \_\_\_\_\_

### (For Convention Bureau Use Only)

Reservation Follow-Thru	Date & Initial
Received at Housing Bureau	
Processed to Hotel/Motel	
Received at Hotel/Motel	
Confirmed to Guest	
Returned to Housing Bureau	

## 27 HOUSING INFORMATION FOR YOUTH

All youth will be at Niagara University for their program, housing and meals. Registration will be at the Convention Center.

Name: (Please print clearly)

☐ Male  
☐ Female  
☐ Male  
☐ Female  
☐ Male  
☐ Female

FULL NAME \_\_\_\_\_ CHOICE OF ROOMMATE (FULL NAME) \_\_\_\_\_

(Please fill out both sides of form.)



## 1982 TRIENNIAL CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FORM

NO REGISTRATIONS WILL BE PROCESSED AFTER JUNE 30.

Please mail form to: Joyce Kells, North American Baptist Conference, 1 So. 210 Summit Ave., Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181 / (312) 495-2000.

Name of Registrant(s). Please print clearly.

01 Title: (Circle) Mr. and Mrs. / Rev. and Mrs. / Mr. / Rev. / Miss / Other \_\_\_\_\_  
 Full Name \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ First Name \_\_\_\_\_ Initial \_\_\_\_\_  
 02 Spouse's Name \_\_\_\_\_ First Name \_\_\_\_\_ Initial \_\_\_\_\_  
 03 Names of children and grades they are entering. Please check.  
 FIRST NAME GRADE CODE FIRST NAME GRADE CODE  

6 mos -5 yrs	Grade 1-6	Grade 7-9	Gr 10 -Coll.
1	2	3	4
1	2	3	4
1	2	3	4

 04 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State/Prov. \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 05 Home Phone: Area Code ( ) \_\_\_\_\_  
 06 Church \_\_\_\_\_ City and State/Prov. \_\_\_\_\_  
 07 Mode of Transportation: Auto ☐ 1 Bus ☐ 2 Train ☐ 3 Plane-Buffalo Airport ☐ 4 Plane-Toronto Airport ☐ 5

## REGISTRATION FEES

Registration fees payable in Canadian or U.S. Funds. Make all checks payable to North American Baptists, Inc. No refunds will be given after August 1, 1982. REGISTRATION FEES MUST BE MAILED WITH THIS FORM.

### ADULT

08 One Adult (\$12.00) \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 09 A Couple (\$20.00) \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 10 One Day Fee per Person (\$6.00) \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Please circle day T W Th Fr Sa Sun  
 1 2 3 4 5 6

### YOUTH (Entering Grade 10 - College Age)

13 No. Attending \_\_\_\_\_  
 Per Person (\$15.00 for the week) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### Housing to be paid upon arrival, in U.S. Funds.

14 Total Conference Housing, \$95.00 per person, includes meals for 4 days, lodging for 5 days.  
 15 One day housing fee, \$21.00 per person includes meals, lodging for one day.  
 Please circle day T W Th Fr Sa  
 1 2 3 4 5

### YOUNG TEENS (Entering Grades 7-9)

16 No. Attending \_\_\_\_\_  
 Per Person (\$15.00 for the week) \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 17 Friday only (\$10.00 includes cost of special program and lunch) \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 18 One Day Fee (\$2.00 - except Friday) \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Please circle day T W Th Fr Sa Sun  
 1 2 3 4 5 6

### SINGLES (Ages 18-99)

11 One Person (\$14.00) \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 12 One Day Fee (\$7.00) \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Please circle day T W Th Fr Sa Sun  
 1 2 3 4 5 6

### CHILDREN (Entering Grades 1-6)

19 No. Attending \_\_\_\_\_  
 Per Child for entire week (\$8.00) \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 20 Friday only (\$4.00 includes lunch for special program) \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 21 One Day Fee per Child except Fri. (\$2.00) \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Please circle day W Th Sa  
 2 3 5

### NURSERY (6 Months to Age 5\*)

22 No. Attending \_\_\_\_\_  
 Per Child for entire week (\$11.00) \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 23 Friday only (\$4.00 includes lunch for special program) \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 24 One Day Fee per Child except Fri. (\$3.00) \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Please circle day T W Th Sa Sun  
 1 2 3 5 6

\*Cry room available for infants under 6 months to be attended by family member.

Total Submitted \$ \_\_\_\_\_

## MEAL EVENTS - RESERVATIONS

Reservations must be made 48 hours ahead of the meal event. To guarantee your meal event reservation, please arrange to pick up and pay for your meal event tickets during registration hours on Tuesday, August 10. Tickets for meal events may be paid for only at the Conference and in U.S. Funds. Please list number of tickets desired.

01 Ministers' Wives Breakfast (August 11) John's Niagara \$4.75	06 Ministers' Luncheon (August 13) John's Niagara \$7.50
02 N.A.B.C./D.S. Breakfast (August 12) Ramada Inn \$4.75	07 Missionary Breakfast (August 14) Ramada Inn \$4.75
03 N.A.B. Seminary Breakfast (August 13) Ramada Inn \$4.75	08 Church Extension Breakfast (August 14) Hilton Hotel / Complimentary for Church Extension pastors and wives
04 W.M.F. Luncheon (August 13) Niagara Falls Convention Center \$8.00	09 NEW DAY / GV Luncheon (August 14) Hilton Hotel \$5.70
05 Men's Luncheon (August 13) Ramada Inn \$6.30	10 Pension Fund Breakfast (August 15) Hilton Hotel / Complimentary for retired N.A.B. Pension Fund members and spouses.

(Please fill out both sides of form.)

# Summit Assault '82 To Be "Best Youth Conference Ever" by Sam Berg

"Summit Assault '82" is shaping up to be one of the biggest and best youth conferences ever!

The youth conference for those entering grade 10 through college age will be held as part of the 1982 North American Baptist Triennial Conference, August 10-15, 1982. Most of the activities will take place at beautiful Niagara University, just 10 minutes from the Falls, in Niagara Falls, New York.

Central to the entire youth program will be Dawson McAllister. Remember "Super Huddle '79" The same Dawson will be back. This time, he will lead a series of sessions, "A Walk with Christ to the Cross."

We're extremely fortunate to have Dawson returning to the youth conference again. In some 50 evaluations received following "Super Huddle '79" from young people who had been there, virtually all said that the best part of the whole Conference was Dawson's ministry.

That's not all that will be happening, of course. Remember the "Triple-T" event at the Conference on Saturday evening? We will be repeating this, with some new twists, including drama for youth with dramatic talents. There will be a rehearsal every afternoon for this.

The Rev. Sam Berg is chairman of the youth program committee for the 1982 N.A.B. Triennial Conference. He is also pastor of Nepean Baptist Church, Ottawa, ON.

There will be free time following the rehearsal every afternoon. You will be able to choose to go sightseeing to the American Falls, the Canadian Falls, sights on the Canadian side, Fort Niagara, and more.

Maybe you would rather get some exercise. Niagara University has excellent athletic facilities of all kinds. (It's where the Buffalo Bills have their training camp.) All of the facilities will be available. In addition, there will be organized sports. Want to play softball? Football? Basketball? You'll have a chance to do all that.

Maybe you would rather do



Dawson McAllister will lead discussions on "A Walk With Christ to the Cross."

nothing at all. That's okay, too—in the afternoon.

Each evening, busses will be provided to take all of the youth to the Convention Center for the evening service. We've asked the Conference program committee to make sure that those services won't be boring. They've told us not to worry; they will be the best evening services ever at a Conference.

And the evening services will be over at about 9:00 p.m., which is

much too early to go to bed, so—we will have more things to do. One night there will be a "night on the town;" one night we will have a big-name singer who will present a



Most of the youth activities will take place at Niagara University.

concert; one night—well, be ready for some surprises.

The big-name singer, by the way, is John Fischer. John has recorded five albums, written many of his own songs, and teaches and disciples as well as sings. You will like him.

Saturday evening will be the highlight of the week, when we present our "production," which we will have rehearsed all week. Also, Dawson will speak to the entire conference.

To help make "Summit Assault '82" a success, we need between 60 and 100 mature, senior young people to serve as "tie-in" leaders. If you believe that you are a mature, senior young person, contact either Loren Kopf or Jim Yerke. Loren's address is 606-7th St. SW, Medicine Hat, AB, T1A 4K8. Jim's address is 27300 Hoover Rd., Warren, MI 48093.

In addition to Loren and Jim, many others have been busy planning: Jennell Mauch, Chicago, IL;

(Continued on next page)



## Special Programming for Young Teens at Triennial Conference

by Diane Quiring

During the 1982 N.A.B. Triennial Conference in Niagara Falls, NY, a "young teens" program has been designed especially for youth entering grades seven through nine in the fall of 1982. Activities are planned to challenge, encourage, and satisfy young teens' needs to explore and discover who they are, where they are going, how they fit in with their environment, and what part God wants to have in their lives.

The Bible exploration times center around building a Christ-centered life-style. Realizing the answers to the deepest needs of their lives lie in a vital, continuing personal relationship with Christ, the young teens will be involved in probing discussion questions on growing, learning, discovering others and the Word of God. A guest speaker will present the topic for the day to the whole group, and then smaller

*Diane Quiring of Rochester, NY, is chairperson of the young teens program for the 1982 N.A.B. Triennial Conference to be held in Niagara Falls, NY, August 10-15, and is director of youth and children's work, Latta Road Baptist Church, Rochester, NY.*

groups will tackle the issues looking up key Scripture passages to use as guidelines. The study time will include plenty of opportunities to sing and take part in activities to develop a group feeling of togetherness.

The daily recreational events planned will rid anyone from being attacked by the "boredom blues!" Wednesday and Thursday afternoons will include outings at various places in and around Niagara Falls. An outdoor "Olympics" is planned at Queenston Heights Park, and there will be a tour of the Falls, Goat Island, and the Aquarium.

While the adults are involved with their luncheons on Friday, the youth will be spending the day at Fantasy Island, a complete entertainment, educational and recreational center on the Niagara Frontier. The Island features thrill rides, an authentic western town, and a journey through the Garden of Fables.

Saturday morning will be spent at Youth Time in Buffalo where activities such as swimming, bowling, and rollerskating are housed. Young Teens activities will conclude at noon.

Parents will be responsible for their young teens between 12:00 noon and 1:30 p.m. on Wednesday and Thursday. During the evening young teens will join their parents



An outdoor "Olympics" is planned at Queenston Heights Park for young teens, and there will be a tour of the Falls, Goat Island, and the Aquarium.

for the services at the Convention Center. Activities will conclude at noon on Saturday.

The cost for each young teen will be \$15.00 for the week. This \$15.00 includes the cost of a special program and lunch on Friday. Otherwise, the cost per day is \$2.00 excluding Friday which is \$10.00.

Plan to come to Niagara Falls and bring the whole family.

Meals are provided beginning Wednesday morning through Saturday evening. Lodging includes Tuesday through Saturday evening. Registration for the youth program will be Tuesday, August 10, at the Niagara Falls International Convention Center.

You come along, too. "Summit Assault '82" will be a mountaintop experience!

Oregon; Vancouver and Kelowna, BC; Alberta, and South Dakota, who are planning to come. They are raising and saving money, chartering buses and airplanes, and talking their friends into coming along.

The costs for the youth conference include a \$15.00 registration fee per youth plus \$95.00 for four days of meals and five nights of lodging at Niagara University.

(Continued from page 19)

Carlo Walth, Portland, OR; Mark Woods, Hamilton, ON; Doug Peebles of California; Norm Stork and Marg Kruger of Toronto, ON; Gary and Rosemary Asbach, Grand Island, NY; Bud Fuchs, Burlington, ON, and others.

The closer it gets, the more excited we get. We have already heard about youth groups in California;

## "New Day" Grateful for Orientation in Iowa

by John Kiemele and Connie Kaiser

Dear Folks,

While we were at Central Baptist Camp, we enjoyed the changing of colors of the trees and shrubs in the rugged surroundings referred to as "Little Switzerland."

The camp at which we stayed for the month of September was once a farm homestead. The big barn has been converted to a lodge. There we ate and slept. The chapel, on the second floor, was the perfect place to meet the Lord and fellowship.

It is very exciting being a part of the God-ordained team called "New Day."

The Rev. Ray Harsch, evangelism director, joined us for a week of orientation and held a dedication service for the team. It was very genuine and meaningful. He motivated each of us in regard to our commitments to the team and ultimately to Christ.

As the music section prepared for their music/drama ministry, they focused on five themes: "Celebrate and Serve" (an informal celebration of who God is and realizing that part of celebration is a commitment to serve). "Know Your Future" (presentation of the gospel), "Youth Service" (focus on the abundant life and our need to be aware that it is the best ever), "Family Night" (musical drama dealing with the family), and "Real Faith" (trusting God is based on our knowledge of him; it's not a blind leap).

Besides ministering in the local churches, "New Day's" music

section looks forward to performing in high schools, elementary schools, shopping malls, nursing homes, and at children's rallies. They will also be doing some visibility calling.

After a couple weeks of hard work at Central Baptist Camp, the music section's voices appreciated the weekend off! The team went to Waterloo, Iowa, to shop for matching outfits. But, of course, the music section didn't go alone—the discipling team went along.

The discipling team is an active, creative group that centers around the Great Commission to "go," "baptize" and "teach." Their objective is to train (disciple) members of the local church body to become effective witnesses in their communities and strengthen the body of Christ.

Their workload involves presenting seminars titled, "The Witness," "Prospect Calling," "Visibility Calling," "Testimony," "Gospel Outline," "Four Spiritual Laws," and "Sunday School Growth." The group of six is aiming for a creative, active, involving atmosphere. The team shows evidence of excitement and an enjoyable ministry.

It was not always separate work for the two teams; we also enjoyed fellowship as a whole group during orientation. Some of the fun times included rocket volleyball, high fly baseball, enjoying the camp's recreation room, and getting a

"kick" out of horseback riding. Complementing the fun, we shared together in group songs, sharing times, prayer sessions, and devotionals.



I say, "New Day" is exciting, challenging, adventurous!

Because our parents weren't with us, we adopted some team parents, Curt and Diantha Junker, during our orientation at the Camp. The Junker family (and their aide Gloria Jackson) provided us with plenty of rest, delivered our mail promptly, kept us well fed, and supplied us with "vitamins" of love and support.

Wishing you were here.

Because of Christ,  
"New Day"

*John Kiemele and Connie Kaiser are reporters for "New Day."*



## A Gift to Treasure: New Life

by Karen  
Bardon,  
Racine, WI



As I celebrate our Savior's birth, two meaningful gifts of my Christian life

come to mind. The first was my salvation at 19. The second, at age 29, the birth of our daughter.

Why the mention of age? We had been married for two years, and we wanted to start a family. I assumed that it would just happen. Well, that year went by—no family, and then another year. Then came two years of much doubting. By this time, we had sought medical help. The results were indefinite. We were advised to adopt. This was not our first choice but, realizing it might be God's will, we applied.

On July 6, 1971, we were approved and were told we could expect a baby within six months. At this point, I learned what it means to really lay a concern at the foot of the cross. My prayer was, "Lord if this is what you want, we will accept and rejoice, but if this is not your will, you will have to change it." I became pregnant at the end of that month. Our daughter is truly a gift from God. Through her birth, my problem was revealed, and two years later our son came.

Christmas is the gift of Christ. How I rejoice over his gifts to me.

## A Gift to Treasure: Commitment

by Pearl Faszler,  
Calgary, AB

One of the first gifts my husband gave me was a wristwatch. It was the first I ever had, and I treasured it very

much. After using it for about 20 years, he replaced it with a new one. How delighted I was, but alas, I lost it. After about a year he gave me another, even better than the one before. I didn't deserve such love, but I am very thankful.

God loved us so much that he gave his son, Jesus. Through faith I was privileged to accept his gift of love. Christ has been my daily companion and guide throughout the years. There have been times when I failed to maintain a close and intimate fellowship with my Lord. Those were

always trying times, but thank God, when I realized my condition and renewed my commitment to Christ through Bible study and prayer, joy and peace were renewed.

We all need to renew our commitment of love to Christ. This Christmas season is a good time, when we review the beautiful story of God's love to us, to renew our commitment to him. As our loved ones show us love by their gifts, let us remember that God has shown us the greatest love, by giving us Jesus and eternal life.

## A Gift to Treasure: Unexpected Beauty

by Dixie Brachlow,  
Sioux Falls, SD

On our first trip to Europe ten years ago, my then-seminary-student husband and I made our way through

dark and narrow Parisian streets to the Christmas Eve service at the Cathedral of Notre Dame. We watched the pomp and mysterious majesty of the Roman liturgy with the cool detachment of Protestant observers.

But when the Cathedral orchestra was joined by the Notre Dame Boys, Choir with their high crystalline voices, I could no longer remain detached. I found myself deeply moved by the carolling praises, and a profound joy literally "lifted" my soul. The Christmas carols seemed to rise heavenward, echoing throughout the great soaring Gothic arches of the

Cathedral. I sensed that, like me, everyone there was caught up in the power of that glorious music. When we left, I felt renewed and held within me a quiet wonder that Christ's birth had become so meaningful through that music.

That profound and sustaining moment of joy in Christ and God's creation that I experienced at Notre Dame was, I've come to realize, a gift from God of his Spirit. It sometimes seems "other-worldly" and "ethereal" couched in that romantic medieval setting; yet I call it to mind nearly every Christmas to treasure that rare gift again.

## Diamond Solitaire; Precious Time for Prayer

by Agnes Mashner,  
Rochester, NY

Prayer is so simple—  
It is like quietly opening a door  
And slipping into the very presence of  
God.

There in the stillness  
To listen for His voice;  
Perhaps to petition—or only to listen;  
It matters not; just to be there  
In His presence is *prayer*!

At the Triennial Conference in August 1981, there will be a room set aside by the Women's Missionary Fellowship for the purpose of prayer, a "solitaire" room. We hope that you, alone or with a friend, will make use of this opportunity for prayer to rejoice and praise God for the ministry of the W.M.F. during these past 75 years, to uphold those who are participating in the Conference activities

and to pray for God's leading in the decisions that will be made.

"Let me have your cooperation in prayer" (2 Cor. 1:11, Moffat). It was hard for even Paul to suffer or to rejoice alone. He longed to be upheld by the prayers of those who loved him.

All of our Conference staff, speakers, and leaders covet your cooperation in prayer. Share the "solitaire room" by your presence, perhaps your requests with one another, but above all, with God from whom all blessings flow.

## Up the Stairway

by Dorene Walth,  
W.M.F. president,  
Citrus Heights, CA



I guess I worry too much. My December stairway is cluttered with worry. With Christmas at hand, there are so many things to worry about! I worry about the Christmas programming at the church . . . that the music and special activities will be just perfect enough to leave a good Christian message for everyone, especially the people who come as visitors.

I worry about what to wear to the church Family Christmas Dinner. I worry that I won't get those extra pounds off to look good in the only dress I have to wear. And if I do get them off, I worry about putting them back on while eating all the extra rich seasonal goodies.

I worry about the shopping . . . the crowds, the parking. I worry that I won't have enough money, or time, to buy or make unusual and useful gifts for my family. When I decide how much money I have to spend, I worry that I won't spend it correctly enough to get the most mileage out of it. After I make the purchase, I worry that the recipient

of the gift won't like it. I also worry that I might run across the same gift in another store for less money than I paid for it!

I worry about inviting people in for the holidays. Who should I have? When should I have them? When I get that settled, I worry about what to serve. Once that decision is made, I worry how I'll get the house and the food ready in time.

I worry that I won't enjoy the season to the fullest because I'm so busy. I worry that I will miss the spiritual highlights of the Christmas message, and that I won't spend enough time in God's Word and in prayer, which would help me to have less worries!

I worry about the weather. "Oh, Lord, help the weather to be nice these days so I can get all my errands run, and so the kids can travel home in safety." And I worry about the car.

I worry about my health. It would be just like me to get a bad cold or the flu before I get everything done!

It's Sunday evening, and I debate about going to church. If I do, I'll feel guilty about leaving some project undone. If I don't go, I worry about feeling guilty. So, I go. The pastor reads lengthy Scripture passages. Specific verses seem to slice through directly to my heart: ". . . Don't worry about things—food, drink, and clothes. For you already have life and a

body—and they are far more important than what to eat and wear . . . Your heavenly Father already knows perfectly well that you need them, and he will give them to you if you give him first place in your life and live as he wants you to. So don't be anxious about tomorrow. God will take care of your tomorrow, too. Live one day at a time." ". . . And all his busy rushing ends in nothing. . . ."

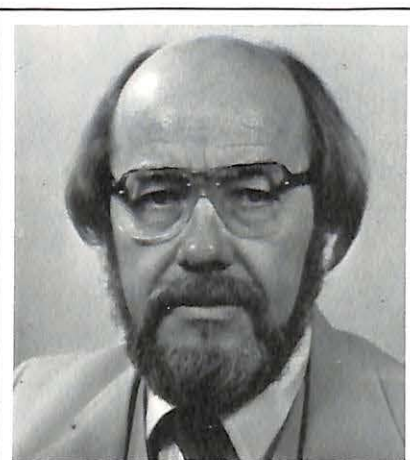
"But Martha was the jittery type, and was worrying over the big dinner she was preparing. . . . Martha, dear friend, you are so upset over all these details! There is really only one thing worth being concerned about. . . ."

"Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything; tell God your needs and don't forget to thank him for his answers. . . . His peace will keep your thoughts and your hearts quiet and at rest as you trust in Christ Jesus."

I am stricken with my own self-centeredness! How could my world be so small and my thinking so carnal? I vow to quit worrying about the insignificant and petty things. I decide to enjoy the season, trust God more completely in all areas. What a relief! What a freedom!

I drive home so much more relaxed. The tightened neck muscles and mild headache are gone! As I start thinking, though, I can't help but worry a little . . . because I'm not worried about anything!





## putting it together

by Ernie Zimbelman

Recently I have dealt with several situations in which a marriage partner has deserted the relationship—an apparently good relationship. By this I mean that to outward eyes there

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

were no open problems and there were many positive factors present. Many times friends and relatives are literally stunned when these apparently healthy marriages die by divorce. Some will argue "they must have known; the deserted spouse must have suspected something was wrong." Sometimes this is true.

Many people will admit that during recent months they knew their spouse wanted out of the relationship, but they still cannot comprehend how, after "X" number of years, the desire for freedom became overwhelming. In most of these cases, there is a "third party" involved. This may not be the cause of the death of the marriage, but only one of the symptoms.

I have seen cases where partners abandon not just a spouse, but children, financial security, relatives, and friends for a new "opportunity." There is no specific pattern in these cases. They all are basically unique in themselves. This compounds the problem for the rest of us, since we can't learn very much from these situations. It seems the only thing we can learn is that if it happened to Josh and Liz, it could happen to us.

This is the lesson we should learn from such circumstances. We are all very vulnerable people. The pressures on us today are not only greater than at any other time, but also they are of greater variety. Consequently, I may

suddenly discover an opportunity that I did not realize existed. The new opportunity seems so promising that I will abandon all other ways and choose this new opportunity. A great variety of choices and options is a reality in the "80s".

It appears that a "divorce option" is a reality that may face any one of us just like a "heart attack option" or "cancer option" may be ours. The statistics that a marriage will die by divorce are somewhat higher than that my marriage will end because of heart attack or cancer.

What can the Christian do to avoid the pitfalls that kill marriages? The main solution for cardiovascular problems and cancer is early detection. Women are especially instructed in ways to detect signs of breast cancer. Regular physicals are advised as ways of avoiding serious health problems and prolonging life.

When is the last time you did a serious "checkup" on your marriage? Have you even discussed with your mate how you feel about your relationship—positively or negatively? Physically we are advised that when we find "lumps" we can't explain we should see a doctor for an accurate diagnosis. I know many marriages and family relationships that are filled with undiagnosed "lumps." Be aware of the fact that they are danger signals!

won't have to worry about them. They don't have to consume me.

"Come unto me all who are heavy laden and I will give you rest . . ."

I can give my emotions, my actions, my plans to Jesus, and it feels good! I am free!

Why did I allow myself to become bent over with a heavy load when I could entrust it to the Lord? Why didn't I leave my load the very second I felt it instead of struggling so long with no relief?

I can give everything to him—my family, my dreams, my thoughts, my words. I am excited as I discover each new thing—each new area of my life—I can entrust these into God's keeping. □

Not long ago I found a solution. In desperation I said to God, "I entrust you with my loneliness, fears, insecurities, aspirations, talents . . . everything is yours to keep and take care of."

When I give my life to Christ, I am entrusting my life to him. I am still free at anytime to take it back. But why would I, as I watch and see what God is doing? I can trust him.

Giving areas of my life to God always implied denying those things as part of myself. But it shouldn't be. It should be recognizing those aspects but allowing God to mold and direct them.

When I entrust areas of my life to him, I am not saying I will not experience those things again, but I

## Denny's Column



Always I have struggled with this concept of giving things to God. I can't seem to just give them up. I want to retain partial control over them. I worry about their outcome. I limit God. I fear he will not adequately manage my life.

*Miss Denny Miller is a short-term missionary teaching at Saker Baptist College, Victoria, Cameroon.*

## our conference in action

### WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Friends and relatives of Mr. and Mrs. Ed Rode met on Oct. 19, 1980, to celebrate



their 50th wedding anniversary at the Trochu Community Centre. (Mrs. Richard Snook, reporter.)

Mr. and Mrs. Emmanuel Bertsch of Carbon, AB, were honored on the occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary at an open house hosted by the ladies



of the Zion Baptist Church, Drumheller, at the Carbon Community Hall on August 15. Mr. and Mrs. Bertsch are members of Zion Baptist Church, Drumheller. (Ida Ziegler, reporter.)

Mr. and Mrs. Jonathan Bandzmer were honored on the occasion of their 60th wedding anniversary on August 30 at a



reception at the Round Lake Baptist Church, Gladwin, MI. (Mrs. Jean Kleiss, church clerk.)

Mr. and Mrs. Godfrey Herr of the First Baptist Church, Wishek, ND, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on July



11, 1981, at an open house. The Herrs express their greatfulness to the Lord for this special occasion in their lives.

Herbert and Esther Seipke of Sterling Heights, MI, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary at the Grosse Pointe Baptist Church with family, friends, and members of the church. Herb has been a member of Grosse Pointe Baptist for 59 years and Esther 51 years.



Herb and Esther have been active in church work through the years. (Victor Seipke, reporter.)

On June 14, Mr. and Mrs. George Kessler were honored on their 50th wedding anniversary at an open house hosted by the



couple's children. Mr. and Mrs. Kessler are members of the McClusky Baptist Church. (Marion S. Kirschman, reporter.)

Mr. and Mrs. John Suckert were honored on June 21 for their 50th wedding anniversary at an open house, which was



hosted by their children. Mr. and Mrs. Suchert attend the McClusky Baptist Church. (Marion S. Kirschman, reporter.)

**CHEEKTOWAGA, NY.** Temple Baptist Church, together with her sister churches, hosted the Cameroon Choristers on September 15.

Temple had a luncheon for the singers following a television appearance. In the evening, a fantastic buffet dinner was served to those attending from all participating churches.

What a tremendous blessing we received hearing the Cameroon Choristers sing. They really enjoyed praising the Lord.

During the remainder of their visit, Pastor Bernard Thole kept them busy taping for TV, visiting civic clubs, and the city mission. (Mrs. George Hartman, reporter.)

**SEBASTOPOL, ON.** "Where and what is Sebastopol?" It is a township located in the scenically rocky, hilly and wooded area northwest of Ottawa, Canada's Capital.

On August 11, 1868, a group of pioneers formed the Sebastopol Baptist Church. Throughout the years, this





## our conference in action

church provided a flourishing ministry to that area and gave of its members to town and city churches. Several years ago the spired, stone church, built in 1914, was declared a historic site, and the government designated funds for its maintenance. The remaining few members joined other churches.

Since no regular services are now held, former members remaining in the community, together with the churches of Killaloe and Arnprior, conduct an annual "Homecoming-Remembrance" service.

This year's service was held on August 23 with approximately 250 people attending.

The Rev. James Zurbriggen, pastor of the Killaloe churches, led the service. The Rev. Rubin Kern gave the message, "A Scroll of Remembrance." At the close of the message, the names of those buried in the adjacent cemetery were read. The earliest gravestone is dated 1883. Chaplain Leslie Albus led in prayer.

**AVON, SD.** The Women's Missionary Fellowships of the First Baptist Church observed the 75th anniversary of the North American Baptist Women's Missionary Fellowship at the church on September 13. Miss Patricia Lenz, a missionary in Cameroon, Africa, was the guest speaker.

The Maranatha Fellowship hosted a program in an afternoon service and refreshments for about 70 guests including members of the Tyndall Baptist and Danzig Baptist Fellowship. The Rev. Henry Lang is pastor of the church. (Estie Betz, reporter.)

**CARRINGTON, ND.** The Rev. Robert Lang has been selected to be included in the 1981 edition of "Outstanding Young Men of America."



Lang was selected from nominations received from Senators, Congressmen, Governors, Mayors, State Legislators, University and College Presidents and Deans as well as various civic groups.

The men who are selected are the ones who have distinguished themselves in one or more fields of endeavor, are outstanding and deserve to be recognized for their achievements. The criteria for selection includes voluntary service to community, professional leadership, academic achievement, business advancement, cultural accomplishments and civic and political participation.

Lang is pastor of Calvary Baptist Church.

**HOPE, KS.** On September 6, four young people were baptized at First Baptist Church of Dickinson Country upon

their confession of faith by Pastor James Zier. Following baptism, they were extended the hand of fellowship, received as members of the church and invited to participate in celebrating the Lord's Supper with the remainder of the congregation. (Virla Piper, reporter.)

**RED DEER, AB.** Dedication services for the new church building of Community Baptist Church were held on June 7. Greetings were brought to the church from the Rev. Isador Faszer, area minister, Ernie Radke, City Councilman Larry Dimms, and the Olds and Carbon Baptist churches. The Rev. John Ziegler was guest speaker challenging the congregation to serve the Lord and to follow his direction.



The Lord is great and greatly to be praised for being with us in our endeavor to get an extension work started in Red Deer. The Rev. LeRoy Moser is pastor of the church. (Irma Edel, reporter.)

**MCCLUSKY, ND.** On July 1, McClusky Baptist Church had a farewell program for the Rev. and Mrs. Vernon Schneider, who has served as faithfully as interim pastor for 16 months.

On July 5, a reception was held to welcome the Rev. and Mrs. Oscar Fritzke as our new pastor and wife. Area churches were invited. (Marion S. Kirschman, reporter.)

**VERNON, BC.** A happy and memorable occasion was held on June 7 when the Women's Missionary Society (pictured) of Faith Baptist Church celebrated their 25th anniversary.



At the afternoon service, the guest speaker was Mrs. Lena Ohlmann of Medicine Hat, AB. Her topic was "Love is the Answer." Mrs. Ohlmann started the Missionary Society in 1956.

Several musical numbers, readings and a presentation, "The Christian Woman's Home," contributed to the program. Letters of good wishes and telegrams were received. The Rev. Henry Schumacher is pastor of the church. (Margaret Alexander, reporter.)

**NOKOMIS, SK.** On August 2, 325 people celebrated the 75th anniversary of Nokomis Baptist Church with a morning service held in the Centennial Hall. The guest speaker was Dr. Reuben Jeschke of Branford, CT. He was the first son to go into the ministry.

The afternoon program, attended by 375 people, was comprised of musical numbers, and four previous pastors, Dr. A. Felberg, the Rev. Ed Hohn, the Rev. Delvin Bertsch and the Rev. Rudy Lemke, gave brief messages.

A slide presentation of the history of the church closed the day.

The offering received was designated for the purchase of a Land Rover needed in Nigeria.

We thank God for his leading for 75 years and look forward to many more years as a church. The Rev. Don Harder is the present pastor. (Roland Richter, reporter.)

**WETASKIWIN, AB.** Calvary Baptist Church rejoiced recently at a baptismal service when six people (pictured) were



baptized by the pastor, the Rev. Larry Parker. These and one other person were welcomed into the fellowship of the church. (Minnie Knuenz, reporter.)

**KANSAS CITY, KS.** On July 27, 1981, delegates from 11 churches of the Southwestern Association convened to examine the Doctrinal Statement and Constitution of the College Boulevard Baptist Church (SWA Church Extension project) for the purpose of recommending that they be admitted as a sister church into the Southwestern Association.

Following a fellowship luncheon prepared by the ladies of the church, a time of prayer and a personal testimony by Ruth Ann Hendricks, the Council met and listened attentively to the reading of the Church's Constitution. After meeting

in closed session, the Council moved that the College Boulevard Baptist Church, the Rev. Rubin Herrmann, pastor, be commended for their preparation and presentation and that the church be recommended for membership in the Southwestern Association.

**BENTON HARBOR, MI.** Florence Miller, N.A.B. missionary in Japan, was home this summer for a short vacation. She has been on the mission field 30 years.



On a Sunday evening at Napier Parkview Baptist Church, she gave a slide presentation showing highlights of her years of service. Following the evening service, a reception in her honor was held. She was presented a love offering and a plaque commemorating her years of service.

While Miss Miller was in the area, she was also honored by the Women's Christian Missionary Society at a luncheon. (Doris Badgley, reporter.)

**STEAMBOAT ROCK, IA.** A salad luncheon, sponsored by the Ladies' Missionary Guild, and attended by 50 women was held at Steamboat Rock Baptist Church on August 28.

Mrs. Gene Groeneveld and her friend, Eddie, told the story of Jonah and the big fish. Rita Schill sang several solos. Appropriate poems were used in accordance with the theme, "Love Makes the Difference." The Rev. Dennis Dewey is pastor of the church. (Verdelle Gast, program chairman.)

**HARVEY, ND.** The emphasis of the Communion Service on October 11 at Bethel Baptist Church was commitment of talents to the glory of the Lord. This was greatly enhanced with the dedication of a painted picture known as the *Emmaus Road* done by Mrs. Karen Nordlie. The painting is displayed in the fellowship area of the church so that it is visible from the sanctuary, the foyer, and the fellowship area.



The picture was on display in the annual City of Harvey Art Exhibit and received the "Community's Choice"

award. The Rev. Eric Coulon is the pastor of Bethel Baptist Church.

**MINNEAPOLIS, MN.** A farewell and commissioning service was held in honor of Dr. Rodney Zimmerman at Faith Baptist Church on August 23. Dr. Zimmerman told of his call and commitment to missionary service. An offering for outfitting expenses was taken. In early September, Dr. Zimmerman left for Cameroon, Africa, where he is working chiefly with leprosy patients.

Dr. and Mrs. Dennis Palmer and family, home on a three-month furlough from the Cameroon, showed a slide presentation on their work in Africa. The Rev. Harvey Mehlhaff is pastor of the church. (G. Zumbaum, reporter.)

**VENTURIA, ND.**

A baptismal service was held recently at the Venturia Baptist Church. The young man who was baptized gave a spoken testimony of his faith in Jesus Christ during the morning worship service and sang his testimony with the song, "He Is the Lord of My Life," during the evening service before entering the baptismal waters. He is pictured here with Pastor Randall Tschetter. It is exciting to see how God continues to call people to himself and to his service. (Fern Knoll, reporter.)



**DETROIT, MI.** On September 13 David W. Wood of Ebenezer Baptist Church was ordained into the Gospel ministry. David's Ordination Council met the day before to examine his personal experience and doctrinal beliefs. The Council concluded by voting unanimously to ordain David.

David has been serving on the staff at Ebenezer Baptist Church for almost four years as assistant to the pastor. He has been a member of Ebenezer since his teenage years. The senior pastor at Ebenezer is the Rev. William L. Cummins. (The Rev. Dale Goncalves, clerk.)

**LEDUC, AB.** The new minister and family, the Rev. and Mrs. Frank Schmidt,



started their ministry with Temple Baptist Church on September 1. The church family welcomed the Schmidts with a pantry shower.

On September 13 the induction service was held. Mr. Art Petrie, N.A.B. College and Divinity School, led the service, and Prof. John Taylor led the singing and the music. All branches of the church as well as pastors from neighboring churches, welcomed them. Prof. Richard Paetz, N.A.B. College and Divinity School, gave a challenging message for both pastor and church members. The dedicatory prayer was given by the Rev. H. Bushkowsky. Pastor Schmidt closed the service. (Vi Fleck, reporter.)

**KELOWNA, BC.** September 13 was a day of celebration as Trinity Baptist Church held the ordination service for Victor Lehman, a member of the church.

The Rev. Richard Hohensee, senior pastor of the church, gave the invocation. The ordination sermon was presented by Prof. Lou Sawchenko, N.A.B.C./ D.S.

The Rev. Merv Saunders, pastor, McLaurin Baptist Church, Edmonton, where Victor is presently on staff, gave the confirmation from his congregation. The most moving part of the celebration was the laying on of hands and ordination prayer. An offering for Victor's library was taken.

Victor was welcomed into the ministry by the Rev. Gerald Scheel, Lakeview Heights Baptist Church, and welcomed into the N.A.B. Conference by the Rev. Ed Hohn, area minister. (Magdalena Spletzer, reporter.)

**AVON, SD.** On August 30, Pastor Henry Lang baptized six children (pic-



tured). The hand of fellowship was extended to them at the communion service on September 6. (Estie Betz, reporter.)

**HERREID, SD.** A baptismal service was held in Herreid Baptist Church recently, at which time four persons were baptized and received into the church membership by the Rev. Edward Kopf.

The 75th anniversary of the Women's Missionary Fellowship was celebrated on September 24. The highlight of the evening was an inspirational talk given by LaVerna Mehlhaff, N.A.B. director of women's work.



our conference in action

A farewell program was held in honor of Rev. and Mrs. Kopf on September 27. They since have moved to Okeene, OK, to serve Zion Baptist Church. The Kopfs were presented with gifts and a love offering. (Pearl Huber, reporter.)

**TACOMA, WA.** On September 26, an ordination council met at Calvary Baptist Church to examine Mr. Paul Eklund for ordination into the Gospel ministry. The ten area churches of the Pacific Northwest Association represented joyfully recommended that the church proceed with the ordination service.

The ordination service was held on the same day, with the ordination sermon be-

ing brought by Dr. Paul Sundstrom. Rev. Eklund has served as Minister of Family Life at Calvary Baptist Church since 1980. He and his wife Karen have two sons, Bruce and Benjamin, and are expecting a third child. (Loren Franchuk, ordination council clerk.)

**XENIA, OH.** Sunday School Promotion Day at Community Baptist Church was celebrated on August 20. We thank God for dedicated and faithful teachers.

Pastor Art Bollaert continues to lead studies in Revelation, following our prayer time on Wednesday evenings. More people are attending this mid-week service.

In Memoriam

MRS. ANNA LOSING, 96, Bismarck, ND, was born Anna Meyers Sept. 17, 1884, at Catalou, Romania, and died Aug. 4, 1981. She immigrated to the U.S.A. in 1896. In 1900, she married Karl Alexander, who died in 1921. She married William Losing in 1928. He died in 1966. She is survived by six daughters: Mrs. Alvina Janz and Mrs. Fred (Theresa) Taghon of Bismarck, Mrs. Jack (Ester) Downie, Makoti, ND, Mrs. Ann Jakway, Sparks, NV, Mrs. Amanda Swecker, Deer Lodge, MT, and Mrs. Jerry (Laura) Miller, Kalispell, MT; two sons: Fred, Turtle Lake, and Carl Jr., Spokane, WA; 53 grandchildren; 60 great-grandchildren, and 12 great-great-grandchildren. The Rev. Clem Auch officiated at the funeral service.

MRS. LENA F. KRAMER, 78, of Aplington, IA, was born to Ollie J. and Minnie DeWeerd Roskam Aug. 31, 1903, near Worthington, MN, and died Sept. 10, 1981. The family moved to Iowa Falls in 1922. Lena received Jesus Christ as her personal Savior, was baptized April 1, 1923, and joined First Baptist Church, Iowa Falls, IA. On Oct. 7, 1931, Lena married Herman G. Kramer. In 1933 they moved to Aplington and joined Aplington Baptist Church. Lena sang in the church choir, was a faithful member of the Benevolent Society, and a member of the Aplington Woman's Club. Survivors include her two daughters: JoAnn, Mrs. (William A.) Jacobson, Coon Rapids, MN; Joyce, Mrs. (Russell) Uehling, Uehling, NE; four grandchildren; one sister, Mrs. Hannah Niehuis, and one brother, Carl Roskam. The Rev. Donald Patet officiated at the funeral service.

JOHN LEHMAN, born Sept. 27, 1905, in Razskoser, Hungary, died Sept. 11, 1981, after a lengthy illness. Coming to Canada in 1925, he settled in Valleyview, AB, in 1928. At the age of 14, he confessed Christ as Savior and was baptized a year later. A charter member of Emmanuel Baptist Church, Valleyview, he served in many ways in the local church. He married Augusta Adala Krieger in 1937. He was predeceased by his wife, Augusta, three brothers, and one grandchild. Survivors include his children: Esther Neufeld, Walter, and

Fred of Valleyview, John of Edmonton, Elsie Jerema of Smoky Lake, and Margaret Skjei of Estonia, SK; a sister, Elizabeth Heitzelman; two brothers: Conrad, Valleyview, and Jacob, Kelowna, BC; fifteen grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren. The Rev. Robert R. Hoffman officiated at the funeral service.

MRS. EDNA PAUL, 58, born Feb. 3, 1923, near Creston, NE, to Herman and Lena Janssen, died March 1, 1981. She grew up in the Creston area. She was a faithful and active church member serving as Sunday school secretary-treasurer and W.M.F. White Cross chairman, and keeping the sanctuary clean. In 1977 she received the Ak-Sar-Ben Good Neighbor Award for her many acts of kindness in the Creston community. Survivors include her husband Kenneth; a son Rodney of Columbus, NE, and two daughters: Susan of Anaheim, CA, and Mrs. Joel (Cindy) Leseke, Leigh, NE; five grandchildren; two sisters: Mrs. Milton (Henrietta) Scheffler and Mrs. Robert (Ruth) Svoboda; two brothers: Elmer and Herbert Husmann. Her parents and a granddaughter preceded her in death. The funeral service was conducted by the Rev. D. Lee Grace.

ERNEST KERN was born at Leduc, AB, Sept. 25, 1907, and died June 29, 1981. He accepted Christ as Lord and Savior and was baptized at age 15. On Feb. 15, 1933, he married Myrtle Priebe. Ernest was a faithful member of First Baptist Church, Leduc, as a Sunday school superintendent, deacon, and moderator. On the N.A.B. Conference level, he served on church extension councils, N.A.B.C. Board of Trustees, Salem Manor Board of Directors, and as General Council representative. Survivors are his wife Myrtle; four children: Gorgene Kern, Vancouver, BC; Gordon, Leduc, AB; Donald, Edmonton, AB, and Gloria Gage, Calgary, AB; two brothers: Emil and Rubin, and two sisters: Helen Weidman and Hattie Dalmer. His parents, Christian and Marie Kern, and two brothers, Herman and Alfred, preceded him in death. The Rev. Herbert Bushkowsky and Dr. Edwin Kern officiated at the memorial service.

JOHN RICHARD FUCHS, 76, of Yahk, BC, was born June 18, 1905, in Odessa, Russia, and died Aug. 10, 1981. John came to the U.S.A. at the age of four and moved to Canada in 1926.

On September 12 during a work day at the church the Men's Fellowship helped put up the tent for an Old-Fashioned Tent Meeting held the next day.

The Rev. Charles Townsend presented an Hour of Magic, with a special spiritual message, during the Sunday school hour in the church sanctuary.

Following this, the activities moved "Under the Big Tent" with preaching from Pastor Art Bollaert and music by the "Stillwaters," a local vocal group.

Following a potluck dinner, a youth group presented a puppet show portraying Bible stories. To conclude the program, everyone joined in gospel singing. (Esther Lucius, reporter.)

He married Martha Enzie Jan. 10, 1928. In 1953 they moved to Yahk, BC. John accepted Christ at age 13. He was a charter member of Creston Baptist Church. He is survived by his wife Martha; three sons: Rueben, Albert, and John; two daughters: Mrs. Irene Schmidt and Mrs. Edna Falat; 19 grandchildren, five great-grandchildren, one brother, and two sisters. pastor Manfred Taubensee conducted the services.

MRS. ROSA SCHULZ, 83, was born in South Russia to Christian and Elizabeth (Hirsch) Zeeb Sept. 18, 1897, and died Aug. 12, 1981. At the age of nine, she with her parents immigrated to the Streeter, ND, area. In 1915 she married Gottlieb G. Wolff, who died in 1918. She then married Fred Schulz, Sr., Oct. 3, 1920; they lived in the Streeter area. Following his death in 1958, she moved to Oregon, then returned to Streeter, and finally to Jamestown, where she was a member of Temple Baptist Church. She had been active in W.M.S. and First Baptist Church, Streeter, for many years and was a wonderful witness at HiAcres Manor. Survivors include her children: Harry Wolff, Streeter; Viola (Mrs. Sid Kaufman), Gladstone, OR; Arlo Schulz, Pacific, OR; Norman Schulz, Portland, OR; Darlene (Mrs. Alden Mehlhoff), LaCrosse, WI; 18 grandchildren, 19 great-grandchildren, one great-great-grandson, two stepchildren: Freda (Mrs. Henne), Nortonville; Fred Schulz, Jr., Streeter; nine stepgrandchildren, 10 stepgreat-grandchildren, five brothers and sisters. The Rev. Jim Dick officiated at the funeral service.

MRS. THEDDIE HARPER, 90, was born Jan. 3, 1981, near Madison, NE, to John and Mary Felt Anson, and died Jan. 22, 1981. She was a member of the Creston Baptist Church and the Dorcas Society. Survivors include her husband Arla; son, Marvin; two daughters: Mrs. Kenneth (Roberta) Matthews, Lincoln, NE, and Mrs. Ray (Arlene) Winterlin of David, CA; 10 grandchildren; 14 great-grandchildren; one brother, Walter Anson, and one sister, Mrs. Will (Sara) Jones. She was preceded in death by her parents, one daughter Mrs. Kenneth (Inez) Friscup, and three brothers: Elva, Morris and Wilbur. The Rev. D. Lee Grace officiated at her funeral service.

What's Happening

The Rev. David Haines became pastor of Canaan Baptist Church, Crawford, TX, on Sept. 12, 1981.

The Rev. Kenneth Hayes became pastor of Neustadt Baptist Church, Ontario, on Oct. 18, 1981. He formerly served in the Canadian Baptist Convention.

Mr. Fred Lacuesta, a 1981 graduate of N.A.B. Seminary, Sioux Falls, SD, became director of Christian education at First Baptist Church, Ellinwood, KS, effective Oct. 22, 1981.

The Rev. Franz Schmidt is the pastor at Temple Baptist Church, Leduc, AB. He previously served as pastor at Temple Baptist Church, Calgary, AB.

College Boulevard Baptist Church, Overland Park, KS, was officially accepted into the Southwestern Association at the annual meeting Aug. 28-30, 1981. The Rev. Rubin Herrmann is pastor.

The Rev. Fred Pahl became chaplain of Evergreen Baptist Home, White Rock, BC, effective Sept. 1, 1981.

The Rev. Elmo Herman resigned as director of youth and Christian education at Immanuel Baptist Church, Kankakee, IL, effective Nov. 1, 1981. He is attending N.A.B. Seminary, Sioux Falls, SD.

Mr. Paul Eklund was ordained into the ministry Sept. 26, 1981, at Calvary Baptist Church, Tacoma, WA. He has been minister of family life at the church since 1980.

Mr. David Robinson of Bellwood, IL, became program director of Camp Caroline, Alberta, on Sept. 1, 1981. He is a member of First Baptist Church, Bellwood, and was a member of God's Volunteers for two years. He attended North American Baptist College, Edmonton, AB.

The 1981-83 officers for the N.A.B. Ministers' Wives are Mrs. Roselyn

Wolff, Bismarck, ND, president; Mrs. Kathy Jantz, Stockton, CA, vice president; Mrs. Janet Erb, Lethbridge, AB, secretary-treasurer. Former officers were Mrs. Sharon Mayforth, Edmonton, AB, president; Mrs. Roselyn Wolff, Bismarck, ND, vice president, and Mrs. Alice Johnson, Herreid, SD, secretary-treasurer.

Mrs. and Mrs. William Sunderlin of George, IA, became administrators of Crystal Springs Baptist Camp, Medina, ND, Nov. 1, 1981.

Chaplain (CPT) Helmut Michelson received the Meritorious Service Medal from the U.S. Army for his work as chaplain in Germany from 1978-81.

The Rev. Art Pearce began as executive director of Central Baptist Camp, Lansing, IA, effective Nov. 15, 1981. He formerly was youth pastor at Moody Memorial Church and prior to that, at Immanuel Baptist Church, Kankakee, IL.

The Rev. Siegfried Koslowski became the pastor of Thornhill Baptist Church, Calgary, AB, in October 1981. He previously was pastor of Parkdale Baptist Church, Drumheller, AB.

Mr. William Gloer became assistant professor of New Testament at N.A.B. Seminary, Sioux Falls, SD, effective Sept. 1, 1981.

Dr. Frank Veninga, former president of North American Baptist Seminary, Sioux Falls, SD, has been named by the Board of Trustees to begin a one-year term as interim president on Sept. 1, 1981.

RESOLUTIONS FOR TRIENNIAL CONFERENCE

Resolutions for consideration at the 1981 N.A.B. Triennial Conference are to be submitted to the chairman of the Resolutions Committee, the Rev. M. D. Wolff, 1505 Ave. E. East, Bismarck, ND 58501, not later than January 31, 1982.



PLAN NOW TO ATTEND THE 1982 N.A.B. TRIENNIAL CONFERENCE

NIAGARA FALLS, NEW YORK AUGUST 10-15, 1982

Dickerson to Speak at Conference

Dr. Herbert Dickerson, associate professor of Homiletics at our North American Baptist Seminary, Sioux Falls, SD, will be the main speaker on Thursday evening when the 1982 Triennial Conference meets in the Convention Center in Niagara Falls.

Dr. Dickerson has pastored churches in Texas and was a Teaching Fellow in Preaching at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary in Dallas, TX, where he received his Ph.D. degree. He is known for his ability to combine theological scholarship with practical application. His wife Vicki and he have three sons.

Plan now to join the family of God at Niagara Falls.

Donald N. Miller

Dr. Donald N. Miller Vice Moderator North American Baptist Conference



# Viewpoint

## Check Tax Savings Opportunities Now!

by James D. Frey

I am convinced that a *primary motive* for your giving is a deep, sincere love for a cause. But you should also examine the most advantageous ways to carry out your intentions. Whether you live in Canada or the U.S.A., you should be aware of the tax implications of how, when and what you give.

Earlier this year in the United States, President Reagan passed the

James D. Frey, associate director for estate planning, N.A.B. Conference.

Economic Recovery Tax Act\*. The impact of this act will be far-reaching. You, as a wise steward of God's resources, should be aware of income tax planning that you can take advantage of before the end of 1981.

The most immediate impact of the Act is the *decrease* in individual income tax rates. The response of most people is to shout, "Hallelujah!" Upon deeper analysis, one can see financial planning opportunities, that if not exercised in 1981, will be lost.

Since most U.S. citizens will be in a lower income tax bracket next year, it would be advantageous to defer income into 1982 and to take advantage of as many tax deductions as possible this year. Some people have little control over the timing of their earned income. But if your company provides a Christmas bonus, you can ask if it is possible to receive the bonus in January 1982. If you happen to be a professional or business person on a cash accounting method, send out your bills for services rendered (and not yet billed) at the end of this year or in 1982. This way, you will not receive payments until next year.

How About Deductions in 1981? If

state or local government allows you to prepay 1982 taxes in 1981, then you might want to do so. If you need elective medical treatment, then it may be to your tax advantage to have it done this year. An accountant's advice in these matters will be helpful.

You can control the amount and timing of your charitable gifts more than any other deduction. Because of your higher tax rate this year, your contribution will produce a higher deduction now, assuming you itemize your deductions.

Therefore, if you *are* motivated to support a cause, such as the missionary and ministry of the North American Baptist Conference, then you should also consider the tax implications of how and when to give. In Matthew 10:16, it says that we are to be as "wise as serpents and harmless as doves." It is our responsibility, as Christians, to take a moment to analyze the effect of our action.

*\*As of this writing, the Canadian budget (11/11/81) had not yet been published by Parliament. Canadians should consult an accountant for tax advice.*

## Ganstrom Appointed Interim Church Extension Director

by the General Council upon recommendation of the Church Extension Board and the Executive Committee.

Dr. Ganstrom brings to this position a wide range of experience and excellent qualifications. "Verna and I are excited about this new challenge," states Ganstrom. His enthusiasm for church extension arises from having planted two church extension projects recently. These are Cascade Park Baptist Church, Vancouver, WA, since December 1980, and Century Baptist Church, Bismarck, ND, from 1977 to 1980.

Prior to this, Ganstrom served as pastor of Riviera Baptist Church, Salem, OR, 1969-77; Bethel Baptist Church, Anaheim, CA, 1966-69; Calvary Baptist Church, Tacoma, WA, 1962-66, and Riverview Baptist Church, West St. Paul, MN, 1955-62. From 1942-44 he and his wife Verna

served as N.A.B. missionaries to Cameroon, West Africa.

Dr. Ganstrom received his education from Bethel College, 1938-39; Ottawa University, Kansas, 1939-42; Bethel Seminary, 1942-45, and University of London, England, 1951. He was ordained June 29, 1945, by First Baptist Church, Emery, SD.

### WILHELM SPLITTER'S FAMILY HISTORY

by

Ruth Kaaz Tichenor

(60 year member of

Bible Baptist Church)

La Crosse, Wisconsin

\$25 plus postage and handling

Mail to: Ruth M. Tichenor  
723 S. 7th Street,  
La Crosse, Wisconsin 54601



Rev. and Mrs. Donald Ganstrom

The Rev. Donald Ganstrom, D.D., has accepted a one-year appointment as interim director of church extension for the North American Baptist Conference effective Dec. 15, 1981. Ganstrom's appointment was made

# YOUR GREATEST GIFT WAS FREE... BUT SHARING IT COSTS MONEY!

The greatest gift you will ever receive—the saving Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ—was free. It didn't cost you a cent. To even attempt to give it monetary value would be futile. The real value and power of the gospel is realized when it reaches out to touch the hearts and lives of others. This happens in many ways, all of which require the prayers and financial support of dedicated Christians. Right now, during the Christmas holidays, as you remember God's great gift, is the time for you to commit a special offering to help the home and overseas ministries of the North American Baptist Conference. Offerings may be given through your local church or directly to the Conference. Share your gift—remember your joy when it was received—contribute so that others may share His Love. It is your privilege as one who knows him.

**YES, I WANT TO CONTRIBUTE to the budget goal of the North American Baptist Conference so that others may experience God's love.**

☐ Enclosed is my gift for \$\_\_\_\_\_ ☐ I will pray for the mission and ministries of the Conference.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

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Church \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Please send me more information about the N.A.B. missions and ministries.

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*The members of the Estate Planning Ministry extend to you a sincere wish for a Holy and Blessed Christmas.*

*It has been our privilege to help so many of our N.A.B. brothers and sisters with regard to the preparation of wills, trusts and annuity programs as a part of their estate planning.*

*Our wish is that we can be of service to many more in the New Year to come.*

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Beaverton, OR 97006*

*Rev. Alfred Weisser  
4517 S. Louise Ave.  
Sioux Falls, SD 57106*

*Rev. Wil Dachtler  
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Abilene, KS 67410*

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