

Baptist Herald

September 1981



Warning! May Be Harmful to Your Family's Health!

by Jim Frey

Have you ever taken notice of the great preponderance of warning notices that seem to be everywhere? I'm sure you have. Most of them are very helpful indeed. There is no telling just how many people have been led to better health when warned that cigarette smoking is dangerous to your health (in Canada the warning is a little tamer, "danger to health increases with amount smoked-avoid inhaling"). Just about every medicine you can buy will have some warning to keep it out of the reach of children. Many products we use around the house for cleaning, polishing, painting or what have you, usually warn against having the contents inhaled or come in contact with your eyes or skin. How about the warning of "bridge out" or "blasting ahead" or "tornado." These are, in many cases, life-saving warnings.

Our Lord only knows the number of warnings we have heard in recent years about how this and that *may* cause cancer. You can probably think of many more that I have missed, but the overriding theme of most of these warnings is the protection against physical harm. Certainly, there is nothing wrong with these warnings. Manufacturers do not want someone to become sick or die because of the possible misuse of one of their products. Governments tend to be protective towards people whom they serve. People, in general, do not want to get

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hurt or sick. So, it is quite natural to have all the warning labels and signs we see.

However, there is one warning sign I have yet to see: A warning to protect the financial health of the family unit. A warning that should be in the wallet and purse of every Canadian and United States citizen. For a moment, stop reading this article and go to your wallet or purse and get out any credit card you may have. If you don't have one, then take this moment to praise the Lord that you don't. For those of you who do have one, look carefully on both sides. Do you see any warning? No, most credit cards I have seen do not have warnings on them, but they really should. The warning should read, "WARNING, MAY BE HARMFUL TO YOUR FAMILY'S HEALTH."

Now you and I both know that big retail companies and the various credit card companies aren't about to print up a new batch of plastic cards with this warning on them. If they are going to change anything on the card, it will be to let you think you aren't really "charging" anything. Master card used to be Master Charge. Visa (in Canada) used to be Chargex. Don't think for one moment that these changes did not have strong psychological implications.

Lest you misunderstand me, I am not totally against all credit cards for all people. If properly used, it can provide you with financial leverage. You can have the use of money for a period of time yet not have to pay for the use of it. However, if you use this tiny piece of plastic improperly, you end up paying through the nose. Once you get on the "revolving" merry-go-round, it's often difficult to get off.

"But," you say, "why such an ominous warning? Surely it can't be that bad!"

Unfortunately, for some families it is. The process is slow. It may take a number of years. Before you know it, they owe a couple of hundred here and a couple of hundred there; they are paying an annual percentage rate of 18% or more. A family living on credit cards could very easily be spending 20% to 25% more than a family in the same economic conditions, where credit cards are not used. Many credit card families spend annually more than they earn! This is the mystique of a credit card philosophy of economics.

A credit card is somewhat like the atom. When it is used in a controlled environment, it can be a useful tool, but uncontrolled it can wreak havoc. When asked what is one of the most prevalent causes of marital problems, many pastors and counselors will cite economic factors as the root cause and, believe me, this misuse of credit cards is the source of most economic problems.

As Christians, we should strive to be all that God would have us to be. A part of what our Creator would have us to be is a wise steward of our finances. Recognize that there is a wise method to using credit cards. If you are not able to exercise prudent usage, then perhaps you should prayerfully consider not using them at all. If you charge something and then pay it all when it appears on your next charge statement, you have used your credit card and money wisely.

Perhaps you would like to have a warning on your credit card(s). Like I said, I'm sure the company is not about to print this warning. Therefore, for any of you who would like a warning label to stick on your card, just drop a postcard to: James D. Frey, North American Baptist Conference, 1 So. 210 Summit Avenue, Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181, with your name and address and the words "Master the Charge," and we will forward this to you.

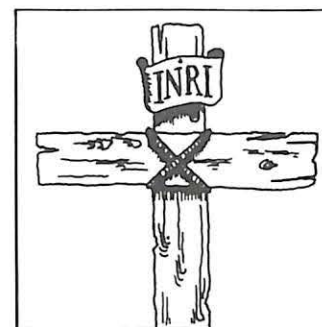
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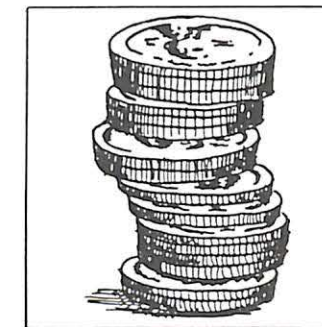
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Are You a Caring Christian? by Ron Mayforth

Several winters ago, a frozen body was discovered in a Ford parking lot near Detroit. The coroner estimated that it had been there for up to two weeks. The man had probably had a heart attack, slumped over, and died unattended. Had no one missed this poor soul, no one phoned the shop or police, no neighbor or friend investigated his absence or the deadness of his home? Didn't anyone care?

This past winter in Edmonton at 2 a.m., a young man was stabbed to death by a gang of six in front of his girlfriend and other bystanders. He was "guilty" of honking his horn at a reckless driver. Couldn't something have been done? Didn't anyone care enough to risk involvement? The answer is not easy.

While these are extreme cases, this question often fills the souls of many ordinary people and surfaces in one way or another. They echo the psalmist who cried out, "No one cares for my soul." In many cases,



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they may be right. In a world stuffed with affluence, positioning for power, straining for pleasure, indulging number one, robbed by inflation, and daily invaded by a panorama of tragedy (real or make believe), who has time, emotion, energy, money, courage, or will enough to care for much else besides one's own circle of relatives, Christian family, and/or friends?

Even the most nominal Christian knows that there is one who cares, Jesus, our great Caretaker. However, most people are like the little boy—"They want a God, a caretaker, with skin on." They want to see, hear, feel, experience, and receive—first-hand.

When I care about another person, I value that person enough to spend time with him, attempt to get to know him, to share my life and home with him, to tell him about my growing feelings toward him, and celebrate some of his significant moments.

Who like a Christian is better able to give them what they hope for and need? We are the objects of the deepest care. We are part of a caring community. We have the finest Model to emulate. We have clear instructions to obey. We have an internal resource enabling us to do the job adequately and joyfully. We should have motives which transcend the impure levels of manipulation, guilt trips, and dependencies. We should be quite aware of how much others have done for us. We should understand that many cannot care for themselves. We should also know firsthand that every person needs the care of others from time to time. We should be well aware that the world is beautiful where caring is present and barren where it is absent.

If your desire is to serve your Lord through being more of a caring person, I trust you will think with me about the description and development of the Caring Christian.

Who Is a Caring Christian?

How would you define or describe the term, "the caring person?" C. W. Brister in the book, *Take Care*, (Broadman, 1978) defines caring as "the fundamental capacity to cherish a person, family or group, idea, program, or cause to the degree that one acts willingly in the object's behalf." He also describes caring as the helpful response to humanity's hurt and search for wholeness. Milton Meyeroff in his book, *On Caring*, (Harper and Row, 1971) defines caring as "helping another person grow and actualize himself."

If one breaks these definitions down, they seem to imply at least two levels of caring—caring about and caring for. When I care about another person, I value him/her enough to spend time with him, attempt to get to know him, to share my life and home with him, to tell him about my growing feelings toward him, and celebrate some of his significant moments (birthday, anniversaries, promotion).

"Caring for" implies a deeper level or involvement and investment. Like a parent caring for his child, a nurse caring for her patient, or God caring for his people, the caring Christian is willing to invest his/her time, thought, money, emotion, possessions, skills, presence, practical assistance, and counsel in the survival, salvation, satisfaction, stretching, or success of another person. The final goal in caring for is to assist in making a disciple not a dependent. Are you caring about and for others?

What are the Qualities and Actions of a Caring Christian?

To be an effective caring Christian, a person must be maturing in the following characteristics: humility, honesty, empathy, patience, acceptance, availability, courage, commitment, openness, hope, self

worth, "otherness," gracious generosity, persistence, faith in God, and intentional involvement in the lives of others.

The caring Christian is known also for his/her loving actions: reflective listening, responsible counseling, sincere affirmation, joyful celebration, shared emotions, regular praying, practical assistance, patient instruction, warm hospitality, gentle mending, gracious forgiving, genuine befriending, humble warning, optimistic encouragement, shared experiences (recreational, cultural, travel) and skill training. These qualities and actions weave in and through the relationships of the Caring Christian. However, they are never present in perfection but in process.

How Can I Develop into a Caring Christian?

Some or all of the following ideas may be helpful in developing our caring intentions and actions.

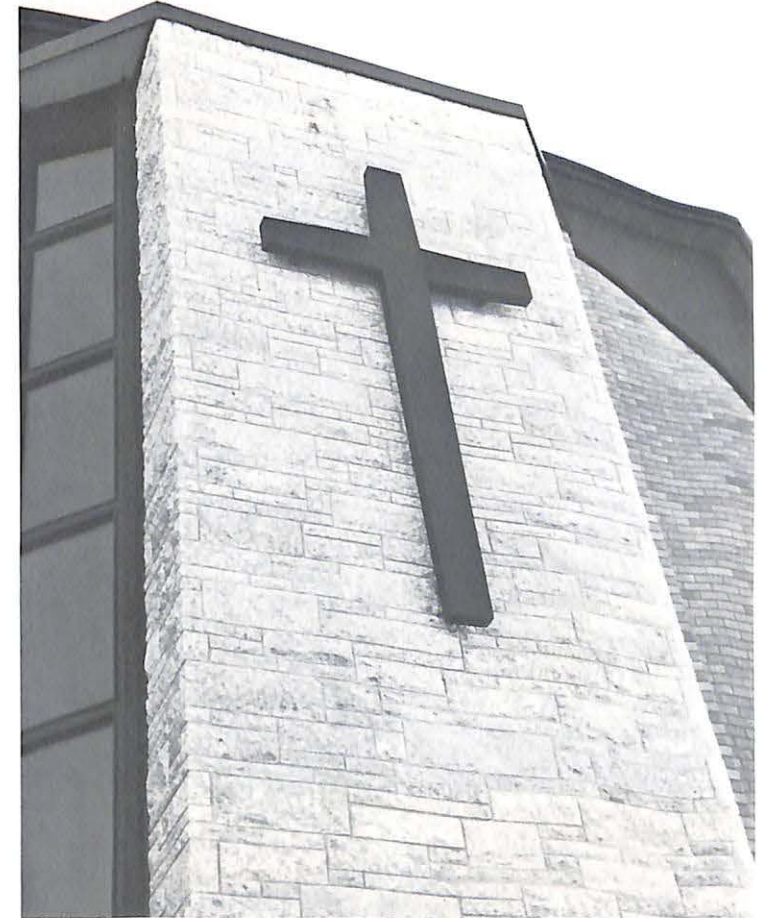
- (1) Saturate my heart with the life, teachings, and death of Jesus Christ.
- (2) Evaluate myself over against a checklist of qualities and ministries as listed above or in Bible portions like I Corinthians 13.
- (3) Ask a friend to evaluate my caring, give suggestions, pray with me about the matter, and check on my progress.
- (4) Study this area. Read books, listen to tapes, read biographies of caring persons, associate with other caring Christians, attend seminars. (I will be happy to share a bibliography with anyone who will write me.)
- (5) Begin now working on one area: Describe the need, set some measurable goals, develop some reasonable plans, set a deadline, and do it! It may be as simple as Charlie Shedd's principles for improving marital relationships: Tell your mate you love him/her every day, sincerely compliment him/her every day for at least one item, and do something nice for him/her every day.

- (6) Ask God for guidance, strength, love, pure motives, and the willingness to grow and change, and stick with it. Ask God for a large dose of Calvary love.

- (7) Often we learn a thing like caring best in experience. This happened to our family in a powerful way this past fall. We were in the midst of adjusting to a new home, hometown, country, jobs, acquaintances, and relationships. Since our home in Bismarck, ND, had not been sold, the pressure of keeping up two homes was added to the adjustments. We were waiting earnestly upon God. One morning I came to my office at N.A.B. College to find an envelope on the floor. The handwritten note stated in warm tones that my

wife and I were appreciated as professors and persons and that we were being upheld in regular prayer. Enclosed in the note were five-twenty dollar bills to be used as best as we saw fit. No name was signed. This caring act stunned me. I sat alone to think, weep, pray, and thank God for such thoughtful brothers and sisters. I had learned some deep lessons about caring which I had not known or felt by reading books. This has been repeated by other generous and gracious actions on many levels.

We live in such a "care full" world. Let us anew heed the directive of the post office: "Fragile—handle with care." I pray that this article will help to encourage your growth as a Caring Christian. □



Chapel, North American Baptist College and Divinity School, Edmonton, AB

Personal Qualities as an Emphasis in Pastoral Training

by Richard W. Paetzel

D Elton Trueblood, in his book, *The Incendiary Fellowship*, maintains that in the ideal sense all Christians are ministers. The development of lay ministries is in keeping with Jesus' statement that we are the salt of the earth. Trueblood, however, recognizes the need for pastoral leadership as being necessary and important in order for the church to be guided toward fulfilling its God-appointed mission.

Pastors are not necessarily wiser or better than other men, but they have been called of God, equipped with gifts for ministry and trained to draw out and direct the powers of other men.

For almost seven years, I have been charged with the responsibility of training pastors for ministries in our churches as I have served on the faculty of the North American Baptist College. As our school has now begun a graduate program for the training of church leaders, it is important that we assess the quality of education which is offered.

During the last several decades, new developments have taken place



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in theological education. Emphasis has been placed upon professional education for ministry with a concern for achieving a measure of competency in ministerial skills. Field education has also been introduced as a means for providing supervised practical training for those preparing for ministry.

"I would much rather work with a man who is qualified spiritually and psychologically than one who has lots of skill and is yet carnal."—Gene Getz

Most of these developments are good; however, there is a growing concern about the personal and spiritual development of our future pastors. Several questions are brought into focus as one concentrates upon the need for providing adequate pastoral leadership for our churches.

1. What are the personal qualities essential for ministering effectively?

2. How can these qualities be encouraged within the educational process of training pastors?

Identifying Personal Qualities for Ministry

A study of three passages of Scripture reveals the qualities which are desirable for those in leadership positions. These are found in I Timothy 3:1-17, Titus 1:7-9 and I Peter 5:1-4. A better understanding of the qualities set forth by Paul is given by J. Oswald Sanders in his book, *Spiritual Leadership*. Sanders lists the qualities under six categories. Each category reflects an area of life and character that should be developed.

The Christian leader should develop or possess: 1) Social qualifications - he is to be above

reproach; 2) Moral qualifications - one wife's husband, temperate; 3) Mental qualifications - prudent, respectable, able to teach; 4) Personal qualifications - not pugnacious, gentle, hospitable, not covetous; 5) Domestic qualifications - maintains dignity in the home; 6) Maturity qualifications - not a novice.

Each of these qualities could be carefully studied and practical applications made for their implementation in life and service for Christ. It is noted that each of these qualifications with the exception of the gift or ability to teach deals with the quality of the person rather than development of gifts for ministry.

Gene Getz in *Measure of a Man* summarizes the concern that many of us feel about persons preparing for ministerial service.

It is relatively easy to evaluate a person's fitness for ministry on the basis of academic criteria. Can he exegete the text? Can he prepare a good sermon? Can he preach and teach well? All of these, of course, are excellent goals, but not basic qualifications. I would much rather work with a man who is qualified spiritually and psychologically than one who has lots of skill and is yet carnal. A man who has the qualities set forth by the Apostle Paul can quickly develop the skills and use them for the glory of God (Getz, 1974:18).

Developing Personal Qualities for Ministry

Now that the personal qualities have been identified, the question to be asked is how can these qualities be developed and encouraged? Often our theological schools have placed a major portion of their emphasis upon academic achievement and practical experience in ministry. These are essential and important, but greater emphasis must be placed upon the person in his relationship to God, his family, the church, and fellow human beings. Personal qualities are both developed and assessed in the context of relationships.

The task is an enormous one, and the ideal is seldom achieved, but some things can be done to encourage the development of the personal and spiritual characteristics essential for ministering effectively. I would like to briefly suggest several.

The road to being a true servant of Jesus Christ "is not gained by seeking great things for ourselves, but rather, like Paul, by counting those things that are gain to us as loss to Christ."—S. Brengle

Reading of the Christian Classics

Assuming that one has already begun a pilgrimage with God through a personal relationship with Christ and has developed a reasonable devotional life of Scriptural study and prayer, the reading of Christian literature may be of help. The writing of St. Augustine, Thomas Aquinas, and Thomas à Kempis may help us identify with the spiritual struggles of others. Books by Andrew Murray such as *The Prayer Life* and the writing of A. J. Gordon can add depth to our experience with the Lord. A contemporary book which I found most helpful in my own spiritual pilgrimage is *Celebration of Discipline* by Richard Foster.

Building Personal Relationships

Each pastoral student at the North American Baptist College and Divinity School is assigned to a small group with faculty and other students. Opportunities for discussion, prayer, mutual sharing, and informal activities help one

develop in his understanding of self, honestly confronting personal problems, and finding the helpful support of other concerned Christians.

Field education opportunities also provide a means for developing a relationship with an experienced pastor. Personal insights are gained as the struggles, frustrations, and victories are shared.

Our personal development takes place in relationship with others.

Serving God's People

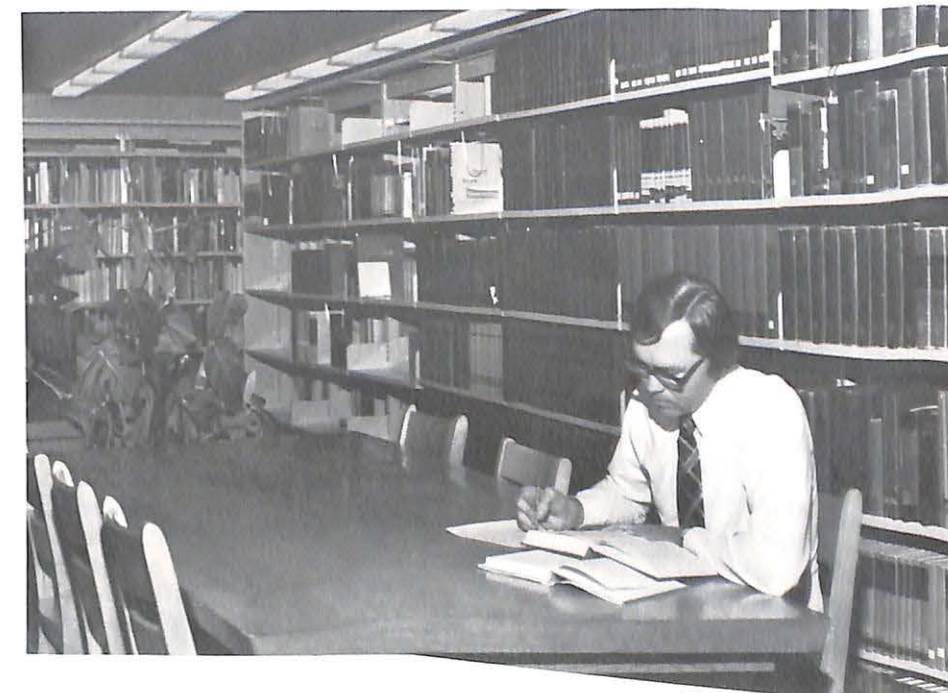
When a young ministerial student finds himself confronted by a troubled teenager seeking personal help and counsel, an awareness of human limitations and the dependence upon God's wisdom and power become evident. Involvement with God's people in the midst of their spiritual struggles and human problems drives one to seek a deeper relationship with God in order to be used to minister to others.

The need for our churches is leadership that is beyond mere professionalism, evidencing a life walk of spiritual depth. The

development and encouragement of these personal qualities is essential for the training of our pastors.

Samuel Brengle, a truly great leader of the Salvation Army, outlined the road necessary for those who would be true servants of Jesus Christ when he said:

It is not won by promotion, but by many prayers and tears. It is attained by confessions of sin and much heart-searching and humbling before God; by self-surrender, a courageous sacrifice of every idol, a bold, deathless, uncompromising and uncompPLAINING embracing of the cross, and by an eternal, unfaltering looking unto Jesus crucified. It is not gained by seeking great things for ourselves, but rather, like Paul, by counting those things that are gain to us as loss for Christ. That is a great price, but it must be unflinchingly paid by him who would be not merely a nominal but a real spiritual leader of men, a leader whose power is recognized and felt in heaven, on earth and in hell (Sanders, 1976:18). □



North American Baptist College and Divinity School's Impact on Parents and Youth

Many of the students at North American Baptist College and Divinity School in Edmonton, AB, are there because of the impact of the school on the lives of their parents. Alumni and students tell you why.

No Place I Wanted More To Be

by Tim Schroeder

"How could they say such things?" I secretly wondered as one by one my classmates shared his testimony in front of the flickering fireplace at North American Baptist College.

"Whoever thought I'd wind up at a Bible College?" said one girl from Eastern Canada.

A young man from the South was next to speak, and he said, "I didn't even know where this place was. Everyone back home, except my pastor, thinks I'm crazy for coming way up here!"

Their comments sounded foreign to me, as I sat and listened that opening night at College. For me the question was, "Whoever thought about not attending N.A.B.C.?" And as for my friend from the South, I couldn't even imagine anyone not knowing where the College was. N.A.B.C. was a place with which I had grown up. For as far back as I could remember, it had been a part of our family's life.

As I listened to the others speak about their fears and concerns about coming to the college, I thought of the hours I had spent as a youngster, with my dad at the old Christian Training Institute. Often I had gone with him and would play in the corner while he and the professor (just the two of them) would have class.

I thought about the times in Saskatchewan when our family would drive, sometimes till late at night, just so we could hear a program by the Choristers; I wanted to be just like them.

I thought about my older sisters

going off to College, and crying when they came home because they missed it so much. With all those thoughts pouring through my mind, I



realized that night in front of the fireplace that I couldn't stand and give a testimony about a deep struggle which resulted in my presence there. Because for me, thanks to the influence of my parents, there was no place I wanted more to be. □

P. Tim Schroeder, son of the Rev. and Mrs. Peter Schroeder, now missionaries in Nigeria, is a member of the first graduating class of the N. A. B. Divinity School, Edmonton, receiving his Master of Divinity degree May 1981. He is pastor of Greenfield Baptist Church, Edmonton. Tim's father was the first graduate of the pastoral division of N.A.B. College.

The Choice of a College

by Ruth Weiss

Some of the most joyous and memorable years of our youth were spent at the Christian Training Institute, now our North American Baptist College. It was a very natural and easy decision for us, as parents,

to encourage each of our three children to attend N.A.B. College since our own parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Weiss and Mr. and Mrs. Albert Unger, also made great efforts, even to the point of great personal sacrifices, to encourage each of their five children to attend Bible school.

The choice of a college for us and our children was not a difficult decision, since we had a very fine evangelical North American Baptist school with qualified and dedicated staff, who had often visited our churches. The testimony and enthusiasm of Gospel teams left a positive impression, as team members served in our church and were welcomed to our home.

When we questioned our children as to why they chose N.A.B. College, some of the statements they made were:

"I chose N.A.B.C. because Mom and Dad attended and thoroughly enjoyed it, and also because some of my friends recommended it."

"Being in a Christian environment after leaving home and the prospect of making life-long friendships



Ruth, Carolyn, Dan, Rod, and Harold Weiss

appealed to me."

"Our own N.A.B. College was my choice because my parents shared many blessed and exciting experiences while there, because they highly recommended it, and they helped us financially."

We are very thankful that our

children, Rod, Carolyn, and Dan, were anxious and glad to attend our N.A.B. College for at least one year. We believe each of us received excellent Christ- and Bible-centered instruction, wise counsel, and varied opportunities to develop our talents especially in the area of music, which our family has enjoyed through the years.

We prayerfully covet an experience at N.A.B. College for each young person. □

Ruth and Harold Weiss live in Spruce Grove, AB, where Harold is pastor of Parkland Baptist Church.

Two Generations at N.A.B.C.

by Jerilyn Bayer

It is said that children are great admirers and imitators of their parents. This may not be true of all children, but this has certainly been true of my life as I have been growing up.

As I observed my parents from day to day, I saw a calmness, dedication, and happiness about them. I soon realized that this was a result of their relationship with Christ. Wanting this for my life, a precious, personal relationship with Jesus Christ became mine also at a very early age.

Their lives were also characterized by great knowledge, understanding, and love for God's people and his Word. I soon became aware that much of this came from their years of study at the Christian Training Institute. There, besides meeting each other, they learned how to develop their talents, study their Bible and how to live with people. There they also met so many people who now are their dearest friends.

Being the admirer and imitator that I am, it was no surprise when I also went to North American Baptist College (formerly CTI), and like my parents, I was not disappointed. My four years at the College have been years of great growth, not only have I grown in the likeness of my parents but also, above all, in Christ's likeness. All along, the qualities I had seen in my parents and had wanted to imitate were qualities that Christ had developed in them. At N.A.B.C.



Jerilyn Bayer, Allan Effa, the Rev. and Mrs. Herman Effa

I also was able to learn how to let Christ develop many qualities within my life. Like my parents, there I also met my life partner, and together we are serving the Lord among his people.

I am very grateful to have been able to study at the same school my parents went to. I surely hope the school stays around for some 25 more years. Maybe then my children will have the privilege of learning so many of the same important lessons that my parents and I have been able to learn. □

Jerilyn Bayer is the daughter of the Rev. and Mrs. Herman Effa, graduates of North American Baptist College (C.T.I.) and pastor of Napier Parkview Baptist Church, Benton Harbor, MI. Her brother, Allan, is also a graduate of N.A.B. College, and is attending N.A.B. Seminary, Sioux Falls, SD.

A Sense of Belonging—Security, and Worldwide Ties

by Elmer and Ellen Breitreuz

When one has grown up in a very sheltered rural life-style, the prospects of facing the unknown future after one's high school education is completed can be quite awesome. That was our situation about 30 years ago. Numerous times during those growing-up years we had been inspired, challenged and blessed by the various Christian Training Institute musical groups and dramatic productions that we were able to witness. So it was a natural stepping stone to attend C.T.I. in order to become grounded in the Word of God and receive an

awareness of the opportunities for service as we sought God's will for our lives.

There, our love for music was nurtured and given opportunity for expression, as we were able to sing in "Choristers" and other groups. An interest and understanding in the missionary program of our North American Baptist Conference was developed, and friendship ties that now encompass the world were established. Now it is a delight to rekindle those friendships as we meet again in various places.

In the midst of a constantly changing and transient society, these ties bring a much needed sense of belonging and security. As our sons have attended North American Baptist College recently, it has been interesting to learn that many of their classmates are children of those with whom we attended C.T.I. We value and treasure the heritage which is ours as a result of having attended C.T.I. and for this reason desire the same for our children.



The Elmer Breitreuz family: Tim, Aaron, Bevin, Elmer, and Ellen

During the four years that Elmer was Alumni president, we received many insights into the struggles and growing pains of our alma mater. We thank God for the strength and stability of our faculty and staff who have endured the struggles and ever pressed on toward the goal of maturity for our college. It is a great place for young people to prepare for living; therefore, we will continue to maintain our interest and support for the honor and glory of God! □

Elmer and Ellen Breitreuz of Edmonton, AB, are graduates of the Christian Training Institute, the forerunner of North American Baptist College and Divinity School.

One Million, Four Hundred and Twenty-Seven Thousand, Nine Hundred and Three Dollars

by Harold Lang

What does that number mean anyway? With the Lord's help, it is the amount of money that will be raised and spent for the overseas mission work of the North American Baptist Conference in 1981. This includes our work in Brazil . . . Cameroon . . . Japan . . . and Nigeria. If you would add our home mission fields, the amount would be \$1,499,407. But let's stay with the overseas figure.

When that amount is raised, it will mean that, on the average, each of the 58,800 members of our 363 churches will have contributed more than \$24.00 for our overseas endeavors.

And that \$1,427,903.00 represents 40% of our entire Conference budget: more than our total Conference budget in 1969/70; over three times the overseas mission

budget of 1969/70, or double the overseas mission budget of 1975. We are thankful for the increased giving of North American Baptists through the years. But even this continual increase has not been able to keep pace with world-wide inflation and fluctuating currency values, so there are less North American Baptist missionaries on the field today than there were five or ten years ago.

But let's go back to that 1.4 million dollars. Where does all that money go? For what is it used? As contributors, you should be informed as to how it is spent. In order to get away from large figures, let us imagine that \$1,427,903 is one huge dollar and see how that dollar is divided.

Salary and Financial Benefits

Of that \$1.00, 50¢ is spent for salary and financial benefits for the missionary. Our Board of Missions realizes that missionaries should have a living wage.

1. Salaries are reviewed annually, compared with other, similar organizations, and up-dated.

2. Cost of living adjustments are made as our missionaries serve in

countries where the cost of living varies greatly from that of North America. So a missionary for North American Baptists in Japan does not earn the same amount of dollars as one serving in Cameroon or Brazil. This cost of living adjustment is based on tables prepared by an international financial data organization.

3. To provide assistance during retirement, 10% of the basic salary amount is added to it and set aside in a pension program.

4. Medical insurance is another aspect. Through mission self-coverage and participation in the Christian Medical Society Missionary Health Program, missionaries are covered both on the field and while they are home on furlough.

5. Further, the employer must pay a portion of the Social Security taxes in the United States and Canadian Pension Plan and Unemployment Insurance in Canada. Also, the mission reimburses missionaries for the taxes paid in foreign countries which are greater than what they would pay in North America.

6. Finally, there is cost of missionary children's education. Tuition and other assistance is given to missionary children in elementary and secondary schools on the foreign field. For those attending college or technical schools on the undergraduate level a grant of \$1,500 per year is provided.

Getting back to our dollar, I said that 50¢ of it was spent on missionary salaries and benefits. Let's see how this breaks down.

1. Basic Salary	30¢
2. Cost of Living Adjustment	10¢
3. Pension	3¢
4. Medical Insurance	2¢
5. Social Security, Canadian Pension Plan and Unemployment Insurance in Canada, and Tax Payments	2¢
6. Children's Education	3¢

Field Work Funds

That takes care of half a dollar. What about the rest? The next large slice cuts the 50 cents in two. It provides work funds for the missionary on the field. There is little value to having a person serving on the mission field if he has nothing to work with. Money is needed for evangelistic programs, Christian literature, various types of equipment, office help and expenses, and transportation.

Administrative Expenses

Now only a quarter is left. The scene shifts back to North America. There are administrative expenses involved in support of a mission work. There has to be a home base. About 12 cents of the mission dollar is spent in this way. This includes the salaries and expenses of missions personnel in the international office, the costs of promotional materials, expenses involved in the recruitment and processing of new missionaries, ministries to missionaries in service, and conducting the business aspects of the mission work.

Transportation and Equipment

Now our dollar is down to 13 cents. At this point two nickels will have to be taken out. One nickel

pays for equipping and sending out new and returning missionaries, as well as the transportation of those coming back to North America from the field.

Deputation

The second nickel also involves transportation, only of a different kind. It is missionary deputation. It is important for you and our missionaries to keep in personal contact. For this reason, missionaries on furlough travel many miles to churches, associations, camps, and other types of meetings to tell you how God is at work in the lives of people on the mission fields.

Currency Difference

That leaves only 3 cents remaining. That final amount is used up in what might be called "exchange differential." Contributions to our budget come in United States and Canadian currency. Both are called dollars and cents, but they do not have the same value. And since our budget is calculated in U.S. dollars, there has to be an adjustment for the giving of Canadian churches. And so the 3 cents is necessary to make up the difference in value of the two currencies.

It's all gone now. The dollar has been entirely used up. It has been used carefully and, we trust, wisely. It has been put into the Lord's work, the ongoing ministry of sharing God's Word around the world.

We are thankful that you can be a part of making up that dollar, representing over 1.4 million dollars. As you think of how it is used and

prayerfully consider your own part in contributing toward the budget goal, won't you think and pray again . . . and give even more.

YES, I WANT TO CONTRIBUTE to the budget goal of the North American Baptist Conference to help fulfill the commission of Christ.

☐ Enclosed in my gift for \$ _____

☐ I will pray regularly for the mission and ministries of the Conference.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State/Prov. _____ Zip _____

Church _____

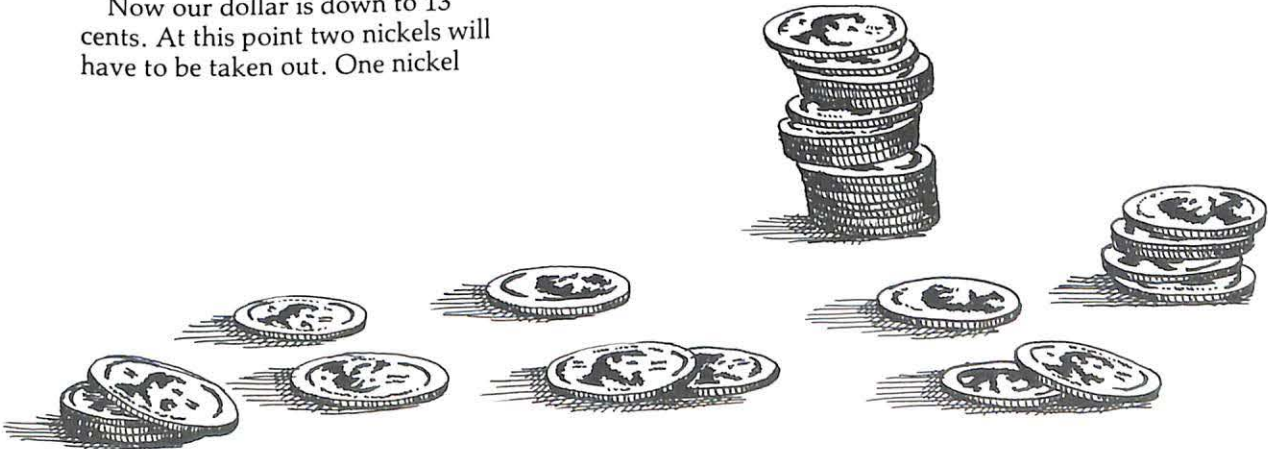
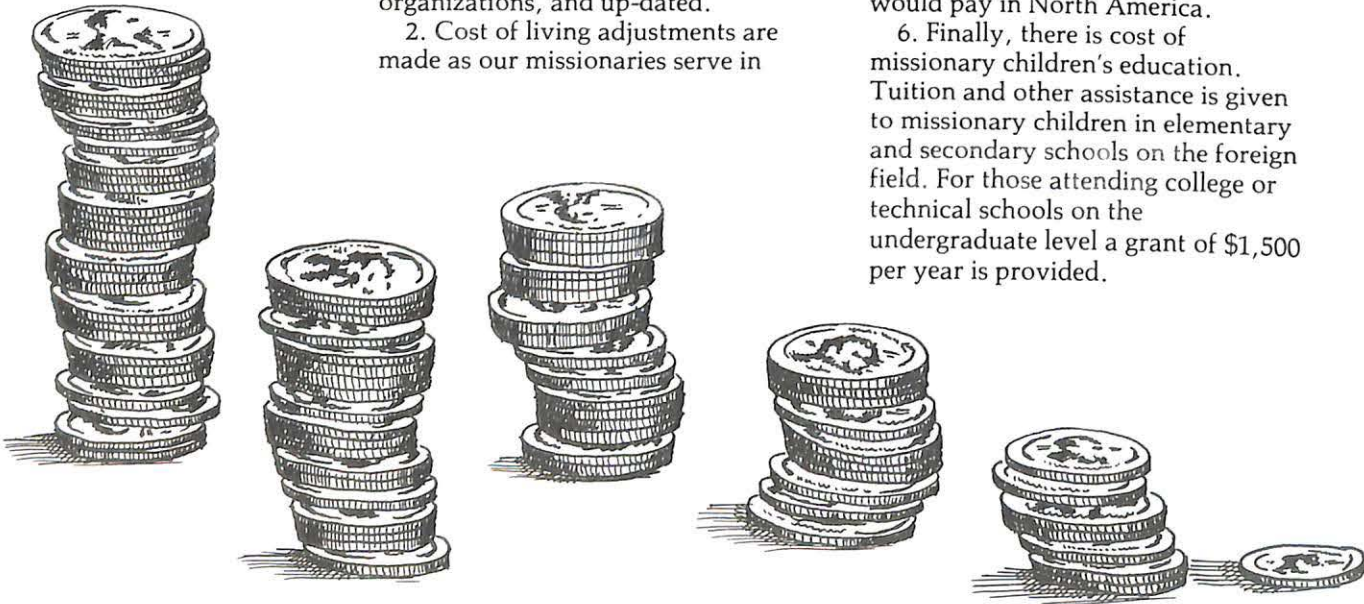
☐ Please send me more information about the N.A.B. missions and ministries.

All gifts are tax deductible.

Please make checks payable to North American Baptists, Inc., and send to:
North American Baptist Conference
1 So. 210 Summit Ave.
Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181

1981 bh

Harold Lang is associate director of missions for promotion and personnel.



Thomas á Kempis, *The Imitation of Christ*

by Dan Berger

It was one of those bitterly cold winter evenings in South Dakota when I began a new adventure with God. I left Glenda and my daughter Misty amidst the warm aroma of baking cookies and trudged through the driving snow to the library. I emerged from the heavy layers of winter wrappings and set myself to the task at hand—the mountain of assignments given during my last semester at North American Baptist Seminary.

I settled into a comfortable chair in my favorite corner of the library to begin a dreary assignment for Christian Heritage class: to read the medieval devotional by Thomas á Kempis, *The Imitation of Christ*. It was a short paperback book which I hoped to finish reading in a few hours.

As I began to read, I was immediately pulled out of the drudgery of homework into the realm of the Spirit. On the very first page, the author confessed, "I would rather feel contrition than know the definition thereof." I had begun to read the book merely to dispense of a tedious duty and possibly to gain some knowledge of mystic tendencies in the 1400s, but I continued to read yearning for this feeling and experience of contrition.

I came to know and feel the passions of this rough Augustinian monk who walked with God. For 71 years, Thomas á Kempis enjoyed the rigors of the monastic discipline in a remote abbey near Zwolle, Holland. There he spent most of his time meditating on God and doing his work. The book is an inspiring collection of his devotional writings which was published posthumously, 15 years later. During the past 500

Dan Berger is a 1981 graduate of the North American Baptist Seminary, Sioux Falls, SD, and is pastor of First Baptist Church, Fessenden, ND.

years, it has been cited as "the most widely read book of Christian devotions in the world."

Each section compelled me to consider a different area of my walk with God. The first section, "Admonitions Useful for a Spiritual Life," strengthened and exercised my spirituality by setting me free from the entanglements of this world. In the "Admonitions Pertaining to Inward Things," Thomas encouraged me to build my soul and to lead myself into a closer communication with God. My peace with God was expanded and deepened through contemplating the truths of the "Internal Consolation." "A Devout Exhortation to the Holy Communion" urged me to carefully consider my experience of the Lord's Supper and how that event symbolizes and edifies my changed life.

Sheltered from the cold February night, I spent two-and-a-half hours in meditation on what á Kempis had written so long ago. During this time, I had only finished reading the first 35 pages of the book. His pleasing, practical style of writing was captivating and pushed me to consider the mystery of my relationship with God.

Thomas' strong desire to serve and imitate Christ is the central and controlling theme of the book. He expounds Scripture, confesses concerns, offers prayers, proclaims doxologies, utters admonitions, delivers prophecies, quotes proverbs, interjects pithy sayings, fashions poems, enunciates sermons, postulates theorems and expresses exhortations to believers to become more like Christ. He uses every means possible to illustrate the wonder of this task and to prod one into the mystery of imitating Christ.

It is now summer, and I am again sitting in my favorite corner of the library. The snow and cold are only memories. Life is rekindled in all of nature. The willow's long hair is being gently caressed by the breeze

while stout robins hop about under her locks searching for left-over seeds. Over the past few months, I have read and meditated on the life-style of imitating Christ. It is the life which Paul strove for above all else (Phil. 3), which Peter sought in sharing God's nature (II Peter 1) and John summarized as the life of love (I John 3). My faith and life have been built up in communion with God, as I become more like him, as I am transformed into his image.

Thomas á Kempis' maxims come to mind, as I go about my daily routines. "It is harder toil to resist vices and passions than to sweat in bodily labors. He who avoids not small faults, little by little falls into greater. You will always rejoice in the evening if you spend the day profitably."

Truly unspeakable is the sweetness of contemplating God. I have experienced, as Thomas did, that where "Heavenly grace enters in and true love, there will be no envy or narrowness of heart, neither will self-love have place. For divine love overcomes all things, and enlarges all the powers of the soul." My prayer has become that of Thomas, "Bless and sanctify my soul with Thy heavenly blessing, that it may become Thy holy habitation, and the seat of Thine eternal glory; and let nothing be found in this temple of Thy dignity which shall offend the eyes of Thy majesty."

Allow your heart, your life, to be conformed into the shape of God's being. As Thomas said, "We must diligently search and set in order both the outward and inner man because both of them are of importance to our progress in godliness." Spurn the things of this world and desire to enjoy God in the fullness of his divine love.

General Council Conducts Conference Business

From a variety of vocations, from diverse parts of the United States and Canada, came pastors and laymen—representing their respective N.A.B. Associations—to conduct the business of the North American Baptist Conference, June 18-20, 1981, in Chicago, IL. This group of about 80 people conducts the business annually between sessions of the Triennial Conference at which time delegates from local N.A.B. churches conduct the business.

Dr. Don Miller, vice moderator:

"The Long-Range Plan is a tool to do our job more effectively and easily—it's a road over which we are going to travel, and the document is a servant to the will of the Lord and the mission of our Conference. We need to see it in that way. The work which has been done by the Long-Range Planning Committee has been prompted by a Conference mandate coming out of the 1979 Triennial Conference in Bismarck. Even more than the Conference mandate, we have been prompted by the Holy Spirit to develop this plan."

Distinguishing marks of this Council session were intelligent discussions, unity of purpose, and a positive spirit.

Some of the decisions made were as follows:

Missions

Physical Therapist

Approved funding support for a physical therapist in 1982 (replacement for Pat Lenz, while she is on furlough) at Mbingo Baptist Hospital, Cameroon, in the amount of \$11,000 from undesignated contributions to the relief fund.

W.M.F. Scholarships

Approved requesting the Women's Missionary Fellowship to allocate \$25,000 of their 75th anniversary gift to missions as a scholarship endowment fund for overseas students.

Dr. John Binder, executive director:

"The North American Baptist Conference is growing: six new churches were added in 1980 totalling 363. There were 2,306 baptisms in 1980—an increase of 337. Total membership in the N.A.B. Conference increased by 955 or two percent making a total of 58,800. This shows the most growth and most number of baptisms in one year during the past ten years."

It was reported that total giving toward Conference missions and ministries has risen from \$1,631,979 in 1972 to \$4,165,539 in 1980. This includes the basic budget of the Conference, special projects, and bequest income.

Dr. Binder also reported that 34 churches are without a pastor at the present time. "Pray that more will respond to the call of God and prepare themselves at our schools for ministry in our churches and other areas of need."

Herrmann on Board of Missions

Approved the appointment of the Rev. Rubin Herrmann of West Lenexa, KS, to fill the unexpired term of the Rev. Manuel Wolff on the Board of Missions. Rev. Wolff has moved from the South Central Area to North Dakota.

Finance Committee

1982 Budget

Approved a basic budget of \$4,000,000 for N.A.B. missions and ministries for 1982. This includes \$1,557,035 for Missions, \$592,314 for Church Extension, \$255,492 for Church Ministries, \$279,360 for N.A.B. College and Divinity School, \$362,780 for N.A.B. Seminary, \$274,129 for Stewardship and Communications Department, \$189,765 General Council, \$252,156 for Area Ministers, \$62,041 for Pension and Retirement Assistance, \$74,928 for Contingencies and \$100,000 for Challenge Fund (budget deficit).

It is to be noted that budgeting for the associate director of development, the associate executive

Rev. Fred Folkerts, missions director:

"Your missionaries express their gratitude for your support of your mission work."

"We have been frustrated by rampant inflation. . . . It's been necessary for us to evaluate the high cost of goods, services, and personal ministries. . . . We're alarmed at the fact that the world population is becoming greater all the time. We, as Christians, are not keeping pace with that growth."

As a Department of Missions, we are seeking to take counter action . . . :

1) involving more lay people in Laymen-in-Action projects; 2) trying to be as cost effective as possible—keeping those missionaries who are in service as productive as possible through further training and through goal setting, and 3) concentrating on Great Commission missions and not watering down our efforts with extraneous services and programs . . . New Testament evangelism—to reach unreached in the world."

Rev. Connie Salios, development director:

"There was an increase in total N.A.B. Conference giving of \$3,567,039 in 1980 over 1979. N.A.B.s increased their giving for all purposes 14 percent last year. They gave \$28,814,217 for local church, N.A.B. Conference, Conference special funds, N.A.B. Seminary and N.A.B. College and Divinity School, N.A.B. Association ministries and non-N.A.B. purposes.

"The average giving per member per year is \$490, an increase of 12 percent over last year.

"Totals received through special offerings in 1980 were \$237,104 for Laura Reddig Easter Missions Offering; \$284,874 for Celebration of Gratitude Offering; \$11,096 for Vacation Bible School offering; \$10,945 for Church Extension Offering.

"Seventy percent of N.A.B.s still have not made a will. If all N.A.B. families tithed their estates, funds would be available for all mission work.

Our estate planners provide a service to N.A.B. people to encourage and motivate them to remember family, church, association, and N.A.B. Conference in their wills."

Salios also reported that he is looking for 100 people who will give \$5,000 each to liquidate the N.A.B. Conference debt by December 1981.



director/area ministries director, and the church extension/church growth director included in the above budget may not be spent until approval is granted by the Executive Committee which will review finances in early 1982.

Special Projects

Approved a total special projects budget of \$469,450 for 1982. This is over and above the 1982 N.A.B. Conference Mission and Ministries basic budget of \$4,000,000. It includes \$235,750 for special

Rev. Ray Harsch, evangelism director:

"The future looks good; much more could be done to help the churches to evangelize communities, to build our Sunday schools, and to be obedient to the Great Commission. The challenge before us can even be better when we realize where the areas of concern are."

Harsch revealed the following statistics to Council members. In 1980, 13 associations showed growth; eight decreased in membership. 5,260 persons joined N.A.B. churches in 1980, of these 2,326 came by baptism. 43 percent of the churches grew; 10.5 percent showed no change in membership.

Sunday school attendance increased 10.7 percent. Ninety-two percent of the churches that both "New Day" teams visited reported growth.



mission projects, \$30,000 for missionaries to replace the Rev. and Mrs. Kenneth Goodman for Nigeria, \$55,000 for Church Extension Building, \$88,500 for Association Funding for Area Ministers, \$45,000 for World Relief, \$2,500 for Bible distribution, and \$10,500 for Baptist World Alliance.

Budget Funding for Salary Increases

Approve the recommendation that the 1982 budget contain a provision for salary increases equal to 10 percent gross salaries or \$97,267 with a five job class

Milton Hildebrandt, treasurer:

"1980 was a year in which a ninth inning rally really saved the day for us. I don't remember whenever we wound up the end of the year quite as well as we did. But last December we received well over one million dollars just for the N.A.B. basic budget, and we attained our budget. We did better than we did in 1979, but not by much."

Hildebrandt reported that since the Triennial Conference in Bismarck in 1979, the N.A.B. Conference deficit has been cut 53 percent.



scale in place of the current eight job class.

Approval of Estate Planning Budget
Approved the 1982 budget of

\$149,995 for the Estate Planning Division of the Development Department. This includes one part-time counselor being employed on a full-time basis as soon as possible within the budget in 1982.

Capital Funds Campaign

Adopted the Capital Funds Campaign proposal to raise capital funds for the Conference and the associations. Final plans

Al Keller, welcomed as new data processing manager:

"I feel that the Lord has, for the last 26 years (while working at Blue Cross and Blue Shield), been preparing me to be here. Someone said, 'You are sharpening your tools, you are not wasting time. When you are getting ready to do what God really wants you to do, you are not wasting time.'

"I have not wasted 26 years. I am exactly where the Lord wants me to be. I hope all of you are."

will come back to the General Council for approval in 1982. If the campaign is approved at the Triennial Conference in 1982, it will be launched in the churches in January 1983.

Finance and Stewardship Committee Title Changed

Approved the change of the title of the Finance and Stewardship Committee to Finance Committee.

Organizational Structure

Approved the proposed new N.A.B. organizational structure to be effective July 1, 1981, which includes five departments: Missions, Church Extension/Church Growth, Area Ministries, Development, and Financial Services. Some of the changes such as the Church Extension/Church Growth Department will not be fully implemented until the constitutional changes are acted on at the 1982 Triennial Conference.

New Position Established

The position of associate executive director/area ministries director

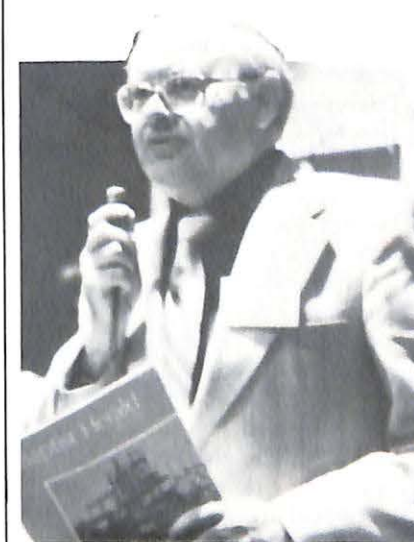
was created to relieve the executive secretary and the stewardship and communications secretary of a number of functions in addition to supervising the area ministers (formerly called area secretaries). It is envisioned that the area ministries director will also assume some functions previously handled by the Church Ministries Department, which does not appear in the new structure. The area ministries director would identify resource persons with expertise in church educational functions and make them available as resource persons and workshop leaders to churches as needed and requested.

Rev. John Ziegler, church extension director:

"The Associations that have made the greatest commitment to church planting are the fastest growing Associations.

"The story of Church Extension is the story of growth of North American Baptists. This year is no exception. As you look at the June issue of the *Baptist Herald*, it gives you a dynamic story of the events of church extension in the present . . . story of the power of God unto salvation . . . Praise God for this.

"In 1981 we expect to start seven new churches—four in Alberta, one in Michigan, one in Florida and one in California."



Potratz Appointed

Approved the appointment of Willis Potratz as associate executive director/area ministries director, effective July 1, 1981, for a three-year term. He will continue to serve the Great Lakes Area as area minister and only assume partial responsibility in the new position until such time as future budgetary considerations permit his replacement as area minister.

Development Department

Approved the name of the Stewardship and Communications Department change to Development Department.

Approved Mrs. Dorothy Ganoung's transfer from the Church Ministries Department to the Development Department to the position of assistant director of communications effective July 1, 1981. At this time she also assumes the responsibility of editing *Moments with God*.

Financial Services

Approved the creation of a Financial Services Department which combines the loan operations, accounting operations, and business operations, which were previously three separate departments.

Mayforth Appointed

Approved the appointment of Robert Mayforth as director of the new department called financial services, effective July 1, 1981, for a three-year term. Mr. Mayforth has been the comptroller at the N.A.B. Office.

Church Extension/Church Growth Department

A Home Missions Department was proposed to include church extension, urban ministries, evangelism, home mission fields, youth work, "New Day" and the Women's Missionary Fellowship. After considerable discussion initiated by the Atlantic and Alberta representatives, the proposed name was changed to Church Extension/Church Growth Department. Home missions and urban ministries will be a part of this new department.

Change of Titles

Approved changing all position titles in accordance with the new organizational structure proposal

Dr. Joe Sonnenberg, interim president, N.A.B. College/Divinity School

"We have 276 full-time students and 76 part-time students which gives 300 plus at North American Baptist College and Divinity School.

"There is a change of attitude on the part of young people. Ten or 11 years ago, a lot of young people were interested in doing their own thing. The shift has been to try to help other people—away from self to others. That is a more Christian approach to life.

"This year we are booked beyond capacity on campus. We will find lodging for students off campus.

The Master of Divinity program got off to a good start, and it looks like there will be 100 percent increase for 1981-82.

We are able to give a student board, room, and tuition for \$3,700 a year . . . and that is in Canadian dollars.

"Eighty-seven percent of our students at the College come from North American Baptist churches. Frankly, where do you find a better investment than that?"



with the exception of the Church Extension/Church Growth Department. The departmental name and position title cannot be fully implemented until they have been acted on by the Triennial Conference. Primarily, it is

changing the term "secretary" to "director" in the various position titles.

Election of Boards at Triennial Conference

Approved the recommendation that the Missions Department, the Church Extension/Church Growth Department, the North American Baptist Seminary and the North American Baptist College and Divinity School, continue to have boards elected at the Triennial Conference and that the other departments function with committees appointed by the General Council.

Appointment of Department Heads and Other Executive Staff

Agreed that General Council continue to act on the appointment of department heads, and the Executive Committee or the respective boards be authorized to appoint all other executive staff for three-year terms.

It was reported that some Council members are not familiar with the requirements of positions and with the individuals and, therefore, have expressed the feeling that they cannot vote intelligently on appointments of staff members. The area ministers would still be nominated by the respective area search committees and approved by the Executive Committee.

Elected and Appointed Department Head Positions

Approved the Executive Committee recommendation that only two department head positions be elected at the Triennial Conference: mission director and church extension/church growth director, and that the other department heads—associate executive director/area ministries director, development director, and financial services director—be appointed for three-year terms by the General Council.

N.A.B. Seminary

Three-year Fiscal Arrangement

Approved extending the three-year fiscal arrangement between the General Council and the N.A.B. Seminary for an additional three years. Basically,

Dr. David Draewell, past president, N.A.B. Seminary:

"I am grateful to God for the opportunity that I have had over the past decade of sharing with many of the rest of you in some historic discussions, debates, and decisions that have greatly advanced the cause of Christ through our North American Baptist Conference.

"Forty-one received diplomas at the N.A.B. Seminary Commencement exercises in May. Record enrollment at the Seminary in 1980-81 was 100 full-time students and 160 part-time students. We're grateful to God for that.

"More N.A.B. Seminary students were placed in Alberta this year than any other state or province."



this continues to give the N.A.B. Seminary and the N.A.B. College and Divinity School the opportunity of determining their own operating budgets, plus the responsibility of raising funds in the amount of their budgets beyond the subsidy provided in the Conference budget. Any staff or program expansion beyond that necessary to carry on presently approved programs must have prior General Council approval.

Conference Archives

Approved appropriating \$4,200 for service related to the

Conference Archives located at the North American Baptist Seminary, Sioux Falls, SD.

Date of 1982 General Council Meeting

Approved June 10-12, 1982, as the dates of the next General Council annual meeting.

Appointment of 1982 Triennial Conference Committee

Resolutions Committee

Appointed the following persons as members of the 1982 Triennial Conference Resolutions Committee: Rev. Manuel Wolff,

chairman, Rev. Larry Neufeld, Mr. Donald Roller, Mr. Al Peter, Rev. Bill Taft, Rev. Dennis Kee, Dr. Peter Fehr, conference moderator, and Dr. John Binder, executive director.

The Resolutions Committee will receive input from churches and individuals. These resolutions will then be presented to the General Council and Triennial Conference in 1982.



Dr. Peter Fehr, Conference moderator, ably led the meetings.

Nominating Committee

Appointed the following persons as members of the 1982 Triennial Conference Nominating Committee: Rev. Ernie Rogalski, chairman, Rev. Eldon Schroeder, Mr. Carl Lang, Mrs. Frances Faust, Rev. Mervin Kramer, and Mr. Sidney Morrison. Four representatives will be nominated by the departments of missions, church extension, N.A.B. Seminary and N.A.B. College and Divinity School, Dr. Peter Fehr, Conference moderator, and Dr. John Binder, executive director. □



Richard Russell, Finance Committee chairman: "The finances of the Conference are being handled with good stewardship."



Karl Bieber and Harold Johns discuss Niagara Falls and the 1982 Conference. Bernie Thole, Conference arrangements chairman, brought promotional brochures.



We have to get the issues ironed out during coffee break! Len Semrau (left to right), Sig Schuster and Ray Niederer.



On Thursday evening, the General Council members, in small groups, discussed the provisional Long-Range Plan that will continue to be developed during the next year and finally presented to the Triennial Conference in 1982.



The Alberta Association representatives are happy with their suggestion for change in the Conference structure reorganization—Bruce Merrifield, Al Unger, Ernie Radke.

Introducing New Day—1981-82 by Ray Harsch

"New Day" is well known in North American Baptist Conference circles for its distinct ministry. Its ministries are designed to assist the church to reach into the community to grow spiritually and numerically. The church is the focal point.

I am encouraged by the high caliber of young people who apply for this ministry each year. It says something of the commitment and genuine Christian spirit that is evident in the home and the church. With this kind of commitment, a positive impact is made on the community and the church.

Presently, this team is in training at the Central Baptist Camp of Lansing, Iowa. This is a time of intense training

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

in discipling ministries and music, preparing "New Day" members to be leaders and trainers. Pray for them during this time. Pray also that this will be another great year of outreach and growth for the churches in which they will have crusades.

To acquaint you with team members, a brief introductory sketch is provided.

Some 15 churches will be able to have both sections of the team for a 12 to 14 day period. Where both sections are present at the church, the discipling section arrives first and prepares the core of disciplers for the public meetings with the music section, who arrive a few days later. Usually the music section has public evangelistic concerts for five days and goes on to another church for a five to eight day crusade while the discipling section remains to continue training persons for another week.

God has used these teams to bring growth to the churches. Pray that this will be their greatest year ever. □

Music Section



Dan Heringer, director
Dan, a graduate of North American Baptist College, is beginning his second year as director of "New Day." Prior to this, he served as assistant pastor at the

Steele Heights Baptist Church, Edmonton, Alberta. Bismarck, North Dakota, is home for Dan, his wife, Geri, and three children: Danny (6), Donita (5), and Larisa (3). They are members of the Century Baptist Church in Bismarck. Dan's favorite activities are golf, raquetball, and woodworking.



Beth Wright, assistant to the director
This is Beth's second year of service in "New Day." This year she will assume the new position of assistant to the director. Beth

will be in charge of the music section this year; last year she was a member of the music section. Beth attended the University of North Dakota and N.A.B. College, majoring in music. She enjoys tennis, sewing, and playing the piano. Her home church is Grace Baptist, Grand Forks, ND.



Brenda Arndt
Brenda, a soprano, is serving her second year in the "New Day" music section. Before joining the team, she was a receptionist for Saskatchewan Municipal Hail

Insurance Company, Springside, SK. Brenda, a N.A.B. College graduate, is a member of Springside Baptist Church. She enjoys playing the piano and the flute, as well as sewing and skiing.



Dennis Harsch
Harvey, ND is home for Dennis, where he is a member of Bethel Baptist Church. Dennis, who attended N.A.B. College for two years, enjoys playing the trumpet and the

piano. He will sing bass in the music section.



John Kiemele
John will leave Ashley, North Dakota, to join the music section of "New Day." He is a member of Ashley Baptist Church, and was attending the University of North

Dakota before joining "New Day." John will sing bass on the music team. He has training to "sign" for the deaf, which offers the potential of ministry to the deaf this year.



Diane Loof
Diane, a member of First Baptist Church, Corona, SD, lives in Milbank, South Dakota. She will sing alto in the music section. Diane worked as a bookkeeper before

joining the "New Day" team.



Denny Ostercamp
Denny is serving his second year with "New Day." This year he will be the sound technician for the team; last year he was on the discipling team. Denny's home is Woden, Iowa. He is a member of the First Baptist Church, Buffalo Center, Iowa. He is a graduate of

Hawkeye Institute of Technology, and was employed as a TV serviceman before joining "New Day." He enjoys bowling and jogging in his free time.



Sandy Plitt
Sandy, who received a Diploma in Music from North American Baptist College in April, is from Millet, AB. She is a member of First Baptist Church, Leduc. Her hobbies

are playing the piano and singing. She will be singing alto in the music section.



Lori Stipanuk
Lori attends Immanuel Baptist Church in Kenosha, Wisconsin, where she lives. She attended Taylor University and graduated from St. Mary's Medical Center, Racine, WI, majoring in Radiological Technology.

Lori, a soprano, enjoys playing the piano and the flute.



Dwight Wahl
Aberdeen, South Dakota, is home for Dwight, where he is a member of Calvary Baptist Church. Before joining "New Day," he was a cook at Aberdeen Nursing Center. Dwight, a

tenor, enjoys playing the organ, clarinet, and piano.



Ed Weiss
Ed is a painter from Calgary, Alberta, where he is a member of Thornhill Baptist Church. He will sing tenor with the music section. Ed enjoys playing the saxophone.

Discipling Section



Linda Bahr
A 1981 graduate of N.A.B. College, Linda is from Terrace, British Columbia. She is a member of Zion Baptist Church in Terrace.



Becky Goltz
Becky is also a 1981 graduate of N.A.B. College. She is a member of Capilano Baptist Church in Edmonton, AB.



Glenda Hohn
Glenda's home church is Lakeview Heights Baptist Church, Kelowna, British Columbia. She is a graduate of N.A.B. College and worked as a radiology

receptionist before joining "New Day."



Harold Huber
Harold calls Calgary, Alberta, home, and is a member of Thornhill Baptist Church there. He graduated from Southern Alberta Institute of Technology.



Connie Kaiser
Olds, Alberta, is Connie's home, where she is a member of East Olds Baptist Church. She is a graduate of N.A.B. College and enjoys playing the piano.



Colin Reay Zoellner
Reay is from Kelowna, British Columbia, and worked in a men's wear store before joining "New Day." He is a member of Trinity Baptist Church, Kelowna.

Our Churches... Involved in Missions Today

In his book, *A Concise History of World Missions*, outlining the growth of Christian missions, J. Herbert Kane states: "Some timid souls are afraid that we are about to witness the demise of the missionary enterprise, but such is not the case. The Lord of the harvest has promised to be with his missionary servants to the end of the age (Matthew 28:20). . . . The world mission of the church will continue to the end of the age in spite of the vicissitudes of human history. Problems will doubtless increase; difficulties will abound; costs will soar, but the mission will go on. The mandate will never be rescinded nor will the mission be aborted: in his time the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord."

There seems to be a returning concern for missions in evangelical circles. More churches are realizing that they do not simply "support" missions; they are indeed involved in missions as a necessary part of the mission of the Church.

The following "interview" with people from several of our North American Baptist churches describes their commitment to missions, in this case, primarily cross-cultural missions. The participants are Mrs. Thelma Fischer, Temple Baptist Church, Lodi, CA; Mrs. Vi Tillemann, Temple Baptist Church, Medicine Hat, AB; Mrs. Dorothy Cummins, Ebenezer Baptist Church, Detroit, MI, and Pastor David Lake, Richmond Baptist Church, Winnipeg, MB. Of course, programs differ according to the size and location of each church, the resources available, and various other factors. But we hope these comments will give you some insight into the active missions involvement of some of our N.A.B. churches and possibly provide some ideas for your own missions

program.

Interviewer: *Who has the responsibility for promoting missions in your church?*

Dorothy: Primarily our missions board, but also the Women's Missionary Fellowship.

David: The W.M.F. and the pastor do most of the mission promotion.

Vi: We do not have a missions committee in our church, so most of the missions promotion comes through the W.M.F. missions chairman.

Up The Stairway

by Sara Pasiciel,
Steinbach,
Manitoba

Last week our eight-year-old son had an emergency appendectomy. Our first thought, of course, was "Lord, help him safely through the surgery." No surgery is "routine" for an eight-year-old!

My next thought was "Why now?" I was in the midst of planning for a women's retreat . . . was working to meet a *Baptist Herald* deadline . . . Stephen was just getting into the swing of his first season in organized softball.

But the Lord quickly reminded me that this was the right time after all. The week before, his dad had been out of town; four days later he and his dad would have been far up into northern Manitoba on a canoe trip, and so on, and so on—another reminder of God's perfect timing.

I've often mentioned to friends that one of the greatest privileges of growing older is being able to look back and see how God has worked in my life and that of our family. The problems and pains that at one time seemed so overwhelming now fit neatly into the pattern of develop-

Thelma: The mission board and the W.M.F. do an equal amount of promotion of missions.

Interviewer: *What do you see as the most effective method or means used to promote missions in your church?*

Thelma: We have a missions conference involving our N.A.B. Conference missionaries, and the mission board goes to much detail and work to involve all areas of the church. Activities include visiting the various Sunday school classes, coffee times

ment that has brought us to where we are now—not yet finished but continuing to work out God's design for us.

And this also makes it easier to accept what comes along, even an emergency appendectomy. I know that soon I'll be able to "look back" and see why God allowed this to happen at this particular time, to rejoice in his timing, to understand how he worked it out for good.

Paul says in Philippians 3, ". . . I am not saying this because I feel neglected, for I have learnt to be satisfied with what I have. I know what it is to be in need and what it is to have more than enough. I have learnt this secret, so that anywhere, at any time, I am content, whether I am full or hungry, whether I have too much or too little. I have the strength to face all conditions by the power that Christ gives me" (TEV).

So, I'm grateful for the way the Lord has brought Stephen safely through his surgery. But I'm also grateful for *when* it happened, for the way that even this experience has and will continue to contribute to the working out of our lives in his will . . . and for the reminder that we have the strength to face any condition or incident, great or small, by the power that Christ gives us. (Ed. Note: Our guest columnist is editor of "Woman's World" and a member of the national Women's Missionary Fellowship executive committee.)

during the day in homes, Monday night meetings with Sunday school classes in homes, a Tuesday night W.M.F. potluck with missionary speakers to which all people of the church are invited, a one-day sightseeing tour for participating missionaries. A closing Wednesday night service has some missionaries speaking and others visiting the service clubs in the church.

Our mission board members promote missions in the adult Sunday school classes every other month. And the W.M.F. prepares a monthly news bulletin of missionary letters and other mission news which is distributed to many of the people of the church.

Dorothy: We also have a well-planned missions conference with emphasis on interaction between church families and the missionaries involved. The high level of interest in missions in our church is indicated by the size of our mission budget and also by the interest in missionary updates and focuses during our regular services throughout the year.

Vi: In addition to listing the "Missionary of the Week" in the bulletin and an up-to-date and attractive bulletin board, we have time allotted during each Sunday evening service for "Missionary Moments," when letters from missionaries are shared or other missionary news or items of interest are presented. A "Missionary Focus" during our W.M.F. meetings is along the same line as the Sunday evening presentation, but never duplicates it.

Dave: About half of our members have non-N.A.B. background, so at this point, the most effective thing we can do is to continue to bring in our missionaries as often as possible. Participation in the area Round Robin Conference also helps.

Interviewer: *What specifically does your W.M.F., or your church, do to maintain personal contact with missionaries?*

Dave: The W.M.F. writes and replies to letters, and letters are read at each monthly meeting. They also send kilo packages to specific missionaries regularly. Soon to be approved by the church is the undertaking of partial support for two N.A.B. missionaries.

Vi: We also promote letter writing; names and addresses of the mis-

sionaries under our partial support are posted on the missions bulletin board. We partially support four single missionaries and five missionary families, and some of our people correspond with these missionaries regularly.

Dorothy: In addition to sending weekly tapes of our services, we write to each missionary personally and have a special prayer time for them on Tuesday mornings. We also send kilo packages.

Thelma: Both the W.M.F. and the church send kilo packages. In fact, we send a food package and a package of walnuts to every single missionary and

Setting For a Diamond Jubilee

Niagara Falls is an international city located on the U.S./Canadian border between Lake Ontario and Lake Erie. It can be easily reached via its superior arterial system connecting with both interstate and international highways.

Our North American Baptist Triennial Conference will be held at the new International Convention Center in downtown Niagara Falls, NY. Adjoining the Convention Center are shops, restaurants, a large plaza, hotels, tree-lined pedestrian malls, and a glass-enclosed tropical park with ponds, a waterfall, and over 7,000 trees, shrubs, and flowers.

Besides downtown Convention Complex accommodations, there are many nearby hotels and motels. If you will be tenting or trailering, there are several campgrounds within a short driving distance.

It is a good idea to bring along proof of citizenship which is occasionally necessary for border crossing. You will want to see the Falls from both the spectacular Canadian and U.S. sides.

If you would like further information about the Niagara Falls area, you can write directly to: Niagara Falls Convention and Visitors Bureau, Niagara Falls, NY 14303. Make your plans to attend the Conference, August 10-15, 1982.

missionary couple every year. The Sunday school classes each have a specific missionary assigned, so they send packages and correspond with that person. We also send tapes of music and messages, and one of the board members always includes a letter with the tapes. This year, the W.M.F. displayed all of the White Cross work which was made since September of 1980. When the members of the church came to the social hall for refreshments and had the opportunity to see the work which had been done, even our pastor said, "I didn't know that the women did this much work!"

Interviewer: *Do you have any other comments to add about the missions emphasis in your church?*

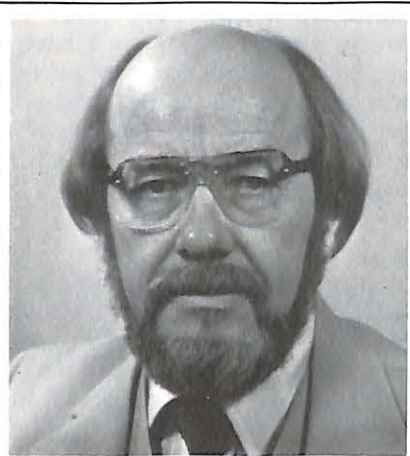
Thelma: I am thrilled with the missionary emphasis in our church; although I am sure we can make improvements, we have seen many more people become involved in praying for missionaries, in writing letters, and in getting to know the missionaries through the reading of their prayer letters.

Dave: Interest in missions is growing. Our involvement in an inner-city N.A.B. mission in Winnipeg (work among the Portuguese-speaking people near McDermot church) could sensitize our people more to minister to other than middle class suburbia.

Dorothy: Ebenezer has a real heart for missions. Many members have gone out as missionaries in the past, and this summer a number of college/career age young people went out for short-term service. Also a number of men have gone and are going out to various fields for two-week periods.

Vi: Our church really appreciates the sharing of personal experiences and human interest stories which make the personalities and needs of the missionaries real. It would be good if we could be kept informed as to whether the needs presented through special projects and prayer requests were actually met.

Interviewer: *Thank you for sharing with us. Every one of our churches could contribute to a "discussion" like this, and that provides encouragement not only for each other, but, we hope, for our missionaries as well.*



putting it together

by Ernie Zimbelman

Families today have different patterns from the viewpoint of economics or family income. Four possible pat-

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

Denny's Column

by Denny Miller, short-term missionary in Cameroon

Christian said to me, "I love Richard. I really love him a lot. We've had a lot of good times together."

To hear someone express genuine feelings for a friend so openly really surprised me. Sure, I love a lot of people . . . but to say it unabashedly, without solicitation? Rarely.

Christian's love for Richard expressed his appreciation for a friend who cared and shared some of his interests and who spent time with him.

One thing I really am learning to enjoy about Africa is this ability the people have to express care and warmth within friendship. Many of us were not encouraged to do that. We may look a

terns that we find in practice among Christian families will be mentioned.

The first pattern is the marriage in which the relationship is dominated by the husband. The husband reserves for himself all the rights and privileges. The husband feels that since he is the sole provider, why should he not be the undisputed head of the family. If the wife is weak and passive enough and does not challenge the husband's authority, he may be quite benevolent in many of his dealings with his wife.

Another marriage relationship pattern is where the wife plays a complementary role. The husband does not physically and emotionally dominate his wife, but for various reasons, she chooses to be supportive of the husband's aims and goals. This can be a very warm and healthy relationship. It's important for the wife to frequently monitor her feelings to make sure she is voluntarily complementing the husband's role, or else she may start playing resistance games and the relationship may be seriously jeopardized. In this relationship, the husband usually is the sole financial supporter, and the wife remains a full-time homemaker.

The third pattern may be called the "junior partner" model. In this model, the wife works at a paying job or in the family business and makes a vital contribution to the family income. Such families are referred to as a "two-income" family. The fact that the wife

little strangely at the person who tells us they love us. "Yech," we think, "how emotional."

I'm not used to seeing a friend and having that person take my hand and tell me that he or she really missed me. Or holding a friend's hand as you walk along—you know how it is, if your hands bump as you walk along, you quickly say you're sorry and move away.

Several weeks after I arrived in Cameroon, a friend of mine died in an auto accident. Before I left, she sent me a card telling me how much she appreciated our friendship. To me, it just seemed the appropriate thing to say to someone who is leaving.

I meant to call her up to get together before I left. She had a lot of problems—her parents were facing divorce; she was in constant pain due to a skiing accident; her boyfriend had broken off

contributes substantially to the family income usually implies that she will have a voice in decisions related to the family welfare.

The fourth economic pattern for family organization may be called the "two career" family. This usually implies that the wife and husband share equal rights and responsibilities. The use of the word "career" usually refers to a major life goal vocation. In this sense, a person could choose to make homemaking a career. But usually in a well-balanced family—even if the husband is the major income provider—he should also have a vital part in the general family responsibilities. Therefore, in a two-career family, we think of both the husband and the wife being involved in full-time jobs or positions, in addition to family roles. This kind of family situation is becoming very common and can be worked out in a very congenial manner, provided both marriage partners are aware of the dynamics involved in such a situation. It seems that the "good wife" described in Proverbs 31 had an open and understanding relationship with her husband.

It is important for husbands and wives to take time to evaluate into which of these four patterns their own marriage falls. Personally, I see the first pattern as an unhealthy model, but I feel any one of the other three models can be appropriate for contemporary Christian couples.

with her. I always enjoyed being with her because she focused on whoever she was with, not on herself. And she wasn't afraid to tell anyone about what Christ was doing in her life. I learned a lot from her.

I never told Rachael how much she meant to me. Not once. Sure, your actions should convey that feeling. Words without supporting actions are empty. But there is something about hearing it said that makes it more real, that draws you together.

"To feel love is one thing. To let the other person know how we feel is quite another" (Ardis Whitman).

If my love for God is measured in my love and actions toward others, it is time that I grow more sincere and verbally appreciative in my friendship. "Just as the Father has loved me, I have also loved you; abide in my love" (John 15:9). □

Church Extension Project

Growth! To God Be the Glory!

by Don Ganstrom

Clark County in southwestern Washington is suffering from growing pains. Large manufacturing companies, such as Hewlett-Packard and Tektronix, are building new plants and will employ hundreds of people. The newest area, Cascade Park, has several developers that are planning and building communities of 25,000 to 50,000 people around shopping and commercial centers. A new junior high school, three years old, is overpopulated by 200 more than capacity. The fall of 1981 sees the opening of a new high school and new elementary school in Cascade Park.

It is in the center of this expanding area that the Oregon-Idaho Association of North American Baptist churches purchased 4.7 acres of land for a new church. We feel that God led them to make this purchase directly across the street from the new junior high school. At the close of 1980, a call and challenge was issued to the Ganstroms to return to the West Coast and lead in this God-inspired project.

A strong canvass and visitation program was launched in January 1981. On January 22, God led us to hold the first home Bible study. Seven persons gathered at the pastor's home, and five of that group continued to reach out and bring others weekly. Two of the five were new Christians, have since been baptized, and are strong leaders in the young church.

On April 5, 1981, the first worship service of Cascade Park Baptist Church was held at the junior high school across from the church property. Ten weeks of services have

now been conducted, and an average of 38 people have been attending.

Eleven families and five singles, committed to this new challenge, desire to see a new church established to the glory of God. God has given a tremendous spirit of unity to this group of people who never even knew each other four months ago.

The midweek Bible studies now average 15. Recently, the group decided to meet each Sunday evening in one of the individual's homes. Another Bible study group is in the planning stage.

"Good News Bible" classes for children were held weekly with six children receiving Christ as Savior. This summer Backyard Clubs were held at two or three homes to reach more children.

At the first business meeting, a decision was made to give to missions ten percent of all offerings received. God has already shown his approval by putting a strong desire in the hearts of the people to give generously unto the Lord.

The most gratifying and exciting part of such a growing situation is to see people come to Christ. One adult recently received Christ, and several others have recommitted their lives to the Lord. Growth is the key word, and Glory to God the theme.

We covet your prayer support! Reap the reward of being faithful in prayer. Your financial support through Church Extension Builders sent to the North American Baptist Conference Office, 1 So. 210 Summit Ave., Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181, designated for Cascade Park Baptist Church is a way you can be involved in this growth and bring glory to the Lord!

The Rev. Donald Ganstrom is pastor of Cascade Park Baptist Church, Vancouver, WA.



The first Sunday evening fellowship group met the beginning of June 1981.



Pastor Ganstrom and David Johnson erecting sign on the church property.



A Bible study group in Pastor and Mrs. Ganstrom's home

"Flexing and Obeying"

The Good News Ambassadors, a group of eight youth from N.A.B. churches in Canada and the U.S.A., visited Cameroon May 27-June 19 holding evangelistic meetings and training youth Gospel teams.

Have you ever had your glasses taken by a monkey? Eaten fried chicken claws? Lived in the same clothes for three days not knowing where your luggage was? Pushed a taxi van up a long, muddy hill? As the Good News Ambassadors Team, we experienced all this and much more in three short weeks in Cameroon.

The Good News Ambassadors Team of 1981 consisted of Jerry Dugwyler, Boulder, CO; Rick Foster, Kankakee, IL; Jeanne Hansen, Carrington, ND; Dorothy Hesmert, Vancouver, BC; Todd Jucht, Emery, SD; Sherry Priebe, Edmonton, AB; Jo-Ann Rauschenberger, Terrace BC; and Bonnie Rott, Anamoose, ND. We were accompanied by our fearless leader, "Uncle Ed" (Dr. Edwin Kern), professor of Missiology and Anthropology at North American Baptist School. While we were in Cameroon we were led by Sue Krier, youth director of the Cameroon Baptist Convention.

Our Preparation

After a brief training period in Sioux Falls, SD, under the direction of the Rev. Art Helwig and Mrs. Shirley Bertsch, the Good News Ambassadors left for Cameroon. There was a feeling of anticipation but also apprehension. The flight was long and tiring, but the excitement was there when the wheels touched land. The feeling of suffocation in your own clothes, the heat, the noise, and, when in the country, the lulling sound of crickets—it seemed all of us were asking, "Is it real? Are we here?" But reality didn't seem to hit you even when the girls of Saker Baptist College wake you at 6 a.m. by singing, "On Sunday I am happy, on Monday full of joy, . . ." The two days given the Ambassadors was not long enough to prepare for the task ahead but, "To whom much is given, much is required" (Luke 12:48).

Our Purpose

Morning came early, and the days were spent meeting people and sharing with young people about gospel teams. The Good News Ambassadors' purpose in Cameroon was two-fold. We shared with the youth of West Cameroon how gospel teams could add encouragement and a strong helping hand to the Cameroon Baptist Convention in attaining a five-year goal of winning 15,000 souls for Christ. The Ambassadors shared with them how to begin gospel teams, and what was expected of them and those who form them.

In the evenings, the Ambassadors gave their own program of music and testimonies. The second reason for coming to Africa was to take part in a five-day crusade in the capital city of Cameroon—Yaounde. The pastor of Ebenezer Baptist Church in Victoria, Pastor Peter Evande, spoke. The English Crusade in a French-speaking area was a success; souls were brought to the Lord, and more rededicated their lives. The pastor's sermons and the Ambassadors' music were recorded as "pricking" and "heartwarming" in the national paper, "The Cameroon Tribune."

It is nearly impossible to record or try to assimilate and portray all the experiences of the team, but there have been highlights which none of us will be able to forget. They vary in their effects. There was the laughter of participation in a traditional church dance, the relaxation on an African Beach, and the excitement of a radio recording

for the "Baptist Voice" radio program.

Our Reactions

The Lord has spoken to all of us in many ways and at many times, and we have needed to listen to his calling. This trip has been one of faith and trust in our Lord as we struggled to understand what our ministry was, and thanks for the results that we saw, the people whom we met, and the fellowship which we had. Not only did we trust and obey but also, as our motto says, we

(Continued on next page)



Rick Foster

Upon his return from Cameroon, Foster briefly spoke to the General Council. These are excerpts.

"God's work in Cameroon is not finished. There is a lot still to be done. A lot is being done now, but God's work is still incomplete.

I thank God for allowing me to have the opportunity to be in Cameroon for three weeks. It is interesting that when I introduced myself I would say, "My name is Rick Foster, and I am from Illinois which is in the United States of America." Then I would say that I was going to Bible school preparing to be a pastor. That always excited the crowd.

Very often after those meetings were over, people would come to me and say, "So you are the one preparing for the pastorate."

I would say, "Yes, I am."

And they would say, "God is going to bring you back to us."

You know that may very well be. Now that I have experienced it and seen it, God may take me back. No one knows, it is in his hands."

Wedding Anniversaries

To honor the occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary, Joe and Erma Hein were treated to a celebration by family and friends on May 2, 1981. They also renewed their vows at First Baptist Church that day.



Mr. and Mrs. Hein were married April 14, 1931. They have eight children and have been blessed with 22 grandchildren. They are members of First Baptist Church, Arnprior, and reside in Kinburn. (Rosalie Russet, reporter.)

More than 250 people, family, guests, friends, and members of Temple Baptist Church, Calgary, AB, where the Rev. R. Kanwischer is interim pastor, gathered to honor the Rev. and Mrs. R. Kanwischer on their 50th wedding anniversary. After a service and program in the church, where Rev. H. Schuhmacher of Vernon, BC, personal friend of the Kanwischers, officiated as master of ceremonies, all guests were entertained by a short program by the Kan-



(Continued from page 24)

"flexed and obeyed." We needed to be ready at any time for anything.

Three weeks in the Cameroon was not long enough, and even if it were, what there was to be seen cannot be explained, "You must see it to believe it." But as we continued to tell the good news of Jesus Christ to others, each day got better and better. As we continued in our ministry, God seemed to set our souls afire with enthusiasm. We have learned that his

wischer family, followed by delicious refreshments. (Felene Klippe, reporter.)

Mr. and Mrs. Fred (Lydia) Strelau were honored on the occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary at a fellowship evening hosted by their family at Bethany Baptist Church, Vancouver, BC. Friends and relatives gathered to celebrate with the



Strelaus, who have consistently been active members of Bethany and who are charter members. The Strelaus were married at Ebenezer Baptist Church, May 8, 1931. They have four children: Erick, Irene (Rathbun), Leonard, and Linda, and eight grandchildren.

McDermot Avenue Baptist Church members gathered recently to celebrate the 60th wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. Julius Goltz who were married March 21, 1921.



Deacon Eugene Job, a close friend, chaired an interesting program. The grandchildren participated in the program.

amazing grace is enough to carry from day to day and to bring two totally different cultures together in such a splendid unity that it cannot be described.

Our trip was fast and full, but God was with us. We would like to thank you for your prayers and your support. We encourage you to take the time to have the same experience we have had.

Pray for the people of Cameroon as you have prayed for us, for the prayer of a righteous man does

our conference in action

Mrs. Lena Kupski, a bridesmaid, was present. Mr. and Mrs. Goltz have spent all their married life in St. Andrews, MB, on a farm. They were blessed with five daughters, nine grandchildren and one great-granddaughter. (Alice Parr, reporter.)

MADISON, SD. A joyous event occurred Sunday morning, April 26, when the members and friends of West Center Street Baptist Church dedicated the newly acquired parking lot. After the morning service, the congregation went outside to the lot where the ribbon cutting ceremony took place. Music of praise was accompanied by the trumpet trio. Words of appreciation were spoken by board members; the people took part in a litany of dedication, and the ribbon was cut by an elder member, Leonard Rohrer. In conclusion, Pastor Doug Bittle led in a dedicatory prayer.

On Sunday evening, May 3, the West Center Church Junior Choir, under the direction of Patty Bittle, presented the musical, "Something to Sing About." Included in this presentation were songs, Scripture readings, a puppet show, and instrumental selections. (Catherine Jung, reporter.)

MINOT, ND. A very large crowd of members and friends of First Baptist Church gathered on May 10, after the evening service, for a farewell fellowship for Pastor Ralph and Celesta Cooke. Comments of appreciation and gifts were presented to the Cookes for their more than three years of ministry at Minot. Refreshments were served, and responses were given by the Cookes.

Pastor Cooke is now pastor of the Grace Baptist Church, Grand Forks, ND. (Mrs. Inez Rhone, reporter.)

CALGARY, AB. Members of Grace Baptist Church praise and thank the Lord for spiritual growth as well as for membership growth.

Eight persons were baptized and welcomed as members of Grace Baptist Church recently.

accomplish much. We also bring you greetings from the churches of the Cameroon Baptist Convention. As Good News Ambassadors, we leave these verses with you:

"Now to him who is able to keep you from stumbling, and to make you stand in the presence of his glory blameless with great joy, to the only God our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, dominion and authority before all time and now and forever. Amen (Jude 24-25). □

our conference in action

The choir, with Phil Davis, director, presented the cantata, "Easter Song," by John W. Peterson, which was a blessing to all in attendance.

We welcome to our church Warren Hoffman, pastor of Christian education and youth, as soon as his visa can be obtained, and Phil Zylla, N.A.B. student, who helped in the church during the summer months. The Rev. Walter Kerber is pastor. (Mrs. L. Moller, reporter.)

VANCOUVER, BC. The Dorcas Circle of Bethany Baptist Church sponsored the annual "Grad Night," at which time 18 high school graduates and seven college graduates were honored.

The theme for the evening was "Bloom Where You Are Planted." Pastor Rick Laser was speaker for the evening, and his message was augmented by special music. A brief resumé was given on each high school graduate in order to familiarize the audience with each person's school background and future plans and aspirations. A light supper was served, and a good time of fellowship was had. (Trudy Zindler, reporter.)

MARION, KS. "Love and Kindness," a cantata by John W. Peterson, was performed by the 30-member joint choirs of the Strassburg and Emmanuel Baptist Churches. The sanctuary of the Strassburg Church was filled, as the choir sang under the direction of Levi Suderman. Narration was by Pastor James Brygger. It was an unforgettable experience of worship and commitment for both the choir and the congregation.

A mother-daughter salad supper, attended by 80 women, was held in the Strassburg Baptist Church parlors. Rose Johnson, a Tabor College student, once involved with the Moonie cult and author of the book, *As Angels of Light*, was guest speaker. Mary Beth Bowers and her puppet, Mariana, gave an enjoyable skit. She also led the group in singing, using her guitar as accompaniment. (Janet Meisinger, reporter.)

CARRINGTON, ND. The Rev. Robert Lang, pastor of Calvary Baptist Church, extended the hand of fellowship to 12 new members who came by profession of faith through baptism and by transfer of letter. "Pathway," the N.A.B. Seminary quartet, as well as the North American Baptist College Choristers, presented inspiring and enjoyable concerts in Calvary Church as part of their tours.

Calvary Baptist Church contributed to the Jeanne Hansen mission offering to support her for a month as a Good News Ambassador, focusing on evangelism outreach and training on our mission field in Cameroon. Our church feels closer to missions now. (Vi Pepple, reporter.)

MERCER, ND. At a combined service with McClusky Baptist Church, four young people from Mercer Baptist Church followed the Lord in baptism.



CHANCELLOR, SD. First Baptist Church observed several special events upon the completion of the new church building.

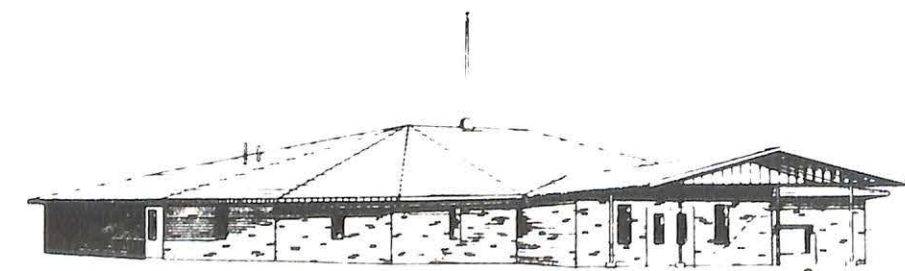
March 1, 1981, was "moving day." Although nearly all of the necessary items had been moved during the week, everyone in attendance joined on Sunday morning by taking a hymnbook to the new facility after a short devotional and prayer by Pastor Richard Person.

When we arrived at the new building, several blocks from the old, we gathered at the front door for the ribbon cutting by Mrs. Ellen Person. We praised God in the worship service and observed the Lord's Supper.

The "open house" in the afternoon was attended by over 1,000 guests who toured the new facilities, directed by members of the building and finance committees.

The "service of dedication" was held April 5 with Dr. John Binder, executive secretary, N.A.B. Conference, inspiring us from God's Word.

Letters of congratulations and encouragement from area churches, former pastors and friends were read by the church clerk. Presentation of the keys was made by construction superintendent, Cal Schmidt to building committee chairman, Don Hoogestraat, who in turn presented them to trustee board chairman, Phil Weeldreyer. Reciting of the public declaration of dedication by Pastor Person and the congregation was a meaningful experience. The Lord's Supper was observed to conclude the service.



The hand of fellowship was extended to them the following Sunday. The Rev. Perry Schnabel is pastor. (Joyce Fiedler, reporter.)

INDIANAPOLIS, IN. Meridian Woods Community Baptist Church held its first annual leadership planning retreat recently. Goals were set and discussion followed on how to reach these goals. The Rev. Willis Potratz, Great Lakes Area minister, attended and represented North American Baptists.

The church held its first Easter early morning service at which time the Joy (teens) class presented an Easter play. In the morning worship hour, Pastor David Detmer baptized seven young people.

The "service of celebration" that afternoon was attended by more than 500 people. The Rev. Charles Littman, North Central Area minister, challenged us in his message.

The Rev. Charles Hiatt, North American Baptist Seminary; the Rev. Douglas Bittle, vice moderator, South Dakota Association; former pastors, Dr. C. H. Seecamp and Dr. Ted Faszer; mayor of the town of Chancellor; pastors of neighboring churches, and others extended greetings.

The theme, "Building on the Rock," was emphasized during the planning and construction. Pastor Person explained the purpose of the theme based on Matthew 16:18 and I Peter 4:1-9. A rock weighing several pounds, used as a symbol, was placed in the old church after the decision was made to build. It was moved to the new facility at the appropriate time and is buried beneath the platform where the pulpit now stands.

Inspiring vocal selections by the senior choir and others reflected the theme throughout the services. Offerings of the day for the building fund totalled more than \$25,000.

Actual construction of the new building began in April 1980. The oval shaped, one-story brick facility covers an area of 15,390 square feet. Sanctuary seating capacity is 320 with overflow area for 125. Adequate room is provided for Christian education and administration. The fellowship hall can accommodate 220 seated at tables.

Total cost, including land and furnishings, is approximately \$450,000. (Raymond DeNeui, reporter.)

Pastor Detmer and his wife Patricia and their two children, Heather (6) and Andy (3), started their ministry in our church September 1980. (Mrs. Sandra Gilkerson, reporter.)

BEULAH, ND. The 13-member choir of the Immanuel Baptist Church, under the direction of Miss Myrna Seibel, presented the program, "Hallelujah What a Savior." The narrated program consisting of choir numbers, solos, duets, and a trio was prepared by Mrs. Arthur Ewert. Mrs. Jerry Becker was pianist. A special offering was taken for the choir robe fund.

The youth of the church presented the play, "The Door of My Heart," under the direction of Mr. and Mrs. Les Heringer, youth counselors.

The film, "John Huss," was shown recently.

Five more people followed the Lord through the waters of baptism. The Rev. Gordon Voegele is pastor. (Rose Voegele, reporter.)

ERIE, PA. The Women's Missionary Fellowship of Dorchester Drive Baptist Church held their annual Mother-Daughter Banquet recently, with 59 women enjoying a meal prepared by the women, but very graciously served and cleaned up by the men of the church.



On Palm Sunday, the Sunday school classes witnessed a beautiful mime presentation of the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus by the junior high class. The background music and the performance touched each one.

We welcomed the Rev. R. I. Thompson, his wife Nel, and daughter Tina, into our "family" as of June 1. May God truly bless their ministry. (Pat Healy, reporter.)

WINNIPEG, MB. On May 11, 1981, many ladies from the Winnipeg, N.A.B. churches met at Meadowood Manor to honor its first ladies' auxiliary president, Mrs. Jeanette Stein, in a farewell tea. On behalf of the Meadowood Manor board, the chairman, Mr. Murray McClarty, expressed thanks to Mrs. Stein for her capable leadership and organizational abilities as well as her love and willingness in organizing the auxiliary into the effective and worthwhile service of love that it is today.

Each church participated in the recognition. Maria Rogalski, McDermot King's Daughters, highlighted Jeanette's qualities of Christian example, leadership, and organization.

The ladies of the Manitoba Association thank God for the many words of encouragement and wisdom that she has given us over the past 16 years. She has retired from her teaching vocation and is moving to Vancouver. Her husband was the late Rev. Walter Stein. (Trudy Patzer, secretary.)

PRINCE GEORGE, BC. College Heights Baptist Church was privileged to have the "New Day" team. We enjoyed the music and enthusiasm of these young people. We are grateful for the seminars and visitation program of the follow-up team as well.

We recently witnessed the baptism of one of our couples whom we have seen grow in the Lord over the years. The Rev. E. Klingenberg is the pastor. (Violet Kwiatkowski, reporter.)

COSTA MESA, CA. Harbor Trinity Baptist Church has experienced much blessing recently.

At a Round Robin Missionary Conference the missionaries Lucile Wipf, Betty Mantay, Eunice Kern, and Dr. Laura Reddig made effective presentations. Betty Mantay, speaker at Harbor Trinity, blessed the congregation.

The Laura Reddig Easter Offering was \$3,500, double that of one year ago.

The church recently installed a new Allen Computer Organ.

In May the church received 24 members into the church, eight by baptism. Dr. Henry Buhler, hospital chaplain, and cousin of Pastor Aaron Buhler, sang several songs.



In the first four months of 1981, 35 people united with the church.

Eighty women attended the Mother and Daughter Spring Luncheon at Knott's Berry Farm. We had an outstanding guest speaker, Pat Miersma, who has been a nurse and missionary with Wycliffe Bible Translators. Debbie Wangler demonstrated her Puppet Apron telling stories and singing songs. (Beverly Stark, reporter.)

HERREID, SD. The Women's Missionary Fellowship sponsored a Mother-Daughter Salad Supper for 160 mothers

our conference in action

and daughters in the Herreid Baptist Church. The theme, "Rooted, Grounded, Growing," was appropriately highlighted with decorations of live plants throughout the dining area and sanctuary. There was group singing, and several special musical numbers rendered by mothers and daughters. Devotions were given by Irma Meth, Bismarck, who was a special guest.

The highlight of the evening was an inspiring talk by Audrey Littman, Bismarck, who graciously gave her testimony. (Pearl Huber, reporter.)

BURLINGTON, ON. Pineland Baptist Church helped celebrate the 30th anniversary of Pastor Jake Leverette's being in the ministry of our Lord Jesus Christ, at a surprise program planned by his family and Associate Pastor Dale Fuchs on June 7.

At the close of the evening service, an engraved silver tray was presented by the moderator on behalf of the congregation, also corsages by the W.M.F. Following this, the Leverette's children presented a program honoring their father.

The celebration closed with refreshments which included an iced anniversary cake, beautifully decorated with the words from Joshua 24:15, . . . "but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord." Our Pastor, Peggy, and their whole family are truly fulfilling these words. (Audrey Prescott, reporter.)

RAPID CITY, SD. An ordination council composed of 19 delegates from six churches met on May 31 at the South Canyon Baptist Church. Ken Thyren presented Warren Hoffman as a candidate for ordination. The Rev. Elmo Tahrn was elected moderator, and Victor Schlottman as the clerk.



That evening, an ordination service was held at the South Canyon Baptist Church. The speaker for this special occasion was Dr. Ralph E. Powell, N.A.B. Seminary professor. Pastor Harry Haas, Gillette, WY, gave the ordination prayer, and Pastor Elmo Tahrn welcomed Warren into the ministry. The Rev. Warren Hoffman (pictured) gave the benediction. Warren is the son of the Rev. and Mrs. Walter Hoffman, associate pastor, South Canyon Baptist Church. (Maxine Bettenhausen, reporter.)

our conference in action

LEDUC, AB. Temple Baptist Church hosted a graduation service in which four local churches took part; First Baptist, Wiesenthal, Rabbit Hill, and Temple. Nine graduated from high school, three from N.A.B. College, and two from University.



Each church presented their young people (pictured) with a Bible, and the young people from each church presented a special musical number. Aaron Bushkowsky spoke for the graduates, Mr. Ray Hammer on behalf of the parents, and Pastor Neil Strohschein gave the dedicatory prayer.

The Rev. Kurt Redsclag, in his message, emphasized that God wants to make something beautiful of your life if you only let him. Pastor Dale Dreger and Pastor John Martens also participated in the service. (Vi Fleck, reporter.)

CAMROSE, AB. Members and friends of Century Meadows Baptist Church, recently gathered to celebrate the first anniversary of our refugee family, the Duongs and their two children. A lovely

Chinese supper was enjoyed by 100 friends. An interesting program followed.

We praise God for the wonderful way he has answered prayer for the growth of our new church. Since the beginning of the year, we have had 13 decisions for Christ, 12 baptisms, and 21 new members.

Our morning service is attended by an average of 200 people.

We thank God for the wonderful way he is using our Pastor Larry Froese in gathering in precious souls. Since our move to the new church, we have an increase of 66 members. (Anne Soderstrom, reporter.)

In Memoriam

MRS. HELENE NITSCHKE, 83, was born Nov. 25, 1897, to William and Caroline Goltz in Alexandrow, Poland, and died May 22, 1981, in Planeview Manor, Leduc, AB. She accepted Jesus Christ as her personal Savior at age 14, was baptized and joined Alexandrow Baptist Church where she faithfully served the Lord. She married Wilhelm Nitschke on Aug. 23, 1919, and lived in Antoniew, Poland. In August 1927, they immigrated to the Fredericksheim District of Alberta and joined First Baptist Church, Leduc. Her faith in God was strong, and she always felt refreshed in reading her Bible and singing praises to God. She and her husband farmed until his death on March 29, 1957. In 1959 she moved to Leduc and joined Temple Baptist Church. Survivors include four daughters: Mrs. Herman (Janina) Schielke, Kelowna, BC, Mrs. Harry (Edith) Prier, New Sarepta, AB, Mrs. William (Erica) Saunders, Moyie, BC, and Mrs. Walter (Gertrude) Froelich, Rolly View, AB; 11 grandchildren, nine great-grandchildren, and one sister.

MRS. AMELIA STROHSCHNEIN, 87, of Wetaskiwin, AB, was born in Volhynia, Russia, on May 30, 1893, to Julius and Maria Ganski, and died Feb. 19, 1981. They came to Canada in 1912. Survivors include three daughters: Emma Haller of Trochu, Martha Derman of Edmonton, Minnie Strohschein of Calgary; seven sons: Harry and Paul of Trochu, Bill of Wimborne, Ben of Three Hills, Harvey, Ken, and Dan of Wetaskiwin; one brother, Rudolph Ganski; two sisters: Mrs. Ida Winter and Mrs. Gussie Dous; 29 grandchildren, and 23 great-grandchildren. She was predeceased by her husband in 1963. The Rev. Ben Strohschein and the Rev. Larry Parker officiated at the funeral service.

WALTER SCHULTZ was born in Zgiersch, Poland, on Jan. 16, 1907, and died March 6, 1981. At the age of 10, he was baptized. He spent his early childhood and teenage years in Poland and in Berlin. In 1927 he came to Canada with his parents and settled in St. Rose, MB. Two years later, he moved to Edmonton, AB, where

he married Ruth Schubert on Oct. 16, 1930. He joined Central Baptist Church, Edmonton. He became immediately involved in the church life and later in the establishment of the Christian Training Institute along with the Rev. E. P. Wahl, who was his first president.

In 1944 he moved to Vancouver and joined Bethany Baptist Church and became its treasurer in 1945, a ministry he faithfully served in for 35 years. He was one of the founders of the Evergreen Home. He ministered in various capacities in and outside the local church. He was loved and respected in the N.A.B. Conference, not having missed a Triennial Conference Session since 1936. Survivors include his wife, Ruth, and three daughters and their families: Trudy Zindler, Betty Ainslie, and Gloria Schunter; 10 grandchildren, one sister, and many relatives and friends.

MATTHEW TERRENCE JAROSCH, 4, was born April 28, 1977, at Appleton, MN, to the Rev. and Mrs. Terrence Jarosch and died April 29, 1981, as the result of being hit by an automobile. Matthew had accepted Jesus Christ as his personal Savior. He was an especially affectionate child and was loved by adults and children alike. In January 1981, he moved to Prince Rupert, BC, with his family.

Survivors include his parents; two sisters: Camilla and Susan; grandparents, Mrs. O. E. Adam, Millet, AB, and Mr. and Mrs. Leo Jarosch, Inver Grove Heights, MN; two uncles and aunts: Mr. and Mrs. Al Adam and Mr. and Mrs. Arwyn Adam, and two cousins: Janis and Bradley Adam. Matthew was preceded in death by his grandfather, William Adam, in 1973. The Rev. Tom Oshiro, assisted by the Rev. Paul Mohninger and the Rev. Ernest Stevenson, officiated at the funeral service. Matthew's father, the Rev. Terrence Jarosch, gave the message.

ESTHER M. SKUBICK, 85, was born Dec. 23, 1895, in Detroit, MI, and died March 3, 1981. She accepted Christ as Savior at age 12, was baptized, and joined Ebenezer Baptist Church. She served the Lord in various capacities: Sunday school superintendent, teacher, officer in the Women's Missionary Society, participant in the weekly visitation program, organizer of banquets, and worker in the kitchen. She had a vital interest in missions. Survivors include one son, Marvin L.; one daughter, Marilyn R.

Althouse; three grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. Dr. Bartlett L. Ness, pastor of Ward Church officiated at the memorial service, assisted by the Rev. Elmer C. Strauss, nephew.

ADELINE (FROELICH) BREITKREUZ, 73, was born Dec. 3, 1907, near Rovno, Poland, and died April 26, 1981. She had been confined to a hospital since 1975. As a teen-ager, she was converted, baptized, and joined the church in Kolowert, Poland. In 1929 she came to Edmonton, AB, where she joined Central Baptist Church. In 1931 she married Ewald Breitzkreuz. From 1935 until 1971, they farmed at Onoway and were active in the Baptist church there. In 1971 they retired to Edmonton and rejoined Central Baptist Church. Survivors include her husband, Ewald; five sons: Elmer and Walter of Edmonton, Ben of Indianapolis, IN, Clifford and Milton of Onoway, AB; four daughters: Ruth Kruschke, Evelyn Schneider, and Gladys Bubenko of Edmonton, and Beatrice Stinner of Kelowna, BC; 24 grandchildren, four sisters, and many nephews and nieces. The Rev. G. Scheel, her pastor, and Rev. W. Ertis officiated at the funeral service.

MRS. MARTHA WILKIE (NEE MILLER), 91, born on April 24, 1889, in Izabelow, Poland, died May 29, 1980. As a teen-ager, she accepted Jesus Christ as her personal Savior and followed him in baptism in 1905. She was a member of the Fenwood, SK, Baptist Church from 1927-1943. In 1943 she joined the fellowship of Ebenezer Baptist Church, Vancouver, BC. Her husband, Rudolf Wilkie, predeceased her in 1946. Survivors include one son: Alfred, Vancouver; two daughters: Alice Pansegrau, Kelowna, and Frieda Hait, Vancouver; two grandsons: the Rev. Harvey Wilkie and Wes Hait; one granddaughter, and two great-grandsons. Pastor Howard Andersen officiated at the funeral.

FRED TRIEBWASSER, 77, of Emery, SD, was born Oct. 17, 1904, and died May 13, 1981. Fred loved the Lord and served him faithfully over the years. He was a member of the Plum Creek Baptist Church, Emery, SD, for 47 years and joined First Baptist Church, Emery, in 1975 after moving from the farm to Emery. He farmed all of his life. Survivors include his wife Anna, a son in Emery, and a daughter in Sioux Falls.

What's Happening

Dr. Benno Przybylski becomes associate professor of New Testament at North American Baptist Divinity School on Aug. 1, 1981, and adjunct professor in the College program.

Mr. Mel Unger has been appointed as an associate professor of music for one year beginning Aug. 1, 1981, at North American Baptist College, Edmonton, AB.

Mr. Warren Hoffman, a 1981 graduate of N.A.B. Seminary, Sioux Falls, SD, will become pastor of Christian education and youth at Grace Baptist Church, Calgary, AB, as soon as his visa can be obtained.

The Rev. Jim Arends will become the pastor of Brook Park Baptist Church, Brooklyn Center, MN. Since 1977 Rev. and Mrs. Arends were manager/director of Crystal Springs Baptist Camp, Medina, ND.

Temple Baptist Church, Sandusky, OH, was accepted into the Penn-Ohio Association on May 2, 1981. **Dr. Ray A. Lane, Sr.**, is pastor.

Mr. Warren J. Hoffman was ordained on May 31, 1981, at South Canyon Baptist Church, Rapid City, SD. Hoffman is a 1981 graduate of North American Baptist Seminary, Sioux Falls, SD. He has accepted the position of pastor of Christian education and youth at Grace Baptist Church, Calgary, AB.

Mr. H. Randolph Morgan began his ministry as associate pastor of Christian education at Bethel Baptist Church, St. Clair Shores, MI, on Aug. 16, 1981. Dr. Kenneth Fenner is senior pastor.

Mr. Randy Rohrick is the part-time assistant pastor at Balgonie Baptist Church, Saskatchewan, effective May 1, 1981. Rev. Darold Sauer is pastor.

Mr. Dennis Leisch, a 1981 graduate of North American Baptist Seminary, has accepted the position of pastor at

Tabor, AB. This is a new church extension project of the Alberta Association.

Mr. Steve Opp accepted the position of director of children's activities at Temple Baptist Church, Lodi, CA, effective Sept. 1, 1981. Steve and his wife Linda are 1981 graduates of the North American Baptist Seminary.

The Rev. Douglas Sathren became pastor of First Baptist Church, Appleton, MN, on July 1, 1981. He previously served Grafton Baptist Church in North Dakota.

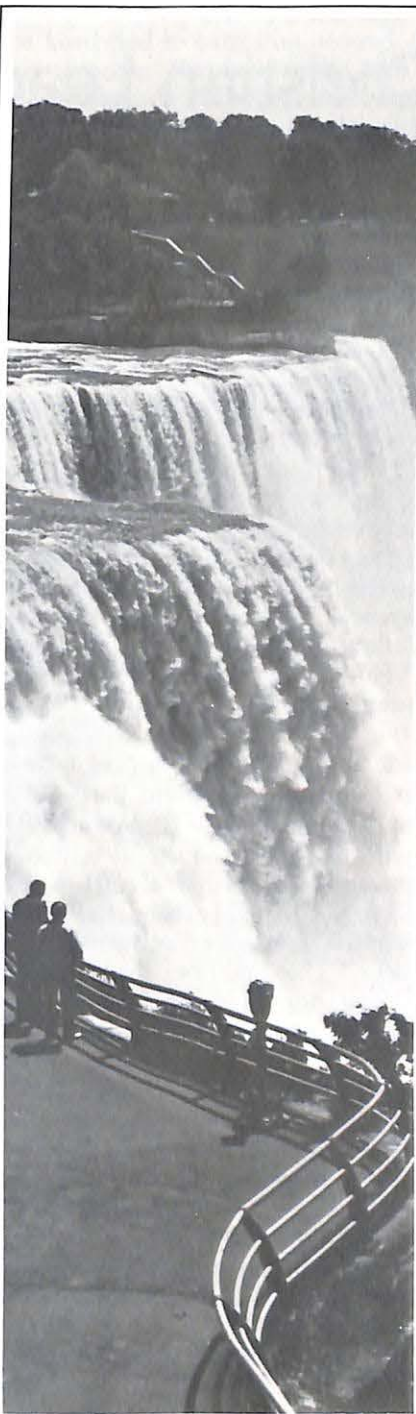
Mr. Lorne Hamp began his ministry as pastor of Lakeshore Baptist Church, St. Catharines, ON, on Sept. 2, 1981. He served as pastor of Central Baptist Church, Kitchener, ON, since 1978.

Mr. Raynor Hammill accepted the full-time position of minister of youth and Christian education at Grosse Pointe Baptist Church, Grosse Pointe Woods, MI, effective May 15, 1981. Hammill previously served the church as part-time minister of youth and church organist. The Rev. Bill Taft is senior pastor.



Chaplain (MAJ) LeRoy Kiemele, following a one-year tour in Korea, received the Meritorious Service Medal for "exceptionally meritorious service as chief, chaplain activities, United

States Army Medical Command-Korea from July 1978 to June 1979. His leadership, expertise, and personal dedication insured that religious and spiritual needs of the patients and hospital staff were unfailingly met with sensitivity and dignity." He performed this work and ministry at 121st Evac Hospital in Seoul, Yongsan, Korea. On Nov. 1, 1980, he was promoted to Major. Kiemele is presently stationed at Fort Lewis, WA.



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Christian Leadership—A Few Principles

by John Binder

On Thursday evening to open the annual General Council session, Dr. John Binder, executive director, North American Baptist Conference, spoke. These excerpts are shared from this speech with the readers of the Baptist Herald.

Let us focus briefly on a few principles of Christian leadership as stated and implied in Matthew 20:25-28. These may not be new to you, but I believe they need to be emphasized for us, as a General Council and as leaders of the North American Baptist Conference.

Follow a Servant-Leadership Style

First of all, I believe that we need to adopt and follow a servant-leadership style. This is talked about considerably today and is probably the first and primary point that Jesus is making in Matthew 20. We are given two models for the use of leadership power. Jesus said that "the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and the high officials exercise authority over them." This describes the posture of having dominion over others. The disciples were really disappointed that Jesus did not come as this kind of leader. That is what they expected: Someone who would supersede the other leaders of the day—the leaders who were lording it over others.

This style of leadership is still around today. It is around in secular circles, in businesses and, unfortunately, it is also in Christian organizations and churches.

But Jesus says, "It should not be so with you."

And then he introduced the Christian model of leadership—of being a servant to others—a style that says each individual is a creation of God. I must treat this individual with respect, with honor. This is someone whom God has created. It says that we are partners in ministry, as a part of the family of God. It says that there needs to be teamwork; we need each other. We are dependent upon each other.

This is the kind of model we are seeking to follow at your North Amer-

ican Baptist Conference Office. You may not always get those kinds of messages, as we come to you in various ways, but that is our intention; that is our commitment today. I believe it is reflected in the values, goals and objectives in the long-range plan that has been developed. We want to be servants. We want to assist our churches in being alive, in growing and fulfilling the commission of Christ. But this is not an easy style of leadership.

We want to be servants. We want to assist our churches in being alive, in growing and fulfilling the commission of Christ. But this is not an easy style of leadership.

There are some difficulties with it. Oh, most of our churches and people are pleased when we come as Conference staff or area ministers or faculty members in a servant role. They appreciate this relationship. But there are other times when they really want us to be dictators.

Now I agree that there are some situations where we possibly need to be a little more authoritarian than we are. But we have to be very, very careful when we use that leadership style and approach in a particular situation. And Jesus is telling us here and asking his followers not to function that way but to primarily function as servants, as ministers one to another.

We are not to be like the Gentiles, but to be like the Son of Man. He did not come to be served, but he served and gave his life a ransom for many. He took a towel and washed the feet of his followers. That is how he demonstrated and symbolized the kind of leadership style that he wanted to see among his followers.

Responsive to People's Needs

Secondly, we need to be responsive to the needs of churches, of pastors, and of people. And I believe that is stated in this passage of scripture.

As Jesus and the disciples walked toward Jericho, they saw two blind

men sitting by the roadside. The blind men shouted to Jesus, "Lord, Son of David, have mercy on us."

Jesus stopped and said, "What do you want me to do for you?"

He did not jump in and assume that he knew what they wanted and what they needed.

He said, "What do you want me to do for you?"

Even though it was quite clear to Jesus what their biggest need was, he asked that question. And I believe that it is very important for all of us today to be asking that kind of question before we proceed to jump in and think we know the answers. We are not Christ; we cannot know the needs of people as he knows them.

Conference staff members regularly seek to evaluate the needs among the churches in our Conference, in the various areas of our ministry. This has been done through the various surveys, research projects, cluster meetings, and other regional meetings that have been conducted during the last two years. The feedback and input that we have received from these are not ignored. It has been taken very seriously by the long-range planning committee in seeking to develop our plans, our direction for the future. We must try to discern continually how we best can meet the needs that are around us.

Grow to Highest Potential

Thirdly, each of us needs to grow to our highest potential. It is interesting to note in this passage that when the mother brought the two sons to Jesus for a promotion, Jesus asked the two sons, "Can you drink the cup that I am going to drink?"

In other words, are you prepared to be my followers? To go with me all the way? Are you ready?

And they immediately answered, "Oh, Lord, sure we are able; we can; we are ready; we are ready to go with you."

But I think our Lord was very, very disappointed with them when the time of crucifixion and death came. They really were not ready. They thought they were ready. And that is often a tragedy today. We think we are prepared after we have graduated from

College and Seminary; we're ready! But we are never completely ready for every situation, especially in our day. Today more than ever, it is necessary to continue to develop to our highest possible potential. And who can say that we have grown to the point where we do not need to grow any more?

Need a Positive Attitude

Lastly, we need to have a positive attitude. Now this is implied in this passage, and it is affirmed even stronger in other passages. I believe that we need a positive attitude about ourselves, about the people around us, about our work, about our local churches, and about our N.A.B. Conference. We cannot have the attitude of the familiar slogan that says, "It's hard to soar with eagles when you work with turkeys." Even though we may not say that, somehow it comes through in the way we deal with people around us.

God has blessed us as God's people in a marvelous way. He has given us tremendous resources. In fact, I do not know of another group of believers who has a greater potential of resources than North American Baptists do.

We need to have faith and an attitude that is like Paul's, when he said, "All things are possible through Christ." That means with North American Baptists, even with the congregation that I am serving, even with the Conference staff that we have, and the General Council that we have.

Now that is a pretty strong statement of Paul's. And it does not mean that we will not make mistakes and have failure. We are all flawed. We all make mistakes. We all stumble and fall. None of us is exempt from that. But a mistake or a failure is no reason for adopting a negative attitude. By no means! We need to lay hold of the promises of God, claim them for ourselves, and move forward accepting the challenges and opportunities that are ours.

A positive attitude is probably the individual's most valuable resource. I think it is even more valuable than a certain skill or a lot of education. You know, a person may be very skillful, have a lot of education and a lot of training, but if he thinks he cannot do a certain job, he will not be able to do it. The attitude is of utmost importance—a positive attitude claiming the promises of God. Not to say, "Well, I can do

it in my strength." Then we will really fall on our faces. But if we claim by faith the promises of God, there are some things that we could tackle as North American Baptists that we have not tried. And God would help us to be victorious. That attitude can become contagious, and I hope it becomes contagious among us here during the days that we are together.

ple. He was putting people down. And the Lord had to turn him around. In that process, the Lord gave him a burden to reach 150 people in a certain period of time. He said that he began to visualize these 150 people. He prayed about them; he dreamt about them. Soon there were 150 people in his church, and he just felt great.

So he set another goal, and he



Dr. Dan Kedzie, Management Programs, Inc., who spoke briefly at the Council sessions in connection with the Long-Range Planning Committee's presentation chats informally with Dr. John Binder at a General Council break.

I heard a pastor speak at the National Association of Evangelicals in Washington a few months ago. He is a pastor in Korea of probably the fastest growing church in the world. His church now has 150,000 members, though it may be a little difficult for us to relate to him as the pastor of one church. He told us the story of how he began.

He said that he started out as an evangelistic preacher with a lot of fervor. He preached for a whole year, and there was not one convert. There were no results, and he could hardly believe it. He wanted to see people converted, but nothing happened.

He then discovered that the Lord had to deal with his attitude. It was bad; it was negative. He was talking in negative terms. He was judging peo-

ple. He was putting people down. And the Lord had to turn him around. In that process, the Lord gave him a burden to reach 150 people in a certain period of time. He said that he began to visualize these 150 people. He prayed about them; he dreamt about them. Soon there were 150 people in his church, and he just felt great.

So he set another goal, and he

Let us commit all that God has given us to serve him. If we do that, there is no telling what can happen among us. □

Baptist Herald

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Attend a Concert in Your Area

Date	Place	Contact Person	Date	Place	Contact Person	Date	Place	Contact Person
September			November					
8	Benton Harbor, MI	Rev. Herman Effa	4	Columbus, NE (a.m.)	Rev. William Effa	1	Edmonton, AB	Mr. Gordon Kirsch
9	Lansing, MI	Dr. Arthur Boymook		Beatrice, NE (p.m.)	Rev. Kendall Mercer	3	Medicine Hat, AB	Rev. Arthur Freitag
10	Auburn, MI	Rev. Robert Hess	6	Kansas City, KS/MO	Rev. Rubin Herrmann	4	Regina, SK	Rev. Richard Quiring
11	Detroit, MI	Rev. William Cummins	7	Lorraine, KS	Rev. Herbert Vetter	5	Yorkton, SK	Rev. Delvin Bertsch
13	Kitchener, ON (a.m.)	Rev. John Goetze	8	Durham, KS	Rev. Harvey Friez	6	Minnetonka, MB	Rev. Ronald Kelway
	Hamilton, ON (p.m.)	Rev. Heinrich Goliath	9	Okeene, OK		8	Winnipeg, MB	Rev. Richard Goetze
15	Buffalo, NY	Rev. Bernard Thole	11	Waco, TX (a.m.)	Rev. Joe Cook	9	Grand Forks, ND	Rev. Ralph Cooke
16	Rochester, NY	Rev. Herbert Berndt		Dallas, TX (p.m.)	Dr. Adolph Braun	11	Minot, ND	
18	New York, NY	Dr. Heinz Rossol	15	Anaheim, CA	Rev. Aaron Buhler	12	Washburn, ND	Rev. James Porterfield
20	Bethlehem, PA (a.m.)	Rev. William Jeschke	16	Costa Mesa, CA	Rev. Fred Jantz	13	Jamestown, ND	Rev. Jim Dick
	Philadelphia, PA (p.m.)	Rev. Paul Meister	18	Stockton, CA (a.m.)	Dr. Kenneth Fischer	15	Bismarck, ND (a.m.)	Rev. Manuel Wolff
23	Washington, DC	Dr. Reinhold Kerstan	19	Lodi, CA (p.m.)	Rev. Arthur Brust		Bismarck, ND (p.m.)	Rev. David Ewing
24	Pittsburgh, PA	Rev. William Stout	21	Sacramento, CA	Rev. Larrimore Neufeld	17	Ashley, ND	Rev. Allan Gerber
25	Cleveland, OH	Dr. John Thielenhaus		Portland, OR	Rev. Ervin Gerlitz	18	Aberdeen, SD	Rev. Monte Michaelson
27	Chicago, IL	Rev. Ronald Norman	22	Tacoma, WA	Rev. Allan Strohschein	19	Emery, SD	Rev. David Korb
29	Kankakee, IL	Rev. Robert Penner	23	Seattle, WA	Rev. C. I. Wiebe	20	Sioux Falls, SD	Rev. Leon Bill
30	Peoria, IL	Rev. Terry Stoltenow	25	Vancouver, BC	Rev. Richard Hohensee	22	Minneapolis, MN (a.m.)	Rev. Harvey Mehlhaff
October			27	Kelowna, BC	Rev. Ronald Kernohan		St. Paul, MN (p.m.)	Rev. Douglas Radke
1	Burlington, IA	Rev. Lawrence Sweeney	29	Calgary, AB	Rev. Richard Grabke	23	Milwaukee, WI	Rev. Erwin Babbel
2	Aplington, IA	Rev. Donald Patet	30	Carbon, AB				

For further information contact the Rev. Harold Lang, associate secretary for promotion and personnel, Missions Department, North American Baptist Conference, 1 So. 210 Summit Ave., Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181; (312) 495-2000.