

NORTH AMERICAN BAPTIST
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Keeping In Touch

Megatrends

In preparation for a planning retreat, I did some reading of futurists who refer to the powerful forces shaping the future as megatrends. Two or three of these megatrends especially captured my attention as we, as Conference heads of departments, try to plan to the year 2000.

1) Doing more and more with less and less. The inventor and author, R. Buckminster Fuller, is very optimistic about the future. He bases this on the denial of the Second Law of Thermodynamics or entropy. That law teaches that everything in the universe is running downhill or is an unwinding piece of clockwork. Fuller believes that life and knowledge are anti-entropic, and that humanity will survive by "ephemeralization"—which is doing more and more with less and less as with printed circuits in electronic equipment.

This really seems to be happening. As *Computerworld* magazine says, "If the auto industry had done what the computer industry has done in the last 30 years, a Rolls Royce would cost \$2.50 and get 2,000,000 miles to the gallon."

Developments in electronics are turning this into the golden age of specialized communications. This became vividly evident to me recently as I visited an electronics center. Tiny computers in cars and machines are beginning to guide us in preventive maintenance, and computer chips in

cards will soon handle our personal financial transactions and pay our family bills.

Today almost anyone can broadcast to or publish for a great variety of publics large and small. Are we really using this capacity to communicate the gospel and promote the Christian faith in our churches and around the world?

2) Another trend, according to John Naisbitt's book on *Megatrends*, is a shift from an industrial society to an informational society. The major emphasis of the United States and Canada will no longer be the manufacture and distribution of goods, but most people will be involved in manufacturing and distributing information, ideas and words. The phenomenal growth of micro-processors, computers, satellite communication and cable television proves it is happening.

Most of what we do at the N.A.B. Conference International Office is process information. About a year ago, we had to replace our first computer with a new and larger one, which has a greater capacity to handle the increased information. We are now having a trial test of some micro-computers/word processors to see if they will save us time and keep down the need for additional staff to handle the processing of all the new information. Our world is at the threshold of a communication explosion. Are we prepared to use the latest techniques and technology to spread the message of Christ?



John Binder

Executive director
North American Baptist Conference

3) Another megatrend is moving from either/or to multiple choice. There is a growing complexity of life in place of the simpler patterns of the past. Naisbitt calls the emerging society a "Baskin-Robbins Society" with more than 31 flavors of choice. For example, there are 752 different models of automobiles for sale in America today. A store in New York sells 2,500 different kinds of light bulbs. In the media, narrowcasting is taking the place of broadcasting with hundreds of channels available, cable networks that will appeal to special interest groups.

The church and the Conference need to consider the implications of these and other trends. That makes planning of utmost necessity, extremely tough and very exciting.

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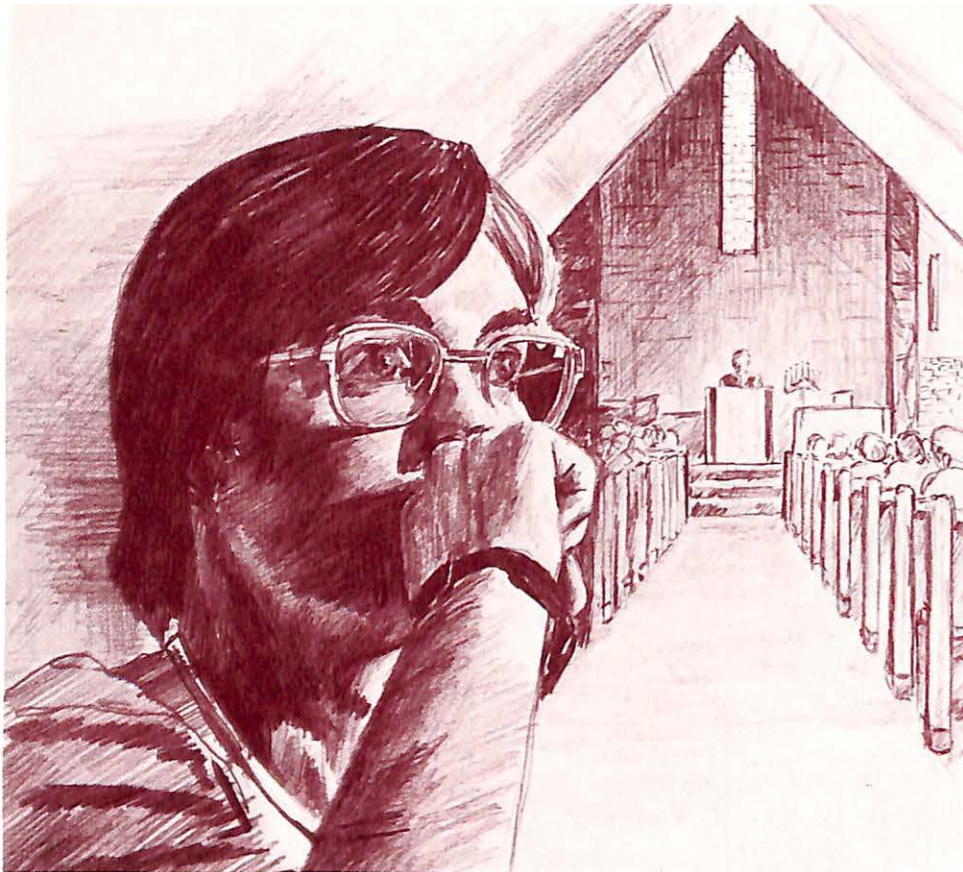
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Is Our Worship Acceptable?

by Eugene A. Kern



What comes to your mind when you think about worship? Is it the eleven o'clock hour on Sunday morning? Dry, boring sermons? Going to church? Does it only happen if you have time? Is our worship a selfish, man-centered, entertainment session?



The Rev. Eugene Kern is senior pastor of Sunrise Baptist Church, Fair Oaks, CA; and moderator of the North American Baptist Conference. This is a condensation of his message during an evening session at the 1982 N.A.B. Triennial Conference in Niagara Falls, NY.

The Nature of Worship

Worship, defined in its simplest terms, means to bring honor, to pay honor to a superior being. It means to give homage, reverence, respect, adoration, praise, and glory to God.

Worship is to be God-centered

Far too often we come to the time of corporate worship with the idea: "What am I going to get? Am I going to be fed? Am I going to be blessed?"

As I examine my Bible, I have come to the understanding that the nature of worship is characterized by giving and responding to that with which God already has blessed us. Worship is to be God-centered. If we only think about our needs in worship rather than thinking about how we can adore and glorify God, we miss the mark. That really is not acceptable to God. Possibly this is why the Word of God says that we come with our lip service, but our hearts are far from God.

Worship is to be person-centered

Another characteristic of the nature of worship is that worship is to be person-centered rather than place-centered. The Samaritan woman who had the encounter with Jesus said, "Our fathers worshiped in this mountain, and you people say, that in Jerusalem is the place where we ought to worship. Where is the right place? We, Samaritans, worship at Mt. Gerizim; you, Jews, worship at Jerusalem" (John 4:20).

A lot of people think that if they go to a particular location, where there is a church building, they will be doing that which is honoring to God. Worship is not really confined to a place: worship focuses upon a person, not just any person. The focus is on a special person: the person of God, who revealed himself in his Son, the Lord Jesus Christ. He, alone, is the only worthy one upon whom we, as the *people of God*, must focus our faith and trust.

Today, much of our focus in worship is not upon the person of God but, in many instances, upon the person who leads us in our worship. In some circles, worship has almost become entertainment, and the person leading the worship is frequently applauded.

The evangelical Christian church is prone to be man-centered rather than God-centered. We are such a consumptive, pragmatic, man-centered, place-centered society that we tend to turn everything in upon ourselves.

Evelyn Underhill, writing in 1928 to a conference of Church of England clergymen said, "We are drifting toward a religion which consciously or unconsciously keeps its eye on humanity rather than deity." If that was a true statement in 1928, it is even truer today.

Worship with an Awakened Spirit

Jesus also states that the nature of worship is characterized by an awakened spirit. Jesus says to the Samaritan woman, "Believe Me, an

True worship changes people. People return to church not because they can remember the pastor's sermon, but because they sense God's eternal Spirit, a warmth and a caring. Unless worship is from within, the heart will be tossed to and fro, scrambled with the world.

hour is coming when neither in this mountain, nor in Jerusalem, shall you worship the Father. You worship that which you do not know; we worship that which we know, for salvation is from the Jews. But an hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers shall worship the Father in spirit" (John 4:21-23, NAS).

True worship is not something that occurs in an unknown way. As God's people, we must worship from a spirit that has been awakened, with a clear understanding of what is happening.

If we are being blown away as Christians, one of the reasons for this is that we do not understand who God is and how he desires for us to respond to him. As we worship God from an awakened spirit, our worship will be warm. There will be joy, lasting peace, and happiness. Praise and adoration directed to God brings the in-depth growth of believers in our churches.

Often we are concerned with the breadth of our ministry, but we are



not concerned about the depth of our ministry. If we would have a sincere desire to go deep in a qualitative way in our worship and ministry with God, then God will take care of the breadth of our ministry. He did in the past, why wouldn't he today?

God is calling us back to worship him from an awakened spirit. An awakened spirit is a spirit that has been redeemed. It has been reconciled. It has been born again. It has passed from spiritual deadness to spiritual life. It is the inner person communing with the Spirit of God. It is worshipping from the inside out. It is not concerned about the good feelings. It is concerned about a transformed life, and it is that which pours out from a cup that is full and flowing over. It is coming together to adore him because he is the sovereign Savior.

We cannot improve the Lord's pattern. It is not a matter of being in the right place at the right time with the right words, wearing the right clothes, going through the right formalities, participating in the right order of worship, the right activities, the right music, or being in the right mood. It is instead, a right heart, awakened and focused upon the right person, the Lord Jesus Christ.

Worship God in Truth

The final characteristic of the nature of worship is that it is based upon God's standard—his truth. Coming back again to our text, it says there that we are not only to "worship the Father in spirit" but also in "truth;" for such people the Father seeks to be his worshipers. (John 4:23).

Worship is not to be self-styled, not to be counterfeit; it is to be acceptable. All worship is a response to the truth of God's pattern, his directive given to us in his Word; his Word is truth. Yes, we can and must be creative, but all of our creativity must be based again upon what is said in the Word of God.

If your pastor is to lead you into the truth of worship from the truth of God's Word, it must be imperative that he spends time in the Word. It is important that you recognize that while your pastor is willing to do anything that God would call him to do, he must spend quality time in the Word and in prayer. This is so that when he comes to the time of leading you, as God's people, in the truth of worship, he is speaking from a heart filled, warmed, and directed by the unlavished love of God. This, in turn, brings praise, adoration, and glory to God.

(continued)



The Urgency of Worship

In conversing with the Samaritan woman, Jesus stated that there was an *urgency of worship*. First, Scripture speaks frequently to the urgency of worship. The Ten Commandments are very clear. They say, "You shall worship no other gods; you are not to make any graven image."

Stated positively in Matthew 22:37, Jesus says, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind."

Second, the Father seeks that we be his worshipers. Many times we have the idea that we are redeemed and saved so that we might escape the fires of hell. But if we are merely saved to escape the fires of hell, the moment we are saved, the Lord would take us to heaven and get us out of here. I believe that God has saved us to be his worshipers, to glorify him.

A third aspect of the urgency of worship is that worship is not an elective for the believer. "God is a spirit and those who worship *must*. . . ." (v. 24) It does not say that we may, or we can, or when it is con-

venient, but we *must*.

We must worship God, not in a self-styled manner, not in an entertaining way, not to bring attention to ourselves, not to have a good feeling, not to have our needs met, but to give ourselves. We must worship him in spirit and in truth according to God's standard, not mine, not yours, but his, as is spelled out in the Word of God. It is not an elective; it is to be a part of my life-style; it is a part of your life-style if we are believers.

The Results of Worship

What are the *results of worship*? God is glorified. The Psalmist has said, "Who so offereth praise glorifieth me" (Psalm 50:23). The supreme purpose of life is to glorify God. When we worship him, as he is to be worshiped, we glorify him.

The second result is that Christians are to be purified. The Psalmist David (Psalm 24:3, 4) said, "Who shall ascend into the hill of the Lord? or who shall stand in his holy place?" The Psalmist responds and says, "He who has clean hands and a pure heart."

As we enter into God's presence in worship, there is going to be a recognition of our sinfulness and a willingness to abandon that sinfulness. As we draw closer to God, there is going to be a consuming desire to be pure and to be clean. Then we are ready to serve and to worship God.

David, the Psalmist, said, "Search me, O God, and know my heart: try me, and know my thoughts; and see if there be any wicked way in me" (Psalm 139:23).

The results of worship? God is glorified, and Christians are purified.

The third result of worship is that the church is edified or built up. The early church worshiped because they cared for one another, and the Lord kept adding. I believe God is calling us in our worship to be rooted firmly, to be stabilized. When we are, our life and the life of the body of God is going to be built up and edified.

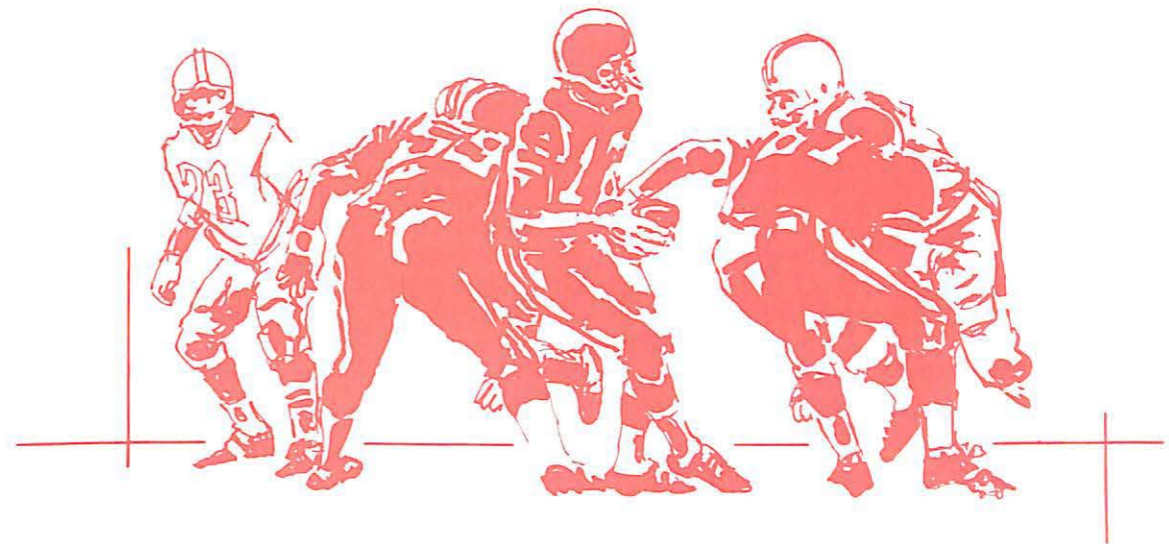
The final result of the people of God at worship is that the lost are evangelized. That is exciting!

So many times we get the cart before the horse. We think that we evangelize the lost, but until we have really worshiped God, until we have seen him in his holiness and recognized that we are only instruments, we are going to be ineffective in our evangelism.

I am convinced that we, as the people of God, are concerned about reaching the lost. But until we learn and understand the significance of being the people of God at worship, recognizing the nature of worship and the urgency of worship, we will find ourselves going through the routines, saying the right things, and appearing right. Unless our worship stems from within a heart that has been awakened, a heart that is desirous of giving itself to God, my friends, we are going to be tossed to and fro.

Pray that God would give us a burden, a hunger, and a love to look full into his wonderful face. God is calling us to be the people of God who worship him in spirit and in truth. □

In your life, who calls the signals; to whom do you listen? **Who is My Quarterback?** by Ernie Zimbelman



A huddle during a football game is something familiar to all of us who love this game. A team attempts to move the ball down the field in order to score a touchdown. If each of the eleven players on the team did what he wanted to do, there would be chaos. In all likelihood, no games would be won by such a team.

What happens in the huddle? The players gather in a circle. What kind of ritual is that? They bend over. What is the focus of their attention? The quarterback.

They are listening to one of their teammates—the quarterback. He is the director of the whole team. He is responsible for planning the many plays that will achieve the all important first downs and eventually the touchdowns, which win the game. Every member of the team is accountable to the quarterback. Any team member who is unresponsive to the signals of the quarterback will soon find himself out of the game and eventually off the team.



Dr. Ernie Zimbelman is professor of Counseling, North American Baptist Seminary, Sioux Falls, SD.

We Are Part of a Team

In a football game, the team members must be responsive to the quarterback. Most of us are not football players. But we are part of a bigger game, and that is the game of life. In your life, who calls signals to you, and you listen? Who can tell you that you are not playing hard

Life is a dangerous journey; unless I receive appropriate direction, there is no doubt that I shall flounder and be destroyed.

enough or not playing right, and you listen?

The world in which we live makes it very hard for us to score, unless we are ready to listen to a variety of quarterbacks. Any team that has a good quarterback can expect to be a winning team. A team that has a poor quarterback can expect to lose games.

It is impossible for us to go through life and be so isolated and private that we are never touched by someone else's advice, opinions, example, orders, commands or other kinds of influence. Therefore, it is important that we identify who are the significant persons in our lives.

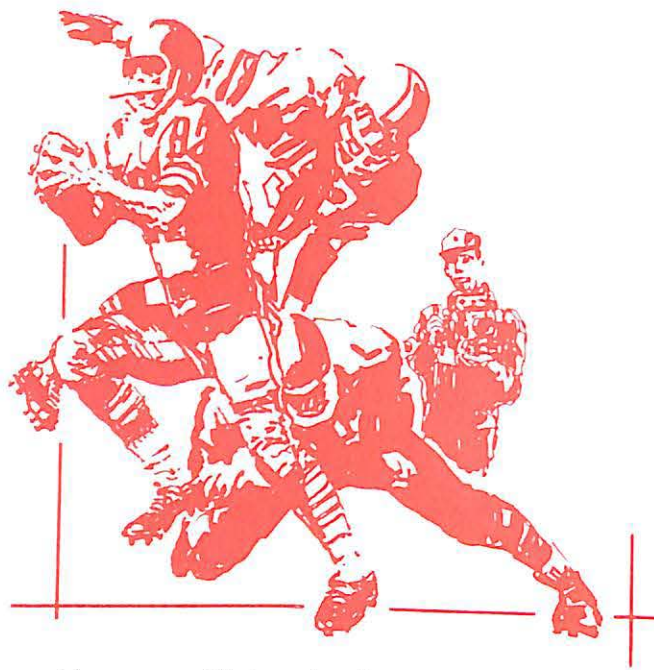
From whom can I readily take orders? Whose modeling do I like? Whose advice would I follow? Whose opinions matter so much to me that I change in order to be approved? The answers to these questions are of vital importance to you!

We live in a world where there is endless conflict, evil, and hostility. As long as sin exists, conflict will rage. Lawlessness is in conflict with the lawful. Intrigue and dishonesty are in conflict with truth and honesty. Intolerance is at odds with tolerance, love, and human understanding.

Lust and pleasure are in conflict with propriety and purity. Godlessness is at odds with righteousness. Disorder is at war with decency and order.

THE BIBLE USES THREE POWERFUL METAPHORS TO WARN US OF THE EVIL INFLUENCES, which exist and are enemies attempting to defeat us in living meaningful lives of righteousness. These three influences are the world, the flesh, and the devil. The Bible depicts these three influences as powerful and dynamic, and says that these forces will defeat us, unless we consciously take steps and make decisions that will enhance our relationship with God.

(continued)



The Bible pictures the world as the materialistic influence that will control our lives unless we choose to develop our spirituality. A life given over to "worldliness" is basically concerned with a life of physical luxury and ease. It is having fun without worrying about the consequences. In our dynamic American culture, it is very easy to be seduced by worldliness.

The Scriptures' concept of "the flesh" is as the enemy within; we are

Who could come to you and express concern about your general life-style or a specific situation, and you would gladly hear them out?

spiritually infiltrated. Paul writes very vividly of this struggle in Romans 7:15: "I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate." So the influence of the flesh is an ever present force with which we must deal.

The third enemy of the good life that we have to deal with is depicted by Scripture as the devil. To think of evil in this life as only external physical factors (the world) in relation to which we must control our passions (the flesh) is to view

life in a simplistic and naive manner. The Bible warns us that there is an evil mind that works for our destruction just as there are forces of good represented by God. The devil is depicted as one who harasses, accuses, tempts, deceives, and lies in his dealings with Christians. He works through allies, the world, and the flesh. The devil uses the world and the flesh to wreak havoc among God's people, to hinder the progress of righteousness, to discourage and distress people of "good will."

IT SOUNDS AS THOUGH LIFE IS A DANGEROUS JOURNEY. LIFE IS A DANGEROUS JOURNEY, and unless I as an individual receive appropriate direction, there is no doubt that I shall flounder and be destroyed.

Every person who goes on a sea voyage needs to have compasses, charts, and other navigational instruments. Every airliner is equipped with sophisticated equipment. This makes it possible to be in constant contact with control towers and radio beacons so that the pilot can find his way in the vastness of the atmosphere. Anyone who goes even on a short land trip has need for some kind of a road map.

What kind of navigational helps do you have to guide you over, under and through the vast sea of life?

THERE ARE WHAT I CONSIDER TO BE THREE INDISPENSIBLE SOURCES OF DIRECTION that each of us must have if we are to live life meaningfully and productively.

In Colossians 1:16-17, we read: "For by him (Christ) all things were created . . . He is before all things and in him all things hold together." As was stated earlier, there are spiritual forces loose about us that seek to destroy our goodness. Therefore, there needs to be a spiritual force in our lives, to guide us, to protect us, to give us wisdom and insight. We cannot be happy, effective people unless we develop a deep spirituality firmly grounded in Jesus Christ as Lord and the Holy Spirit as our teacher.

The second source of help which we must have is a faithful commitment to the Bible as holy scripture. Psalm 119:11 states, "I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you." To have the word of God hidden in our hearts means more than memorizing a few scripture verses and being familiar with a few Bible stories. It means to have a commitment to the principles of righteousness that the Bible is all about.

The third resource that we must rely on for effective living is other people. In the Gospel of John 15:12, we are told: "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you." We must love each other enough so that if we see sin and wrongdoing in each other's life we will confront. But we must also be so loving to the person to be confronted, that they will be ready to hear us and trust us.

Without thinking of any specific problem or sin in your life—who could come to you and express concern about your general life-style or a specific situation, and you would gladly hear them out? If there are not several such persons in your life, you are probably sailing in uncharted waters without navigational resources. This is not wise. □

Helping the Depressed Christian by Lois R. McLatchie

Depression is probably the illness evangelical Christians understand least. All of us have suffered depression as an emotion at times, but a good cry, a good talk with God, or the sympathy of a close friend or relative often helps considerably. A little time takes care of the rest. For example, grief following the loss of a loved one is normal, and in time the grieving person recovers with help and support of friends and relatives.

If a person is experiencing severe depression, urges to "shape up," or "get right with God" are not likely to be helpful because they increase the depressed person's already inappropriate guilt feelings.

Because we have dealt with our own bad times in these ways with success, we tend to act judgmentally toward a Christian friend who falls into a deeper and longer-than-usual depression or who fails to recover from grief. We are astounded at how pervasive his depression seems, affecting his sleep, appetite, work behavior, family relationships, church attendance and leisure activities. He may express irrational guilt feelings and may even consider or attempt suicide. It seems nothing we say or do can help.

Like Job's comforters, we tend to blame this long-term pervasive depression on the weakness of the sufferer's Christian character, on his or her lack of a close walk with the Lord, or even on demon possession.

Lois R. McLatchie, Ph.D., is the pastor's wife at Hillcrest Baptist Church, Cleveland, Ohio, and a clinical psychologist at Western Reserve Psychiatric Habilitation Center, Northfield, Ohio.

We feel that if the person would only trust the Lord more he or she would recover.

Many Christians feel the only valid solution for such a malady is a spiritual treatment involving prayer and spiritual counseling.* These may suffice for some depressions that arise out of real guilt. If we act in a way that offends our conscience, feeling bad may bring us to repentance and a behavior change. However, most depressions are not of this type.

While prayer and spiritual counsel are valuable in cases of depression, medical evaluation and treatment should not be ignored, because many abnormal depressions have a physiological as well as a psychological basis. For instance, most of us realize that an overload of stress can bring on real physical ailments such as ulcers, high blood pressure, heart disease and asthma.

Research has recently implicated a stress factor in a host of other diseases, including cancer. The body's natural defenses are broken down under stress overload, especially when we have not learned how to cope with it. The way in which our bodies respond to stress appears to be genetically predetermined.

Researchers have also found evidence that the tendency toward depression may be inherited. For example, an inherited physical response to stress can change the brain chemistry in depressed persons. The brain, in such cases, becomes deficient in certain chemicals called neurotransmitters, which carry messages between nerve cells.

Fortunately, today's anti-depressant drugs often prove very effective in correcting this condition.

*The idea that evangelicals believe these things was supported by a research project which this writer completed about the attitudes of evangelicals toward mental illness and mental health services.

Scientists are continually improving their understanding of depression and of the use of these medications. This knowledge points up strongly the need for the sufferer to be evaluated, not only by a spiritual counselor, but also by a mental health professional who understands the biological correlates of depression.

Christ met people's physical and mental needs at the same time that he cared for their spiritual needs.

The psychiatrist will attempt to find what kind of depression the patient has. Then, if a medication is needed, he must decide on the right medicine and dosage.

Along with good medical treatment, psychological treatment often is able to help the patient cope with stress in a way that may prevent triggering the biological mechanisms of depression. Some non-biological depressions can be treated by psychological methods alone.

Considering all that we now know about depression, what course of action should a caring Christian take? Since our primary goal as Christians is to imitate Christ, we should observe that Christ met people's physical and mental needs at the same time that he cared for their spiritual needs.

If a person is experiencing severe depression, urges to "shape up" or "get right with God" are not likely to be helpful because they increase the depressed person's already inappropriate guilt feelings. Certainly pray for that person and lend emotional support with a firm encouragement to keep active. However, it is very important to encourage him or her to seek appropriate medical and psychological evaluation and treatment. □

Missions Education in the Church by Dorothy Zimbelman

The Great Commission, "Go ye into all the world," is being carried out by many missionaries throughout the world. In order for these missionaries to do their task, there is a need for many committed believers to be supportive in their home church.

This is the story of one church's effort to keep the people in its fellowship informed and inspired with the potential for outreach, and of what is actually happening in missions.



Trinity Baptist Church of Sioux Falls, South Dakota, is a missionary-minded church, with a pastor who has a ministry that is committed to missions.



The missions display mounted and completed—all accomplished in one Sunday School hour period.

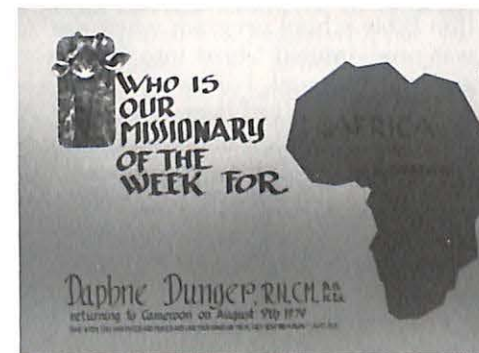
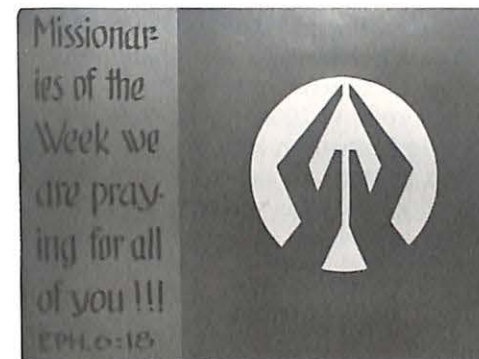
Mrs. Dorothy Zimbelman is chairperson of the Missions Committee, Trinity Baptist Church, Sioux Falls, SD, and a former missionary to Cameroon.



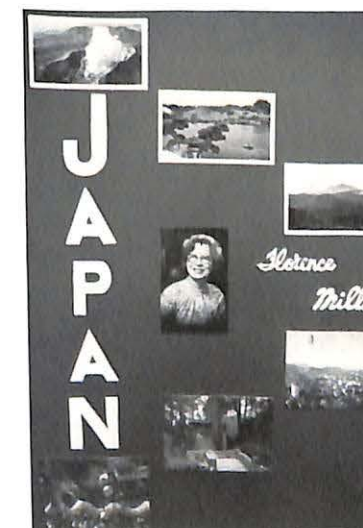
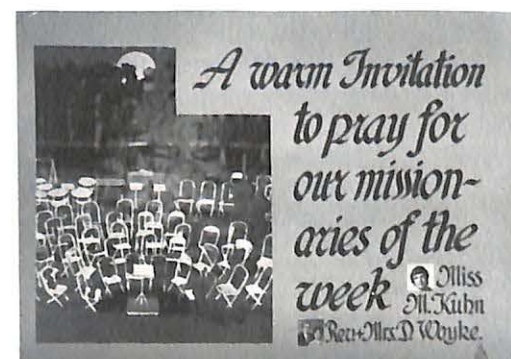
Probably the most interesting and unique missionary feature about missions promotion at Trinity is its inspiring bulletin boards. During the past several months, various Sunday School classes have designed and maintained a monthly missionary-oriented bulletin board. Donna Leinger directs her class in preparation of the materials for the board. . . .

The Good News of Jesus Christ is proclaimed not only through preaching but also through banners such as the one shown here with the author.

The Church has frequent missionary messages by different lay persons during special announcement times. Usually the church sponsors an annual event featuring foreign students from local colleges. Being located in Sioux Falls, Trinity Baptist has the unique opportunity of having frequent missionary visitors because of its closeness to the North American Baptist Seminary.



Some of the most unusual and interesting bulletin board features were developed by Dr. George Dunger, a former missionary and retired Seminary professor, now Conference archivist. These posters, always artistically tasteful and very timely, are posted on an easel in a conspicuous position in the church foyer.



A bulletin board also highlights the interest of the members of Trinity Baptist in local outreach and in their ministry and interest in the elderly. Photos of "new faces at Trinity" are arranged on a bulletin board so the new members become more familiar to the congregation.

In addition to these many interests, Trinity sponsored a group of young people who visited the N.A.B. Rio Grande Mission field in Texas during the winter. The Church also supplied radio recording equipment for the Cameroon Baptist Convention. During June and July, Linda Carson, one of the young college women, went to Argentina for a two-month missionary experience.

We cannot all go into "all the world," but our heartfelt concern and support can be given to those who do so. □

(If your church has effective ways of educating the congregation about our N.A.B. missions or church extension, please write the editor of the Baptist Herald.)

Introducing Our New Missionaries by Denny Miller

Part I

Six couples and four singles were appointed to our mission fields in Cameroon, Brazil, Japan, and Nigeria this year. Following a week long orientation in the Chicago area, most of them departed for their respective fields of service. The remaining few left in October and November.

The group is an exciting one. It is exciting not only because of its size or its commitment but also due to the diversity of individuals within the group. These 16 missionaries are certainly not a group of carbon-copied, dressed alike missions reproductions. Instead, they are a group of adults coming with different educational and career backgrounds, varying ages and experiences, setting out with varying goals to different areas with different job descriptions. They are people who have prayed and struggled to find God's direction for their lives and whose diversity will be used on the field.

Miss Denny Miller is a student at North American Baptist Seminary, Sioux Falls, SD, and is a former short-term missionary.

These newly appointed missionaries have gone to fill posts, which have been vacated for varying periods of time, to ease up on the loads of serving missionaries, to minister in areas where we haven't had resources before and to further present the message of Christ through their words and actions.

Nancy Grover, Willy and Marie Muller, and Karin Klettke are returning to fields, where they have served before. Nancy is teaching at the newly established missionary school in Cameroon. The Mullers are part of a special project working with pastors on a personal and developmental level. The Harold Schroeders are involved in general administration and in working with churches and pastors in the Soppo and Limbe Fields in Cameroon. Norton Redlich, short-term missionary, is teaching science at Joseph Merrick Baptist College, Ndu, Cameroon. Others are going with special skills and experiences which will be implemented in the field. They will be presented in the December issue of the *Baptist Herald*.

Regardless of their backgrounds, gifts or calling, however, each of these individuals needs our continued and specific prayer support as they adjust to new cultures and new job requirements. They need prayers as they relate interpersonally with both nationals and other missionaries and as they strive to live as consistent Christian witnesses. They need a special dose of patience and of wisdom.

As you read the following sketches of half of the new missionaries, thank God for how he has worked and how he continues to work in their and our experiences and lives.



Neither teaching nor serving in Cameroon is unfamiliar to Nancy Grover. Having the distinction of being one of the original eight short-termers to go to Cameroon in 1968, Nancy is returning to Cameroon after an eleven-year absence for her third term of service. Nancy is teaching missionary children in Bamenda. During her previous terms, she has taught at Joseph Merrick Baptist College in Ndu.

Nancy grew up in Portland, Oregon, and there, during a vacation Bible school program when she was nine, invited Christ into her life and was baptized. Following high school, she received degrees in both Christian Education and Education. Nancy was an elementary school teacher in Portland for more than ten years. Since completion of her last tour, she has been employed as an insurance claims analyst.

A member of Trinity Baptist Church in Portland, Nancy has continued to grow and learn, centering each day on the Lord and his leading. Missions has never been a closed issue for her.

"I have always been interested in missions. The past few years, however, I have had a feeling of a job undone in Cameroon. Thus the desire to return."



Formerly a short-termer in Matsusaka-Shi, Japan, Karin Klettke has returned to Japan under the short-term program. Karin is teaching conversational English at Nagoya. She had served as an N.A.B. short-term missionary from 1980 to 1982.

Karin grew up and accepted the Lord in West Germany. In 1968 she immigrated to Canada with her older sister. They settled in Kitchener, Ontario, and joined Central Baptist Church where she retains her membership.

In 1980 Karin received her degree in religious education from Emmanuel Bible College in Kitchener.

Karin has a deep commitment to ministry in Japan through personal interaction.

"My purpose is to bring Christ and his message of salvation and abundant life to people who are seeking meaning and purpose in life and to share my limited knowledge in training believers, thus strengthening their spiritual growth, individually as well as collectively."



Willy and Marie Muller are in Ndu on a two-year appointment to work specifically with pastors in developing stronger spiritual lives and coordinating the short-term missions program. On two previous occasions, they have spent their one-year sabbaticals teaching at Cameroon Baptist Theological College, Ndu. North American Baptist College, Edmonton, Alberta, has granted them a special two-year leave. The Mullers are living in Ndu.

Marie has a background in teaching and library science. She received her degree in education from Ohio University and her Master in Christian Education degree from Northern Seminary. Marie grew up in Ohio where she was a member of a Baptist church.

Willy has degrees in theology, history, education and, most recently, worship. He was ordained at Lauderdale Baptist Church in Edmonton, Alberta, and served that church. Later he was pastor of Carbon Baptist Church and Meadowlark Baptist Church, also in Alberta. Since 1962, Willy has been on staff at North American Baptist College as dean of students and professor of Practical Theology. Upon occasion, Marie has also been on staff at the College.

Willy and Marie exhibit a great concern and sensitivity as they work as a team with pastors and their wives.

"Returning to Cameroon to work with our pastors in helping them to develop a better witness to Jesus Christ and his saving grace has been a part of a life-long desire of ours."



Following a three-week missionary orientation course, Norton Redlich flew to Cameroon to teach science at Joseph Merrick Baptist College, Ndu, as a short-term missionary.

Born in Kamloops, British Columbia, Norton accepted the Lord and was baptized at the age of 14 at Trinity Baptist Church, Kelowna, BC. During his college and university years, Norton did not attend church and was not in close fellowship with the Lord. Through the reading of a book on end times prophecy, Norton rededicated his life to Christ.

Norton graduated from the University of British Columbia with a degree in astronomy in 1980. Following his recommitment, he attended Okanagan Bible College and North American Baptist Divinity School for a year each.

While Norton sees further studies for a teaching career as a possible option in his future, he is anxious to be used in a teaching/discipleship capacity in Cameroon among their youth.

"My motivation is to serve the Lord in a practical way and to gain practical skills in serving. All my life I've been going to school learning theory . . . I want some hands on knowledge of how to integrate what I've learned into real life situations. I hope to help Cameroon youth form a solid spiritual base for their future as potential leaders in their country and their church."

(continued)

The Church Is People



A recent seminary graduate, Harold Schroeder, and his wife Marlene along with daughter Charis, born January 1983, are stationed in Soppo, Cameroon, where Harold is involved with general administrative work and churches in the Soppo and Limbe fields.

Harold has felt administration to be one of his gifts since working as youth pastor for Immanuel Baptist Church in Vancouver, British Columbia, (1978-81) and part-time associate pastor of Grandview Evangelical Covenant Church while attending the North American Baptist Seminary, Sioux Falls, SD. Before receiving his Master of Divinity degree in 1983, Harold had earned undergraduate degrees in biomedical electronics and religion. Harold grew up in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and accepted Christ during a week of Bible studies held by the late Rev. W. Laser when he was twelve.

Marlene is from Winnipeg, Manitoba. At age five, she invited Christ into her life at a children's evangelistic meeting and was later baptized at Rowandale Baptist Church in Winnipeg. Marlene taught elementary school for several years following her 1979 graduation in education from the University of Winnipeg.

The Schroeders are in agreement as to their missions commitment.

"Our purpose is not to present a culture but a Christ who works within cultures to draw all people to himself. As his representatives, we go to tell of his love and forgiveness and to challenge others to a lifetime of service for the King of Kings." □

"The Church is not a building; it is a people, people who have been born again into God's family, serving him and one another," says Dr. John Thielenhaus, pastor of Parma Heights Baptist Church in Cleveland, Ohio.

Evidence of this is seen in the various ministries of this 29-year old church. During seven months of this year, the Lord has added 33 new members to the church—14 by baptism and 19 by transfer and testimony. The present membership stands at 844.

Begun as a mission work by a group of people from Erin Avenue Baptist Church in 1954 under the leadership of the Rev. Edwin Miller, the group broke ground for the first unit in 1954. Since then, a second unit was constructed in 1958, and the third—the sanctuary—in June 1969, when the Rev. Aaron Buhler was pastor. Dr. David Draewell served as pastor from 1960 to 1962 and the Rev. Douglas Gallagher from 1963 to 1967.

Parma Heights Baptist makes good use of its facilities for which they are most grateful, "but we praise the Lord most of all for the fine cooperative spirit of our church congregation, serving the community and surrounding Greater Cleveland area through many church ministries," says John Bretz, one of the church members. The church ministers through the Sunshine Nursery School and the Parma Heights Christian Academy, provides programs and activities for children, youth, college and career singles, men and women, and senior citizens. Service opportunities are available through music, fellowship, and outreach.

Bretz, excited about the Parma Church's ministry, feels that "other congregations can get some ideas about ministry from our church."

This fall, Pastor Thielenhaus conducted a visitation and evangelism seminar. A film series, "Strengthening Your Grip," by Charles Swindoll is also being shown.

An overview of the ministries of Parma Heights Baptist Church is presented by the chairmen or ministers involved.



Miss Pam Scott, (First row, 1. to r.) Mrs. Jane Thielenhaus, Mrs. Elizabeth Van Dyke, Mrs. Janie Holley; Tim Hatch, (second row, 1. to r.) Dr. John F. Thielenhaus, Rev. Florian Manas, Terry Holley



Parma Heights Baptist Church in Cleveland, Ohio

Senior Citizens

Senior Citizens are important people at Parma Heights Baptist Church. In six years, the "Autumn Fellowship" has grown from a small group to more than 100 in attendance for special events. This ministry for senior citizens is under the leadership of Pastor Florian Manas and his wife Barbara.

"The purpose of our Senior Citizen Ministry is to win them to Christ, help them grow spiritually, provide wonderful Christian fellowship, and encourage them to become caring and sharing Christians," says Pastor Flor.

Each month, following a



The Senior Citizens at a concert

smorgasboard-buffet, held in the church social hall, interesting and informal programs capture the interest of the senior citizens. Films, speakers, music, and always a message from our wheel chair chaplain, Lenny Paquay, are a part of this.

"Throughout the year, we take many one-day trips on our church bus and van. Places visited are Sea World, Cedar Point Amusement Park, historical homes, unique villages, and many interesting restaurants," says Pastor Manas. "We have taken boat cruises, visited the zoo and aquarium, and have even boarded a U.S. submarine. We have listened to a variety of concerts."

The group plans two annual extended trips using a Christian chartered bus service: in the winter to Florida for a ten-day vacation and in the summer to northwestern Michigan for a week of inspiration, fellowship, and relaxation.

Future plans call for a monthly news sheet, Senior Citizens' Gospel Team, Autumn Fellowship Chorus, Senior Citizens' Exercise Class, and Deeper Life Bible Study Classes. "Many of our senior citizens have become caring Christians through this ministry," says Pastor Flor.

Missions Education

What happens to a church when a missionary appointee joins its staff? "Plenty!" says Mike Gleichman, chairman of the Missions Committee.

Tim Hatch, a son of Parma Heights church, joined the church staff on a part-time basis before leaving for Jordon as a missionary this fall.

Tim coordinated Prime Time, the singles' ministry, served as a resource person on missions for groups within the church, and taught a Sunday school class on missions.

"This latter involvement will no doubt have a great impact," says Gleichman. Each Sunday 15 to 20 adults prayed together about missions and learned what is happening today in missions worldwide. They studied the Evangelical Teacher Training Association course book, *World Missions Today*, by Terry Hulbert in the Sunday School class. Supplementing the book were presentations by visiting missionaries, mission board representatives, and slide/film resources on missions topics.

Tim's goal was to raise the missionary "IQ" of those in the class and, through them, that of the whole church.

Music

Music plays an important part of the ministry at Parma Heights. Under the direction of Todd Ranney, the church choir presented the cantata, "It Took a Miracle." The church also enjoys "special concerts by guest artists such as Neil Stewart, Stan and Marcia Gardner and Todd Ranney," says Gerald Myatt.

(continued)

Women's Ministries

"Women's Ministries is alive and well at Parma Heights Baptist Church, meeting needs of women in the church and the community," says Mrs. Jane Thielenhaus, women's coordinator and wife of Pastor Thielenhaus. "Its objectives are to provide avenues of spiritual growth, outreach, prayer, and mission endeavor; and to provide opportunities that will foster a spirit of true Christian sisterhood."

"During the weekly Women's Bible Study to better equip ourselves to become more effective witnesses in our Jerusalem, much growth takes place," says Mrs. Thielenhaus.

A Women's Ministries' Council meets monthly to coordinate all activities of the organization and works hard to inform women of opportunities available for study, outreach, service, and fellowship. A quarterly newsletter, "Women's Musings," helps keep women abreast of current happenings and upcoming events.



Two special outreach events, geared especially to reach non-church women, are planned each year. "Our Christmas Outreaches have been most rewarding as women seem very open at the holiday season," says Mrs. Thielenhaus. "We have seen exciting results of women coming to know the Lord for the first time as a result of one of our women sharing her testimony and presenting the plan of salvation at each outreach event. A feature of special interest, such as a demonstration of easy-to-prepare foods and decorations by a Cleveland Electric Illuminating Company representative, draws women from the community to the special outreach program."



A recent one-day Women's Retreat held at the church featured outstanding speaker, Carol Kent, from Detroit, Michigan. Her messages, "Disciplined Hearts for God," challenged all 150 in attendance to greater daily discipline in service for him. A skit, "The Heartbeat of Women's Ministries," given by the Women's Ministries Council, informed and enlisted women in various areas of ministries.



"The strong missions emphasis, maintained by a missions committee, is the liaison between our missionaries and our women," says Mrs. Thielenhaus. "Our White Cross Circle is the backbone of our White Cross ministry." Margaret Schindler, assists Ruth Ziemann, White Cross chairman, in the packing of 10 boxes of White Cross work recently completed.

The Men's Fellowship

To meet the needs of men of all ages to belong, to serve and to provide spiritual development and social activity for the men were the reasons the Men's Fellowship was organized in 1978.

"Several of our events have become 'annuals' such as the Easter Breakfast served after the sunrise service on Easter Sunday and our Helping Hands Day when members of our Fellowship help other members of the church with jobs that need to be done," says Marty Kral, president. Helping Hands, an ongoing project, is not limited to a certain day.

Men attend an annual retreat at Skyview Ranch in October with a guest speaker to help the men grow spiritually. "All of our events are usually well attended and enjoyed," says Kral.



As eating is one of men's favorite activities, the men's calendar includes a chicken and corn roast, a father/son picnic, a spaghetti supper, and a father/daughter picnic. Pastor Thielenhaus teaches church members how to prepare barbecue chickens. He emphasizes, "A leader must be a servant."

Children's Ministries

"The church has an important task of leading children into a personal relationship with God, through Jesus Christ, and helping them to find their rightful place in the fellowship of the church," says Pam Scott, minister of children. "The future of the church, as well as the destiny of the children, depends upon a ministry of Christian Education which reaches, teaches, and



Sonshine Nursery School began its sixth year this fall with 11 teachers on staff, serving 170 children. Sixty more children are on the waiting list. In May, at a Spring Program, the children shared some of the things that they had learned with their families. Many parents got involved with their pre-schoolers during games, singing and eating at a spring picnic. Gospel truths were related to the group through the use of songs and puppets.

An average of 316 persons attended Family Vacation Bible School, held for six days in July in the evening so the entire family could attend. Activities revolved around the fruits of the Spirit, and how they applied to the student individually. The youth were involved in discussion groups and making their own movies of a Bible story. The adults and senior highers viewed and discussed the film series, "Origins—How the World Came to Be." The total offering, given toward this year's N.A.B. Mission Project—"Give So That Others May Hear," totalled \$716. A missionary gave special presentations each evening to the various departments. This was a real plus for missions emphasis. Eighty workers helped in this V.B.S. ministry.

wins to Christ the boys and girls of this generation."

Scott believes that the home has the largest influence on the growth of the child, and "it is our job as a church to work cooperatively with parents in educating and guiding their children in God's pathway." It is important to offer a loving, growing atmosphere in the church programs so that children can experience God's love as they relate to others. Scott believes that new families are concerned that their



"Along with times of fellowship during bike hikes and swim parties, which the children in the church experience, 27 children enjoyed a Christian camp experience. These children spent many hours completing a series of eight Bible studies and verses to earn \$20 toward their camp experience. God used the camping experience in many of their lives to draw them closer to himself.

children are in a safe learning environment surrounded by loving personnel. "When the needs of their children are being met, parents feel at ease and then are open to the Lord's teaching in their lives."

Through the Sunday School, Church-time, Sunday Evening Session, Family Night Activities, Vacation Bible School, Children's Rallies, and Camping Program, Christian education is available for the children.



The Pioneer Girl guides look forward to their annual guides retreat to plan and prepare for the upcoming year. The first big event for the girls is a weekend camp experience. As they enjoy God's creation, their skills in camping and outdoor cooking will be put to use. A hayride, horseback riding, canoeing, Bible exploration, and devotions around the campfire are highlights of this weekend. (continued)



Youth Ministries

"The young people of Parma Heights Baptist Church have been very active in their attempts to build disciples and reach out to their community and world," says Terry Holley, minister to youth. In addition to the regularly scheduled ministries of the church, such as Sunday school and Wednesday evening activities, there are other special activities for the youth.

Earlier this year, some 30 junior highers and sponsors joined together to fast for 30 hours to raise money for world hunger relief through World Vision's Planned Famine program. Youth experienced what it means to be hungry for one day. Orange juice was served. Over \$1,400 was raised for hunger relief in Ethiopia, support of a young boy in Bangladesh, and food relief in the city of Cleveland.

This summer 22 young people and five sponsors travelled to Southern Tennessee to participate in Mountain T.O.P., a Christian service project for youth, which involves meeting social, emotional, spiritual, mental and physical needs of the Cumberland Mountain people. It



was an exciting week of ministering. Various work projects during the week consisted of building out-houses, painting, yard work, house repair, and other similar projects. This experience was a very concrete application of servanthood as taught and exemplified by Jesus.

Opportunities to reach out to others are provided through month-

ly services at the Cleveland City Mission, Rest Home visits, visiting widows and helping senior citizens with house work. The senior high youth and adults watched the films, "Origins," at vacation Bible school. This is a six-film series discussing evolution and creation; there was a great interest among the youth.

The Christian Academy

Now in its fourth year, Parma Heights Christian Academy, a ministry of and housed in the Parma Heights Baptist Church, provides Christian education for 134 students in kindergarten through grade seven. In the fall of 1984, plans are to add grade eight.

The staff includes eight state certified Christian teachers, plus a full-time administrator and school secretary.

Highlights of the school year include Fall Open House, Science and Art Fairs, production of an audio visual presentation promoting the Academy, musical presentations, Association of Christian Schools Speech Contest, and production of a musical, "I am God's Project," which more than 800 people enjoyed.

"Train up a child in the way he should go; and when he is old, he



The staff of Parma Heights Christian Academy (front row, l to r): Mrs. Marilyn Rupp, Mr. Ron Mann, Mrs. Elinora Heckathorn (principal), Mrs. Sally Paine, Mrs. Jan Taylor; (second row, l to r): Mrs. Robin Steigert, Mrs. Dorothy Crutchfield, Mrs. Dorothy Rymer, Mrs. Marjorie Morrison, Mrs. Debi Mann.

will not depart from it' (Prov. 22:6) is the primary purpose and goal of the Parma Heights Christian Academy," says Mrs. Elnora Heckathorn, principal. This is to

give direction and meaning to each child's life and to guide the students to a deep understanding and commitment to God's principles for daily living. □

How do they do it?

What makes a successful youth program?

What is the foundation for excellence?

Love and Leadership

by Warren Hoffman

"How do they do it?" The question often confronted me as I observed successful youth ministries in other churches, some of which did not even have a professional youth worker such as myself. They do it this way. If I do it that way, I will be successful like they are.

After months of trying to be like "they were," I found that claim to be primarily false. I began instead, to identify and develop my own ministry fingerprint. The chemistry of my "kids" was different from those in other churches. My relationship with my senior pastor was unique. Our neighborhood was one-of-a-kind. So I could not expect my ministry to be just like the others.

What ensued was a personal search for a model, a foundation, which was independent of programs, which work in one situation and fail in the next. What evolved was a philosophy of youth ministry based on two foundational principles: Love and Leadership.

Love

Youth ministry exists to love and serve youth. So many youth programs are preoccupied with events, choirs, and fund raisers to the neglect of the individual young person. This is an easy trap into which we fall. Programs look good at the Christian Education Board meeting. Everyone likes to see a busy church with a bulletin-full of weekly activities. However, we, as youth workers, need to understand that young people are the target of, not the means to, an excellent youth work.

The Rev. Warren Hoffman is the Director of "New Day" and Youth for the North American Baptist Conference.

Recently, at a farewell fireside held in my honor, my "kids" shared what had been most meaningful in my ministry. I expected to hear about campouts and some of the especially memorable meetings I had painstakingly planned. I didn't. What came through over and over were comments like this: "You loved me;" "I can talk to you about anything;" "You made me feel welcome." Youth ministry does not exist to provide careers. It does make it possible for us to work in concert with the Holy Spirit to love young people to Christ.

Leadership

Out of our love and compassion for youth proceeds the second stone in the foundation: Leadership. Unfortunately, leadership is in scarce supply these days. As Jesus observed the multitudes, Matthew tells us that he was moved with compassion because they were harassed and helpless, scattered abroad, like sheep without a Shepherd (Matthew 9:36). What a vignette of youth today! Young people need loving Shepherds. Shepherds who develop directed programs with this goal in mind: the facilitation of growth and spiritual development.

This leadership must be based on a vision, resulting in convictions concerning one's ministry based on God's Word and personal experiences. This will give a person direction, focus and confidence in one's choices. Besides developing this personal vision, one must share it with the youth and encourage them to meet the commitment together.

Love and Leadership. A complimentary blend of heart and mind that should be a part of your youth ministry fingerprint. □



Youth Conference Highlights

Argentina, particularly Buenos Aires, will offer youth and youth leadership a chance to participate in memorable special events prior to, during and following the 10th Baptist Youth World Conference, July 11-15, 1984. Baptist youth of Argentina eagerly await the opportunity to host the youth of the world and share in a wide variety of activities.

These special events will include: workshop discussions of concerns facing youth, meeting the Baptists of Argentina, observing cultural events (including a possible polo exhibition), involvement in ministries in and through the sponsorship of Baptist churches, joining in a parade down the main avenue (14 traffic lanes wide) of impressive Buenos Aires in the brisk winter weather (better bring warm clothing!), sharing an inexpensive gift of symbolic meaning from your nation with new friends from around the world, and exchanging ideas with youth who are or will be leaders in their areas.

Should you and the youth from your area wish to participate in non-musical activities before or after the conference, please provide details of the type of ministry and period(s) available. You would be responsible for selecting events which would speak effectively to Spanish-speaking audiences and for extra expenditures related to this activity.

Special events are designed for youth involvement in what is happening. In addition to listening, worshiping and learning, you will be participating in many different types of activities.

For more information write the Rev. Warren Hoffman and the Rev. Ray Harsch, North American Baptist Conference, 1 So. 210 Summit Ave., Oakbrook Terrace, IL, 60181.

Editor's Note: If God calls your husband to be a missionary, does that mean that you'll automatically go, too? On these pages, two missionary wives speak of their individual calls, each unique, each resulting in a life of fulfilling service.

I'll Not Go Where You Want Me To Go!

by Mary June Burgess,
missionary in Cameroon,
West Africa

In a youth meeting, around the dinner table, or in a missionary conference, we are sometimes asked to relate how we got to the mission field. A few stories tell of unusual circumstances or experiences that resulted in this life-changing decision. But in most cases, I think, you would hear a simple story of God's call and our response to that call. God speaks in different ways—sometimes through a storm and other times in a quiet voice.

For me, it was the soft voice that God used. As a child brought up in a pastor's home, I had many contacts with missionaries. After an especially exciting conversation at the dinner table on Sunday, I'd often go up to my room, gather my dolls in a row and "preach" to them in some gibberish that was supposed to be a foreign language. The desire came

then to go out and win the world for Christ!

Many years passed, and I enrolled in Moody Bible Institute, a school noted for its strong missions emphasis. On the first day of registration, a young engaged couple who were preparing for the mission field sang "The Hornet Song": "God does not compel us to go 'gainst our will. He just makes us willing to go." God began calling again, but this time I was not excited. I just had too many things to do with my life. Yes, I was a Christian, but someone else could go.

It finally came to the point where I quietly rebelled against God's quiet call. It was not anything most people would notice . . . but I knew. Missionary speakers and missions prayer bands became a bore. I didn't study in the missions course, and my class grade showed the result! God was still at work—not compelling me but making me what he wanted me to be.

Further education followed, and I began teaching school. Again God called, and this time I was in a right relationship with him. He had worked in my life, molding and shaping me; finally I was willing to go where he wanted me to go. God has blessed in so many ways as I was led to a man who had also answered God's call for missionary service. I have never had any regrets.



David and Mary June Burgess and their children: Mark, Philip, and Joynel

My Call to the Mission Field

by Pat Meinerts,
missionary to Cameroon,
West Africa



Pat and Oryn Meinerts

During my high school and college years, one of the last things I wanted to be was a missionary. We didn't have many missionaries coming to our church, and, somewhere, I had gotten the idea that missionaries were dull people, old and uninteresting. I had accepted Christ as my Savior at the age of 12 and grew in Christian knowledge from teaching in our church, at Christian camps, and in my own daily reading. But it wasn't until I was in college and attended some InterVarsity Christian Fellowship meetings that I absorbed the reality of John 15:15. Christ called me his friend! Tremendous! My walk with him became much more personal and this friendship grew. Still, I had no thoughts of becoming a missionary.

Several years later, as I prayed one night, I suddenly *knew*: God wanted me to be a missionary. The idea was shocking and abhorrent to me, but it was very clear. And I knew better than to disobey my Friend. I responded, "All right, Lord, but show me where to go and give me joy in the work."

A few days later, I received a letter from a missionary friend of mine, Trudy Schatz, working in Cameroon. She said that it was time for her to come home, and there was no one to replace her in the nurses' training program they had just started at Bango Baptist Hospital. The program might have to be closed. My heart trembled. Was the Lord following through on our prayer conversation? I didn't know anything about the group that Trudy was working with, but I was a nurse. I was even a registered midwife. I had my B.S. in Nursing with many courses in education. And I had studied a little French. Had the Lord been preparing me for this all along? I wrote back to Trudy, then to Dr. Richard Schilke, then N.A.B. Missionary Secretary, as well as to my own denomination. Six months later, I was in Cameroon.

That was in 1963, 20 years ago. At the time, there was no short-term program, for which I am thankful. Otherwise, I might have applied to serve for just one year to relieve the need during Trudy's furlough. I am thankful I went with no time limits because these have been a wonderful 20 years, filled with joy. I met my husband on the mission field. I have learned to love Cameroonians and their culture, and I have yet to meet a dull missionary. The Lord fully answered my prayer when I committed my life to serving him abroad. He will do the same for you.

Prayer Day

by LaVerna Mehlhaff,
women's work director

"I am sure that God who began the good work within you will keep right on helping you grow in His grace until His task within you is finally finished on that day when Jesus Christ returns" (Philippians 1:6).

These are busy weeks and days, filled with planning and doing. Coming soon is the Baptist World Day of Prayer, a united prayer effort for women in our Conference. The theme is "We Are Family, We Are One," and the date, November 7. There are many needs in our world, our nation, our community, our churches and

. . . In The Potter's Service . . .



by Iona Quiring,
WMF president,
Rogers, MN



"But who are you, my friend, to talk back to God? A clay pot does not ask the man who made it, 'Why did you make me like this?'" (Romans 9:20, GNB)

Cookie jars, bean pots, and bud vases have one thing in common. They are all clay pots of a sort, and all are containers, made to hold something. But they are also quite different from one another. Each has a unique design, a special function, its own particular usefulness.

God made people that way, too. We come in many colors, shapes, and sizes. Like clay pots, every one of us has a hollow in the middle. If we let him, God will fill that emptiness with himself, with his gospel, and his Holy Spirit.

The Bible says that God inside of us is like a treasure inside of a clay pot (2 Corinthians 4:7). There are many kinds of clay pots, but the same treasure is in them all. He purposely made us different, with our own special gifts, personalities, and experiences, so that we could spread

that gospel around to people everywhere.

Sometimes I rationalize that I would be serving God better if he had given me more or different abilities, because that is easier than using the ones I have. According to Romans 12 and 1 Corinthians 12, God holds me accountable for the gifts I have, not the ones I do not have. I must discover what my gifts are. Then God says I must use them, whether they are speaking, serving, teaching, encouraging, giving, leading, or showing kindness.

There are lots of Bible people who used their gifts to serve God. Dorcas made clothing and gave it to people in need. Aquila and Priscilla gave Paul a home and a job so he could continue preaching. Lois and Eunice raised Timothy in the faith. Many people in our churches today are following these same examples.

But what about me? Too often I have been a reluctant, or jealous, or proud servant. Lord, forgive me, cleanse me, use me. I want to serve you in love, loyalty, and joy!

homes for which we need to pray. Conditions in our country and in our world point out the urgent need for all of us to turn to God in prayer. He has a word for us: turn to me and live. "If my people who are called by my name humble themselves, and pray and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land" (2 Chronicles 7:14).

We not only invite, but strongly urge, all women of our churches to set aside November 7 to participate in the special day of prayer activities. A suggestion: would it be possible to

keep your church doors open that day and evening for prayer in order that all might have the opportunity to pray even though they may not be able to attend the planned program.

The offerings taken will be used for scholarships for students at North American Baptist Seminary and North American Baptist College; for the Gary Schroeder Memorial Fund; and for air mail postage and subscriptions to the *Baptist Herald* for our missionaries. One half of the total offering is sent to the North American Baptist Women's Union, which is a department of the Baptist World Alliance.

Church Extension Project

Where Will We Put Them?

by Phil Putz

*"It must be exciting to be part of such a growing ministry!"
"Isn't it fulfilling to reach this milestone?"
"Don't you think that Church Extension is the greatest?"*

All of these and questions like them deserve a resounding "Yes!" God has given many reasons for praise during the past four and one-half years. So many have become Christians, and dozens have found a place for the practice of their spiritual gifts. Sierra College Baptist Church in Rocklin, California, now ministers to around 300 people in an important way. That number is growing, with Sunday morning attendance between 200 and 250 and many new visitors every week.

Our new building, housing a worship center seating 300, 12 classrooms, a functional office area and a kitchen, has given opportunity to enlarge our ministries. We have had occupancy since the middle of May, and at this July writing are already asking, "Where will we put them?" But everything is *not* exciting and fantastic.

Our ministry is with people. And, wherever there are people, joy is not unmixing with challenges and problems.

For instance, our constant need is for more workers. With quick growth, the need to let a person prove himself becomes a test of our patience. We need him for ministry, and we don't want to wait. But wait we must, for the Scriptures tell us not to lay hands too quickly on men for leadership.

On another front, we find Satan attacking our relationships. Somehow, his cunning sometimes deceives Christ's soldiers into fighting each other. But God gives victory as we follow his principles. In the meantime, our faith is often

The Rev. Phil Putz is pastor of Sierra College Baptist Church, Rocklin, CA.

tested not only by those lovely people he's given us, but also our own bent toward sinning.

However, in the battle, God still does his work! Recently our Christian Service Brigade campout yielded two decisions for Christ with only twelve boys attending! In May, we baptized 12, eleven of them adults, with more awaiting the completion of our membership class, quarterly enrolling 10 to 15. Many in that class struggle with non-Christian and even cultic backgrounds, but find real victory in Christ.

Challenges still come. In March, after almost six months of building, we were informed that our project would cost close to \$200,000 more than originally projected primarily due to several engineering mistakes. Our hearts sank! But after close examination of the possibilities, additional C.E.I.F. funds were made available. We found we could substantially adjust our church budget to borrow needed money.

The result: Everything reduced! Salaries, operating budgets, even (to our sorrow) missions giving. Many items deleted: Vacation Bible School funded by a special offering, all secretarial help, nursery care (20 infants, 20 twos and threes, 25 fours and fives), and custodial help to become volunteer, and all education for adults placed on a pay-as-you-go basis.

Responsible stewardship has allowed us to rebuild a great deal of what was lost. But we need your help! Our community is wide open for outreach, with more visiting weekly than we can adequately reach without additional staffing. We are already praising God for your response in prayer and finances.

We are grateful for your contributions sent to the North American Baptist Office, 1 So. 210 Summit Ave., Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181 designated for Sierra College Baptist Church, Rocklin, CA. □



In May, Pastor Putz (with back turned) baptized 12, eleven of them adults, with more waiting on completion of a membership class, in which 10 to 15 are enrolled quarterly



Pastor Phil Putz also teaches a Sunday school class.



Louise Hoadley teaches the three and four-year-olds in Sunday school. In a growing church, there is a constant need for more workers.

Special Events

PHILADELPHIA, PA. On May 15, Cambodian and Laotian Christians met to worship together in the Fleischmann Memorial Baptist Church. They represent two young churches, the Cambodian group being under the oversight of a worker from Fleischmann and the Laotians pastored by a member of the Living Word Community. The two leaders meet monthly to encourage and pray for one another.

The desire to demonstrate biblical oneness in Christ resulted in the joint worship service. Cambodian and Laotian testimonies were given, Scripture choruses sung, and two brief messages delivered. The mixed congregations then shared a meal of national Asian food. The Rev. Jim Correnti is pastor of Fleischmann Memorial.

BENTON HARBOR, MI. To the great regret of the entire membership of Napier Parkview Baptist Church, Pastor and Mrs. Clifford Hamil, associate pastor and administrator, served their last Sunday with the church August 14. Pastor Hamil has accepted the pastorate of Calvary Baptist Church in Fremont, OH.



A farewell reception, preceded by a pot-luck dinner, was held for the Hamil family (pictured). The Hamil family provided special music and Pastor Hamil brought the evening message. Many gifts, a love offering, and a food shower were presented to the Hamils. (Doris Badgley, reporter.)

OLDS, AB. Eight youth and four sponsors from East Olds Baptist Church went to Alamosa, CO, to work with other youth from all over the U.S.A. on a mission project sponsored by "Group" magazine. During the day, they worked on home improvement projects for low income families. Evenings were spent reflecting on the day's work, group singing, and gaining a cultural awareness of the community through staff presentations.

Other highlights this summer included a men's weekend hike in the Canadian Rockies and a Country Fair with events for the entire family. (Jeanine White, reporter.)

DALLAS, OR. The Dale Wilcke family, serving as N.A.B. missionaries in Jos, Nigeria, as houseparents at Woyke House, Hillcrest School, recently visited the Salt Creek Baptist Church. They shared their experiences and problems and told of the political unrest in Nigeria. They returned to Nigeria the last of August and ask that we pray for them and their needs. One of their prayer requests is that the Lord would help them to find a cook for the hostel. (Ruth Saunders, reporter.)

SPRINGSIDE, SK. On July 3, Springside Baptist Church welcomed its new pastor and family, the Richard Grabkes, at a special program. Various departments of the church presented special music.

The Rev. Delvin Bertsch of Central Baptist Church in Yorkton gave a special challenge to both the church and the pastor. The evening concluded with fellowship and lunch. At that time, a word of thanks and a gift were presented to the interim pastor, the Rev. and Mrs. George Stainger, for their faithful service. (Grace Goltz, reporter.)

PHILADELPHIA, PA. Fleischmann Memorial Baptist Church joined with Living Word Community and other Philadelphia churches along with Teen Challenge for summer open-air services. "Meeting in Hunting Park and on a street corner near a local bar, we had three concerts, three films, and one preaching service," says Pastor Jim Correnti. "All of the services concluded with preaching; the preaching service had four preachers."

Out of more than 100 contacts followed up by the English and Spanish congregations, about two dozen seem to have real interest, many of whom have already attended a special weeknight Bible Study. These will be followed up closely through the leadership and members of Fleischmann through the rest of the year.

"Our special concern is for those who understand the gospel yet are content to live in sin," says Correnti. "Please join with us in prayer."

GOLDEN PRAIRIE, SK. Mrs. Jeanine Weick gave a very interesting presentation of mission work in Japan at the annual birthday program of the W.M. F. of First Baptist Church.

"On August 28, it was the highlight of our congregation to welcome our full-time pastor, the Rev. Harry Friess," reports Mrs. Leota Fritzke. "For the past eleven

our conference in action

years, we were served on a Sunday basis—driving 80 miles.

"We praise and thank God for his many blessings. We launched out to purchase a parsonage. Morning Bible study groups have started as well as a Children's Hour. The program designed for Scripture memory verses continues to be in effect," says Mrs. Fritzke.

"Recently, the Church dedicated new hymnbooks in memory of the late Alfred and Stella Oster, donated by their family."

CRESTON, NE. Southwestern Association President Betty Geis of Okeene, OK, was guest speaker at the Dorcas Society's Guest Day Program recently. Fifty-seven women attended the noon salad luncheon and program. Guests were women of Redeemer and Shell Creek Baptist Churches of Columbus, Humphrey Baptist Church, and of the local community. Musical numbers were brought by the Redeemer



and Shell Creek women as well as by singers from Corn, OK. Mrs. Helen Zimmerman, (pictured at left with Betty Geis, right) is president of the Creston Dorcas Society. (Henrietta Scheffler, reporter.)

MORRIS, MB. "I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life," read the plaque, not in a church, but in the grandstand at the Stampede Grounds, where a week of outdoor evangelistic meetings were held from June 5-12, with the Janz Team Ministries conducting the meetings.

Leo Janz, the evangelist, shared the Good News of God's love and the way to eternal life to an average attendance of 1,300 per night. Hundreds responded to the invitation to accept Jesus as their Savior.

Special music was supplied each night by Jack Steneke, soloist, the Richard Toupin Trio from Quebec, a mass choir with members from the Morris churches and the surrounding area.

"It was wonderful to see the united effort from all the churches of all denominations working together to make the crusade for Christ possible," says Elma Hoffman, reporter.

On July 10, all the churches met again for a combined service in the Morris school to begin the week of homecoming

our conference in action

for the centennial celebration for the town of Morris. The Rev. Don Paschke, a former member of the Emmanuel Baptist Church, brought a challenging message. A mass choir and the male choir from Morris provided music.

"We thank God for his guidance and for the growth of our church under the ministry of our Pastor and his wife, the Rev. and Mrs. Morley Schultz," says Miss Hoffman.

MEDICINE HAT, AB. The Grace Baptist Church choir presented the cantata, "The Trinity," written and directed by Miss Ruby Elsasser. It was greatly appreciated by members and friends.

After the service, refreshments were served where goodbyes were said to Mr. and Mrs. Jeff Carter and son. Jeff resigned as youth pastor to continue his studies in Vancouver. Please pray for them.

Correction: In a previous report there was an error. Grace Baptist Church is supporting Missionary Wilma Binder, not Missionary Barbara Kieper, as stated.

The Rev. Arthur Freitag is pastor. (Violet Treiber, reporter.)

GETZVILLE, NY. A farewell fellowship on August 28 ended the ministry of Pastor Larry E. Burd at Bethel Baptist Church. He has obeyed God's call to Calvary Baptist Church in Bethlehem, PA, and began his ministry there on September 6.

"We at Bethel will miss him greatly, but we are praising and thanking God for more than seven wonderful years of dynamic and soul-winning preaching of God's Word," says Bill Betz, reporter. "Our earnest prayer is that God will continue to bless Bethel through this time of searching for a new shepherd."

of First Baptist Church on Communion Sunday, August 7. "We praise the Lord for these brothers who openly professed their faith in Christ!" (Retha Menke, reporter.)

KYLE, TX. Church growth is more than a slogan for Immanuel Baptist Church. It has become a reality.

"Since the Rev. James Lavender became our pastor nine months ago," reports Adolph Hill, church clerk, "19 persons have been received into the fellowship of our church, 14 by letter and 5 by baptism. It was a beautiful setting as members,



friends, and neighbors 'gathered at the river' to participate in the baptismal service of five recent converts who were baptized by the Rev. James Lavender."

HEBRON, ND. "Our Vacation Bible School showed its fruits thereof when eight young people (pictured) followed the Lord into the baptismal waters at First Baptist Church," reports Mrs. Walter Kitzan. "We are grateful that the Holy Spirit stirred their hearts that they may have a life-time ahead of serving and being good stewards for the Lord."

A young mother also joined the church.



A women's group is meeting every Tuesday morning for Bible study and prayer. "Our group is growing and is a challenge and blessing to all who attend," says Mrs. Kitzan. The Rev. Herbert Schauer is pastor.

CHEEKTOWAGA, NY. On May 22, Pastor Bernard Thole of Temple Baptist Church baptized six young people. The hand of fellowship was extended to them June 5.

"We praise and give thanks to the Lord for these new members as they are the future leaders of our church," says Mrs. G. Hartmen, reporter. "As each candidate was baptized, the congregation sang a verse of their favorite hymn. Blessings were in abundance."

OCHRE RIVER, MB. The members of Grace Baptist Church thank and praise God for the six people who joined the Church recently.



Pictured are the Rev. Helmut Poschwatta with the new members, five whom he baptized and one lady who came by letter. (Fred Amman, reporter.)

VANCOUVER, BC. Bethany Baptist Church celebrated Father's Day in a special way. In the morning worship service, twin sons were dedicated by their parents to the Lord. This was followed by



the baptism of a young man, (pictured left with the Rev. Rick Laser, right) who after many struggles has chosen to dedicate his life to the Lord. His testimony deeply moved the congregation a few weeks earlier.

In the evening, the day was crowned by a special musical presentation by the mixed choir directed by Janet Tutschek. Janet has since married Harold Neff and moved to Sioux Falls where he attends the N.A.B. Seminary. Harold is a former short-term missionary to Cameroon. (Trudy Zindler, reporter.)

GRAND FORKS, ND. The hand of fellowship was given to 12 new members of Grace Baptist Church on August 14. The Rev. Ralph Cooke is pastor of Grace Baptist. (Myrna Hoop, reporter.)

REGINA, SK. On July 17, Faith Baptist Church held a commissioning service for Grace Archer. She left July 24 for missionary service in Zimbabwe, Africa.

Three adults were baptized on July 17, also. Several weeks earlier, Calvary Baptist Church joined with Faith Baptist in a baptismal service with five from Calvary and one from Faith Church being baptized.

Seven students served in several countries for the summer months as missionaries including Italy, Indian Missions in Northern Canada, camp, Good News Club, and Honduras. They receive partial support from Faith Baptist's mission fund. Another couple plans to go to Aruba for a two-year term. (Mrs. Vera Rosom, reporter.)

Church Dedications and Anniversaries

CHEEKTOWAGA, NY. "We will raise up our eyes; yes, that is what we did because Temple Baptist Church has a new look!" reports Mrs. G. Hartman. On July 8, a beautiful 30-foot white steeple with a gold cross was erected. On August 14, it was dedicated in memory of Lori Tebor by her family and friends.

Lori was the church organist and an active church member. She was an inspiration to her husband and four children, as well as to us, because of her long-suffering. Lori went home to be with the Lord on Oct. 23, 1982.

After a brief message in the sanctuary by Pastor Bernard Thole, the congregation gathered in front of the church. Pastor Thole conducted a dedication service, and a plaque was presented to be placed in the foyer. "I have fought a good



TURTLE LAKE, ND. The Turtle Lake Baptist Church celebrated its 75th anniversary, July 9 and 10. The event began Saturday morning with a continental breakfast followed by a time of renewing acquaintances. At noon, a salad luncheon was served.

The afternoon program, "Reflections," consisted of special music, church history, greetings by way of letter from former pastors and members, Association churches, N.A.B. Conference, and the Governor of North Dakota. Greetings were also given by former pastors Harold Weiss, Gordon Husinga, Dennis Goodin (present pastor), Randy Tschetter and



fight; I have finished the course; and I have kept the faith." This steeple can be seen for quite a distance denoting a place of worship.

The service ended by joining hands and singing "Blest Be the Tie." "Many eyes were moist as we looked upward at the shiny, white steeple, glittering gold cross, and the bright, blue sky. Praise the Lord for this beautiful day," says Mrs. Hartman.

ALPENA, MI. From Aug. 10-12, 1984, the congregation at Ripley Blvd. Baptist Church will be celebrating their 100th birthday. Under the direction of the Rev. Jacob Ehman, pastor, the Steering Committee, organized in May of this year, has already chosen committees for the event, which are hard at work. Dale Huggler is chairman of the Steering Committee while Mrs. Dave (Bev) Joy is co-chairperson.

our conference in action

Charles Littman (area minister) (pictured l. to r. with their wives) followed by an informal time of reflection by members and friends.

On Saturday evening, the 200 people who attended the banquet and program, heard the Rev. Orville Meth, chaplain, Bismarck Baptist Home. Special music was sung by the choir and "Joyful Praise."

Sunday morning began with a continental breakfast followed by the Anniversary Worship Service, which consisted of special music and a message by the Rev. Charles Littman, area minister. At noon, a potluck dinner and the anniversary cake were served.

At 6:00 p.m., "Looking to the Future," presented by the Kids Praise Musical (pictured), a BYF presentation, a song by the Young Couples and Singles Sunday School class, songs and words by Bob and Cindy Klein, N.A.B. Seminary, and a speech by Chuck Klein, Campus Crusade, were part of the service.

The theme chosen for the celebration was "God Has Done Great Things" (Deut. 10:21). "We, as a church, praise God and give him glory for what has been done within the church in these 75 years. As the event came to a climax with "Looking to the Future," we were challenged to look into the future expecting more great things to happen," says Doris Linteigen, church clerk.

Among things being planned are a 100th birthday cookbook, a church pictorial book (including an historical section), a birthday float in the July 4, 1984, parade, special speakers, a banquet, and commemorative keepsakes. The invitation committee will soon be sending invitations to former pastors and members. (Ruby Mae Ostrander, clerk.)

LA SALLE, CO. First Baptist Church plans to celebrate its 90th anniversary in November 1983.

"We are happy to report a substantial growth in membership since our ministry began in May 1982," says Dr. H. Glenn Discoe, pastor. "Many Sundays every seat is filled, forcing our choir to remain in the choir loft."

"First Baptist Church of LaSalle seems to have the respect of people in the LaSalle-Greeley area," states Pastor Discoe. "As we have watched the Lord

Church Growth

SUMNER, IA. Pastor Dan R. Payne baptized two brothers who accepted Christ as Savior during Bible School. They were received into the membership



our conference in action

bles in adding new families to the church membership, we realize he has only just begun!"

A year, which could have been a tragedy because of Pastor Discoe's massive heart attack and later open heart surgery, has been turned into a year of blessing because the Lord honored the prayers of his people.

AVON, SD. The Danzig Baptist Church held a dedication service on August 14 at its new parsonage in Avon.



The Rev. Charles Littman, area minister, brought the meditation. The dedication prayer was given by the Rev. Jason Haas, pastor at Danzig. After the program, an open house was held, and refreshments were served. (Mary Brandt, clerk.)

EMERY, SD. The Plum Creek Baptist Church of rural Emery celebrated its 100th anniversary on August 12, 13, and 14. The anniversary theme was "Jesus Christ, the same Yesterday, Today, and Forever" (Hebrews 13:8), and the anniversary hymn was "Great is Thy Faithfulness."

A large crowd attended the banquet held in Freeman on Friday evening. "Contending for the Faith" was the theme with the Rev. Walter Hoffman, Medicine Hat, AB, as speaker. Special music was provided by Mrs. Donald Decker and Mr. Tim Walker.

On Saturday afternoon, a pot-luck picnic was held at the church. Saturday evening's theme, "Faith of Our Fathers Still Living Through Us," was emphasized through the speakers, the Rev. Donald Decker, Tacoma, WA, and the Rev. Bert Itterman, Sioux Falls, SD, and through special music by Mrs. Pennie Dubland (former missionary to Cameroon), the Rev. and Mrs. Adine Harsch, and the Reverends Walter Hoffman, Bert Itterman, and Alvin Harsch.

The Rev. Alvin Harsch, Grand Forks, ND, led the lesson exposition during the Sunday school hour. The Sunday School children and the Rev. Walter Hoffman provided special music.

The Rev. Willis Potratz, Oakbrook Terrace, IL, brought the message, "Jesus

Christ, the same Yesterday, Today and Forever," to the 250 people attending the Sunday worship service. The music was furnished by a ladies' trio: Jean Janssen, Lu Etta Jucht, and Darlene Hochhalter; by Mrs. Terry Westing, and by the Rev. and Mrs. Walter Hoffman.

The Rev. Charles Hiatt, president, North American Baptist Seminary, spoke during the closing service Sunday afternoon on "The Word of God Stands Forever." The Kirschenman Family, the Rev. and Mrs. Bert Itterman and Marylis Schmidt provided special music. A historical sketch was given by Mrs. Ed Decker, Ted Lang, and John Heitzman.

Many floral arrangements were given in memory of loved ones and by neighboring churches. The former pastors who attended were the Reverends Willis Potratz, Alvin Harsch, Walter Hoffman, Adine Harsch, Harvey, ND, and Duane Westing, Kenesaw, NE. Tim Walker, N.A.B. Seminary student, is the pastor. (Mrs. Edwin Jucht, reporter.)

Ordinations

RICHMOND, BC. A Council composed of 21 delegates from eight churches met at the Rose of Sharon Baptist Church on June 11 to examine the candidate, E. Robert Carroll for ordination into the Gospel Ministry. Carroll has been serving the Church in the capacity of Youth Minister for more than five years. The Rev. Cornie Wiebe, Surrey, and Pastor Leonard Strelau, Chilliwack, were elected as moderator and clerk of this Council, respectively.

Following Brother Bob's presentation of his conversion experience, call to the ministry, education and doctrinal statements, the council recommended that the Rose of Sharon Baptist Church proceed with the ordination service on July 10. (Leonard Strelau, clerk.)

LODI, CA. On Sunday afternoon, July 17, George Redington was ordained by First Baptist Church.

Dr. Robert Schreiber delivered the ordination sermon stressing that a pastor's first and foremost priority is his relationship with God.

George was born in Bismarck, ND, and felt the call to the ministry after he was established in business. He graduated from Dallas Theological Seminary with a major in Bible Exposition in May 1983. The Rev. Walter Dingfield, pastor of First Baptist, delivered the welcome and charge to the ministry. He is happy to have the Rev. George Redington serve with him as associate pastor.

An informal reception with George and his family (wife—Lindell, children—Eva and Luke) followed in the church social hall. (Della Lutz, reporter.)

Wedding Anniversaries



Mr. and Mrs. Emil A. Saylor celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on July 17, with a reception and program hosted by their children and grandchildren. It was held at the Ashley Baptist Church, Ashley, ND, where the Sayers are active members.

Johannes and Marga Seidel's 60th wedding anniversary was a joyous occasion on August 12. The celebration with relatives, friends, and church members



was held at Bethany Baptist Church, Vancouver, BC, where the Seidels are very friendly, active members. Pastor Rev. Ulrich Laser spoke. (Elsie Baum, reporter.)

Dr. and Mrs. H. Glenn Discoe of Greeley, CO, were honored at a reception given by First Baptist Church, LaSalle, CO, on their 50th wedding anniversary on July 24. Friends and relatives joined with them to help them celebrate. Dr. Discoe is pastor of First Baptist Church, LaSalle.



Mr. and Mrs. Olney Johansen, (pictured left to right), Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Johnson, and Mr. and Mrs. Harry Westerlund were honored at a special service for their 50th wedding anniversaries. Families and friends gathered at Faith Baptist Church, Minneapolis, MN, for a program and reception on July 17. Tributes were given to the couples, and Pastor Harvey Mehlhaff spoke.

(All reports received by September 1 have been included in this issue of the Baptist Herald. Please limit reports to 100 words or less. Wedding anniversaries are to be limited to names, date of anniversary, and church affiliation.)

In Memoriam

ERWIN HENKELMAN, born Jan. 21, 1923, to Gottfried and Henrietta Henkelman, in Poland, died June 22, 1983, as the result of an accident. He immigrated with his parents to the Minitonas, MB, area in 1928. He accepted the Lord Jesus Christ at an early age, and was baptized at the age of 12. On June 29, 1944, he married Adena Mincer. Their marriage was blessed with four children. In 1947 the family moved to the Swan River, MB, area where they were engaged in farming. He was a charter member of Temple Baptist Church, was deeply committed to serving his Lord, and was faithful and active in the church until his sudden death. Survivors include his wife Adena; two daughters: Grace (Mrs. Richard Sturhahn) and Janice (Mrs. Harry Khan); two sons: Lorne and his wife Lesley, and David and his wife Heidi; one brother, Fred; four sisters: Mrs. Martha Heiman, Mrs. Tillie Rettig, Mrs. Evelyn Dykau, and Mrs. Alice Heynen. He was predeceased by his father and an infant sister, Mary. Mr. Bernard Bredin officiated at the funeral service.

ROBERT KLUITER (33) of Parkersburg, IA, born Dec. 9, 1949, to Sebo and Augusta Cassman Kluitier, died July 26, 1983, following complications of surgery. At the age of nine, he accepted the Lord as Savior. On June 2, 1972, he married Sandi Johnson and was blessed with two children. He was an active member of the Calvary Baptist Church having served as deacon, Sunday school teacher, a member of the choir, and treasurer of the Iowa Association. He was an Executive Vice President of the Parkersburg State Bank, a leader in the community, and was awarded the Citizen of the Year Award in Parkersburg in 1982. Survivors include his wife; two children: Jonathan and Sara; his mother, Augusta Kluitier; two sisters: Sylvia (Mrs. Gordon Loeschen) and Carol (Mrs. Ron Smith); one brother, LaVern; and a grandmother, Mrs. Elizabeth Cassman. He was preceded in death by his father. The Rev. Lanny Johnson officiated at the funeral service.

GUST STRAUSS of Richmond, BC, died suddenly on March 19, 1983. Survivors include his wife, Wilhelmina; two sons and their wives: Ervin and Deloras Strauss and Helmut and Jean Strauss; two daughters and their husbands: Dan and Hanny Arndt and Reuben and Ruth Grueneich; 17 grandchildren; and five great-

grandchildren. Funeral services were held at Rose of Sharon Baptist Church, Richmond, where all his children and most of his grandchildren participated in the service.

WILLIAM AUGUST KRAMER (70) of Regina, SK, born July 24, 1913, in Edenwold, SK, died July 27, 1983. He accepted Christ as his Savior at the age of 18, was baptized, became a member of Edenwold Baptist Church in 1932, and was an active member there until 1967, when the family moved to Regina. He then became a member of Faith Baptist Church. On June 12, 1948, he married Edna Rosom. He farmed in the Edenwold area until 1979. Survivors include his wife Edna; two daughters: Mrs. Sandra (Ken) Schoenroth, White City, SK, and Susan of Regina; two sons: Stuart and his wife Joan of Regina, and Steven and his wife Brenda of Edenwold; seven grandchildren; one sister Flora and her husband Lester; three brothers: Dave and his wife Ruth, Eric, and Helmut and his wife Shirley; and many nieces and nephews. The Rev. Paul Clerc officiated at the funeral service, assisted by the Rev. Richard Quiring.

SARA M. LINGEL, born in Sussex, NJ, March 31, 1898, died July 24, 1983. In 1969, Sara retired from teaching. Her teaching career encompassed teaching young teenaged boys at a training school, teaching at a regular school and the teaching of special children; being the founder of the Mentally Retarded Children New Jersey Education Association. Sara was also active in First Baptist Church, Jamesburg, before her retirement and shortly thereafter. She was an avid student of the Word of God. Survivors include her daughter, Mrs. Marian A. Schroeder, Monroe; three granddaughters and a great-granddaughter. The Rev. Karl Bieber officiated at the funeral service.

FRANK B. MANZ (84), McClusky, ND, born Feb. 27, 1899, to Wilhelm and Wilhelmina Manz in Austria, died July 30, 1983. At the age of three, he immigrated to the U.S.A. to the Butte, ND, area. At the age of 12, he accepted Christ as his personal Savior, was baptized, and joined Tabor Baptist Church, Mercer, ND. Later he became a member of McClusky Baptist and was a faithful supporter until his death. On June 9, 1927, he married Margaret Rosenau. This union was blessed with four children. Survivors include his wife Margaret; one son Herbert, McClusky, ND; three daughters: Mrs. Lester Johnson, Bottineau, ND; Mrs. John Arden, Westhope, ND; and Mrs. Charles Wynne, Edmonds, WA; 16 grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren; four brothers: Martin,

Carl, Anton and Ben; two sisters: Letwena Stanchfield and Theresa Manz. He was preceded in death by his parents, nine brothers, and two sisters. The Rev. Oscar Fritzke officiated at the funeral service.

JUSTINE WOYKE, born Aug. 4, 1897, to Frederick and Maria (Fregin) Woyke, in Grieshenow, Ukraine, Russia, died Aug. 12, 1983. Her family immigrated to the United States and settled near Mountain Lake, MN. Justine committed her life to Jesus Christ at an early age, was baptized, and became a member of Carson Mennonite Brethren Church near Bingham Lake, MN. In 1926, she moved to Minneapolis, MN. Early in 1928, she joined the Faith Baptist Church and remained a faithful member until her death. Survivors include three brothers and their wives: Dr. Frank and Beatrice Woyke, Willis and Sena Woyke, Bennie and Gertrude Woyke; one sister, Mrs. Alvina Hirsch; two sisters-in-law: Mrs. Flora Woyke and Mrs. Margot Woyke; and 20 nephews and nieces. The Rev. Harvey Mehlhaff officiated at the funeral service at Faith Baptist Church.

JOHN HEER (79) was born Nov. 14, 1904, to Jacob and Katherina Wiest in Hotchkiss, CO, and died June 7, 1983, in Rochester, NY. Upon his mother's death, John was taken into the home of Mr. and Mrs. Gottlieb Heer whose family name he took officially in 1911.

In March 1921, John accepted Jesus Christ as his personal Savior and Lord and was baptized June 12, 1921, in Linton, ND. While recovering from an accident, John came to the conclusion he should enter the Gospel ministry. He attended both the German and English Departments of the Rochester Theological Seminary, New York. On Jan. 20, 1934, Clara Kannwischer and John were married. The same year John was ordained in the Bethany Baptist Church of Vesper (Hunter), KS, where he was serving as pastor. His other pastorates included Lyndoch Baptist Church of Cormac, ON, for five years; the Ebenezer Baptist Church of Shattuck, OK, for three years; the Bethel Baptist Church of Ingersoll, OK, for six years, and the Ebenezer Baptist Church of Lehr, ND. Upon retirement from the pastoral ministry, John, Clara, and their two sons moved to Rochester, NY, where he served as deacon in the Andrews Street Baptist Church and as an active spiritual leader of the Senior Citizens Group of the Latta Road Baptist Church until his sudden death. Survivors include his wife Clara, his sons John Stanley Heer and Harvey Walter Heer, their wives and children, his two brothers and his sister.

A TRIBUTE TO The Rev. Fred Holzimmer (1919-1983)

by Richard Schilke



Fred Holzimmer
Missionary to Cameroon
1951-1982

Our beloved Cameroonian missionary, Fred Holzimmer, was born February 13, 1919, in Detroit, Michigan, to Conrad and Catherine Holzimmer. The influences of home and church shaped his early life and led him to accept Christ as his personal Savior at the age of 12 and be baptized into the fellowship of Burns Avenue Baptist Church (now Grosse Pointe Baptist Church), Detroit, Michigan.

While attending high school and later a business college, Fred became quite active in church as a Sunday school teacher, president of the Young People's Society and Great Lakes Baptist Assembly as well as a member of the "Voice of Christian Youth," the church choir, and quartet on the "Echoes of Heaven" radio program.

Due to scarcity of work in Holland, Michigan, a young lady, Dorothy Nienhaus came to Detroit. Here, in the warm fellowship of the church, she also met Fred, whom she married on August 19, 1944.

I first met Fred Holzimmer on the day my wife and I arrived in Edmonton, Alberta, to take on the pastorate of Central Baptist Church, November 3, 1943. We arrived at the

The Rev. Richard Schilke, D.D., served as General Secretary of Missions for the North American Baptist Conference from 1951-79.

rented parsonage that evening and looked at the task of unpacking our furniture, which had preceded us. A men's quartet from the church came over to greet us. Fred was a member of the quartet.

Fred was with the U.S. Air Force, stationed in Edmonton, and had made Central Baptist Church his place of Christian activity while away from his home church, Burns Avenue Baptist Church, Detroit, Michigan. Within the next two years, we shared his joys when he brought his new bride, Dorothy, whom he married August 19, 1944, to Edmonton, and when the Lord blessed them with their first-born daughter, Joy, on August 6, 1945. Shortly thereafter, he was discharged from the Air Force and returned to his home in Detroit.

When we relocated from Anaheim, California, to Oak Park, Illinois, in March 1951, we found the Holzimmer family enrolled at Moody Bible Institute in Chicago. They had two daughters now, Joy and Miriam. The Holzimmers graduated from the school in 1951 after being engaged in the intensive three-year missionary course.

Fred and Dorothy presented their application for missionary service to the North American Baptist Board of Missions. At my first Board of Missions meeting as General Secretary of Missions in April 1951, their application was accepted, and Fred and Dorothy Holzimmer were appointed as missionaries to Cameroon. They left for Cameroon in August 1951. Barbara, their third daughter, was born in Banso, Cameroon.

Both as General Secretary of Missions and as a personal friend, I kept in close touch with Fred throughout the years of his missionary service. He and Dorothy served on seven of the ten mission stations in Cameroon. Fred served in various ministries: as missionary station manager, as acting field treasurer, as acting field secretary, 1968-69; as acting evangelism secretary, 1973-74; and as treasurer

of our Cameroon Baptist Mission from 1974-82.

In whatever capacity he served, Fred was always deeply conscientious to let his witness for his Lord take first priority in the field of evangelism and church-related ministries. Nothing could stand in its way. His faithfulness in service has been recognized by all. The Christians in Cameroon and we, at home, shall miss him greatly. However, we also recognize that his Savior and Lord has recognized his faithfulness and in his call to him has said: "Well done, thou good and faithful servant. . . ." This call Fred heard on July 18, 1983.

In July 1982, Fred, due to illness, returned from Cameroon approximately one year earlier than what he had planned for his retirement. His illness was diagnosed as malignant. Though all possible medical treatments were given, recovery of health did not come; even though many prayers across our Conference were offered. The Lord had other plans for his faithful servant. His beloved wife, Dorothy, and their three daughters soon recognized that his stay on this earth was not for long.

On the morning of July 18, 1983, at the age of 64 years, Fred said to his dear wife Dorothy, "Who are all those happy people singing?" She, sensing that the hour of his departure was nearing, replied, "Those are the angels coming to take you home today." To which he responded, "Good, let's go." In a little while, our good brother's spirit took his flight to the mansions of light.

We were privileged to be at the Memorial Service on July 21, 1983, at Calvary Baptist Church in Kalamazoo, Michigan. After the service, Dorothy related to us that one of the grandchildren, age five, said to her one day that grandpa will soon die and will not live much longer. This simple statement from the child somewhat shocked the family to this significant reality of God's call to his beloved and faithful servant to come home and rest. "Well done. . . ." Fred, we shall meet again.

What's Happening

Mr. Harry Anderson, a 1983 graduate of North American Baptist Seminary, Sioux Falls, SD, accepted a staff position at Sierra Heights Baptist Church, Renton, WA, effective Sept. 18, 1983.

The Rev. Larry Burd began his pastorate at Calvary Baptist Church, Bethlehem, PA, on Sept. 1, 1983. He had been pastor of Bethel Baptist Church, Getzville, NY, since 1976.

The Rev. David Glader resigned as pastor of First Baptist Church, Arnprior, ON, effective Sept. 28, 1983, where he served since 1980. He accepted a position with the Baptist General Conference.

The Rev. Clifford Hamil became the pastor of Calvary Baptist Church, Fremont, OH, in August 1983. Since 1978, he served as associate pastor and administrator at Napier Parkview Baptist Church, Benton Harbor, MI.

Dr. Kenneth Fenner accepted the pastorate of Redeemer Baptist Church, Warren, MI, effective Sept. 11, 1983. He served as Great Lakes Area Minister since 1982.

Mr. David Jahn resigned as pastor of First Baptist Church, Smoky Lake, AB, effective Aug. 28, 1983. He is attending N.A.B. Seminary, Sioux Falls, SD.

Mr. Mark Konrad began his pastorate at Family Baptist Church, Tigard, OR, on July 17, 1983.

Dr. David Korb accepted the pastorate of Village Green Baptist Church, Glen Ellyn, IL, effective Sept. 18, 1983. He was pastor at First Baptist Church, Emery, SD, since 1979.

The Rev. Donald G. Mashburn, a 1983 graduate of N.A.B. Seminary, Sioux Falls, SD, became the pastor at Greenvine Baptist Church, Burton, TX, effective Sept. 1, 1983.

The Rev. Norman Miller is the new pastor at First Baptist Church, Elgin, IA, effective Sept. 1, 1983.

Mr. Lewis J. Petrie assumed the pastorate of Melville Baptist Church, Saskatchewan, in August.

The Rev. Rodney Poppinga terminated his pastorate at Ebenezer Baptist Church, Shattuck, OK, to continue his studies at N.A.B. Seminary in September 1983. He served at Ebenezer Baptist since 1979.

Dr. Joseph Sonnenberg became the full-time pastor at First Baptist Church, Leduc, AB, in May 1983. He had been serving as interim pastor.

The Rev. Edwin Voigt accepted the pastorate of Calvary Baptist Church, Corn, OK, effective Oct. 2, 1983.

German Zion Baptist Church, Edmonton, AB, changed its name to Zion Baptist Community Church.

The Rev. Joe Cook resigned as pastor of Central Baptist Church, Waco, TX, effective Sept. 30, 1983. He served there since 1979. He will continue his studies.

The Rev. Terrence Branham, assistant pastor, Riviera Baptist Church, Salem, OR, since 1980, resigned effective Sept. 15, 1983.

Mr. Harold Schroeder, a 1983 graduate of N.A.B. Seminary was ordained into the ministry at Ridge-wood Baptist Church, Brookfield, WI, on Aug. 14, 1983. He and his wife Marlene were also commissioned for N.A.B. mission service during the same service. They are stationed at the Baptist Boys' Secondary School in Soppo, Cameroon.

The Rev. William Cummins, pastor, Ebenezer Baptist Church, Detroit, MI, recently received the Doctor of Philosophy degree in Counseling Psychology from Columbia Pacific University.

You Can Help Provide Wells and Homes in India

Baptist World Aid



During the rainy season, monsoon rains and high winds wreak havoc with the shanties and huts, which house the poor in Andhra Pradesh and the District of Nellore in India. Numerous families are forced to live together in the overcrowded remaining huts.

The problems of these people are compounded when dry season comes. Once flooded areas become arid. Women must walk miles every day to find a supply of water. Often the water is polluted and undependable.

The villagers are too poor to have the needed wells dug and are thus unable to make good use of their land. It is difficult to raise enough crops to feed a family; how can adequate and sturdy homes be rebuilt? It is a circular problem, one that yields up little hope for the destitute.

Your contribution enables Baptist World Aid to build 120 houses and 50 wells for irrigation and drinking in these two areas of India. Building homes and digging wells is the first step in helping villagers to produce food, educate their children, and develop communities.

Send contributions to Baptist World Aid, North American Baptist Conference, 1 So. 210 Summit Ave., Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181, designated for housing and water for the homeless in India.

Bibles Needed

The Story of Mary Jones

Mary Jones grew up in the misty hills of northern Wales, not far from the new factories. In the quiet evenings, her father would thrill her with stories from the Scriptures. But Mary longed for a Bible of her own so that she could read for herself about God's love for her.

The Jones family, however, had little left over once they paid for food and shelter. Certainly not enough for Mary's Bible—which had to be in Welsh, the only language she knew. That is still the way things are in a great many countries.

For six years, Mary worked hard at small jobs—we would call them chores—to earn the money to buy a Bible. At long last, the day came when she set off over the hills, tightly clutching her savings, for the little town of Bala, 28 miles away. She even went barefoot so her shoes would be clean when she got there.

Arriving at Bala, Mary went to the home of the Rev. Thomas Charles, who had the only supply of Welsh Bibles in town. Can you imagine her bitter disappointment when she found he was out of

stock? Her dreams were shattered!

The pastor was so moved by Mary's tears that he gave her one of his own precious Bibles. Pastor Charles realized that the world was full of people who long more than anything for their own copy of God's Word. It still is.

Pastor Charles told some men in London about Mary Jones, a group of men who could do something about it. From this came the Bible Society movement. Most churches will be celebrating Bible Sunday on November 30 or December 4. It is suggested that every churchgoer contribute a minimum of \$3.00 this year to the Bible offering.

It costs \$3.00, on average, to supply one man, woman, or child anywhere in the world with a Bible in his or her own language. Bibles in some languages cost much more, when years of painstaking translation have gone into their preparation. But the Bible Society believes that cost should never be a barrier and that everyone must have easy access to the Scriptures.

The American Bible Society has

designated the money received from the offerings for three countries: India, Zaire, and Brazil. Their needs are particularly acute.

In India, most heads of households earn no more than U.S. \$143 in an entire year.

India, with its 700 million people making it the world's second most populous nation, cannot supply all the requests for Scripture from her own people. The goal is to provide 62.8 million Scriptures in 117 languages this year alone.

In Zaire, with its more than 27 million people and Scriptures in over 60 local languages, the head of the Bible Society writes that he and his staff could distribute twice the number of Scriptures this year—if only they had them available.

Brazil will distribute over 48 million Scriptures in 1983. Many are in the various languages of the indigenous Indian population and are used in helping them learn to read.

The Canadian Bible Society distributes some 12 million Bibles and Scripture portions in 90 languages in Canada. There is a great demand for French Scriptures. The Canadian Bible Society is also supervising Scripture translation in the Indian and Eskimo languages. It helps provide Scriptures not only for people and churches in Canada but also for 150 other countries and territories.

The Bible Sunday Offering also provides money to be used for purchasing Bibles for our North American Baptist mission fields.

Offerings for Bibles may be sent to the N.A.B. International Office designated as Bible Sunday Offering. The money from the offerings will be distributed to the Canadian Bible Society, the American Bible Society, and to our N.A.B. mission fields for Bible distribution.



"SIGNIFICANTLY SINGLE"

A Conference for Singles

When
August 1-4, 1984

Where
University of Manitoba
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Watch for the program printed in the December issue of the *Baptist Herald*.

Registration brochures are being mailed to churches in early 1984.

Building on the Foundations of Faith

1983-1984 Capital Funds Campaign

I was greatly moved by the presentation on the Capital Funds Drive. I never viewed the need to be that great within our North American Baptist Conference. I truly agree that when our people realize the need they will give.

We have chosen to give a month's salary for this, the Lord's work. May the Lord continue to bless you as you serve him faithfully.

In Christ,
A newly appointed missionary couple
(Name withheld upon request)



Dan Grueneich's Musical Ministries

Dan Grueneich, a North American Baptist and son of a pastor, travels extensively as a Gospel soloist. Dan has recorded the album, *Singing the Shepherd's Songs*, and is currently working on a new release for February 1984.

Dan is available for concerts, youth rallies, banquets, and revival crusades. He also presents a Biblical story with his gospel puppets for the children.

To schedule Dan in your church, call or write Dan Grueneich, 109 S. Carroll, Rock Rapids, Iowa 51246; Phone (712) 472-3895.

To receive Dan's album, send \$8.00 postage paid to the above address.

CONGRATULATIONS!

To these churches for renewing through the Church Family Subscription Plan to the *Baptist Herald*:

Community Baptist, Bieseker, AB; Rev. Alan Johnson, pastor.

Brook Baptist, Brooks, AB; Rev. Harold Grueber, pastor; Mrs. Mary Alguire, agent.

Carbon Baptist, Carbon, AB; Mr. Ed Vanderbaaren, pastor; Mr. Adam Buyer, agent.

First Baptist, McIntosh, SD; Mr. and Mrs. Leo Brochel, agents.

Redeemer Baptist, Parma, OH; Rev. Lanny Akers, interim pastor; Miss Gerda Markowski, agent.

Sunrise Baptist, Red Deer, AB; Rev. Doug Bittle, pastor.

Raymore Baptist, Raymore, SK; Mr. Don Harder, pastor; Mrs. Gail Orthner, agent.

First Baptist, Sumner, IA; Rev. Dan Payne, pastor; Mrs. John Lalk, agent.



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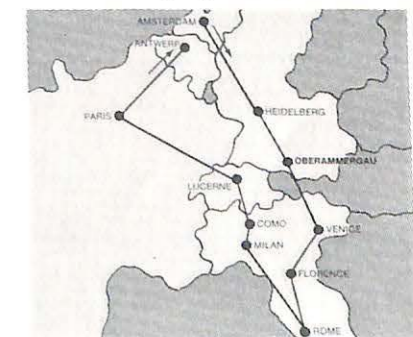
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