

Baptist Herald

November 1984



Because You Are Young!

by Gene A. Kern



The Apostle Paul said to Timothy, "Don't let anyone think little of you *because you are young*. Be their ideal; let them follow the way you teach and live; be a pattern for them in your love, your faith, and your clean thoughts" (I Timothy 4:12 LB). He was speaking to a man who quite likely was in his late twenties. However, some Bible scholars say that he was between 34 and 39 years of age.

All of us have our own ideas about young people and youthfulness. That's okay as long as we remember that people of all ages are special to God with a unique place in God's world. It's exciting to observe individuals in their teens and those in the prime of life, desiring to make their lives count for the Lord. All the freshness and enthusiasm that is transmitted by those who are young, especially by those who are living their lives for Jesus, is an essential for today's world.

It's very easy to become critical and negative when thinking

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about youth today. Sure, there are those who are unteachable, rebellious, irresponsible and without direction—but is that not found in virtually all age groups? I would rather choose to think about those young people who want to learn, mature and become responsible individuals in our world. I praise the Lord for many such young people everywhere today.

"Kids today want a challenge and goal for life, and I can think of none greater than the one found in Christ Jesus."

At Sunrise Baptist Church, there are several hundred young people who bring a vitality and dimension to all phases of ministry that are appreciated by the entire congregation. Kids today want a challenge and goal for life, and I can think of none greater than the one found in Christ Jesus.

My constant prayer is that I, as a parent and pastor, will demonstrate to teenagers a God-

honoring life: a life of joy and obedience to the principles of God's Word, a life of consistent balance between faith and action, prayer and purpose, love, and discipline so that he will be glorified and his people edified. Paul encouraged Timothy not to let anyone despise him because of his youth. He was to be respected because of his area of responsibility. He was not to attain this end by "acting big" or bragging about his credentials but by behaving as a trustworthy, pure, and loving person.

I am confident that the vast majority of teens in our North American Baptist churches have a real desire to live unashamedly for Christ. We, as parents and leaders in our churches, want to support and encourage you in achieving such God-honoring goals. You are a vital part of our N.A.B. fellowship.

I'm looking forward to meeting many of you next summer in Anaheim, California, during the sessions of the 41st Triennial Conference of North American Baptist churches. At that time you will exemplify and demonstrate how youth live "Beyond the Magic Kingdom."

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Youth— What Are Our Expectations?

by Terry Fossen

"Ask not what your country can do for you, but what you can do for your country."

—John F. Kennedy

To sideline youth until they are perceived to be ready is to lack faith in the One who has commissioned all.

It has been more than twenty years since many of us first heard those memorable words and pondered their impact upon the life of a nation. The sentiment from which this statement was drawn touches a truth that is more profound than many may care to entertain. The thought that "it is better to give than to receive" (Acts 20:35) is an ancient one, which has permeated throughout human history even to our present generation. The essence of this thought was never more clearly understood than when it came to life in the person of Jesus Christ, who came solely in order to give. This eternally living truth reaches deep within the soul of every Christian and tugs at chords that are linked to the Word of God . . .

" . . . present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice . . ." (Romans 12:1).

" . . . walk in love just as Christ also loved you, and gave himself up for us . . ." (Ephesians 5:2).

"Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but with humility of mind let each of you regard one another as *more important* than himself; do not merely look out for your own personal interests, but also for the interests of others" (Philippians 2:3,4).

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"Greater love has no one than this, that one lay down his life for a friend" (John 15:13).

The "giving of oneself" is so integrally interwoven into the fabric of the Christian faith that it becomes the challenge of life for every child of God.

To "take up the cross," to "be crucified with Christ," and to "die to self" is the "Great Expectation." To minimize the importance of this expectation is to lose touch with the very heartbeat of the faith. It is precisely here that Christian youth face their greatest struggle.

The Burden of Low Expectation

For centuries, the plight of all young people was to exist under unreasonable societal demands. Today, the pendulum has swung to the opposite extreme. Youth, regarded to be "in formation," are offered less and less consideration in terms of their contribution to society as a whole. Unfortunately, the Christian church has succumbed to the influence of this "worldly" attitude. Christian young people are learning to settle for less and less in terms of the expectations of the Christian walk, simply because less and less is expected of them.

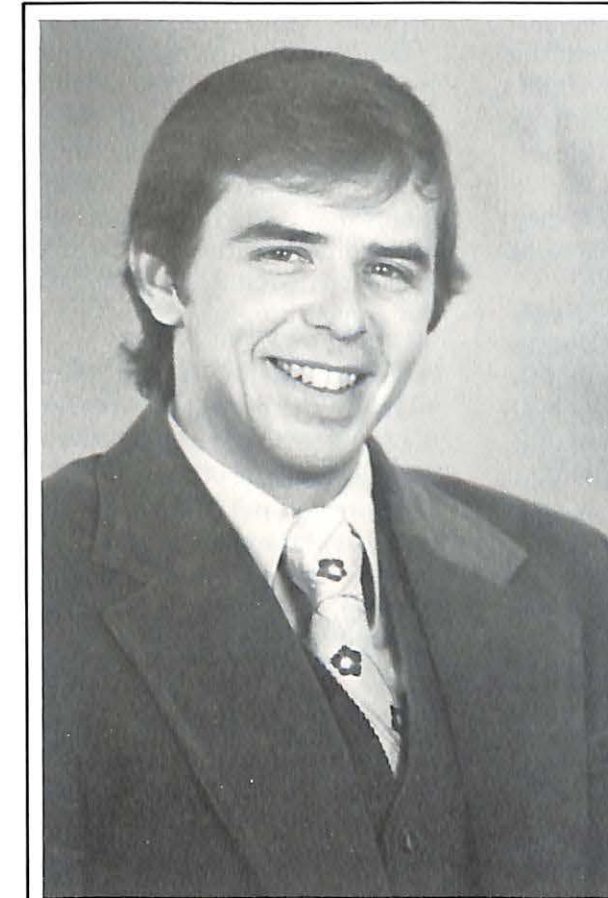
For years now, the activity of Christian youth has been characterized by such things as Friday night socials, Sunday evening fellowships, Wednesday night Bible studies, weekend retreats, and week-long camps, in addition to the regular Sunday school and Sunday morning worship services. The general intent of these activities has been to educate and to excite the youth until such a time as they are ready to embark

upon serious endeavors of their own. This, however, relegates youth to that place of veritable inertia, more or less in a state of "limbo," doing on their own what seldom really matters.

Rarely are Christian youth called upon to be involved in such things

Low Expectations—A Serious Concern—Why?

"Low expectation" of Christian youth is a serious concern for several reasons. First, it contradicts Scripture. John 1:12 tells us that "as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of



Paul was not satisfied to wait until Timothy had "come of age." He affirmed Timothy's place on the front lines.

as setting visions, making decisions, or pioneering projects that affect the whole church. Even the up-coming Triennial Conference of North American Baptist Churches highlights this fact, in that the youth are not expected to participate as delegates in the mainstream of N.A.B. concerns.

The very term "kids," used almost universally of young people even up to the age of college and career youth, reflects a "don't expect much" attitude. In spite of the fact that spiritual maturity cannot be tied to chronological age, Christian youth overall are viewed (even by themselves) as being undeveloped, inadequate, immature, and even childish.

God." To be a child of God is no small thing. It is a great privilege (I John 3:1), which has a great purpose (Matthew 28:18,19), which is realized by a great power (Acts 1:8).

Second, *low expectations* do the youth a great injustice. Christian young people not only need education and excitement but also exercise. Christians who expect to feed upon the Word of God without opportunity to exercise *obedience* become fat, frustrated Christians, prone to spiritual "heart attack." Christians who expect to entertain excitement rather than exercise excitement end up living in selfishness.

Third, *low expectations* nullify a mighty force in the church. Satan

does not have to lure Christian youth into worldly lusts if he can lull them to sleep with a worldly attitude. Low expectation of what God can do through Christian youth is tantamount to quenching the Spirit of God (I Thessalonians 5:19) and having a form of godliness but denying the power thereof (II Timothy 3:5).

Low expectation is precisely the concern that Paul addressed as he wrote to the (relatively) young man, Timothy: "Let no one look down on your youthfulness" (I Timothy 4:12).

Paul was emphasizing that age is not a legitimate factor in terms of what must be the Christian expectation. With an air of "expectancy," Paul confidently outlined the *great* task, which he *expected* of Timothy: ". . . in speech, and conduct, in love, faith, and purity show yourself an example of those who believe" (I Timothy 4:12).

This task required total giving on the part of Timothy. Paul would not minimize Timothy's responsibilities just because he was young, in spite of the fact that others did. Paul was not satisfied to wait until Timothy had "come of age." He affirmed Timothy's place on the front lines in the very heat of battle.

It is at this same strategic location that all Christian youth belong today. They must be engulfed in crucial ministry, whatever form that might take. This will continually force the youth to look to God and call upon him for the power that is so desperately needed, which only he can give. To sideline youth until they are perceived to be ready is to lack faith in the One who has commissioned all. The concept of "first grow, then go," is stifling to true discipleship. In the power of the Spirit of God, the view should be to "grow as you go."

The last thing Christian youth need is a softer touch, a diluted approach. They need to be stretched. They want a challenge. They can handle the *Great Expectation* of the Gospel, because they do not "go it alone" (Philippians 4:13).

A word directly to the youth would be, to quote a familiar thought. . . .

"Attempt great things for God, Expect great things from God." □

Things Youth Would Love To Tell You

by Loren Kopf

Teenagers want to be encouraged to develop those spiritual gifts that others have told them they have from God and to be able to serve in areas where they feel they can really minister to those around them.

Parents, pastors, church and conference leaders, and youth workers often spend considerable time trying to understand the thoughts and actions of youth. Hundreds of books and articles have been written by professionals on every aspect of the life of a teenager, explaining how they feel, interact, play, think, and worship.

Numerous characteristic profiles have been developed to decipher and define their behavior and to provide methods to properly discipline and educate them. There are public forums, conferences, workshops, and surveys designed to tell us what youth want and need. Statistics have been compiled on the attitudes and conduct of youth. Lists have been established giving all the required elements necessary for an effective youth program, which deals with all the facets of the life of a young person. Youth are observed, predicted, analyzed, interpreted, examined, studied, scrutinized, investigated, discussed, and reviewed.

In talking with young people, there seems to be one overriding thing that has been forgotten. Many teenagers just want someone to simply listen to them—really listen to what they are saying. Frequently, we have stopped listening to our youth and have planned programs around them, including things we think they

need. The focus of our ministry has been programs instead of people.

Listening to youth has given me the special opportunity to become aware of their thinking on a number of issues. I will share some of the feelings and comments that youth have expressed to me on things they would love to tell parents, church leaders, and our conference.

A Desire to be Accepted

One of the biggest concerns of the teenager today is personal acceptance. Like all of us, they wish to be treated not as an insignificant part of the church called "the youth group" but as unique individuals with special qualities, gifts, and attributes.

Each of us desires to be loved, encouraged, and supported. Teenagers want those around them to be human and to communicate to them on a personal level. They appreciate it when others admit to them when they make mistakes and apologize when they are wrong.

Youth want to know what others are thinking and the reasons for their decisions. They are developing as adults, and they look to you for help and guidance. They want guidelines set for them, but they also want to be given an opportunity to do their own thinking and make their own decisions. Teenagers need to be allowed to fail, for they realize that learning comes both from success and failure. Youth want others to know that they are people, too!

A Desire for True Christianity

Youth also want to have a

Christianity that is real. One of the things most challenging about working with youth is that they can quickly observe a Christianity that is empty of conviction. Many teenagers have lost interest and enthusiasm for a Christianity that seems to them to be only a set of rules and empty rituals. They demand to see a faith that is worth living for—a Christianity based on loving actions.

Young people want to know what Christianity is doing in the lives of Christians around them now. They do not necessarily want easy or simple answers to the hard questions of life and faith, but they seek a belief that is backed up by daily action and commitment.

The reason many youth do not want to attend church, Sunday school, and Bible studies, and the reason they do not want to get involved is because they fail to see

parents and church leaders attending and involved; therefore they feel it must not be important. When was the last time you told a young person what Jesus did for you recently? Do you realize that you are communicating your Christianity loudest by the way you lead your life?

A Desire to Serve

Followed closely by a desire for true Christianity, youth desire to serve. Often they are considered too young or too inexperienced to do anything within the church, except maybe to pour juice for a children's Sunday school class. Yet teenagers want to be encouraged to develop those spiritual gifts that others have told them they have from God and to be able to serve in areas where they feel they can really minister to those around them.

One of the problems within our

churches and within our Conference is that there is a lack of opportunities for youth to personally serve. One example is in the area of missions. Many youth have expressed a desire to be involved in missions yet are frustrated because they see very few areas in our Conference in which to become involved. We

These simple words, "I love you," are often hard to say; therefore they are usually left unsaid.

can be challenged to find areas where youth can serve and find fulfillment in ministry.

As youth experience Christianity by serving, they develop into stronger Christians. Our young people desire to be trained and developed into helpful partners within the church and Conference. We should strive as churches and as a Conference to provide a number of different and diverse areas in which youth can minister.

A Desire to Love

Without a doubt, youth within our Conference have always expressed a strong love for God, their parents, church, and denomination. As with all of us, these simple words, "I love you" are often hard to say; therefore they are usually left unsaid. Yet the young people really do love you and appreciate your concern and love for them.

Our youth are the greatest asset we have as a North American Baptist Conference. We are gifted to have many who are willing to give time, effort, and prayer to Christ and his work. It is a great privilege to work, learn, and grow with the young people of our Conference. It is exciting to see the future possibilities youth will provide our churches and our Conference.



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Cold and confused - that's how I describe my life before I met Jesus Christ.

While I was growing up, my mother was ill most of the time - in and out of hospitals. As a result, we, as children, didn't spend a lot of time at home receiving parental love and guidance. While my mother was in the hospital, we lived with relatives. Mother died when I was thirteen.

From Despair to Life

by Beth Bloom

My father remarried when I was sixteen and I left home.

From that point on, I rebelled at everyone and everything. I knew I had to survive in the world all by myself. I was filled with hurt and loneliness.

I went to live with my aunt who was heavily involved with motorcycle gangs. To become one of them, I bought a leather jacket, and I joined them. I lived four very crucial years, learning to be tough and cold, so I couldn't be hurt by anyone. Since I had no family or friends, I felt that I didn't need anyone either. I led a wild, uninhibited life-style. I learned about drugs, sex, and surviving on the streets.

Finally, depression set in. I realized that I was lonely, searching for something I couldn't understand or find. I went to a psychotherapist. That lasted only a short time; I received little help.

At age 19, I moved to Oak Park, Illinois, to start my life over, to leave my past behind. Through some new friends, I discovered the punk-rock scene. I shaved off my hair and added spikes to my favorite leather jacket. Even though I had a few friends now,

Beth Bloom gave this testimony at Forest Park Baptist Church, Illinois, where she is a member.

I was still cold, bitter, and tough. I knew I had good feelings in my heart, but I couldn't bring them to the surface.

Depression set in once more; again I sought professional help. I had suffered so much hurt and rejection that in order to protect myself I built walls around myself so that no one could hurt me. That backfired; I found that I couldn't get out from behind my walls. I was trapped. I became dangerously introverted.

It was then that I met a girl who was a follower of Jesus Christ. She spoke of God, but I refused to listen. She remained my friend through all the rebellion, and loved me as a person. I was curious about that special gift she had, but I never questioned her about it.

At her apartment several months ago, I was drawn to a man sitting upon a big rock outside her apartment. I watched him; he was so content. Curiosity struck me; I went outside to talk to him. He was so wise and filled with patience, love, and understanding that I actually listened to what he had to say. He didn't preach, but he spoke of God from his heart, and it touched mine.

I wanted that special gift these two people possessed, so I set off to seek God by myself. I started reading the Bible to learn of this gift.

Later, I asked this man how I could receive the Lord, and where I could find him. He told me that all I had to do was open up the door of my heart and believe in him. The man also told me the Lord wanted me as much as I wanted him. By now, I was ready to search with my heart instead of my mind. I talked to God and asked him into my life. I turned to the book of Psalms. I picked out the prayers dealing with confusion, putting trust in the Lord, forgiveness, and guidance.

All of a sudden, I felt as if someone reached right inside my heart

and started caressing it. I got on my hands and knees and started to cry. I had never cried out of happiness before; somehow I knew I was being filled with the Holy Spirit. I then believed with my heart. I didn't know what it was all about, but somehow I knew from then on it was going to be okay. I would not be lonely or afraid again. Right then, I

knew I was at a convalescent home volunteering my service to people who needed it. I could never have done the things I am doing now or had the feelings I have now for people if it were not for God's grace filling me with the Holy Spirit. I do all these things for him. I want to learn all I can and spread the Good Word to others. I can use the experiences

Material things don't mean much to me anymore because I trust in God. In my heart I know that he will take care of me and see to my needs. It's a warm, secure feeling. I have given my whole mortal and spiritual life to the Lord.

Now I feel very much like an infant. I don't know much of the Lord's laws or commands, but I'm



On the day I opened my heart to the Lord, things began to change in my life. My evil temper was put to rest, and my patience with people began to grow. I saw life through different eyes, and I finally began to love.

wanted to show the Lord that I put my trust in him, so I gave up my therapist and placed myself into God's loving arms.

On the day I opened my heart to the Lord, things began to change in my life. My evil temper was put to rest, and my patience with people began to grow. Most importantly, I began to see life through different eyes, and I finally began to love.

I asked the Lord to direct me in sharing my new-found love with other people. The next thing I

of my past in relating to non-Christians on their own level, because I have been where they are now.

My friends have witnessed all of these blessings from the beginning and are withdrawing from me because they do not understand. But that's okay because, in time, they will see what a special gift I have and wonder what it is. They will want to know how to receive it. When and if that time comes, then I have some wonderful news to share with them.

sure he will guide and keep me from straying too far. He brought back innocence and love in my life, and most of all, he is teaching me. It feels wonderful to love and help people through God's love for me. I don't know what changes will take place or where I am to go from here, but with God in my heart, I will be able to live my life for him and through him in the most wonderful way I ever dreamed possible. I know he will never leave nor hurt me; therefore I will never be alone again.

For many church youth ministries, the immediate challenge is to "get it together," and we lose sight of youth ministry's whole picture. Warren Hoffman discusses this in

Getting Your Act Together

by Warren Hoffman

I don't know how many times I have heard those familiar words, "get it together." It usually meant that the situation or my behavior was too casual, at loose ends. Well, for many church youth ministries, the immediate challenge is to "get it together." It's so easy to become the victim of the thousand details on the desk and lose sight of youth ministry's whole picture.

A "together" or unified youth ministry sees the church as mission. A Christian young person is a full member of the body of Christ and, therefore, is involved in that mission. Young people need to be participants in the life of the Body. Only as they will be involved in the church's worship, study, service, and recreation will they begin to be beneficiaries of all the dividends the church has to offer.

Let us look at several character-



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

istics that identify a youth work that has unity and wholeness:

1) *Youth ministry must be seen as life and ministry, not just another program.* It is impossible to have activity in the church without program, no matter how informal and unorganized it is. The essence of the church is the interpersonal relationship of the people together working out the ministry of Christ. Youth work cannot be seen as an end to itself, but as a means of helping youth identify with that mission. Any youth ministry must serve in assisting the young people to feel a part of the gathered family and help them recognize that they belong.

2) *A "together" youth ministry is flexible.* By contrast, adult ministries may not experience much change, because they generally do not move into drastic levels of change from year to year. Youth ministry must be ready for change!

The dynamic of the group changes from year to year as some graduate into other

groups, and new people are constantly added. Every year new seventh graders come along and junior highers move up to senior high. In addition, friends are invited who have different or no church background. One year a youth choir may go . . . the next it will flop. Often a bumper crop of leadership may graduate, and the group will subsequently flounder for awhile. Be versatile, ready for change, sensitive to the personality changes of the group.

3) *A unified youth work is need centered.* Young people have been studied from every angle, but when you get right down to it, there are basically four areas of need:

- a) Need to be loved
- b) Need to love
- c) Need to be useful
- d) Need to grow

Observe a church that shows love and enables others to love, utilizes talent and energy, and helps people in their search. There you will find a church with a vital youth work.

4) *A "together" youth work provides intimate relationships with adults.* This may happen in the arena of small groups. Intentional efforts should be made to bring a wide variety of adults into the many facets of youth ministry. There should be contact from the pastor and church leaders. Parents and other concerned adults could be scheduled in, even if they participate as observers. Attempt to involve youth in leadership, possibly in committee work. Working side by side with adult leaders will develop camaraderie. And,

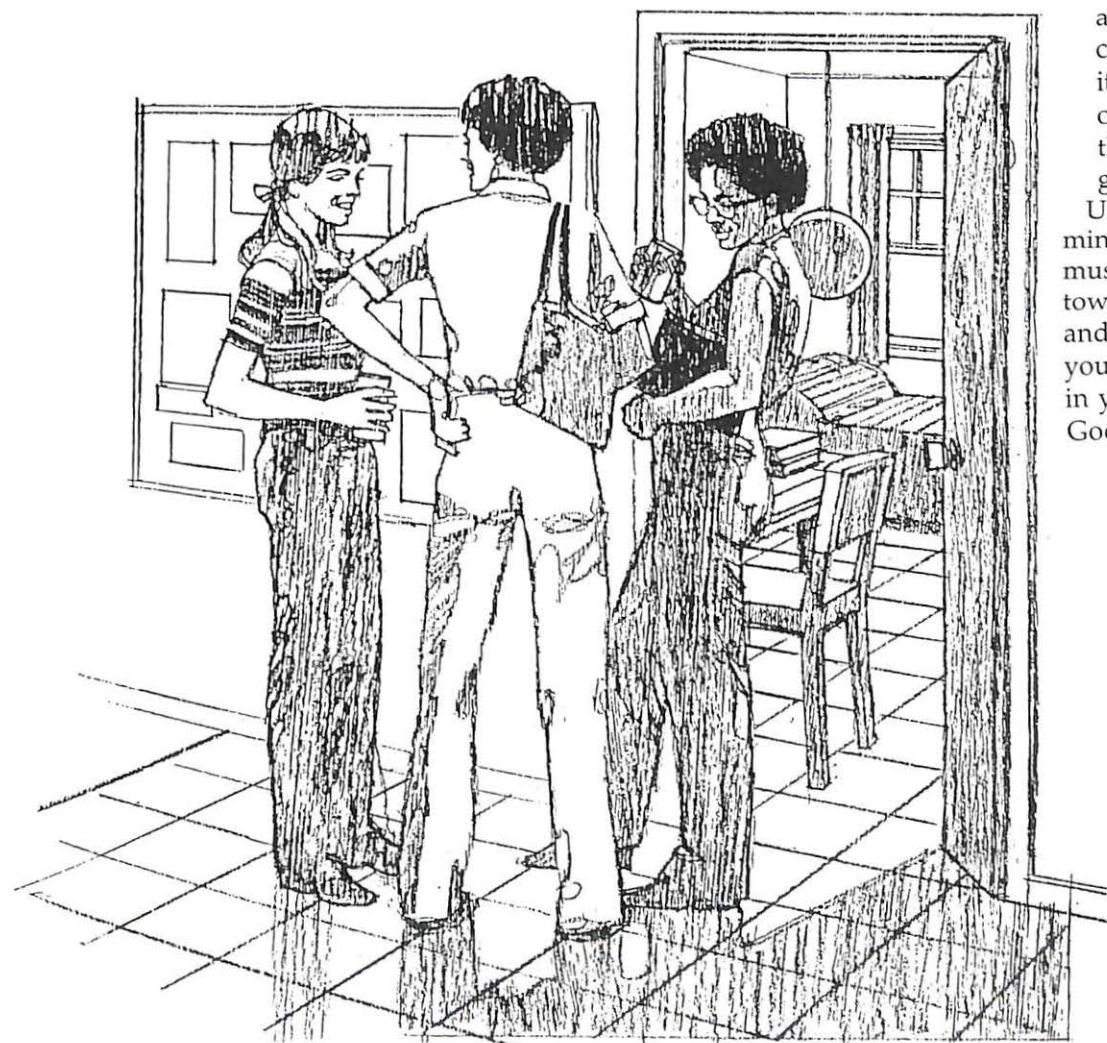
avoid scheduling youth activities which conflict with major events in the church's life.

5) *Unified youth ministry addresses the needs of everyday life.* The youth outreach of a congregation needs to provide a foundation and support for meeting the hard knocks of life. Grounded in the Word, the ministry must be pertinent to what young people think and feel. The Gospel intersects life to provide basics for life, introducing youth to the abundant life.

6) *Youth ministry should be sensitive to the physical.* Nobody needs to be reminded that youth are active and energetic. They need to move. The usual church athletic teams provide this in part, but physical activities should be kept in mind and included in the schedule. Non-competitive games work well because they allow for equal participation without giving an advantage to the most athletic.

7) *A whole youth work will equip and deploy young people for personal witnessing.* Young people need to understand that witnessing is more than what they say; it's who they are. A few will be adept at this; others will be less capable and timid. Therefore, it is important to give a variety of ways for youth to give of themselves in personal and group service.

Unified and whole youth ministry doesn't just happen. It must be planned for and worked toward. It comes through study and experience. God bless you as you all work to "get it together" in youth ministry to the glory of God.



Peddling across the States

by Bruce Duncan

How would you like to peddle past shimmering lakes, picturesque towns, lush forests; to arrive, hap-



Bruce Duncan is a part-time Treatment Specialist in a home for delinquent boys and is enrolled as a student at Oakland University in Rochester, Michigan. He is a former "New Day" Sound Engineer 1982-84, and a member of Ripley Boulevard Baptist Church, Alpena, Michigan.

pily exhausted, at the end of the day at a campsite (waiting just for you) with a yummy meal, by a warm fire, with songs and devotions; finally to curl up in a snug sleeping bag?

Pain, agony, sweat, torment, ache, footache, headache, and yes, even rear-ache . . . Are these things something every energetic, active carefree kid from the Ripley Boulevard Baptist Youth Group looks forward to every-summer? You bet! Our bike trips are the greatest; whether they're through the Dells of Wisconsin or around New York's Finger Lakes.

In 1978, our Youth Group Director, Russ Lewis, inspired by an article in the *National Geographic Magazine*,

took our youth group on its very first bike trip. Knowing little or nothing about biking, we loaded up a car, van, and "fifth wheeler" with kids, bikes, and anything else needed and headed for Wisconsin. Since most of us had only biked about ten miles at any one time, the thought of forty to sixty miles a day, for six days was a challenge, to say the least. The trip was a success, and one day we even clocked one hundred miles! This was the first of many annual trips.

This year takes us to Vermont. The bike trip planned bears little resemblance to the first trip to Wisconsin of six years ago. Many of us have become biking "pros." No longer will you see the more

pedestrian variety ten-speeds with heavy fenders and balding tires. Now most have sophisticated touring-bikes that eat up hundreds of miles in a summer (and that's just a snack!).

The trips require much planning and cooperation from many people—not the least of whom are the support group. These people follow behind the bikers, providing a "sag wagon" for the more unathletically inclined. They bandage our wounds, then hurry ahead to set up a welcoming camp.

The best part of the trip is the fellowship enjoyed with others and the discovery of new ways to see God. Lasting friendships develop in the hours spent riding miles together.

At night, around the campfire, we discuss the highlights of the day. This time together is the most precious, a time of soul-searching, of sharing our innermost thoughts and praying for each other. Times like these will have a lasting impact on our lives.

The trip has been a ministry to unsaved friends who have joined us, saw that Christ does make a difference, and have accepted the Lord. Today, one of the girls who accepted the Lord is a growing Christian and is planning to marry one of our young men; another is working in Inter-Varsity Christian Fellowship at Oakland University.

Our ministry was not always confined to each other. In New York, we

attended a small country church where the bikers numbered more than the congregation. We sang and shared that morning and were able to provide a source of inspiration to a needy church.

On our second trip to Wisconsin, we met a fellow biker who was of Jewish faith. We invited him to share a meal with us, and before he left, we had opportunity to share something more precious than gold.

What started as an adventurous idea from *National Geographic Magazine* has become a tradition and a life-changing experience for all who go. For some, it is a time of new birth; for others, it is a time of recommitment; for all, it's a lot of fun. □



Pain, agony, sweat, torment, ache . . . these are things every energetic active, carefree kid from Ripley Boulevard Baptist Youth Group looks forward to every summer.

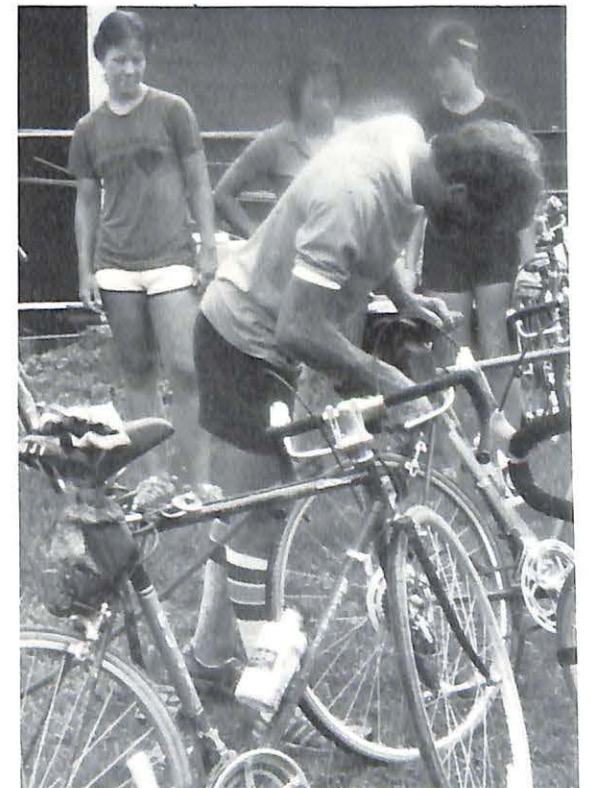
Photos by Bruce Duncan



Fellowship, the discovery of new ways to see God, and lasting friendships—all these happen in the hours spent riding miles together.



Peddling past shimmering lakes, picturesque towns, lush forests, the youth arrive happily exhausted at the end of a day at a campsite with a yummy meal, by a warm fire, with songs and devotions—finally to curl up in a snug sleeping bag.



Most have sophisticated touring bikes that eat up hundreds of miles in a summer.

Why I Share Christ with Others

by Karen Gebauer

When I was eight years old, I asked Jesus Christ to become my Lord. Ever since then, I've experienced the transforming work of the Holy Spirit. One of the aspects of the Christian life that the Holy Spirit has recently been teaching me about is evangelism. I had heard Jesus words, "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every nation" quite

on a meaningful level. I realized it was the same with God and me. I need to spend regular, quality time (wide awake and with a clear mind) with God to get a deeper understanding and perspective of him and his ways. I've found that the more time I spend with him, the more real and tangible our relationship becomes.

I realize that evangelism stems

As I came to know a variety of people of different nationalities with different experiences and backgrounds, I was troubled with the question, "How can I share my faith with them or really communicate if I cannot relate to them?" God made it clear to me that it is impossible for me but not for the Holy Spirit.

Recently, my friend and I traveled in Germany. From the beginning of our trip, we had decided that this was not only going to be a sightseeing tour, but also we wanted to reach out to the people God sent across our path. We met a young man at a train station who was also backpacking. As it turned out, we spent the whole day with him, mostly sitting on a beach talking. The young man was a bitterly disillusioned Iranian with almost two years of warfare behind him.

Again I wondered, "How can we communicate and show that we care?"

God reminded me that it was only through the Holy Spirit that we could do this. As my friend and I silently prayed for his special help, the impossible happened. This young Iranian opened up to us. We had a wonderful time sharing about God, Christ and his purpose, and our personal experiences.

I challenge and encourage you not to hesitate to witness to others even if you can't relate to them. I doubt you will meet many war veterans, but there are many others whose lives have been influenced by drugs, alcohol, and child abuse. We, the Christians of today, are the only ones who can witness and reach this generation. Let's work on our relationship with God and allow Christ to continue his ministry through us. □



As I become more aware and recognize God working in and around me, I can and want to tell others about him.

often, but I couldn't see myself fitting into the Billy Graham category. Since then, the Holy Spirit has given me a personal understanding of evangelism.

First, I was made aware of the great amount of regular, quality time that is needed if you want to improve your relationship with somebody, whether it be a boy/girl friend, or spouse. It is the only way to get to know that person better and to communicate

Karen Gebauer is a member of Grace Baptist Church, Kelowna, British Columbia.

Contemporary Christian Music - Help or Hindrance?

by Norm Parrott

The contemporary music scene is larger and more varied than ever before in history. No longer are there set and defined categories such as rock, jazz, country, or easy listening. Christian music also incorporates many styles, and I love them all, but I want to talk about contemporary Christian music.

My appreciation for music began when I was quite young. Having a musically talented mother, I began to take piano lessons at an early age. When I was ten, my older brother got a set of drums; they soon replaced the piano as my main instrument. At age thirteen while playing trumpet in the school band, I joined a rock group. I played professionally during high school and for about six years following graduation.

Discovering the Gospel through Music

When I became a Christian in 1979, I discovered a whole new area of music that I hadn't even known existed. This contemporary Christian music was powerful. I had the gospel message in a form I could really identify with!

An acquaintance of mine once said, "Music is the medium, and you can say what you want with it." Indeed, lyrics are and have always been very important to me. I have found many inspiring thoughts as well as practical advice in Christian songs.

What we hear in secular music



Norm Parrott lives in Calgary, Alberta, and is a member of Grace Baptist Church, where he works with junior high youth.

today is often distasteful and sometimes offensive; although the odd bright spot shines through. Entertaining as it may be, however, it can be a subtle and dangerous trap for the Christian.

Gospel music is also entertaining, but it is more than that. The big difference is the message that it conveys. The message may be about God's love for us or our love for God, or it may build us up in the faith.

Secular music can be a subtle and dangerous trap for the Christian.

Is music important to young people? All we need to do is look around at all the headsets and portable stereos, at the popularity of concerts, or the multi-billion dollar recording industry.

The main audience, the "target" audience for record promotions, is the young teen. Listen when a popular song comes on the radio. See if your son or daughter knows the words. If only they memorized their schoolwork as well!

As a musician, I know that a "hook," that part of a lyric that usually repeats itself throughout the tune, can sell a song. A "hook" is what kids identify with or find catchy, and so they sing along.

What Does Contemporary Christian Music Offer?

What does contemporary Christian music offer young people?

- The Gospel message in a real and identifiable form.
- An expression of their feelings. (Often a writer can say just what we feel.)
- An expression of their faith.
- A self-examination when you hear a personal testimony sung

right from the heart.

— Something you can share and with which you feel involved.

— A joyous noise from dedicated Christian musicians who are using their gifts to praise the Lord!

I seem to have an inborn love of music; it stirs my heart deep inside. Music can take me soaring in the clouds, laughing and joyous. Music can also make me reflective and quiet before God, and it has the power to break my hard heart and leave me sobbing like a child. Music is not mere words or a terrific tune, but a gift from God.

Ephesians 5:19 says, "Sing and make music in your heart to the Lord," and if it's in your heart, you just can't keep it to yourself. □



"A conference just for singles? It'll never work!"

Such comments did not stop the formation of an international planning committee and the committee members' persistent prayers. God blessed the prayers of that planning committee, their churches, and others throughout the North American Baptist Conference as 132 conferees made the Singles' Conference held in Winnipeg, Manitoba, August 1-4, a success.

Singles, ages 22 to 65, represented churches from New York to California, British Columbia to Ontario. Two from Oklahoma turned this northern trek into their vacation. "This is my first vacation in three years," one said.

Those enroute from Kansas encountered black bears one night while camping in southern Minnesota. One said he slept with his camping shovel by his side "just in case."

The backgrounds of those attending the conference created a beautiful mosaic. A retired missionary from Cameroon chatted with a systems

analyst, a short-termer from Japan mingled with instructors, nurses with pastors and students.

Not only did occupations but also a sprinkling of different denominations contributed to the variety.

The uniqueness of each individual reinforced the idea of singles being significant. The conferees chose from a network of workshops. They discussed how to entertain and keep themselves healthy as well as how to deal with finances/investments, stress, time management, self-esteem and other aspects of their singleness.

"The Lord definitely led me to (this workshop)," one Manitoban said. "I came in here by mistake, but everything presented was exactly what I needed to hear."

Others said they were glad the speakers "related to everyone" and not merely spoke to a certain sector.

"Significantly Single"

by John Kiemele, Carol Potratz and Connie Kaiser

A Conference for Singles was held August 1-4, 1984, at the University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, Manitoba, with the theme: John 15:1-5.

The impact of the conference was not confined to the University of Manitoba campus. It extended into the community as CBC-TV News, a local television station, acted on its curiosity. Reporters asked conferees, "What attracted you to a conference like this?" and "What are you getting out of this?" They also asked a committee member, "Why such a conference?" and "What was the genesis? A need? The perpetuation of a tradition?" The answers to these questions positively informed listeners and prompted further in-

quiries from viewing singles.

Music was a unifying force. Dan Gast, Steamboat Rock, Iowa, led daily group singing, and Dan Grueneich, Rock Rapids, Iowa, touched hearts through meaningful musical packages.

The Rev. Kurt Redschlag, N.A.B. College, led the morning Bible studies centered on the conference text. Redschlag zeroed-in on abiding, pruning and bearing fruit, themes needed by everyone—not necessarily singles.

three, singles lifted their prayers to God.

The thread of prayer revealed the truth of Matthew 19:26: "... but with God all things are possible." For example, at the end of the conference some thought more needed to be said about those who are "single again." God is faithful, because before singles ever gathered in Winnipeg, provisions for this in special programming for singles was made by the singles' planning committee for the 41st Triennial Conference of North American Baptist Churches to meet in Anaheim, California, July 16-21, 1985.

So from Winnipeg 1984 to Anaheim 1985 to a tentatively planned Singles' Conference in Detroit in 1987, God is truly directing his people.

Why Did I Attend the "Significantly Single" Conference?

by Helga Kahler

Tina Schmidt, recently retired as a missionary to Cameroon, desired to attend the conference for the sake of the topics, but she sought someone closer to her age who would also attend. I committed myself to attend if she did. In the end, as Tina said, "We ministered to each other."

What Was Observed?

Chronological age seemed to be no barrier. The program planning committee, which consisted of basically the younger group, had done an excellent job. Three of the speakers or workshop leaders were married men, but they were part of the group. The majority of participants were females; however, one could sense the spirit of unity during the various activities.

During a panel discussion, it became evident that singles are very resourceful in their respective churches across Canada and the United States, and they need to cope with frustrations. It was also expressed that the singles (those who were never married; those who are widows or widowers; or the

divorcees) are a somewhat neglected group in most churches. Because of that, a conference such as this one brings new perspectives into the lives of many singles.

Some participants wished that they could have taken part in more sessions of the workshops, but whichever sessions were chosen, one could learn from every speaker. The following excerpts from some of the conference speakers have enriched the lives of many singles (and would be applicable to marrieds): "Don't be so caught up in earthly things that you forget the heavenly. Live above the world. (Col. 3:2) ... Review your singleness through God's attributes, trusting completely in God's goodness and wisdom."

"To be significantly single is O.K. Live effectively. Live intentionally!"

"Abide in Christ. Accept the pruning process to become fruitbearing Christians as based on Galatians 5:22-23 and I Corinthians 13."

And future participants of singles' conferences might ask the 1984 participants about the meaning of such words or phrases as "magenta uniform—broccoli boycott—for sure ..." Those impromptu skits were proofs of excellent team effort.



The Talent Show on a Paddlewheel Cruise brought out this "Oklahoma Accent" contest.



Singles from the east and west coasts met and became friends.



The Conference was a team effort of guest speakers and committee members.

Photos by John Brouwer, Stockton, California

Connie Scott — Definitely Contemporary! Definitely Christian!

by Grant Saip

Connie Scott, a new recording artist for Sparrow Records, has made numerous appearances on TV and radio shows in Canada and the U.S.A. including a 1977 NBC-TV Christmas program. Connie's album, "Heartbeat," was released in the U.S.A. in September 1983, and it has received three nominations for Dove Awards and one nomination for a Grammy Award. Connie has developed an active youth ministry in Canada, which is the current focus of her ministry. Connie, her sister Sherri, and her parents, the Gerry Scotts, are members of Bethany Baptist Church in Vancouver, British Columbia.

In an interview with LATEST WORD, Connie recalls the events that lead to the making of her first solo album and confesses her willingness to go wherever the Lord leads her.

LATEST WORD: Connie, tell us about your musical background and how you started singing.

CONNIE: I started singing at the age of three. My dad was a deejay on a radio station, and I sang "Jesus Loves Me" on his radio program. Then my mom began teaching me how to sing solo and also how to harmonize. Later on, my younger sister joined mom and me, and we began singing as a family.

We would sing; mom would perform a chalk illustration; and my dad would tie the program together with scripture and poetry. From then on, I began singing more and more in churches and at youth rallies. I took singing and piano lessons for a good number of years as well.

LW: What made you decide to try to make a career of singing as a Christian artist?

CONNIE: Ever since I was little, I always loved to sing. It's always been a dream of mine to make a career of singing. But it's only been in the last little while that my whole views have changed as to why I wanted to do this.

At first the attention and the glitter of singing appealed to me, and I had to come to a point in my life where the Lord instilled priorities that meant more to me than the fame and the whole bit of singing. So, when that happened, I realized that the only way he could use me and work through me as an artist was if I gave my whole self to him and gave him that part I was trying to keep for myself and didn't want to give to him. So I gave it to him, and from then on everything just fell right into place.

LW: As a young Christian artist at the age of 19 starting a career, how do you find yourself changing?

CONNIE: Before the album was made, I was a very dependent person. But now that I've had to go out on my own and work things out for myself and use my own judgment, I've become more independent, and I have matured in a lot of different ways. By working closely with some non-

Christians on the album, I learned something about my own spiritual maturity. I learned that it's very important for a Christian artist to continually grow and mature spiritually.

LW: What steps led to the making of your first solo album, "Heartbeat"?

CONNIE: At first, I was pretty frustrated because things weren't falling into place as well as I thought they would. That's when I made that commitment in my life to give it all over to Jesus and just let him take it from there.

Then Sparrow made it possible for me to meet with my producer, Larry Muhoberac. We decided to do the pop-rock style music. I felt really good about that decision because I've always loved to sing that kind of music. Then the songs started to come in, and we decided on the ones that we would use for the album. I went down to L.A. for three different studio sessions in a period of four months, to complete the album.

LW: Your album has a hard, electric sound to it that is very current. Is there a certain goal that you would like to reach in your ministry?

CONNIE: I think that upper teens are going through a very difficult time in their lives, and I'm experiencing those same frustrations myself. As an artist who wants to relate to the teenage audience, my goal is to minister through music. Through this, the Holy Spirit can work in the lives of these people so that they can come to know the Lord and experience his love.

LW: Is there a particular song on the album that has special meaning to you at this point in your life?

CONNIE: Some Christians just don't realize that Christ wants us to submit ourselves totally to him . . . 100 percent! I had to go through a lot of trials before I finally realized this. On the album, a ballad, "With My Life in Your Hands," really speaks about this turning point in my life.

*"All of my life has been a struggle,
Throwing my faith against the wind.
But now that you're in my life it's peaceful,
Knowing you'll show me the way.
With my life in your hands
I can walk with head held high,
It's a feeling I've dreamed of forever.
With my life in your hands
Everyday is simplified
'Cause I'm living in your love." □*

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My Second Family

by Joyce Keck



Joyce Keck is the daughter of Ted and Lorena Keck. They recently became the pastor's family at Anchor Baptist Church, South Sioux City, Nebraska, where she attends high school.

At two months old, I was in diapers, sitting in an infant seat, at my first Triennial Conference of North American Baptist Churches in Detroit, Michigan. At the time, I certainly didn't realize that this was the beginning of my second family.

A family consists of loving people who really care about you and are there when you need them. Well, after attending camps and association meetings each year, triennial conferences every three years, and having "New Day" members, missionaries, and people from the N.A.B. International Office stay in our home, I am thoroughly convinced that the people of our Conference really are my second family.

This family has really touched my life in many ways. I've dedicated and committed my life to Christ through different functions of the N.A.B. Conference. I've learned what God's love really is by looking at and talking to the many members of this

family. When my life is not running smoothly and it seems things around me are falling apart, it is uplifting to know that I have Christian friends all across the U.S.A. and Canada who are praying for me.

I thank God for the life he has given me within our Conference. I pray that he will continue in this way to work in my life and that he will be able to minister through me to other members of his family.

When I think back at my first introduction to this Conference, I not only picture myself sleeping and crying in my infant seat, but also I see the baby girl next to me (we are still good friends), and I wonder about all the people who picked me up and held me. Then I realize that these people are only a small number of the members of our Conference who have influenced my life. And I understand what beautiful bonds God makes through friendship.

4,000 Youth Meet in Buenos Aires

From July 11-15, 1984, four thousand young people from 68 nations of the world met in Buenos Aires, Argentina, to celebrate, "Jesus Christ—the Truth: Our Faith, Our Commitment, Our Peace." They came from the East and West, North and South, from Czechoslovakia and Portugal, from the Philippines and Burma, from Ecuador and Bolivia, from Costa Rica and Canada, from Great Britain and the U.S.A.

This youth conference was one of the most international of all Baptist Youth World conferences. It was characterized by a third-world flavor with a large delegation from Africa and Latin America.

The mornings were dedicated to eleven communities of 300 each, which then broke up into small families of ten. These small families developed important ties for future fellowship among the young people of the world. "What a joy to see thousands of Baptist young people read and study the Bible together," said one of the leaders.

The afternoon sessions were again small workshops where young people dealt at length with questions such

as: "The Christian and Power," "Hunger," "War and Peace," "Justice," "Evangelism and Mission." Young Baptists from around the world intensely shared their lives, the problems of their societies, and how they, as Christians, must seek for solutions. Some of the leaders of these groups were from the Bahamas, Argentina, Great Britain, and Venezuela.

The evening plenary sessions brought all four thousand youth together for praise, prayer, testimonies, and addresses by major speakers from around the world.

The opening session was very special in that Dr. Raul Alfonsin, president of the Republic of Argentina, addressed the conference. To a cheering crowd, he spoke of Jesus Christ as only Lord and Saviour. He assured the delegates that as President of Argentina he was determined to bring his country out of a long dark tunnel of violence into the light of peace and justice. Dr. Duke McCall, president, Baptist World Alliance, presented President Alfonsin with a Bible on behalf of Baptists of the world.

(Continued on next page)

(Continued from page 19)

The plenary sessions were marked with joy and excitement. The Christ Preachers from Nigeria won the hearts of the young people with their exciting presentation of song and dance from Nigeria. The Servant Singers from the U.S.A. interpreted the theme every night through mime, dramatizing that the brokenness of the world could only be brought together again by Christ.

The youth conference concluded on Sunday morning with a revival-type sermon preached by Douglas Waruta of Tanzania. He called the Baptist youth of the world to hold the proclamation of Jesus as Lord together in word and deed. "Jesus is alive, and thus we must affirm life." Thousands stood and cheered at the conclusion of the sermon.

To say goodbye, youth delegates had brought little momentos from their own country. These were exchanged with joy and tears. The delegates went back to their countries with renewed determination to witness for Christ in their personal and social lives. An African delegate said, "This conference has been so great for me. Now I am going back home encouraged to evangelize more than ever!"

A Conference of Firsts

The conference had many "firsts." It was the first bilingual conference. Spanish and English were the official languages. It was the first time a president of a country had addressed the youth conference.

Saturday afternoon was a festival day. Dr. Raul Scialabba, conference chairman, Dr. Denton Lotz, BWA youth director, and Rev. Samson Mathangani, assistant BWA youth director, laid a wreath at the San Martin Plaza. Young people from five continents led prayers for peace. Then joined by other Protestants, more than 10,000 marched down the main street of Buenos Aires, Avenue 9th, to the obelisk. Thousands listened as Pastor Tomas Mackey spoke of the Baptist commitment to the separation of church and state and ended with a call for peace and justice.

Following this, the delegates flooded into the Colon Teatro, one of the great opera houses of the world, to hear Baptist choirs and soloists from around the world sing and play. This was the first time a religious group was allowed the use of the concert hall.

Evangelistic Emphasis at the Heart of the Conference

As its heart, this conference was evangelistic. More than 100,000 Gospels of John were distributed on the streets to the people of Buenos Aires. The Gospels had a greeting from the youth conference and, in the back, a list of all Baptist churches in Buenos Aires. In addition, more than two million scripture portions were printed for distribution, with a telephone number to call for spiritual help.

The youth delegates went home inspired and ready to work for Christ in their countries. An appeal was made to church leaders to open their hearts and the doors of the church to the Baptist youth. They are ready to work and live for Christ! □

Message of the 10th Baptist Youth World Conference to Baptists of the World

We have come from 68 nations to Buenos Aires, Argentina (July 1984), to witness to our faith in Jesus Christ as only Lord and Saviour. We, 4,000 delegates, representing millions of Baptist young people around the world, send this message of hope to Baptist youth everywhere.

We believe that Jesus Christ is the truth and thus the basis of all our actions. Because of Christ our lives have meaning. We pledge ourselves to share this Good News with all youth in every country of the world. We pledge ourselves to work to evangelize the world in our generation.

Our Faith in Jesus Christ is a call to commitment. No longer can we be passive participants in a lost world, but we commit ourselves to active responsibility as servants of Christ to feed the hungry, clothe the naked, and visit the imprisoned.

We believe that Jesus Christ is the Prince of Peace. Thus we are called to be peacemakers. We appeal to all the leaders of the world to stop the nuclear arms race, which threatens to destroy God's creation. As peacemakers, we call upon Baptist young people to work for justice as a counterpart to peace.

The world economic order which pits rich against poor and nation against nation is a sign of sin for which Christ alone is the answer.

We dedicate ourselves to the task of being witnesses to the Gospel of Jesus Christ in our personal and social lives.

Our message is Jesus Christ! We call all brothers and sisters to rededicate their lives to Christ and to be his witnesses to the end that the kingdoms of this world shall become the kingdom of our Lord, and he shall reign forever and ever!

With gratitude in our hearts and thanks to God, we send a world of love to the people and Baptists of Argentina. You have welcomed us warmly and have made possible a significant Conference for Baptist young people around the world. May God bless your country and leadership as it brings a new era of peace and justice to its people. We thank your President, Raul Alfonsin, for honoring us with his presence and message of hope and reconciliation.

As our contribution to the UN International Year of Youth 1985, we pledge ourselves to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ, to work for peace and justice in our own countries and around the world. We will continue our efforts to work for friendship between young people East and West, North and South.

To God be the glory—great things He has done! We go with a renewed vision and dedication to work for the kingdom of God and the proclamation of Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior to everyone in the world. Jesus Christ is the Truth—our faith, our commitment, our peace! □

Hope - To Build a Church

by Dave Rushton

As I look up from my desk, I see a large piece of orange paper stuck on the wall in front of me. It says, "I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it" - Jesus (Matthew 16:18). This verse has been our source of hope on a daily basis these past six years since we came to begin a new church in Sun Prairie, Wisconsin.

When we moved to Sun Prairie, there was no core group, not even any interested individuals known to us. In those days, we saw the Lord gather together a small group of people who wanted to know the Lord and begin to grow in him. Jesus Christ had started building.

In the middle years, Jesus' promise was our source of hope as we ministered to many who were believers but were standing still or

The Rev. Dave Rushton is pastor of Community Baptist Church, Sun Prairie, Wisconsin.



On July 15, 1984, Dave Rushton baptized Gary Brinkman, the first person Dave met when he moved to Sun Prairie in 1978.



"Community Baptist has set a goal to begin building in June 1985," says Dave Rushton, pastor.



As individuals and as a group, the people of Community Baptist are sharing the Gospel with co-workers, friends, and neighbors.

were caught out of fellowship with him. In those days, we saw many begin a sincere life of obedience to him and service to others. Jesus was building.

Over the years, this verse has been our source of strength as we have faced opposition, seen many move away to new jobs and towns, experienced the "normal" church problems, and questioned our own gifts. The gates of hell have not prevailed against it.

In these last years, "I will build my church..." has been our source of confidence as we have begun to move out as individuals

and a group to share the gospel with our co-workers, friends, and neighbors. In these times, we are seeing God work the miracle of the new birth. He is building.

Just recently, it has become our source of faith as we have stepped out and set a goal to begin building in June of 1985. To sit here today and even think about it is to think about the impossible. We can only allow ourselves to even think it as we remember His words, "I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it."

Parents-in-Ministry by Ardath Effa, Edmonton, AB

Most of our children's teen-age years were spent with us on the mission field in Brazil. I admit that our circumstances and experiences were not the normal parent-teen kind. Just living in a foreign country away from all family and friends drew us very close as a family.

All of our activities were very much a family affair, beginning with learning the Portuguese language and a new culture, to eventually serving the Lord together. Even before going to Brazil, we began singing together as a family, eventually going into four-part quartets and various instruments. This led us to an extensive music ministry as a family along with our missionary activities.

Being missionaries and in the ministry was our calling as a family. Our children helped in carrying and setting up our equipment, inviting people to our services, distributing tracts, leading the youth groups in churches in which we worked, and even spending many hours working with us in manual labor as we

built the church in Caxias do Sul. Many times we held evangelistic meetings in distant places and would travel all night after our final Sunday services in order to get home in time for the children to be in school Monday morning.

Our family unity had a personal as well as a ministry basis. Because our children went to Brazilian schools, where all their education was in Portuguese, we carried on classes for them at home in English, spelling, American history, and geography. This gave us opportunity to relate intellectually to one another. We set aside one night a week as "family night" when the children chose what we would do as a family. These were exciting times of playing games, going for a stroll in the city square downtown, going to a soccer game, or attending a concert. Each week they would eagerly plan for next week's family night. Here we built up our social relationships to one another.

All in all, we hardly noticed any difference as our children entered their teen-age years. Our life-style of working and playing together as a family was already set. For a brief time, however, our son made up excuses not to go to prayer meetings Wednesday nights. We didn't force the issue but allowed him to stay at home and committed it to the Lord. Not long after this, he was one of hundreds of missionary kids from all over Brazil who participated in a MK camp held in Northern Brazil. We gave up our vacation that summer in order to send him to this camp. The Lord met him in a wonderful way at that camp, and he came home a changed boy, ready to continue in full support of the ministry. Our daughter shocked

us one day, by showing a sudden rebellious streak, spouting off about the fishbowl type of existence she led. Before the day was over, she came crying to us for forgiveness, admitting that someone else had put this into her head; she really didn't feel that way at all. We could see how quickly peers could influence.

In their early teens, our children were invited to sing in the choir of the University of Caxias do Sul. Even though they were much younger than the others in the choir, and even though this meant they would have to miss some of our church activities and family commitments, we felt it would be an excellent training opportunity for them as well as a way to in-

fluence choir members for Christ. Because of our children's involvement, this choir sang for the dedication of our new church. It was the first time most of them had been in a Protestant church and heard the Gospel. As part of the choir's training, a professor from Argentina gave individual voice lessons to the members. He was mixed up in the occult and one day told our daughter that she and her brother really puzzled him. He said he had powers to look into the eyes of anyone and foretell their future, but when he tried to do this to them, his powers were completely nullified.

He did say, however, that they were on the right track and should continue on the pathway they were going. Our daughter was very excited at this demonstration of the Holy Spirit indwelling them.

How can parents-in-ministry produce children-in-ministry? Well, primarily it's only by the grace of God, but perhaps he can also use some of these guidelines:

1) Pray in their presence that God would touch their lives and call them into his service.

2) Involve them in your ministry and make them feel they are a very vital part.

3) Never speak negatively about your work but always positively.

4) Be excited and enthusiastic about your job.

5) Hold the ministry in high regard, as a privilege and a high calling to be the ones chosen by God to do his work; thank him often for using your family in such a calling.

(Note: Herman and Ardath Effa's son, Allan, is a missionary in Nigeria and their daughter, Jerilyn, and her husband, Ken Bayer, are missionaries in Brazil.)

Giving Projects

by LaVerna Mehlhaff,
Women's Work Director

It is thrilling to hear of the progress being made in building the Home Economics Center in Cameroon, West Africa. I am grateful that the WMF has had a vital part in that project. The money received from our Blessing Boxes through December 31 has been designated for this project. This will be the last opportunity that we, as united women, will have to support the Mutengene Home Economics Building project.

The WMF project for December is financial support of pastors serving in Japan. Remember the Christians in Japan in prayer regularly. Thank you for your contributions.

Giving Thanks to Our Master Potter

by Manetta Hohn,
WMF vice president,
Kelowna, BC

"Thou, O Lord, art our Father, we are the clay, and Thou our potter; all of us are the work of Thy hand" (Isaiah 64:8).

Three things come to mind which cause me to express my thanksgiving:

For who you are—The Master Potter. Thank you, Father, for creating us. "You made all the delicate inner parts of my body, and knit them together in my mother's womb. Thank you for making me so wonderfully complex! You saw me before I was born and scheduled each day of my life before I began to breathe." (Psalm 139:13-16, LB). Our Potter created us with special thought. He formed us by his love for a purpose, and we are very important to him. Knowing this should cause us to have a wholesome self-image. We can become what he wants us to be as we cooperate with him.

Thank you for the wheel: The

wheel keeps revolving, but always under the exact control of the potter. This wheel reminds me of the various circumstances that God allows to come into our lives. Such things as strifes, pains, little irritations, disappointments, and interruptions often enter the midst of our ordinary everyday life. However, it is in these situations that God often does his best work in us. Just as the clay yields to the potter's hands as he turns the wheel, so we, too, must yield to our Potter's molding. A potter does not waste any strokes with his hands as he uses the wheel: not too hard, not too light, always just right and when it is needed. So our Heavenly Potter does not waste any motion in handling his clay—you and me. The large or small circumstances he brings into our lives are just right for us. He knows what and how much we can take. Often I find myself resisting the Potter's molding in some situations by reacting or questioning. But as I yield, I see the Lord's perfect hand is in con-

trol of all things.

Thank you for the fire. When the vessel is formed, the firing process makes it durable and beautiful. It is a very hot process. Sometimes our Potter allows extreme difficulties or suffering into our lives. Do these cause us to yield to his will as he molds us into his perfect plan? God does not bring situations into our lives for our benefit just here on earth, but also because of what he has prepared for us in the future. (Romans 9:23). We do not know all that God has prepared for us. It is a mystery. But we can be assured it is for our good and for his honor and glory.

How do I respond to the Potter's molding in my life? Can I say with deep gratitude, "Thank you, Master Potter, for creating me with special thought. Thank you for the wheel of adverse circumstances in my daily life. Thank you for the fiery trials that come my way." Yes, as I keep looking to Jesus, the author and finisher of my faith.



Left to right: Herman, Jerilyn, Allan, and Ardath Effa during their years as missionaries in Brazil.

Church Growth

CAMROSE, AB. Pastor Larry Froese baptized a young couple at Century Meadows Baptist Church. The couple also brought their baby to the Lord in dedication at the same service.

Eight more candidates are preparing for baptism in the pastor's class.

In an evening service, graduates were honored and Associate Pastor and Mrs. Graham Kern and family were welcomed with a pantry shower. (Ruth Muzika, reporter.)

CHEEKTOWAGA, NY. "Even three inches of rain could not dampen our spirits at Temple Baptist as Pastor Bernard Thole baptized two candidates (pictured) on June 24," says



Mrs. George Hartman, reporter.

A soloist, Mike Tebor, instrumental in bringing them to the Lord, sang "He Touched Me."

The lady who was baptized had a malignant brain tumor and was in the same hospital room as Mike Tebor's wife. This lady survived, but Mike's wife died. Mike had sung the song for them, and with Pastor Thole brought them to the Lord.

The entire church was invited for refreshments prepared and organized by the newly baptized couple following the baptismal service.

"The Lord truly touched this couple, and they touched us with their new exuberant Christian love," says Mrs. Hartman.

TABER, AB. Recently, Community Baptist Church joined with Park Meadows Baptist and Crowsnest Community Baptist Churches for a joint baptismal service. Three persons (pictured) shared how God has worked in their lives with the 150 people who were in attendance. The following Sunday, they, along with one other person, were received into the membership of Community Baptist.

EDMONTON, AB. Central Baptist Church was the scene of two inspiring baptismal services recently when 22 adults were baptized, three of them being the products of our own Sunday School and Youth Ministry and the other 19 pro-



ducts of Outreach Ministry. A total of 37 adult members were received, fifteen coming into membership by testimony and letter. Pictured are 19 of the 37 and Pastor Herman Effa. (Marilyn Roller, church secretary.)



"The people of Community Baptist are excited to see the power of God at work in these lives," says Dennis Leisch, pastor.

LANSING, MI. Dr. Arthur Boymook, pastor, baptized ten young people at a baptismal service at Colonial Village



Baptist Church recently. These young people joined the church following the communion service that morning.

"What a blessing it was to see that many young people step out for the Lord," reports Charles Yeomans.

FOUNTAIN VALLEY, CA. Three new members were received into Fountain Valley Baptist Church recently. The Rev. Eugene Stroh is pastor. (Clara Unruh, reporter.)

Wedding Anniversaries

EARL AND ELVA KAURIN of Rupert, ID, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary, June 9, 1984, with a program hosted by their seven children at the First Baptist Church in Paul. The Rev. Earl Kaurin is a retired Baptist minister. (Carma Boes, reporter.)

Church Dedications and Anniversaries

CARRINGTON, ND. "Built on Faith—Growing by Faithfulness," was the theme of the 100th anniversary celebration of Calvary Baptist Church, held June 9-10, 1984.

Romanian immigrants settled south of Carrington, and in 1884, some of them organized the First German Baptist Church with 13 charter members.

By 1900 the first church was built, and in 1909, it was incorporated as Pleasant Valley German Baptist Church.

In 1920, a church was purchased in Carrington, and services were held both places until the mid 1940s.

In 1944, the Pleasant Valley Church was dismantled to enlarge the present facility. The name of the church was changed to Calvary Baptist Church in 1945.

In 1962, the church was enlarged to its present capacity, and in 1975, the building was refurbished.

The following pastors served the Church: 1884-1913 - August Liebig; 1914-18 - August Kramer; 1919 - Phillip Daum, Emil Rott; 1919-26 - Albert Itterman; 1927 - Albert Alf; 1927-30 - Albert Krombein; 1930-37 - N.E. McCoy; 1938-40 - E.E. Bonikowsky; 1941-46 - Alfred Weisser; 1946 - Leslie Albus; 1947-48 - Arthur Itterman; 1948-51 - Wilmer Quiring; 1951-58 - Carl Weisser; 1958-67 - Howard Westlund; 1967-70 - Jack Christensen; 1970-73 - Peter Weins; 1974-79 - Frank Unruh; 1980 ff - Robert Lang.

The former pastors who attended the celebration and spoke were Leslie Albus, Alfred Weisser, Howard Westland and N.E. McCoy. (Vi Pipple, reporter.)

Special Events

CAMROSE, AB. An induction service was held at Century Meadows Baptist Church for Associate Pastor



Graham Kern (pictured at right behind pulpit) on Sunday evening, July 8, 1984. Participating were Pastor

Larry Froese, Dr. Ron Mayforth, moderator of the Alberta Baptist Association, and Dr. Ed Kern, professor at N.A.B. College and uncle of Graham Kern. (Ruth Muzika, reporter.)

EMERY, SD. Members and friends of the First Baptist Church welcomed Elmo and Sarah Herman as their new pastor and wife on June 10.



Otto Bleeker, chairman of deacons, welcomed the Hermans. Words of welcome and musical numbers were given by the different organizations of the church.

The congregation presented a pantry shower to the Hermans.

Pastor Herman had served as youth pastor, pastor, counselor, and direc-

tor of Christian education and youth at several churches while attending N.A.B. College, Edmonton, AB, and before attending N.A.B. Seminary, Sioux Falls, from which he graduated in May 1984, with a Master of Divinity degree.

The Hermans are parents of two sons, Isaac and Nathan. (Vera Roskens, reporter.)

MEDICINE HAT, AB. Temple Baptist Church provides a varied musical program. The mixed choir, Ruth Friesen, director, presented a concert of Easter music.

The choir ministers regularly during the 11:00 a.m. Sunday worship service. A men's chorus, "Kid's Praise," small groups, soloists, and instrumentalists provide special music for evening services and the 9:30 a.m. Sunday worship service.

"Kid's Praise," comprised of 27 children of grades one to six, practices weekly as part of the Junior Church program and sings once a month in the 9:30 a.m. Sunday worship service.

"Kid's Praise," directed by Faye Westergreen, presented the musical, "Welcome to the Family." The senior high group served ice cream sundaes from an old-fashioned bathtub following the service. (Madeline Kern, reporter.)



FOREST PARK, IL. Members of Forest Park Baptist Church produced a musical drama entitled, "The Week before Easter." The drama was a silhouette representation of Christ's last week on earth. It has been performed at Forest Park Baptist Church at two Easter Sunrise services and a Good Friday service. This past Easter, it was also presented at Tri-Community Baptist Church in Elk Grove Village. (Donna Lapert, reporter.)

CORN, OK. Calvary Baptist Church had a series of Deeper Life meetings with the Rev. Herbert Vetter of Plevna, MT, as guest speaker.

Forty-seven family units were photographed for the first Church Directory.

The Annual Sunday School Picnic was celebrated at a park in Cordell, OK.

A combined Vacation Bible School with Corn Mennonite Brethren Church was held with more than one hundred children in attendance.

The Rev. Edwin Voigt is pastor of the Church. (Vernice Voigt, reporter.)

LODI, CA. On the evening of June 17, First Baptist Church held a commissioning service for Ken and Gwen Baker. They plan to serve as missionaries to the Ivory Coast in Africa with Sudan Interior Mission in approximately a year's time after they complete language studies in France.

Gwen is a member of First Baptist and met her husband when she was serving as a short-termer in Liberia. Ken hails from Orlando, FL, and is a graduate of Dallas Theological Seminary. (Della Lutz, reporter.)

MEDICINE HAT, AB. "Time Out" for mothers with young children has become an effective outreach at Temple Baptist Church. At the most recent session, 40 mothers took part in Bible study and handicrafts. Volunteers cared for babies and toddlers, and supervised older pre-schoolers in games, songs, stories, simple handwork and snacks. Forty children were registered. (Madeline Kern, reporter.)

FOUNTAIN VALLEY, CA. A special honor was bestowed upon the Minister of Music at Fountain Valley Baptist Church, Mike Kutzel. He was one of 84 musicians who were selected to perform at the piano at opening ceremonies of the 1984 Olympics in Los Angeles.

Forty-five children, youth and adults attended Hume Lake Christian Camp in June.

A musical, "Back at the Creekbank," was given by the Choristers, directed by Nancy Kutzel. It featured the theme of God's love and care for all his creation.

Pastor Eugene Stroh spoke on "Musings about the Family" at a family emphasis potluck. A photo contest was also featured.

The Men's Fellowship Breakfasts featured two officers from the Westminster Police Department. At another meeting, one of the men of the Church spoke on "Retirement."

The theme, "Pattern for Living," was chosen for the Mother-Daughter Program and Dessert.

The annual multi-media patriotic program held on July 1 concluded with refreshments and a farewell for one of the Church family returning to Colombia under Wycliff Translators. (Clara Unruh, reporter.)

CORN, OK. Fifty ladies attended the Ladies' Prayer Revealing Banquet in the Calvary Baptist Church Fellowship Hall.

Betty Geis from Okeene was guest speaker at a Women's Missionary Fellowship meeting. (Vernice Voigt, reporter.)

MEDICINE HAT, AB. The W.M.F. of Temple Baptist Church presented a program in song and skit with Tina Schmidt, missionary, as speaker.

Nobuko and Reimer Clausen visited the church and shared in the Sunday services. At a W.M.F. meeting, Nobuko shared personal concerns for their service on the Japanese mission field. (Madeline Kern, reporter.)

GOLDEN PRAIRIE, SK. The Rev. Harry Friess and his wife, Patty, and children Rachel and Matthew, were welcomed as the new pastor and family at First Baptist Church.

The film, "Little Eagle," was shown recently during the Children's Hour and at the Youth Fellowship.

At another special service, the Rev. and Mrs. Walter Hoffman sang and shared their puppets with the group.

The Men's Quartet from Temple Baptist Church, Medicine Hat, presented a concert at an evening service.

The W.M.F. hosted the World Day of Prayer for the area. They also had a Mother-Daughter Tea featuring Mrs. Wilfred Weick, Medicine Hat, as missionary speaker. The W.M.F.'s Birthday Social featured the Consul Church of God Quartet.

The Rev. Harry Friess is the pastor of the church.

WARREN, MI. The North Pointe Baptist Church hosted the 14th Annual Luncheon of the Michigan Association Women's Missionary Fellowship on April 28. Mrs. Harriet Decker, president, welcomed the

women of the Ohio churches who have joined with the Michigan Association to form the Great Lakes Association. The name of the group was changed to Great Lakes Women's Missionary Fellowship.

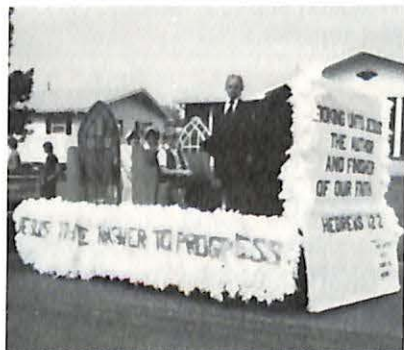
"It was a privilege to have had Miss LaVerna Mehlhaff, women's work director, with us to conduct a workshop on how to strengthen our women's work," states Mrs. Helen Koppin, W.M.F. secretary.

Guest speaker, Miss Cherie Lake, former short-term missionary to Japan, spoke on "A Message from the World God Created."

KYLE, TX. The Immanuel Baptist Church held a farewell service for the Rev. James Lavender and family. He closed his ministry with the church on June 17, 1984. "Rev. Lavender had a very faithful and effective ministry during the one and one half years he served as pastor," writes Adolph Hill, church clerk.

The Lavenders have moved to Austin, TX. The Rev. Milton Zeeb, South Central Area Minister, participated in the farewell service.

SUMNER, IA. Sumner Day was a "fun" day, July 14, with the theme of Pioneer Progress. The high school youth of First Baptist Church made a float, "Jesus: The Answer to Progress," with the theme verse, Hebrews 12:2.



12:2, for the parade. Incoming eighth graders dressed as pioneers as initiation into B.Y.F. The float received praise by the local media who termed it, "One of the more attractive entries." The Rev. Dan R. Payne is pastor of the Church. (Retha Menke, reporter.)

LASALLE, CO. Rose M. Moser was honored for her 90th birthday (July 16) at a reception hosted by her children at the First Baptist Church of LaSalle, CO, on July 15.

Ordinations

ARNPRIOR, ON. First Baptist Church recently welcomed its new pastor, the Rev. Phil Zylla and his wife Melodie.

The Rev. Fred Merke, Humbervale Park Baptist, Toronto, brought greetings on behalf of the Eastern Association, pledging its support. Greetings were also read from the town mayor and the Rev. Rubin Kern, former interim pastor.

Rev. Merke addressed a charge to Pastor Phil and also to the congregation. Pastor Phil responded to the pastoral charge and Allan Scheel to the charge to the congregation.



Pastor Phil graduated in May with a M. Div. from N.A.B. Seminary. He was ordained on May 20 at Central Baptist Church in Sioux Falls, SD. His father-in-law, Dr. Walter Kerber, was the ordination speaker, and Dr. Stan Grenz led the ordination prayer. A recognition service was held at his home church, Ebenezer Baptist, Vancouver, BC, on June 10, 1984. (Rosalie Russett, reporter.)

BROOKFIELD, WI. The ordination service for Harold E. Kelm was held on June 24, 1984, at Ridgewood Baptist Church.

Pastor Erwin Babbel welcomed the congregation; the mass choir sang two anthems; and the ordination message was given by Harold Kelm's father-in-law, the Rev. Etan Plezer of Cedar Rapids, IA.

Others participating in the service were the Rev. Ray Harsch, Oakbrook Terrace, IL, ordination prayer; the Rev. Allen A. Kranz, Watertown, WI, charge to the candidate and welcome to the ministry; and the Rev. Elwyn Zimmerman, Milwaukee, WI, charge to the church.

Reinhard Kelm, church moderator and father of Harold, presented his son with the Certificate of Ordination.

A love offering was taken for Harold for the purchase of books.

"The ordination service came to a moving climax when all the pastors

(pictured) prayed over Rev. Harold Kelm," states Louise L. Erbach, reporter.

The Rev. Harold Kelm responded and gave the benediction.



BURTON, TX. Donald G. Mashburn, pastor, Greenvine Baptist Church, was ordained as a minister of the Gospel in services held here June 16. A council of ministers and lay representatives from Houston, Dallas, Kyle, Waco, and Brenham examined the candidate and recommended that he be ordained to the Gospel ministry.

The Rev. Jacob Klingenberg, Houston, moderator of the council, presided at the ordination service at 2 p.m. Milton Zeeb delivered the ordination address. The Rev. Bob Walther, Carrollton, and the Rev. Dan Heringer, Spring, charged the candidate and the church, respectively. The Rev. Ron Miller, officially welcomed Mashburn to the ministry. A love offering for the pastor's library was received, and William Luedemann, Greenvine, presented Mashburn with an inscribed study Bible on behalf of the congregation.

Mashburn is a 1983 graduate of the North American Baptist Seminary and has served at Greenvine since September 1983. He and wife Cathy have one daughter, Mollie Elizabeth. (Mary Zorn, reporter.)

EMERY, SD. Rick Weber was ordained Sunday evening, May 29, 1984, at First Baptist Church, his home church. Greetings were given by Interim Pastor Dr. Roy DeBrand, professor, N.A.B. Seminary. Otto Bleeker, chairman of deacons, presented the report of the Ordination Council, which was held on April 27.

President Charles Hiatt, N.A.B. Seminary, the candidate's former

pastor, gave the ordination sermon. The charges to Mr. Weber and his wife JoAnn were given by Dr. and Mrs. Roy DeBrand. The Rev. Mervin Kramer welcomed Rick into the ministry.

Musical selections and an offering for the library of the candidate concluded the service.

The Rev. Rick Weber pronounced the benediction.

Rev. Rick Weber, his wife, and daughter, Megan, are serving in Parma Heights Baptist Church, Ohio, since August 1. (Vera Roskens, reporter.)

NOKOMIS-RAYMORE, SK. An Ordination Council met on July 3 at Raymore Baptist Church to examine Pastor Donald Harder for ordination. The council recommended that the churches proceed with the ordination service.

The Ordination Service was held July 15 at Nokomis Baptist Church. The Rev. Rudy Lemke gave the ordination sermon. The Rev. Reinhold Wilde gave the ordination prayer, and the Rev. Erwin Kelbert, the welcome to the ministry. The Rev. Harder closed with the benediction. (Roland Richter, reporter.)

TROCHU, AB. Twenty-one delegates from churches in the Alberta Baptist Association formed an Ordination Council, May 11, to consider and recommend Leonard Pye for ordination into the Gospel Ministry.

The ordination service was held June 17 at the Trochu Baptist Church. The report of the Ordination Council was given with special remarks from the Rev. Isador Faszer, Alberta area minister. He also welcomed Leonard and his wife Shirley into the ministry.

The Rev. Allan Unger, Zion Baptist, Drumheller, gave the prayer of ordination; the Rev. Neil Strohschein, Community Baptist, Red Deer, the charge to the church; and the Rev. Alan Johnson, Community Baptist, Beiseker, the charge to the candidate. Special music was presented by Sonshine Singers, Trochu, and Ed and Diane Buerkert, Three Hills.

The Rev. Leonard Pye accepted a call to Highland Community Church, Illinois, effective July 1984. (Connie Reichel, reporter.)

(Please limit reports to 100 words or less.)

in memoriam

RUDOLPH ALLMENDINGER (91), Bismarck, ND, born Oct. 11, 1892, at Rosenfeld, Russia, died June 27, 1984. He came to the U.S.A. in 1909 and settled in Tripp, SD, later moving to Golden Valley, ND. On Feb. 5, 1915, he married Lydia Wiest, who died in 1981. They moved to Bismarck in 1947 and joined Bismarck Baptist Church. Survivors include 2 sons: Clarence and Melvin of Bismarck; 6 daughters: Mrs. Edna Morriscal, Mandan, ND; Mrs. William (Rose) Glass, Bismarck; Mrs. Ken (Romana) Brown, Mrs. Fred (Darlene) Tremewan, and Mrs. Esther Brown all of Napa, CA; and Mrs. Gordon (Mary Ann) Andahl, Cypress, CA; 17 grandchildren; 22 great-grandchildren, and 2 great-great-grandchildren. The Rev. M.D. Wolff and the Rev. Orville Meth officiated at the funeral service.

FRED BUSS (83), born Feb. 1, 1901, in Lyon County, IA, died May 26, 1984. He married Martha Kruse, Dec. 3, 1932. He was a faithful member of Central Baptist Church of George, IA. Survivors include his wife Martha; 3 daughters: Bernita (Mrs. Burdell Klaassen), Little Rock, IA; Lucille (Mrs. Alvin Gruis), Rushmore, MN; Kayleen (Mrs. Dwight Nolte), Heron Lake, MN; 2 sons: John, Shakopee, MN, and Klaas, Little Rock, IA; 17 grandchildren; 2 great-grandchildren; 1 brother: Herman Buss; 7 sisters: Mrs. Bena Huisman, Mrs. Jennie Heronemus, Mrs. Vera Markus, Mrs. Emma Kruse, Mrs. Lydia Tjepkes, Mrs. Gertrude Kannegieter, and Mrs. Ruth Henrichs. He was preceded in death by his parents, 1 brother, 1 sister. The Rev. Harold Drenth officiated at the funeral service.

ALFRED CHRISTENSEN (88), Aplington, IA, born Aug. 17, 1895, in Kamrar, IA, to Andrew and Elizabeth Maygard Christensen, died June 4, 1984. His parents and he moved to Parkersburg in 1915. On Aug. 27, 1921, he married May Sweet at Webster City, IA. They lived in Parkersburg and Ackley before moving to Aplington. Al served his country in the U.S. Army during World War I. He was a member of Aplington Baptist Church. His parents and his eight brothers and sisters predeceased him. He is survived by his wife May; daughter, Sandra Manning and her husband Larry, Grinnell; grandson Terry Manning; and twin granddaughters, Karla and Kristy Manning. The Rev. Donald Patet officiated at the funeral service.

ALVIN FILLER (66) of Harvey, ND, born July 29, 1917, near Harvey, to John and Louise Filler, died July 6, 1984. He married Viola Dockter, October 23, 1938, at Martin. They farmed south of Harvey until they retired in 1977. At 33, Alvin accepted Christ as Savior, was baptized, and joined Bethel Baptist Church. He faithfully served in various offices of the church, especially as a trustee. Survivors include his wife, Viola; two sons: Galen, Lynn Center, IL, and Jay,

Martin, ND; two daughters: Karen Bannette, Colorado Springs, CO, and Connie Bonds, Fayetteville, AR; his mother, Louise McClusky, ND; a sister, Luella Schmit; and 12 grandchildren.

ORANELL LUEDEMANN (65), born March 18, 1919, to Arthur J. and Ella Gerland, died May 27, 1984. She was baptized at Lindale Baptist Church, Houston, TX. On May 18, 1939, she married Willie Luedemann, Jr. A faithful member of Greenville Baptist Church, Burton, TX. Mrs. Luedemann was a charter member of the Women's Missionary Fellowship. Survivors include her mother, Mrs. Ella Gerland; one sister and brother-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Colburn; two brothers and sisters-in-law: Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Gerland and Mr. and Mrs. M. K. Gerland; her husband, Willie; two daughters and sons-in-law: Mr. and Mrs. Charles Bruhn and Mr. and Mrs. Calvin Broeker; one son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. William Luedemann; eight grandchildren; and one great-grandchild. The Rev. Donald Mashburn officiated at the funeral service.

DOROTHY MARIE SCHAER (43), born July 27, 1940, to John and Elizabeth (Jacob) Schaer, died June 7, 1984, following a four-year struggle with cancer. She accepted Christ as her Savior, was baptized and joined First Baptist Church, Elgin, IA. She was active in church throughout her life, as a youth group leader, singing in the choir, and Sunday school secretary. She was a secretary-bookkeeper for 25 years. Her quiet manner was an inspiration to those who knew her. She is survived by her parents, and two sisters: Marilyn Schaer, Wheaton, IL, and Jean (Mrs. Marcos Orellana) of California. The Rev. Norman Miller officiated at the funeral service.

EVA L. SCHMIDT (85), Bismarck, ND, born Oct. 7, 1898, in Eureka, SD, to John J. and Katherine Morlock Lippert, died June 15, 1984. Eva married Walter Schmidt, Oct. 23, 1919, at Ashley, ND. In 1942 they moved to Bismarck, where she joined Bismarck Baptist Church. Mr. Schmidt died in 1966. She is survived by four daughters: Mrs. Thomas (Florence) Clifford, Grand Forks, ND; Mrs. Warren (Eunice) Bennett, Las Vegas, NV; Mrs. Clyde (Virginia) Garrett, Fort Worth, TX, and Mrs. Thomas (Lois) Lundberg, Dallas, TX; 14 grandchildren; and 23 great-grandchildren. Rev. M.D. Wolff officiated at the funeral service.

MRS. ANITA M. SCHOENEMAN (64) of Bettendorf, IA, born to August and Rennie Popkes Stukenberg, March 12, 1920, near Aplington, IA; died June 27, 1984. On Jan. 7, 1942, Anita married Louis Schoeneman in Westwood, CA. They moved to Aplington, IA, in 1945 and to Cedar Rapids in 1960, and to Bettendorf, IA, in 1970. Anita had been a member of Aplington Baptist Church before transferring her membership to First Baptist Church in Cedar Rapids. Anita is survived by her

husband, Louis; two sons: Louis, Jr., Martinez, CA, and Lloyd, Moline, IL; two daughters: Luann (Mrs. Paul Lawrence), Springdale, AR; and Linda (Mrs. Tom Blevins), Parkersburg, IA; and eight grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her parents, three brothers: Raymond, Earl, and August Stukenberg, and a sister, Merina. The Rev. Donald Patet officiated at the funeral service.

MRS. ERNEST (MATHILDA H.) VILHAUER (69), of Herreid, SD, born July 7, 1915, in Campbell County, SD, to Gottlieb and Elizabeth (Knodel) Holzwarth, died June 7, 1984. She married Ernest Vilhauer, April 16, 1977. She was a member of Herreid Baptist Church, the W.M.F. and the church choir for many years. Survivors include her husband, Ernest; two sons: Darvin L. and Stephen L. of Herreid; one granddaughter; two great-grandchildren; four brothers: Herbert, Albert, John, and William Holzwarth; five sisters: Mrs. Emma Aman, Mrs. Adeline Klingman, Mrs. Meta Goehring, Mrs. Lawrence (Minnie) Lang, and Mrs. Arlene Lambert. She was preceded in death by three brothers and her parents. The Rev. Arthur Fischer officiated at the funeral service in the absence of Pastor H. W. Johnson.

JOHN C. WEISSER (81) Bismarck, ND, born Aug. 14, 1902, in Ashley, ND, to Christian and Caroline Stugelmayer Weisser, died June 26, 1984. John married Hilda Frisch Oct. 26, 1929. They farmed near Lehr, ND, until 1955 when they moved to Bismarck, where they joined Bismarck Baptist Church. Survivors include his wife; one daughter, Mrs. Donald (Sandra) Eckholm, Mandan, ND; three sons: Marvin and Delmar, of Minneapolis, MN, and Lloyd, San Leandro, CA; 11 grandchildren; 8 great-grandchildren; two sisters: Mrs. Ben (Martha) Fischer, Ashley, ND, and Mrs. Vern (Ester) Olsen, Eureka, CA; two brothers: Gideon and Sam. The Rev. M. D. Wolff officiated at the funeral service.

EMMA KALLENBERGER ZIMBELMAN (86), born April 2, 1898, at Eureka, SD, to Jacob and Eva Allmer Kallenberger, died May 12, 1984. The family later moved to Gold Butte and Shelby, MT, and to the Marlin, WA, area. On June 18, 1919, she married Gustave Zimbelman at Valley Ford, WA. Her husband died in 1969. In 1970, Mrs. Zimbelman moved to Odessa, WA. Emma accepted Christ in 1938, was baptized and joined Odessa Baptist Church. She was a faithful member of the Women's Missionary Fellowship. She is survived by four daughters: Florence Schlimmer and Ione Zeiler of Odessa; Viola Syring and Rhea Strate, Spokane; five sons: Melvin, Herbert, and Robert, Odessa; Leo, Almira; and Donald, Othello; 19 grandchildren; 23 great-grandchildren; 2 sisters: Ida Schorzman and Clara Cox; 3 brothers: Henry, Oscar, and Ray Kallenberger. The Rev. Myrl E. Thiesies officiated at the funeral services.

what's happening

Mr. Donald O'Clair is the new pastor at Mowata Baptist Church, Eunice, Louisiana, since August 26, 1984.

The Rev. James Brygger resigned as pastor of First Baptist Church, Buffalo Center, Iowa, effective August 31, 1984, to retire. He had served there since 1980. He has moved to Sioux City, Iowa, to retire.

The Rev. D. Walter Schroedter resigned as youth pastor at Mission Baptist Church, Winnipeg, Manitoba.

Mr. Jim Calamunce became Minister of Youth, Christian Education, and Visitation at Sunshine Ridge Baptist Church, Surrey, British Columbia, August 15, 1984. He is a 1984 graduate of the North American Baptist Divinity School, Alberta.

Chaplain (Maj) Helmut A. Michelson received a Doctor of Ministry degree on May 19, 1984, from Drew University, Madison, New Jersey. The title of his project was "A Ministry for Helping Barrack Soldiers, Alienated in the Midst of Their Unit, to Cope with Their Loneliness."

Miss Dawn Tiede became the Director of Christian Education and Youth at Trinity Baptist Church, Kelowna, British Columbia, on July 1, 1984. She is a graduate of Foothills Christian College, Calgary, Alberta.

The Rev. Walter Foth became pastor of Hudson Bay Park Baptist Church, Saskatoon, SK, effective September 9, 1984. He had served Bethel Baptist Church, Windsor, ON, since 1980.

The Rev. Robert Jaster died on July 16, 1984. He began his pastoral ministry in 1946 and served North American Baptist churches in Valleyview and Onoway, Alberta; Nokomis and Regina, Saskatchewan; and Chilliwack, British Columbia. He also served as chaplain at the Baptist Haven of Rest, Medicine Hat, Alberta, before his retirement.

The Rev. Herman Pohl became pastor of Salem Baptist Church, Kitchener, ON, on November 1, 1984.

The Rev. Jim Derman became associate pastor of Calvary Baptist Church, Stafford, Kansas, on October 1, 1984, where the Rev. Elton Kirstein is pastor. Derman was ordained August 26, 1984, by the Grace Baptist Church, Grand Forks, North Dakota, and is a 1984 graduate of the North American Baptist Seminary in South Dakota.

The Rev. Fred Mashner resigned as pastor of Winton Road Baptist Church, Rochester, NY, effective December 31, 1984, to retire. He has served this Church since 1973.

The Rev. Dale Lint resigned as pastor of Ebenezer Baptist Church, Abilene, Kansas, effective August 12, 1984, to further his studies at the North American Baptist Seminary, Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

Mr. Mark Iblings became pastor of Calvary Baptist Church, Billings, Montana, on September 23, 1984. He is a 1981 graduate of the North American Baptist Seminary.

The Rev. Eric Coulon became pastor of Whispering Oaks Baptist Church, Parkville, MO, on August 15, 1984. He had previously served Bethel Baptist Church, Harvey, North Dakota, since 1980.

The Rev. Harold Kelm became pastor of Bethany Baptist Church, Hutchinson, Minnesota, effective July 1, 1984. He was ordained by Ridgewood Baptist Church, Brookfield, Wisconsin, on June 24, 1984, and is a 1984 graduate of Bethel Seminary.

Dr. Arthur Boymook has accepted the call to become senior pastor of the Ebenezer Baptist Church, Vancouver, British Columbia, effective January 1, 1985. He has been pastor of Colonial Village Baptist Church, Lansing, Michigan, since 1969.

Mr. Ron Zukowski became pastor of Rabbit Hill Baptist Church, South Edmonton, Alberta, effective July 1, 1984. He received his M. Div. degree from Northern Alberta Baptist College in April 1984.

The Rev. Willis Carrico became interim pastor at Eagle Rock Baptist Church, Idaho Falls, Idaho, in September 1984. He previously served as pastor of Hartland Baptist Church, Prince George, British Columbia.

Mr. Kent McKinnon became pastor of Grace Baptist Church, West Fargo, ND, effective August 1, 1984.

The Rev. Hans Serger became pastor of Balgonie Baptist Church, Saskatchewan, effective October 1, 1984. He had served as pastor of Whiteshell Baptist Church, River Hills, Manitoba, since 1976.

The Rev. Ted Keck became pastor of Anchor Baptist Church, South Sioux City, Nebraska, effective August 15, 1984.

The Rev. Jim Dick resigned as pastor of Temple Baptist Church, Jamestown, North Dakota, effective September 30, 1984, to become Instructor of Business Administration and Chaplain at Jamestown College. He served Temple Baptist since 1980.

The Rev. Bruce Merrifield became the pastor of Harbor Trinity Baptist Church, Costa Mesa, California, effective September 1, 1984. He had served as pastor of Park Meadows Baptist Church, Lethbridge, Alberta, since 1976.

Mr. Gregg Drew was ordained by the West Center Street Baptist Church, Madison, South Dakota, in June.

The Rev. Bruno Voss resigned as pastor of Hillview Baptist Church, Edmonton, Alberta, effective August 31, 1984. He served as pastor of that church since 1978 (formerly Capilano Baptist).

The Rev. Elwin Colson is the new pastor at Bethel Baptist Church, Getzville, New York, effective September 1, 1984. He previously served Bethany Baptist Church, DeKalb, Illinois.

The Rev. Richard Person resigned as chaplain at the North American Baptist Home, Madison, South Dakota, and is serving on the staff of First Baptist Church, Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

Dr. Frank H. Woyke died August 1, 1984, in Waterbury, Connecticut, after a lengthy illness. Dr. Woyke had served as General Secretary of the North American Baptist Conference for 22 years from 1946 to 1968.

Following this, he had triple responsibilities as coordinator of Baptist World Relief, North American Baptist Fellowship, and Study Program as Associate Secretary, Baptist World Alliance, Washington, DC, from 1968 until his retirement in 1971.

He had also served as a chaplain, U.S. Army, 1943-46; as a professor, North American Baptist Seminary, NY, 1936-43; and as a pastor, Liberty Street Baptist Church, Meriden, Connecticut, 1932-36.

His wife, Beatrice of Southbury, CT, and two sons: John, New Canaan, CT, and Frank, Chicago, IL; and five stepsons survive.

Chaplain (Colonel) David A. Samf participated with the Crown Prince of Luxembourg in a Memorial Day Observance at the American Cemetery in Luxembourg. Samf is an Installation Staff Chaplain at a U.S. Air Force base in Germany.

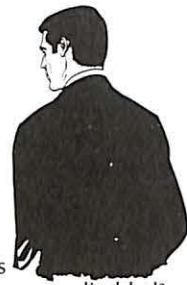
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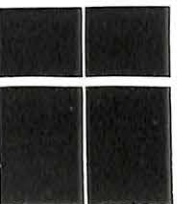
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