

Baptist Herald

October 1985

WHEN WE
GIVE
THANKS...



GOD
IS
GLORIFIED.

OTHERS
SEE THE
GRACE
OF
GOD.

WE
ARE
RENEWED.

In Everything Give Thanks

by Connie Salios

One of the more difficult texts for me to preach on prior to thanksgiving 1984 was "In everything give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you" (1 Thessalonians 5:18), because it was so familiar. While preparing to speak at a thanksgiving service, I took another look at the background of the text.

The Thessalonian believers received the gospel with such a wholehearted response that almost immediately they started sharing their faith. Paul wrote to encourage them. He began his letter by saying, "We always thank God for all of you."

As he proceeded in his letter, he said again, "We also thank God continually because when you received the Word of God, you accepted it as it actually is, the Word of God." And on one other occasion before encouraging them to give thanks for everything, he said, "How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy we have in the presence of our God because of you."

Paul demonstrated the quality of being truly thankful and then said to his friends and fellow believers in Thessalonica "in everything give thanks."

My reflections on this text caused me to raise three questions: Why be grateful? Why express gratitude? and How should I express my gratitude?

Why Be Grateful?

Four reasons come to my mind. First, because *I am a created person*. Someone did something special for me. There is someone greater than I who brought me into being. I am thankful to my Creator. When the going gets rough, I do not have to rely on myself alone. The Creator is also

my sustainer.

Not only am I created, *I am also a dependent person*. I not only need others, but also I must depend on others. In the strictest sense, there is not an individual in the world who is independent. Think of the richest person you may know or have heard of. I think of the late J. Paul Getty. Even with all of his reported millions of dollars, he still could not be independent. He had to depend on others to grow his food, harvest it, prepare it for eating and serve it to him. I am thankful because I can depend on others.

I am also a receiver. I received life initially from God and have been on the receiving end each day since I was born. Each morning that I wake up, I am still a receiver. I am thankful for all that I have and receive.

Finally, one of the *opposites of being thankful is to complain*. I don't think I have ever read in the Bible that complaining is encouraged. God's purpose for his people is to give thanks in every situation in life.

Why Express Gratitude?

I can think of at least three reasons why it is good to express gratitude. First, *spoken words are powerful*, and they affect the mind. When a word or thought is expressed, the mind goes into action, and certain results are produced. When words of gratitude are expressed, a positive response to life results. When I verbalize my feelings of gratitude, I cause my mind to reinforce gratitude, and my life is affected positively.

Next, *expressing gratitude sets a good example* for others to follow. Paul said it, and I think without boasting, follow me because I am following Christ. We need good examples to follow. Why not set a

good example by being known as one who expresses gratitude verbally?

Expressing gratitude also demonstrates good manners. Well-bred individuals have been taught from earliest childhood to say thank you. In the Bible, the basis of good manners is love. So, actually saying thanks is an expression of God's love coming from your life and mine.

How Do You Express Gratitude?

You use words, but you also use other ways. You say thank you when you use some of your time to serve the Lord by serving others. The greatest service we can render to those around us is to introduce them to Christ.

During the 41st Triennial Conference sessions, one of the speakers, Pastor E.V. Hill, impressed upon those who heard him the need to "save the lost at any cost."

You can say thanks by using the abilities the Lord has given you by serving fellow believers in the body of Christ, your local church. There are Sunday school classes to be taught, Bible studies to be led, individuals to be visited and encouraged, meals to be served, repair jobs to be done. Opportunities are plentiful. Why not say thanks by actually getting involved in the ministry of your church?

Finally, you can say thanks by giving some of your money for the Lord's work. The Bible speaks about a sacrifice of thanksgiving. Why not consider during this time of thanksgiving actually giving more of your financial resources to further God's work through your church and the united outreach of the gospel through the Conference?

In everything give thanks!

Dr. Connie Salios is Development Director for the North American Baptist Conference.

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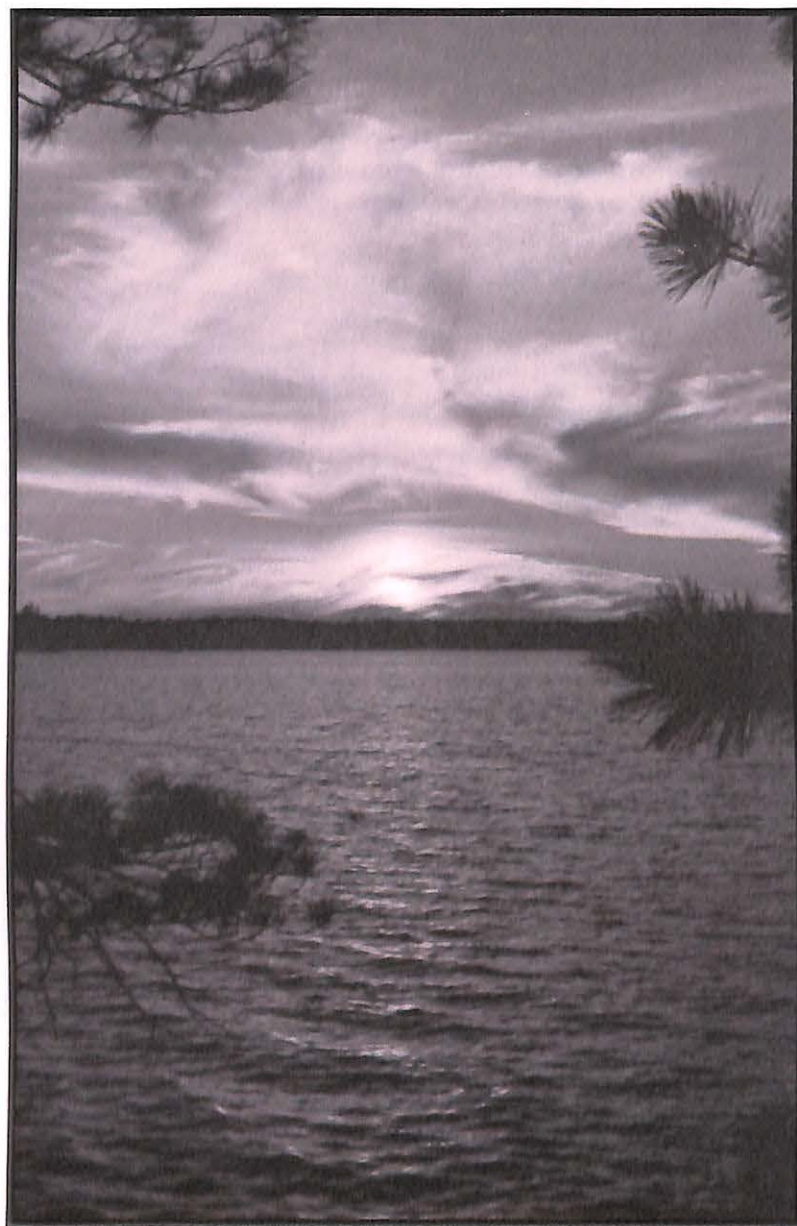
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WHEN WE GIVE THANKS, GOD IS GLORIFIED.



From Grumbles to Gratitude to Glory

by Daniel N. Leininger

Grumbles can be heard almost anywhere. At the grocery store, try listening in the parking lot, at the meat counter or in the checkout lane. At work try the boss's office, or the shop, and they have been known to hide in the mailboxes. I often find a few at home maybe in the kitchen, or by the television, and, of course, at the dinner table. At school, try listening in the hallways, occasionally in the library, but especially in the lunchroom.

What are grumbles? Grumbles are those misleading little burps of dissatisfaction which help perpetuate the fog of human unhappiness. Sometimes these complaints form the loud background noise that poisons our perceptions of life.

Perhaps you are familiar with the closet grumble which goes, "I don't have anything to wear." This is usually uttered while standing perplexed in front of a closet full of clothes before going to church to study Matthew 6.

Another favorite is the dinner table grumble in which one looks at the food prepared and says, "What is this stuff?" or the teen-revised version, "This looks gross!" The problem comes not from our grumbles but in making them a lifestyle.

Early in our marriage, Donna and I moved into a home with the inconvenience of a railroad track about 100 feet from our back door. The first time a fast freight rumbled by, the noise was so loud that I nearly jumped through the ceiling. Within a few weeks, we joked about opening the doors of the house to let the train pass through. Within a few months, we no longer heard the noise at all.

Grumbles are a lot like train rumbles. Their presence poisons our system and the environment we live in, yet in time, we no longer see them or hear them or taste their bitterness.

How then can we begin to move from grumbles to gratitude? It is no easy process, but for me it helps to take it in stages.

S **TAGE 1.**
LISTEN TO THE GRUMBLES.
Next time you catch yourself complaining, step back and listen. Hear it and own it, "This is my grumble."

Genuine listening also requires understanding. What is my grumble all about? Start with your own grumbles and learn from them before you begin to listen for other people's grumbles. Starting with ourselves resists the tendency to see a speck in our neighbor's eye while missing the two-by-four in our own (Matthew 7). Learning the art of gratitude begins with listening to the grumbles.

S **TAGE 2.**
**DETERMINE THE LEVEL
OF THE GRUMBLES.**
The late psychologist, Abraham Maslow, enjoyed talking about "high grumbles" and "low grumbles." He applied these two terms to his concept of a hierarchy of human needs and motivations.

Maslow described five levels of human need which formed, as it were, layers of a pyramid. Beginning at its base were four ascending levels of deficiency needs: (1) physiological needs for sustenance, (2) safety needs for protection, (3) love needs for belonging and, (4) esteem needs for self-worth.

At the pinnacle of the pyramid was the fifth level, namely, growth needs for self-actualization. What Maslow meant when he talked about high grumbles was that it takes a multitude of fulfilled needs at lower levels to be able to complain about high levels of needs.

For instance, to be able to complain about crabgrass in my lawn implies that many lower needs are already satisfied. My belly is full. I have a comfortable income. The water, sewers, and utilities are working. I am not afraid of contracting bubonic plague. Police and fire protection are on duty. Terrorists are not stalking my neighborhood. The government is stable. Politics are good. And the schools are adequate. Clearly then, crabgrass complaints are high grumbles. Conversations about high grumbles are usually polite and sometimes entertaining.

Conversations about low grumbles, however, are often emotional and disturbing. Low grumbles tell stories about rejection, abuse, foster homes, unemployment, poverty, inadequate housing and services, terror in the streets, disease, famine, hunger, and a myriad of basic needs that are daily struggles for three-fourths of the world's people.

Knowing the difference between high grumbles and low grumbles helps me to keep in touch with gratitude because behind each of my grumbles is some forgotten blessing. Self-pity, ingratitude and bitterness are the fruits of forgetting my blessings. Seeing the world of larger need helps me to regain the perspective of just

how high my grumbles often are. As one sage has put it, "I wept because I had no shoes until I met a man who had no feet."

S **TAGE 3.**
ELIMINATE THE "PSEUDO-GRUMBLES."
After listening for awhile, you may begin to hear some grumbles that have more to do with human greed than human need. These are false grumbles or pseudo-grumbles. We normally associate such thinking with the truly evil people of our world. You know the type, those who are obsessed with things, power, control and authority and who will lie, cheat, steal, and destroy in order to have their own way.

Pseudo-grumbles are the demonic obsessions that can enslave the human mind. For Hitler, one of our favorite historical villains, it was the master race. For "J.R.," one of our favorite fictional villains, it is the control of Ewing Oil.

From a Christian perspective, however, we are all stewards of life, no matter how little power we think we have. To ignore the needs of others, to overindulge ourselves, and to forget our blessings is to become ungrateful stewards, addicts of greed and false grumbles. The absurd humor of comedian Steven Wright attacks greed subtly when he says, "You can't have everything, where would you put it?" So eliminate the false grumbles and stop whatever you are doing to keep them going.

S **TAGE 4.**
THANK GOD FOR YOUR GRUMBLES.
By this stage in the process, I usually need to rekindle the embers of gratitude glowing somewhere beneath the ashes of my grumbles. Perhaps I re-read a book like Viktor Frankl's *Man's Search for Meaning* or Langdon Gilkey's *Shantung Compound*.

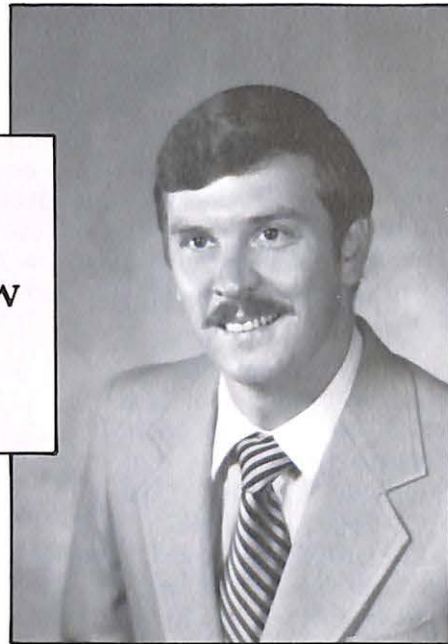
It is a privilege to be able to grumble about crabgrass rather than experiencing unemployment, terror in the streets, or nuclear fallout. Grumbles are indicators of the level of our problems. There will always be problems so there will always be grumbles. But are your grumbles and problems today better than yesterday or last year? If they are, then maybe you are learning to grow by grace and to let gratitude blossom in your life.

A discouraged pastor said, "Well, if we get an organ, who will we get to play it?" An older woman responded, "Well, that will be a better problem than not having an organ to play." Three months later, they had an organ and two organists.

Sometimes we are stewards of our problems not of our resources, so let us thank God for our grumbles and get on with being grateful stewards to the lower grumbles of our world.

(continued on next page)

Once you have reignited the flame of gratitude in your life, don't be surprised if something new and mysterious begins to happen in its living warmth as well.



STAGE 5.
TURN UP THE THERMOSTAT OF WONDER, AWE, AND WORSHIP IN YOUR LIFE.
When I was a boy, my dad got an old egg incubator from a friend's hatchery. It was an antique already at that time when we used it thirty years ago. But I'll always remember the warm light of its life-nurturing process as it would glow in the far corner of the chicken house.

I remember how my anticipation and excitement would build in waiting for the day when new life would break free from the shells of a tray full of pheasant eggs. We would hear that peep-peep choir of fuzzy-feathered pheasant chicks rejoicing and grumbling about their strange new stage in life.

Once you have reignited the flame of gratitude in your life, don't be surprised if something new and mysterious begins to happen in its living warmth as well. Be willing to brood over your thoughts, feelings, and experiences of wonder and awe until their time of incubation comes.

Look for the wonder of God in nature, the humility of God at Calvary, and the power of God in the resurrection. It may break through in the beauty of the outdoors, the pain of hospitalization, or the ecstasy of being loved. Be open to moments of being overwhelmed by providence, grace, and gratitude.

To all this, there are two responses—worship and service. When gratitude, wonder, and awe break out in re-

joicing, that is worship. In such an attitude of adoration, we catch a glimpse of the glory of God.

When we are grasped by that vision, we are moved to say like Isaiah the prophet, "Here am I, send me." An encounter with the glory of God draws out the response of service.

"And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth and we have beheld his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father" (John 1:14). For us, as disciples of this glorious Son, the glory of God is an established belief. Yet the crucial application of that fact is transmitting and radiating that glory in our own lives as Christ modeled it for us. The glory of God can overwhelm humankind through Scripture, but God seeks to enthrone his glory in human lives as well.

God needs receptive and adequate vessels for his glory, not ones that are continually poisoned by ungrateful grumbles or that let the wonder of his grace leak out. So listen to the grumbles. By God's grace, help him turn them into gratitude and stand back and let God weave the mystery of his glory. □

Dr. Daniel N. Leininger is Associate Professor of Pastoral Care and Counseling, North American Baptist Seminary, Sioux Falls, SD.

On Course for the Philippines

by Leland Bertsch

"And let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith" (Hebrews 12:1-2).

"Even a deeply felt burden for the Filipino people must come face to face with things like family ties, insecurities and concerns for personal welfare. But through your prayers and the help of the Spirit of Jesus, we will find victory," say the Bertsches.



That one great race we have entered as followers of Jesus can be described as a series of races. In these races, the Lord sets before us many opportunities along the way. Using that analogy, I will share how we have become missionary appointees to the Philippines.

A never ending process of learning and growth marks the Christian life. As we fulfill one responsibility, God prepares us for the next. God has used many people and experiences in combination with his Word to add value to our lives and lead us in his chosen way.

While few, if any, of these past events in our lives came with labels

clearly marked "missionary training," God used them to prime us for service in the Philippines. Values and attitudes learned from home about possessions, the church, people's worth, and the priority of the kingdom, have been key. Messages heard from pastors and missionaries at crucial times helped us respond to the Lordship of Jesus. The years spent



From health classes to digging latrines, from immunizations to purifying water sources and capping springs, we sought to demonstrate the love of Christ.



Evangelistic campaigns, house-to-house visitation, and the Bible study groups gave us many opportunities to share the Gospel.

at North American Baptist Seminary brought us deeper into the Word of God and its compassionate, missionary thrust. Occasional opportunities to minister cross-culturally proved rewarding. Friends encouraged us with vision. And so in subtle, yet deliberate ways, God was leading us to a new area of ministry.

In 1981 while I was serving as pastor of Temple Baptist Church, Swan River, Manitoba, I learned of Em-

manuel International, a Canadian organization doing community development and evangelism in rural areas of third world countries. God ignited in me an unquenchable desire to go.

During those months, God was also drawing Jennell Mauch and me together as we discovered how much we shared the same growing sense of call. After graduation from North American Baptist Seminary, Jennell served as Director of Christian

Two churches were born during the year.

Education at Foster Avenue Baptist Church, Chicago, IL. My church granted me a leave of absence; we were married in July 1982; six weeks later we left for missionary training school.

Most of 1983 we spent living in a tent in rural Philippines. While there we served on a multi-national team led by Filipinos. From health classes to digging latrines, from immunizations to purifying water sources, we sought to demonstrate the love of Christ. Evangelistic campaigns, house-to-house visitation, and Bible study groups gave us many additional opportunities to share the Gospel. It was simply and imperfectly done, but the response of the people left us in awe of the grace of God and the hunger of so many to know him. Some 90 people were baptized, and two churches born during that year.

It was a time for us to test the missionary waters, and it left us ready to enter more fully. It was also a time for God to do some testing of us and our loyalty, our servant hearts, and our flexibility in ministry.



Jennell Bertsch teaches a children's class about Jesus Christ.

While in the Philippines in 1983, we stumbled, providentially, upon a Baptist General Conference missionary guest house. Meeting some of their missionaries and also several pastors of the Baptist Conference of the Philippines left us deeply impressed with their warm spirit and bold vision for outreach. They informed us of the mission plans of the North American Baptist Conference to join with them in the near future. It was then that we thought we heard the Lord hinting to us about future service!

We are finding it a much different

experience to consider going for an undefined length of time rather than one year. Even a deeply felt burden for the Filipino people must come face to face with things like family ties, insecurities and concerns for personal welfare. But through your prayers and the help of the Spirit of Jesus, we will find victory.

Reports of social and political unrest in the Philippines are troubling, but parallel to that is the great spiritual awakening that is also occurring. We feel a great urgency to be on our way.

As we prepare to go, we are

thankful for our families who stand with us, for our church, Temple Baptist, in Swan River, Manitoba, who has been to us what Antioch and Philippi were to Paul, for our North American Baptist Conference and the vision to press on in financially difficult times, and above all for the Lord Jesus who makes the whole thing infinitely worth doing. □

The Rev. Leland and Jennell Bertsch were appointed this summer as the first North American Baptist Conference missionaries to the Philippines.

Some 90 people were baptized. The response of the people left us in awe of the grace of God and the hunger of so many to know him.

The Bertsches are presently on salary doing deputation work in Central and Western Canada and Northwestern U.S. If you are interested in helping support them, please write or call Missions Department, North American Baptist Conference, 1 So. 210 Summit Avenue, Oakbrook Terrace, IL. 60181, (312) 495-2000.



WHEN WE GIVE THANKS, WE ARE RENEWED.



"I think that anyone who knows the Lord cannot help but be grateful. Even at my age, my heart is filled with thanksgiving and joy at the way in which God has led in my life and how he has used other people to enrich my life."

Esther Schultz— Modeling a Gracious and Grateful Spirit

Despite a lifetime of coping with the pain of arthritis, Esther Schultz, at 74, has a full life and a grateful heart. When Steve Pace first called Esther about interviewing her for the Baptist Herald, she was busy preparing for two speaking engagements the next day and a planning session for her church's senior citizens' group. It was clear in talking with Miss Schultz that the years and her arthritis had not dampened her love of life and her joy in serving the Lord.

Esther accepted Christ at the age of nine and felt then the call of God to enter missionary service. After college and eleven years of teaching in North Dakota and Michigan, Esther felt the Lord's call to enter full-time missionary service. "It was time to go; I felt that while I may not be adequately equipped it was the time the Lord wanted me to go."

Esther was appointed for missionary service in Cameroon, West Africa, at the Triennial Conference in 1946 in Tacoma, Washington. The following is an interview with Miss Schultz on how God has directed in her life:

STEVE PACE:

Tell us about your background as a missionary.

ESTHER SCHULTZ:

I was almost 30 years old when I left for Cameroon in 1947. Almost immediately, I was put in charge of running the coastal schools. The woman who had been in charge was leaving, and they needed someone to take her place. That was quite a task to take on within two weeks of arriving in Cameroon.

During the next 19 years, I wrote Sunday school material, worked with the youth of Cameroon, taught missionary children, taught at the boys' college in Bali, started the Teacher Training College at Soppo, and finally became supervisor of the Cameroon Baptist Convention's 52 schools. As supervisor, I traveled a great deal either on horseback or on foot visiting our schools and conducting refresher courses for our teachers.

SP: Why did you return home?

ES: Eventually I had to return home because of my arthritis. I've had arthritis since childhood, and the doctors had said that I would be crippled for life. I haven't been so far, and I'm very thankful. I'm very active and always have been.

SP: What have you been doing since leaving the field?

ES: I continued to work for missions, visiting churches for a couple of years until I had to retire after surgery. I moved to the San Francisco Bay area where I worked with retarded children. Unfortunately, I was injured during a class session and had to undergo therapy again. Eventually, in 1972 the Lord led me to an elderly couple in the Bay Area who were in need of a caretaker. For the next 10 years, until the husband's death at the age of 95, I managed their business and household affairs. The family was wonderful to me and treated me as one of them. God graciously used this couple and their financial resources to help our mission work. Those ten years were tremendous years of blessing.

SP: Today, many people are anxious about so many things, such as jobs and bills. As you look back on your life, what would you say to a young couple who is experiencing these anxieties?

ES: You have no problem so great that God doesn't have the answer. Trust him, try him out, and you'll be thrilled. God can and does things in a more wonderful way than we ever could hope or imagine.

SP: Too often we are caught up in our own world and feel we don't have time to help someone else, or we feel that we don't have the money to tithe or give to missions. What would you say to people about giving both of themselves and of their financial resources to further the cause of Christ?

ES: First, I would encourage people to tithe, because you can't outgive God. I didn't have anything when I came home from Africa. I wondered how I was going to live. My brothers, who were in business, would

shake their heads and say, "Esther, what have you got for your future?" I answered, "God will provide; he said so, and I trust him." Actually, God did more than I could ever expect or imagine.

God can supply your every need if you only trust him. The hardest part, I think, for most of us, is to put him first. If you put God first in your giving and tithing, you will always end up with more than you start with.

SP: This fall, North American Baptist Churches are participating in the Celebration of Gratitude Offering. What comments would you have about the theme of "When We Give Thanks, God Is Glorified," "When We Give Thanks, We Are Renewed," and "When We Give Thanks, Others See the Grace of God"?

ES: We are all a part of God's glory if we are his children, and that's awesome. How could we not be thankful when we have a God who is such a wonderful Creator and Provider . . . a God who loves us and who controls everything . . . and a God who has given us a free will to act, to think and to move.

The greatest joy I have had is being able to give and share with others. I think most of the time we are too selfish because we have too much. Material things shouldn't count that much for God's children.

It's wonderful to find people who are thankful. In fact, in 2 Corinthians 2:14, Paul says, "But thanks be to God who always leads us in triumphal procession in Christ and through us spreads everywhere the fragrance of the knowledge of him." That's our purpose on earth. And I think it's wonderful.

As a missionary, Esther visited mission schools and conducted refresher courses for teachers.



Introducing "New Day" 1985-86 by Warren J. Hoffman

"New Day," a team of 18 young adults sponsored by the North American Baptist Conference, is committed to evangelism and church growth. "New Day" offers a variety of ministries and helps in the church in both of these areas.

The stated purpose of "New Day" is 1) To serve as a catalyst to motivate and help the church to reach people with the Gospel and to grow; 2) To provide training for the churches in evangelism and discipleship; 3) To minister to the church through music, teaching, drama, and modeling of church growth principles; 4) To provide encouragement, inspiration, and motivation in Christian living; and 5) To provide ministry opportunities for North American Baptist young adults in the area of evangelism and church growth.

Many young adults who serve for nine months with "New Day" consider full-time Christian service during their tour, or their call to ministry is affirmed and strengthened. Over 25 percent of former team members are engaged in full-time ministry, and many others are making significant contributions as leaders in their local churches.

Crusades with "New Day" vary from five to fourteen days. "New Day" will minister in about 60 North American Baptist Churches in eastern Canada and the U.S.A. and in

three Associations at their annual meetings during the 1985-86 tour year.

This year, the discipling section will be using many opportunities with drama to demonstrate and teach outreach techniques. They will be available for full evening performances in the church, engagements in schools, and street ministry.

Recently, it was said that "God's evangelistic strategy is beauty. Evangelism starts with the beauty of God, and it also includes a beautiful bride, the Church. God desires that through our lives the world will see his beauty" (Aldrich). "New Day" exemplifies this beauty in their ministries throughout the North American Baptist Conference. I invite you to meet them. I encourage you to pray for them.



This is the second year that John Kiemele will serve as the assistant director of "New Day's" discipling section. John served on the music section in 1981-82, and on the discipling section in 1982-83. He has been studying Christian education and music at Northwestern College in Roseville, Minnesota. John's hobbies include writing, people-related activities, reading, and correspondence. Communication is John's specialty. He has written many dramatic presentations to be given by the "New Day" discipling section this year. John has worked in several N.A.B. churches during summers between tours. A member of Ashley Baptist Church, Ashley, ND, John is a welcome asset to the "New Day" ministry.



The newest addition to the "New Day" leadership team is Mitchell Solarek. Mitch sang tenor last year on the music section. This year, he returns as the Assistant Director for music, helping with many administrative duties. Mitch is from Citrus Heights, California. His home church is Sunrise Baptist of Fair Oaks. He attended the American River College in Carmichael, California, and prior to joining "New Day," Mitch was a commercial model. His hobbies include doing stage musicals, snow skiing, aerobics and lying in the sun. This past summer, Mitch worked as a children's counselor at Mount Hermon Conference Center, Mt. Hermon, CA.

Discipling Section



Janet Carlson has worked at Central Baptist Camp, Lansing, Iowa, for the past two years as counselor, secretary, and cook. In fact, Janet helped cook for the last two "New Day" teams during their training periods. She is gifted in the culinary arts. Besides cooking, Janet enjoys jogging, aerobics, and needlework. She is from Aitkin, Minnesota, and is a member of Brook Park Baptist Church, Brooklyn Center, MN.



Robin Senger graduated from North American Baptist College in Edmonton, Alberta, with a Diploma of Biblical Studies in 1984. She is presently attending the University of Calgary, majoring in special education. Robin enjoys reading, sewing, and several sports—cycling, jogging, and swimming. She is a morning person. She is gifted in working with youth, organizing, and drama. Robin does volunteer work with mentally retarded persons. Her home is Calgary, Alber-

ta, where she attends Grace Baptist Church.



Lyndon Dojohn is a student at the University of Alberta in his hometown, Edmonton. He plays guitar and enjoys classical guitar studies, in particular. Lyndon has participated in many dramatic presentations. Greenfield Baptist Church, Edmonton, Alberta, is Lyndon's home church.



Mary K. Wright is from Grand Forks, North Dakota, and attends Grace Baptist Church. In May 1985, Mary K. graduated with a B.F.A. in Theatre from the University of North Dakota, with an emphasis in acting. She has been in many stage productions, including nine musicals, and many more off stage productions. During the summer of 1983, Mary K. worked at a summer stock theater in Tarkio, Missouri. Mary K. brings a great deal of experience and enthusiasm to the "New Day's" discipling-drama section. Mary K.'s sister,

Beth, served for three and one half years with "New Day."



Paul Hoffman is from Leduc, Alberta, and is a member of the Wiesen-thal Baptist Church, Millet, Alberta. Paul recently graduated from North American Baptist College in Edmonton, with a Bachelor of Arts in Religion degree. He is interested in being involved in youth ministry in the future. Paul enjoys singing, playing (tenor, alto, and baritone) saxophone, and drama.



Murray Decker is a member of Sturgeon Valley Baptist Church in St. Albert, Alberta, where he served as a youth minister before joining "New Day." Murray graduated from North American Baptist College in Edmonton, with a B.A. in Religion. Murray's interests range from cross-cultural missions to all major league sports. He enjoys photography, playing guitar and drums, and active sports.

Music Section



Susan Zenky sang soprano on the 1984-85 tour and is the only returning team member. She is from Vancouver, British Columbia, where she attends Bethany Baptist Church. She received a Diploma in Music from North American Baptist College in Edmonton, AB. She loves to "sing, write poetry, and meet people." In 1984, Sue won first place in the Kiwanis Music Festival of British Columbia for a musical comedy piece. Before joining "New Day," Sue worked as a chiropractic assistant. Her hope is to use her experience to encourage new team members, and more effectively serve the Lord. Welcome back!



Tom Birchall is a member of South Calgary Community Church in Calgary, Alberta. He will sing tenor on the music section. Tom has studied drums and percussion for eight years, and also plays piano. He has sung in many small groups and enjoys acting. Last

Directors



This is Warren Hoffman's third year as Director of "New Day." He moved to Chicago, Illinois, from a youth pastorate in Calgary, Alberta, in July 1983. Warren enjoys live performances, swimming, cartography, and spending time "in the city." He plays piano, trumpet, and toured professionally as Road Director for David T. Clydesdale's "Life Unlimited." Along with working with "New Day," Warren serves as the N.A.B. Conference Youth Director. He attends Mayfair Park Baptist Church in Chicago.

year, Tom attended NABC, and before coming to "New Day" he was working in retail sales.



Betty Schnabel is from Venturia, North Dakota, where she attends Venturia Baptist Church. In May 1985, Betty graduated from St. Luke's Hospital School of Nursing in Fargo, North Dakota. In her spare time, Betty enjoys reading, handwork, music, and biking. As a member of the Music Section, Betty will be the team pianist and lighting technician.



Dan Derman graduated from the University of North Dakota in Grand Forks in 1985 with a B.S. degree in Social Work. Dan enjoys nearly all sports, and his hobbies include traveling, cooking, playing piano, and songwriting. He was employed by Grace Baptist Church, Grand Forks, ND, for a year and a half. Dan is a member there. Dan's sister, Joanna, and brother, Jim, are "New Day" alumni.



Marvin Huber is from Calgary, Alberta, and is a member of Thornhill Baptist Church. His brother, Harold, was a part of "New Day." Last year, Marv attended Southern Alberta Institute of Technology in Calgary, studying business. He plays piano, and will sing tenor with the music section.



Byron Patzer, from Ebenezer Baptist Church, Ebenezer, Saskatchewan, is the sound technician for "New Day" this year. Byron studied electronics at the Saskatchewan Technical Institute in Moose Jaw, and graduated with a diploma in Electrical Engineering Technology. Byron is a real people person, and enjoys singing, drama, and coffee with friends.



Heidi Klauser attends Trinity Baptist Church in Portland, OR. By profession, Heidi is a hairdresser and cosmetologist. She enjoys hiking, stitchery, singing, and spending time with people. Heidi plays guitar, and is fluent in both German and Spanish. Heidi has enjoyed the challenge of working with Trinity's High School Youth Group for the last two years.



Pamela Keck has attended North American Baptist College in Edmonton, Alberta, for the last two years. Her home is Morris, Manitoba, where she attends Emmanuel Baptist Church. This past summer, Pam worked with Child Evangelism Fellowship, teaching children's Bible clubs. Her hobbies include football, raquetball, and tennis, and she loves to bake and cook. Pam plays piano, and enjoys singing and working with kids.



Ilene Bayer, from Vancouver, British Columbia, hopes to attend medical school following her year with "New Day." Ilene graduated this year with a B. Sc. degree in Kinesiology from Simon Fraser University in Burnaby, BC. She enjoys reading and classical music in her spare time, and participates in many sports, including water skiing, snow skiing, and volleyball. Ilene attends Bethany Baptist Church, Vancouver, BC. □

The Son of God Became Man, Jesus Christ

Statement of Beliefs Study Guide—Session 3

by David T. Priestley

The centrality of Jesus Christ for Christian faith cannot be exaggerated. Only a part of its significance can be discussed in the limits of the Statement or of this discussion stimulator.

"The Son became man, Jesus Christ, who was conceived of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary (John 1:14; Matthew 1:18). Being fully God and fully man . . ." (Article 2b).

"The Word became flesh" is a certainty the apostles learned from the Risen Lord during the time he spent with them; it was reinforced as the Spirit led them into all truth, recalling the words and ways of the incarnate Redeemer. That "the Word" (God, the Son) became "flesh" (a human being) can only be accepted, never explained or analyzed. The incarnation is a mystery which says: there can be no question whether one born in normal ways after normal gestation is human; there can be no question whether one conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of a virgin is divine.

The ideas of "trinity" and of the "two natures of Christ Jesus" are not incidental for Christian understanding, difficult though they are. Salvation depends on those truths. (Though we can be converted without knowing them, we are saved only because they are true.)

Our forefathers knew that long ago. "Unless man had overcome the enemy of man, the enemy would not have been legitimately vanquished. And again: unless it had been God who had freely given salvation, we could never have possessed it securely" (Irenaeus, *Against Heresies*, III.18.7). Any statement about the deity and the humanity of the incarnate Savior, therefore, does not simply describe the personality and constitution of Jesus Christ but implies our redemption and sanctification.

" . . . He revealed God through his sinless life, miracles and teaching" (John

14:9; Hebrews 4:15; Matthew 4:23f).

By what he said, by what he did, by his very presence as a man, Jesus Christ revealed to the world much more of God than Israel had yet learned through its prophets, its feasts, its history and its writings. The life of Christ is a revelation of God and his purposes for humanity. Because of Jesus Christ, we know God is a waiting father, a searching

He came to be a ransom; he died for our sins. The Word became flesh not only to tell us something, but also to do something for us that we could never do for ourselves. His death covers the sin which separates people from their Maker; it removes any reason for the Holy God to righteously condemn mankind; it rescues sinners from a bondage which otherwise would eternally separate us from the

The Son became man, Jesus Christ, who was conceived of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary (John 1:14; Matthew 1:18). Being fully God and fully man, He revealed God through His sinless life, miracles and teaching (John 14:9; Hebrews 4:15; Matthew 4:23-24). He provided salvation through His atoning death in our place and by His bodily resurrection (1 Corinthians 15:3-4; 2 Corinthians 5:21; Romans 4:23-25). He ascended into heaven where He rules over all creation (Philippians 2:5-11). He intercedes for all believers and dwells in them as their everpresent Lord (Romans 8:34; John 14:23).

shepherd, and much more. Because of Jesus Christ, we know the pattern and the possibility of a fully human life. As revealer, he is prophet (Hebrews 1:1) by whom we are given not simply information to satisfy intellectual questions, but we are given truth which transforms mind and life. Likewise, the death and resurrection both reveal God's grace and man's sin and reconcile divine justice and mercy.

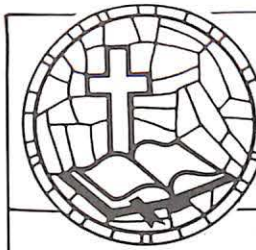
"He provided salvation through his atoning death in our place and by his bodily resurrection" (1 Corinthians 15:3f; 2 Corinthians 5:21; Romans 4:23-25).

The full accomplishment of redemption was made in the death and resurrection of the Son of God.

Almighty; it establishes the friendship for which the Creator designed us.

We cannot explain just why God chose to redeem us in this way. It is consistent with what he revealed about the nature of sin and holiness through the Old Testament rituals. The Holy Spirit taught that God was just when he made unjust people into just ones (Romans 3:26), that our enrichment results from Christ's impoverishment (2 Corinthians 8:9). So we sing: "Christ has for sin atonement made; we are redeemed! the price is paid!" (E. A. Hoffman). Because we believe it, we should then live a new life; to live the old life is to contradict that Christ has vanquished all that hinders fellowship with God.

"Resurrection" is intentionally modified by "bodily." The literal



resurrection of Christ guarantees our salvation. We believe not only that Christ died for our sins but also that he rose for our justification (Romans 4:25). His resurrection certifies the atonement. Some have always dismissed the resurrection as a foolish notion of distraught troublemakers.

Thomas, Paul, and every other witness of the resurrected Lord understood his physical presence was a proof of God's victory over sin. The Spirit quickly taught them that his resurrection also was a promise of their own. Intellectual and aesthetic reality is not more important than the physical one. In the resurrection of Jesus Christ, God reveals that what he created initially he will redeem forever.

"He ascended into heaven where he rules over all creation" (Philippians 2:5-11).

The ascension is linked with the authority which the Risen Lord assumes. By his authority, he commissioned all who join his band of disciples to testify, to teach, to obey. Stephen saw Christ at God's right hand. From that place of authority, the dominion of God to save the lost is progressing under Christ's direction (1 Corinthians 15:25-28).

The Christian's relation to God's "right hand man" must be perceived as part of God's program for worldwide conquest of evil. As "ambassadors for God," we are authorized to speak and live the truth that Christ is king until the day when all will acknowledge it.

Christ's lordship is first over his Church, which is made up of those whose allegiance is pledged to the Redeemer. Providentially, the people of God are the agents by which the rule of Christ is extended.

Christ is head of the church and through his people is expanding the Church. The Church is the beachhead the King has established, but there is no question if the continent will be subordinated to the King.

We are not here to set up a bivouac but to conduct a campaign under the King's direction. It is a campaign to be won within us and within the world; the victory is sure because Christ has ascended and is seated at the right hand of God.

"He intercedes for all believers and dwells in them as their everpresent Lord" (Romans 8:34; John 14:23).

All the pictures Scripture gives us for the risen and ascended Lord are not regal. "He intercedes." The atonement he has made has been carried into the very presence of the All-holy, as the Old Testament Day of Atonement prefigured. Nothing remains to hinder the relationship between God and his people. Christ is the one who, by the Holy Spirit, draws to friendship with God those who otherwise could only flee his holy judgment.

"He indwells." One of the wonders of redemption is that as a consequence of our rebirth each of us becomes the residence of Father, Son, and Spirit. Jesus has not disappeared until he shows up at the rapture;

rather, the Lord who has atoned also resides in us to govern. Nothing prevents us from knowing his will, having his help, accomplishing his purposes. His presence to forgive and to conquer is assured.

To Discuss:

1. What do the incarnation and atonement of Christ reveal about God? About people?
2. What do the rule, intercession and indwelling of Christ mean for individuals? For the world?

David Priestley is assistant professor of Historical Theology at the North American Baptist Divinity School, Edmonton, AB.

This is the third in a series of ten articles on the "Statement of Beliefs" of the North American Baptist Conference.

Berufen von der Finsternis zu Seinem wunderbaren Licht

von Ilse Mollenhauer

Baptisten-Weltkongress, Los Angeles, California, 4. - 8. Juli 1985

"Berufen von der Finsternis zu seinem wunderbaren Licht" (1. Petrus 2,9) war das Bibelwort, das den Ton angab, als Baptisten aus etwa 100 Laendern in Los Angeles fuer funf Tage zusammenkamen, um Gemeinschaft miteinander zu haben. In den grossen Abendversammlungen, bei Geschaefstssitzungen, Arbeitsgruppen, Frauen- und Maennerversammlungen, und Gebetsgemeinschaften teilten sie ihre Erfahrungen und Segnungen, ihre Erfolge und Probleme und spornten sich zu aktiverem Dienst fuer den Herrn an. Auch beim ungezwungenen "Zusammentreffen der Nationen," wo die farbenfreudigen Volkstrachten bewundert wurden, in den Vorhallen des Convention Centers und auf den Strassen fand man sofort Kontakt mit Baptisten aus verschiedenen Laendern.

Konflikte mit den Daten einiger anderer baptistischer Gruppen und der hohe U.S. Dollarstand wurden als Grund fuer die niedriger als erwartete Teilnehmerzahl am Baptistenweltkongress angegeben. Im Gegensatz zu den 20,000 Teilnehmern am Weltkongress in Toronto, Kanada im Jahre 1980, kamen etwa 7,700 Baptisten in Los Angeles zusammen.

Nach der Eroeffnung des Kongresses durch Praesident Duke McCall, hiess U.S. Praesident Ronald Raegen die auslaendischen Baptisten mittels eines Videobandes willkommen. Buergermeister Tom Bradley begruesste die Kongressteilnehmer persoendlich in "the City of Angels."



Links, Dr. Duke McCall, BWA Praesident [1980-85]; mitte, Dr. John Binder, Mitglied des Kongress-Planungskomitees; rechts, Dr. Gerhard Claas, BWA Generalsekretaer und Schatzmeister

Bericht des Weltbund-Sekretaers

Dr. Gerhard Claas, Generalsekretaer des Weltbundes und frueherer Bundesleiter der Baptisten in Westdeutschland, ermahnte die Baptisten in der ganzen Welt, fuer Verstaendigung unter den Voelkern und fuer den Frieden einzutreten.

"Obwohl Baptisten eine sehr unterschiedliche Gruppe sind, die in 143 Laendern besteht," sagte Mr. Claas, "verbindet uns doch ein gemeinsames Band - der wunderbare Friede mit Gott."

Mr. Claas berichtete, dass 134 Baptistenbuende mit einer Mitgliederzahl von 34 Millionen zum Baptistenweltbund gehoeren.

Zum ersten Mal konnte statistisch erfasst werden, wie viel alle diese Gruppen fuer die Nothilfe in der Welt geben. Dabei ist die Summe von

etwa 21.4 Millionen sicher nicht allumfassend.

Die 17 Vertreter der russischen Delegation - die bisher hoechste Anzahl auf einem BWA Kongress - berichteten durch ihren Generalsekretaer, Rev. Alexei Bichkov, dass die Union der Evangelischen Christen-Baptisten in absehbarer Zeit ein Seminar haben wird. Regierungsstellen erteilten dem Bund die Genehmigung, nach einem Bauplatz oder einem Gebaeude fuer das Seminar zu suchen. Wichtig ist jetzt die Weiterbildung einer Gruppe von 12 Personen, die als Lehrpersonal fuer das Seminar ausgewaehlt wurden.

Prediger in der USSR konnten bisher nur in Korrespondenzkursen ausgebildet werden, und 300 Personen haben bereits den vierjaehrigen Kurs absolviert.

[Fortsetzung auf Seite 2]

Birgit Karlsson fordert Bruderliebe



Als einzige Frau, die einem Baptistenbund vorsteht, sprach Rev. Birgit Karlsson, Generalsekretarin des Baptistenbundes in Schweden, ueber das Gleichnis Jesu in Matth. 25,31-46. Sie ermutigte ihre Zuhörer, dem Beispiel Jesus gemaess, der sich mit den Armen und Unterdrückten identifizierte, den Wert des Einzelnen zu erkennen.

Sie bemerkte, dass das Koenigreich des Himmels seit Erschaffung der Welt bereitet ist, aber eine Bedingung duerfe nicht vergessen werden: "Diejenigen, die Vater sagen wollen muessen auch lernen, Bruder und Schwester zu sagen und beweisen, dass sie es ernst damit meinen."

Ex-Praesident Carter spricht am 4. Juli



Der fruehere US Praesident Jimmy Carter wurde vor der Kongress halle am Nachmittag des 4. Juli fast eine Stunde lang von einer freundlichen Menge bedraengt, die er mit seinem weltbekannten Laecheln grusste, waerend er unentwegt Haende schuettelte.

Am Abend forderte er die Abgeordneten des Weltkongresses auf, sich staerker im Dienst fuer andere einzusetzen und aktiver zu zeugen. Er fuehrte einige Beispiele christlichen Einsatzes an, wie seine eigene Beteiligung an "Habitat for Humanity." Wir sollten Mut und Kuehnheit besitzen. "Wie viele von uns, die wir uns entschiedene Christen nennen, haben mit unseren Familien beschlossen, ein wirkliches Opfer zu bringen, damit wir anderen helfen koennen?" fragte er.

Er erinnerte seine Zuhörer an die Merkmale eines christlichen Lebens-

wandels: "Frieden, Demut, Hilfsbereitschaft, Versoehnlichkeit, Barmherzigkeit, Grosszuegigkeit, und die Bereitschaft fuer den Herrn Verfolgung zu leiden."

"In unseren Kirchen," sagte er, "verbreitet sich oft das Gefuehl der Ueberlegenheit...so als ob die Mitgliedschaft ein Zweck in sich selbst waere. Diejenigen die arm sind, die hungrig sind, die abgesondert sind, haben wir irgendwie aus unserem Bewusstsein verdraengt."

Mr. Carter betonte, dass die Kirchen staerker angehen muessen gegen Unterdrueckung und fuer die Waehrung der fundamentalen Menschenrechte eintreten sollten.

Duke McCall beschliesst seinen Dienst als BWA Praesident

Duke K. McCall, Praesident des Baptistenweltbundes, forderte die Baptisten der Welt auf, offen zu sein fuer andere Formen und Methoden des Zeugens, und voneinander zu lernen. Er berichtete von seinen umfangreichen Reisen, die ihn mit Baptisten in allen Teilen der Welt in Beruehrung brachten. Bei einem Besuch in Sri Lanka lernte er Richard Gunasekera kennen, einen hohen Regierungsbeamten, der sich frueh pensionieren liess, um sich ganz als Zeuge Christi einsetzen zu koennen.

"Aus den Elendsvierteln der Staedte holt er Familien und bringt ihnen bei, wie sie ihr eigenes Haus, in das sie einziehen, fertigstellen koennen. Dann lehrt er sie ein Handwerk — Orchideenzucht, Ker-

zengiessen, Stoffdruck, etc.— Er hilft ihnen, ihre Produkte zu verkaufen, damit sie ihr Haus abzahlen koennen. Er verlangt nicht von ihnen, dass sie Christen werden, um in die Wohngemeinschaft aufgenommen zu werden. Er reicht das Glas Wasser im Namen Jesu, und dann laedt er sie zu Bibelstunden mit den anderen Ortsbewohnern ein, falls sie daran teilnehmen moechten."

Duke McCall sagte, dass Mr. Gunasekera ihm eine andere Methode und eine andere Art des christlichen Zeugnisses zeigte.

Waehrend der fuenf Jahre die er Praesident des Baptistenweltbundes war, sagte Mr. McCall, "hat sich der Schwerpunkt der Welt vom Westen nach dem Osten und vom Norden nach dem Sueden verschoben. Waehrend taeglich 7000 Mitglieder die christlichen Kirchen in Europa und Nordamerika verlassen, werden 16,400 Neubekehrte den Gemeinden in Afrika hinzugetan. Zum ersten Mal in tausend Jahren sind weisse Christen mit 47% der nominalen christlichen Welt in der Minderheit."

"Wir muessen unser provinzielles Herz oeffnen, um die ganze Welt darin aufzunehmen. Wir muessen die Mauern abreißen, die uns immer noch trennen durch Rasse, Volkstamm und Sippe und Hautfarbe und Kultur."

Mr. McCall schloss mit den Worten, "Es ist an der Zeit, dass die lebendigen Steine in der Gemeinde Jesu Christi als das 'auserwaehlte Geschlecht, das koenigliche Priestertum, das heilige Volk, das Volk des Eigentums' handeln."



Aus der Gemeinde

CHICAGO, IL. "Jesus Christus, Koenig und Herr; Sein ist das Reich, die Macht, die Ehr; Gilt kein anderer Name; Heut und Ewig, Amen."

Unter diesem Motto feierte die Deutsche Baptisten Missionsgemeinde ihren Namenwechsel am 19. Mai, 1985. Von diesem Tage ab heisst die Gemeinde Mayfair Park Baptist Church. Dieser neue Name ist Ausdruck der Mission, die die Gemeinde an diesem Orte ausueben will. Prediger Michael Pennington hielt Ansprachen in beiden Sprachen im Morgengottesdienst. Am Nachmittag waren Nachbargemeinden und Bundesgemeinden vertreten. Dr. John Binder vertrat den Bund und sprach ueber Apostelgeschichte 2,4. Der Chor umrahmte die Festlichkeit mit gut einguebtem Gesang unter der Leitung von Tom Eden. Unser Gebet als Gemeinde ist weiterhin, den Namen Jesu in beiden Sprachen an Ort und Stelle zu verkuen-den. —Eva Helwing, Berichterstatterin

ST. CATHARINES, ON. Immanuel Baptistengemeinde. Es ist ein Hoehepunkt im Gemeindeleben, wenn Menschen durch das verkuendigte Wort angesprochen werden, zur Suendenerkenntnis kommen, und durch Gnade Erloesung finden. Unser Gemeindeprediger, Brd. Fritz Goliath, hatte das Vorrecht, am 16. Juni fuenf wiedergeborene Menschen auf das Bekenntnis ihres Glaubens zu taufen und mit noch drei weiteren Geschwistern, die auf ihr Zeugnis hin aufgenommen wurden, in der Gemeinde zu begruessen. Wir als Gemeinde sind dankbar fuer diese neuen Mitglieder und wollen ihnen in aufrichtiger Liebe begnügen und sie im Gebet vor Gottes Thron bringen. Mit gemeinsamem Abendmahl beschlossen wir diesen gesegneten zweiten Taufsonntag in diesem Jahr. —Ursula Koch, Berichterstatterin



Taeuflinge und neuaufgenommene Mitglieder mit den Predigern Alex Stein und Fritz Goliath; Gemeindeleiter, Egon Scheitor

Fuer die Familie von Eva Helwing

ABSCHIED: GRUND ZUM DANK

Am Danksagungstag, sowie im ganzen Monat Oktober ist es ueblich, dass man Predigten und Gedanken ueber Danksagung hoert. Was mich in diesem Jahr zu besonderem Lob und Dank stimmt ist nicht, was man so gewoehnlich von der Kanzel zu hoeren bekommt oder im Druck liest. Zwei Gedanken draengen sich mir auf. Ich bin dankbar fuer die Bestaendigkeit des Gemeindelebens und dankbar fuer die schoenen Stunden der Gemeinschaft.

In diesem Monat hatten wir in unserer Gemeinde zwei Verabschiedungen. Geschwister, die wahre Saeulen der Gemeinde waren, ziehen weg. Ihre Gruende sind gut: Ruhestand im waermeren Klima und Ruhestand in der Naehel von Kindern. Natuerlich tut es weh, wenn einer von uns zieht. Wir stehen da, druecken uns die Hand, werden wehmuetig, denken an verflossene Tage und an all das, was man in den Jahren des Gemeindelebens geteilt hat. Und doch darf es nicht zu traurig werden, sondern es muss erfuellt sein von Dankbarkeit. Dankbarkeit fuer die Stunden der Gemeinschaft in Freud und Leid: auf Hochzeiten und Beerdigungen, Dankbarkeit fuer die Hoeehen im Gemeindeleben und fuer die tiefen, traurigen und problematischen Stunden, die man gemeinsam ueberstanden hat.

In diesem Jahr musste ich, wenn

auch aus der Ferne, Abschied nehmen von zwei Menschen, die meine Kindheit gepraeagt hatten. An einem Tage starben mein Onkel und meine Tante in Deutschland. Ihr Einfluss in meinem Leben war von grosser Wichtigkeit, denn unsere Familien teilten nicht nur dasselbe Heim und denselben Betrieb in Ungarn, sondern auch das Gemeindeleben am Ort.

Dankbarkeit erfuellt mein Herz, wenn ich an all die schoenen Stunden mit ihnen als Kind und spaeter mit unseren Soehnen als Besucher aus USA in ihrem Heim denke. Ihre Grosszuegigkeit kannte keine Grenzen und nahm nicht ab mit ihrem Alter. Sie schlieften auf dem Sofa, damit wir in den guten Betten schlafen konnten. Sie stellten uns ihr Auto zur Verfuegung. Sie kochten, backten, luden Freunde ein. Doch am dankbarsten bin ich fuer das Vorbild, das sie nicht nur uns sondern auch unseren Kindern waren. Die Morgenandachten beim offenen Fenster mit Blick in den Blumengarten bleiben unvergesslich.

Die Bestaendigkeit des Gemeindelebens, und diejenigen die daran teilnehmen, sind bestimmt Grund zum Danken. Es ist mir besonders wichtig, dass es nicht auf die Masse ankommt. Dies kam mir am vorigen Sonntag so richtig zum Bewusstsein. Viele unserer Geschwister sowie der Prediger und seine Familie waren entweder auf dem Wege nach Kalifornien oder schon am Konferenzort in Anaheim. Wir feierten das Mahl des Herrn mit der kleinsten Gruppe, die wir je hatten. Ich freute mich fuer jeden, der an den Massenversammlungen in Kalifornien teilhaben durfte, doch war ich zur selben Zeit von Dank erfuellt, dass es im Hause des Herrn und im Gemeindeleben nicht zum Stillstand kommt, sondern dass wir auch in der kleinen Schar die Gegenwart Gottes mitten uns verspueren duerfen.

So lasst uns in diesem Monat als Familien und als Gemeinde inne werden des Geschenkes schoener Stunden und unsere Dankbarkeit dafuer auch im Abschiednehmen bestaetigen. □

Todesanzeigen

FRIEDA CLARA CLAUS geb. Gruenler wurde am 6. August 1897 in Reichenbach, Vogtland geboren. Seit Tagen der Kindheit bestand eine enge Verbundenheit unter ihrer Familie, die bis ins hohe Alter aufrecht erhalten blieb. Sie stand mit Georg Claus im Ehebund, und Gott segnete die Ehe mit einer Tochter. In ihrer vogtlaendischen Heimat fand sie in 1938 in einer Methodistengemeinde den Herrn Jesus als ihren persönlichen Heiland. Im Jahre 1957 wanderte sie nach Kanada ein. Einige Jahre hielt sie sich zur damaligen Deutschen Baptisten Gemeinde (heute Thornhill Baptist Church), und wurde am 19. Juni 1966 von Pred. Waldemar Laser in Christi Tod getauft. Seit dem Tage war sie ein treues Glied der Gemeinde bis zu ihrem Tode. Ihr Leben war von viel Leid und Krankheit geprägt. Sie entschlief plötzlich in Calgary am 28. Mai 1985 im Alter von 86 Jahren. Sie hinterlässt in getroesteter Trauer ihre Tochter Helga Bohnet geb. Claus und Familie, sowie 2 Enkel und 2 Urenkel in Calgary und einen Bruder Herbert Gruenler in Mainz, Deutschland, dazu ihre Glaubensgeschwister der Thornhill Gemeinde, Calgary. Im Tode gingen ihr voran ihre Eltern und 10 leibliche Geschwister. Die Beerdigungsfeier wurde von Pred. Dieter Reda geleitet.

KAETHE UND ANDREAS FELDER. Am 7. Mai 1985 wurden nach laengerem Kranksein, innerhalb weniger Stunden, Kaethe im Alter von 77 und Andreas im Alter von 82 zum Herrn in die Ewigkeit gerufen.

Kaethe Felder (geb. Schaefer) und Andreas heirateten am 8. Jan. 1925 in Ungarn. Die Ehe war gesegnet mit einem Sohn, Heinrich. Im Januar feierten sie ihre Diamanten Hochzeit mit Enkeln und Urenkeln.

Geschw. Felders Heim in Tab, Ungarn war Mittelpunkt des Gemeindelebens. Sonntagschule, Gebetsstunde, sowie Gottesdienste fanden dort statt. Viele kamen zum Glauben durch ihr treues Zeugnis. Sie sangen beide im Chor. Bruder Felder diente als Dolmetscher und Diakon.

Ihre Heimat mussten sie in 1944 mit Verwandten und Gemeindegliedern verlassen. 1945 kamen sie nach Bissingen und waren Gruender der Baptistenge-

meinde im Ort und aktiv im Bau der Bissinger Kapelle.

In ihrem Heim in Bietigheim weilten haeufig Verwandte aus U.S.A. und Ungarn. Zweimal waren sie in U.S.A. zu Besuch. Auch ihre alte Heimat besuchten sie. Zuletzt waren sie 1984 in Ungarn.

Felders werden als Eltern, Grosseltern, Urgrosseltern, Schwester, Bruder, Schwaegerin, Schwager, Onkel und Tante vermisst und von einem grossen Freundes- und Bekanntenkreis in Deutschland, Ungarn, Kanada und U.S.A. betrauert.

MARTHA GRETZINGER, geb. Semmler, wurde am 10. Mai 1913 in Polen geboren und starb nach langem Kranksein im Alter von 72 Jahren in Kitchener, Ontario. — 1931 heiratete sie Theodor Gretzinger, und Gott schenkte ihnen 54 Jahre gemeinsamen Wanderns. Der zweite Weltkrieg verursachte ihre Auswanderung 1949 ueber Deutschland nach Kanada, zunaechst nach Morris, MB. Fuer 25 Jahre wohnten sie in Winnipeg, MB und seit 1976 in Kitchener, ON. — Sie wurde in ihrer Jugend getauft und Glied der Baptistengemeinde, zuletzt der Salemgemeinde in Kitchener. Sie war ein froehliches Gotteskind und aktiv in der Gemeinde. Die Kinder verlieren eine liebe Mutter und ihr Ehemann eine treue Lebensgefährtin. Ihren Heimgang betrauern: Ihr Ehemann, Theodor Gretzinger; zwei Soehne und zwei Toechter: Adolf und Frau Annie, Edmonton, AB; Alfred und Frau Heidi, Hamilton, ON; Alma Litke mit Ehemann Dennis, Winnipeg, MB; Dorothy Mikols mit Ehemann Alfred, Kitchener, ON; 12 Enkelkinder, und drei Schwestern in Deutschland, Sarah, Ottilie und Klara. Fuenf Kinder, sowie zwei Brueder und zwei Schwestern gingen ihr im Tode voran. — Die Trauerfeier fand in der Salemgemeinde in Kitchener unter der Leitung von Prediger Herman Pohl statt.

WILLI MUELLER wurde am 21. Dez. 1913 den Eheleuten Otto und Maria Mueller in Landsberg an der Warthe, Deutschland, geboren. Am 17. Juli 1985 rief der Herr ihn in die obere Heimat. Im jugendlichen Alter wurde er an Christus glaeubig und von Prediger Adolf Pasche getauft. Seine irdische Pilgerreise teilte er

mit seiner Ehefrau Ruth, geb. Maron, mit der er am 15. Sept. 1938 den Bund der Ehe schloss. Die glueckliche Ehe wurde mit 6 Kindern gesegnet, von denen eine Tochter waehrend der Kriegsjahre starb.

1953 kam er nach Kanada, wohnte fuer kurze Zeit in Medicine Hat, AB, und zog dann nach Winnipeg, wo er sich der Baptisten Missionsgemeinde anschloss. Seine treuen Dienste als Dirigent des Maennerchors und des Saitenchors, sowie als Sonntagsschullehrer wurden von der Gemeinde sehr geschaezt. Durch seine Gabe der Wortauslegung wurden viele in ihrem Glaubensleben ermuntert und gestaerkt. Er war ein vorbildlicher Zeuge seines Herrn bis zu seinem friedevollen Heimgang.

Es gedenken seiner in tiefer Dankbarkeit seine Ehefrau Ruth; sein Sohn und vier Toechter mit ihren Familien: Klaus, Gisela Opalko, Karin Schroth, Barbara Mueller, Dorothy Kennedy; 11 Enkelkinder und 3 Urenkelkinder, sowie viele Verwandte und Freunde. Die grosse Trauerfeier wurde in Abwesenheit der Ortsprediger am 22. Juli von Pred. E. Hees geleitet.

RUTH NUMRICH, geb. Roepke wurde am 18. Juni 1931 in Berlichen bei Landsberg an der Warthe geboren. Ihre Kindheit und Jugend verbrachte sie in Deutschland, wo sie auch Jesus Christus als persönlichen Heiland fand, und 1952 in Kassel getauft wurde. Im Jahre 1953 wanderte sie nach Kanada ein, und war zuerst in Lethbridge wohnhaft, wo sie ein treues Mitglied der Gemeinde war, und zog dann nach Calgary, wo sie am 23 August 1958 mit Hugo Numrich in den heiligen Ehebund trat. Sie war ein treues, aktives Glied der Thornhill Gemeinde und wirkte im Chor und Frauenverein mit. Nach einer kurzen, schweren Krankheit entschlief sie in Calgary friedvoll im Herrn am 24. Mai 1985 im Alter von 53 Jahren. Sie hinterlässt in getroesteter Trauer ihren Ehemann, ihre beiden Kinder Harry und Wendy, ihre Eltern Wilhelm und Erna Roepke, ihre Geschwister Ingrid Wirzba geb. Roepke, Lethbridge und Dieter Roepke, Calgary und deren Familien; dazu viele Verwandte, Freunde und Glaubensgeschwister. Unter Mitwirkung des Posauenchors und Gemischten Chors fand die Beerdigungsfeier unter grosser Beteiligung in der Thornhill Baptisten Gemeinde, Calgary statt, und wurde von den Predigern Dieter Reda und Sieg Koslowski geleitet.

Baptist World Congress



Drama Opens Baptist Congress

A dramatic presentation, "Out of Darkness," opened the 15th Baptist World Congress at the Los Angeles Convention Center on July 2. The drama was a modern interpretation of the conversion experience of the Apostle Paul.

A crowd estimated at 8,000 lifted tiny lights high in the Convention Center at the conclusion of the drama as they sang, "This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine."

Baptists from 28 different countries participated on the Congress program. Dr. John Binder, executive director of the N.A.B. Conference, was a member of the Program Committee for this Congress.

Baptists in Danger of Losing Principles

At a Communications Seminar preceding the 15th Baptist World Congress held in Los Angeles, July 2-6, Jack Sanford, editor of the *Western Recorder*, Kentucky, identified three principles Baptists are in danger of losing—the autonomy of the local church, priesthood of believers and separation of church and state.

These principles are in danger, Sanford said, because of "almost charismatic-like leaders" who are saying to people, "We have the answers, we'll do the thinking—trust us." Sanford called for Baptist communicators to know their heritage and "to use valuable newspaper space to be teachers" as well as to "seek to be mediators in all conflicts which face us."

Baptist Men Learn Witnessing in U.S.A. Not Easy

Baptist men from around the world learned the hard way that witnessing in America is not easy. Forty pastors and laymen from 18 countries spent

five days participating in a Continuing Witness Training seminar sponsored by the men's department of the Baptist World Alliance preceding the 15th Congress in Los Angeles.

The men were taught to use memorized scripture and testimony, tracts and hand-marked New Testaments with underlined scripture verses. The men practiced their training in live Christian witnessing situations. Reactions varied. While many were positive, there were cases of people refusing to listen and slamming doors in faces of the visitors.

One man from Nairobi expressed surprise, "Even in Africa, enemies invite you in for a drink of water and something to eat."

A man from India said he once thought it was easy to get Americans to listen to the Gospel. His afternoon visits proved otherwise.

One man said that he would pray more for America because he knew firsthand the difficulties of witnessing in the country.

BWA Headquarters Moves to New Location

The Baptist World Alliance headquarters has a new home at 6733 Curran Street, McLean, Virginia, 22101 effective Oct. 1, 1985. The headquarters had been located at 1628 Sixteenth Street, NW, in Washington, DC.

Congress Adopts Resolutions

Freedom was a strong theme in eight resolutions adopted by the delegates from almost 100 countries. In capsule form:

1) Condemns racism in general and "openly denounces apartheid as practiced by the South African government." The resolution states it is "our duty in the name of God to denounce

this system and all who practice or support it."

2) Commends the Congress theme, "Out of Darkness into the Light of Christ," as an "essential message for this world stricken with the darkness of death, disease, war and want, ignorance and unbelief, sin and disobedience."

3) Supports Christians in Nicaragua and expresses fear that the country has become a major focus of East-West tension. It urges all powers concerned to "draw back from this dangerous confrontation discontinuing the arms build-up and the economic blockage."

4) Reaffirms adherence to "the cherished principles of religious liberty." It notes that "there have been more Christian martyrs in this century than in any previous one" and urges believers to pray for those who suffer for their faith.

5) Condemns terrorism as "direct attacks against the sanctity of human life and contrary to the will of God" and urges Baptists to support constructive efforts of governments to achieve international cooperation to end terrorism.

6) Stresses the need for Christians to adopt simpler lifestyles and reminds us that human needs the world over are still overwhelming.

7) Calls on nations to end the conventional and nuclear arms race and welcomes November talks between the leaders of the Soviet Union and the United States.

8) Commends the United Nations on its 40th anniversary and reaffirms the pledge made by the 1947 Baptist World Congress to help the "purposes of the United Nations."

Human Rights Being Violated in Every Nation

Human rights are being violated today in every nation in the world, par-



ticipants in an open session of the Baptist World Alliance Commission on Human Rights were told.

"While we talk about the crucial role of governments in human rights, we must also talk about the crucial role of churches," said James Wood, Baylor University, Waco, TX. "All too often the church has not been on the side of the advancement of human rights."

Urging Christian involvement in the human rights cause, Wood said, "We're talking about human rights—not Baptist rights, not male or female, not East or West—but human rights for all people everywhere."

Paolo Spanu, president of the Baptist Evangelical Christian Union of Italy, said Baptist churches in Italy are focusing on five human rights issues: preventive detention, rights of women, rights of sexual minorities, rights of migrant workers, and rights of racial minorities.

Prayer—A Part of the Congress

Prayer took on an international flavor as Baptists prayed for the 15th Baptist World Congress.

Prayer time resembled old-fashioned prayer meetings. Baptists from Africa, Asia, Canada, Great Britain, the United States and other countries prayed in the custom they were used to.

Some Baptists remained seated while others stood or knelt to pray. There was a mixture of silent prayers along with muffled ones. Some prayed in their national language while others used broken English.

Translations Make Congress More Meaningful

Translators surmounted language barriers at the Congress to make wor-

ship and fellowship opportunities meaningful to delegates from diverse cultural backgrounds. The program at general sessions was translated into five languages: Korean, Portuguese, Spanish, German and Chinese.

McCall Asks: Are We Talking or Fishing?

"What are we going to do as Baptists of the world? Talk or fish?" asked Baptist World Alliance President Duke K. McCall of the participants at the Congress. McCall said, "The power that created the universe is the power required to create a new heart. But, beloved, our God is in the business of creating new hearts, and we are the instruments he is willing to use if we will quit talking and go fishing. We have the message, and we have the miracle of God's intervention in a lost world. Let's get going!"

McCall noted that during the last five years "the world shifted the center of its gravity from the West to

the East, from the North to the South."

Each day in North America and Europe, approximately 7,000 Christians are lost to the faith while in Africa 16,400 persons become Christians each day.

"Today for the first time in 1,000 years, white Christians are a minority," said McCall. Addressing brown and black and yellow and red Christians, he urged, "Move out ahead and lead in the name of Jesus Christ. How can we sit still when many haven't heard? How can we wait when they die so soon? Let's turn the dynamite of the Gospel loose and that will open the light in the darkness of the world."

Wumpelman Reports about European Baptists

Two-thirds of Baptists in Europe live in Eastern Europe. One-half of these Baptists live in the Soviet Union representing 25 languages according

to the Rev. Knud Wumpelman, associate director for European Baptists.

"In some countries in eastern Europe, all we can do about their problems is pray," stated Rev. Wumpelman. "They say, 'We don't want you to do anything.'" Wumpelman went on to say that it is important to give balanced information about happenings in a country. It is wrong to only mention good and wrong to only mention the bad.

On the positive side, Wumpelman stated that he has official ties with leaders of all countries. "We've used silent diplomacy to obtain amnesty for some people and release for others. Permission has also been received to print Bibles and have them shipped into certain countries. Permission to visit other countries has been granted."

On the other hand, there is a great need for church buildings especially in Romania, where there is the most rapid growth in all of Europe. Some pastors serve eight churches, and most of these pastors have no car. There is a need for more pastors and more church buildings as well as a seminary.

In regard to international politics, Wumpelman stated that in many cases, laws should be changed because they violate human rights. Some laws in Russia are being changed for more democratization and liberalization.

Another question arises, "How do we treat the Muslims?" In France, there are two million Muslims and one million Protestants. In Yugoslavia, he stated, there are four million Muslims. In Denmark, a request from the Muslims to build a mosque was denied.

Wumpelman noted that some are imprisoned in Russia and other countries because they are conscientious objectors. There is ill-treatment of prisoners, torture, and/or psychiatric



Peter Fehr, M.D., (center) a member of Faith Baptist Church, Minneapolis, MN, was installed as one of the twelve vice presidents of the Baptist World Alliance, 1985-90. Dr. Fehr, as a former moderator, serves on the executive committee of the N.A.B. Conference.

treatment of prisoners. Then comes the questions: What happens to prisoners when they are released? Are they under special restrictions because of the law?

Wumpelman asked the group to pray for Albania, because it is absolutely forbidden to practice any religion there.

God Calls All Christians to Ministry

The belief that God has called all Christians to the ministry was underscored by the testimonies of lay leaders speaking at the open session of the BWA Commission on the Ministry of the Laity.

Ernestine Galloway of New Jersey stressed that the Christian ministry "is not a sanctuary endeavor" but that it "must be a partnership which involves those who are ordained and those who are not." She said that the laity are just as important to the ministry as clergy members because the laity lives and works among non-Christians. "The ministry is not just

preaching and teaching, but living."

Lyle Grenz, a chiropractor and member of a North American Baptist Conference church, Pineland Baptist, Burlington, ON, felt spiritual gifts of individual members should be discovered and used. He described his gift as one of "empathizing with those who are sick." In his practice, he heals the sick and, at the same time, is prepared to give a reason for his faith.

Grenz said all Christians should be witnesses in their work places both silently by the way they carry themselves, and actively, by sharing the plan of salvation.

Miah Kian Sim from Singapore described himself as a "simple man" with little education, "who became a Christian at 50. In spite of his spiritual youthfulness, he always believed God could use him. Sim stressed that the laity have an advantage over pastors in the area of evangelism because, through their jobs, they are "in a unique position to demonstrate the love of Christ daily."

Because of a successful career in

(continued on page 28)



Dr. G. Noel Vose of Australia (left) was installed as the new president of the Baptist World Alliance, 1985-90, by outgoing President, Dr. Duke McCall.

... for the Potter's use ...

by Iona Quiring, W.M.F. president, Rogers, MN



Sometimes when we give our little grandchildren gifts, their parents have to remind them, "Say 'Thank you.'" They almost always say it—and maybe throw in a hug for good measure.

Every day when I feed Kuku, our parrot, I say, "Thank you, thank you." Although I've been repeating this routine for years, that dumb bird has not once said "Thank you" for his meal. I guess it wouldn't mean much even if he did. Just like it doesn't mean much when Kuku says, "Hi, honey!" but it does when my husband Ed says it! There's a difference between words and feelings, between saying thank you and giving thanks.

When I started counting all the things for which I am thankful, I had a strange feeling of gratitude mixed with guilt, of joy and sadness. Let me try to explain.

I'm deeply grateful to God for my husband. We enjoy life and each other. But it makes me sad to think of dear friends who now miss that joy and companionship because their husbands have died. When I thank God for our kids and grandkids, I remember that some families are separated by divorce, distance, or death. I appreciate the comfort and security of our home, but I know that there are people who have lost theirs in fire or a financial crunch.

Good health, work to do, a car that runs, more food than I need—I'm thankful for all of these things and hundreds more. I don't understand why I enjoy such benefits when there are people who lack even the necessities of life. But I do know that these things are gifts from God, and they are not mine just to count, to hold, and to say thank you for. They are meant for sharing.

The same principle applies to God's eternal gifts. Love, forgiveness, and eternal life aren't mine just to treasure and keep to myself, and say thank you for. God expects me to share with people who don't have these gifts the good news that they can have them, too.

So I think that *giving* is the best way to say thank you to God. It is even the best way to enjoy both my temporal and spiritual treasures. And it does a lot more good than feeling either sad or guilty.

Sharing God's love and God's gifts with people in need is my "sacrifice of thanksgiving" to God. Lord, use me . . . to GIVE thanks. □

Editor's Note: I asked two women to share their thoughts about Thanksgiving, one from Canada and one from the U.S. We celebrate on different dates, but our God is the same, and thus our gratitude.

Faithfulness

by Loretta Strauss,
Medicine Hat, AB

"Those who trust in the Lord are like Mount Zion, which cannot be shaken but endures forever" (Psalm 125:1, NIV).

God has blessed me with a tremendous heritage for which I praise and thank him. Parents, grandparents, inlaws—all of whom have loved and shown respect to the God who is the Author and Finisher of *all* things.

I thank God for the joy of a mate who has always tried to take his God-given role seriously and has lovingly been the head of the home as instructed in Ephesians 5:22-25.

This Christian heritage, both in a daily witness and in prayer support, has certainly been a source of strength for me, undergirding me

in youth, through marriage, homemaking, and motherhood. It continues to have an impact on our children and their families.

I am keenly aware of the responsibility Christ has placed on me because "to whom much is given, much is expected."

I praise the Lord for the strength he has given for the ventures I've attempted for him, but I must also be honest and thank him for the times of adversity and trial. *"Consider it pure joy, my brothers, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith develops perseverance"* (James 1:2-3). Since I believe and accept God's Word in its entirety, I must accept this

statement, too. We are strengthened through trial. Adverse circumstances tend to draw us closer to the Lord as we call upon him; so really, isn't that a "plus" for our lives?

When all is going well, we have a way of becoming rather self-sufficient and independent of God, finding less and less time for him. A crisis, trial, or reversal in our plans causes us to humble ourselves before him once more. That is a growing, maturing experience for us as stated in James 1:4: *"Perseverance must finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything."*

Success breeds pride; failure can develop humility. We develop into

richer, fuller, more understanding people because of these "negative" situations. I'm learning to understand what James is trying to teach me, and I thank God for the lessons.

I'm also finding it much better to attempt some things for Christ and even experience failure rather than to attempt nothing at all. We need to experience God's hand in our failures. Through times such as these, it has been rewarding and exciting to be shown a much better, more fulfilling avenue of service.

Psalm 145 adequately sums up my expressions of thanks to God for my heritage. He is *always* faithful. □

Thanksgiving Is . . .

by Jarene DeBoer,
Dickinson, ND

"Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in life, in love, in faith and in purity" (1 Timothy 4:12, NIV).

As a teenager, this verse was a challenge for me and became "My Verse" throughout my years of growing pains and victories. As I think back on those years, I remember them as blessings that

the Lord gave to me so that I could grow. Now, I am thanking God for teenagers in our family—three at this time—all experiencing growing pains and all seeing God's answers to life's problems. At this Thanksgiving time, I asked them and a few of their friends, what Thanksgiving means to them.

To teenagers of Dickinson, Thanksgiving is . . .

. . . thanking those people who have given you so much . . . helping others who have helped you . . . sharing peace and joy with people you know and with strangers. —Clara

. . . a time for giving thanks and praising God for everything he has done for us and things he is going to do in the future. For the good home, wonderful family, and the wonderful fellowship we have at our church. All this and more are worthy of praise. —Janeen

. . . a time for giving blessings for what the Lord has given us. —Darrin

. . . a time for giving thanks for God giving us life, and for everything we have. —Jason

. . . a time to be thankful for the super, wonderful church I belong to. It means so much to me. At school I talk about some of the things we do and the people from different churches just look at me and go, WOW! —Tina

. . . a time for recollection of things to be thankful for. —Shane

. . . a time for sharing, getting together with the family and eating as much as you can. —Janell

. . . giving thanks to God for everything he has given us and that he will bring in the future. —Troy

And from one of the youth sponsors . . .

Thanksgiving brings thoughts of people long ago gathering together in a new land, starting a new life, and giving thanks to God for granting such wonderful blessings to share with each other. Today I praise God for the blessings of memories of good times and bad, for friends to share with, for families who love and understand and for health, for my country and freedom, but most of all, I thank God for my new life in an old land and for the life I'll share in a new land someday. —Marty

Thank you, Lord, this Thanksgiving, for teenagers who love you and for youth leaders who stand tall in their faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. □

Prayer Opportunity

by LaVerna Mehlhaff, women's work director

Monday, November 4, has been designated Baptist Women's Day of Prayer. All over the world, Baptist women will gather to pray for the needs of our world. The theme is "Experiencing God's Healing." The program materials were written by Clelia Machinandiarena, Missionary of the Convencion Misionera de Mujeres Bautista de Argentina, and a Vice President of the Latin American Baptist Women's Union.

We encourage each of you to set aside time on November 4 to meet with women in your area for prayer, so desperately needed for our world. □

Church Growth

AVON, SD. Nine persons were baptized at Avon Baptist Church, June 30, 1985. They became members of the Church at the communion service on July 7, 1985. (Miss Estie Betz, reporter.)

SWAN RIVER, MB. Pastor Leland Bertsch baptized three young people at Temple Baptist Church. They were received as members of the Church and then participated in the Lord's Supper with the members of the Church. (Lynn Patzer, reporter.)

VANCOUVER, BC. Dr. Arthur Boymook recently baptized three persons at Ebenezer Baptist Church. They



and five others became members of the Church. (Irene Frers, reporter.)

WINNIPEG, MB. Seven persons (pictured with the Reverends Jim Leverette, left, and Siegfried Hoppe, right) were baptized at Mission Baptist



Church, June 16, 1985. They and four others became members of the Church.

"Among those baptized was the first Spanish-speaking family of the many that attend our church. We praise the Lord for the unique opportunity of ministering to them," reports Anne Pohl.

WETASKIWIN, AB. The Rev. Edwin Fuellbrandt baptized three persons and dedicated one infant at Calvary Baptist Church in June 1985.

HIGHLAND HEIGHTS, OH. Two adults, husband and wife, were baptized at Hillcrest Baptist Church and

received into membership recently.

"We thank God for this young couple with their three small children and know they will be a blessing to us," says Alice J. Stevens, reporter.

REGINA, SK. Pastor Darold Sauer baptized three persons May 5, 1985, at Calvary Baptist Church. This was the



first baptismal service in Calvary's new building. (Mrs. W. Hoffman, reporter.)

Ordinations

DALLAS, OR. Richard May was ordained at Salt Creek Baptist Church June 9, 1985. An Ordination Council of pastors and delegates from the Central Pacific Association met June 7, 1985, at the Church and recommended him for ordination.



The Rev. May has been called to minister at Portland Avenue Baptist Church, Tacoma, WA. (Ruth Saunders, reporter.)

EUNICE, LA. Daniel D. O'Clair was ordained at Mowata Baptist Church June 23, 1985.

Participants in the service included the Rev. Linden Kirby, Broomfield, CO, ordination sermon; Mrs. Kathy O'Clair and Mrs. Litsa Kirby, special music; the Rev. Bob Walther, pastor, North Carrollton (TX) Baptist, prayer; the Rev. Milton Zeeb, area minister, charge to the Church; the Rev. Ron Norman, director, church growth, charge to the candidate; and the Rev. Jacob Klingenberg, Anderson Road Baptist, Houston, TX, welcome. (Rosa B. Bieber, reporter.)

LODI, CA. Robert Sandford was ordained at First Baptist Church July 14, 1985. An ordination council from the

Northern California Association met at the Church July 9, 1985, and recommended he be ordained.

The Rev. Helmut Strauss, Robert's father-in-law, delivered the ordination sermon.

A graduate of North American Baptist College, Edmonton, AB, and North American Baptist Seminary, Sioux Falls, SD, Robert grew up at First Baptist.

The Rev. Sandford became pastor of Whiteshell Baptist Church, Seven Sisters Falls, MB, Aug. 4, 1985. He and his wife Charlene (Strauss) have one daughter, Rebecca Joy. (Rev. Kent Carlson and Della Lutz, reporters.)

Association Meetings

ARLINGTON BEACH, SK. Eighty-one ladies attended the Saskatchewan Baptist Association W.M.F. Ladies Retreat April 12-13, 1985, at Arlington Beach. Participants included Esther Quiring, session leader; Isabelle Nornberg, song leader; and Evelyn Bertsch, prayer and praise. Guest speakers were Ella Sailor, missionary, Dawson City, Yukon; Bee Westerman, missionary, Cameroon; and Elaine Janz.

"Our hearts were warmed and challenged as we noted the work of the Master Potter in fitting for service those whom he calls," reports Edna E. Kramer.

Bertha Mazurat is the new president. The ladies supplied Good Spirit Lake Camp with kitchen equipment as a special project.

MELVILLE, SK. The Saskatchewan Baptist Association W.M.F. held its annual meeting March 29, 1985, at Melville Baptist Church.

Missionary guests were Dr. Rodney Zimmerman, White Cross report; Rev. Oryn Meinerts, speaker, "Being the People of God in Ministry and Mission"; Deborah Killick, leader, panel on the changing roles of women's ministry in the local church and mission field; and Tina Schmidt, participant, panel discussion, along with Isabelle Nornberg and Evelyn Bertsch.

The W.M.F. set its new budget at \$4,000. They elected Frances Fritzke as treasurer, and Val Holstein, camp coordinator. (Edna E. Kramer, reporter.)

VANCOUVER, BC. Delegates met for the annual session of the British Columbia Association hosted by Ebenezer Baptist Church, May 16-19, 1985. Several pastors spoke on the theme, "Spiritual Renewal."

Guests at the meetings included the Rev. Ron Norman, director, church growth department; President Walter Goltz, Dr. Richard Paetzel, and a musical group from North American Baptist College, Edmonton, AB; Kathy Kroll, missionary, Cameroon; and the Rev. Ed Hohn, area minister.

Ken Hutcheson spoke at the special youth sessions held Friday and Saturday.

Don Roller, concluding four years each as vice-moderator and moderator, conducted the business sessions. The 1986 budget of \$150,000 included a major fund for the new Walnut Grove church extension project in Langley, BC.

A new church, the Rosswood (BC) Bible Chapel, was accepted into the Association.

"As the delegates departed from a challenging rally on Sunday afternoon, the prayer on many hearts was Habakkuk's prayer: 'O Lord, revive Thy work in the midst of the years' (Habakkuk 3:2)," reports the Rev. Mark Morris.

Wedding Anniversaries

Mr. and Mrs. Gideon Gunst celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary June 22, 1985, at a reception



hosted by their children and grandchildren at Willow Rancho Baptist Church, Sacramento, CA, where the Gunsts are members.

An open house was held in honor of Carl and Dorothy Ruppel's 50th wedding anniversary. They were involved

in mission work in Kentucky for 38½ years before retirement. They are members of First Baptist Church, Steamboat Rock, IA.

Youth

McCLUSKY, ND. Pastor and Mrs. Oscar Fritzke, two youth and one youth counselor related highlights of the 41st Triennial Conference at McClusky Baptist Church, July 28, 1985. The youth and counselor were among 80 youth and 12 counselors from the Northern Dakota Association who traveled to Anaheim in two buses.

The Rev. Charles Littman spoke July 28, 1985, on his last official visit to the Church as North Central Area Minister. He becomes Alberta Area Minister Nov. 1, 1985. A time of fellowship followed the service. (Irene A. Froehlich, reporter.)

GEORGE, IA. After raising funds for more than a year, the youth pastor and youth group of First Baptist Church left July 12 for the Triennial Conference in Anaheim, CA. A group of adults also attended.

"New Day" conducted ten days of community visitation, presented musical and drama programs, and concluded with a fellowship dinner at First Baptist Church.

Youth pastor Gordon Stork directed Vacation Bible School. Missionary Janet Schneiderman and other volunteers assisted. (Mrs. John Arends, Jr., reporter.)

BLOOMFIELD HILLS, MI. The Ken Anderson film, "Sudden Death," was shown at Bloomfield Hills Baptist Church June 30, 1985. It is the real life story of a high school athlete, Bruce Vernon, son of Pastor and Mrs. Norman Vernon, who collapsed on the basketball floor.

"The adults as well as the young people were challenged by the testimony of this unusual and exemplary young Christian who was truly willing to honor the Lord, whether by life or by death," states Lois Merseles, reporter.

LEDUC, AB. Temple Baptist Church hosted the annual graduation celebration for 21 high school and college graduates from four area churches: First Baptist and Temple Baptist, Leduc; Wiesenthal Baptist, Millet; and

Rabbit Hill, South Edmonton. "We alternate every year to honor those who have completed their education," reports Vi Fleck.

Pastors Franz Schmidt (Temple), David Henkelman (Wiesenthal), and Ron Zukowski (Rabbit Hill) participated. Dr. Joe Sonnenberg (First Baptist) spoke.

Special Events

LASALLE, CO. Dr. Harold Tuttle became full-time pastor of First Baptist Church Feb. 20, 1985. The Church welcomed him and his wife with a potluck dinner and short program. Dr. Tuttle had been interim pastor at the Church following the death of Dr. Glenn Discoe, Jan. 18, 1985.

An average of 88 children attended the V.B.S. June 10-14, 1985. Mrs. Laura Reck directed it with the theme, "In the Footsteps of Jesus."

A stained glass window in the church sanctuary was dedicated as a memorial to the late pastor, Dr. Glenn Discoe, June 16, 1985.

The Church enjoyed a picnic on June 23, 1985. (Mrs. Dorothy Osten, reporter.)

DALLAS, OR. The men of Salt Creek Baptist Church meet together for breakfast and prayer every other Saturday morning. Through their Men's Fellowship, they have purchased fans as well as black-out curtains for the sanctuary so films may be shown.

The young people of the Church raised funds with car washes, breakfasts, and other activities to go to the Triennial Conference in Anaheim in July. (Ruth Saunders, reporter.)

LODI, CA. First Baptist Church bade farewell to Dennis Rockford, director of music for the past five and one half years, June 9, 1985. The entire evening service was set aside to honor him for his devotion to the ministry of music at the Church.

"Dennis, his wife Priscilla, and their four children will be greatly missed," says Della Lutz, reporter.

STOCKTON, CA. Quail Lakes Baptist Church held its second annual "Festival of Choirs," June 2, 1985. This was an opportunity to say thank you to the congregation for its support and encouragement of the Church's six

choirs this past choir year.

The graded choir program includes approximately 200 people. Each choir ministers both inside and outside of the Church. "Choirs are not only viewed as a *field* to work in, but also as a *force* to work with," states Jim Altizer,



WETASKIWIN, AB. Calvary Baptist Church's Discovery Club for children in grades one through six climaxed its year by presenting the musical, "Finders Keepers," directed



STEAMBOAT ROCK, IA. First Baptist Church dedicated its new organ May 19, 1985. Don Hustad, composer, arranger, and professor of organ, Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, KY, performed classical, gospel and hymn arrangements.

Donated anonymously, the three-manual Rogers 84D pipe augmented organ was installed in late February.

The Rev. Dennis Dewey is pastor of the Church.

ABILENE, KS. Ebenezer Baptist Church welcomed its new pastor, Mr. Bob Lowden, his wife Ruth, son Jon, and daughter Jenny (pictured) June 9, 1985, at a fellowship following the morning service. The Church had redecorated the parsonage and gave them a pantry shower.

Pastor Lowden, a retired army signal officer and Dallas Theological

minister of music.

The Celebration Singers, the adult choir, presented a "Favorites Concert" with brass ensemble, piano, organ and percussion accompaniment in mid-July.

by Mrs. Sharon Fuellbrandt. Special awards were given for Scripture memorization and attendance. (Edith Lindstrom, reporter.)

Seminary graduate, served as pastoral intern, Kensington Baptist Church, Bristol, England, in 1982. During 1981 the Lowdens directed the Christain Overseas Servicemen's Center, Torrijan Air Base, Madrid, Spain.



The Church had previously expressed appreciation to the Rev. and Mrs. Albert Fadenrecht for their interim ministry. (Mrs. Reva Lutz, reporter.)

LANSING, MI. The Rev. Robert Hess has been interim pastor at Colonial Village Baptist Church since April.

"Rev. Hess has really been preaching his way into our hearts. We have come to love the man himself as well as his messages," states Charles W. Yeomans, reporter.

CORN, OK. Calvary Baptist Church shared a fellowship supper with Immanuel Baptist Church, Loyal, OK. Immanuel Baptist led the evening service which followed.

The Rev. Eric Coulon, pastor, Whispering Oaks Baptist Church, Parkville, MO, held Deeper Life Meetings at the Church.

Fifty-five ladies attended the W.M.F. Prayer-Friend Banquet.

The Scripture memory children presented a program at the all-church picnic. A Sunday school picnic was also held.

The Board of Deacons surprised all the mothers with a small gift on Mother's Day.

V.B.S. was held jointly with the Corn Mennonite Brethren Church.

The Church had a surprise party for all fathers following the evening service June 16, 1985. (Vernie Voigt, reporter.)

WISHEK, ND. A Maas-Rowe Carillonette was dedicated to the glory of God and in memory of Esther and Ernest Herr at First Baptist Church, June 9, 1985. Patricia Lange, the Herrs' daughter, and Roanne Schilling Huebsch, former student of Mrs. Herr, presented a concert of piano-organ duets. (Patricia Lange, reporter.)

Church Dedication and Anniversary

BALGONIE, SK. Balgonie Baptist Church celebrated its 75th anniversary June 15-16, 1985, beginning with a "Homecoming Picnic." The evening service, "Reflections of the Years," included special music, the Davin (SK) Quartet; a skit of a 1920s ladies meeting; and remembrances and greetings.

The Rev. Siegfried Schuster, area minister, spoke Sunday morning. A potluck dinner followed.

The afternoon special anniversary service included music, the Paul Sisters Trio; and greetings: Iona Quiring, W.M.F. national president; the Rev. S. Schuster; Bertha Masurat, Saskatchewan Baptist Association W.M.F.; Darold Sauer, former pastor; Missionary Betty Mantay; and representatives of several other churches.

The ladies of the Church presented a candlelight ceremony followed by a prayer of dedication by Rev. Schuster. Mrs. Ida Rumpel, the only living charter member, sent a plant. Iona Quiring, W.M.F. president, gave the anniversary address. Pictorial memoirs were displayed.

"We are grateful to our pastor, the Rev. Hans Serger, and his wife, Jule, for their help and support in making this a very memorable weekend," states Diane Neb, reporter.

AVON, SD. Danzig Baptist Church held a mortgage burning ceremony for the newly built parsonage, June 16, 1985. Built in 1983, it became the home of the Rev. Jason and Kris Haas in July 1983.

Participants in the ceremony included Pastor Jason Haas; Wilbert Buchholz, deacon board chairman; John Brandt and Terry Wormsbecher, trustees; William Radack, treasurer; and Terry Kaul, building commission chairman. (Velda Voigt, reporter.)

AVON, SD. First Baptist Church dedicated its new building June 12, 1985. The Rev. Gregg Donaldson, pastor, conducted the morning and evening worship services.

The Rev. Mervin Kramer, Brandon Valley Baptist Church, Brandon, SD, spoke at the afternoon service. An open house followed this service. (Miss Estie Betz, reporter.)

ROSSWOOD, BC. A Recognition Council met May 3, 1985, at Rosswood Bible Chapel at the request of the congregation and its pastor, Paul Paquette. Led by chairman Barry Leboe, thirteen delegates from the six northern British Columbia churches and the Rev. Ed Hohn, area minister, reviewed the Church's covenant, constitution, bylaws, and statement of beliefs. They unanimously recommended that Rosswood Bible Chapel be accepted into the Association at its annual meetings, May 16-19.

"The Council, being very encouraged with the spirit of this young group, commended them in establishing this

witness for Christ," states the Rev. Mark Morris, secretary, recognition council.

In this community of approximately 150 people (30 miles north of Terrace), about 40 are involved in the Chapel.

Approximately 200 people attended the special recognition service held May 5, 1985, at the Church. The Rev. Ed Hohn, area minister, spoke.

REGINA, SK. Calvary Baptist Church dedicated its new building May 13, 1985. Many churches from the Saskatchewan Association were represented, and many former members attended.



Pastor Robert Hoffman, Calvary's first pastor, spoke in the morning. Interim Pastor Darold Sauer led the afternoon dedication service. The Rev. Siegfried Schuster, area minister, spoke. Greetings came from sister churches and the city. The Church provided special music.

"We look to the future with anticipation of God's continued blessing and love," states Mrs. W. Hoffman, reporter.

YORKTON, SK. Central Baptist Church celebrated its 75th anniversary June 29-30, 1985. The theme, "Celebration of Light," was based on John 8:12: "Jesus said, 'I am the light of the world; whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life.'"

The Rev. F.A. Bloedow organized the Church, Oct. 23, 1910. Of the 31 charter members, only Mrs. Hilda Runtz is still living.

Saturday morning began with a pancake breakfast and welcome service.



Testimonies, renewal of friendships, and special music were among the activities. The Rev. William Effa, a member of the Church when he was ordained, spoke on "Jesus, the Light of the World."

Approximately 300 people attended the Saturday evening banquet and enjoyed special music, testimonies, and a historical slide presentation. Former pastor, the Rev. Morley Schultz (1970-78), spoke on "Walking in the Light."



The Rev. Delvin Bertsch, pastor, led the Sunday morning worship service. The Church choir and other groups provided special music. The Sunday School presented a German poem, children's story, and dramatized poem. Former pastor, Dr. Walter Kerber, (1961-66) spoke on "He Is the Light." Pastor Bertsch led a memorial service paying tribute to all the faithful now in glory. A communion service followed.

The concluding anniversary service attended by about 350 people included greetings from the city mayor; the Yorkton Ministerial President; the Rev. R. Grabke, association moderator; the Rev. Siegfried Schuster, area minister; and the Rev. Eugene Kern, conference moderator and former pastor (1967-69); special music; and testimonies. Rev. Kern spoke on "Let Your Light Shine." He then led the congregation in a dedication exercise using hundreds of flashlights to illustrate how the Children of Light should shine in the dark world. (Mrs. Hertha Rowden, reporter.)

PARMA, OH. Redeemer Baptist Church (formerly Erin Avenue Baptist Church, Cleveland) observed its centennial anniversary over five weekends from May 26-June 3, 1985.

Organized June 26, 1885, Erin Avenue Baptist Church became Redeemer Baptist when it relocated to Parma in 1971. Several former pastors were brought back to speak. Many former members joined in the celebration.

our conference in action

Speakers included the Rev. William Taft, area minister; Florian Manas, pastoral staff, Parma Heights Baptist (a daughter church of Redeemer); the Rev. Lanny Akers, interim pastor, 1982-1984; the Rev. Waldemar Kroguletz, pastor, 1967-1975; and the Rev. Edwin Miller, pastor from 1948-1955.

Miss LaVerna Mehlhaff, director of Christian Education at the Church from 1952-1956 and now N.A.B. Conference women's work director, brought personal greetings as well as good wishes from the N.A.B. International Office in Oakbrook Terrace, IL.



and architectural plans are developing. God will continue to give direction for his glory and honour in the ministry here," reports Carol Magis.

MADISON, SD. West Center Street Baptist Church celebrated its centennial anniversary July 5-7, 1985, with the theme song, "To God Be the Glory," and the message, "The Shepherd, the Word, the Cross and the Crown," based on the Church's stained glass window of the Good Shepherd.

A kickoff banquet held in January began the celebration with special music and a message by the Rev. Charles Littman, area minister.

People filled the sanctuary to capacity for a singspiration service July 5 to hear the Junior Choir, Youth Orchestra, a trio and a soloist; an original poem; and greetings by former pastor and friends; view slides; as well as for fellowship. Pictures and historic items were displayed.

Members, community friends and guests toured the church and fellowshiped during the afternoon of July 6.

The worship service July 7 was broadcast live on the local radio sta-

tion. Dr. Ronald Mayforth, professor, North American Baptist Divinity School, Edmonton, AB, spoke on "This Is Our God." Special music was provided by the choir, German trio, and soloists.

Pastor Oliver Bender hosted the afternoon anniversary service. President Charles Hiatt, North American Baptist Seminary, Sioux Falls, SD, gave the message, "Looking to the Future." The service included special music and greetings from local area pastors, association pastors, and former members.

Mementos, buttons, program and history books were provided. All Sunday School children were given buttons to keep and bring back to the next anniversary celebration.

A special offering was received for missions.

"Truly 'To God Be the Glory' was felt in the hearts of all who attended. The renewal of ties that bind was experienced," reports Berdean Rohrer.

STOCKTON, CA. The Celebration Singers, the adult choir of Quail Lakes Baptist Church, presented their third annual Favorites Concert, July 14, 1985. Over 500 people heard a variety of anthems accompanied by a brass ensemble. Gill Dellinger, a local artist, shared his testimony. Several artists from the Church also presented an art show. (Jim Altizer, reporter.)



Every service included special music. The Korean Central Baptist Church, which uses Redeemer's facilities, sent its choir and string orchestra. The Redeemer Choir presented a concert.

A Church picnic and a centennial banquet were among other events marking the occasion.

"His Project," North American Baptist College and Divinity School, Edmonton, AB, gave a challenging drama. Afterward several members made commitments to the Lord.

"A centennial booklet was printed, and a limited number of copies are available for former members and friends who were not able to attend. Write to the Church office," states the Rev. Darrell W. McKay, pastor.

CALGARY, AB. Dr. Walter Kerber, pastor, and friends, members, and former members of Grace Baptist Church witnessed and celebrated a mortgage burning ceremony June 2, 1985. Mr. Bob Mayforth, financial services director, congratulated the members on their step of faith, commitment and accomplishment. The Rev. Isador Faszer, area minister, spoke.

"As growth at Grace Baptist has caused a bulging of the seams, a new step of faith involving plans for expansion are well underway. The Church has purchased two adjacent duplexes for necessary expansion. Fund-raising

in memoriam

ADELINE BARTULEI (88), Winnipeg, MB; born Sept. 10, 1896, to Edward and Maria Milokeit, Barkunischken, Lithuania; died June 17, 1985; married Frederick Theodore Bartulei, April 20, 1918, who predeceased her; immigrated to Canada in 1950; member, W.M.F. member, McDermot Avenue Baptist Church, Winnipeg, MB; predeceased by four children in infancy; survived by one son, Walter (Gisela); two daughters: Gertrud (Mrs. Hans Rahn), and Maria (Mrs. Hans Rogalski); 12 grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; and one sister Paula.

HILDEGARD RUTH BOGDANOW (61), Edmonton, AB; born Oct. 16, 1923, to Alexander and Olga (Jeske) Bogdanow, Lodz, Poland; died March 27, 1985; baptized 1936 and member, Lodz-Nawrot Street Baptist Church; fled to Germany with her parents, 1945; immigrated to Canada, 1949; member, Sunday school teacher, German choir member, Central Baptist Church, Edmonton, AB; predeceased by her father in 1970; survived by her mother; one sister, Elizabeth Johanna (Mrs. Otto Dickau); two brothers: George (Erika) and Alexander (Jeanette); one uncle, Jegor (Ruth) Bogdanow; two nieces; six nephews; and numerous cousins; Reverends Herman Effa and L. Reimer, pastors, funeral service.

GILBERT BUCHHOLZ (69), Ashley, ND; born March 24, 1916, to Edward and Fredericka Buchholz, Lidgerwood, ND; died June 23, 1985; married June Miller, June 8, 1953; member, trustee, Ashley Baptist Church; survived by his wife June, Ashley, ND; one son, Delbert, Milwaukee, WI; one daughter, Renee (Mrs. Charles Pederson), Grand Forks, ND; three sisters; and two brothers; Rev. Allan Gerber, pastor, funeral service.

DR. H. GLENN DISCOE (74), Greeley, CO; born March 3, 1910, to Charles A. and Pearl M. Discos, Brady, NE; died Jan. 18, 1985; married Kerrie Downing, Aug. 3, 1933; pastor, First Baptist Church, LaSalle, CO; active in the ministry for 40 years; president of Baptist Bible College, Denver, CO; missionary-teacher, India; survived by his wife Kerrie; two sons: Jon Charles, Greeley CO; and David Alan, Sunnyvale, CA; six grandchildren; two brothers: Arthur and Homer, and one sister, Mrs. Clyde Northey; memorial services, Greeley, CO, and North Platte, NE.

WILLIAM GEIS (89), Okeene, OK; born July 22, 1895, to Frank and Elizabeth Fisher Geis, near Okeene, OK; died July 4, 1985; married Hannah Laubach, May 6, 1920; WWI veteran; member, deacon, Sunday school teacher, Zion Baptist Church,

Okeene, OK; survived by his wife Hannah; two sons: Weldon and Willis, Okeene, OK; one daughter, Maxine Davidson, Waynoka, OK; 4 grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; and one brother, Harry; Rev. Leland H. Friesen, pastor, funeral service.

ESTHER W. HERR (75), Wishek, ND; born Sept. 9, 1908, in Baltimore, MD, to the Rev. and Mrs. Charles N. Knapp; died Aug. 27, 1984; public school teacher; married Ernest Herr, 1931, who predeceased her; member, Sunday school teacher, organist, accompanist, First Baptist Church, Wishek, ND; Dakota camp counselor, teacher, and writer; survived by one daughter, Patricia H. Lange, Davis, CA; two grandchildren; one brother; and one niece; Rev. Gordon Huisinga, pastor, memorial service.

MINNIE HERSCHKORD (78), McClusky, ND; born July 7, 1906, to Anton and Margaret Putz, Martin, ND; died June 16, 1985; married David Herschkorn, Oct. 26, 1927; member, Martin (ND) Baptist Church and McClusky (ND) Baptist Church; survived by her husband David; five daughters: Deloris (Mrs. David Gienger), Anamoose, ND; Margene (Mrs. Walter Filler), Goodrich, ND; Jeanette (Mrs. Alfred Martin), Balfour, ND; Eileen (Mrs. David Miller), Dickinson, ND; and Dianne (Mrs. Pete Bader), Carson, ND; 19 grandchildren; 13 great-grandchildren; one brother, Albert Putz; and one half-brother, Adolph Seibold; Rev. Oscar Fritzke, pastor, funeral service.

HENRY JOHNSON (75), McClusky, ND; born Jan. 24, 1910, to Andrew and Mary Johnson, McClusky, ND; died June 10, 1985; married Rosie Kukert, July 16, 1933; member, McClusky (ND) Baptist Church; survived by his wife Rosie; one daughter, Arlene (Mrs. Richard Braunberger), Goodrich, ND; one son, Terry, Mohall, ND; six grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; and one sister, Mrs. Hilda Neff; Rev. Oscar Fritzke, pastor, funeral service.

ELVINA KLINGMAN (72), McClusky, ND; born March 28, 1913, to John and Rosina Kukert, near Kief, ND; died June 10, 1985; married Berthold Klingman, Oct. 13, 1934; member, W.M.F. and singing groups, McClusky (ND) Baptist Church; survived by her husband Berthold; one daughter, Betty Mae (Mrs. Cecil Schuh), Anamoose, ND; one son Marvin, Kief, ND; five grandchildren; five sisters: Mrs. Rosie Johnson, Mrs. Alfred Herr, Mrs. Sam Reising, Mrs. Melita Johnson, and Mrs. Rubin Hegel; and one brother, Walter

Kukert; Rev. Oscar Fritzke, pastor, funeral service.

MARY QUENZER (99), Herreid, SD; born June 22, 1886, near Yankton, SD; orphaned as a toddler and adopted by the Karl Brockel family, Mound City, SD; married Karl Quenzer Aug. 17, 1907, who predeceased her in 1951; member, W.M.F. member, Herreid (SD) Baptist Church; predeceased by two sons and one daughter; survived by six sons: Arthur and Albert, Artes, SD; Edward, Eureka, SD; Johnie, Herreid, SD; Karl, Mobridge, SD; and Theodore, West Fargo, ND; three daughters: Esther (Mrs. Martin Wiedmeier), Rupert, ID; Martha (Mrs. August Renz), Herreid, SD; and Mrs. Irene Renz, Paul, ID; 35 grandchildren; 50 great-grandchildren; and 8 great-great-grandchildren; Rev. Harry W. Johnson, pastor, funeral service.

OLIVER KIRMET RINGERING (79), Hillsboro KS; born Feb. 22, 1906, to Mr. and Mrs. Herman J. Ringering, East Alton, IL; died Aug. 12, 1985; married Hulda Koch, Dec. 10, 1930, who predeceased him in June 1958; married Elizabeth Ann Thiessen, May 12, 1960; ordained Sept. 3, 1947; served as pastor in the following churches: Ebenezer Baptist, Shattuck, OK (1950-55); First Baptist, Bison, KS (1956-62); Ebenezer Baptist, Hope, KS (1962-66); Canaan Baptist, Crawford, TX (1966-72); and Emmanuel Baptist, Marion, KS (1972-78); served as interim pastor after retiring in 1978 at the following churches: Central Baptist, George, IA; Calvary Baptist, Parkersburg, IA; Emmanuel Baptist, Marion, KS; and Bethany Baptist, Hunter, KS; predeceased by one daughter, Joyce, 1978; survived by his wife Elizabeth; one daughter, Grace (Mrs. Edgar Sturtz), Ellinwood, KS; four grandchildren; twin great-grandchildren; one brother, Stanley; and one sister, Edna Haynes; Reverends James Harris and Milton Zeeb, pastors, funeral service.

ROBERT R. RUST (82); Martin, ND; born Nov. 26, 1902, to Jacob L. and Julia Rust, Martin, ND; died April 28, 1985; married Pauline Harr, June 23, 1927; member, Sunday school teacher, treasurer, superintendent, usher, clerk, deacon and choir member, Martin (ND) Baptist Church; predeceased by an infant son, Gerald Carl; survived by his wife Pauline; and four sisters: Mrs. Mary Thompson; Mrs. Minnie Kurz; Mrs. Pauline Hofdahl; and Mrs. Sarah Speech; Rev. Bill Keple, pastor, funeral service.

(continued from page 19)

banking and finance, Sim headed the finance committee for the Billy Graham Crusade in Singapore in 1978. "God can use a person who makes himself available to him," said Sim. "He is using me in ways I never thought possible."

Ruferse S. Escoe of Costa Rica, recently ordained, said he had been preaching since the age of 15, when he witnessed in hospitals and jails. The church, said Escoe, is not a building, but the people. "The church is where the people are . . . the factory, in the office and in the community." It is the pastor's responsibility to train people to do the work of evangelizing.

Escoe reported that Baptists comprised 2.5 percent of the population in 1980 and 13 percent in 1984 in Costa Rica. The Baptists there have adopted an aggressive evangelism plan whereby each church hopes to start another church within five years.

"Who will do the work?" asked Escoe. "Not the pastors. The people!"

Jimmy Carter Addresses BWA Congress

Former U.S. President Jimmy Carter issued a plea for Baptists and other Christians to validate their Christianity by meeting human needs and leading the fight against any form of human oppression.

Carter said it is the way Christians respond to individual human need that can make others say, "I also want to be a Christian." He urged Baptists to be certain they are following Christ's example in exhibiting the qualities of peace, humility, concern for others, forgiveness, mercy, generosity, and even a willingness to be persecuted in God's name.

Carter, a Baptist, said he never found any personal conflict between his government offices as a state senator and a governor in Georgia or as president of the U.S. and his ability to share a Christian witness. He said many Christians scorn the government world, but many governments are more effective than established churches.

Since Carter left office, he has continued to tell others of Christ and to work at meeting human need in

building homes through such groups as Habitat for Humanity.

Carter asked, "How many of us have made a genuine family sacrifice for others in the last five years?"

Preparing to tell members of another church group about his Christian ministry, Carter said that he did some figuring and came up with a total of 140 people who had accepted Christ because of his witness and the leading of the Holy Spirit. "I guess God must have been looking over my shoulder," he said, "for all of a sudden I remembered that in the governor's election in 1966, my wife

of our Christian churches."

Carter also underscored the need to speak out for oppressed people wherever they are—in the Soviet Union, the migrants in the U.S., or in any other nation. Recently, he said, he and his wife visited the Thailand refugee camps and noted that conditions had not substantially changed since Mrs. Carter had visited there six years earlier. Baptists must take the lead in speaking out against these doomed "victims of government oppressors in their homelands and those elsewhere who refuse to give them a place of asylum," Carter contended.



"If one church is brought into being by one, it should reproduce itself" is a goal of the Nigerian Baptists.

and I had personally contacted 500,000 Georgians and asked them to vote for Jimmy Carter. Five hundred thousand visits for me, 140 for my Savior!" It was a sobering realization, he said.

"As Baptist," he added, "there is a danger of our being too proud of what we have done and are doing instead of concentrating on what we ought to be doing."

Carter said the churches need to speak out more forcefully for the alleviation of human suffering and the protection of basic human rights. "It was the Supreme Court, the Congress, and others in the political world mostly who broke down the barriers of racism. Even now," he said, "some of the last lingering evidence of segregation exists in some

He noted that "a few courageous Christians" in churches in the Southwestern United States have turned their churches into sanctuaries, some even risking imprisonment, to help those fleeing economic or government oppression in their own lands. Carter warned against relying too heavily upon political powers to achieve Christian goals. "The superpowers, in particular, tend to believe that the exertion of our enormous military strength is preferable to diplomacy and negotiation in the resolution of international differences and that the sale of military weapons is one of the best ways to expand our influence in the developing world. This is a tragic mistake," he said, "and should never be condoned."



what's happening

The Rev. Robert Sandford became pastor of White Shell Baptist Church, Seven Sisters Falls, MB, on August 4. He is a graduate of North American Baptist College and North American Baptist Seminary. He was ordained by First Baptist Church of Lodi, CA, on July 14, 1985.

The Rev. Richard May became pastor of Portland Avenue Baptist Church, Tacoma, WA, in mid-August. He was ordained by his home church, Salt Creek Baptist Church, Dallas, OR, on June 9. He is a 1985 graduate of the North American Baptist Seminary, Sioux Falls, SD.

The Rev. and Mrs. Leland Bertsch have been appointed by the Board of Missions as our first N.A.B. missionaries to the Philippines. Rev. Bertsch resigned as pastor of Temple Baptist Church, Swan River, MB, where he has served since 1983, effective September 22.

Mr. L. Ford Shenk has resigned as Minister of Outreach and Youth at Temple Baptist Church, Milwaukee, WI, effective Sept. 1, 1985.

The Rev. George Redington has accepted the pastorate of Hawkwood Baptist Church, Calgary, AB. He has served as Assistant Pastor, First Baptist Church, Lodi, CA, since 1983.

The Rev. Bryon Brodehl accepted the pastorate of First Baptist Church, George, IA, effective October 1, 1985. He served as pastor of Anamoose Baptist Church, ND, since 1979.

Mr. Harry Edenhofer became assistant pastor of Calvary Baptist Church, Bethlehem, PA, effective July 1, 1985.

The Rev. Fred Martin became pastor of Faith Baptist Church, Hillsboro, OR, on Sept. 1, 1985. He has been minister of family life and visitation at Sunkist Baptist Church, Anaheim, CA, since 1977.

The Rev. Ray Semeniuk resigned as Associate Pastor of Trinity Baptist Church, Kelowna, BC, effective Sept. 1, 1985. He has served in this position since 1984.

Mr. Ray Harris became director of church ministries at Ebenezer Baptist Church, Vancouver, BC, effective May 1, 1985.

Mr. Chuck Nordell is the director of Christian Education at Magnolia Baptist Church, Anaheim, CA.

Mr. Charles Feeney is the part-time Minister of Youth at Riviera Baptist

Church, Salem, OR.

Mr. Robert Lowden became pastor of Ebenezer Baptist Church, Abilene, KS, in June.

Mr. Tim Friesz is part-time youth director at Olympic View Baptist Church, Tacoma, WA.

Robert Weiss is a part-time church staff member at Corona Heights Baptist Church, Corona, CA.

A new church extension project located between north Stockton and southern Lodi in California is called Twin Oaks Baptist Church and is served by Pastor Greg Myers.

Ron Orr, pastor at Bethel Baptist Church, High Prairie, AB, resigned to pursue further studies.

The Rev. Alan Johnson resigned as pastor of Community Baptist Church, Beiseker, AB, effective mid-August. He was the founding pastor of the Church.

The Rev. P. Tim Schroeder accepted the pastorate of Trinity Baptist Church, Kelowna, BC. He has served as pastor of Greenfield Baptist Church, Edmonton, AB, since 1979.

The Rev. Victor Lehman is the new pastor of Bethel Baptist Church, High Prairie, AB.

The Rev. Steve Berg is the new pastor of South Calgary Community Baptist Church, Calgary, AB. He has been serving as assistant pastor and most recently as interim pastor of the Church.

Harold Neff, pastor of Walnut Grove Community Baptist Church, Langley, BC, was ordained on June 30 by Bethany Baptist Church, Vancouver, BC.

The Rev. Richard Lute of Gillette, WY, accepted the pastorate of First Baptist Church, Valley City, ND, effective September 1, 1985.

The Church Growth Board

appointed the Rev. Bernard Fritzke of Orlando, FL, to serve as Associate Director of Church Planting

effective Jan. 1, 1986. Rev. Fritzke has been serving as area supervisor for Church Extension in the State of



Florida since Jan. 1, 1984. He replaces Dr. S. Donald Ganstrom who retired in July from this position.

Peter Fehr, M.D., a member of Faith Baptist Church, Minneapolis, MN, was elected to a five-year term as one of the twelve vice presidents

of the Baptist World Alliance during the 15th Congress in Los Angeles, July 1-6. Dr. Fehr was moderator of the North American Baptist Conference from 1979-82 and is a member of the Executive Committee.



The Rev. Ralph Cooke of Grand Forks, ND, was

appointed North Central Area Minister effective Oct. 1, 1985. He has served as senior pastor of Grace Baptist Church, Grand Forks, ND, since 1981. He also served as chairman of the Board of Missions and on the General Council of the Conference the past three years. He and his wife, Celeste, will move to Bismarck, ND. Cooke succeeds the Rev. Charles Littman who becomes Alberta Area Minister.



CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION of the FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH WISHEK, NORTH DAKOTA July 5 and 6, 1986

We invite all former members and friends to our 100th anniversary celebration.

Inquiries or greetings contact Mrs. Vernon Herr 721 Beaver Ave., Wishek, North Dakota 58495

The Rev. Gordon Huisinga, pastor

(NOTE: Celebration to be held in 1986)

capital funds

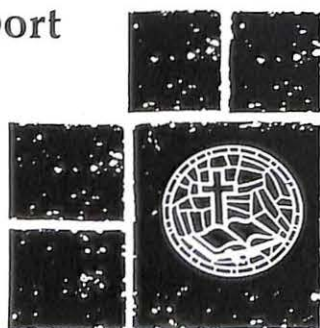
Layman Excited About Ministries Provided Through Capital Funds

Dr. Paul J. Loth, member of Village Green Baptist Church, Glen Ellyn, IL, attended the 41st Triennial Conference of N.A.B. churches in Anaheim, CA, in July. Among some of his comments in his report to his church were these:

"It was announced at the Triennial Conference that the Conference's share of the Capital Funds Campaign goal had been reached. However, the goal achieved represents pledges made and not actual contributions. As anyone involved in fundraising knows, there is often a big difference between pledges and the actual money that comes in. So I am sure we should not think that the campaign does not need our contributions. We should continue to donate our money to the Capital Funds Campaign.

"The North American Baptist Seminary showed slides of the new library addition which is now complete and ready for use by the students. This was paid for by funds from the Conference Capital Funds Campaign and the Sioux Falls business community, so it was good for me to actually see the results of the money being used. I feel good because I know this campaign is helping in the ministries of the Conference and Associations."

Capital Funds Report



facing the facts

A few years ago, a mission issue of the *Baptist Herald* was critiqued by some journalism professors from the University of Illinois. While on the whole the comments were positive, one statement sticks with me: "This issue of the *Baptist Herald* did not deal with the hard issues and struggles on the mission field."

Last night, I decided to pull the news articles for this page and instead seek to help you become more aware of a hard issue.

In June of 1984, your elected Association representatives who form the General Council committed North American Baptist Conference churches and individuals to provide \$4,700,000 for God's work at home and overseas for 1985. There were some who actually would have liked the commitment to be higher because they knew the needs, but they were forced to curb their enthusiasm. Then came the end of 1984, and we did not reach that year's goal of \$4,300,000.

In February 1985, the Executive Committee met and asked the departments and schools to reduce the \$4,700,000 goal, what they had been promised, to \$4,300,000 because we did not meet the \$4,300,000 goal in 1984.

As of September 6, the hard facts are these. So far we have given \$1,940,242 in eight months. We have only four months to give \$2,359,758 to reach our \$4,300,000 goal. In light of this, the department directors met and estimated a shortfall in income of \$222,000 for this year. They cut \$90,000 in ministry expenditures which includes the starting of two new churches.

If we as churches and individuals do not honor the commitment our representatives made, we will have to say, "Sorry, we can't keep our promise to you. For what you've planned to do or done already, you'll have to borrow money or forget the ministry for this year."

So far this year, the Conference has had to borrow \$918,000 to fund ministries and missions. This, in addition to the \$2,359,758 that has been committed to missions and ministries this year needs to be met by December 31.

What is it about a basic missions and ministries budget that is so unappealing, so unchallenging? Why is a special project outside the budget so much more appealing?

Is it that we aren't budget-oriented?

Is it that we are not aware of the needs?

Is it that God has not blessed us personally?

Is it that someone else's family is more appealing than our own—the one we adopted when we became members of a North American Baptist Conference church?

It can't be that we are not a generous people. I've met many of you at the Triennial Conference, at Associations and in churches. I know of your generosity and your commitment and concern by your total giving for all purposes in 1984.

I've sat in Board of Missions and Church Growth Board sessions, in Development Department meetings and in executive staff sessions. I've heard of some of the issues dealt with by the Boards of Trustees of our schools. I've seen and heard the agony of the board members as they've had to say "no" to requests for help to spread the Gospel. I've seen the quiet desperation of the missionaries, the national leaders, and the office support staff.

The Lord has said: "Test me in this, and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that you will not have room enough for it."

Let's take a look at that undesignated money in our church giving. Let's check to see if our church treasurer has sent in our giving for missions (or are we using it for other purposes?) Let's take a look at our personal finances—is there something we really don't need? Would the Lord be pleased that we designate it for the basic Conference mission and ministry budget?

Let's free ourselves of concern for the material and enjoy the freedom and joy of giving. Let's honor our commitments and remove the pressure of "Sorry, even though we promised, we can't fund that ministry this year. We didn't meet the budget."

Let's "ring the bells" of heaven by Christmas not only in honor of Christ's birth, but in celebration of fulfilling our commitments. Let's praise the Lord because we've kept our promise to our North American Baptist family and reached the \$4,300,000 goal.

I know with God we are able—are we willing?

In faith, let's pray to meet and even go over the goal. Encourage your church to make an extra gift. □ BJB

Partners through Planning

MISSIONS



CHURCH EXTENSION



CHURCH GROWTH



EDUCATION



"For me, saying 'thank you' to God is expressed by sharing what he has given me. One way I share with our North American Baptist Conference ministries, and at the same time provide for my financial security, is through the North American Baptist Gift Annuity Program. My gift annuities accomplish three things: I have peace of mind in knowing my investments are safe, I receive a lifetime income, and the Conference has funds to be used for its ministries." — Miss Edith Barton

Many people, like Edith, are making an investment that provides both

a secure lifetime income with a return as high as 14 percent and a source of funds for our outreach for Christ.

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Fall . . . Harvest . . . A time to take stock of the year.

What kind of year has it been? A year marked with struggles and disappointment? Or a year marked by fulfillment and happiness? But have you stopped to realize that God cares for you and that nothing, whether difficult or gratifying, has happened without his divine knowledge and permission?

Paul, reflecting at the end of his life, said, "Rejoice in the Lord always, I will say it again: Rejoice! . . . I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances. I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want."

Unfortunately, the pace of modern life and the feelings of the moment often cloud our perspective on God's blessing in our lives. But when we take the time to give thanks, despite our feelings, we begin to experience the benefits of a grateful heart.

When we give thanks, God is glorified because we acknowledge his divine presence in our lives.

When we give thanks, we are renewed because the trials, disappointments, and frustrations of life are put in perspective.

When we give thanks, others see the grace of God because our testimony demonstrates to the people around us God's lovingkindness and mercy.

There are many ways to express thanks. One is to share some of the material blessings which God has bestowed upon us with those in need.

As North American Baptists, we have a deep concern for sharing the love of Christ, meeting not only physical needs but also spiritual needs.

Your gifts help home mission pastors like Rev. Lindbberg Ake to bring God's message of hope to Spanish Americans in Edinburg, Texas. Your gifts help pastors like Rev. Harold Neff in Langley, British Columbia, to bring the Gospel to new communities in North America. Your gifts help missionaries like Barbara Kieper to share the love of Christ in remote African villages in Nigeria through mobile health clinics.

Today, thank God for his blessings in your life and share in the ministry of proclaiming his goodness to those who have not heard.

Your gift of \$25, \$50, \$100, or even \$250 designated for the Celebration of Gratitude Offering will bear witness to the grace of God in your life and help bring the blessings of God to a lost and hurting world.

*Give through your church or send to
North American Baptist Conference,
1 South 210 Summit Ave., Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181*

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