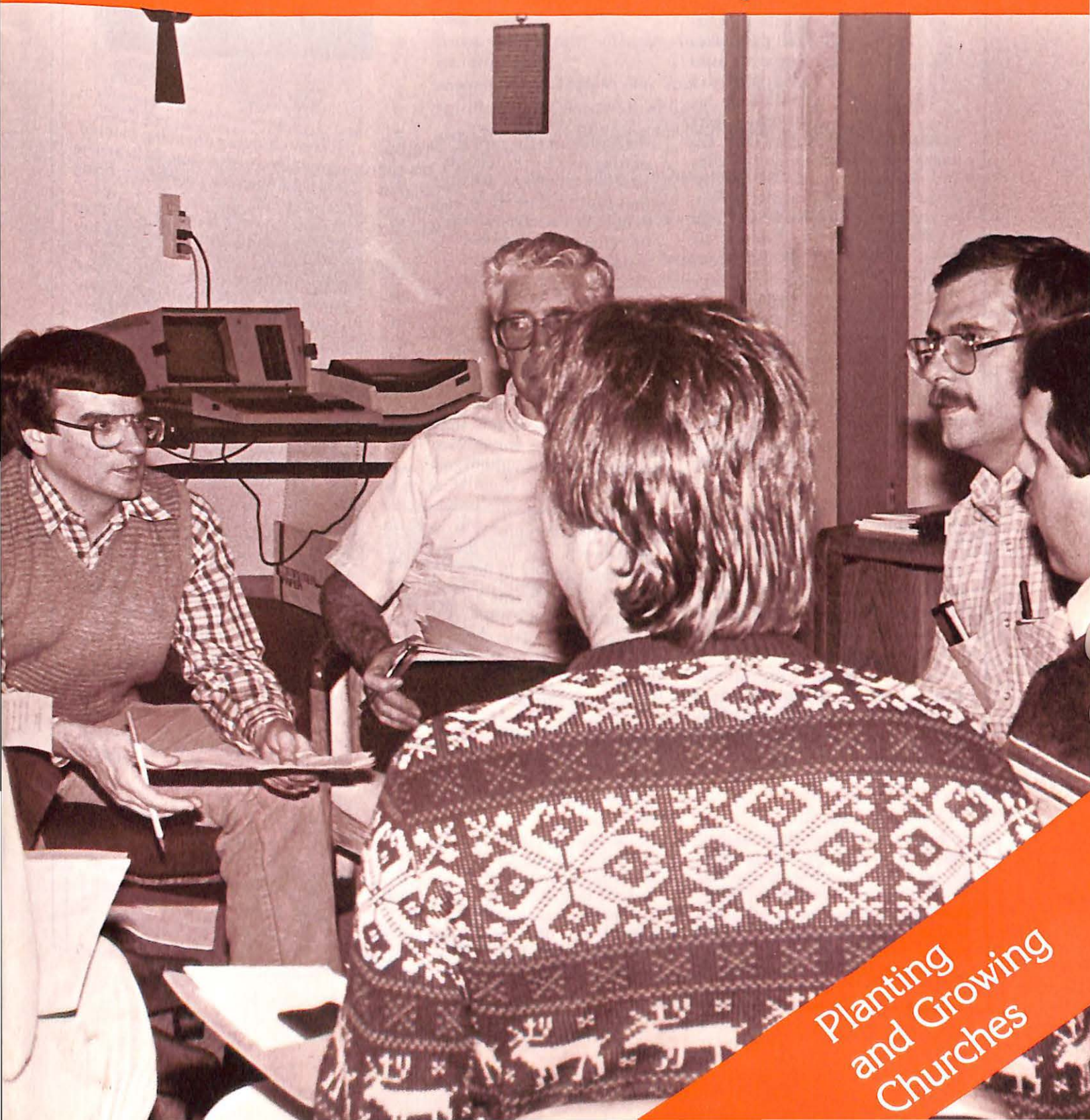


Baptist Herald

May 1986



Planting
and Growing
Churches

Majoring on the Basics

by Ray Harsch

One of the greatest football coaches who ever lived was Knute Rockne. In his thirteen years

as head coach of Notre Dame, his teams won 105 games, lost twelve, and tied five. It is said that he never had a secret practice. In fact, he sometimes would put up a sign for visitors that said, "Secret Practice, come and bring your notebooks."

There was an occasion when a scout from the Army football team missed the practice and was not able to observe the Notre Dame team's practice. Rockne sent the scout the plays he planned to use against the West Pointers. He explained his action, "It isn't the play that wins; it's the execution of the play."

Successful coaches agree with this statement. Champions are made by executing their plays well. A team may win a game here and there by a trick play or a gimmick, but it won't be a consistent winner that way.

Growing churches are built the same way—by majoring on the basics. In the church, the spiritual fundamentals are *Prayer, Worship, Visitation Outreach, and Bible Teaching*.

Activism May Result in a Weak Church

Some pastors seek to build their churches on activism (much activity in the church), spectacular events, or on gimmicks. While these may succeed for a while, they seldom have lasting results over a period of time.

Activism leads to exhaustion of

the pastor and the people. So much of the activity is focused on the people who come to the church that little time is left to minister to people in the community who do not attend the church.

Majoring on the Basics Results in a Strong Church

When we major on the basics—*Prayer, Worship, Visitation Outreach, and Bible Teaching*—and make every effort to do these basics well, there is no limit as to how strong the church can become.

Jesus said, "Without me, you can do nothing" (John 15:5). It is the living Christ who provides the power to accomplish His work in the Church, and it is the work of the Holy Spirit to establish the Church, to equip the Church, and to empower the Church (1 Corinthians 12:3-6). The churches that are effective and evangelistic are those who realize their dependence upon Jesus Christ.

New Signs of Growth

New signs of life and growth are being evidenced in many of our North American Baptist Conference churches.

1) Churches are responding favorably to the Church Growth Strategy seminars across Canada and the United States.

2) Churches that have experienced declining memberships are discovering new ministries that are reaching new people.



3) New churches are being planted, especially in the Sun Belt where large numbers of people are being transferred.

4) Our home mission churches in Colorado and Southern Texas are experiencing new life. People are accepting Christ as their Savior and Lord. Building projects are planned for 1986 for three of these churches in Edinburg, Texas; Rio Grande City, Texas; and Del Norte, Colorado.

5) Opportunities on the Association level as well as on the local church level for our Conference to be involved in urban ministry are on our doorsteps. Allow the Holy Spirit to direct you and us in these areas as well.

As you read this issue of the *Baptist Herald*, you will see that God is at work in many areas of our North American Baptist Conference. The Church Growth Department is committed to helping the Conference churches major on the basics and become effective in ministries that will cause our churches to grow. I encourage you to renew your commitment to the Great Commission and to do all that is possible to help your church experience new life and growth in these tremendous days of opportunity.

The Rev. Ray Harsch is the Acting Director of the Church Growth Department in addition to his responsibilities as Associate Director of Church Growth and Evangelism.



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Twin Oaks Baptist Church— A Planting of the Lord!

by Greg Myers

Isaiah 61:3 speaks of God's people being "Oaks of righteousness, a planting of the Lord for the display of his splendor." As we began the work of starting a new church in North Stockton, California, we knew that it would only succeed if it were truly "a planting of the Lord for the display of his splendor." He couldn't bless anything else.

Twin Oaks Baptist Church began as a Bible study with ten adults on March 19, 1985. From the first day, we emphasized the necessity of prayer, and we are convinced that is the reason for God's blessings!

Our initial group consisted of three families from Temple Baptist Church, Lodi, and one family from First Baptist Church, Lodi, plus two unchurched singles. Less than a month after we started, Quail Lakes Baptist Church, who was co-parenting the effort with the Lodi churches, invited me to preach the morning messages. Quail Lakes really encouraged their people to join us, and we picked up two regular families and a number of visitors as a result. That gave us some much needed encouragement!

On May 19, two months to the day after we began, we had our first worship service in the Creekside Elementary School in North Stockton. Fifty-three people (adults and children) were present. That same evening I was ordained.

June was our first full month of worship, and the average attendance was 66. Subsequent months saw continued growth, and our year culminated in a major outreach to the

community on December 8. Entitled "An Old-fashioned Christmas Celebration," it was preceded by four months of work and prayer. We showed the movie, "Jesus," and had home-baked goodies and hot apple cider for every family. The people came in response to professionally printed invitations and ads in the *Stockton Record*.

More than 330 people attended our "Christmas Celebration" with five adults and 12 children registering decisions for Christ. Almost half of them are still active in the church. In December, the average attendance was 105 per week, down slightly from November's high of 107. We also established a building fund in December and received \$10,000 over and above the regular offering.

There have been two major highlights in 1986. First, we had a "Spiritual Gifts" seminar in January where many people discovered poten-

tial gifts they never knew they had. Second, in February we started our first two fellowship groups. These are neighborhood groups whose major emphasis is outreach. They are also the context within which we expect people to begin exercising their newly discovered gifts. After just two weeks, both groups were so large that we had to make plans to split them.

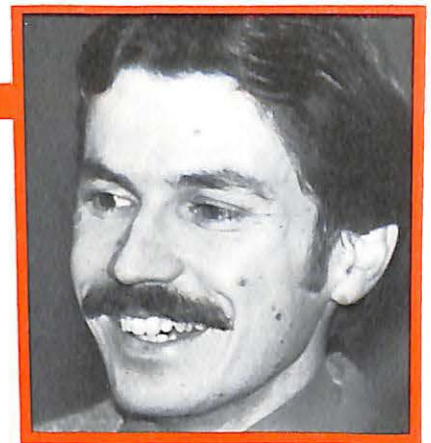
We have a great God, and we expect great things from Him in 1986. We're praying to see well over 100 people come to Christ, to see land purchased, and to see building plans and permits issued. We greatly appreciate the prayer and financial support of the Northern California Association and all of God's people in the North American Baptist Conference! God bless you all! □

The Rev. Greg Myers is pastor of Twin Oaks Baptist Church, Stockton, California.



Cornerstone Baptist— Always Another Step to Take

by Stephen Patrick



It's hard to believe that a year has passed since our arrival in Carol Stream, Illinois. And this year has been unlike any other I have experienced.

Many people ask, "How do you like church extension work?" I respond, "It's a real challenge."

Church extension is a *Challenge*. I'm thankful that it's a God-given challenge and that God has enabled us to meet it.

Our challenge in Carol Stream is to establish a viable and growing church in the midst of a suburban culture. During the early months of 1985, it seemed as though that was going to be an impossible task. We were experiencing little numerical growth. By

the time summer had come, we had lost four families due to job transfers. The obstacles seemed overwhelming.

Our people did not give up. On the contrary, we began praying more and began developing our own commitments to Christ. By the end of the summer, we saw the first breakthrough: One new family started attending the church services.

In September, another young family started coming and have since become "active" members. During the month of October, we had the "New Day" Music and Discipleship Teams with us, and the result was two more families. Since that time, we have had several more families and individuals attending our church on a regular basis.

This growth has come because we have joined hands with God in the challenging ministry of church extension. The struggles seem overwhelming at times, but the joy of seeing new people come into the life of the church and into a close walk with Christ is worth it all.

It is evident that Cornerstone Baptist Church is providing a vital ministry in our community and meeting the needs of many people. Here are comments from just a few people whose lives have been touched by this ministry:

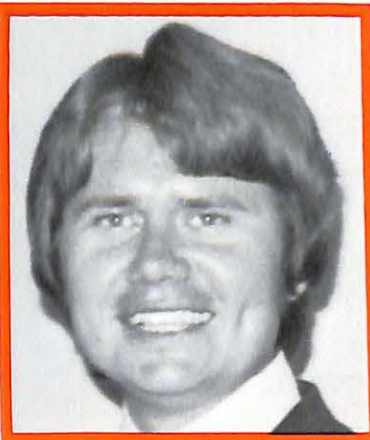
"Cornerstone has brought our family closer by being able to grow with the church instead of just attending a service. There is more of a family atmosphere and more emphasis on teaching God's Word and how it pertains to everyday life."

"Cornerstone is a family of believers who included me wholeheartedly in all aspects of Christian fellowship and worship. This spirit of love and sharing and including others is an attraction and promotes Christian growth."

The challenge of church extension continues. There's always another step to take. But, we can look back and see that progress has been made. People have accepted Christ as Savior; new families have been added to the church; believers have grown in their commitments to Christ. "Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised." □

The Rev. Stephen Patrick is pastor of Cornerstone Baptist Church, Carol Stream, Illinois.





Reaching Out Even to *One Soul*

by Jim Arends

Our church planting experience in greater Washington, DC, brings to mind a story told by Oswald C.J. Hoffman to the Congress on the Family in St. Louis. Evidently a woman lost a nickel. She looked and looked but couldn't find it. She called her neighbors to help her.

Finally, she found the nickel under the radiator. She went running down the street shouting, "I found it; I found it!" She announced, "Let's have a party!" She went to the store and bought 25 dollars worth of food.

Now—only a woman would spend 25 dollars on a party to celebrate the recovery of a nickel. ONLY A WOMAN . . . AND GOD!

Our church extension labors have reminded us of the value of ONE SOUL in God's eyes. It has required more than 25 dollars worth of prayer, time, visitation, letters, and follow-up. Then, after even more of those ministries, ONE PERSON comes. It is exciting to see the joy of the congregation. Sometimes even a family comes! I remember the first time there were 45 people present for a morning worship service. The room could not contain the joy. We believe Heaven rejoiced as well.

New people are richly treasured, but some of our fellowship are also called away. Just recently, one of our grandmothers died of bone cancer at age 66. She was the church's grandmother and a mother of a large family. ONE SOUL, greatly missed, now in Heaven. Then, there was the fami-

ly transferred to Louisiana. ONE FAMILY of six, greatly missed. To watch the Sunday School enrollment number fall into the basement brought tears.

As Pastor, I thank God for what He has taught me in these experiences about the precious nature of life. ONE LIFE! I am concerned for the lives of the lost of our neighborhood that they might know Christ as personal Savior. I am concerned that believers are properly nourished in the Word of God, and that their relationship to Jesus is a vital, growing experience in the company of the local church.

Pam and I thank the Lord for victories. For ONE SOUL, who came to know the Lord last summer.

I thank the Lord for a congregation with vision. We have adopted several ambitious goals for 1986. One includes an average morning worship attendance of 77 by the end of the year. Another goal includes a total of

five Sunday School classes by December. Two dear gals have recently volunteered to "team" teach.

Many of our neighborhood families need Jesus. As fellow believers see the needs, they are responding to God's call with their spiritual gifts.

Our North American Baptist Conference family has been in our prayers. We observed the January Conference-wide Week of Prayer. We prayed for missionaries, Seminary students, Conference leaders, and the souls in your neighborhoods who don't know Christ. We are grateful for your loving support. We would ask that you would pray for us in our outreach to even ONE SOUL who, right now, is in need of the Savior. □

The Rev. Jim Arends is pastor of Shady Grove Baptist Church, Gaithersburg, Maryland.



The Birth of a Church

by Kent Carlson

There are a lot of similarities when one compares the birth and growth of a child and the birth and growth of a new church.

My wife Diane and I have had the privilege of being involved in both these new creations in this past year. On October 31, 1984, little Holly Marie entered this world after much anxiety, discomfort, pain and eager anticipation. On November 25, 1985, Oak Hills Baptist Church met for worship for the first time amidst a similar amount of anxiety, discomfort, pain and eager anticipation.

Now over a year later, our little Holly is walking (and often falling), exploring things for the first time, and beginning to talk. She now can say, "I love you" (actually it's something like "Ahloo," but her parents can understand it).

Oak Hills is also beginning to walk.

It has grown from an attendance of 17 to an attendance of 105 on March 16. This church extension work is exploring new avenues of ministry and outreach constantly, and it, too, is learning to say, "I love you," to its Lord, to each other, and to its surrounding community.

Holly is our first child, and we often admit that we don't know what we are doing. For most of us at Oak Hills, this is our first experience at starting a new church, and we are often struck by the tremendous privilege and responsibility that lies before us. But for all our inexperience and inadequacies, we are encouraged by one very wonderful thing: there is a new church in Folsom where over one year ago there was not. And for this, we give praise.

Folsom is California's sixth fastest growing city. With high-tech and other industries moving into the area, Folsom is becoming an increasingly popular place to live. The many new

families moving into our community are without a church home, and some of them are in a situation where they will be open to the Gospel for the first time in their lives. Our opportunities for growth and outreach are numerous, and we are excited to see how God will use us during this next year.

One of the privileges of a new church is that we have the opportunity to try new programs, ministries, and worship forms without someone saying, "We've never done that before." Such statements are quite meaningless because, as a new church, we've never done *anything* before, and everything we do is new and involves change.

So here we are, a brand-new church in northern California. We are made up of every conceivable religious and non-religious background. For some of us, this is the first church experience we have ever known.

Please pray for us. Pray for our spiritual health and for an aggressive and fruitful outreach. Pray for our search for land and a building as well as for our financial needs. Pray that we will love and care for each other and become a community of believers that demonstrates to our world the difference that the Lord Jesus can make in the life of a church and an individual. And also rejoice with us, for the new church in Folsom and for the lives that are being touched and brought under the Lordship of Jesus Christ. □

The Rev. Kent Carlson is pastor of Oaks Hills Baptist Church, Folsom, California.





Joys Overshadow Problems for New Pastor in Orlando

by Jake Leverette

What shall I tell you about the church extension project in Orlando, Florida? Shall I tell you about arriving in Orlando to find that the home promised to us for January 15, 1986, would not be ready until February 21? Shall I tell you of living for over a month in a mobile home 50 miles away from Orlando with all of our furniture, clothing, and "tools of the trade" parked in a Ryder truck? Shall I tell you of the flu that devastated our small congregation and left us with 13 in attendance, five of whom were visitors? Shall I tell you of being told by the Ramada Inn manager where we rent our facilities that the next Sunday those facilities would not be available to us and the only space we could use was the bar or patio by the pool? No, I won't tell you of those "problems" that God allowed to test our faith. You might be discouraged!

I will tell you of a reception for the new pastor and family by this young congregation that has only been meeting for five months. They provided a meal, had a pantry shower, and expressed their love and support in so many ways. Mr. Dick Keith took off from work to help me unload the truck, and his wife, Sharon, cooked a meal and brought it to us the day we unloaded the truck. Mr. Bob Villmow came to me and said, "I am ready to begin a visitation program with you."

I will tell you that Orlando, Florida, is the fastest growing city in the U.S.A., with five housing developments of up to 3,000 acres

each in South Orlando. There are very few evangelical churches to reach the thousands of people who are pouring into this South Orlando area. God has given us an open door of opportunity. We will be disobedient to the "Heavenly Vision" if we do not go through this door in a very positive way.

Church Extension! Those are exciting words to me. They speak of a ministry blessed of God and fruitful beyond most other ministries. They speak of God building His church through His people. It is thrilling to be part of what God is doing. Will you join us in this great opportunity

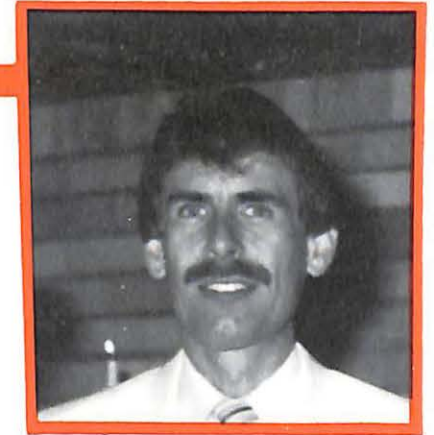
by praying for us and giving sacrificially? If God calls you to do so, become part of starting a new church extension project to the glory of God. □

The Rev. Jake Leverette became pastor of this new church extension work in Orlando, Florida, in January 1986. He had served as senior pastor of Pineland Baptist Church, Burlington, Ontario, prior to this pastorate.



Crossroads Baptist Church—One Year Later

by Monte Michaelson



Reflecting over the past year that Crossroads Baptist Church has been in existence, the lyrics of the song, "We Have Only Just Begun," comes to mind. Yes, we have "only just begun" a work that will last until Jesus comes. The dream continues and has been kept alive by those who have committed themselves to see a North American Baptist Church started in North Port, Florida. By the grace of God, we are "keepin'-on, keepin'-on."

This past year has had its high points and its low ones as well. In fact, in church extension, the highs seem higher, and lows seem lower, but we have had many more mountain-top experiences than valleys. The hand of God has been upon us, and we have been blessed "exceedingly, abundantly above all that we ask or think." We praise God for His faithfulness to us!

North Port is a community of approximately eight to ten thousand people during the summer, and ten to

thirteen thousand during November through May. It is a developing community in south Sarasota County, between Venice and Port Charlotte on the Southwest Gulf Coast of Florida. It is comprised of many retired persons who have moved from "up north." There are also many young working families who have moved to North Port because of the reasonable rent in south Sarasota County.

Many persons have attended our church; some just visited; others stayed. Crossroads Baptist Church is comprised of both younger families and older couples, with lots of young children, as well as middle-school-aged youth. Over the past year, we have enjoyed several pot-luck dinners and an all-church fellowship at the local softball field and beach. We have a great group of people who bring a diversity of backgrounds and personal experiences to our fellowship. It is exciting!

Our Sunday School consists of three classes: Two for the young people and one adult class. Our morning worship includes a time for

testimonies and prayer requests. Our mid-week Bible study meets in a home. We have also started a Women's Missionary Fellowship that meets monthly for Bible study and missions. We have a leadership team that meets monthly, and the church has a unified budget for 1986. The giving for January and February has been well over budget for which we are thankful.

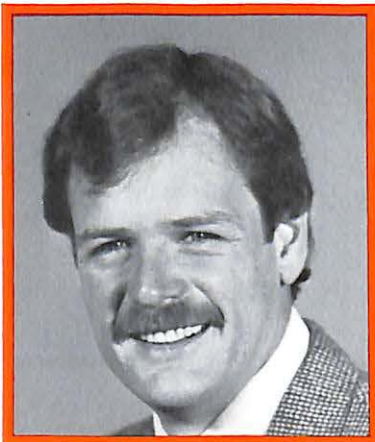
We have had special community events, the first being a movie entitled, "ZAK." We advertised and rented the school cafeteria, but only a few from the community attended. We were blessed by the music team of "New Day" in January, as it ministered to us and the community.

As we look forward to the rest of 1986, we request your prayers on our behalf. We are grateful for our N.A.B. Conference and the support that you give through it. For those of you who winter or vacation in Southwest Florida, take note and come visit us. We are always delighted to have other N.A.B. Christians visit our fellowship.

The scripture that God has given me as we began this ministry in February 1985 is Galatians 6:9, "And let us not be weary in well doing; for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not." The key words are "if we faint not." We are looking to Jesus, and by faith doing His will in North Port, Florida. God is building His Church, as we are obedient in doing His will. We are grateful to God for His many and continued blessings. □

The Rev. Monte Michaelson is pastor of Crossroads Baptist Church, North Port, Florida.





Growing, Struggling, and Achieving in British Columbia

by Harold Neff

The year 1985 has been one of growing, struggling, and achieving. As we enter 1986, we are optimistic about what God is going to do through the ministry of our fellowship in Walnut Grove, British Columbia.

Ours is a new and expanding community bursting with opportunities and needs. Over the past year, we have seen 300 new homes bring about 1,000 new people into our community.

As I surveyed the needs of the people, I have become aware of the people's intense need for friendship. Many who recently moved into this community have not as yet developed any real friendships with their neighbors. For some, this is a result of a lack of time, while for others it is the result of a deep insecurity which inhibits them from going out and meeting people.

This gives our church a great opportunity to become their much needed support system. We desire to reach these people and draw them into a vibrant and nurturing fellowship, one that meets people's needs.

Over the past few months, we have begun to reach some of these objectives by making some inroads into the community. We have seen some entire families make commitments for the Lord, and in the process, we have also developed a nucleus of leadership.

Of course, there are many struggles

in forming a new fellowship. We have probably already faced a good many of these struggles. Yet, along with some of the difficult times, we have also been the beneficiaries of some great rewards. Many of the rewards come from seeing changed lives.

At the present time, we meet in the local community hall. However, one restriction we have is that we can only rent it for two hours on Sunday morning. For this reason, we are actively looking into some other alternatives for the future.

Already we feel that God has

shown us a place to worship, and now we are believing God to make this space available to us. Pray with us that the need will be met. We look forward to seeing God work in this situation as this is an opportunity to build our faith. For this reason, we look forward to 1986 with anticipation and joy. □

The Rev. Harold (Hal) Neff is the pastor of Walnut Grove Community Baptist Church in the Langley/Walnut Grove area of British Columbia.



15 Families in 15 Months in Texas

by Doug Harsch

This has been an exciting year for Flower Mound Baptist Church. Over the last year, we have been praying and continue to pray that God will send one family per month to us. In January, it was exciting to count 15

active families in our Church. It had been exactly 15 months since we had begun our first Bible study in Flower Mound. God is truly answering your prayers.

In October and November 1985, we saw God bring four new families to us. He has continued to show us more families who need His love and care as we have reached out. Families

are inviting friends and neighbors who need Jesus or who are looking for a church home. Our Sunday attendance is now at 40, and we meet in the spacious YMCA.

In January 1986, four couples in the Church attended the Second Phase (seminar) of the Conference's Church Growth Strategy. It was a fantastic challenge and helped us evaluate better how we are reaching out and what principles we can build on to ensure continued growth.

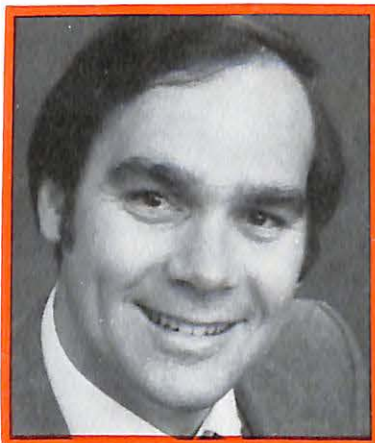
February brought "New Day" and its ministry. They contacted approximately 1,500 homes. Of those 1,500 homes, we will be back in contact with 80 prospective families.

We are in the process of having our Church Constitution approved by the Southern Association. This great experience has drawn us closer together as a Church. We are unified in our goals to grow and establish our purpose for ministry here in Flower Mound. We desire to worship and glorify Jesus Christ in our service and show love for each other and for those who do not know Jesus.

We still have many challenges before us as we grow and mature in Christ. We believe that as you pray for us and God strengthens us, His Church will grow. □



Doug Harsch is pastor of Flower Mound Baptist Church, Flower Mound, Texas.



Doing God's Work in God's Strength

by Don Cantrell

Praise the Lord that we do God's work in God's strength. Although Faith Baptist Fellowship has lost several families this last year, we have maintained an average attendance of 25 in our Sunday morning worship service. I believe the Lord is teaching us that if we're going to reach out to people to minister to their needs, we're going to have to do it in complete dependence on Him, continually looking to Him for wisdom and strength and the power to meet our own needs as well as those of others.

Six members of our congregation in Medicine Hat, Alberta, have made a commitment to be effectively trained to share the Gospel as a result of our vision to reach out in the power of the Word of God. As a result, we are beginning to plant the seed of the Gospel in hearts of people who don't know Christ in our community.

We're emphasizing witnessing as a part of our life-style. We want to build bridges to people so that we can share the Gospel with them. As a result, much spiritual growth has been seen in ourselves, and we have had many opportunities to plant that seed.

We praise God for the three people who responded to the Gospel this past year. Pray that we will effectively disciple these new believers. We're rejoicing in what the Lord is doing, but we need very much to see numerical growth as well as spiritual growth this next year.

A tremendous encouragement to us

has been the substantial support we're receiving from our mother church, Temple Baptist Church in Medicine Hat. Their financial and prayer support as well as their willingness to help us when we need it has encouraged us many times. We praise God for a family of believers whom we can rely on: Temple Baptist Church.

On one of our most encouraging Sundays, we enjoyed the beautiful ministry in song of the musical team from North American Baptist College in Edmonton. Professor Dr. Edwin

Kern brought the morning message. This time together helped to make us feel part of the North American Baptist Conference.

We're looking forward to having a permanent pastor, Rev. Al Unger, on August 1. We thank the Church Growth Department for its assistance in helping us to find a new pastor. □

Mr. Don Cantrell is the interim pastor of Faith Baptist Church, Medicine Hat, Alberta.



Practicing Discipleship—Winnipeg's Inner City

by Harry Lehotsky



February 23 marked the completion of our first year of church services, and there is much excitement as we move into our second year. Despite the absence of a number of our regular attenders, there were sixteen adults and six children with us for worship. These numbers may not mean much to folks accustomed to larger congregations, but for us each person is cause for great rejoicing. Meeting in our home limits our capacity to 30 people, but it has provided an excellent atmosphere for the growth of a "family" type church. We have really felt God's grace in the strengthening of our family and in the growth of the church.

The willingness of group members to take an active part in the ministry has been one of the most encouraging things to see. Most all of the young mothers, seniors, and men have taken a turn in the child care during worship, and thanks to two of our women, there is now a children's Sunday school class during the worship service.

Following the addition of a piano, we have the weekly ministry of a willing pianist. Recently, another member who plays the guitar has offered her talents as well. Several group members offered much creative and editorial help with the publishing of our first newsletter on domestic violence, specifically with photography and word processing skills. Another member helps lead a

community basketball program at the University of Winnipeg.

Participation in our Bible study has always been lively and open, and leadership is shared among a number of members, both male and female. Two of our members have preached on Sunday mornings, each for the first time, and the Lord has blessed through the participation and willingness of each member.

It has certainly been an eventful year for us, and I am excited about the growth God has granted in the members of our church family. In the next few weeks, we will be having our second baptismal service as well as a number of child dedications.

We have been practicing a discipleship based on active involvement and stressing service based on desire and burden, rather than solely on need. We have even begun dreaming about larger facilities which will be needed far sooner than initially anticipated if we continue our present growth rate.

I am thankful for the prayer and financial commitment of the Manitoba Baptist Association, the North American Baptist Conference, and our members. I pray that God would grant each one of you a vision of what it means to be a disciple of Jesus in your communities, so you, too, can experience the joy we have in His work here! □

The Rev. Harry Lehotsky is pastor of New Life Ministries, an inner-city church extension project in Winnipeg, Manitoba.





by Rubin Herrmann

Redeemer Baptist Plans for Growth

of most middle-sized churches is the *active leadership of the congregation*. In large or small congregations, the leadership of the pastor is the key to growth. The key question, then, which we at Redeemer Baptist Church must keep in mind is "Will the membership accept an active role in implementing the strategy?"

In order to inform and buy into this concept, the Task Force meets monthly. Each Sunday bulletin contains some truth that relates to church growth. That idea grew out of a Task Force meeting where it was stated that great concepts can bring change if given in small doses regularly.

We at Redeemer Baptist Church are forming more of the necessary linkage with our community. We realize that the local setting of a church may require adaption to change. One of our newest members began recently to teach an aerobics class each Saturday morning in the fireside room of the Church. Already two neighbors have come and are getting acquainted with the folk of our Church in an informal, non-threatening way. We also help form this connection with our community by meeting specific community needs.

Other needs will be addressed as they surface from our continuing study. As we reevaluate our outreach ministry, we need to use "give and take" and be willing to make trade-offs so that some may be won for Christ.

The pastor is not the only one with new and fresh ideas; the Holy Spirit speaks through the members of His Body. The open exchange of ideas from all persons is important.

On Layman's Sunday, our congregation viewed the film, "But I'm Just a Layman." In response, one layman suggested that a definition for insanity is "to do things in the same old way and expect a new and different result." Another said that he sees the community in which he just built his home (within walking

distance from the Church) as a new mission field for Christ. Surely such attitudes must result in eventual church growth.

The age of the church is significant. The denominations that are showing the greatest growth are those who are beginning the most new churches. New congregations are the most effective single method of reaching people who are without any active church affiliation.

When numerical growth in a church has been on a plateau or declining for years, more drastic measures are often necessary to turn them around. This requires courage, faith, and plain hard work by all and leaves no room for finding a scapegoat to blame. All members must examine themselves to see if they are truly His faithful witnesses (Acts 1:8), delighting in the Word (Psalm 1:2), praying without ceasing (1 Samuel 7:8; 12:23), and growing in the fruit of the Spirit and obediently exercising the gifts of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22).

Not only does the age of the church affect growth, but also studies show that people born before and after 1947 look at life and its values differently. Each church needs to ask how its traditions, customs, and history are shaping its present and future strategy.

As Redeemer Baptist Church's Task Force meets, it is the group's prayer that the Lord will direct in priorities that are biblically sound, compelling, captivating, comprehensive, and creative so that by all means the owner of the Church, Christ, may be glorified and obeyed. Only then will true church growth be experienced. □

The Rev. Rubin Herrmann is pastor of Redeemer Baptist Church, St. Paul, Minnesota. He and some of his church members participated in the Church Growth Strategy Seminars provided by the N.A.B. Conference Church Growth Department.

Urban/Ethnic Task Force Meets: Emphasizes Association Participation

The hot sun scorched the pavement at noon on a July Saturday, but in spite of the heat, shoppers thronged the sidewalks of Bergen Line Avenue in West New York, New Jersey. Conversations buzzed all around me in Spanish and in English. West New York is an old city, but it is thriving and viable, its people youthful and lively.

That steamy day, I would have had no reluctance in hazarding a guess that a church could grow in this densely populated, vibrant city. Other observers—experts in urban ministry from the Center for Urban Theological Studies (CUTS) in Philadelphia—agreed with this casual observation after an in-depth evaluation of the situation.

Because of CUTS' recommendations regarding the First Baptist Church of West New York, I was in New Jersey last July to meet with the Atlantic Association Church Extension Committee. As a result of that meeting, the property of the recently disbanded First Baptist Church, which was started in 1933, was transferred to the N.A.B. Conference. Very soon a new church, whose aim will be to minister in English to second generation Cubans, will be started on that site as an urban church extension project.

This work in West New York is the first tangible result of the work of the Urban/Ethnic Task Force, appointed last year in response to the recommendations on urban/ethnic ministry made by the Urban Study Group and adopted by the Triennial Conference in Anaheim. The Task Force met for the first time since the Conference in January, and formulated goals and priorities for the next three years. We agreed that our purpose as a Task Force was not to "initiate from above" but to serve as a catalyst, an encourager, and a provider of resources for urban/ethnic

ministry, as it arises on the local church or Association level. The rather awkward title, "urban/ethnic" was chosen advisedly; with the continuing influx of immigrants into North America, there are many opportunities for specialized ethnic ministries outside of urban areas. The Task Force sees its scope as including ministry that is urban or ethnic or both.

The Task Force hopes to serve as catalyst in part by encouraging the formation of Association level Urban/Ethnic Task Forces. These would function as subcommittees of Association Church Extension Committees. Their agendas would include working with the numerous churches in transitional situations, discovering opportunities for ethnic ministries, and initiating new urban/ethnic projects. Each Association moderator and Area Minister has been contacted by the Task Force, and their assistance has been enlisted in the formation of these Association Task Forces.

The Task Force hopes to serve as an encourager and a resource for urban/ethnic ministry partly through the sharing of information. Many of our Conference churches are already involved in effective urban/ethnic ministries. You will soon be reading about these in the *Baptist Herald* and hearing about them through speakers available for Association meetings, camps, conferences, and retreats. The Task Force is working with N.A.B. College/Divinity School and N.A.B. Seminary to assist them in providing opportunities for training in urban/ethnic ministry. Finally, all of the resources discovered by the old Urban Study Group and by the Task Force will always be available on request to any interested party.

If you are interested in urban/ethnic ministry, the Task Force encourages you to get involved in making something happen in your local church and Association. I believe that at Anaheim our conference delegates agreed that urban/ethnic ministry is



by David Wick

simply one of the things we do. To that statement, the Task Force adds, "Amen! Now let's do it!" □

The Rev. David Wick is chairman of the Urban/Ethnic Task Force of the Church Growth Department and is pastor of Grosse Pointe Baptist Church, Grosse Pointe Woods, Michigan.

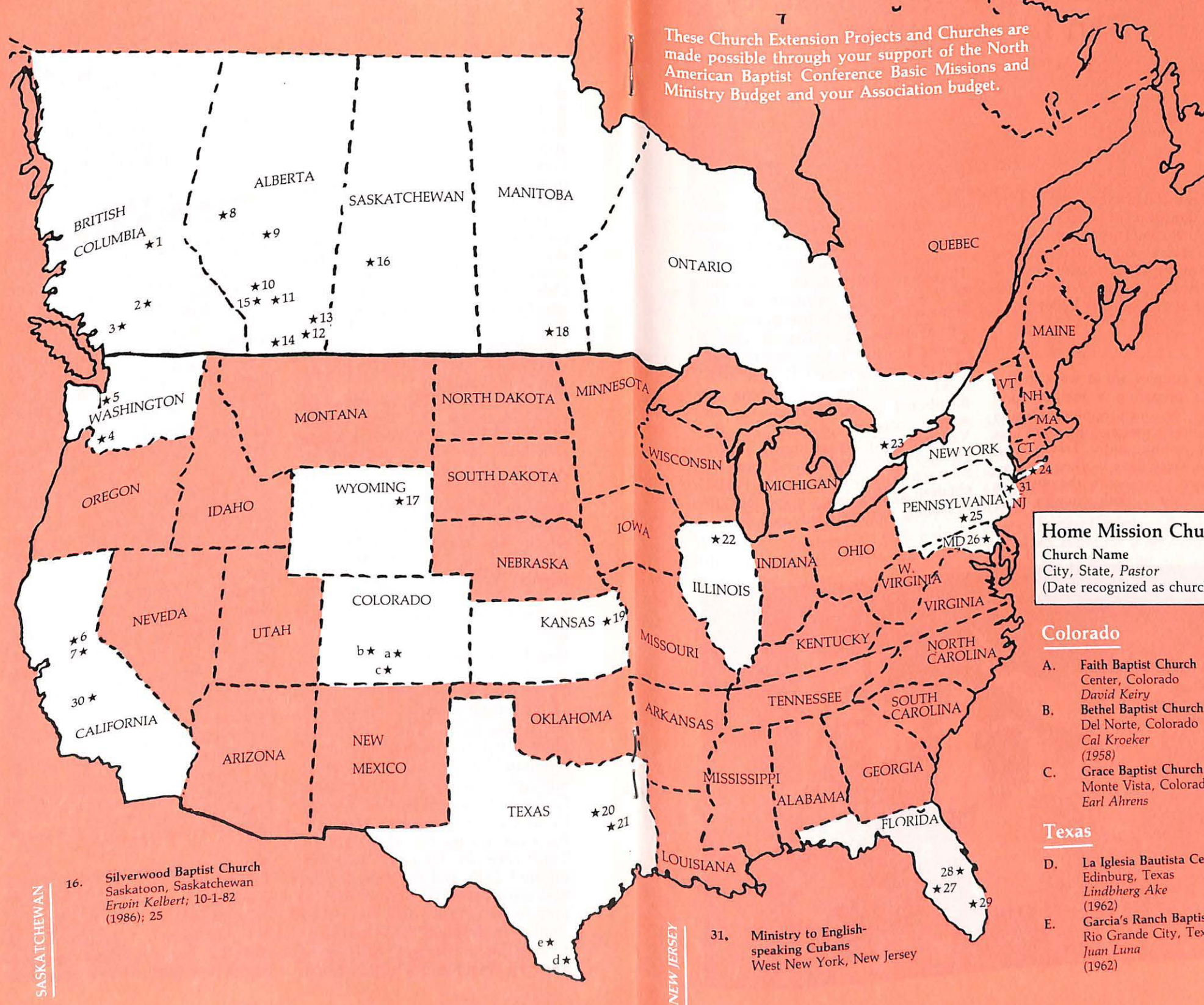
Members of the Urban/Ethnic Task Force Committee are the Reverends David Wick, Grosse Pointe Woods, MI; James Correnti, Philadelphia, PA; Harry Lehotsky, Winnipeg, MB; Fred Sweet, Elk Grove Village, IL; Fred Jantz, Stockton, CA; Bernard Fritzke and Ray Harsch, Church Growth Department; Heinz Rossol, Woodside, NY; Mark Wollenberg, Vancouver, BC; and George Lang, Sioux Falls, SD.

Pray for Our Church Extension Commitments

KEY: (as of January 1, 1986)
Church Extension Projects or Churches

Church Name
City, State
Pastor; Date Project Started;
(Year recognized as Church);
Average 1985 Attendance.

These Church Extension Projects and Churches are made possible through your support of the North American Baptist Conference Basic Missions and Ministry Budget and your Association budget.



BRITISH COLUMBIA

WASHINGTON

CALIFORNIA

ALBERTA

SASKATCHEWAN

NEW JERSEY

WYOMING

MANITOBA

KANSAS

TEXAS

ILLINOIS

ONTARIO

NEW YORK

PENNSYLVANIA

MARYLAND

FLORIDA

1. Hartland Baptist Church
Prince George, British Columbia
Cliff Pedersen; 7-1-80
(1982); 110
2. Summit Drive Baptist Church
Kamloops, British Columbia
Werner Lemke; 1-1-81
(1983); 58
3. Walnut Grove Baptist Church
Langley, British Columbia
Hal Neff; 1-1-86
(-); 25
4. Cascade Park Baptist Church
Vancouver, Washington
Phil Yntema; 7-1-80
(1982); 168
5. Timberline Baptist Church
Lacey, Washington
Larry Neufeld; 1-1-80
(1982); 132
6. Oak Hills Baptist Church
Folsom, California
Kent Carlson; 1-1-85
(-); 56
7. Twin Oaks Baptist Church
Stockton, California
Greg Myers; 6-1-85
(-); 87
30. Church Extension Project
Pleasanton, California
John Emmons; 3-25-86
8. Whitecourt Baptist Church
Whitecourt, Alberta
Edwin Broadway; 1-1-82
(-); 60
9. Sunrise Baptist Church
Red Deer, Alberta
Douglas Bittle; 10-1-81
(1984); 68
10. Faith Community Baptist Church
Airdrie, Alberta
Harold Weiss; 11-1-81
(1985); 79
11. Community Baptist Church
Beiseker, Alberta
Bob Hoffman; 1-1-81
(1983); 50
12. Community Baptist Church
Taber, Alberta
Dennis Liesch; 1-1-81
(1983); 39
13. Faith Baptist Fellowship
Medicine Hat, Alberta
Don Cantrell (interim); 1-1-85
Al Unger begins 8-1-86
14. Westview Baptist Church
Lethbridge, Alberta
Jim Erb; 7-1-82
(1983); 69
15. Crowsnest Community Baptist
Blairmore, Alberta
Dale Dreger; 1-1-79
(1980); 46

16. Silverwood Baptist Church
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan
Erwin Kelbert; 10-1-82
(1986); 25

31. Ministry to English-speaking Cubans
West New York, New Jersey

17. Gillette Baptist Church
Gillette, Wyoming
Craig Holmes; 1-1-79
(1982); 110

18. New Life Ministries
Winnipeg, Manitoba
Harry Lehotsky; 1-1-85
(-); 12

19. Faith Community Baptist Church
Lenexa, Kansas
Anthony Salazar; 1-1-79
(1981); 30

20. North Carrollton Baptist Church
Carrollton, Texas
Bob Walther; 1-1-79
(1981); 76

21. Flower Mound Baptist Church
Flower Mound, Texas
Doug Harsch; 1-1-85
(-); 34

22. Cornerstone Baptist Church
Carol Stream, Illinois
Stephen Patrick; 11-1-83
(1984); 73

23. Faith Baptist Church
Mississauga, Ontario
Gary Ostercamp; 1-1-82
(1983); 56

24. Middle Island Baptist Church
Middle Island, New York
Henry Wilk; 1-1-79
(1982); 82

25. Gettysburg Baptist Church
Gettysburg, Pennsylvania
Bill Mummert; 1-1-83
(-); 39

26. Shady Grove Baptist Church
Gaithersburg, Maryland
Jim Arends; 1-1-85
(-); 17

27. Crossroads Baptist Church
North Port, Florida
Monte Michaelson; 1-1-84
(-); 32

28. Orlando Project
Orlando, Florida
Jake Leverette; 1-1-86

29. Community Baptist Church
West Boca Raton, Florida
Paul Meister; 1-1-80
(1983); 63

Home Mission Churches

Church Name
City, State, Pastor
(Date recognized as church)

Colorado

- A. Faith Baptist Church
Center, Colorado
David Keiry
- B. Bethel Baptist Church
Del Norte, Colorado
Cal Kroeker
(1958)
- C. Grace Baptist Church
Monte Vista, Colorado
Earl Ahrens

Texas

- D. La Iglesia Bautista Central
Edinburg, Texas
Lindberg Ake
(1962)
- E. Garcia's Ranch Baptist Church
Rio Grande City, Texas
Juan Luna
(1962)



Preparation and Opportunity in the San Luis Valley

by Roger Cauthon

To have a successful outcome to any endeavor, it is said that preparation must meet opportunity. Just to have opportunity is not sufficient because one would not be ready or prepared to meet the challenges. Just to be prepared is not sufficient because the opening for one's work may never come. But when one has adequately prepared, and the open door of ministry presents itself, God is able to use people and churches for successful growth of His Kingdom.

The San Luis Valley of southern Colorado is at the meeting point of preparation and opportunity. The prayers of many people for a number of years are at the point of being answered.

Let me share with you the preparation for ministry that has been done and is being done in the San Luis Valley, and then let me share the opportunity for ministry now. With these in our minds, we can pray for a harvest of people for God's Kingdom to come from the San Luis Valley.

The North American Baptist Conference has worked in the San Luis Valley for three decades. The focus of the ministry has been the large Hispanic population in this the world's largest Alpine valley. Reaching the Hispanic community has taken years of preparation. The economic hardships of many workers, migrant workers, cultural barriers, poor housing, and little or no medical assistance have all been

obstacles that had to be faced. Add to these a dimension of racial unrest between Anglo and Hispanic and an element of radical politics, and you have a sense of the difficult task facing the North American Baptist Conference workers in the San Luis Valley.

Three couples are at work in this area preparing a ministry and praying for open opportunities to bring Christ's message. Earl and Lois Ahrens along with David and Priscilla Keiry have worked for over 20 years at overcoming the obstacles in the Valley. Both couples have

churches that are functioning while they address issues like sub-standard housing, medical care, family breakdowns, and food distribution. The city of Monte Vista has the stamp of the Ahrens' ministry in the numerous low cost housing units that are available. The Baptist Health Center touches many people, particularly in the maternity care area. Food commodities and clothing are distributed by both couples in the several counties making up the Valley. The Keiry's are known as people who have counseled and cared for numerous children and foster children as they bring a special type of healing to these needy people.



The Rev. Roger Cauthon is chairman of the San Luis Valley Missions Committee and pastor of Meadow Hills Baptist Church, Aurora, Colorado.

Cal and Deanna Kroeker are the newest couple working in the Valley. Cal pastors the Del Norte Church which has allowed David Keiry to concentrate his work at Center, Colorado. Last year, our N.A.B. Women's Missionary Fellowship helped in the purchase of a new facility for Del Norte. This year, the Southwestern Association and a work crew of N.A.B. people from California and Alberta under the direction of Darrell Schuh, Elk Grove, CA, will make this facility an even better ministry center for the Del Norte area.

While all of the preparation continues, we begin to look eagerly for opportunity. The opportunity of summer camping for children and young people looks to be the best ever. The opportunity for greater leadership in the churches to come from growing, young Hispanic believers is now presenting itself. The opportunity for successful evangelistic meetings in each of the cities is anticipated. The opportunity of the

Southwestern Association holding its annual meeting in the San Luis Valley will come this summer. This can bring great encouragement to the local people and a renewed challenge to the Association itself. The opportunity of a new Christian school is being talked about for a new outreach tool. The opportunity of church growth by means of active discipleship and teacher training is planned. The opportunity of greater social movement by means of job training and skill enhancement is quite possible. The opportunity of medical care for needy people continues to grow as God provides resources and personnel.

The years of preparation were needed, and preparation continues. The excitement is that the opportunities are also now appearing. Pray much that God in His sovereign will allows the dedicated preparation to meet the ripe opportunities in the Valley. Now is the time for a harvest of believers. Now is the time for the San Luis Valley of Colorado. □





WOMEN of HOPE

reaching our world

Caring for the Kids

by Sara Pasiciel, WMF president, Steinbach, MB



When we returned from Cameroon, we were so busy coping with our own readjustments that we didn't realize what our children were going through. It was only as they grew older and were able to express themselves, that they were able to tell us the difficulties they had experienced during "reentry" into North American culture.

This Mother's Day we're taking an offering designated for the education of missionary children on all of our fields. Some of those children attend mission schools; some are learning by correspondence; others are in national schools. All of them are in a unique situation.

A missionary to France told me of a term which has been coined for missionary kids, or MKs . . . that term is Third Culture Kids, or TCKs. These are children and young people who have passports for one country—usually the U.S.A. or Canada—but who live, often have grown up in, another country. They have no clear sense of where they belong, and in a sense, then, have their own "third" culture. If someone should ask them the seemingly simple question, "Where are you from?" it would take some thought to answer.

Some missionary moms have shared with me some of the following disadvantages, then some advantages, of being an MK or TCK:

Among the disadvantages is the sense of rootlessness—where do I belong? In the country where his parents are ministering, he is considered "American"—yet in North

America, she is often looked at as "that foreign kid." Some see TCKs as having a chronic sense of sadness because of so many goodbys in their lives—to friends and relatives at home and to familiar cultures; to missionary friends who serve, then move on; and then to adopted countries and cultures. TCKs have also been characterized as being "out of phase" in terms of normal social growth—this may not be all bad by any means; it may refer to such things as having different values from other North American teens, or to the fact that they usually relate more naturally and easily to adults than to their peers. But when they are in their "home country" among others their age, they are seen as different.

There are definite advantages to being a TCK, however. Who else at that age has had exposure to different cultures and world views, has "felt" as well as heard the news stories, the history and geography in their school texts? Who else has opportunities to learn other languages and the cultural knowledge this opens to them? Who else is quite so involved in their families' ministry, so that they often clearly see God at work in their parents' lives, but also in the lives of unchurched and persecuted people? And no other children or teens seem quite as accepting and tolerant of others—they themselves have been the "outsiders."

This month, let's reach out and touch our own missionary children—through our prayers, through our Mother's Day offering, and

possibly through some special contacts, such as letters, kilo packages, and cards. Remember in prayer the handful who find it difficult to cope with the frustration caused by their circumstances. Remember also those who, in turn, become effective missionaries, a calling for which they are uniquely qualified and prepared! And pray for their parents, who seek wisdom in making decisions regarding education, relationships, and the development of family ties in a special situation of service.

Cycles

by Janet M. Baker, Wheaton, IL

I began as Daughter. My earliest memory is of my two sisters and me, all dolled up in those ruffly, full-skirted nylon dresses, the kind you wore with three or four layers of net petticoats to make it stick out and also to make sure you would never do anything so rash as to play in it. The occasion was a wedding reception down at the Veteran's Hall on the corner. I remember how my mother sparkled as she showed us off to her friends.

I also remember a yellowed newspaper clipping tucked into my baby book. It shows my smiling mother pushing my sisters and me on the swings at the schoolyard two blocks down. A Chicago Tribune

reporter had just happened by to memorialize our time of fun.

And fun was something my mother really knew how to concoct. Whether it was as simple as packing a lunch to eat out on the picnic bench in the backyard, or playfully splashing us with the garden hose, or giving us her old clothes and shoes, but especially her jewelry, to use in playing dress-up, all the kids on the block knew they could count on my mom.

But little girls grow up. And teenagers go out on dates with boys. I remember Mommy always waving goodbye at the window as I walked out the front gate. And I remember her waiting up to kiss me good-night, when I got home again.

And I will never forget the last time I walked out that front gate as her little girl, as we left home to go to the church where I would be married. I remember the tears in her eyes and the joy in her heart as half the neighborhood gathered on the sidewalk, oohing and aahing as I floated to the car in my long white dress and train.

Not long after that, cycle two began. I became Mother. There is a strange "rite of passage" that accompanies the birth of your first child. It's like the world finally treats you as a fellow adult. Nowhere is this more apparent than in the mother/daughter relationship. I was still her daughter, but now I was a mother, too. We were both Mother.

Those first months of my daughter's life were a challenge to me. When it came to babies, I was quite naive. I hadn't thought past the charming little infant napping in her lacy basket. Sleepless nights, spit-up milk, and urgent doctor visits had never intruded into my dream world.

But Grandma more than met the challenge. She came to stay for a while when we came home from the hospital. She knew how to do everything, and she really seemed to like doing it, even changing diapers. She invited us over almost every Sunday after church. Often Grandma would take charge of baby and say to us, "Why don't the two of you go out

for a while this afternoon?"

I guess most women enjoy being grandmothers. But for my mother, who had lived most of her life with a rare disease and had prayed every night that God would enable her to live long enough to see her children grow up, being alive to see her first grandchild was a total delight.



I remember Christmas and Jennifer's face as she stared at the huge tree on Grandma's back porch, trimmed with a million multi-colored lights. And my mother, pointing out the special ornaments and telling her the story behind each one. And the snow falling outside and Frosty the Snowman . . .

All too soon, we came to cycle three. The clock was winding down. I was still mother to my daughter, but more and more now, I seemed to be playing mother to my mother. I remember the first time I reached for her elbow to help her cross a slippery parking lot. Or when I hopped up to wait on her, and it was her house. Or having lunch with her and telling her what to order.

Then there was that trip to Disney World. Dad and Mom were going there on vacation, when she fell and hit her head on a cement step. The paramedics took her to the hospital when a routine blood test for admission led to a diagnosis of leukemia.

I remember the hospital room. I remember holding the hand that once routinely held mine to cross the street

and whispering in her ear, "You'll be O.K. The doctors know what they're doing." Had she ever said those words to me?

I remember helping her eat a meal and thinking about how many times she must have spooned food into my mouth. I remember helping her sit up so she could sip from a glass and marveling over how light she was getting. She, who used to marvel over how big I was getting, was wasting away.

And then there came the afternoon when neither one of us could deny it anymore. Alone with her, I had to introduce the subject. "Mommy," I whispered, "are you afraid of dying?" She couldn't speak, but turned to me with tears in her big, but oh so sunken, eyes. And I talked to her. I talked to her about Jesus' love and about how He was waiting for her and about how we would all be together again someday in heaven. I talked and she listened. And when I finished talking, she whispered, almost inaudibly, "I know" and drifted off to sleep.

We had come full circle. I was Mother now. As she had taught me and helped me to face life, now I was the one to remind her of what she had taught me and help her to face death. That was our last conversation. The next day, she slipped into a coma and two days later, her spirit soundlessly left her body for its eternal home. I was Daughter no more.

But the cycle continues. I am still Mother to my daughter. Someday, maybe she will have a daughter and she, too, will be Mother. And one day, she will probably mother me. God is in His heaven, all's right with the world.

CORRECTION:

In the January/February issue of the *Baptist Herald* Mrs. Vesti Merke's picture was substituted for that of Peg Helland, pictured above.



**Higashi Muko Church—
Its Building a Miracle**

KYOTO, JAPAN. Reimer and Nobuko Clausen, missionaries in Japan, continue to rejoice in how God has provided a building for the Higashi Muko congregation.

"It's still hard for me to believe that our church building has been completed, and we are able to have all of our activities in it. It is almost too beautiful, too wonderful, to believe," writes Nobuko.

"Reimer and I were expecting a lot of money from abroad, but almost nothing came. I did not understand this. I kept asking God why He didn't move the people, rich people in North America, to give. Instead, God worked in the literally poor people of our small, weak Church.

"God shook the pastor and his wife first, and the 'shaking' fell over to Reimer and me. When our two families decided to give what we had, the whole congregation decided to give sacrificially.

"The people are very poor, a few older widows and a few students, who can only give five to ten dollars. The Sunday school children gave what they received for New Year's or birthday presents."

"The money just poured in," reports Reimer. "In half a year, a group of about 30 people gave over \$100,000 in cash! A miracle! The Church ended up with a surplus in its building fund."

"Everything was the result of a miracle," adds Nobuko. "When the building project started, a large plot of land was found at half the regular price. This was a direct answer to prayer as we thought we could only afford a small piece of land. The necessary money came in within two months.

"Equipment and furnishings were also provided at low cost. For example, the air conditioners were less than half price. We got two huge vacuum cleaners for the cost of one—we paid for one, and they

gave us the second as a present. Although everything was a bargain, the quality is very high."

"I am impressed with the talent God has given the small Higashi Muko Church, especially in art and music," states Reimer. "One of the ladies of the Church made a fantastic stained glass window in the shape of a cross for the new church building."

"It's really just like the boy's five loaves and two fish in Jesus' hands," says Nobuko. "I believe that God was happy to see us give what we could, and He blessed it, and it multiplied." □

**100 Attend
Church Dedication**

KYOTO, JAPAN. "Before Christmas, I was extremely busy, taking care of many details for the new church building, Christmas, and field secretary's work," reports Reimer Clausen. "I was so busy I neglected my devotional time and my sermon preparations also suffered from lack of time.

"During this time, I also felt I should make a special effort to invite people for Christmas because

this is always a good evangelistic opportunity.

"The Higashi Muko Church printed about 10,000 flyers advertising its Christmas activities. We spent hours and hours distributing them, even handing them out early in the morning in the cold and snow at the train stations. I personally visited about 40 homes of people I knew and invited them for Christmas.

"The result was that *nobody* came because of the flyers, *nobody* whom I had invited came!

"At first I was very disappointed. But the services were all very well attended. Over 100 people attended the Sunday afternoon program of music and pageants. The new building, which seats 150, was full.

"These people were all friends and relatives of church members, and people invited by others. The Lord showed me that I didn't have to be so busy. It was as if He said, 'You don't have to run around like that. Spend more time with Me in fellowship and devotions. Prepare your sermons well. I have others who can bring people to the Church.'"



**Steier Finds Ministry as
a Missionary and Mother**

"How can a young missionary wife fulfill her desire to have an active ministry while caring for small children and making a happy home in a very different culture?" asks Judy Steier, missionary who has recently finished in language school in Kobe, Japan.

During Judy and her husband Alan's two years of Japanese language study, Judy has often wondered about this seemingly impossible task. Over the past months, the Lord has given her an interesting insight. She says, "My ministry during our family's formative years need not be away from home but can most naturally be *through* it."

Going to the park with her daughter Jennifer has given her many opportunities to talk with other mothers as the children play. "As friendships have developed," Judy says, "it's easy to invite them over for tea and more conversation. In a culture where the crowded living arrangements make entertaining at home very rare, an invitation to someone's home—and a foreigner's home at that—is an interesting offer.

"My biggest encouragement has been through a friendship with a woman named Taiko. After getting together several times, the Lord opened the door for a discussion of spiritual things. Taiko said she had tried to read the Bible while in college, but with no background in Christianity, she couldn't understand it at all. She would like to know the truth, but with so many people claiming to have found it through their different religions, she didn't know where to start."

Judy offered to study the Bible with her, and Taiko eagerly accepted. Since then they have met a number of times. "It's exciting to see the Holy Spirit unveiling the deeper truths of Scripture," says Judy. Taiko often says, "I've never

thought about anything like this before!"

Taiko is a busy mother of two and is now returning to work as a pharmacist. "My greatest concern is that she'll feel she has no time to continue studying the Bible," says Judy. "In a country where making a choice to be different is costly in many ways, it's easy for people to conveniently schedule Bible study out of their lives when the claims of Christ begin to sink deep into their hearts."

Pray for Taiko and the many young Japanese women like her. Pray that Judy and other missionary wives will be able to faithfully serve our Master from their homes while bringing up children who also love and serve Him.

**Medical Doctor Needed for
Mbingo, Cameroon, Hospital**

The general hospital of Mbingo Baptist Hospital in Cameroon has only 50 beds, but in 1985, 2,500 people were admitted and treated. This resulted in about 95 percent occupancy. Close to 450 surgeries were done, and 20,000 patients were treated in the outpatient department.

In addition to this, in the Hansen's Disease Hospital, which is connected with the general hospital, patients with leprosy are treated. Outpatient clinics are held in Bamenda and Yaounde, and three maternity centers are located in remote areas.

Pray for medical doctors to replace Dr. and Mrs. Ken Jones while they are on furlough beginning this summer. This is a great need.

**Non-working Vehicles Cause
Frustration for Missionaries**

MBU, NIGERIA. "Can five

vehicles be out of commission at one time?" asks Missionary Minnie Kuhn serving in Mbu, Nigeria. "That is impossible you say! No, it can happen and it did.

"Just when we needed our vehicles for our first Field Bible Conference, there was only one working, and Missionary Barbara Kieper had that one out on primary health care clinics," says Minnie. Here is the story:

- 1) The old medical vehicle would not start.
- 2) The Mambilla Baptist Theological School vehicle was completely out of service: It needed a new coil, condenser, new rings, muffler, carburetor, and fuel pump.
- 3) The General Administration vehicle would not run, and the muffler exploded.
- 4) Petrol was leaking into the oil so the vehicle needed a new fuel pump.
- 5) The Theological Education by Extension Land Rover would not keep running; the accelerator cable broke, and there were no new ones.

What was left? The new Land Rover provided through capital funds by Colonial Village Baptist Church in Lansing, MI. It, too, sputtered, spit, and blew balls of fire out of the exhaust. Exciting, to say the least.

What was wrong? Diesel plus something else in the fuel was the one common denominator. What frustration! The vehicles are working now after replacing two mufflers, one fuel pump, rings, and improvising an accelerator cable. These are some of the frustrations in the lives of missionaries in Nigeria. Pray for a layman-in-action person to repair the vehicles and to train nationals for this.

Minnie Kuhn is field secretary for our Mission on the Mambilla Plateau in Nigeria and teaches at the Mambilla Baptist Theological School in Mbu, Nigeria.

Compelled to Serve

Trochu Church Holds Seminars

TROCHU, AB. Trochu Baptist Church held a seminar for deacons in the area, Feb. 21-22, 1986. Dick Paetzel, vice president and professor of New Testament, North American Baptist College, Edmonton, spoke.

The Church also held a seminar for Sunday school teachers, Feb. 28-March 1, 1986, using the "Successful Teaching Series" by Moody Bible Institute of Science.

"Many attending these seminars went home feeling they could serve the Lord more effectively and with more confidence," reports June Haller.

Salt Creek Church Reaches Out to Unchurched Children

DALLAS, OR. Salt Creek Baptist Church recently purchased a second van. Both Church vans are used to bus unchurched children who live in area foothills to the Salt Creek Church, where the "King's Kids" meet every Wednesday evening for singing, Bible study and games.

"After making a survey of this area, we discovered many children living on back roads and in secluded areas who never attend church. The response has been excellent. When 'parent night' is scheduled, many parents attend," reports Esther Breitzkreuz.

“After surveying the area, we discovered many children living on back roads and in secluded areas who never attend church.”

Cooke Speaks at Sidney Church

SIDNEY, MT. The Rev. Ralph Cooke, North Central Area Minister, delivered two messages on Sunday, January 12, at First Baptist Church. On Monday evening the church met informally with Rev. Cooke. He also discussed how the North Central Area works together with the different Conference departments. On Tuesday evening, he showed slides of Cameroon, where his daughter, Lois, and son-in-law, Dale Fuchs, serve as N.A.B. missionaries. —*Gladys Tibbits*

Missions Conference Held in Rapid City

RAPID CITY, SD. South Canyon Baptist Church held its annual missions conference Jan. 31-Feb. 6, 1986. N.A.B. missionaries Allan Effa, Sue Krier and Rod Zimmerman, and John Nfor, Cameroonian pastor studying at N.A.B. Seminary, participated.

South Canyon, Gillette (WY), and Mountain View (Spearfish, SD) Baptist Churches held a banquet at the Mountain View Church Saturday night.

Other special events included a ladies' brunch, men's breakfast and several home meetings with the missionaries. —*Maxine Bettenhausen*

Fossens Welcomed Back to Central, Edmonton

EDMONTON, AB. Central Baptist Church welcomed back the Rev. and Mrs. Terry Fossen on Sunday evening, Jan. 12, 1986. The Fossens had served at the Mambilla Baptist Theological School in Nigeria for nine months. Central Baptist paid for their trip to and from Nigeria and provided for their salary while there. They also hired an interim youth pastor during their absence.

Terry showed slides and enthusiastically talked about their duties at the School.

One highlight of the evening was singing two African songs. Terry and Tammy demonstrated numerous musical instruments, which they had collected. As different people played the various instruments, the congregation joined in clapping and singing "African-style."

Terry challenged the congregation with Luke 12:48: "And from everyone who has been given much shall much be required . . ." "The Christians in Africa are able to do much with so little; surely with all our resources we should be able to do so much more," states Kurt Remus.

Youth Raise Money for Camp

FLOWER MOUND, TX. The youth group of Flower Mound Baptist Church, consisting of junior high to college-age young people, has been very active. They held a car wash to help raise money for youth camp held in New Waverly, TX.

"Camp was fun, and it gave us an opportunity to meet other young people within our North American Baptist Conference," says Amber L. Hill.

The youth group hosted "New Day" Jan. 29-Feb. 9, 1986. "This Church is now one year old and consists of 15 active families," reports Amber. "Without the help of the Southern Association and N.A.B. Conference, this would not be possible. We praise God for all of you who are supporting us with prayer and finances. Come, visit us."

Commissioned to Witness

12 New Members Welcomed at West Fargo Church

WEST FARGO, ND. Grace Baptist Church welcomed 12 new members recently at a Sunday morning worship service. Pastor Kent McKinnon baptized three of these persons. All 12 people gave their testimonies before the church. —*Desire Morton*

Five Welcomed into Springside Church

SPRINGSIDE, SK. Pastor Richard Grabke baptized four persons at Springside Baptist Church recently. Following the observance of the Lord's Supper, five people were welcomed into the church. —*Christel Derow*

Five Join Hudson Bay Park Baptist Church

SASKATOON, SK. Recently, three persons became members of Hudson Bay Park Baptist Church after being baptized. Two persons were received earlier by letter of transfer. "It is a joy to see the evidence of changed lives," says Pastor Walter Foth.

Beulah and Washburn Have Awana Fair

BEULAH, ND. The Awana Clubs of Washburn and Beulah had their first joint Awana Fair recently at Immanuel Baptist Church. Mr. and Mrs. Arlo Neis, Awana missionaries, were special guests. About 90 children attended, and four accepted Christ as their Savior.

"The Awana Olympics were held April 12 in Beulah. This included all the Awana Clubs in Northwestern North Dakota," reports Rose Voegele.

Seven Baptized at Regina Church

REGINA, SK. Seven people were baptized at Faith Baptist Church and received as new members.

The Rev. Richard Quiring is pastor of the Church. —*Vera Rosom*

Four Baptized at Arnprior Church

ARNPRIOR, ON. Four persons were baptized at First Baptist Church on Jan. 19, 1986. They, along with six others, were welcomed into the Church by Pastor Phil Zylla. —*Dorian Getz*

Three Baptized at Chilliwack Church

CHILLIWACK, BC. Three persons were baptized at Evergreen Baptist Church during the New Year's Eve service. —*Norma Ostberg*

Four Youth Baptized at Grace, Kelowna

KELOWNA, BC. Pastor LeRoy Moser baptized four young people at Grace Baptist Church, Feb. 2, 1986. —*Dorothea Fuhrmann*

Three Baptized at Salt Creek Church

DALLAS, OR. Salt Creek Baptist Church witnessed the baptism of three young men who received the hand of fellowship the following Sunday, March 2, 1986. The Rev. George Breitzkreuz is pastor of the Church. —*Esther Breitzkreuz*

Commanded to Care

Effa Challenges Kansas Church about Missions in Nigeria

ABILENE, KS. Missionary Allan Effa spoke on the N.A.B. mission work in Nigeria during the morning worship service at Ebenezer Baptist Church, Jan. 26, 1986.

"During the fellowship meal that followed, each one made a commitment to love and care for one another at home and abroad," says Reva Lutz.

The afternoon service, conducted by the LMF, began

with a processional of youth who carried plaques bearing the names of each of the N.A.B. mission fields. They placed these on the platform.

"By his messages, vocal solo, slides, and most of all, his presence, Allan Effa brought us a clear vision and new knowledge of the N.A.B. mission work in Nigeria. We were challenged to give and be committed. We thank God for missions and our call to be part of it," reports Reva Lutz.

“During the fellowship meal, each one made a commitment to love and care for one another at home and abroad.”

Six Couples Dedicate Children

VANCOUVER, BC. Six couples dedicated their infant children to the Lord at Ebenezer Baptist Church. Dr. Arthur Boymook is pastor of the Church. —*Irene Frers*

65 in Rochester Focus on "Caring" at Retreat

ROCHESTER, NY. Latta Road Baptist Church sponsored an all-church family retreat with the theme, "Growing Through Caring—A Family Celebration—'86" recently.

The retreat included seminars on "Hospitality," "Evangelism," "Love and Listening," and "Strengthening Family Life." Over 65 people attended and participated in these learning opportunities.

Two films in the Chuck Bradly film series by the American Institute for Church Growth were also featured. Pastor Marc Maffucci closed the weekend with a message on "The Adventure of Christianity."

"We truly praise the Lord for the way we are 'Growing through Caring,'" states Hilda Metzger.

Central Church Responds with Food for Homeless Teens

EDMONTON, AB. On Sunday, Feb. 23, 1986, the congregation of Central Baptist Church learned of an urgent need and responded immediately.

Cindy Radke, church member and volunteer worker at the Youth Emergency Shelter (Y.E.S.), appealed to the Church for food donations. Y.E.S., which provides emergency housing for over thirty 16 and 17-year-olds, would not be receiving its regular food donations for two weeks.

Responding to Jesus' words in Matthew 25:35, "For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat . . ." the congregation brought hundreds of pounds of fresh, canned, and frozen foods by the evening service. Several people also gave generous cash donations for the purchase of fresh meats and whatever else was still needed.

"The food was delivered that evening and throughout the week to a very surprised and grateful Y.E.S. staff who were overwhelmed by such a response," reports Kurt Remus.

The Rev. Terry Fossen is interim senior pastor of the Church.

Committed to Give



Jamestown Church Finds Unusual Ways to Retire Debt

JAMESTOWN, ND. The Rev. Raymond Hoffman (pictured) fulfilled a promise to the congregation of Temple Baptist Church by eating his lunch on the Church roof this winter. He said he would do so when the Church retired a \$4,000 debt and burned the mortgage. The congregation enjoyed their dinner in the Church dining room.

Temple Baptist Church has set a goal of becoming debt-free in 1986. A special event is planned for each level of giving achieved. These have included an all-church breakfast; a special coffee featuring the "Joyful Noise Quartet," four monotone men; and a spaghetti supper.

Trustee Doris Geidt, the only female trustee, has promised that if the Church pays off its debt to the N.A.B. Conference by a certain time, she will chop a hole in the ice at Jamestown Dam and jump in.

Every Sunday, people add change to a scale in the Church foyer to help reduce the debt.

"These things are a bit unusual," reports Leona Meisch, "but there is a happy feeling among the people right now, and our debt is shrinking. We thank God for people who are so willing to give of themselves."

Called to Worship

Trochu Church to Celebrate 75 Years of Ministry

TROCHU, AB. Trochu Baptist Church is planning to celebrate its 75th anniversary on July 4-6, 1986. With the theme being "Rooted and Grounded in the Lord," they are looking back and rejoicing at all the Lord has done for them as a Church. "Anyone who has been affiliated with our Church is invited to come to help us celebrate and praise God," says June Haller.

Central Youth Have Special "Glimpse of Glory"

EDMONTON, AB. Young people at Central Baptist

Church meet after the Sunday evening service for a time of worship called "A Glimpse of Glory." Initiated over a year ago by the Rev. Terry Fossen, associate pastor, attendance averages 50-60 people.

"While most youth enjoy spending Sunday evening getting together for fellowship, the main purpose of 'A Glimpse of Glory' is meant primarily for worship, adoration and praise," states Kurt Remus.

Many people state that this is a time to "recharge their batteries" to face the week ahead. As word of "A Glimpse of Glory" spreads, it continues to grow weekly with people even coming from other city churches.

“ Youth at Central meet after the Sunday evening service for a time of worship called 'A Glimpse of Glory.' ”

60 Youth Attend Kansas Retreat

HOPE, KS. "Back to Basics" was the theme of the Kansas BYF Mid-Winter Retreat held Jan. 18-19, 1986. Sixty young people and sponsors attended the retreat co-hosted by First Baptist Church of Dickinson County and Ebenezer Baptist Church, Abilene.

The Rev. Lee Trotter, Kansas City Youth for Christ, spoke on Bible study, prayer, witnessing, and commitment. Trotter, Mark Kohman, and the Rev. Perry Kallis led workshops.

Saturday afternoon was spent in games and sports activities. The evening featured a "Mystery Dinner," Bible quizzing, and special music. On Sunday, the youth viewed a video on dating during the Sunday school hour. —F.B. Church

Discipleship Conference Held at Fountain Valley

FOUNTAIN VALLEY, CA. Fountain Valley Baptist Church held a conference on Christian discipleship recently. Some junior high and high school young people were among the 53 persons who attended the sessions led by Bill Mills of Personal Ministries.

The conference focused on the Beatitudes, seeing how Jesus taught his disciples and gaining a better understanding of what it means to be a disciple. "Most who attended felt personally ministered to and felt that some familiar Scripture passages had new meaning for them," reports Marilyn Barker.

Eight Join Cheektowaga Church

CHEEKTOWAGA, NY. Pastor Bernard Thole baptized four young people at Temple Baptist Church during the New Year's Eve service. They and four adults joined the Church and participated in the observance of the Lord's Supper.

"A lone candle glowed at the beginning of the communion service. Another candle was lit after each testimony was given. Soon the room glowed with light, symbolizing the light and love of the Lord," says Mrs. George Hartman.

HERBERT ENGEL (76), Turtle Lake, ND; born March 24, 1909, to John and Caroline Engel; died Jan. 8, 1986; married Marie Hirschhorn Gross in 1961; member, Turtle Lake (ND) Baptist Church; survived by his wife Marie; two sons: Dellas Gross, Morristown, SD, and Alvin Gross, McClusky, ND; two daughters: Joyce (Mrs. Rodney Podahl), Landa, ND; and Ida (Mrs. Joe Dugan), Zap, ND; 14 grandchildren; 8 great-grandchildren; one brother, Arnold; and six sisters: Helen Kluck, Lillian Zumbaum, Ruth Gessele, Ethel Gessele, Esther Higgins, and Lorraine Werner; Rev. Lynn Heinle, pastor, funeral service.

RUTH IRENE ENGLER (61), Randolph, MN; born May 9, 1924, to Herbert and Lulu Wilder; died Feb. 1, 1986; married Leonard Engler, Aug. 22, 1948; member Randolph (MN) Baptist Church; predeceased by her parents and one brother, Howard Wilder; survived by her husband Leonard; three sons: Steven, Randolph, MN; John, Randolph, MN; and Herbert (Celia), Faribault, MN; one daughter, Carol, Randolph, MN; one grandson; and three aunts: Florence Berry, Grace Goslee, and Helen Dralle; Danny Van Gerpen, pastor, funeral service.

RUTH FIEDLER (70), Turtle Lake, ND; born June 13, 1915, to Frederick and Maria Schalo; died Jan. 5, 1986; married Herbert Fiedler in 1943; member, Turtle Lake (ND) Baptist Church; survived by her husband Herbert; two sons: Wesley, Minot, ND; and Jerry, Bismarck, ND; one daughter, Patricia (Mrs. Paul Thacker), Dayton, OH; four grandchildren; and one brother, Gust Schalo; Rev. Lynn Heinle, pastor, funeral service.

OTTO FIESEL (80), Fessenden, ND; born Jan. 26, 1906, to Henry and Theresa Fiesel at Tabor, ND; died Jan. 28, 1986; married Helen Zuber, Sept. 30, 1930; attended Rochester Baptist Divinity School and graduated from Central Baptist Theological Seminary; ordained, 1932, at Martin (ND) Baptist Church; served as student pastor at Rose Hill, MO, and Lyndon, KS (1930-32); served as pastor of the following North American Baptist Churches: First, Fessenden, ND (1932-34); Hilda, AB (1934-37); Trochu, AB (1937-41); First, Sidney, MT (1942-55); Washburn, ND (1955-59); Selfridge, ND (1961-65); and First, Mercer, ND (1965-69); served as pastor at Temple Baptist Church, Cheyenne, WY (1959-60); retired in 1971; served 10 years in interim pastorates; survived by his wife, Helen; two daughters: Myrna (Mrs. Bill Cripe), and Marilyn (Mrs. Clayton Rothmann); four grandchildren; one brother, Albert; and one sister, Violet; Reverends Dan Berger, R. Cook, Bill Keple, and M. Holge, pastors, funeral service.

AGNES GAETZKE (94), North Freedom, WI; born Oct. 4, 1891, to John and Fredricka (Grosinske) Seils, in North Freedom, WI; died Dec. 25, 1985; married John Gaetzke, May 27, 1914; who predeceased her, Dec. 5, 1966; member, North Freedom (WI) Baptist Church for 82 years; predeceased by one son, Robert (Bud), Oct. 20, 1954; two sisters; and three brothers; survived by two daughters: Rita Faivre, North Freedom, WI; and Leah (Mrs. Dean Paulisch), Brodhead, WI; one son Erwin (Marcella), Baraboo, WI; one daughter-in-law, Phyllis (Mrs. Paul Endres); one foster daughter, Freda Stombaugh; ten grandchildren; 12 great-grandchildren; one brother-in-law, Carl Borck; and one sister-in-law, Golden Seils; Rev. Arnie Kirschner, pastor, funeral service.

MARY B. HILL (55), Okeene, OK; born March 11, 1930, to Hubert and Dolletta Dodson, Hinton, OK; died Jan. 15, 1986; married George Hill, June 1, 1948; member, Zion Baptist Church, Okeene, OK; survived by her husband George of Okeene; four sons: Ken, Woodward, OK; David and Richard, Okeene, OK; and Wesley, Enid, OK; her parents; seven grandchildren; one brother, Jack Bucheit; two sisters: Eva Dene Zollars; and JoAnn Scheurer; and one step-brother, Edgar Goodman; Rev. Elton Kirstein and Dr. Robin Cowin, pastors, funeral service.

EDWARD F. KRUEGER (74), Elkader, IA; born Nov. 26, 1911, at Elgin, IA; died Jan. 1, 1986; married Charlotte Borchardt, Feb. 22, 1934, who predeceased him; member, First Baptist Church, Elgin, IA; predeceased by his brother Lyle and sister Esther Odell; survived by four children: Carlton; Barbara (Mrs. Kent Nydegger); Allen; and D'Lene (Mrs. Steve Baldwin); grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; one brother, Kenton; and one sister, Lillian; Rev. Norman G. Miller, pastor, funeral service.

THEODORE LANG (90), Emery, SD; born July 26, 1895, to Carl and Elizabeth Lang in Hutchinson County, SD; died Dec. 25, 1985; married Martha Jucht, May 13, 1920, who predeceased him in 1981; member, officer, Sunday school treasurer, Plum Creek Baptist Church, Emery, SD; survived by one son, Raymond, Mitchell, SD; one daughter, Evelyn (Mrs. Bert Litterman); nine grandchildren; 14 great-grandchildren; eight sisters: Leah (Mrs. Rudi Mogck); Lydia (Mrs. Gus Radel); Emma (Mrs. Otto Hanssen); Annie (Mrs. Walter Jucht); Rose (Mrs. Harry Johnson); Clara (Mrs. Henry Sampson); Lillian (Mrs. Ed Oschner); and Maxine (Mrs. Paul Hurley); and many nieces and nephews; Rev. Steve Vetter, pastor, funeral service.

IRENE MAIER (nee Konrad) (44), Edmonton, AB; born April 20, 1941, in Neuvorwerk, Warthegau; died Feb. 12, 1986; married Jakob Maier, Feb. 18, 1961; member, Zion Baptist Community Church, Edmonton, AB; survived by her husband Jakob; one daughter, Sylvia (Mrs. Erwin Warkentin), Winnipeg, MB; one son, Roland; two grandchildren; her mother, Wanda Konrad; two sisters: Barbara and Eva; and one brother, Rev. Heinrich Konrad; Rev. Henry Goliath, pastor, funeral service.

GEORGE NEUBERT (74), Pick City, ND; born July 18, 1911, to Frederick W. and Eva K. (Brandenburger) Neubert, in Morristown, MN; died Feb. 20, 1986; married Juanita Mohler in 1939 in Hudson, IA; graduated from Northwestern Bible College and Seminary and Augsburg College (1944); served as pastor at the following Baptist Churches: First, Bessie, OK (1944-1951); Westside, Beatrice, NE (1951-1964); and Immanuel, Beulah, ND (1964-1976); served as visitation pastor at Bismarck (ND) Baptist Church (1977-1982); since his retirement in 1982, served as interim pastor at numerous churches in the south central North Dakota area; member, First Baptist Church, Underwood, ND; predeceased by his parents, one son, and one sister; survived by his wife Juanita; two daughters: Lois (Mrs. Helmut Rueb), Seattle, WA; and Juanita (Mrs. Dennis Mitchell), Wheatland, WY; one son, George, Jr., Lincoln, NE; five grandchildren; one great-grandchild; one brother, Fredrick; and three sisters: Adeline Piepho, Mildred Harms, and Alma Swedberg; Reverends Wesley Gerber and M.D. Wolff, pastors, funeral service.

CLARA REGIER REIMER (75), Corn, OK; born Dec. 25, 1910, to Jake and Minnie Hiebert Regier; died Jan. 26, 1986; married Rufus Reimer, Aug. 11, 1970, who predeceased her on Aug. 9, 1979; member, Calvary Baptist Church, Corn, OK; survived by three sisters: Tena Regier; Minnie (Mrs. Eugene Reimer); and Alvina (Mrs. J.R. Bergman); and three brothers: Jake (Martha), Henry (Frieda), and John (Shirley) Reiger; Reverends Edwin Voigt and John Flaming, pastors, funeral service.

HAROLD WILLIAM ROSOM (61), Regina, SK; born May 9, 1924, to John and Anna Rosom near Davin, SK; died Dec. 27, 1985; member, former Edenswold Baptist Church; member, officer, Davin Baptist Church, and Faith Baptist Church, Regina, SK; predeceased by his parents; survived by four sisters: Claudia McCarthy; Esther (Dan) Paul; Edna Kramer; and Irene (Giles) Paul; three brothers: Edmund (Ruth) McLean; twin Arthur; and Milton (Elaine); and many nieces and nephews; Rev. R.L. Quiring, pastor, funeral service.

anniversaries

Roy and Hazel Watkins celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary recently. They are faithful, active members of Temple Baptist Church, Leduc, AB.

Adine and Franz Lau of Evergreen Baptist Church, Chilliwack, BC, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on Jan. 4, 1986.

Mr. and Mrs. Karl Schmuland of Windsor, ON, celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary, Jan. 5, 1986. They are former members of Fenwood (SK) Baptist Church.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Johnson of Ellsworth, MN, celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on Feb. 9, 1986. They are members of First Baptist Church, George, IA.

85th Anniversary Celebration of the Century Meadows Baptist Church Camrose, Alberta August 22-24, 1986

We invite all former members, friends, and families to our celebration.

Special Events
Get Acquainted, Friday evening
Bus Tour & Supper Banquet, Saturday
Special Anniversary Service, Sunday, 2:30 p.m.

Pastor Larry Froese

90th Anniversary of the Ashley Baptist Church Ashley, North Dakota August 9-10, 1986

Former members and friends are invited to attend and share in the time of celebration.

Inquiries contact
Pastor Allan Gerber
Box 184
Ashley, North Dakota 58413

Invitation to Worship In British Columbia

Planning to Vacation in British Columbia or Attend Expo '86?

If so, you are cordially invited to worship in one of our North American Baptist Churches in the area:

Evergreen Baptist Church
45592 Wellington Ave.
Chilliwack, BC, V2P 2E6
(604) 792-3988

Rev. Leonard Strelau, pastor

Mary Hill Baptist Church
2145 Nova Scotia Ave.
Port Coquitlam, BC, V3C 1A5
(604) 942-9221

Rev. Dieter Gohl, pastor

Rose of Sharon Baptist Church
5771 Granville Ave.
Richmond, BC, V7C 1E8
(604) 277-4947

Rev. Ervin Strauss, pastor

Sunshine Ridge Baptist Church
6230 - 120 St., Scott Rd.
Surrey, BC, V3W 3M4
(604) 594-5512

Jim Calamunce, associate pastor

Bethany Baptist Church
115 E. 50th Ave.
Vancouver, BC, V5X 1A4
(604) 327-1013

Rev. Ulrich Laser, pastor

Ebenezer Baptist Church
6858 Fraser St.
Vancouver, BC, V5X 3V1
(604) 324-7674

Dr. Arthur Boymook, pastor

Immanuel Baptist Church
109 E. 40 Ave.
Vancouver, BC, V5W 1L6
(604) 327-4010

Rev. Richard Hohensee, pastor

Pilgrim Baptist Church
6075 Inverness St.
Vancouver, BC, V5W 3P8
(604) 327-4545

Walnut Grove Community Baptist Church
Langley, BC
(604) 888-0964

Rev. Harold Neff

congratulations

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

Temple Baptist, Calgary, AB; Rev. Heinz Schoenhoff, pastor; Mr. Alex Hoffman, agent.

Creston Baptist, Rev. Fred Moore, pastor; Mrs. Margaret Johnson, agent.
Salt Creek Baptist, Dallas, OR; Rev. George Breitkruez, pastor; Mrs. Eugene Villwock, agent.

Rosenfeld Baptist, Drake, ND; Rev. Vernon Schneider, pastor; Mrs. Bennie Martie, agent.

First Baptist, Ellinwood, KS; Rev. Randy Kinnison, pastor; Mrs. Dale Hartig, agent.

First Baptist, Fessenden, ND; Rev. Daniel Berger, pastor; Mrs. Marvin Koenig, agent.

First Baptist, Goodrich, ND; Rev. Craig Perry, pastor; Mrs. Freda Raue, agent.

Hilda Baptist, Hilda, AB; Rev. Herbert Bachler, pastor; Mr. Lester Zeller, agent.

First Baptist Church of Dickinson County, Hope, KS; Rev. Chester Strobel, pastor; Mr. Bob Linder, agent.

An Expression of Appreciation

Dear Church and Conference Family:

It would be impossible for us to thank all of you personally who gave us such loving support at the time of Dan's death. We received cards, letters, phone calls, and notices of a gift to the Dan Leverette Memorial Scholarship Fund from churches and individuals across our N.A.B. Conference. Words are inadequate to express our gratefulness to you. Please know that we love you for all that you have done.

Many have inquired of all of us as a family, but particularly of Julie and Ryan, Dan's wife and baby son. We are all adjusting and in the midst of our sorrow finding God's promises to be true. His grace is sufficient, and His strength is enough for each day.

God bless you all. We love you and thank God for you.

The Leverette family
(Formerly of Burlington, ON, now of Orlando, Florida)

what's happening

Twenty new pastors and wives participated in two days of orientation to the mission and ministries of the N.A.B. Conference on February 26-27 at the International Office in Oakbrook Terrace, IL. They were Rev. and Mrs. Theodore Bretz of Dayton, OH; Mr. Pat Clarey, student, Trinity Seminary; Dr. William Curling, Donna, TX; Rev. and Mrs. Dennis Eingenburg, Dallas, TX; Rev. and Mrs. Larry Kelley, Junction City, KS; Phillip Kirsch, Renton, WA; Rev. and Mrs. Kenneth Raphael, Lodi, CA; Rev. and Mrs. Arlie Rauch, Columbus, NE; Rev. Charles Rowe, Tacoma, WA; Rev. Jes Tarp, Buffalo Center, IA; Rev. Scott Weisser, Brookfield, WI; Rev. and Mrs. Jerry Winkley, Lorraine, KS; Mr. Steve Trampe and Rev. David Masterson of Brookfield, WI.

Because of a delay in Mrs. Al Grams' obtaining her U.S. citizenship before crossing into Canada, the Rev. and Mrs. Al Grams have made the decision not to follow through in their acceptance of the call to pastor Pilgrim Baptist Church, Vancouver, BC, as was previously announced in the *Baptist Herald* and printed in the 1986 N.A.B. Directory. Rev. Grams is available for a pastorate in the U.S.A.

Mr. John Emmons, a December 1985 graduate of the North American Baptist Seminary, Sioux Falls SD, has been engaged by the Northern California Association to do survey work for a new church extension project in that Association. Pray for the Lord's leading in the selection of the site.

Mr. James Liske has accepted the position of Associate Pastor at Woodland Shores Baptist Church, Bridgman, MI, effective 1986. Liske, a 1986 graduate of North American Baptist Seminary, Sioux Falls, SD, will be in charge of Christian education, music, and youth ministries.

Treschwig Baptist Church, Spring, TX, concluded its ministry as of February 23, 1986. The Church ministered for approximately nine years in a community that has now become economically depressed. The Rev. Daniel L. Heringer has served this Church for the past three years. The Southern Association is surveying new areas so they can "replant" this church in another city. Pray for them as they make this decision.

Mr. Ron Stiger, former Director of Church Ministries at Colonial Village

Baptist Church, Lansing, MI, was ordained to the Christian ministry by Bethel Baptist Church of Kerkhoven, MI, which he now pastors.

Mr. Gary McClenthen is the new associate pastor at Bethel Baptist Church, Getzville, NY. He previously served with Senior Pastor Elwin Colson in Illinois.

A Church Growth Seminar led by the Rev. Ray Harsch of the Church Growth Department will be held in Hamilton, ON, on May 9-10. Two recent seminars were held in Vancouver, BC, on April 25-26 and in Prince George, BC, April 27-28.

The Rev. Norman Dreger resigned as Associate Pastor of Parkdale Baptist Church, Spruce Grove, Alberta, where he has served since 1983.

In June 1986, Chaplain MAJ LeRoy Kiemele is being reassigned to St. Lewis, WA, from Germany, where he has been serving as the pastor to the Protestant congregation of Drake-Edwards Chapel, Custodian of the Chapel's Fund, and Chaplain Advisor to the Protestant Women of the Chapel and Protestant Men of the Chapel. His wife Joanne and daughters, Shelley and Karyn, have returned to their home in Ft. Lewis, WA.

The Rev. Norris Helms resigned as pastor of Mountain View Baptist Church, Chino, CA, effective March 31, 1986. He has served this Church since its beginning in 1982.

Mr. Neal Effa has been serving as interim pastor of Temple Baptist Church, Swan River, MB, since March 1, 1986.

Mr. William Kresal became interim pastor of First Baptist Church, Bellwood, IL, on March 9, 1986. Mr. Kresal is Associate Director of Business and Personnel, North American Baptist Conference.

The Rev. Randy Battey became pastor of Victor Baptist Church in Iowa on March 2, 1986.

The Rev. Richard Methner became pastor of Dorchester Drive Baptist Church, Erie, PA, on March 1, 1986.

Dr. John Hisel has accepted the pastorate of McDermot Avenue Baptist Church, Winnipeg, MB, effective June 1, 1986. He has served Apple Valley Baptist Church in Minnesota since 1984.

Mr. Grant Opland resigned as Assistant Pastor of Youth and Christian

Education at Grace Baptist Church, Grand Forks, ND, to go into secular work.

The Rev. Glen Gerber resigned as pastor of Bethel Baptist Church, Cherokee, OK, effective Feb. 2, 1986, to retire in Arizona. He has served this Church since 1981.

Mr. Kenneth Barrett is the Minister of Youth at Fellowship Baptist Chapel, Sterling Heights, MI.

The Rev. John F. Kaufield became pastor of Napier Parkview Baptist Church, Benton Harbor, MI, effective March 1, 1986. He previously served Robinson Baptist Church, Grand Haven, MI.

Mrs. Erlean Broadway, wife of the Rev. Ed Broadway, pastor of the church extension work in Whitecourt, Alberta, died on February 5, 1986 after a long bout with cancer.

The Rev. Christopher Creech is studying for his Ph.D. degree at a seminary in Fort Worth, TX. Upon completion of this program, he and his family intend to return to an N.A.B. church. Rev. Creech was the founding pastor of the Faith Baptist Church, Mississauga, ON, the church which he served before beginning his advanced studies.

Pastor Paul Brannon of Sidney, MT, has earned a Masters Degree in Theology. First Baptist Church, where he serves as pastor, celebrated this occasion in January.

The Rev. Norman Vernon becomes interim pastor of Ebenezer Baptist Church, Detroit, MI, effective May 1, 1986. He has served as interim pastor and pastor of Bloomfield Hills Baptist Church, MI, for over four years.

The Rev. Jack Fullard of London, ON, died on Jan. 21, 1986. He served Trinity Baptist Church, Warren, MI, for seven years and as interim pastor of Grosse Pointe Baptist Church, Grosse Pointe Woods, MI, and First Baptist Church, Arnprior, ON.

Don Harder was installed as pastor of Oak Bank Baptist Church, Oak Bank, Manitoba, on February 3. Area Minister Sig Schuster was guest speaker at the service.



baptist public affairs

Baptist Joint Committee Adopts Infiltration Position

by Kathy Palen

WASHINGTON (BPA)—Noting an emerging pattern of government insensitivity to the rights of churches, the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs has adopted a position statement on government infiltration of churches.

The infiltration statement was approved during the annual meeting of the Baptist Joint Committee, which is made up of 42 members representing eight U.S. Baptist denominations.

In addition to approving the position statement, the committee also authorized a task-force study on the teaching of religion and values in public schools, adopted a proposed budget for 1986-87 and heard reports on ongoing work by Baptist Joint Committee staff.

In its position statement, the committee pointed to an increased willingness of the government to infringe upon the free exercise of religion and to intrude into churches without regarding separation of church and state.

According to the statement: "The BJCPA condemns the use of paid informants, undercover agents, and surreptitious tactics by any government agency investigating religious organizations as improper and illegal when less intrusive means of investigation or fact gathering are available. We lament the chilling effect upon worship, prayer, faith, and fellowship freely exercised when worship services are invaded through the use of electronic eavesdropping equipment. We abhor government agents' fraudulent use of the name of Jesus Christ to gain access to the

household of faith."

The task force that drafted the position statement was set up last year following a report on alleged church infiltration by U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service agents and paid informants, who tape-recorded worship services in Phoenix, Tucson and Scottsdale, Arizona.

The position statement also calls upon Baptists to be alert to government intrusion into churches and to report any such intrusions to the Baptist Joint Committee.

A proposed resolution introduced by Albert Lee Smith, a Southern Baptist Convention representative from Birmingham, Alabama, sparked the authorization of a task force study on the teaching of religion and values in public schools.

Smith's resolution, which cited a research study conducted by Paul Vitz for the National Institute of Education, called for recognition of the lack of references to "the history, heritage, beliefs, and values" of religion in American social studies and history textbooks. Smith also asked the committee to "affirm that religion has made a valuable contribution to the formation and development of our country and that it still does today."

Following discussion on the proposed resolution, Robert Tiller, director of governmental relations for the American Baptist Churches, USA, called for the formation of a task force to study the issues raised by Smith's resolution. Tiller's motion was approved by the committee with one dissenting vote.

In other business:

The committee adopted a proposed 1986-87 budget of \$598,200.

James M. Dunn, Baptist Joint Committee executive director, presented a report on denominational Bible chairs at state universities. Dunn said the Baptist Joint Committee is working with Phil D. Strickland, director of the Christian Life Commission of the Baptist General Convention of Texas, in developing guidelines that would maintain such chairs in that state without violating the First Amendment. The need for such guidelines was precipitated by an opinion issued last year by Texas Attorney General Jim Mattox expressing the view current practices involving Bible chairs on campuses of state universities in the state run afoul of the First Amendment's establishment clause.

The committee heard a progress report concerning representation on the Baptist Joint Committee. Currently, the committee's governing board includes 11 representatives from the American Baptist Churches, USA; two, Baptist General Conference; three, National Baptist Convention of America; two, National Baptist Convention, USA Inc.; three, North American Baptist Conference; three, Progressive National Baptist Convention Inc.; three, Seventh Day Baptist General Conference; and 15, Southern Baptist Convention. □

capital funds

Capital Funds Pay Off College/Divinity School Library Debt

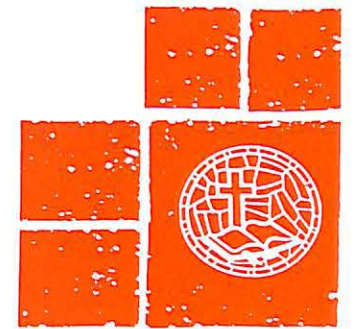
The beautiful and functional Schalm Memorial Library at the North American Baptist College and Divinity School was completed in the summer of 1980. This Library provides sufficient space to house 100,000 volumes. Present acquisitions stand at more than 37,000 volumes so there is adequate space for future expansion and development. The library, which provides a conducive atmosphere for study, is widely used by students, pastors, and constituents.

At the time that the Capital Funds Drive was initiated, a total of \$735,500 had already been received towards the total cost of

\$885,500 for the Library. The balance of \$150,000 was borrowed with one of our Edmonton churches providing a loan of \$100,000 and the balance being borrowed from our school's operating fund.

A total of \$167,000 has been received from the Capital Funds Drive to date. This has enabled us to pay back the loan and to replenish the operating fund which was in a deficit position until December 1985. We rejoice greatly to be able to announce that the Library is now debt-free. A mortgage-burning ceremony will be held during the days of our Bible Conference in July 1986.

We sincerely thank each individual and church for your participation in the Capital Funds Drive. Your contribution enables us to provide quality training for the young people of our churches. Their future ministry will be enhanced because of your faithfulness. —J. Walter Goltz, president, North American Baptist College and Divinity School, Edmonton, Alberta



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