

Baptist Herald

April 1987

33 Words *That Can Change A Life*

God Sent His Son
They Called Him Jesus
He Came To Love, Heal
And Forgive.
He Lived And Died
To Buy
My Pardon,
An Empty Grave
Is There To Prove
My Saviour Lives.

written by William J. and Gloria Gaither. © Copyright 1970 By William J. Gaither used by permission

Conference Executive Committee Meets and Reaffirms Goal of \$4,665,000 for 1987

At its February 1987 meeting, the Executive Committee of the North American Baptist Conference reaffirmed the June 1986 decision of the General Council to set the Basic Mission and Ministry Budget goal at \$4,665,000. The Executive Committee did set a working budget of \$4,465,000 so that expenditures will be kept at this level or below depending on actual income. Any income over the \$4,465,000 will be distributed to all Departments of the Conference as well as the schools. This plan provides the opportunity to again go forward where we have had to hold back in overseas missions, church planting, and theological education during the last two years.

"God has blessed our people with the resources," said Ed Sardachuk, finance committee chairman. "If our church members would at least tithe, we would exceed all of our goals."

"During 1986, \$605,291 in N.A.B. dollars was received for Capital Funds," Dr. Connie Salios, campaign director, told the Committee. From this amount, the Executive Committee decided to distribute \$43,000 to the North American Baptist College and Divinity School; \$113,000 to Overseas Missions for purchase of land or construction of church buildings in Brazil, Japan, and Philippines, for a radio evangelism building in Cameroon, and a library and assembly hall at Mambilla Baptist Theological School in Nigeria; \$185,000 to Church Growth for a new church building in Edinburg, Texas; resources for declining churches; assistance for new churches planted through Judean ministries; and assistance for urban/ethnic ministries; and \$185,000 to the Conference Budget Operating Reserve.

Distribution from 1986 Capital Funds giving to Associations for

special projects within Associations totalled \$172,531.

The Growth Budget of \$1,086,183, formerly called specials, was increased by \$25,000 to extend a missionary couple's ministry in 1987.

The Executive Committee took action to recommend to the General Council the nominees for the Conference Resolutions Committee and the Constitutional Change Committee. The names will be reported as soon as the individuals are appointed and have agreed to serve.

It was also reported to the Executive Committee that the theme for the 42nd Triennial Conference to be held in Calgary, AB, July 26-31, 1987, will be "Come Together—Renew the Vision."

The following Executive Staff at the North American Baptist International Office were reappointed through May 31, 1990: Al Keller, associate director of data processing; Phil Pucek, assistant director of data processing; Sara Redlich, accounting supervisor; and Art Helwig, associate director of communications.

The Executive Committee, composed of Mr. Ernie Radke, Calgary, AB, chairman; Rev. Harvey Mehlhaff, Minneapolis, MN; Mr. Milton Hildebrandt, Minneapolis, MN; Mr. Edmund Sardachuk, Calgary, AB; Dr. Peter Fehr, Minneapolis, MN; Rev. Eugene Kern, Fair Oaks, CA; and Dr. John Binder, Oakbrook Terrace, IL, will meet again May 7.

On the front cover of this magazine, you read 33 words that can change a person's life. Around the world today, North American Baptist Conference missionaries are sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ with thousands of people who have never heard of salvation through Jesus Christ. Become or continue to be a part of their work for the Lord by participating in the 1987 Easter Missions Offering. Give so that others may live, too.

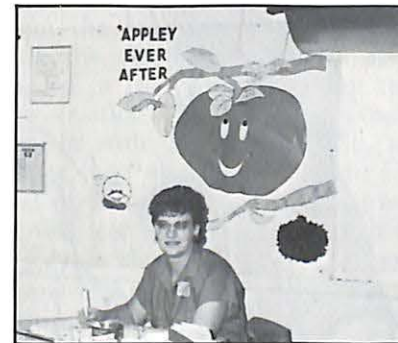
1987 Easter Missions Offering Goal \$325,000

Articles

- 2 Conference Executive Committee Meets and Reaffirms Goal of \$4,665,000 for 1987
- 4 The Scandal of Grace
Arthur G. Patzia
- 6 When the Church Becomes Our Family
Jim Leverette
- 8 Grosse Pointe Baptists Serve in Texas
David Wick
- 10 We Pray—God Answers
Ginny Smith
- 12 Century Baptist—A Caring, Sharing Church
Martin Spargo
- 14 A New "Discovery"
Connie Schroeder
- 16 Caring Expressions Evidenced in Our Churches
- 17 Detroit '87
Singles Conference
- 26 The Many Faces of Japan
Nancy Folkerts



8



15



22

Departments

- 19 Church Growth Tips
Ray Harsch
- 19 "New Day"
Harv Hait
- 20 Mission News
Florence Miller, Pat and Oryn Meinerts, Wendy Vogt, Ralph and Martha Nelson, Douglas and Sharon Woyke
- 22 Women of Hope
Ruth Barnes, Jenelle Muri, Sara Pasiciel
- 24 Biblical Imperatives in Action
- 27 In Memoriam
- 28 Reaching for Glory
Harvey Mehlhaff
- 29 What's Happening
- 30 Congratulations
- 31 Capital Funds

Barbara J. Binder, editor
Marilyn Schneider, editor's assistant
Melissa Miller, subscriptions fulfillment
Nancy Lennick, contributing editor,
"Women of Hope"

BAPTIST HERALD (USPS 042560) (ISSN-0 005-5700) is published monthly (except January/February and July/August bi-monthly) by the North American Baptist Conference, a binational conference of churches in Canada and the United States, 1 So. 210 Summit Ave., Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181. Phone: (312) 495-2000. Second class postage paid at Villa Park, IL 60181 and at additional mailing offices, and registered as Second Class Mail under permit #9327 at Norwich, Ontario.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES in the United States—one year \$8.00; two years—\$15.00; Canada—one year \$10.50; Church Family Plan (United States)—\$6.00, (Canada)—\$8.00; Single copy (US\$)—\$1.00; foreign subscription (US\$)—\$16.00 one year.

ADVERTISING RATE: \$8.00 per inch single column (2 1/4 inches) black and white. OBITUARIES: \$8.00 US Funds, to accompany obituary; (100 word limit).

CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Six to eight weeks notice required for change of address. Furnish effective date and address label from recent issue. Send address change to *Baptist Herald* Subscriptions, 1 So. 210 Summit Ave., Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181. Member of Evangelical Press Association.

News reported and views expressed are not necessarily the position of the North American Baptist Conference (Printed in the U.S.A.)

The Scandal of Grace

by Arthur G. Patzia

During a recent Bible study on the doctrine of grace, the words of Isaiah 55:8-9 took on new meaning for me ("For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways says the Lord . . ."). I was struck by the number of times that God acted in unexpected ways. In most situations, He dealt with people differently than we do or than we may have been treated by members of the Christian community ourselves.

Frequently, God's judgments and actions seem inappropriate because they do not conform to our patterns of justice, retribution, and grace. In fact, God's gracious activity appears to be downright scandalous.

Why, for example, did God choose a "scoundrel" and "trickster" like Jacob to be the head of the twelve tribes of Israel instead of the honest and hardworking Esau? How is it possible that Noah, after "hitting the bottle" and shamefully exposing himself in his tent, can go down in history as a righteous and blameless individual?

Moses clobbers an Egyptian so hard that he kills this person and then seeks to cover up this evil deed by burying the body in the sand. Yet God chooses a breaker of the sixth commandment and uses him to lead the Israelites from Egypt to the Promised Land. Even a harlot like Rahab makes it on the honor roll of saints (Hebrews 11:31).

The election of the Israelites to be God's holy and covenant people seems to be something of a scandal. True, they could be religious at the best of times, but when it came to being secular, they could put any heathen nation to shame. We see that God's grace prevails. He tolerates their weakness, forgives their transgressions, and permits them to remain His covenant people.

Beyond these examples, there is that sinful and sordid affair between David and Bathsheba. Lust culminates not only in adultery but also in the murder of Uriah. Yes, David does suffer personal consequences for his actions (2 Samuel 12:7ff.). Furthermore, what could possibly be worse than to have the memory of such a transgression permanently etched in one's conscience (Psalm 51:3)? But David cries out in repentance (Psalm 51:1-2); God forgives and cleanses him (2 Samuel 12:13); he remains in God's favor and goes on to write many other Psalms that we enjoy and treasure. God does not remove him from his kingship, and Solomon, a son born out of that relationship (2 Samuel 12:24), grows up to become one of the most wise,

powerful, and wealthy kings of Israel and the entire Ancient Near East.

While there are many more examples of such "scandalous" acts of grace in the Old Testament, it is in the New Testament where this is even more revealing. This is particularly true in the life and teaching of Jesus who established a pattern of love and grace and forgiveness that was rather scandalous because it ran counter to the accepted religious norms of spirituality.



John 8:1-12, for example, tells a story about some Scribes and Pharisees bringing an adulterous woman to Jesus. In spite of running the risk of being misunderstood or considered "soft" on the law, Jesus did not feel obligated to condemn this woman to punishment by stoning as the law permitted and as her accusers desired. Instead of giving this woman "what she deserved," Jesus simply turned to these self-righteous religious administrators of the law and said: "Let him who is without sin

"Jesus established a pattern of love, grace, and forgiveness that was rather scandalous because it ran counter to the accepted norms of spirituality."

among you be the first to throw a stone at her" (v. 7). He refused to condemn the woman publicly and instead said, "Go, do not sin again" (v. 11). Scandalous, isn't it!

This incident is not too different from the encounter that Jesus had with the woman at the well as recorded in John 4. Throughout their conversation, Jesus gently exposes her sin without condemnation, and rather than abandoning her to feelings of doubt, rejection, and unworthiness, He restores her through the grace that He offers, and she becomes a powerful witness for Him when she returns home.

Jesus does act in strange and unexpected ways, doesn't He? He eats with publicans and sinners even at the risk of criticism and censure from the religious establishment. "What do you do with a man," writes Rebecca Pippert, "who is supposed to be the holiest man who has ever lived yet goes around talking with prostitutes and hugging lepers? . . . It is a profound irony that the Son of God visited this planet, and one of the chief complaints against Him was that He was not religious enough" (*Out of the Saltshaker*, p. 40).

In Jesus, we have a person who shows more concern for one lousy sheep than for the other 99 who are safely in the fold and had enough sense not to wander off in the first place. He prepares a banquet and waits for His invited guests to show up only to discover that they had other priorities (Luke 14:15-23). No, our Lord does not cancel the party, issue rain checks, or re-schedule dinner. He simply tells His servants to go out into the "skid rows," "charity wards," and "soup kitchens," and find some other guests who will join Him at the banquet table and in the singing of "Amazing Grace."



Another striking example of grace is from the parable of the Prodigal Son (Luke 15:11-23). This is a story so contemporary it could have been written yesterday. We know the scenario: Younger son grows up, gets restless, sees a big and exciting world out there to explore, feels that his parents don't understand him, and believes that he can have a better life away from home. And so he leaves! Time passes, but it soon becomes apparent that he has made a serious mistake and so returns home.

The reaction of the father in this parable, which, by the way, is told by Jesus to illustrate the grace of God, is so contrary to our own inclinations and responses. We probably would have given this son a good lecture on the value of home life and how we hope that he has learned his lesson. But the father doesn't do what most fathers—and perhaps even mothers—would be inclined to do, because before the son reaches the driveway, the father is out there running full speed toward him, welcoming him home.

Ah, the scandal of grace! Who cares *what* happened? Who cares *why* he's back? *The important thing is that he is back home.* Let's give him a royal welcome! All that really matters is that my son, who "was dead," is "alive again"; he was lost, and is found (Luke 15:24).

Such grace is just too much for the elder brother. All he could do was to stew about the scandalous acts of grace that his father had committed. Don't we see in this elder brother our own deadly sins of jealousy, envy, bitterness, and pride?

In spite of our theology of grace, we are more prepared to accept a God who only judges and condemns rather than one who also forgives and shows mercy. Why is it, someone has observed, that "the Christian church is the only organization on earth that abandons its wounded?" No, I'm not forgetting about the justice and discipline of God. I am aware of the story of the flood, of Sodom and Gomorrah, and many other sordid accounts of punishment for sin

recorded in the Bible. We do reap certain consequences for what we sow (Galatians 6:7-8). The New Testament does teach the need for righteous living and has examples of church discipline in cases of unrepentant and continuing sin.

But why are we more inclined to accept a God who drives hard bargains than one who shows mercy? We remember Paul's instructions to discipline the immoral individual who was living in an incestuous relationship (1 Corinthians 5:1-5) but forget that later the apostle instructs the same church to "forgive," "comfort," and "reaffirm their love" for that same individual "lest he be overwhelmed by excessive sorrow" (2 Corinthians 2:6-8). Paul believed in discipline, but his final and higher vision for the church was that it be a community which reflects God's grace.

In the parable known as "The Laborers in the Vineyard" (Matthew 20:1-16), we naturally join in with the complainers and cry "foul." It's not fair, is it, that those who worked only part of a day should be paid as much as those who labored all day, particularly when the heat of the sun was most severe. To such complaining, the Lord simply replies that we should not begrudge the way He chooses to bestow His grace (vv. 13-16).

The good news of the Gospel is that God always surprises us by His grace. The bad news is that we regard this as scandalous when it applies to someone other than ourselves.

In the final analysis, we are very much like the "unmerciful servant" about whom our Lord speaks in Matthew 18:21-35. We expect God to forgive us but go on treating our debtors as before; we remember Jesus' words about "casting the first stone" (John 8:8) yet carry around a whole sack of rocks; we sing "Amazing Grace . . . that saved a wretch like me," but forget about the other wretches in our midst. What this parable teaches is that while it may be normal to act according to the law of retribution, the believer is under a new law—the law of grace.

As believers, we need to pass on to others the love, grace, and forgiveness that we ourselves have received from God. We need to catch the vision of practical grace that Paul shared with the Galatian church—a congregation, remember, that had certain misunderstandings and reservations about such concepts as law, grace, freedom, and restoration. "Brethren," writes Paul, "if a man is overtaken in any trespass, you who are spiritual should restore him in a spirit of gentleness" (6:1); "Bear one another's burdens . . ." (6:2); "And let us not grow weary in well-doing" (6:9); ". . . as we have opportunity let us do good to all men . . ." (6:10). In other words, states Paul, let us pass on what we have received. "The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit. . . . Amen" (6:18). □

Dr. Arthur G. Patzia grew up in the McDermot Avenue Baptist Church, Winnipeg, MB, and graduated from North American Baptist Seminary, Sioux Falls, SD, where he later served as an Associate Professor. He pastored Ebenezer Baptist Church, Vancouver, BC. Presently, he is Associate Professor of New Testament and Director of Extended Education in the San Francisco Bay Area at Fuller Theological Seminary in California.

Commanded to Care

When the Church Becomes Our Family

by Jim Leverette

Some of the things I remember about my years as a child are the mountains of clothing I would have to put on before I could go out into the bitter Canadian cold, only to stand on the front porch and cry because the dog across the street had looked at me.

I remember snowflakes as big as silver dollars, blizzards which I thought would never end, and snowdrifts that seemed to swallow my dad's car.

I remember the northern lights as they danced across the black velvet sky, and sunsets which stretched from horizon to horizon as the big red sun dipped into twilight.

I remember when the only problems I faced were what kind of milk shake to order when we went to the Dairy Queen, or how to fix the flat tire on my bike.

I remember my grandmother's chocolate layer cake and my grandfather's deep southern drawl—Christmas with the family, and family reunions with relatives I never knew I had.

I remember skinned knees, haircuts, Sunday dinners, and my first pair of cowboy boots.

I remember my father's earth-shaking laugh, and how it felt when he would pick me up and almost squeeze the air out of me as he would whisper in my ear, "Son, I love you."

I remember my mother kneeling in prayer at the crack of dawn, crowded breakfast tables, sharing my toys, sleeping three in a bed, and standing in line for the bathroom.

I remember Sunday school, Bible quizzes, summer camps, and the night I asked Jesus into my heart.

It is good to remember; it is important to remember. Life is full of circumstances and events which are too important to be forgotten. These are the events which life is made of, and their memory must be guarded and cherished, lest in our effort to live today and anticipate tomorrow, we forget about yesterday.

Entering into 1987, I looked back on the circumstances and events of 1986. My mind was assaulted with a host of memories; some of which brought a smile to my face; some of which made me want to cry. Yet, there is one memory which is less about a single situation and more about a realization.

This realization took place on Sunday evening a few weeks ago as I was speaking about the encouraging

ministry of the church—where I suggested that in the church we are to encourage and care for one another. Suddenly, I realized that that is exactly what this congregation has done for me and my family this past year. For in a very real sense, Mission Baptist Church had become our family.

The family is the place where you are cared for through the deep valleys of pain and failure, and where you are encouraged and stimulated to climb the peaks of happiness and achievement. The family is the place where they love you enough to point out your weaknesses, help you overcome them, and where they believe in you and want only the best for your life.

For a pastor, it is an unusual experience to pastor a church where your family members attend. Most of us move enough during our career so that we seldom live close to our family. We carry on our relationships through long distance phone calls and family vacations. For the major portion of the year, we are separated from our family. This is part of who we are; it is a part of what we do. While there may be certain frustrations associated with this fact, it may also be a blessing in disguise. For since our families are not near, we learn to lean on other people, we learn to develop a unique relationship with the church and its members. We learn to see them as our moms and dads, or brothers and sisters, and for our children, the church becomes a place filled with grandmas and grandpas. In a real tangible way, the church becomes our family.



Rev. Jim Leverette and family

That is what we have experienced this year in this church. If I were to tell you of all the ways that this church has become our family, I would tell you about how they rallied around us at the time of my brother's death. How they came to the house and sat with us as we got the worst possible news. How they would not allow us to go through that moment alone. I would tell you about a Bible study and prayer time that became a

rare moment of openness and vulnerability and how the phone rang off the wall as individuals called to offer their support and love. I would tell you about one who would not allow me to cry alone as I finally let out all the pain and emotion that I had carried around for months, and how he picked up the pieces and put them back together again.

"As I reflect on the Biblical Imperatives which we have adopted as a Conference, there is one which has been of greater significance in my life in this past year, and that is that we are 'Commanded to Care.' This emphasis has occurred because I feel I have been on the receiving end of much care and encouragement over the past number of months."

—Jim Leverette

I would tell you about those who offered their time to help us develop the basement of our home as we sought to prepare for the needs of a growing family. I would tell you about how they shared our excitement as we anticipated the birth of our second child, and how they were the first to hear that Nathan Curtis was born.

As I look back on the circumstances and events of 1986, admittedly, there are many things I wish I could change, but there are also many memories I will cherish. One such memory was the realization that this church was more than a church to us; it had become our family. I love my family: My dad and mom, my sisters, and the memory of my brothers. But I also love my family here at Mission Baptist Church, and I thank my God for each and every one of them. □

Rev. Jim Leverette is Associate Pastor at Mission Baptist Church, Winnipeg, Manitoba.



Celebrating a birthday

Grosse Pointe Baptists Serve in Texas

by David Wick

For folks in Michigan, Christmas usually means family gatherings and snow on the pine trees. But for 17 members of Grosse Pointe Baptist Church, Christmas 1986 meant sun (and rain) on the palm trees, and leaving the usual family celebrations behind to become involved in ministry in the Rio Grande Valley in Texas. This unusual turn of events started in the heart of Dr. Marv Faust, chairman of our church missions committee.

In the spring of 1986, Dr. Faust suggested that we might be able to help La Iglesia Bautista Central (Central Baptist Church) of Edinburg, Texas, in their building program. He thought that they might possibly have their proposed building sufficiently completed by Christmas time that we could be of assistance to them in putting on the finishing touches.

Construction did not start as soon as was hoped, however. But in June, Rev. Lindberg Ake, his wife Maria, and their children visited Michigan, together with one of the deacons of their church, Juan Trevino and his family. They stayed with the Fausts, and the result of that contact was the idea that our people might be able to assist in some other type of ministry.

The Akes made a powerful impression on our congregation as they sang, shared their testimony, and as Rev. Ake preached. In August, the church sent my wife and me to Edinburg to "prepare the way" for a mission team. We found housing for our group at Pan American University in Edinburg, and we met with the Akes and made plans for our ministry.

In September, Grosse Pointe Baptist Church agreed to make the Akes' church the goal for our "Christmas in October" mission project, and approved the sending of a

mission team to the Rio Grande Valley at Christmas time. Our purpose was to raise funds for office and educational equipment needed by the church and to recruit a ministry team that would, at its own expense, travel to Texas and conduct a "Family Bible Institute" for the church in Edinburg.

The entire congregation at Grosse Pointe supported the special fund-raising efforts; we were able to give the Edinburg church over \$3,000 to use as they saw fit. Ron Cieslak, one of our newer members and an architect, supplied the Edinburg church with a floor plan and an elevation drawing of their proposed building. Dr. Faust's wife, Donna, designed a brochure advertising the church which featured Ron's drawing, and a thousand copies were printed for distribution. We purchased Spanish language tracts for distribution by the church and collected clothing to be distributed to needy families in the area of the church. And last, but not least, we began recruiting members for our mission team.



Lloyd Kareus makes friends with Jorge.

The recruiting didn't take long. Finding a special airfare that

made the trip affordable helped—and also gave us an urgent deadline. By mid-October, our team was assembled. We were a mixed group: young adults, couples with children who would come along, couples who would go but leave their children home with other family members, junior high aged children who would leave their parents at home, and grandparents.

It was time for the training phase to begin. Pete and Lois Winkler volunteered to tutor our team in Spanish. For twelve Sunday mornings at 8:00 a.m., team members met and either brushed up on their Spanish or, like me, gained a rudimentary knowledge of the language. Most of our team attended a "Life-style Evangelism Seminar" to prepare themselves to share their testimony and the plan of salvation. Some members of our team hammered together the "Family Bible Institute" program—classes for adults led by Dr. Faust and activities for children similar to the AWANA program. Others worked hard to gather items for a gigantic Christmas stocking to be given to each of the children on Christmas Eve.

After a whirlwind of last minute preparations, our team found itself in Texas, quartered in the men's dormitory at Pan American University, feasting every day on deliciously different Mexican food (except for breakfast at MacDonald's); taking a consciousness-raising and also somewhat hair-raising trip by rented van to Monterrey, Mexico; visiting, as an entire group, in the homes of church members; worshiping with our new-found brothers and sisters in Christ; turning all of our plans for ministry at the Family Bible Institute into reality; shopping across the



Donna Faust found an enthusiastic response as she taught Bible verses.

border (900 pesos per dollar—makes you feel wealthy); visiting across the border in Reynosa, through the knee deep mud streets of the neighborhood called "the Colonia." Everything was happening so fast, there was hardly time for reflection. What did it mean? Before we knew it, it was New Year's Eve, and there was a tearful farewell following the Watchnight Service. Then we were on the plane again, headed for the snow and cold, home to our families, and time, finally for reflection . . .

Scott, our ten-year-old team member, who wasn't sure he really wanted to go, could hardly talk about anything else when he got back. . . . Jesse and Joe, two teen-aged team members, revealed remarkable talents as puppeteers (sure to be exploited here at home) . . . Danny, another teen-ager, developed friendships in Texas and has been keeping the mailman busy . . . John has friends at work who have become very curious about his decision to take his family on a mission trip at Christmas, and he now has a wonderful opportunity to share his testimony

with them . . . Grandpa Lloyd discovered that all little kids, brown ones as well as white ones, like his lap . . . June and Ralph, our teen ministry experts, left behind some good ideas for the youth group in Edinburg, and also got to know one another better . . . Judy, a school teacher and AWANA game leader, found out that good games work in any culture, in any location . . . Dr. Marv, John, and Pastor Dave discovered that ministry sometimes means pushing a Chevy Suburban out of the mud.



Lloyd and Trudy Kareus led a class for children during the Family Bible Institute.

There were things we all learned. We experienced a small portion of missionary life as we struggled to learn a new language, and learned to share our faith. Held up for three hours at the Mexican border because the papers for our rental van were not in order, we reflected on the frustrations of foreign mission work. Seeing Mexico with its poverty and, at the same time, its vibrancy helped us understand how missionaries "get a vision" to see people of another culture won for Christ. Worshiping with the members of the Edinburg church, even when we could not understand what was being said, we learned the meaning of oneness in Christ.

Seeing the Edinburg church in action, with its love for the brethren and powerful outreach and good works, we felt like we had many lessons to learn from them in spiritual things. We returned home as "salesmen" for the work of North American Baptist Conference home missions in the Rio Grande Valley. Our congregation is making plans to continue to support this important outreach. We want to be a part of this important and exciting work of God in south Texas. □

The Rev. David Wick is pastor of Grosse Pointe Baptist Church, Grosse Pointe Woods, Michigan.

We Pray—God Answers

by Ginny Smith

"The W.M.F. Prayer Chain." Yes, I remember the day that I was told that the women of the North American Baptist Conference would have a prayer chain. My immediate thought was "this will be one way to know all of the good things that God is doing for us."

The original idea came from the W.M.F. Executive Committee which met in September 1982. Information went out to our women in W.M.F. groups throughout North America, and prayer chains were formed and/or strengthened in our churches. Specific guidelines were conveyed regarding the calls, which would come from La Verna Mehlhaff, associate director of women's work, to the area ministers' wives to the Association presidents to the local churches. Our anticipation was high.

Nearly ten months later, July 18, 1983, our first call came from Michigan. It concerned Rev. Fred Holzimmer, former missionary to Cameroon. Even with the sorrow of the call, we felt the Lord telling us that the prayer chain was good, and that He would bless us through this effort.

More than six months later, our second call came. In South Dakota, Wendy Ford had given birth to twin girls, Christy and Amy, ten weeks prematurely. Wendy, very sick, needed prayer. Two premature babies, a mother with kidney failure, and a father studying at the North American Baptist Seminary—the Lord gave us another reason to pray.

During March 1984, we prayed for Michele Laven-dar, a pastor's daughter in Texas, having heart surgery and for Erlean Broadway, pastor's wife in Alberta, having cancer surgery.

Our world expanded as the next request came in; it was about the attempted coup in Cameroon, and the report by the U.S. State Department that our N.A.B. Conference missionaries appeared to be safe. This call was our first "good news" call!

We prayed for Pastor Robert Lang's family in Car- rington, North Dakota: daughter Jennifer with leukemia, and wife Phyllis with multiple sclerosis. Again, we brought Erlean Broadway before the Lord. We prayed for another set of premature twins, Nick and Luke Kasporff, in South Dakota. We prayed for Scott Doughty, a young child having seizures, from Rochester, New York.

One of the recommendations for the W.M.F. prayer chain is to pray for the request with the same urgency that you would if the request was yours. The Lord is using the prayer chain to remind us that we are the family

of God. Now identifying with Christian brothers and sisters is almost second nature.

Time went on; we continued to pray. Mr. Michael Foss of Bridgman, Michigan, had a malignant brain tumor. Dr. Herbert Hiller of Warren, Michigan, was hospitalized for surgery. Sara Anne Schilke in Arizona was born 11 weeks prematurely.

Maria Ake, pas- tor's wife from Texas, has a con- tinuing and wors- ening problem with her eyesight, with no known corrective measures available.

October 1985. Three families in Lethbridge, Alberta, lost children on the same day. One boy was hit by a car. Mr. and Mrs. Mark Imbach lost a seven-year-old son by drowning. Mr. and Mrs. Jim Derksen lost their two chil- dren, seven and eleven, in the same drowning accident.

Each prayer chain call was different; yet each one was the same. Tears often came, as we received calls and made calls regarding our brothers and sisters in Christ. We were moved with compassion for these people.

Occasionally, when it was my responsibility to make the calls from the office, I had to pray I would be strong enough to handle what God was asking me to do. Even through the prayer chain, the Lord was showing me that He would give me that strength and courage to pass on the requests.

More requests came . . . Terri Cavin, pastor's wife from Norridge, Illinois, had jaw surgery. Monica Dietrich, pastor's daughter from Winnipeg, was in a car accident and had a thigh shattered. Mrs. Tammy Fossen was in Edmonton, Alberta, suffering from meningitis. (She and her husband had been in Nigeria assisting our missionaries there.)

Even on New Year's Day 1986, the Lord asked us to pray. Dan Leverette, youth pastor in Burlington, On- tario, was seriously injured in a tobogganing accident



Betty Patet



The Ford family

Mrs. Betty Patet, fell from her wheelchair (she has multiple sclerosis) and broke both of her legs. She had to be flown by air-ambulance to Iowa. Jennifer Junkert, also from Iowa, underwent surgery for cancer.

Good news had reached us that Mr. and Mrs. Derksen were expecting twins. This seemed to be a special gift since they were the people who lost both of their children in the drowning accident a year earlier. Sadness flooded over us as we heard that both of the twins were stillborn in January 1987.

The W.M.F. prayer chain. In my mind, it was going to be such a good—no, WONDERFUL—way to know what God is doing. In my naivete, I thought that it would usually end up with "happy news." When it began, I wasn't so sure in my own mind that I could handle the "what ifs" and the sad news that might come. God really has a way of teaching us!

How does this all end up? The W.M.F. prayer chain, in less than five years, has included people from every corner of the United States and Canada. Members and friends of the North American Baptist Conference have prayed for the young and the old, the sick and the hurting. As "Women of Hope," we have reached out because our faith has allowed us the privilege. And, with the strength of God, we respond in compassion to pray for one another.

The "results" of any prayer chain cannot be measured the same as the results of a race or a contest. Neither can they be called "good" or "bad." We have had to report that Rev. Fred Holzimmer, Mrs. Erlean Broadway, Rev. Dan Leverette, and the six children from Alberta are now with the Lord. Mrs. Lang and Mrs. Patet must still cope with multiple sclerosis, and Jennifer Lang and Jennifer Junkert are still battling their diseases. Maria Ake is still waiting for help with her eye problem. Terri Cavin and Monica Dietrich are recovering from their surgeries.

and underwent surgeries to remove pressure on his brain. We prayed for Dan and for his family: wife, Julie; two small children; and his parents, Rev. and Mrs. Jake Leverette, who were just preparing to move to Florida to serve an N.A.B. Conference church extension project.

While in Florida on vacation, the pastor's wife from Aplington, Iowa,

On the other hand, Christy and Amy Ford, Nick and Luke Jastorff, and Sara Anne Schilke are growing, healthy, beautiful children. Tammy Fossen became pregnant after her illness and delivered a beautiful baby boy, Josiah, in December. An answer to prayer, also. In our human desires, everything was not as easy as we would have liked it to be, but the Lord carried each family through each situation. He directed lives accord- ing to his plan, offering His strength and guidance as we prayed and trusted Him.

Through the prayer chain, we faced life with our brothers and sisters not on the same level for sure, but we faced it with them. We hurt with them. (And, many times, I had real questions about God—knowing with my *head* that God always does what is right, but wondering with my *heart* why all these things happen.)

I am still involved with the W.M.F. prayer chain; although I don't work at the N.A.B. Conference office anymore. I receive calls as our group's president. The tears still come, but the joys are there as well: Seeing photos of healthy babies, knowing that our missionaries are safe overseas, thanking God for the good things that He is doing. Prayer is a new dimension in my life, because of the W.M.F. prayer chain.

I believe that God is also teaching us through the W.M.F. prayer chain. As I examined these more than four years, God reminded me of the frailties of this life and of my eternal life with Him. I have been reminded to really appreciate the people around me. Sometimes the lessons of God are taught to us by people that we don't even know, and in ways that we don't understand—until we are really forced to think about them.

As we pray together, the world becomes smaller, and our Christian family becomes larger. As we trust the Lord, our faith grows deeper, and we realize that we don't have to "understand" what happens, but, rather, only accept it. The best part of the W.M.F. prayer chain, though, is feeling God's strength and love, and knowing that He is in control.

Ginny Smith is a member of Cornerstone Baptist Church, Carol Stream, Illinois, and former secretary in the Church Growth Department.



Nick and Luke Jastorff

Commissioned to Witness

Century Baptist Church in Bismarck, North Dakota, an established church that 10 years ago was a church extension project mothered by Bismarck Baptist Church, is an alive, growing congregation focusing on the Biblical Imperatives.

Century Baptist— A Caring, Sharing Church

by Martin Spargo

"What a year! The reality of 1986 superseded even our best dreams," says Pastor David Ewing. "God blessed this church and the families and individuals of it. New records were set in almost every area. For this, I say a special thank you to God and to each person on the Century team. What enthusiasm! What generosity! What faithfulness! What words by our laymen! I rejoice as one of the victors!"

"Looking back over 1986 was almost as exciting as some of the early years of Century Church. Growth seemed evident everywhere, and many records were set. Sunday School attendance grew; church attendance grew; the building grew; giving to the church grew. Most important, after watching all this, my love for Jesus Christ grew," says Ed Breckel, moderator of the Church.

In the mid 1970s, God laid upon the hearts of the membership of Bismarck Baptist Church the need to establish a daughter church to meet the needs of the growing Bismarck area in North Dakota. Feeling the Lord's call to serve and witness, the five families—Hillis and Alice Adams, Clem and Sylvia Auch, Dean and Kathryn Barker, Ed and Gail Breckel, Alvin and Betty Haas, Al and Eunice Neuharth, and Elvin and Dorothy Quiring—stepped forth. These core families, joined by a few others, with the support of the North American Baptist Conference and the Central Dakota-Montana Association, extended a "call of service" to the Rev. Don Ganstrom and his wife Verna in 1976.

Pastor Don's inspiration through the love of Christ worked in the hearts of the members of Century. Don taught us to recognize the need to lay our burdens in the lap of God and to pray so that the impossible becomes possible. He provided new insight into God's love and new concepts in the conducting of church services. At Century, we welcome visitors one-to-one with a handshake or a hug. To visit Century is to know you are loved by God and by those around you. The outpouring of Christ's love is a major theme throughout the services.

Pastor Don introduced Children's Church to us. Before the message service, the children of pre-school age meet with the pastor for a short prayer and then go

with volunteers to hear the morning message in a way they can more easily understand.

Challenged by faith, the members took on the task of constructing a 10,600 square foot worship center. As the building progressed, more and more labor was donated to ease construction costs. The need for interior furnishing was met by individual family donation projects, and a piano and organ were donated as memorials.

By the time Pastor Don left in 1980 to begin a new church in Vancouver, Washington, the Lord had blessed Century Baptist with a membership of 101 and 16 new baptisms.



Pastor Dave Ewing talks with children ages 3-5 at the altar as they prepare for prayer before children's church.

In November 1980, Century Baptist extended a "call of service" to the Rev. David Ewing and his wife Jean. Since their arrival in 1981, the Lord has continued to bless us with an evangelistic explosion. Pastor Dave has baptized nearly 100 believers, and membership has grown to more than 260.

During the Ron Susek Crusade, May 12-19, 1985, Jesus Christ worked in the hearts of the membership and the Bismarck community, resulting in 132 personal decisions for Jesus Christ. Many church members made a tearful rededication to continue in the Lord's way and to follow His will in their lives.

Commanded to Care. Century has taken on individual and congregational caring ministries in the name of Jesus. During Communion Services, an offering toward the Deacons' Fund is dedicated to serving others in need. In the past few years, the Lord has led us to farm families and others with physical and pastoral needs. Families have provided homes for foreign exchange students and for foster children.

Some members make weekly visitations to rehabilitation facilities, hospitals, nursing homes, and the State Industrial School. The central theme of visitation is that someone, especially Christ, cares.

The Deacon/Elder Board has initiated a new program. Through this, each new member of the Church meets with a Board member for the first four weeks of his church membership. This helps them become better acquainted with each other and the Church.

"We hope this will allow us to encourage new members to become involved in the work of spreading the Gospel in the Bismarck/Mandan area," says Alvin Haas, chairman of the Deacon/Elder Board. "The goal is to have each member involved in the Church."

Commissioned to Witness. Members of Century girded themselves through home Bible study groups and stepped forth into the community. "As of December 31, 1986, we also concluded our fourth semester of Evangelism Explosion. More than 20 have been trained in this ministry at Century Baptist," says Evangelism Team Chairman Alan Klein. While "New Day" ministered in our Church, their visitation team visited area homes. The result of bringing Christ into the lives of several families has brought new members into fellowship with the Lord and has been a blessing to Century Baptist.

Compelled to Serve. Century Baptist has been blessed with their members serving on the mission field at home and abroad. Clem and Sylvia Auch have served in Cameroon and are now in Nigeria. Debby Auch has served in Japan and Cameroon. Janet Watts was called to serve in Japan. Liz Stober served a short tour in Zaire. Kent Scherr served the Lord with Campus Crusade for Christ. Truly Jesus is blessing us in so many ways by providing opportunities to serve Him.

Our youth created Slave Days and took on volunteer projects helping to clean windows, care for lawns, wash cars, clean garages, and do other needed chores. The membership strives to meet the needs of the youth by providing nursery workers, volunteers for Children's Church, Sunday School teachers, and youth leaders.

Century men have helped to build God's house and to take on other projects as they arise. When we look at the challenges laid down by the Lord, we approach them with prayers of thanksgiving for allowing us to

pick up the challenge, and for direction into the next task. Jesus has not yet told us "it is done."



During the worship service, members and friends greet each other.

Called to Worship. Century is a Christ-centered, Bible-preaching church. Two services are conducted each Sunday morning with a total attendance of more than 300. Sunday School attendance is nearing 200. We still stress one-to-one fellowship between the Lord, the membership, and the Pastor.

Jesus has blessed us in so many ways. Several retired ministers make their home with us, lending their love of the Lord to our services.

A special part of worship is "Layman's Word," during which members bring testimony of their personal relationship with God and how that relationship has blessed them. These testimonies are truly a blessing to all.

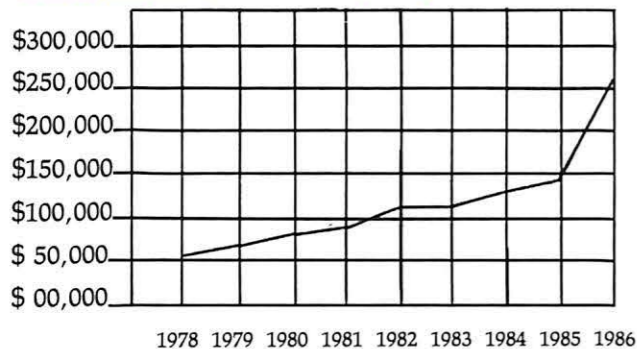
Music is a major part of our worship; many talented individuals perform solo or in groups or as part of the offertory. Our choir, under the direction of Jean Ewing, sings nearly every week and brings us the blessing of special programs—a spring concert and a Christmas cantata—throughout the year. When we are moved by the Lord's music, we, at Century, applaud loudly.

Before going to the altar of the Lord, we share our personal blessings and prayer needs with the congregation. Prayer and thanksgiving are the core of our fellowship with Christ, and faith provides the path we follow.

Committed to Give. Century parishioners have met the needs as they arise. This past year, the Lord led us to pray for building expansion. Accepting

the challenge of faith, we added on office space and expanded our Sunday School by several rooms. When the cost of \$100,000 was laid upon us, we decided to meet that need in one year, in addition to our budget of \$131,000. The Lord showered Century with blessings that exceeded budget costs in all areas. A major part of the budget is mission giving, a tithe, to return a part of what is His. "God's Treasures" decrees that no less than 10 percent of faith budget giving goes to missions.

Century Baptist Church Giving Graph*



1978 1979 1980 1981 1982 1983 1984 1985 1986

*Giving includes Missions, Budget, and Specials



In 1986, Century Baptist Church accepted the challenge to add office space and expand the Sunday School by several rooms; \$100,000, the cost of the project, was paid off in one year.

In the last months of 1986, the Lord led Century Baptist to seek a Pastor of Church Growth. Pastor Monty Loudenslager accepted the "call of service" issued by our Church. He seeks out and trains workers for the Lord and assists Pastor Dave in his ministry.

In June 1987, Century Baptist Church celebrates 10 years of service to the Lord and 10 years of receiving the outpouring of Christ's love for mankind. We ask but one thing: That the Lord will continue to bless and challenge, and that He will never say "it is done." □

Martin Spargo is a charter member of Century Baptist Church, Bismarck, North Dakota. He is also a pilot for the Governor of North Dakota as well as the North Dakota State Highway Department.

Compelled to Serve

A New "Discovery"

Scarecrow Sam brings another year of *Discovery Club* to a musical conclusion:

*"I may not be good-looking,
and my clothes aren't much for style.
These eyes are only buttons,
and this empty head can't smile.
My feet won't take me very far:
my brain's not very smart.
These arms are stiff and fragile,
but I HAVE A WILLING HEART!"*

Eight years ago, when the "skin" of existing programs failed to "fit the bones" at Central Baptist Church in Yorkton, Saskatchewan, a unique ministry for children kindergarten to grade six began to evolve. *Discovery Club's* author, Connie Schroeder, has guided its growth from a few basic objectives into a series of annual program guides, each filled with ideas and instructions for eight months of weekly Bible club meetings.

Discovery is flexible, with no charters or dues, and follows a unified theme for multi-age groupings. Simple, monthly assignments (NO WORKBOOK, PLEASE!) are photocopies on single sheets which are folded into leaflets for membership, scripture memory, missions, daily devotions, and versathons (NO MONEY, JUST INITIALS!). Each N.A.B. Conference mission field is featured in a different annual program. Children giggle to "shake hands with Dr. Zimmerman" (actually a glove tied to a doorknob) or eat anaconda snake cupcakes from Brazil!

Discovery embodies three children's ministries many churches wish to offer in addition to Sunday school, scripture memory, junior choir, and Bible club. It runs "with" the church instead of "beside" it, with emphasis on Christian birth and growth, body life, outreach, Sunday school promotion, youth, and leadership development.

Let's talk to Connie Schroeder, the creator of "*Discovery*."

What does the annual program guide include?

Each annual guide provides a complete program of fully correlated activities with instructions for pre-session, devotions, fun games, scripture games, monthly theme songs, familiar fun tunes with scripture versions, and programs for Christmas and club-end.

I understand an "uncontest" is included. What is it?

Each month a different bulletin board honors accomplishments as clubbers TOGETHER have eagerly

earned tokens which are nothing more than popsicle-stick-counters. Individual achievement is recognized by an inexpensive system of certificates, stars, and seals.

What do you do about kids who don't like to sing?

Music at *Discovery* should be fun and participation, not performance, orientated. (Several years ago the girls carried the melody while our boys sang in parts—22 different parts!) Television commercials are proof that retention is improved by the rhythm and repetition of music. Unlike paper, music-in-the-mind cannot be lost or torn; it suddenly reappears at the most unusual moments, even when forbidden.



Chief Pilot Beth Berg leads the clubbers in devotions using an apple as an illustration.

I hear a year-end musical is part of the program. Isn't it a lot of work?

Anything worthwhile takes effort, but musicals are less work the *Discovery* way. Contemporary monthly theme songs, learned to professional cassettes, combine with year-end devotions which are written so that there is a part for everyone, not just a few "stars."

Are games used?

Because games are fun, they are a great teaching tool. *Discovery* games have been designed with traditional church facilities in mind, i.e. no gym, and promote the "new games concept" of cooperation over competition. WE CAN NEVER BE MORE SUCCESSFUL THAN WHEN PERSONAL SUCCESS PROMOTES THE SUCCESS OF OTHERS.

How has *Discovery* affected your church? Have you reached your goals?

Sometimes yes, and sometimes no. Reaching goals has been marked more by small successes than dramatic

results: More than 60 percent of our clubbers come from outside the church; a single parent decides to attend Central because "this is where the children want to go"; a mother comes to Sunday school and church with her children when community sports conflict with *Discovery*; some parents attend church for the first time to see their children take part in the Christmas program or year-end musical; club families participate as Women's Ministries organizes the mother/daughter tea, the father/son banquet and Stretch 'n Gro Bible studies for women; most clubbers make a personal decision to join God's family, too; clubbers learn more than 1,000 verses in total each year; pastor and people are encouraged as more individuals become involved in ministry.

Success is limited only by the vision and faithfulness of people—people serving people WITH A WILLING HEART! □

Connie Schroeder, her husband Ken, and daughter Jennifer are members of Central Baptist Church, Yorkton, Saskatchewan. Connie welcomes comments from others with similar experiences. A limited number of churches may arrange to use this program as pilot clubs until it is published.



Connie Schroeder at the records desk in front of the uncontest, "APPLEY EVER AFTER."

Commanded to Care

Caring Expressions Evidenced in Our Churches

The people on this page not only believe that we are "Commanded to Care" for those inside the church as well as those outside, but also act on that belief and respond through caring ministries, making life brighter for someone else.

"A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. All men will know that you are my disciples if you love one another" (John 13:34-35).

Neshaminy Valley Men Escort Patients

The Neshaminy Valley Baptist Church's Men's Fellowship has adopted a special mission project. They escort patients at the Eastern State School and Hospital to the morning worship services conducted by the Chaplain every Sunday morning.

Four Church members have been sworn in to serve in the newly formed Bensalem Township Youth Aid Panel. The panel is an alternative to juvenile court for summary and misdemeanor offenses.

Cameroonian Women Show Love to Bereaved Family

by Pat Meinerts

Monica and Samuel Langha Ngong are among the many Cameroonian

On Caring

by Willis Potratz

Through the years, I have often wondered, but never asked or taken time to find out, if people who have been bereaved appreciate receiving phone calls, appropriate cards, letters, etc. on the days that were significant in the life of a departed loved one. I suspected that some may and some may not.

In a ministerial meeting, our speaker stated that having someone remember the birthdate, date of death, etc. of a loved one was very important to a person in bereavement. I was surprised to learn that those present who had suffered bereavement unanimously agreed with the speaker. This was affirmed to me recently, when I learned that a couple who lost their son a number of years ago reached out to another couple, who lost their son in death a few weeks ago, by inviting them to a meal in their home on the birthdate of the latter's son.

In a similar consideration, this year I failed to acknowledge a wedding date of a couple who were married on the same day as my wife and I. We have exchanged cards over the years. They divorced this past year. On our wedding anniversary, we received a card from this wife. My wife and I should have reached out to this lady on that day.

I expect that being more uninhibited in reaching out, on birth, anniversary, or other special dates, to people who have experienced the death of a child, of a mate, or met with other difficulty, will open a further door of ministry to me.

Baptist Christians who suffered loss during the gas explosion of Lake Nyos in August. Although they lived in Bamenda, they frequently traveled 140 kilometers "home" to Su Bum on vacations. Samuel wanted their children to know his family and tradition, and the children enjoyed going there.

Monica and Samuel decided to build a good house in Su Bum rather than in Bamenda. Since the house was up to wall-plate level, they sent their older children to put the roof on during this holiday. Another cousin staying in Nigeria joined them. All were killed in the Lake Nyos tragedy.

About 60 women from the Nkwem Baptist Church's women's meeting visited the Ngong family two weeks later to console them. After a time of singing and remarks by Sister Lydia Lemfu and others, they gave gifts to the bereaved family. These included both cash and raw food such as rice, corn, beans, and groundnuts. The family then served a meal to all. The women danced together, then prayed, and left promising to continue to pray for this family and others similarly affected.

DETROIT '87

"Getting to Know Me" - Psalm 139

DETROIT '87 is an International Singles' gathering of North American Baptist Conference members and friends.

LOCATION: NORTH POINTE BAPTIST CHURCH

11174 Thirteen Mile Road, Warren, Michigan 48093

DATES: July 29 - August 2, 1987



Dr. Benno Przybylski

Featured speakers for the Conference will be Dr. Benno Przybylski and Dr. Ernie Zimbelman. Bible studies each morning focusing on "Who Am I? Questions and Answers from Psalm 139" will be led by Dr. Przybylski, Professor of New Testament, Biblical Languages, and World Religions at the North American Baptist College and Divinity School, Edmonton, Alberta.

Dr. Zimbelman will speak on self-esteem during the mid-morning session; he will also lead a workshop on sexuality. He is Professor of Counseling at North American Baptist Seminary in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, and a practicing psychologist and marriage counselor.



Dr. Ernie Zimbelman

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

Wednesday, July 29	Thursday, July 30	Friday, July 31	Saturday, August 1	Sunday, August 2
Welcome 1:00 Registration at North Pointe Baptist Church 5:00 Registration ends 6:00 Buffet Supper at Puzzles Restaurant 7:00 Sing Time / Introductions and Information <i>In the Spotlight: Calgary: 1988</i> 9:00 Music Video 10:00 Free Time	Continental Breakfast (at North Pointe) 8:30 Late Registration 9:00 Sing Time Bible Study with Dr. Przybylski 9:40 Discussion Groups 10:00 Coffee Break 10:30 WORKSHOPS 11:30 Sing Time and Testimonies 11:45 Self-Image with Dr. Zimbelman 12:30 Lunch on your own 1:30 Recreation 5:00 Supper on your own 7:00 Sing Time / Special Music / Attitudes by Charles Swindoll 8:30 In the Spotlight: You and Your Friends	Continental Breakfast (at North Pointe) 9:00 Sing Time Bible Study with Dr. Przybylski 9:40 Discussion Groups 10:00 Coffee Break 10:30 WORKSHOPS 11:30 Sing Time and Testimonies 11:45 Self-Image with Dr. Zimbelman 12:15 In the Spotlight: North American Baptist Seminary 12:30 Kentucky Fried Chicken Lunch in church basement 1:30 Greenfield Village 5:00 Supper on your own 10:30 Testimonies and Share Time with Punch at church	Continental Breakfast (at North Pointe) 9:00 Sing Time Bible Study with Dr. Przybylski 9:40 Discussion Groups 10:00 Coffee Break 10:30 WORKSHOPS 11:30 Sing Time and Testimonies 11:45 Self-Image with Dr. Zimbelman 12:15 In the Spotlight: North American Baptist College 12:30 Lunch on your own 1:30 Recreation 5:00 Supper on your own 7:00 Sing Time / Special Music <i>It's Friday, But Sunday's Comin'!</i> by Tony Campolo 8:30 Snack at church 9:00 Skit Night	Breakfast on your own 9:00 Sing Time Attend the Sunday School and Church of your choice 12:00 SEE YOU IN CALGARY IN 1988!

REGISTRATION FORM: Registration Deadline: July 12, 1987

Please print:

Miss/Mr./Mrs./Rev. _____

Address _____

City _____ State/Prov. _____ Code _____

Telephone: Area Code () _____

Name of Church you attend _____

City _____ State/Prov. _____

Yes, I would like information about airport shuttle services that are available at cost from the Detroit Metropolitan Airport.

Mail this form along with your check or money order made out to:

N.A.B. Singles' Conference, P.O. Box 604, Hazel Park, MI 48030-0604.

WORKSHOP LEADERS AND TOPICS



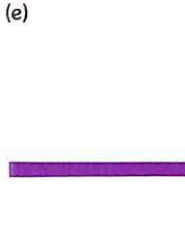
Arvid Jouppi – Budgeting Your Finances (a)
Mr. Jouppi does financial research. Arvid is a Sr. Vice President — Research, Keane Securities Co., Inc., of which Arvid Jouppi Associates, Inc., is a division. Mr. Jouppi is a supervisory analyst for the New York Stock Exchange. He provides financial research and advisory services to industrial companies and to governmental agencies in the United States, Canada, and Japan. Offered Thursday / Friday / Saturday.



Dr. Ernie Zimbelman – Sexuality (b)
Ernie is professor of counseling at North American Baptist Seminary, Sioux Falls, South Dakota. He is the author of *Human Sexuality and Evangelical Christians*, a book published in January 1985. Offered Thursday / Friday / Saturday.



Dr. Marvin Faust – Depression (c)
Marv is a practicing child and adult psychiatrist in Grosse Pointe, Michigan. Offered Thursday / Friday / Saturday.



Ms. Tanell Gerloff – Relations: Free to be a Friend at Last (d)
Tanell is a student at the North American Baptist Seminary in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. She plans to discuss how life as a single person offers tremendous freedom to develop a network of friends and how lasting friendships build family and community ties that are vital for life, ministry and sanity! Offered Thursday / Saturday.

Ms. Wendy LaStrange – Spiritual Gifts Workshop (e)
Wendy enjoys motivating Christians for service inside and outside of the church. She is the Minister of Christian Education and Youth at Westview Baptist Church, Calgary, Alberta. Discovering, developing and using your spiritual gifts is the focus of this practical workshop. Offered Thursday / Friday.

Mr. Loren Kopf – Ideas for Leisure Time (f)
Loren's workshops will consider the leisure time in our lives and give many practical suggestions on what to do beyond our regular work routines. Loren is the Assistant Director of Youth and "New Day" for the North American Baptist Conference. Offered Friday / Saturday.

WORKSHOP VIDEO TAPES: Tony Campolo - "Commitment"—(Thursday), Joyce Landorf - "God's Waiting Room"—(Friday), Josh McDowell - "A Skeptic's Quest"—(Saturday)



(b)



(d)



(f)

ACCOMMODATIONS

Information is provided on motels located near the Conference. You are to make your own reservations. Prices are quoted in U.S. funds. All rates are subject to change and a 4 percent sales tax

Motel	Single 1 person	Double 2 persons	Triple 3 persons	Quad 4 persons
Knights Inn 26091 Dequindre, Madison Heights, MI 48071 / (313) 545-9930 Call collect for reservations.	\$31.50	\$38.00	\$41.00	\$44.00

Pool, satellite T.V., free local telephone calls.
Approximately 5 1/2 miles from the conference location.

Knights Inn
7500 Miller Dr. (off Van Dyke), Warren, MI 48092
(313) 978-7500

Approximately 1/2 mile from the conference location. Same rates as the other Knights Inn. No pool, satellite T.V.

	Single	Double	Triple
Red Roof Inn 26300 Dequindre, Warren, MI 48091 / (313) 573-4300	\$32.95	\$34.95	\$36.95

Cable T.V., In-house movies.
Approximately 5 1/2 miles from the conference location.

Midway Motor Lodge
31800 Van Dyke, Warren, MI 48093 / (313) 939-2860

Convention Rate of \$75.00 per day for all rooms. Direct all calls to Renee McKeon. Poolside rooms available at an extra cost. Pool, Saunas, whirlpool, ping-pong, video game room. Airport Shuttle available at an extra cost. Approximately 1/2 mile from the conference location.

Conference Fee: (U.S.) \$25

The conference fees include a conference materials packet, all conference sessions, 3 continental breakfasts, 1 box lunch, 1 buffet supper and the entrance fee to Greenfield Village.

Registration Fee: (U.S.) \$25, non-refundable

Transportation:

The conference location, North Pointe Baptist Church, is located at 11174 Thirteen Mile Road, Warren, MI 48093. If you are traveling by car, it is located 3 miles north of the 1696 Van Dyke exit and 1/2 mile east of Van Dyke on Thirteen Mile Road.

Information:

Information regarding the conference can be obtained by contacting:

Ellen Klemm
c/o N.A.B. Singles' Conference
P.O. Box 604
Hazel Park, MI 48030-0604
(313) 268-2744 / after 5:00 p.m. (EST)

Church
Growth Tips



How to Attract People to Your Church

by Ray Harsch

The Church Growth Report published by the Institute for American Church Growth recently shared the results of their research.

New research underscores why people select one church over another. "A good church location" was only tenth on a list of sixteen. "My spouse was a member" was fifteenth.

The number one reason people select a church today is: "I felt accepted by the members."

Dr. David Jones, researcher in Jackson, Mississippi, says: "Persons are looking for a group of individuals who will first and foremost make them feel accepted" (*RD Digest*, 1/85). This #1 reason is in contrast to the predominant reason researchers found people attended church in the 1950s and early 1960s. A generation ago, Americans attended church most often "for the benefit of our children." But in Jones' study, this reason was listed only eighth.

This research supports our own findings from the "Love Care Quotient Survey" (LCQ) included in the July Growth Report. Rather than "acceptance," we called it "love." One question we asked to over 8,600 members was, "On a scale of 1-10, how 'loved' do you feel by other church members?" Their responses were compared to the growth rate of their church. A clear relationship emerged that **people feel more loved in growing churches than in declining churches.** (The average response in declining churches was 5.9; in growing churches 7.1).

The question was also asked, "On a scale of 1-10, how 'loving' have you been to other church members?" Again, a measurable difference appeared between declining and growing churches. The average response by members in declining churches was 6.7 but in growing churches the average response was 7.8.

While there were other questions in the LCQ Survey (discussed in the new book, *Who Cares About Love*), one final question and response showed the relationship of love, caring, and acceptance to church growth. . . . "On a scale of 1-10, how 'loving' have you been to church visitors?" The average response in declining churches was 5.8 in contrast to growing churches, where the average was 7.3.

People want to be accepted, wanted, loved. Raising the "loveability" of your church will have a far greater impact on reaching new people than . . . better sermons, new facilities, more parking, additional programs. While all of these (and more) are important in a church's "growth mix," the foundation behind all other principles of growth is love. □

Ray Harsch

(Reprinted by permission from Institute for American Church Growth).

new day

Our tour began in Winnipeg, Manitoba, at the McDermot Avenue Baptist Church. We felt an excitement as we saw the Holy Spirit at work through the various programs.

As our tour progressed, however, we tired and became sick. We experienced how Satan tries to attack us by making us ill or causing us to become complacent. Through these hard times, though, we know that we can claim Christ's power and His renewal. These challenges have caused us to grow, and we praise God for this.

We hear statistics about people being lost and far from God, but when you actually see these people, as we did in Medicine Hat, Alberta, face to face, it really hurts your heart. As we worked with Faith Baptist Church, a church extension project, we called on homes. There were encouraging times when we received a positive response, but our hearts were burdened and hurt when we saw so many people rejecting Christ. A verse that has been encouraging to us in these times is Isaiah 55:11: "So is my word that goes out from my mouth: It will not return to me empty but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it." We claim this promise.

After three weeks of "rest" during Christmas vacation, we, as "New Day," still remembered our lines to the numerous skits and songs that we do. We came back renewed in spirit, curious as to what the Lord has in store for us.

During January, we have seen the Spirit of God do great and mighty things at Century Meadows Baptist Church in Camrose, Alberta. We have seen lives rededicated and people making first-time decisions for Christ. Our ministry is alive and worthwhile because of the working of Christ in the lives of people.

As we ministered to the youth at Oneway Baptist Church and Parkland Baptist in Spruce Grove, friendships were established, and young people were challenged to grow. It was encouraging to see young people come to grips with their personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

Thank you very much for your support in prayer and also financially. Please continue to pray for us. —Harv Hait

And Now We Are Six

IKEDA, JAPAN. "Be thankful for little things' we are sometimes told," reflects missionary Florence Miller. "I am thankful for the addition of two members to my Thursday English Bible Class at the Ikeda Church.

"One, Mrs. Kawamoto, is really a former member who had dropped out for a year while I was on furlough. She came to two of our special meetings in the fall and decided she wanted to be back in the Bible Class, so that she would not lose what she had been taught. She was in my English Bible Class at the YMCA first and has been attending the class at the church for quite a few years, but she is not yet a Christian.

"Mrs. Ikeda, the newest and youngest member of the class, has been attending a class for mothers with little children taught by Pastor Fujie," says Florence. "She was formerly an English teacher and wants to keep up her English. She also wants to have a little time for herself. During the class time, her Christian mother-in-law cares for her three-year-old son. Mrs. Ikeda seems to believe in Christ; although her faith is still immature.

"Every positive influence in the class is appreciated, because there are, as yet, no confessing Christians in the group; although two seem quite near. We hope that the class will also meet a need in Mrs. Ikeda's life as she fellowships with the other women and as she studies the Bible in a new way."

Pastor Serving People Relocated from Disaster in Cameroon

BAMENDA, CAMEROON. The Lake Nyos Gas Explosion continues to be in the local news. "Your contributions, along with others, have been tremendous, and there are adequate financial



Thursday English Bible Class at Ikeda Church.

resources for the current needs," say Missionaries Pat and Oryn Meinerts serving in Cameroon. "Our emphasis now is on spiritual rehabilitation. We have sent a pastor to work in the Kimbi River area where many of the people are relocating, and several teams of advanced Seminary students have gone to work there for short periods of time. More than 20 students spent the four-week Christmas break counselling with the survivors. Continue to remember these grieving people in prayer."

A Pastor Struggles to Serve the Lord in Cameroon

BAMENDA, CAMEROON. A run-away pastor dropped in one morning for breakfast recently at the home of Oryn and Pat Meinerts, missionaries in Cameroon. Then he continued running away from his own people who wanted to take him to his home village and make him chief. He is a committed Christian, a dedicated church leader, and he knows that being a chief would compromise his faith.

"After his father, the chief, died, he knew they would come for him, so he planned his strategy," report the Meinerts. "When they came, he brought them to Bamenda, fed them, and took them to a friend's

house to sleep. Early in the morning, he left for the coast so they would not find him. He had welcomed them similarly in the village where he was pastor but had his bags packed, and at 4 a.m., got up and started trekking to Bamenda. He figures that if he eludes them enough times, they will look for someone else to be chief. Pray for this pastor and for others who face similar, very real, very powerful temptations."

Vogts Find Oven an Important Tool in Ministry.

JAPAN. How could an oven be important to ministry? "Since this was our first Christmas in Japan," writes Wendy L. Vogt, short-term missionary teaching English, "we had no idea that we would be invited to so many Christmas parties. Many invitations also included an invitation to share the Christmas story. The missionaries suggested that we present the whole Gospel story from Creation to Resurrection. As I was preparing my message, the Lord revealed to me a way to illustrate the final point of the message: 'The choice is yours! You must either accept or reject this gift of life from God!' I saw that my baking could be an illustration. At the end of each message, I pulled out some home

baked cupcakes or cookies, and I said, 'Just as you must choose to accept or reject this present from me, so must you choose to either accept or reject God's gift to you, His Son Jesus Christ.'

"My husband saw my plan and requested that I also bake for his classes, which I gladly did. Between the two of us, over 300 people heard the complete Gospel message in English and Japanese. I baked over 500 cookies and cupcakes, but I had such peace in this project. It was worth it. Please pray for the seed that an oven helped plant."

Stone Mason Kills Christian Woman in Brazil

PANTANAL, SC, BRAZIL. "Maria Rosa, who had been coming to our Pantanal church and who had come back to the Lord after many years, informed me that she would be going to Belgium and Germany with her husband. (He is a professor in Linguistics at the Federal University in Florianopolis)," writes Missionary Ralph Nelson. "As she was to be gone for several months, I did not go up the hill to visit her and her family for some time. I was saddened to learn that she had been killed by the stone mason who was working on her house. Martha and I had given this man a New Testament some time before. Pray that the Word of God will continue in his heart until he comes to know Christ."

Nelsons See Results in Evangelistic Ministries in Brazil

FLORIANOPOLIS, SC, BRAZIL. "A couple of days ago I was attacked by a large white rooster as we were sitting in Olympia's kitchen," says Martha Nelson, missionary, serving in Florianopolis, SC, Brazil. "Olympia is one of the

women who accepted a Home Bible Study in connection with the team evangelism ministry we're conducting in our Pantanal church this month. It seems our home visitation gets more interesting all the time. I'm sure glad that the dog was tied on a strong leash!"

Ralph Nelson, her husband, was responsible for simultaneous evangelistic team ministries in February. He did the basic orientation, promotion, loudspeaker work, tract distribution, and conducted open-air meetings with film showings in each of the cities.

"We have been involved in a variety of activities the last few months," says Martha, who directed the State Women's Camp with over 100 ladies registered, while Ralph directed a State Men's Congress.

The Nelsons conducted classes on personal evangelism and held an evangelistic campaign in a church in Sao Paulo. "Twelve individuals dedicated their lives to do evangelism, and six adolescents accepted Christ," Martha rejoices. "The pastor has asked us to return in September.

"We also held an evangelistic campaign in the city of Urubici and gave out invitations and tracts to 2,000 homes."

The Nelsons have also helped with two Vacation Bible Schools in their local church. Fifteen children made decisions for Christ. "We are hoping to establish a Children's Club on a regular basis to be able to integrate these children into Sunday School," says Martha.

Prayer Requests

Pray for the new converts from the evangelistic campaigns in Brazil and the children in Pantanal.

Pray for those who attended the five evangelistic team campaigns Ralph Nelson was responsible for recently. Fifteen were held

simultaneously throughout the State of Santa Catarina.

Pray for a building to rent for a church in Corrego Grande and for the continued Bible distribution by our missionaries and Christian nationals in Brazil.

Pray for continued physical strength for our missionaries to meet the many demands of ministry.

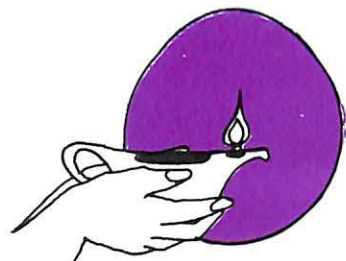
Woykes Grateful for One-to-One Witnessing Opportunity

NARA, JAPAN. "We're always excited when the Lord allows us to witness to someone on a one-to-one basis," say Missionaries Douglas and Sharon Woyke, who serve in church planting in Japan. "That person's eternal destiny is at stake, and we have to trust the Holy Spirit to communicate to the heart!"

Recently, Mrs. Takahashi, who lives in the same apartment building with Mrs. Kageyama, spent two hours with the Woykes at Mrs. Kageyama's apartment. Mrs. Kageyama, a member of the Kyoto Rakuyo Baptist Church, is helping to plant a church in Yawata.

"Having gone to a Catholic high school, Mrs. Takahashi wondered how we were different from Catholics. We tried to point out what we know about biblical authority and ultimately the necessity for a personal decision to receive Jesus Christ and follow Him in obedience," says Douglas. "She left Mrs. Kageyama's home without making that decision, but she called back on the phone ten minutes later and asked that we pray that she would be able to take that step of faith. She said she would be at our next Bible study!"

Praise the Lord and pray for her that she will be able to believe and receive Jesus Christ as her personal Savior as well as for her husband who is opposed to this.



WOMEN of HOPE

reaching our world

Hope and Love— Divine Assurances

Ruth Barnes, Cleveland, OH

"Be strong and take heart, all you who hope in the Lord" (Psalm 31:24).

"I'm sorry. We can't offer you any hope. She only has a week to live at most."

My husband and I were stunned as we sat across from the doctor who had treated our daughter for the past six months for a very rare form of bone cancer. She had done so well and was almost to the point of remission, then suddenly everything went downhill. As much as you prepare yourself for the worst, somehow it always comes as a shock when it actually happens. By all human standards, our hope was gone—our natural expectation that she would in fact someday be completely healthy and live a normal life.

God's love runs deep. During the six months of her illness, we had felt Him very close as we daily committed ourselves and our daughter to Him. Even now, faced with the reality of her death, we felt His divine control in all our lives. She was going home to be with Him. He loved us enough to give her to us for 30 months, and we felt it a special privilege to love and nurture her, even for that short a time.

It is because of God's love that we are not without hope. As believers who have experienced forgiveness by God's grace, we are secure in the knowledge that our lives are hid with Christ in God. He has given us an eternal hope, a spiritual assurance that no matter what comes into our lives, He is in control of every situation. It is because of this hope that is within us, that we can supernaturally love

those around us, whether it be a silent witness or an opening to share what the Lord has laid on our hearts.

The cause and effect principle can be seen so clearly here. In experiencing God's love and forgiveness when we come to Him by faith, we have a blessed hope, a security the world cannot understand. With this hope comes a Christlike love for others, to share with them how they, too, can have the inner peace that we possess.

Won't you thank the Lord, today, for His love in dying for you and for the hope He gives? Then look for an opportunity to share that hope with a dying world!

Women in Ministry— At Any Age

by Jenelle Muri, Bismarck, ND (age 16)

How do I fit Christ into my schedule? I've thought about this question for a long time and finally came up with the answer that Christ is my life. He is part of it wherever I am and whatever I do.

I am a junior at Bismarck High School and am active in sports. At the beginning of the year, I am busy with swimming. A lot of the girls on the swimming team are not Christians. Now, I'm like most teen-agers in that I don't like to preach to other people my age. So I find it easier to show my Chris-



tian faith by my actions. Before my event, I always say a prayer asking God to be with me through the race and to help me have a good attitude, no matter how it turns out. My friends see this and some ask about it. I tell them that I know that Christ will help me through anything, and He will be there for them, too. I keep praying for those who don't ask, that someday they will find Christ.

My other activity is the drill team. We perform at halftime at games and compete against other teams. You really need to be careful of what you say and do because others look up to you and watch you. The younger kids especially watch you since you are older and seem to be something big in their eyes. Now, I'm not saying that we are great or anything, but anyone in sports is considered important and is an idol to many of the other kids.

Everyone, not just people in sports, is important. Think of the little girls or boys with those twinkling eyes. You don't want them to learn bad actions or ideas from you. You may not think anyone is watching you, but people are. So show Christ through your actions. Think of how you will help people without really having to work at it at all.

My friends are important to me. I do so much with them. We watch movies, go to each others' homes, or drive around and talk. It really is hard sometimes to show my faith because I don't want people to think I am weird or to look down on me. When I feel this way, I pray about it. I ask the Lord to be with me and to help me make the

right decisions. If my friends want me to do something that I know is wrong, then I tell them so. It is hard sometimes, but I know the Lord is right there beside me. My friends respect me for my decisions and my honesty. In turn, I consider them a better friend for understanding me.

Consider Attending . . . Mark Your Calendar

Our N.A.B Women's Missionary Fellowship, along with eighteen other Baptist denominational groups



on our continent and neighboring islands, is a part of a greater fellowship, the North American Baptist Women's Union (NABWU). Once every five years, this group holds a Congress for two to four thousand women. We will meet next in Niagara Falls, New York, October 1-4, 1987.

LaVerna Mehlhaff, Sara Pasiciel, and Dorene Walth represent us on the NABWU Executive Board. Dorene is the program chairman for the 1987 Congress. Pray for these leaders.

Meeting so many women of like interests is a fantastic experience. Make plans to include this event in your 1987 schedule. Why not begin now to budget for financial assistance for some of your local women's leaders such as your WMF president and your pastor's wife. All women are invited, and husbands, too. Special events will be planned for the men. Doesn't Niagara Falls sound like an ideal place for a second honeymoon? Watch for further details.

With so many things going on, sometimes I just can't fit Christ in. If I'm feeling down or empty, I know it's because I haven't spent time with God. So when I can get away by myself, I pray. I talk to the Lord and tell Him my problems and ask Him to help me with them. I also thank Him for everything He

has done for me. It makes me feel a lot better and gives me that extra boost for the next day or situation that may come up.

Christ is a big part of my life, and I don't know what I would do without Him. If I trust in Him, He will pull me through anything. □

President's Corner

by Sara Pasiciel, WMF president, Steinbach, MB



Sunday: Just returned from Calgary where I attended planning meetings for the 42nd Triennial Conference of North American Baptist Conference churches for 1988! Actually, it doesn't seem so far in the future any more. The whole program looks so exciting, and women in Alberta are so enthusiastic in their preparations; I'm already expecting many blessings, inspiration, and impetus to get our message into our world.

Wednesday: Have been grading papers for my class on "Women in Ministry," and I've received some startling reminders of some of the issues that confront us as women. I need to be reminded that abortion

and pornography don't go away just by wishing, that they become more and more sinister and threatening just by their constant presence. And I need to be reminded that Christian women *can* do something about these issues by being aware, by writing a letter, by voting "no" on a ballot, or even in a grocery store.

Saturday: As I write this in December, in Manitoba, once again I smile at the idea of April. The trees outside our bay window are covered with hoar frost, beautiful, lacy, white. Very appealing but frozen, dead. In April, those same trees will be a green, living frame for the warm golden sunlight that reaches in through that same window. God gives us such vivid pictures to remind us of the life we have in Him, because His Son died and rose again.

Compelled to Serve

Planning Retreat at Alpena Church Brings Change

ALPENA, MI. Some 52 adult leaders of Ripley Boulevard Baptist Church attended a "Leadership Retreat," Oct. 17-18, 1986. Their dreaming and planning sessions resulted in a number of organizational changes for the Church. Under the guidance of a Task Force, Personnel and Worship Committees were formed. A Building Fund was established as well as a Building Committee. The Rev. Fred Sweet is pastor. —Doris Turnbull

Schroeders Speak at Missions Weekend at Strassburg Church

MARION, KS. "A visit from the Rev. and Mrs. Harold Schroeder, missionaries to Cameroon, during the February 13-15 weekend climaxed days of preparation and anticipation for each age group at Strassburg Baptist Church," reports Hannah Kruse. "Each member feels close to these missionaries because the Church has been partially supporting them."

Missionary reminders were displayed everywhere on posters based on the theme, "Christ for the World." These posters were made by the boys and girls of the Church.

The Schroeders spoke and showed slides in the various services beginning on Friday evening, continuing Sunday morning and concluding Sunday evening. Special times were shared with the children and youth of the churches.

Four neighboring churches were invited: Immanuel Baptist, Marion; First Baptist, Durham; Ebenezer Baptist, Abilene; and First Baptist, Hope.

The Rev. Albert Fadenrecht, Hillsboro, serves as interim pastor of the Church.

Committed to Give

Kieper Speaks at Bison Church

BISON, KS. Miss Barbara Kieper, missionary to Nigeria, spoke and showed slides of the mission work at First Baptist Church, Feb. 1, 1987. A missionary offering was taken.

The Rev. William Effa is pastor of the Church. —Clara L. Niedenthal

Lorraine Church Helps Build Church in Brazil

LORRAINE, KS. Delmar and Thelea Wesseler of First Baptist Church took a tour of our Brazilian missions and visited our N.A.B. missionaries last fall. "They came home and told us of the many needs there, especially the need of a church building in Santos Dumont, Criciuma, SC," reports

Mrs. Harold Wilkens. "Our Church decided to donate \$6,500 for the basic structure. Additional funds were given for inside finishing and furnishings."

The Rev. Dennis Gooden is pastor of the Church.

Commanded to Care

Ochre River Church Visits Shut-ins

OCHRE RIVER, MB. During the holiday season, Grace Baptist Church's choirs and young people's group visited the local hospital, Personal Care Home, and also two senior citizens' homes. "Our prayer is that this will have brought the message of Christ and cheered the sick and elderly," states Jean Roos, reporter.

The administrator of the hospital presented Rev. Helmut Poschwatta with a plaque in gratitude for his pastoral work to the sick and lonely.

The Church recognized Rev. and Mrs. Poschwatta's ministry as they left to serve at Meadowood Manor in Winnipeg.

Commissioned to Witness

Four Baptized at Abilene Church

ABILENE, KS. The congregation of Ebenezer Baptist Church witnessed the baptism of four young people during the past few months. They were received into Church membership, Feb. 1, 1987.

The Rev. Bob Lowden is pastor of the Church. —Pearl Martinitz

Four Baptized at Chilliwack Church

CHILLIWACK, BC. Four young people were baptized at Evergreen Baptist Church during the New Year's Eve service.

The Church is jointly sponsoring the Chuck Swindoll film series, "Strengthening Your Grip," with the First Baptist Church. They are alternating locations. "We are using this as an outreach endeavour as well as to promote unity among our churches and people," reports Norma Ostberg.

40 New Members Welcomed at Grand Island Church

GRAND ISLAND, NY. The congregation of Whitehaven Road Baptist Church has become really excited about reaching out to their community. They recently built a new building and moved to a new location in the Buffalo area.

The Church received more than 40 new members in the past seven months, one third of these by baptism. New faces are seen in services every Sunday.

"A vital prayer ministry has arisen as people are seeking God, desiring real revival, and expecting a harvest of great proportions," reports Rev. Steve Turner, pastor. "During 18 years in the ministry, I never knew pastoring could be so much fun."

Thirteen Baptized at Lansing Church

LANSING MI. Pastor Elmo Tahrn baptized 13 people at Colonial Village Baptist Church, Dec. 7, 1986. They also joined the Church. —Charles W. Yeomans

Three Baptized at Ochre River Church

OCHRE RIVER, MB. Three young people were baptized on New Year's Eve at Grace Baptist Church. They and two others joined the Church fellowship.

Eight Baptized at Rowandale Baptist

WINNIPEG, MB. The congregation of Rowandale Baptist Church witnessed the baptism of eight new believers by Pastor Kenneth Schmuland, Jan. 11, 1987. They and another adult joined the Church. —H. Kahler

Susek Holds Evangelistic Crusades in Prince George and Kelowna

PRINCE GEORGE, BC. Evangelist Ron Susek concluded a city-wide Believers' Crusade in Prince George, British Columbia, on January 18. The Rev. Cliff Pedersen, pastor of Hartland Baptist Church, was the chairman of the Crusade. The four North American Baptist Conference churches in Prince George participated in the Crusade with some positive results.

Rev. Susek will be conducting an Evangelistic Crusade in Kelowna, British Columbia, April 26 to May 1. This is sponsored by the Evangelical Ministerial of Kelowna, and the Rev. Gerald Scheel, pastor of Lakeview Heights Baptist Church, is one of the vice-chairmen. Lakeview Heights Baptist, Grace Baptist, and Trinity Baptist of Kelowna are participating in the Crusade. Pray for an abundant harvest.

McDermot Church Challenged by Ministry of "New Day"

WINNIPEG, MB. "New Day" ministered at McDermot Avenue Baptist Church, Oct. 1-15, 1986. "The new format of their presentations in very creative drama forms was extremely effective and well received," reports Maria Rogalski. "We were challenged to examine our Christian life and the motives for our words and actions." The team also presented helpful seminars on various aspects of church ministry and personal witnessing.

Ladies morning coffees gave opportunities for some more personal sharing in connection with a Bible study led by several of the women. A number of decisions and rededications were made, especially from the young people.

New Youth Program Reaches Non-churched at McDermot

WINNIPEG, MB. "After Eight," a new young people's fellowship format at McDermot Avenue Baptist Church, draws many of the Church young people and their friends

as well as non-churched young people to the lower auditorium every Sunday night after the evening service for an informal time of sharing and music. Parents take turns providing and serving refreshments. "It is a very effective outreach tool," states Maria Rogalski.

Mr. Norman Tauber is Minister of Youth at the McDermot Church.

Seven Welcomed into Hillview Church

EDMONTON, AB. On Jan. 18, 1987, seven adults gave their testimonies to the members of Hillview Baptist Church and were accepted into membership.

"The testimonies were a living example of how God continually works in the lives of his children," states Grace Hall. "Some specific examples were God's healing of relationships between couples and also between God and His children, the guidance God gives when we need His help, as well as the day-to-day strength He bestows on us as believers."

Mark Davies is pastor of the Church.

Consider an Investment with Eternal Dividends!

"Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt and where thieves do not break through nor steal" (Matthew 6:19-20).

I am interested in the following investment opportunities which will help provide a blessing to others as well as myself.

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cash Gift | <input type="checkbox"/> Gift Annuity |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gift in Kind | <input type="checkbox"/> Deferred Gift Annuity |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gift of Securities/Stocks | <input type="checkbox"/> Unitrust |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gift of Real Estate | <input type="checkbox"/> Annuity Trust |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gift Through a Will | <input type="checkbox"/> Gift through Life Insurance |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Charitable Lead Trust | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Church Extension | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Investors Fund | |

Send to: Walter Swanson
Development Director
1 So. 210 Summit Ave.
Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181
(312) 495-2000

From: Name _____

Street _____

City _____ State/Prov _____ Code _____

Phone _____

Date of Birth _____

The Many Faces of Japan by Nancy Folkerts

On a recent visit to Japan, my husband Fred and I were impressed by the many faces of Japan.

The attention of most visitors is caught by the quaint and the traditional—Mt. Fuji and flower arrangements and rice paddies. We also saw the Japan of contrasts—an obese bronze Buddha grinning silently under the shadow of a steaming automotive factory.

We saw the Japan of incongruities, where a Shinto shrine may reside on the same compound with a Buddhist temple.

There are other faces, however, that silhouette the progress of the North American Baptist Conference mission endeavor on those lovely islands. Japan is a land of the miniature, as seen in the size of the homes and the bonsai gardens. It is also seen in the size of Japan Baptist Convention churches. Here a congregation of 30 or 40 is substantial. To depart from Shintoism or Buddhism is to depart from the Japanese culture; this is very difficult to do.

We had the privilege of visiting our eight Japan Baptist Convention churches in July 1986. Though progress is slow, the pastors are optimistic and positive. They have firm faith.

We were delighted with the new Higashi Muko Church in Kyoto. It is beautiful, and the Christians are proud of it. Fred preached at the morning worship service with Missionary Reimer Clausen interpreting and his wife Nobuko at the organ. Pastor Haka also assisted with the service. Afterward we enjoyed a fellowship luncheon with the Christians.

We visited all of our missionaries presently in Japan. We were pleased to see two newly constructed mission homes, and we were present for the dedication of the newest home in Nagoya. Pastor and Mrs. Arita, the contractor and his wife (church members), and missionaries were present.

Improvements at the Tsu Language Center were encouraging to see; our missionaries there are carrying on an effective work.

We enjoyed a delicious sushi supper at the home of Pastor and Mrs. Akasaka. They and their children showed us the church at Ise; the pastor eagerly told us of plans to build a new and larger church on the same site. We curiously watched Mrs. Akasaka (church secretary) deftly typing on an amazing Japanese typewriter (2000 plus characters).

Pastor Hisashi Murakami joined the missionaries for prayer fellowship at the Tsu Christian Center. He is a man of vision. He has plans drawn up for a new church in Tsu and a bus to carry people to it. He has a burden for the progress of Christianity in Tsu and a practical view of how to achieve it.

Many impressions remain of Japan—drinking bitter green tea, seeing the red-bibbed headstones of

aborted babies, watching Shinto worshipers vainly pulling bell ropes to call their gods to attention.

Devaluation of the American dollar has placed a financial burden on the support of the N.A.B. Conference missionaries in Japan. Pray that funds will continue to flow toward Christ's work in Japan. Pray that the number of Christians will increase in that highly industrialized, yet curiously traditional, land. □



A woman has just been welcomed as a new member at Higashi Muko Church, Kyoto, by Pastor Hata.

WALTER KOTH (81), Lodi, CA; born near Ventura in McConosh County, ND; died Sept. 28, 1986; married Mary Pfeifer, October 1930, who predeceased him in March 1934; married Emma Schmidt, Sept. 18, 1935; member, deacon, usher, president of Progressive Bible class, First Baptist Church, Lodi, CA; predeceased by an infant son in 1931, one sister, one brother, and one daughter in 1971; survived by his wife Emma; one daughter, Marjorie; three grandchildren; two sisters: Pauline Strobel and Amelia Will; and many nieces and nephews; Reverends David Mitchell and Merle Brenner, pastors, funeral service.

GOTTLIEB TAHRAN (79), Jamestown, ND; born Dec. 23, 1907, to William and Rose (Schaeffer) Tahrán at Odessa, South Russia; died Jan. 29, 1987; married Kathryn Lang, Nov. 12, 1933; charter member, deacon, trustee, Sunday school teacher, choir member, Temple Baptist Church, Jamestown, ND; predeceased by one son, two brothers, and one sister; survived by his wife Kathryn; two sons: Paul and David, Jamestown, ND; one daughter, Caroline Torres, Jamestown, ND; three grandchildren; four brothers: Henry Tahrán, Emil Tahrán, John Tahrán, and Rev. Elmo Tahrán; and two sisters: Rachel (Mrs. Conrad Rivinius) and Mrs. Eva McCoy; Reverends Ray Hoffman and N. E. McCoy, pastors, funeral service.

JOHN STADING (89), Dickinson, ND; born in 1898 in Antelope, ND; died Feb. 8, 1987; married Freda Frey in 1925, who predeceased him in 1978; member, Bismarck (ND) Baptist Church; survived by three daughters: Corene Kreig, Dickinson, ND; Ruth (Mrs. H. Kermit Butler), Florence, OR; and Gertrude (Mrs. Raymond Koch), Billings, MT; two sons: Vernon, Minot, ND; and Gerald, Fort Yates, ND; 17 grandchildren; 17 great-grandchildren; one sister, Edna Heil; and one brother, Richard; Reverends Daryl Dachtler and M.D. Wolff, pastors, funeral service.

ANNE REBECCA SCHAMUHN (69), Kelowna, BC; born Nov. 30, 1917, to Christian and Matilda Makus in Golden Prairie, SK; died Jan. 27, 1987; married Reuben Schamuhn, July 25, 1941; member, Sunday school and women's ministries worker, Trinity Baptist Church, Kelowna, BC; survived by her husband Reuben; one son, Ken (Marie), Regina, SK; one daughter, Sharon (Mrs. Edward Jabs), Kelowna, BC; seven grandchildren; four brothers: Alfred Makus, Ray Makus, Bern Makus, and Henry Makus; and five sisters: Emily Fischer, Hulda Odenback, Elsie Schneider, Teana Kramer, and Ruth Fauser; Reverends P. Tim Schroeder and George Brietkreuz, pastors, funeral service.

EDWARD KARY (78), Sonora, CA; born Oct. 17, 1908, in Harvey, ND; died Feb. 4, 1987; married Ethel Theis, May 16, 1936; graduated N.A.B. Seminary, Rochester, NY, 1936; student pastor, Shaker Square Baptist Church, Cleveland, OH, summer of 1935; ordained Oct. 22, 1936, Durham (KS) Baptist Church; served as pastor in the following N.A.B. churches: Durham (KS), 1935-1941; Napoleon (ND), 1942-45; Bismarck (ND), 1945-1954; White Avenue (now Hillcrest), Cleveland, OH, 1954-1970; two churches were built during his ministry in Bismarck and Cleveland; member, board of directors, treasurer of building fund, building construction supervisor, Baptist Home, Bismarck, ND; a chaplain, House and Senate of North Dakota Legislature; camp director; member, Board of Missions, General Council, Publication Board, N.A.B. Conference; survived by his wife Ethel; one daughter, Lois, Dublin, CA; three sons: Lowell C., Sonora, CA; Michael J., Brentwood, CA; and Christopher L., San Francisco, CA; three grandchildren; and six brothers: John, Ronald, Joe, Ben, Harold, and Rev. Michael; Rev. Michael Kary, pastor, funeral service.

ROBERT BETCHER (83), Swan River, MB; born Oct. 26, 1903, to Fredrich and Mithilde Betcher in Rouno, Alexandrie, Poland; died Jan. 17, 1987; married Hilda Ginter, Nov. 3, 1929; member, Temple Baptist Church, Swan River, MB; survived by his wife Hilda; two daughters: Elsie (Mrs. Jake Martens), Swan River; and Rita (Mrs. Dieter Hettig), Winnipeg, MB; six sons: Walter (Marian), Prince George, BC; Fred (Erna); Arnold (Elsie); Ben (Kay); George (Lorna); and Harvey (Aneta), Swan River; 19 grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren; Rev. Neal Effa, pastor, funeral service.

AUGUST LABRANTZ (86), Edmonton, AB; born Feb. 10, 1906, in AnteNufka, Wohlynién; died Jan. 22, 1987; married Leokadia Sass in 1930; member, Zion Baptist Community Church, Edmonton, AB; survived by his wife Leokadia; five children: Martha (Mrs. Daniel Schulz); Reinhard (Waltraut); Helmut (Erika); Aurelie (Mrs. Assaph Gretzinger); Hildegard (Mrs. Walter Lietz); and Ruben (Gisela); 15 grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren; Rev. Henry Goliath, pastor, funeral service.

EUGENE WEISENBURGER, Leola, SD; died Sept. 6, 1987; member, First Baptist Church, Leola, SD; survived by his wife Agnes; three sons: Steve, Gailen, and Earl of Aberdeen, SD; brothers and sisters; Rev. A. Friez, pastor, funeral service.

EDWARD FUEHRER (89), Bismarck, ND; died Jan. 7, 1987; born in 1897 in Wurms, Russia, the son of John and Katherine (Lautermilch) Fuehrer; moved to North Dakota, U.S.A. in 1902; married Katie Walther, 1928; she predeceased him in 1985; member, Bismarck Baptist Church; survived by three daughters: Mrs. Betty Mehrer, Minneapolis, MN, Mrs. Robert (Ruby) Cooper, Madison, WI, and Mrs. Gene (Arlene Kay) Dronen, Mckenzie, ND; one son, James of Bismarck; 10 grandchildren; 15 great-grandchildren; two sisters: Pauline Schrenk and Christine McMonagle; Rev. M.D. Wolff, pastor, funeral service.

Flowers are beautiful—but they fade so quickly.

Consider giving a gift to our North American Baptist Conference Mission and Outreach Ministries in memory or honor of a special loved one. Receive double benefits through your gift: You honor that special someone, and you help reach lost people for Christ.

Enclosed is my gift of \$ _____

In memory of _____

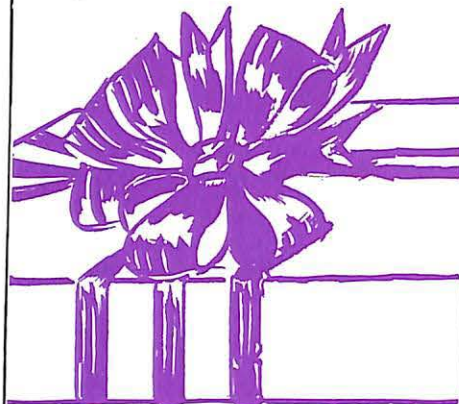
In recognition of _____

Send acknowledgement to _____

Send receipt to _____

Mail above information and gift to:
Walter Swanson, development director
North American Baptist Conference
1 So. 210 Summit Ave., P.O. Box 159
Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181

What do I get that special someone on the occasion of his or her anniversary, birthday, or other special event?



Consider a gift that both honors them and the Lord, a gift to N.A.B. Conference outreach ministries in recognition of that person and the special event.

Through this recognition gift, you will be reaching people for Christ and letting that person know how special he or she is with one gift.

Enclosed is my gift of \$ _____

In recognition of _____
(event)

Send acknowledgement to

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

St./Prov. _____ Code _____

Send receipt to

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

St./Prov. _____ Code _____

Mail to: Mr. Walter Swanson, development director, North American Baptist International Office, 1 South 210 Summit Ave., Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181
Phone: 1-312-495-2000

Come Together in Calgary, 1988

42nd Triennial Conference of North American Baptist Churches, Calgary, Alberta, 1988

Reaching for Glory by Harvey Mehlhaff

Athletes from nations all over the world will "come together" for the Winter Olympics in Calgary, Alberta, in 1988. Their hope is to take home the gold, the silver, or minimally the bronze medal. They will be reaching to achieve glory for themselves and their country. And while great excitement will have taken place—in a few months, it will all be forgotten, and people will go on to other things.

Five or six months later, July 26-31, 1988, there will be another coming together . . . people from the United States, Canada, Brazil, Japan, Philippines, and Africa. They, too, will be "reaching for glory." But the glory will be altogether different than the fading excitement of the momentary successes of the winter athletes. North American Baptist Conference Christians will be committing their bodies, emotions, and energies to plan and implement an effective program of witness for Jesus Christ. We will not compete against one another to usurp the glory for ourselves. We will combine our resources to enable our world to share in God's glory together (2 Corinthians 3:10, 11).

You are invited to be an athlete in this cause. Many people are content to obtain their excitement as spectators, observing from the stands and avoiding the commitment of vigorous training.

"Come together!" Come to the Olympic Village in Calgary for the 42nd Triennial Conference of



North American Baptist Churches. Experience the excitement of being part of a movement of glory—reaching for ultimate glory in God's presence. We will motivate one another to action; we will cultivate our sense of unity; we will develop a fellowship of caring for people.

"And we, who with unveiled faces all reflect the Lord's glory, are being transformed into His likeness with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit" (2 Corinthians 3:18).

Harvey W. Mehlhaff is pastor of Faith Baptist Church, Minneapolis, MN; Vice-Moderator, North American Baptist Conference; and Program Committee Chairman of the 42nd Triennial Conference.



what's happening

Ziegler Named Eastern Area Minister

The Rev. John Ziegler of Colfax, Washington, was appointed Eastern Area Minister by the Executive Committee of the North American Baptist Conference according to Dr. Willis Potratz, area ministries director. The appointment came upon recommendation of the Eastern Area Search Committee composed of the moderators and general council representatives of the Eastern and Atlantic Associations and took effect March 1.

Rev. Ziegler has served as pastor of First Baptist Church, Colfax Washington, since 1981, when he resigned as General Secretary of the Church Extension Department (now known as Church Growth Department) of the North American Baptist Conference. He had served as Associate Secretary of the Church Extension Department from 1976-79 and was appointed General Secretary of the Department in 1979. Prior pastorates include Oak Street Baptist Church, Burlington, Iowa, 1967-76; Community Baptist Church, Xenia, Ohio, 1960-67; First Baptist Church, Appleton, Minnesota, 1956-58; and Associate Pastor of Ridgemont Baptist Church, East Detroit, Michigan, 1956-60. He is a 1956 graduate of the North American Baptist Seminary.

Rev. Ziegler succeeds the Rev. Wilmer Quiring of Rochester, New York, who retired in January 1987 as Eastern Area Minister after serving in that position since 1976.

Rev. Ziegler and his wife Millie will reside in Amherst, New York.

The Rev. Tucker Gunneman resigned as Director of Church Ministries at Colonial Village Baptist Church, Lansing, Michigan, effective March 31. He has served there since 1984.

The Rev. Merle Brenner is serving as part-time Visitation Pastor at First Baptist Church, Lodi, California.

The Rev. Paul Mohninger resigned at Zion Baptist Church, Terrace, British Columbia, to accept the call to become pastor of the Osoyoos Baptist Church, Osoyoos, British Columbia, June 1. He has served as pastor of the Terrace Church since 1977.



Mr. Fred Sudfeld, a recent graduate of the North American Baptist Seminary, accepted the call from Ebenezer Baptist Church, Vancouver, British Columbia, to the position of Director of Youth Ministries. He joins Ray Harris, director of church ministries, and Dr. Arthur Boymook, senior pastor, already on staff.

Mr. Jeffrey DeParsia of San Diego, California, accepted the call to be youth minister for three North American Baptist Conference churches in Saskatchewan: Springside Baptist, Central Baptist in Yorkton, and Ebenezer Baptist, effective December 21, 1986. "All high school students attend the same school, and the school provides an office for counseling students from a large area," says the Rev. Richard Grabke, senior pastor at the Springside Church. "In addition to the ministry of counseling, the youth pastor will train the youth sponsors from the three respective churches. He will maintain their own youth meeting but occasionally have a special event including all the youth. We see a potential of 200 youth."

Greg Grigsby resigned as junior high ministries director at Sunrise Baptist Church, Fair Oaks, CA, where he has served since 1982.

The Rev. Garry Dirk became pastor of Pilgrim Baptist Church, Vancouver, BC, effective Feb. 1, 1987. He previously served at Grace Baptist Church, Kelowna, BC, as Director of Christian Education and Youth since 1985.

The Rev. Jim Calamunce accepted the pastorate of the Walnut Grove church extension work in Langley, British Columbia, effective March 1, 1987. He previously served as Associate Pastor at Sunshine Ridge Baptist Church, Surrey, British Columbia, since 1984. The Sunshine Ridge Church loaned Rev. Calamunce to the Walnut Grove Church during the month of February.

The Rev. Ed Klingenberg resigned as pastor of College Heights Baptist Church, Prince George, British Columbia, effective January 31, 1987. He served this Church since 1978.

Mr. Allen Mertes was ordained to the Christian ministry by Trinity Baptist Church, Kelowna, British Columbia, on January 25, 1987. He serves as Associate Pastor for Christian Education and Youth at Trinity Baptist

Church, Kelowna, British Columbia. Rev. David Vetter accepted the pastorate of First Baptist Church, Holley, New York, effective April 1987. The Rev. Fred Mashner has been serving as interim pastor of this Church. Rev. Vetter has served as pastor of Forest Baptist Church, Winburne, Pennsylvania, since 1982.

The Rev. John Wesley Holmes resigned as pastor of Cedarloo Baptist Church, Cedar Falls, Iowa, effective December 28, 1986.

The Rev. Dan Payne resigned as pastor of First Baptist Church, Sumner, Iowa, effective Dec. 28, 1986. He has served this Church since 1980.

Ken and Kirby Stoller of Cascade Park Baptist Church, Vancouver, British Columbia, were appointed directors of Camp Tapawingo in Oregon at the Central Pacific Association meetings in November 1986. They succeed John and Jill Vaughn who faithfully served this position in the past years.

Mr. Larry M. Watkins resigned as youth pastor of Glencullen Baptist Church, Portland, Oregon, where he served since 1986.

The Rev. Paul Brannon, formerly pastor of First Baptist Church, Sidney, Montana, is now the pastor of a non-N.A.B. Conference church.

Tim Powell, graduate of the North American Baptist Seminary, Sioux Falls, South Dakota, accepted the position of Associate Pastor for Christian Education and Youth at Ripley Boulevard Baptist Church, Alpena, Michigan, effective March 1, 1987.

anniversaries

Charles and Kay Yeomans celebrated 50 years of marriage, Nov. 8, 1986. They have been members of Colonial Village Baptist Church, Lansing, MI, for 16 years.

Elmer and Mable Pritzkau celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on Dec. 22, 1986. They are active members of Immanuel Baptist Church, Wessington Springs, SD.

E.R. "Bud" and Martha Siemens celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary Dec. 27, 1986, at Calvary Baptist Church, Corn, OK.

Nigeria Philippines
Brazil Japan
**A
GIFT
THAT PAYS
DOUBLE**
North America Cameroon

**Income to you for life
up to 14%**

**Income (support funds)
for mission and outreach
efforts around the world**

I would like more information on the N.A.B. Conference Gift Annuity Program.

I wish to secure a gift annuity. My check or money order in the amount of \$ _____ is enclosed.

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City _____

St./Prov. _____ Code _____

Date of birth _____

Date of birth _____

Mail to: Mr. Walter Swanson, North American Baptist Conference, 1 So. 210 Summit Ave., Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181

"New Day" Setting 1987-88 Tour

"New Day" will be ministering to churches on the East Coast of North America during their 1987-88 tour year. Churches desiring to have "New Day" during the 1987-88 tour should contact Loren Kopf, North American Baptist Conference International Office, 1 South 210 Summit Avenue, P.O. Box 159, Oakbrook Terrace, Illinois 60181.

congratulations

Congratulations to the following churches for renewing through the Church Family Subscription Plan to the *Baptist Herald*.

Bethany Baptist Church, Vancouver, BC; Dr. Rick Laser, pastor; Mrs. Gloria Schunter, agent.

Calvary Baptist Church, Stafford, KS; Rev. James Derman, pastor; Mrs. Chester Hildebrand, agent.

Carbon Baptist Church, Carbon, AB; Rev. Ed Vanderbaaren, pastor; Mr. Leo Biebrick, agent.

Central Baptist Church, Yorkton, SK; Rev. Delvin Bertsch, pastor; Mrs. Hertha Rowden, agent.

Community Baptist Church, Beiseker, AB; Rev. Robert Hoffman, pastor; Mrs. Muriel Anderson, agent.

Community Baptist Church, Taber, AB; Rev. Dennis Liesch, pastor; Mrs. Shirley Arksey, agent.

Creston Baptist, Creston, BC; Rev. Fred Moore, pastor; Mrs. Margaret Johnson, agent.

Rowandale Baptist, Winnipeg, MB; Rev. Kenneth Schmuland, pastor; Mrs. Rose Fuellbrandt, agent.

Ebenezer Baptist Church, Shattuck, SK; Rev. Fred H. Fuchs, pastor; Mrs. John Schoenhals, agent.

Faith Community Baptist Church, Airdrie, AB; Rev. Harold Weiss, pastor; Mr. Lonnie Neis, agent.

First Baptist Church, Auburn, MI; Rev. Dick Spalding, pastor.

First Baptist Church, Elgin, IA; Rev. Norman Miller, pastor; Mr. and Mrs. Peter Luchsinger, agent.

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

First Baptist Church, Trenton, IL; Mrs. Florence Ranz, agent.

Greenvine Baptist Church, Burton, TX; Rev. Don Mashburn, pastor; Mr. Lesley Kramer, agent.

Immanuel Baptist Church, Loyal, OK; Rev. Jeff Patet, pastor; Mr. Norman Vilhaur, agent.

Immanuel Baptist Church, Portland, OR; Rev. William Jeschke, pastor; Mr. Rod Rosentreter, agent.

Immanuel Baptist Church, Vancouver, BC; Rev. Richard Hohensee, pastor; Mr. Horst Radant, agent.

Mayfair Park Baptist Church, Chicago, IL; Mr. Edgar Merke, agent.

Pilgrim Baptist Church, Vancouver, BC; Rev. Siegbert Zukowski, interim pastor; Mr. Hans Logeman, agent.

Randolph Baptist Church, Randolph, MN; Rev. Dan Van Gerpen, pastor; Mrs. Janet Thielbar, agent.

Raymore Baptist Church, Raymore, SK; Mr. Alan Johnson, interim pastor; Mr. Julius Orthner, agent.

Springside Baptist Church, Springside, SK; Rev. Richard Grabke, pastor; Mrs. William Kriger, agent.

Strassburg Baptist Church, Marion, KS; Rev. Albert Fadenrecht, pastor; Mr. Dwight Kruse, agent.

Trochu Baptist Church, Trochu, AB; Rev. Dan Eisner, pastor; Mrs. June Haller, agent.

Westview Baptist Church, Lethbridge, AB; Rev. James Erb, pastor; Mr. Wayne May, agent.

Whiteshell Baptist Church, Seven Sisters, MB; Rev. Robert Sanford, pastor; Mrs. D. Legal, agent.

Zion Baptist Church, Okeene, OK; Rev. Elton Kirstein, pastor.

Terrace Heights Baptist Church, Spokane, WA; Rev. Harvey A. Motis, pastor; Mrs. John Morton, agent.

Redeemer Baptist Church, Columbus, NE; Rev. Arlie Rauch, pastor; Mrs. Kathryn R. Wolfe, agent.

New Leipzig Baptist Church, New Leipzig, ND; Rev. Roger Freeland, pastor; Mrs. Elmer Pahl, agent.

Sherwood Park Baptist Church, Greeley, CO; Mr. Mike Hodgins, pastor; Mr. Charles Smith, agent.

McDermot Baptist Church, Winnipeg, MB; Dr. John Hisel, pastor; Mrs. Alice Parr, agent.

Salem Baptist Church, Kitchener, ON; Rev. Herman Pohl, pastor; Mr. Alfons Schmidt, agent.

Calvary Baptist Church, Corn, OK; Rev. Edwin Voigt, pastor; Mrs. Mary Leppke, agent.

Cornerstone Baptist Church, Carol Stream, IL; Rev. Stephen Patrick, pastor; Mr. and Mrs. M. Granzow, agents.

First Baptist Church, Lorraine, KS; Mr. Lee Westerman, agent.

Minnetrista Baptist Church, St. Bonifacius, MN; Rev. Kenneth Unruh, pastor; Mrs. Ed Rehbein, agent.

Bethany Baptist Church, Hunter, KS; Mr. Tony Dickerson, pastor; Mrs. Suzanne Wehrman, agent.

Cathay Baptist Church, Cathay, ND; Mrs. Albert Seibold, agent.

First Baptist Church, Underwood, ND; Rev. Wesley A. Gerber, pastor; Mr. Leo Strecker, agent.

Temple Baptist Church, Leduc, AB;

capital funds

In February, the Conference Executive Committee met to review capital fund income and make decisions for distribution of the available cash.

The following ministries received funds:

North American Baptist College and North American Baptist Divinity School—\$43,000

Overseas Missions—\$113,000

Church Growth—\$185,000

To help build 90 Day Operating Reserve for Conference Basic Mission and Ministry Budget—\$185,000

"The distribution of funds was made possible because of your gifts," says Dr. Connie Salios, campaign director. "Your continued financial gifts are needed. Thank you for all that you have done and will continue to do."

Rev. Frank Schmidt, pastor; Mrs. Violet Fleck, agent.

Shakopee Baptist Church, Shakopee, MN; Rev. Robert Lang, pastor; Mrs. Leota Stading, agent.

Temple Baptist Church, Jamestown, ND; Rev. Ray Hoffman, pastor; Mrs. Leona Meisch, agent.

Venturia Baptist Church, Venturia, ND; Rev. Randall Tschetter, pastor; Mrs. LaVilla Dollinger, agent.

East Olds Baptist Church, Olds, AB; Rev. John Wollenberg, pastor; Mr. Walter Unger, agent.

Bethel Baptist Church, Harvey, ND; Rev. Daniel D. Edzards, pastor; Miss Helen Otto, agent.

First Baptist Church, Linton, ND; Rev. Randy Jaspers, pastor; Mrs. Martha Ballard, agent.

Faith Baptist Church, Regina, SK; Rev. R. Quiring, pastor; Mrs. Vera Rosom, agent.

Forest Park Baptist Church, Forest Park, IL; Rev. David Steinhart, pastor.

Calvary Baptist Church, Regina, SK; Rev. Bruno Voss, pastor; Miss Marilyn Paul, agent.

Temple Baptist Church, Swan River, MB; Rev. Neal Effa, pastor; Mrs. Leona Seib, agent.

Southey Baptist Church, Southey, SK; Mrs. Grace Lang, agent.

FACULTY POSITION OPEN North American Baptist College, 11525 - 23 Avenue, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada, T6J 4T3

announces an opening on the faculty, teaching in the area of Christian Education.

Applicants should possess an earned doctorate related to the field of Christian Education complemented with practical church ministry experience. Salary will be commensurate with rank.

Applications are available from Dr. Richard Paetzel, academic vice president. In accordance with Canadian Immigration laws, preference will be given to Canadian citizens.

Martin Baptist Church of Martin, North Dakota

Invites all former pastors, members, and friends to attend the
**90th Anniversary Celebration
July 19, 1987**

Inquiries or greetings contact:
Rev. Bill Keple
P.O. Box 13
Martin, ND 58758

75th Anniversary Celebration of the Zion Baptist Church Okeene, Oklahoma August 7-9, 1987

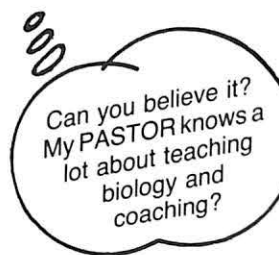
We invite all former members and friends to take part in these celebrations.

Inquiries or greetings contact:
Zion Baptist Church
Box 357
Okeene, Oklahoma 73763
Rev. Elton Kirstein, pastor

Centennial Celebration of the Temple Baptist Church, 1887-1987 October 2-4, 1987 Milwaukee, Wisconsin

All former pastors, members, and friends are cordially invited.

Inquiries or greetings to
Temple Baptist Church
3920 N. 51st Blvd., P.O. Box 18324
Milwaukee, WI 53218
Rev. Henry Ramus, pastor
(414) 455-0340



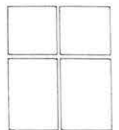
second career students

enhance their adult life in
ministry professions at

North American Baptist Seminary

"reconciling the world through Christ"

contact:
North American Baptist Seminary
1321 West 22nd St.
Sioux Falls, SD 57105
605/336-6588



Baptist Herald

1 So. 210 Summit Ave.
Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181
(312) 495-2000

Non-profit organization
Second class postage
paid at Villa Park, Illinois 60181
and at additional mailing offices

Registered as Second Class Mail
under permit #9327 at Norwich, Ontario.
Return postage guaranteed.

Yes, you can count on me to financially support the work of our N.A.B. missionaries.

- Please forward my gift immediately for the support of:
 - Overseas Missions
 - Training Nationals
 - Church Planting Overseas
 - Field Evangelism
 - Where Needed Most
 - Other _____
- I plan to give my gift through the Easter Missions Offering on April 19.
- I can't give right now, but as the Lord provides, I will covenant to give \$_____ by December 31.
- I will pray for the Conference missionaries and that God would provide the resources to meet our 1987 ministry commitments.

Name

Address

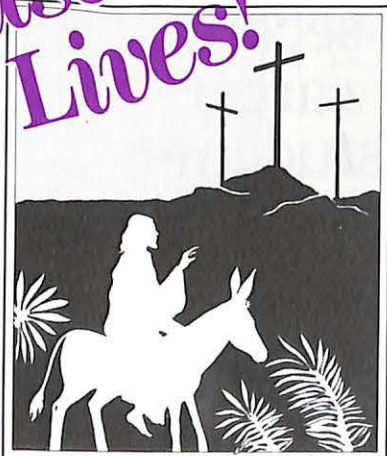
City

State/Prov.

Code

Church

Because He Lives!



1987

EASTER
MISSIONS OFFERING