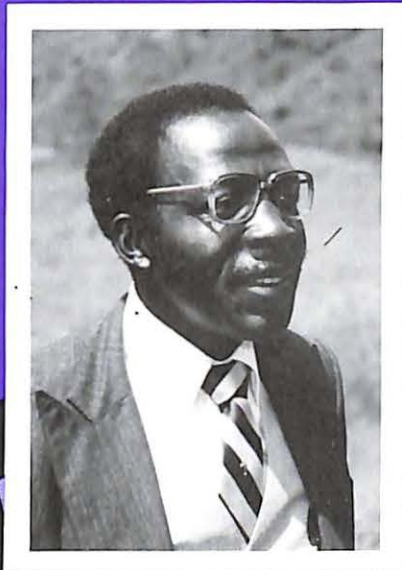
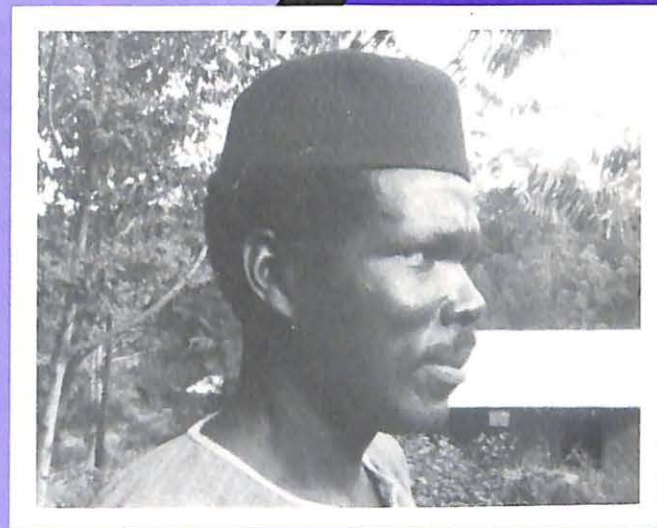
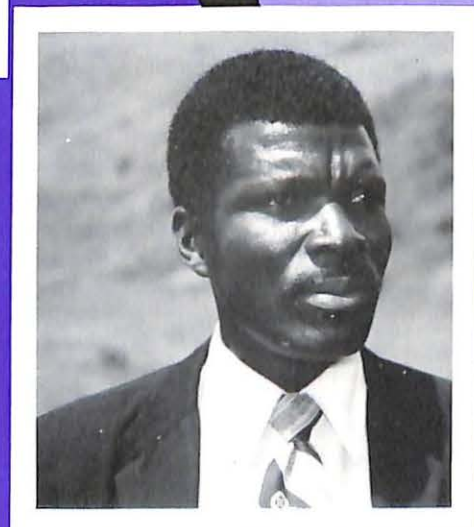


Baptist Herald

September 1987



Our Mission
in Nigeria



God Is Working in Nigeria: A Personal Testimony

by Ron Salzman

There really are a lot of joys in being Missions Director of the North American Baptist Conference. A visit, such as the one I took in October 1986, to the mission work of our Conference on the Mambilla Plateau in Southeast Nigeria is a life-changing experience. Imagine standing with me in the presence of the leadership of the Mambilla Baptist Convention and receiving their gratitude for our Conference's sending missionaries with the message of the Gospel to them. To see how that message has been internalized by our Nigerian brothers and sisters in Christ and, in turn, shared in a culture different from ours is affirming to one's own faith. To see the quality of leadership that God is calling forth in Nigeria gives the assurance that His Kingdom is being securely established there.

The chapel time at the Mambilla Baptist Theological School filled me with hope for the future. As I brought greetings from the Christians of the North American Baptist Conference to them, I realized I was speaking to the future of Christ's Church in that small piece of Africa. In front of me were more than 100 young faces eager to learn, to know more, to minister as trained pastors and wives, to be better parents, to help make Nigeria strong, and to be what God wants them to be. I believe God is raising up a new generation of African church leaders that will do great things for His Kingdom. I was grateful that I could be part of that through our support of Missionaries Minnie Kuhn and Clem and Sylvia Auch.

In a far away village, in the bush, the people were eagerly awaiting the arrival of Missionary



Ron Salzman, missions director for the North American Baptist Conference, (left), and the Rev. Samuel Yubuini, executive secretary of the Mambilla Baptist Convention, discuss ministries to reach and train people for Christ on the Mambilla Plateau in Nigeria.

Barbara Kieper. It was their day for the rural health nurse to bring medicine and help for a myriad of hurts. The exhaustingly long day started with devotions from the local pastor and then in single file, patients waited to see Nurse Kieper. To know that I am part of Miss Kieper's ministry brings me deep satisfaction.

For generations, the Fulani people have lived as nomadic cattle herders on the Plateau. Allan and Karen Effa are our first missionaries to these people of the Islamic faith. I wish that each of our North American Baptist Conference people could sit with me and hear the Effas share their deep sense of calling to present the Gospel to these people. We must be responsible to support the Effas in this opportunity to evangelize this unreached people group that God has put in the midst of our present mission work.

Over a day's journey from our work on the Mambilla Plateau, Missionaries Elmer and Ruth Strauss and Gaylord and Gail Goehring are helping to change

lives in Jos. The Strausses are ministering at Hillcrest School, patiently working on visas, travel arrangements, and procurement of supplies for missionaries as well as doing the book work as the field treasurer. Gaylord and Gail Goehring teach mathematics, computer, and music at Hillcrest School to missionary children and non-mission expatriate children in addition to children of non-Christian Nigerian leaders. I sense that God is using these missionaries in Jos to prepare a new set of leaders for the advancement of His Kingdom in the world.

The saga of God's working through our missionaries in Nigeria is not over. God has given the North American Baptist Conference a very special ministry in a part of Africa that presently He has assigned to no one else. I am excited about being part of that challenge. □

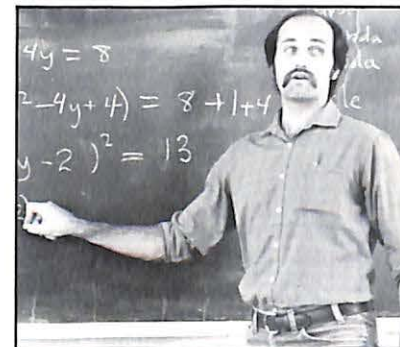
Mr. Ron Salzman is Missions Director for the North American Baptist Conference.

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Milestones

by Minnie Kuhn

Missionary Minnie Kuhn was asked to give an overview of the progress of the mission work on the Mambilla Plateau in Nigeria.

Where have we come from? Where are we going in our mission work in Nigeria?

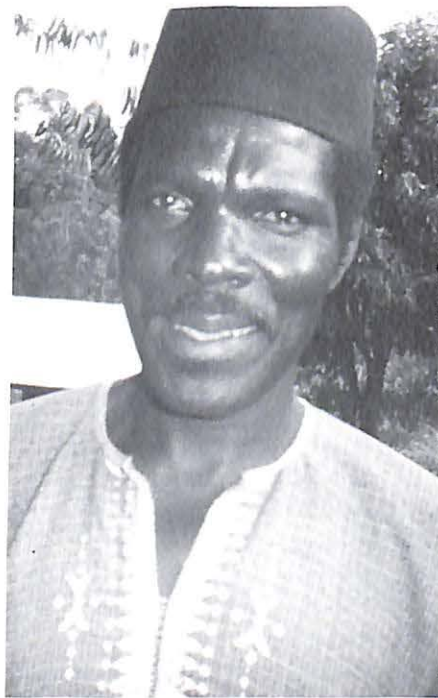
Milestone 1

When I was appointed as a missionary in 1952, I was posted to Warwar/Mambilla—our most remote outpost station. At that time, it was a part of Cameroon, West Africa, under British trusteeship. I had heard of the work of our missionaries, the George Dungers and the Gilbert Schneiders, and others in that area.

However, on arrival in Cameroon, my posting was changed to Mbem, and the Kenneth Goodmans were posted to Warwar. I visited Missionaries Ken and June Goodman and toured the Mambilla Plateau. I met the people, experienced their friendliness, and saw their hunger for God's Word and their desperate need for medical help.

How did I finally get to Warwar/Mambilla to fulfill a long-held dream?

During an Annual Missionary Conference in Bamenda, Cameroon, I met a delegation from Warwar/Mambilla who had come to "demand" that a missionary doctor, a missionary nurse, and a missionary evangelist be posted to their area. The Mission Field Council said, "We are sorry—we have no available doctor or missionary evangelist, and no nurse would be willing to go to that remote area alone." (The mission executive in Cameroon had even considered turning the Mambilla work over to another mission since



Today, Rev. A. Jandong serves as the Theological Education Director for the Mambilla Baptist Convention.

a border now divided the mission work.)

Little did these men realize that several of us nurses dearly wanted to go to Warwar. When Dr. Leslie Chaffee gave his report to the Medical Committee, I assured him that I was ready and more than willing to go to Warwar. Thus began another branch of my journey as a missionary.

Milestone 2

The short-term Bible schools on the Mambilla Plateau in Nigeria begun by Ken and June Goodman soon developed into a prep class to prepare young men to go to the Bible School in Ndu, Cameroon, to be trained as pastors. With the encouragement of Missionary Fred Holzimmer and the faithful ministry of Rev. A. Jiminda, the seeds of the Mambilla Baptist Theological School were sown.

Following Rev. Jiminda, Rev. Peter Sol, the present principal of M.B.T.S., became the tutor. Rev. Moses Ishi also served as tutor.

When Rev. Timothy Yula graduated from the six-year theological course at Ndu, the Mambilla Baptist Convention field leaders said, "We must start our own Bible school. We are unable to get enough of our men into the School at Ndu. Visas and legal papers make it too difficult."

In spite of the reluctance of missionaries, these Baptist leaders established their own Bible school. Today, Mambilla Baptist Theological School is a strong testimony for Christ in this land where Islam is growing stronger every day. Presently, M.B.T.S. has five classes in the men's department as well as five classes in the women's department.

With help from churches in North America and here in Mambilla, buildings have been put up, now housing 77 students plus their



Rev. Peter Sol is the principal of Mambilla Baptist Theological School, Mbu.

wives and children. Four national tutors along with our missionaries teach at Mambilla Baptist Theological School, which held its tenth graduation ceremonies this year. In 1972, Theological Education by Extension (TEE) became a vital part of the mission program to train people who are unable to attend Mambilla Baptist Theological School.

Milestone 3

Mambilla, a small area with more than 80,000 people, now has 140 churches but only 50 trained pastors to minister to 12,000 Christians. Much of this growth is due to the medical outreach and our former mission hospital at Warwar. Missionaries and nationals who worked all week in that hospital visited churches in outlying areas on Sundays, leaving at 6 a.m. to witness and encourage. They then returned at about 6 p.m. for another week of medical work.

The mission hospital in Warwar was taken over by the Nigerian government in 1976, and the last missionary left there in 1979. However, this did not end the medical work. We now turned to Primary Health Care and Village Health Workers under the direction of Missionary Barbara Kieper. Through this ministry, many people receive otherwise unavailable medical help as well as a Christian witness.

Milestone 4

In 1970, the Mambilla Baptist Convention organized as a separate entity from the Cameroon Baptist Convention. The Field officers met in my house until 1:30 a.m., trying to work out a simple, acceptable constitution. To Brother Isaiah Kah, with the advice and help of Ken and June Goodman, fell the job of starting this fledgling organization which today is a strong and sturdy witness.

What about Milestone 5 and the Future?

We have thousands of people looking for challenges and ways to serve Christ. The Convention has appointed a youth worker, Mr. Abel Kalip, a dedicated and zealous young man. He is a trained school teacher but has had no Bible school or youth training. Who will help him?

With 140 churches and only 50 trained pastors, who will help nurture our Christians and train and build up leaders and pastors?

Many villages on the Mambilla Plateau have not yet been reached. The Mambilla Baptist Convention has its own mission field outside of Mambilla with three main centres. Finding trained national missionaries is a continual concern. Recently, a young man reported to me, "Sister, I have four young men from the Village May Lagungo (a remote part of Mayo/Ndaga area) who have accepted Christ." This is just one village of many.

Although many Fulani people have heard the Gospel and even



Rev. Moses Ishi, first President of Mambilla Baptist Convention, former executive secretary of the Convention, tutor of the prep class and now tutor at M.B.T.S.



The Wanmi Brothers serving the Lord (l to r): Isaiah, a student at Mambilla Baptist Theological School; Job, a tutor at the School; and Zebulon, director of primary health care for the Mambilla Baptist Convention.

made commitments to Christ at Warwar hospital, they have no consistent witness. This is a very difficult area especially with the present tension between Christianity and Islam.

Will we once again say, "Abandon the fledgling church and give it to someone else. Let them go it alone; they are old enough; they are aggressive enough"? Is our work as a mission finished in Mambilla? No, I do not think so. We need to stand with our national brothers and sisters to teach, to support, and to encourage them in their outreach to unreached people in places where it is difficult for us to go.

Miss Minnie Kuhn has served as a missionary on the Mambilla Plateau since 1964 as a nurse at Warwar hospital, as evangelism director for the Mambilla Baptist Convention, and tutor at the Mambilla Baptist Theological School, Mbu, Nigeria.

The Ministries of the Mambilla Baptist Convention, Nigeria

by Samuel Yubuin

Mambilla Baptist Convention is a young, growing Convention that was founded in 1973, with only two fields, eight associations, 93 churches, and a membership of about 4,000. But because of our joint efforts with the North American Baptist Conference Mission in our evangelical, social, and educational ministries, the Lord has blessed us so that we have grown to where we are today. Our three main areas of ministry have but one ultimate goal, that is to reach unreached people with the Gospel (Matthew 28:19-20).

Church Growth Ministries

Mambilla Baptist Convention is evangelical in nature in all activities. This spirit we have inherited from our spiritual fathers, the North American Baptist Conference missionaries who brought the Gospel to Mambilla in the 1930s, and it is what we have learned from the Scripture itself. Although the North American Baptist Conference is not a large Baptist body in North America, it is a giant in mission work, when one looks at her work in Cameroon, Japan, Brazil, Philippines, and Nigeria.

Ever since the Gospel came to Mambilla, we have become involved in evangelical activities. We attend national and international evangelical congresses. Furthermore, we launched emphases such as "New Life for All," "Each One Win One," and "Operation Win Nigeria for Christ," to name a few.

To keep this important ministry going, we set a goal for every three years. Some of the goals have been helpful, others not. However, wisely chosen goals produce results. An Evangelism Committee monitors the activities.

Through these ministries, we have reached many people with

the Gospel and have opened new areas to evangelize. If it were not for some spiritual diseases such as tribalism, discrimination, and denominational barriers, the Mambilla Baptist Convention would have expanded far and wide. However, these problems are gradually solving themselves.

We have come to a stage where we urgently need a full-time Evangelism Secretary for the smooth running of the work.

Social Ministries

When the pioneers brought the Gospel to Mambilla, one of the first things they did was to establish a good relationship with the people to whom they hoped to introduce the Gospel. This was done first by helping the people physically. Some came with a bag of salt or sugar, cloth, or a medicine box. Thus the people saw that they were being loved and cared for, so it paved the way for the Word. We still maintain an essential caring ministry through medical services in two different ways: mobile clinics and building of dispensaries. Through this ministry, many have received help; many have heard the Gospel and received the Lord Jesus Christ as Saviour. There is a great need to expand the program to really meet the need of both the believers and unbelievers around us.

Educational Ministries

Educational ministries are another concern of our Mambilla Baptist Convention; about half of our annual budget goes to theological education.

We run a theological school, Mambilla Baptist Theological School, and sponsor students in different seminaries within the country. Our educational programs include the yearly Leader-



The Mambilla Baptist Convention works in partnership with the North American Baptist Conference. "You have aided us financially and with personnel to help in our church growth and educational and medical ministries. We thank the missionaries and you all for your support."—Rev. Samuel Yubuin, executive secretary, Mambilla Baptist Convention.

ship Training Course, Theological Education by Extension, and Sunday school.

The educational ministry is one of the ministries that the North American Baptist Conference helps very much. You have helped to put up some of the theological school buildings and to supply books, staff, and some equipment. You also help us very much with the Theological Education by Extension program. There is still a great need for higher training.

How the North American Baptist Conference Helps Us

Since the founding of the Mambilla Baptist Convention, we have been in partnership with the North American Baptist Conference. You have aided us financially and with personnel to help in our church growth, educational, and medical ministries. We thank the missionaries for their hard work. Thanks to you all for your wholehearted support whether in kind or cash. □

The Rev. Samuel Yubuin is the Executive Secretary of the Mambilla Baptist Convention on the Mambilla Plateau in Nigeria, West Africa.

Teaching at Mambilla Baptist Theological School

by Clemence Auch

Genesis, Moses, Zachariah—sounds like Old Testament Survey. Thaddeus, Philemon, John—sounds like New Testament Survey. It could be, but these are some of the given names of our students at Mambilla Baptist Theological School, Mbu, Nigeria. Christian parents usually try to give names to the Bible to their children. Occasionally, we have a student with a name like Goodman or Minnie, named after missionaries. Then we hear names like Faith, Mercy, and God-love, which tell us of Christian experiences.

Names—what is the importance of a name? The name can eventually be reflected in the character of the person who tries to live up to it. We have students at M.B.T.S. who are trying to prepare themselves for more effective service.

To a missionary teaching in an African school, it is easy to think of the students en masse. There are 78 students at M.B.T.S. They are individuals with names and personalities. The first year of my teaching, it was confusing to remember individual names. Whites who live among Blacks for the first time see them as all looking alike. This is also true of Africans seeing missionaries. We are often called by a former missionary's name. I was once warmly greeted in the market by one who was sure I was a doctor who had returned.

The students at M.B.T.S. come from all five fields of the Mambilla Baptist Convention: Warwar, Gembu, Ngoroje, Mbamnga, and Mayo Ndaga fields. They come from different tribes and speak different dialects but communicate basically in Fulfulde. Depending upon the area from which they come, their comprehension of



"The greatest challenge we face as missionaries teaching at M.B.T.S. is to enable our students to understand God's Word and how it can change their lives for God."—Clem Auch

English may be limited. The American English spoken by the western tutor often seems like a completely foreign dialect to them.

In comparison with the "material/technical" world in which you, the reader, live, the living conditions of the national where we are working seem primitive. The word "primitive" may have negative implications to you. The living conditions may better be described as simple and uncomplicated. The students have no worries about their automobiles breaking down, the plumbing not working, or the refrigerator needing to be replaced. These things are not within their financial abilities nor common within their living conditions. You, the reader, may at some moment have longed to escape the frustrations of the technical western world. Here, life is unencumbered with gadgets, and the people are basically content with their lifestyle.

My personal growing up time was spent in rural North Dakota, and I remember how being close to the earth helped me appreciate God's activity within the life/death cycle. I believe the students here sense this personal dependency upon God because of their freedom from the demands of the "material." God is trusted for the rain which will give a corn crop

and food for the dry season. God enables them to study without volumes of textbooks. They can comprehend the Truth as it simply comes from the Bible. In this culture, the students understand the parables and living conditions of the New Testament because they experience them daily.

The greatest challenge we face as missionaries teaching at M.B.T.S. is to enable our students to understand God's Word and how it can change their lives for God. If I can instill within the students a deep respect for God's revelation and help them to see the importance of "rightly handling the Word of Truth," I feel greatly rewarded.

Pray that the Holy Spirit will be their teacher in the Word. Pray with us, as we see the potential in the students, that God will open doors of opportunity for these students to be instrumental in the expansion of the Kingdom of God. □

The Rev. Clemence Auch has been field secretary for our mission on the Mambilla Plateau in Nigeria and tutor at Mambilla Baptist Theological School.



A Day with the Women at Mambilla Baptist Theological School

by Sylvia Auch

Sylvia Auch, who served as a teacher at Mambilla Baptist Theological School, wrote this article shortly before her accidental death in Nigeria on April 30, 1987.

Six a.m. The first bell rings. Daylight is dawning, and it is time to begin a new day. I get up, light my gas stove, run water from my kitchen tap to boil water for coffee, and then take a nice warm shower to prepare for the day.

The students hear the same bell, rise to the same dawn but go with their buckets to the central tap for their water. Fire will be built on the dirt floor in a kitchen shared by several families. A large pot will be set on three large stones surrounding the fire to heat water. This same fire will also be used to do the cooking that needs to be done. Few will have time to eat before the classes begin at seven a.m., because the grounds must be swept and made tidy.

The children who attend school must walk several kilometers to their elementary school. Pre-schoolers and the older children who do not go to school stay near their mothers on the compound and walk in and out of the classrooms, at will, while looking after their younger brothers or sisters. A newborn will be cared for and carried on the mother's back, and the mother's breast is readily available at the first whimper for food.

At 9:30 a.m., there is a meal break. Most of the students are married and have three to four small children by the time they come to Bible school. Before they graduate, two to three more will probably be born to the family. Housing is available, so they are encouraged to bring their wife and

family with them. Classes for the wives are taught by the wives of the regular tutors. Classes include cooking, sewing, hygiene, English, reading, writing, and Bible.

Approximately one-half of the women are illiterate when they come to the school. They all converse freely in their tribal language, speak a broken Ffulde to each other, and speak English very hesitantly; even though English is the legal language of the land. Reading and writing is very difficult for them, since English is not familiar to them. I admire them for their eagerness to learn. Most of them have probably not had much opportunity before.

The women are hard workers, as they are not only mothers meeting the family needs and students themselves, but they also must farm their plot of ground that has been assigned to them. They plant the corn, and after they harvest it, they shell the kernels and carry it on their heads in baskets to the mill for grinding into flour. Then it is ready to be cooked into fu-fu, their main food. Occasionally, they trek to their home village to bring more food when their own supply gets low. There are several fruit trees growing on the compound that help supply food to them.

Living with large families in a limited space is not without problems. Misunderstandings, sickness, rules, and regulations all allow for opportunities to develop Christian grace and patience. Sometimes, it takes a while; it is not easy. How do they cope?

We, as women on the compound, have our own chapel period three times a week. We take turns bringing the devotional and leading the prayer time. Problems are brought to the surface regarding family strife, personal relationships, and illnesses. In a very practical way, we learn to lean upon our Lord for the needs in our lives.



"Some of the women are new Christians; some have been Christians since childhood. There is a great need for them to be stimulated, to be nurtured in the word, and to be motivated to become stronger in the faith". —Sylvia Auch

Barriers are broken down; feelings are shared; and it is a thrilling experience to see that when God's Word speaks to us, we can all benefit in the same manner; even though we are from different tribes and nations. God's Word is powerful!

Some of the women are new Christians; some have been Christians since childhood but have had little instruction; while others are more mature. It is easy for them to become satisfied just knowing their souls are saved and to live without a desire to grow as Christians. There is a great need for them to be stimulated, to be nurtured in the Word, and to be motivated to become stronger in the faith.

My prayer as I work in the Women's Department is that I may be used by God to lead them to a more abundant life in Christ. This will allow them to be of more help to their husbands, and it will help them spread the Good News of the Gospel. □

There Must Be Another Way!

by Elmer Strauss

How long do you think it should take to deliver seven boxes of personal effects to an airline for shipment to the U.S.A.? Thirty minutes? One hour? I went to the airport and asked an international airline if they could deliver seven boxes to the West Coast of the U.S.A. Of course they could.

The boxes weighed 550 pounds. The cost would be \$2,000 or about \$285 each. A permit would have to be obtained from the Central Bank at the coast 700 miles away. That means it would cost over \$300 in travel expenses to get the permit, which could take several days of waiting. That is too much. THERE MUST BE ANOTHER WAY.

I returned to my friends' house for supper. They were taking a U.S. exchange student to the airport that evening and wondered if I would go with them and help the student through the dozen or more exit procedures with the aid of my airport I.D. badge. I was glad to learn that they had been witnessing to this student. Sure, I would be happy to help them and her.

On the way to the airport, the student told of the problem she had faced in trying to ship some boxes to the U.S.A. She told of having found another airline on which to send her boxes. This airline was much cheaper than the one on which she would be flying. I made a mental note. Sure, THERE MUST BE ANOTHER WAY. Helping someone else may provide an answer. I may be able to obtain the needed permit from the Central Bank in this big city where I was.

The following morning, I was at the door of the bank before the 8 o'clock opening and was the first one to enter. "No, the man who

gives out the applications for the permits never sees anyone before 11 a.m." THERE MUST BE ANOTHER WAY.

So I visited another airline. "Do you fly cargo to the West Coast, and what would be the charge for 550 pounds?"

"Sir, you will have to go to our airport office where our freight manager will answer your questions."

I asked the freight manager, "Do you fly to San Francisco?" "Yes." "Will I need a permit from the Central Bank?" "Certainly." So I went back to where I began the previous day, but surely THERE MUST BE ANOTHER WAY.

The airline manager, seeing me standing and looking off into space (I was seeking the Lord's direction) invited me into his office with these welcome words: "You seem to have a problem. May I help you?"

So I told him. He replied, "You can avoid the permit AND the high cost by sending it 'payment on delivery by addressee.'"

I begged him to tell me more. "You pay us a few dollars for the paper work, and then the addressee pays the full cost upon arrival. We only fly as far as Chicago."

"Don't you fly to the West Coast?"

"No, we never have." I went to the airline where I had left the seven boxes the previous day and transferred them to the other airline. Fourteen address labels had to be changed. Now the boxes had to be banded. There was a fellow with a banding machine but no banding material! At last he said he knew where he could find some used bands which



Elmer and Ruth Strauss, Nigeria

he could join together. After I paid him for the service, the customs officials had to check the boxes, and that was about \$4 a box. Finally, all fees were paid, and the boxes delivered. And the cost was only \$500—one-fourth of the other airline. How long did it take? Just 24 hours. THERE WAS ANOTHER WAY.

Thanks for your prayers and encouragement. □

(Nigerian naira have been changed to US dollars, kilometers to miles and kilos to pounds)

Rev. Elmer Strauss is a career missionary who has served as a pastor in the U.S.A. and a missionary in Cameroon and Nigeria with his wife Ruth.

An Interview with Barbara Kieper

Missionary Barbara Kieper regularly conducts primary health care clinics in 20 villages on the Mambilla Plateau, in Nigeria, an area of about 85 miles by 100 miles in size. She travels from village to village three days a week in "my old '78 Toyota, which has been held together by just being held together," says Barbara. "I don't know how long it will hold together."

Barbara goes to a different village each day, seeing 300 to 600 patients until about two, three, or four in the afternoon—"whenever we get finished," she says, and then goes on to the next village that evening and sets up for the next day. "We work from six in the morning until nine at night." Barbara carries a camp cot and sleeping bag so she can sleep in the church with the medicines and money received in fees. The church provides food and lodging. In 18 of these villages, village health workers, whom she has trained, assist her.

Why are you in medical work?

Barbara Kieper: We are in medical work to treat the person wholistically—physically, spiritually, and mentally.

How do you do this?

Kieper: We hold our clinics in a church, which hosts the clinic. During our clinics, the pastor of the church presents the Gospel of Christ through devotions before we treat the patients. Following the devotions, we give a lecture on primary and preventative health care, and then we see the patients. Each person receives a number as they come so they are treated in order of arrival to avoid some latecomers trying to get further up in line. For those who come late, we have devotions and the health



"People are beginning to see that the teachings of the village health workers do work".—Barbara Kieper

talk again; sometimes we do this three times, so that everyone hears the Gospel.

How did you begin the program of primary health care?

Kieper: We began by going from village to village on the Mambilla Plateau making a survey. In each village, Rev. Philip Sol and I met with the Baptist church and with the village chief, explaining to them what we wanted to do. We asked them to choose a person to be trained as a village health worker. The chief referred the choice of the worker to the Christians because he felt the Christians are honest and could be trusted in administering the program.

Eighteen persons, chosen to be trained as village health workers, received two weeks of training in sanitation, health, hygiene, first aid, and evangelism. We taught them about diseases, medicines, and the dosages. We also taught them how to use the "Four Spiritual Laws" and the booklet, "A Journey into Life." Then they went back home to their villages.

It's in these villages that I hold clinics assisted by the village health worker.

Can you give me any illustrations of people whose lives were changed as a result of their needs being met through this medical ministry?

Kieper: Medical work is a tool of evangelism. The people don't come to our church services, and if you witness in the market, they will not listen. Hopefully, through the medical ministry, we will reach them for Jesus Christ.

One man from the northern part of Cameroon brought his daughter to us. He had heard we had medicine for people with a mental illness. He stayed for a month to six weeks while we treated his daughter. She eventually got much better. He was very appreciative and was thankful to Allah. He said, "I can see that God is really blessing your work because you are working with God." Hopefully, someone will continue to work with him, so he will become a follower of Christ.



Zebulon Wanmi, primary health care director, giving a health talk, following devotions, and before patients are seen at clinic.



The Christians in the villages chose the one to be trained as their village health worker. Initially, they were trained in sanitation, health, hygiene, first aid, and evangelism. Every August, they receive more advanced training.—Barbara Kieper, front left.

What is one of your dreams regarding medical work?

Kieper: One of my dreams is to have a chaplain travel with me in clinics. While we would be dispensing medicines, the chaplain could be ministering one-to-one as the people sit and wait for five to six hours for medical attention. Sometimes, the people listen to the pastor, but they are embarrassed if he preaches to them. If you talk to them on a one-to-one basis, they're not that bashful or ashamed to listen.

What is rewarding about your ministry?

Kieper: One rewarding thing is to know that people trust us. They know that we will treat them as we are able. If we cannot treat them, we transfer them somewhere else or find another way for them to be treated. The patients know that we're honest.

What are some other rewards of your ministry?

Kieper: Another reward is seeing that medical work has helped people. James, the village health worker in the village where I live, came laughing to me one day. He said, "You'll never believe that some parents have just asked me to ask you for the same injection

as helping them with their Theological Education by Extension courses.

So you do that on weekends?

Kieper: Yes. That's my church ministry on weekends. I conduct medical clinics for three weeks and then have one week off so I can service my vehicle and things such as that. On weekends, I also repack the medicine box and the supplies for the village health workers, and wash my clothes to prepare for another week of ministering to people's physical and spiritual needs

Thank you, Barbara, for giving us a glimpse into your life as a primary health care nurse. Let us, as readers of the Baptist Herald, commit ourselves to pray for this important ministry.



Women and children sit and wait for up to five or six hours for medical attention.

that you gave my children for their children, because they see that my children are very healthy. I tried to explain that was because I fed my children a good, balanced diet. (He had learned nutrition.) I boil the water for drinking and practice good health, hygiene, and sanitation. They don't believe me. They need to hear it from you."

When we told the people that it was because of good health habits, good nutrition, and good sanitation that his children were well and healthy, they found it very hard to believe. People are beginning to see that the teachings of the village health workers do work.

How far are you from Mbu and Gembu where the Mambilla Baptist Theological School and our other missionaries are located?

Kieper: In dry season, it's about a three and one-half to four hour drive, and in rainy season, it could be from seven to twelve hours.

Do you have other responsibilities besides medical work?

Kieper: Yes. I'm field missionary in Mayo Ndaga which has 20 churches. That means teaching all the courses for the pastors, deacons, women, and men, as well

Ministering to the Fulani

by Allan Effa

Every morning, your missionaries in Nigeria can hear the Islamic call to prayer coming from a nearby mosque. The strong grip of Islam predominates in every aspect of life and society. It is a privilege to live in such a context and to be witness for Jesus Christ.

We are seeking to communicate Christ among a tribe of Muslims known as the Fulani or Fulbe. A number of other responsibilities and circumstances have kept my wife Karen and me from giving our full attention to this work. Even so, God has brought us into some special situations of ministry in which the lives of Fulani people have been touched.

One morning, a middle-aged Fulani man came to visit us. He sought advice for a complicated medical problem that had plagued him for the past four years. In his hands were clinic and hospital records from eight different medical centers, all of which had given him extensive treatments without improving his condition.

Karen examined him and told him that there was nothing left for him to do medically. We told him that only God could help him and that, if he wished, we would begin fasting that very moment and that he should come back 24 hours later for us to pray for his healing.

Our offer took him by surprise as Muslims usually do not think of Christians as being people who pray or fast. Tears came to his eyes, because we were willing to do this for him. We told him that we cared for him and believe in a powerful God who could help him.

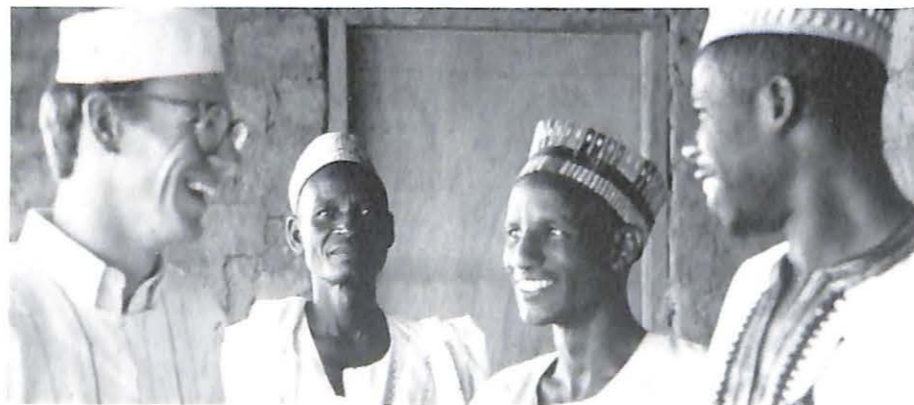
When the next day dawned, we wondered if he would come. It would be a test of faith for him as a Muslim to humiliate himself and come to a Christian missionary for prayer. But, at the appointed time,

he pulled up on his motorcycle. After greeting him, we invited him into our parlour. We removed our shoes in Muslim fashion. Karen knelt on the carpet and prayed in English, and I stood near him, laid my hands on him, and prayed in Fulfulde. Moved by our prayers, he thanked us over and over again.

Since then, we have met him a number of times and have visited him at his house. He appears to be open to us, and we are praying that the Holy Spirit will help him see the emptiness and powerlessness of his religion and enable him to trust in Christ.

For nearly three years, I have been sharing with a young man named Lamu. Early this year, he suffered from epigastric pain and a week of vomiting that left him weak and dehydrated. His family asked us for help, so we drove to his settlement and brought him into our home. We provided I.V.s and carefully monitored his diet.

The next few days were rather trying for us. Fulani custom demands that all relatives and friends come and greet the patient once or twice a day. One day, we had 30 visitors before 7 a.m.! They would come in without knocking and make themselves at home in our parlour, dining room, and the yard. It was difficult for us to ad-



The strong grip of Islam predominates in every aspect of life and society. It is a privilege to live in such a context and to be a witness for Jesus Christ. —Allan Effa

just to this total lack of privacy.

Fortunately, there was a big feast one day, and few people came by. Lamu was able to get some needed rest, and we were also able to spend time with him. I brought him a tape recorder and a cassette containing several short Bible stories in Fulfulde that clearly present the Good News. He listened attentively and also read some of the tracts I gave him. When he was well, I called his family together and prayed, thanking the Lord for His healing power.

We believe that Saidu, too, is near to the Kingdom of God. He has come to us several times with theological questions that indicate he is seeking after truth. Before leaving on a long journey recently, he came to us to ask for prayer and for a Bible.

God's truth is going out among Nigeria's Fulani. Please pray that the seed would fall on fertile ground and that there might be a harvest among them.

The Rev. Allan Effa began his missionary service in Nigeria in 1982 after his graduation from the North American Baptist Seminary in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. As a youth, he grew up in Brazil serving Christ with his parents, Rev. and Mrs. Herman Effa, who were missionaries there.

The First Year in Nigeria— A Stretching Experience

by Karen Effa

Not long after my husband Allan and I arrived at Mbamanga on the Mambilla Plateau in Nigeria, we had an invitation to visit a nearby Fulani compound. Eager to fit into the Nigerian culture as soon as possible, I decided to wear my new lappa (long, wraparound skirt) with matching headtie. We set out in the cool of the early morning for our mostly uphill journey. (Fulani usually live high upon the surrounding hills.)



"As I look back on my first year in Nigeria, I see how God has used the new situations to stretch me and to help me learn to trust Him more fully." —Karen Effa

As I struggled onward, pausing every few minutes to adjust my headtie or pull my skirt tighter, I began to wonder if I would ever wear Nigerian garb again. How did those women keep their skirts on while trekking many miles with heavily laden baskets strapped over their shoulders or babies tied to their backs? I did not know.

Eventually, we arrived at our destination and were greeted enthusiastically. Allan was well known by this Fulani family. Since he had a good command of the Fulfulde language, they thought that I understood their excited

It seemed I had not ventured more than ten steps when my skirt came undone for the first time. Another five steps and my headtie slipped off. Fifteen minutes after we began, my feet began to throb. I was wearing the only pair of shoes I had—dress shoes. (Our cargo arrived six weeks after we did, and I had neglected to pack walking shoes in my one accompanying suitcase.)

They forgot that Allan had a three year head start in his missionary service on the Mambilla Plateau. However, my lack of language skills did not hinder the women from taking me from hut to hut to show me their homes. I admired their brightly enameled pots and their intricately carved calabashes, proudly displayed on shelves. Allan, meanwhile, sat and conversed with the men.

In the days and weeks to come, many women came to our home to bring me gifts of eggs, corn, beans, vegetables, and live chickens. The chickens I was used to handling were those that were frozen and plastic-wrapped at the supermarket back in Canada.

People also arrived at our door seeking medical treatment. I am glad for my nursing skills and that I can hear their complaints, examine them, offer them advice and pray with them before they leave. Sometimes, I refer them to the mission dispensary in our village for medicines.

Another key person in my adjustment phase to this new culture, besides Allan, was my coworker, Sylvia Auch. I really identified with her when she shared with me her past experiences of arriving as a missionary in Japan as a new bride expecting a baby. Her loving heart and constant encouragement helped me to see that change and adjustments are positive aspects of growth. As I look back upon my first year in Nigeria, I see how God has used the new situations to stretch me and to help me learn to trust Him more fully.

Karen Buchsdrucker Effa of Edmonton, Alberta, married Allan in 1986 and joined him as a missionary to Nigeria in 1986. They became the parents of a baby girl, Carmyn Joy, in June 1987.



Being a Missionary to Missionaries

by Gaylord J. Goehring

Jos: A cosmopolitan city on the rocky Jos Plateau of central Nigeria.

Hillcrest: A cosmopolitan school community in Jos.

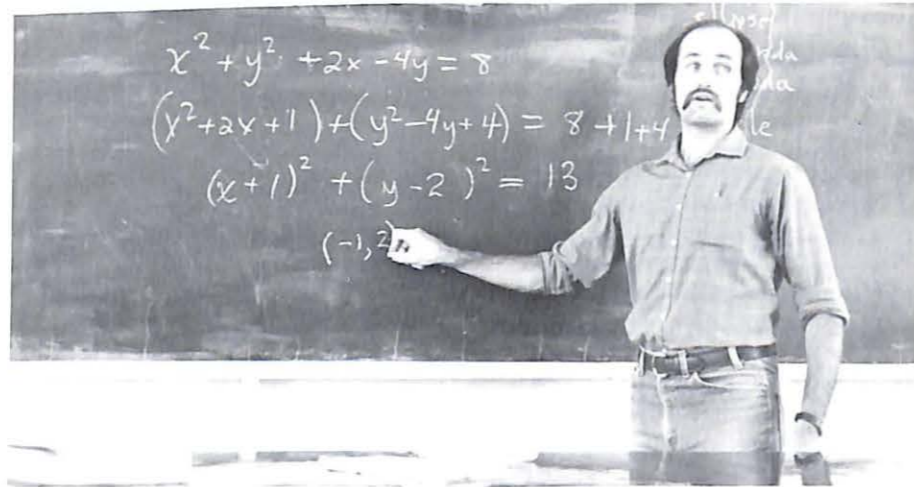
Christians: A cosmopolitan body following the teachings of Jesus Christ.

Within these three "communities," there are more challenges than what one may initially realize. Of interest here is the cosmopolitan or eclectic nature of the three.

First of all, Jos, having a favorable location and better climate than much of Nigeria, is home to quite a large expatriate community. The foreigners come from Europe, Asia, the Middle East, Oceania, and the Americas. In this collection of many nationalities, one finds various religions. Many of these people, however, are evangelists and medical workers, as well as administrators or helpers for their mission in other capacities. A few in this expatriate group are educators in the many levels of schools in the area. Still, a very large number are here simply for business and personal reasons.

The primary reason for the presence of Hillcrest School is for the education of the many mission children whose parents are scattered throughout Nigeria and nearby countries. It provides an excellent place for young people to get a good North American type education and allows a chance for the children to grow socially.

For many of these students, it means being away from their moms and dad for several months. However, most mission parents feel that it is a sacrifice which does pay off in knowing that the children are learning and



"Hillcrest School provides an excellent place for mission children to get a good North American type education and allows the children a chance to grow socially," says Gaylord Goehring, short-term missionary teaching math at the school.

growing in a good environment and that they are loved and cared for in their hostels.

Knowing that we are working with a number of missionary children (M.K.s) does not necessarily mean that there is less need for Christian witnessing. We feel almost the contrary. Since the 13 member missions are of varying degrees from moderately liberal to quite conservative, it can be a real challenge at times to keep the proper perspective, profile, and conviction while at the same time being open to the thoughts of those around. The Proverb that says "iron sharpening iron" fits our case here. Many students, as well as other members of the staff, do set challenges before us as to the what and why of how we think. We praise God that He has allowed us to be in this position and pray continually that we are being good servants in accordance to His commission.

One aspect that goes along with being witnesses of Christ is in showing that we are also servants to Him and to others. In each of the last semesters, we had a day when each advisor/advisee group did some physical chore around our community or school com-

pound. Projects included the digging up of old, unused water pipes to whitewashing walkway borders and painting lines on outside courts and picnic tables to the renovating and cleaning out of an old shed (my project). For many of our clientele, who come from pretty "soft" home environments, this was a good opportunity to see the teachers bend down to do some physical, unattractive work.

We all serve one Master, and as He came to earth to set the example in service so we, too, are directed to go out and serve, wherever the location. □



"Everyone Speaks Music"

by Gail Goehring

"Everyone Speaks Music."

That was the title I chose for our elementary music program this term. With a song by the same title, the words seem to describe the unique situation in which we find ourselves at Hillcrest School. Words like: "Everyone speaks music in a very special way," "It makes no difference where we're from," and "Though each of us may be unique," all describe our cosmopolitan community.

I enjoy teaching music because children seem to respond more openly in music than in other subject areas. There seems to come a certain freedom when a child can express himself or herself through singing and moving. I have found myself many times close to tears when one of my choirs performs in such a way as to show me their utter enjoyment in what they are singing.

At Hillcrest School, I have unlimited opportunities to witness for Christ through my music. The children love to sing songs about God's love and grace. This doesn't mean that everyone accepts or believes what I am teaching. This is where I am able to talk, to let the children know what I believe, and to let them know that I desire them to know of God's love through His Son, Jesus.

Already this school year, I have been much encouraged by my students when I needed assurance that I was following God's leading. This encouragement has come in the form of little notes or pictures or even a spoken word.

At the beginning of the second semester, I had to take over the Middle School Choir due to the sudden illness of the former teacher whose illness resulted in her having to leave Nigeria. I was reluctant to take the choir, feeling overloaded already and feeling a



"As it turned out, Middle School choir became one of my most enjoyable classes this term, and they gave a super performance at the Spring Concert," says Gail Goehring. "I can't wait to begin this (fall) term."

fear of rejection from junior high students who loved their former teacher.

After the first rehearsal, I received a note from a dear sixth grade girl. It read something like this: "Dear Mrs. Goehring, I'm really glad you're our teacher. Your choir is fun. I love to sing, especially about my Jesus whom I love so much. I will probably write notes to you from time to time. Your friend, Michelle." This note came at a time when I was feeling defeated. God used Michelle to show me that I need not fear because I was in His perfect will.

As it turned out, Middle School Choir became one of my most en-

joyable classes this term, and they gave a super performance at the Spring Concert. I can't wait to begin this new term.

The demands on my time at Hillcrest School are very heavy. But I feel that I am strongest as a witness for Christ through my music ministry. I thank God for the opportunity of teaching these unique children from all over the world, and I pray that I will always have the desire to encourage a child to "sing out" for Christ.



Gail Goehring is a short term missionary teaching along with her husband Gaylord at Hillcrest School in Jos, Nigeria.

NIGERIA

The North American Baptist Conference in partnership with the
Mambilla Baptist Convention

10-12 North American Baptist Conference missionaries
140 Churches with 10,000 members
1 Dispensary
1 Theological school

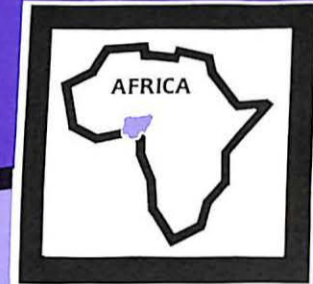
Nigeria is 924,000 sq. km. or about the size of Saskatchewan. The population of 100 million is composed of 250 tribal groups. English is the official language. Sixty six percent of the population is Animist or Moslem. Average life expectancy is 41 years. Adult literacy is 30 percent.



James and Karen Szmanski



Gail, Amber, and Gaylord Goehring,
short-term missionaries



Allan and Karen Effa



Clem Auch



Elmer and Ruth Strauss



Minnie Kuhn



Barbara Kieper

NORTH AMERICAN BAPTIST CONFERENCE MISSIONS

1 South 210 Summit Avenue
Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181

Progress in Nigeria

by Peter Schroeder

Peter and May Schroeder returned to Nigeria as laymen-in-action from Christmas 1986 to Easter 1987 after serving as pastor and wife at Bethany Baptist Church, Lethbridge, Alberta. Prior to that, they served as missionaries in Nigeria from 1974-82 and in Cameroon from 1972-73.

When we visited Nigeria recently, my wife May and I saw some of the results of the goal setting begun back in 1979 and the work toward achieving these goals to reach people for Christ. In the past five years, the Mambilla Baptist

Convention reorganized into five fields from three; they established twelve new churches; and membership increased from 9,000 to 12,000 (33 percent). This, with no modern techniques, no mass crusades, but plenty of witnessing by the Christians, and hard work by association evangelists.

May and I were gratified to find a former student, the Rev. Samuel Yubu, serving as the executive secretary of the Convention. Two more former students were in the office of Field Supervisor, and others were in pastorates or teaching Christian Religious Knowledge classes in the government schools. One is studying in a seminary in Jos.

We were invited to teach at

Mambilla Baptist Theological School during the 1986-87 middle semester. I taught three five-hour courses of Hermeneutics, Romans, and Revelation. May taught Evangelism, sewing, and knitting in the women's department.

The Mambilla Baptist Theological School is the backbone of the Mambilla Baptist Convention. About 70 men and 10 women are enrolled in the pastoral program; the women will likely find their work in Christian education or women's work. The wives of the male students are also enrolled bringing the total enrollment to about 125 students.

We visited ten different churches (several of them twice) and were reintroduced to foods such as fufu, jama-jama, and palm oil. We were surprised at the number who still remembered us. In between teaching and visiting churches, I fixed the school's sewing machines, repaired a vehicle, and supervised construction of the principal's house.

Nigeria, under a military government, is struggling with several difficult problems. The value of the Nigerian Naira has dropped from \$1.58 in 1982 to \$.25 and is still falling. Prices have skyrocketed, but the poor pastor's salary has not. In addition, a number of our Christian farmers, including some students, are caught up in land disputes and find it almost impossible to defend themselves against the wealthy Muslim ranchers. However, we are grateful that the Mambilla Area is peaceful compared to the Muslim North where the Muslims have burned and destroyed about 150 evangelical churches and killed, according to a recent SIM report, about 60 Christians.

Please pray that Nigerian Christians will be kept safe, sweet, and loving, because the turmoil is far from over. Pray also for adequate staffing for the Mambilla Baptist Theological School at Mbu. □



"Eutychus," the station run-about, saved Peter Schroeder many steps.



Rev. and Mrs. Peter Schroeder with Rev. and Mrs. Peter Tomnyi (center), pastor of Mbart Baptist Church, formerly principal of Mambilla Baptist Theological School, Mbu.

Sylvia Auch: A World Christian

On April 30, 1987, Mrs. Sylvia Auch was killed in a taxi accident while returning to Gembu from Jos, Nigeria. She had been in Jos with our other North American Baptist Conference missionaries attending a retreat and conducting mission business.

"Sylvia Auch knew what it meant to be a World Christian. She lived her life under an obedience to God to go and do whatever it took to see His Kingdom established. Sylvia was a pastor's wife in North America, a church planting missionary in Japan, a missionary nurse in Cameroon, and a teacher of wives of future pastors at Mambilla Baptist Theological School in Nigeria. She used her cheerful spirit, her solid work ethic, and her love for people to do her part of the Great Commission. We are grateful to God for the life and influence that Sylvia has had on three continents. She exemplified the life of a World Christian." —Ron Salzman, missions director

"But godliness with contentment is great gain. For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it" (1 Timothy 6:6-7). "When Karen and I came across these verses the other day, we both remarked how Sylvia had developed a beautiful blending of these twin virtues of godliness and contentment in her life.

"Faced with the call to teach semiliterate women in a remote area with few living conveniences, she did not hesitate to leave friends, children, and grandchildren behind and embrace with gusto the challenge before her. It was not a thirst for adventure or a love for things "foreign" that impelled her, but a clear sense of God's direction and a desire to be obedient.

"Sylvia was perfectly content in knowing that she was living in the center of God's will. She reveled in the joys each day brought and graciously accepted the many frustrations and demands upon her time.

"Sylvia adapted well to the life-style of Mambilla and had a genuine appreciation for its simplicity. She was one of the few people I've met who could rejoice about the wear she got out of a \$3.00 blouse she had bought at Goodwill Industries without making someone else feel guilty for choosing to wear designer clothes.

"In our Missionary Fellowship meetings, we best remember Sylvia for

her deep love for God and her sensitive spirit. Whenever we would spend time in prayer, Sylvia would get "leaky" eyes as she talked with her Heavenly Father. Her tears have now been wiped away by the One who has welcomed her home. Her faithfulness has received its reward. Hers is the gain; ours is the deep sense of loss." —Allan Effa

Service any task large or small, up-front noticed or behind the scenes, pleasant or unpleasant, all were reliably carried out: Typing, nursing care and teaching, planning, remodeling of latrines, cleaning and arranging storerooms, setting up central supply and linen supply rooms.

Young-at-heart fun, vivacious, ready to give away a smile

Lovingly shared her time and talents

Veteran experienced in nursing arts, homemaking, and hospitality

Involved in hospital, church, family. Willing to spend extra time in problem solving among the staff. Concerned not only for the immediate problems encountered as Director of Nursing Services at Banson Baptist Hospital but also in the relationship of the involved persons to God.

Alive in Christ

Available to those in need.

Unselfish

Caring

Heaven-bound

Sylvia lives on in the work she accomplished in Cameroon and in the lives which were touched by her. We praise God for her life. —Helen Marie Schmidt, M.D., FACS, missionary serving in Cameroon

"We came to know Sylvia as a godly woman, hard working wife of our missionary, good teacher for ladies at the school here, one who set an exemplary life in Christian living and enjoyed doing her work as mission

treasurer with the Mambilla Baptist Mission. In fact, it is very hard to bear this loss." —Rev. Philip Sol, principal, Mambilla Baptist Theological School

"Mrs. Sylvia was not only a missionary but also a born teacher, hard-working and so devoted to her assigned responsibilities. In fact, that accident was a blow not only to our Bible school but also to the entire Convention." —Rev. Samuel Yubu, executive secretary

"Sylvia was a friend who not only encouraged but also could correct and rebuke as well. She was a co-worker who picked up difficult, frustrating tasks as she felt able to cope. On her arrival at Mambilla Baptist Theological School, she was told, "You will be teaching the Class V women. You are to choose your own subjects and find your own text books." School had already been in session three or four weeks. This was our first year to have Class V; therefore, there was no curriculum for the Women's Department. In spite of language barriers and lack of time to really prepare, she did an excellent job. It was a relief when Sylvia agreed to take over the bursar's job.

"To Sylvia Auch, whose work is done, whom God saw fit to call home, I say, "Thank you, friend and co-worker. I'm looking forward to meeting you one day in the presence of our Lord when we'll rejoice together in His presence." —Minnie Kuhn

Sylvia (Reischke) Auch grew up in North Dakota and Salem, Oregon. Two years after graduating from nursing school, she dedicated her life to Christian service as a missionary. To prepare, she attended North American Baptist Seminary, where she met and later married Clem. Together, they served as N.A.B. Conference missionaries in Japan from 1954-59, pastored churches in Kansas, Saskatchewan, and North Dakota before Clem became administrator of the Baptist Home in Bismarck, North Dakota, and Sylvia, the Director of Nursing there. In 1982, they became missionaries to Cameroon, working at Banson Baptist Hospital. In 1985, they became missionaries to Nigeria, working alongside each other in a teaching ministry at the Mambilla Baptist Theological School. They have four children: Deborah, former short-term missionary to Cameroon; Karen, Bernard, and Gary. □

The Christian in the Workplace

by Syd Page

While driving to work recently, a bumper sticker on the car ahead of me caught my attention. It read:

"I owe, I owe
So off to work I go."

That probably sums up the attitude that many have towards their jobs. Work is necessary as a means of gaining the income needed to pay the bills. As Christians, we surely ought to have a more wholesome perspective on our employment. Work occupies a major part of our time. Every week-day, we spend at least half of our waking hours on the job. How does our faith relate to this significant aspect of our lives? I would like to suggest three biblical principles that ought to govern our understanding of our work and our behaviour in the workplace.

Work Is a Noble Calling

From the dawn of time, people have had jobs to do. When God created Adam, He "Put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it" (Genesis 2:15). God's original intention for mankind included labour. Indeed, the capacity for creative, constructive work is a divine gift, and is one of the ways in which we display a likeness to God. Just as God worked to bring creation into being, so His image bearers are to work to preserve and develop what He made. Seen against this background, work cannot be regarded as demeaning or as undesirable. It must be acknowledged as a noble activity in which we are privileged to engage.

Christians have not always properly appreciated the dignity of honest labour. In the Middle Ages, an unhealthy division developed between church-related work and all other work. The former was seen as having much more value

than the latter. The Reformation of the sixteenth century challenged this dichotomy between sacred and secular. The Reformers recognized that the totality of human experience has a religious character; consequently they taught that people could serve God faithfully in a variety of vocations.

As children of the Reformation, we ought to appreciate the virtue of labour and to reject denials of this. For instance, much as we rejoice to see people commit themselves to missionary service, we ought not to suppose that every young person who is fully committed to Christ should volunteer to become a career missionary. Church-related vocations are not inherently superior to all others. God may call an individual to work out his faith in an accounting practice in Lethbridge as well as in a church-planting ministry in Nigeria! We dare not suggest that the accountant is less spiritual than the missionary, or that his work is less pleasing to the Lord.

The wonderful thing is that we all share equally in the privilege of serving God through our careers. That honour is not restricted to those involved in vocational Christian service. Whatever our occupations, God can be glorified through them. We ought, therefore, to ap-



proach our tasks with a sense of dignity, conscious that we can worship God in the office at 9:00 a.m. on Monday as well as in the church at 11:00 a.m. on Sunday.

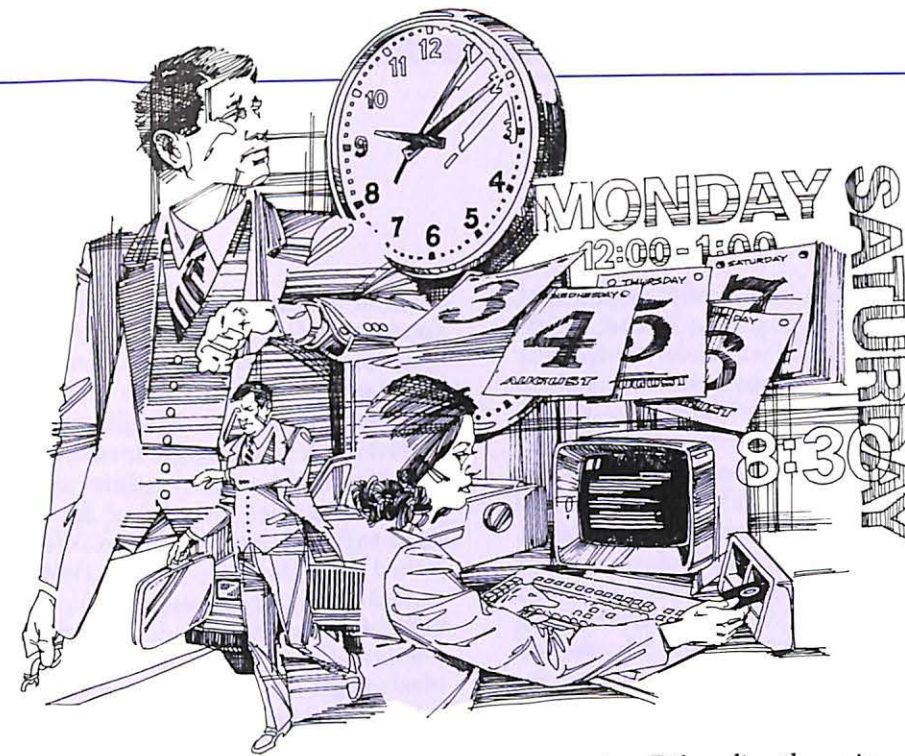
Work Demands Wholehearted Participation

Writing to slaves in Colossians 3:23, Paul says, "Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men." Paul was encouraging his readers to put heart and soul into the performance of their duties. Many slaves would have been required to do tasks generally regarded as menial and thankless, but they were told to approach their work with enthusiasm as a sacred duty. If first century slaves were expected to be industrious, how much greater is our responsibility since we have freely chosen our careers. Whether we labour in a kitchen or a classroom, on a farm or in a factory, we should be diligent in our work, and constantly strive to do our best.

No Christian should be satisfied with producing shoddy workmanship or providing substandard service. Half-hearted efforts and poor productivity do not bring glory to God. The person who works furiously when the boss is watching, but sloughs off when he leaves, needs to remember that God's eye is always upon him and that He is the One he must ultimately seek to please. On the other hand, a job well done honours the Lord and brings contentment to the worker. The hymn writer Henry Van Dyke captured the essence of this when he wrote:

*Every task, however simple,
sets the soul that does it free;
Every deed to love and kindness
Done to men is done to Thee.
Jesus, Thou divine companion,
Help us all to work our best;
Bless us in our daily labour,
Lead us to our Sabbath rest.*

Christians ought to be distinguished by being conscientious in their work. That there is



no place for laziness in the Christian community is clear from II Thessalonians 3:10, "If a man will not work, he shall not eat."

At the same time, we must acknowledge that not everyone has the opportunity to pursue gainful employment. The economic recession in the last several years has produced widespread unemployment. As a result, there are many individuals who are willing to work but are unable to find suitable jobs. The experience of losing a job can be devastating, and we who have been spared that agony must not compound the misfortune of others by stigmatizing them as lazy.

People going through the trauma of unemployment need compassion, not condemnation. They deserve understanding and moral support from the rest of us. On the other hand, they should recognize that they need not be inactive because they are unemployed. There are all kinds of opportunities to become involved in church and community volunteer work.

Work Promotes the Public Good

One of the primary purposes of labour is that it should benefit the

community. Either directly or indirectly, others should be helped because of our jobs. This aspect of work is very evident in the so-called "helping professions." It is obvious that the nurse who cheerfully moves the bed-ridden patient when he becomes uncomfortable is performing a beneficial service. It is equally true, however, that those working in the shop where the hospital bed was manufactured also contribute to the well-being of the patient. As Christians, we ought to see our jobs as a form of ministry and to strive constantly to seek the welfare of others through them.

Christ's followers need to remember that they are called to promote justice and peace on the earth, not to be ruled by self-interest. In a world where the profit principle often seems to be regarded as the ultimate good, we need to give heed to the words of the prophets who thundered against the oppression and exploitation of the poor and powerless by the privileged classes of ancient Israel. Our world is in desperate need of people in the corridors of power who have a deep sense of personal and corporate responsibility. The tragedy

that results when this is lacking can be seen in the marketing of powdered milk in the Third World. The manufacturers of powdered milk have mounted slick advertizing campaigns to promote their products and have been largely successful. Unfortunately, their success has exacted a terrible toll as infection and disease is much more prevalent among babies raised on powdered milk than those raised on mother's milk, especially in places where good water is not readily available.

On the positive side, our occupations provide us with wonderful opportunities to use our God-given abilities for the betterment of mankind. We have been given dominion over the world so that we might be good stewards of what God has made. We ought to marvel at its wonders, delight in its goodness, and harness its resources for the good of all who share this planet. That is our mandate, and each of us has the privilege of contributing in some way to help achieve it.

The eighteenth century Englishman Samuel Johnson once said: "Labour, if it were not necessary for the existence, would be indispensable for the happiness of man." Dr. Johnson rightly saw that happiness is to be found in useful work, not in the avoidance of it. To this, the Preacher adds his agreement when he says, "There is nothing better for a man than to enjoy his work" (Ecclesiastes 3:22). Real satisfaction and fulfillment do not come to the idle and indolent, but to those who have a healthy Christian outlook on work, and who allow that perspective to shape their attitudes and actions. □

Dr. Syd Page is the Academic Vice President at North American Baptist Divinity School, Edmonton, Alberta.





WOMEN of HOPE

reaching our world

Women in Ministry at Any Age

by Elsie Lathrop, Gladwin, Michigan

I graduated from Oberlin College as a kindergarten-primary teacher in 1926. This enabled me to be a helper in my husband's ministry. I began teaching KYB (Know Your Bible) clubs; soon we had 100 children attending our club. I found the flannelgraph most effective in teaching Scripture as well as illustrating Bible stories in the clubs, in junior church, and in a women's Bible study.



Both my husband and I had a love for camping, and we took the young people camping in tents. Soon we had so many campers we could no longer use the public campgrounds. We located an old, deserted Coast Guard station, about 50 miles from the church, and were able to lease it for seven years at one dollar a year. The buildings were in a bad state, and this made an excellent project for the young people and adults alike. Our own children were teenagers, so we were all involved together.

At the end of seven years, the property was sold, and the Good News Camp Board purchased 31 acres of land in northern Michigan. As director, my husband was not only responsible for the spiritual ministry, but also he had to present the camp program to churches all over Michigan. We were very busy. Feeling the need to live as a family, we built a small cabin on the campgrounds. We also had four teenagers for whom

we were completely responsible. These young people had family situations that made it necessary for them to live with us. Two of the girls were daughters of missionaries in the States for their high school education.

My teacher training had prepared me to be a storyteller. The closing night of camp each week, at our campfire, I always told a story with a special appeal for decisions. Today, I know personally of 19 people around the world serving as pastors, teachers, and missionaries, who made decisions around these campfires. They made themselves available to go where God would lead them.

Twenty years after starting the camp at Gladwin, we were asked to go to Alaska to serve as director of the Lazy Mt. Children's Home near Palmer. My husband was 65-years old at this time, and both of our older children were in Bible school. We were "Pop and Mom" to six native children: three Aleut, two Eskimo, and one Athabaskan boy plus Loida, one of our missionary girls who went with us. It was a most interesting and strenuous year. I cooked, washed, ironed, sewed, listened to Bible verses, told flannelgraph stories at chapel services, and went tobogganing in zero degree weather with the children. We returned to the Good News Camp in the fall. One of the Aleut boys came to Michigan with us for two years. He graduated from high school and went to Bible school for a year.

For the next ten years, we shuttled back and forth to Alaska, doing some camp work and pastoring a church on the Kenai Peninsula. One year, we were houseparents at the Grand Rapids School of the Bi-

ble and Music, shepherding 110 young men.

In 1968, we visited our son and his family, missionaries with Overseas Crusades Mission in Mexico city. The English-speaking Baptist church was without a pastor, and they asked my husband to be the interim pastor. We served there about six months. We were a team. My husband would bring the message, and I would present a flannelgraph picture with black light. I also taught the women, had junior church, and led a ladies retreat.

When my husband was 74, the telephone rang one Sunday afternoon. It was Peter Deyneka (Slavic Gospel Mission) asking, "Would you go to King Cove for one year to let the missionary go on furlough"? Without hesitation, my husband said, "Yes," then turned to me and asked, "Where is King Cove"? We found it on the map—a small fishing village of some 350 Aleut people, located at the very tip of the "boot" of Alaska. We were told there were no doctors, no cars, no telephone, no way in or out except by air or boat. Groceries had to be ordered from Seattle six months in advance. We went! It was one of the greatest experiences we ever had. Just before Thanksgiving, Mr. Lathrop had a heart attack and had to be flown out to Anchorage. God graciously strengthened him, and in four weeks we returned to Michigan. But our work was not over! We returned to Alaska three times to visit.

In June of 1984, God called my beloved husband of 57 years home. I have been lost, but as the weeks and months roll along, I have found I can keep going with a very supportive family and many

friends. Last summer, as I helped with a vacation Bible school, spoke at a mother-daughter banquet, had junior church occasionally, I realized we all need three things: someone to love; something to do; and something to look forward to. I began to dream: "Would it be possible for me to go back once more to Alaska?"

Very unexpectedly, my former co-worker came to Michigan because of the death of a relative. When she came to see me, she asked, "Could you come sometime and have children's meetings?" I prayed! I hoped! I found an excursion fare to Anchorage and back. Gifts began to come in, and in

September 1986, a friend and I flew to Anchorage. My friends, with whom we had worked at the orphanage, and several people from King Cove (800 miles away) were there to greet me. What a reunion! We went down to Kenai, and I was with many friends who had been in the church when Mr. Lathrop was pastor. We had a children's rally, and on Sunday, I had junior church. The same old flannelgraph, the same stories (never old), and my heart rejoiced at being able to once more tell the old, old story. To crown the day, there was a surprise party with many of my friends to celebrate my 80th birthday!

The Lord willing, I would like to go back and celebrate my 82nd

birthday there in 1988. I prefer to "add life to my years" rather than merely "add years to my life." There is so much to be done. I write a lot of letters and keep in touch with about 100 people, many of whom made decisions at camp. Occasionally, I tell a story and do a flannelgraph at a nursing home. Lonely ladies like to come in for a cup of tea and a sandwich. This past summer, I had junior church in the Baptist church in Gladwin, Michigan.

God has promised to supply my needs. He does! When the mailman comes, I wonder, "Where in the world will I hear from today?" I praise Him for His love, faithfulness, and I look forward to His coming.

8th Assembly North American Baptist Women's Union

Niagara Falls, New York & Canada
October 1-4, 1987



Circle the date! Enter!

President's Corner

by Sara Pasiciel, WMF President,
Steinbach, Manitoba

From My Journal...

SUNDAY: I once naively thought that when your children are in school, you can sit back and relax; just turn on the cruise control (prayer, that is) and let them run. Ha! Then I thought, once they're past adolescence and into high school...wrong again! Now we have one entering college this fall, and my greatest desire is to follow her to school, sit behind her in class, tidy up her dorm room... very unobtrusively, of course! I have prayed often for the patience and wisdom to hold tight to my children, to keep them secure in the Lord and in our family. Now I pray for the grace to let go.

MONDAY: September—a time for planning and for carrying out plans for our families, our jobs, our women's groups. Next year, 1988, our theme, "Women of Hope: Reaching Our World" has as its special emphasis, "Committed to Missions." How can we encourage our women to concentrate on the consideration of and activity for missions? I thank the Lord that our women are *always* aware of and involved in mission. Now is our chance to affirm that commitment.

WEDNESDAY: Many of our women in Calgary have been working for months to make the women's activities of our Triennial Conference in July 1988 a blessing to all who attend. Have you included Calgary in your summer plans for 1988?

Commissioned to Witness

Bismarck Church Holds Baptismal Service in Missouri River

BISMARCK, ND. "Shall We Gather at the River"—is what the congregation of Bismarck Baptist Church did for an outdoor baptismal service, June 28, 1987. Pastors M.D. Wolff and Edward Bartel baptized five young people and five adults in the Missouri River. In addition, 21 new membership certificates were given. "We praise God for working among us and for this beautiful riverside worship celebration," reports Laura Reddig.

Ochre River Church Celebrates 60 Years; Welcomes New Members

OCHRE RIVER, MB. Grace Baptist Church celebrated 60 years of ministry, "Between Mountain and Lake," June 14, 1987. "We praise God for His guidance and growth over these past 60 years," reports Jean Roos.

Speakers included the Rev. H. Poschwatta and the Rev. Sig Schuster, area minister.

The Church was organized June 10, 1927, with services in the country school. One charter member, Mrs. M. Voss, still attends services.

Two young people were baptized on Mother's Day and joined the Church.

The Rev. Richard Libby is interim pastor of the church.

St. Albert Church Baptizes 10; Goes to Two Services

ST. ALBERT, AB. Three persons were baptized Easter Sunday, and seven persons on June 7, 1987, at Sturgeon Valley Baptist Church.

"To accommodate increasing numbers, two morning services will begin at the Church in September," reports Pastor Gordon Denison.

Holley Church Welcomes 8 New Members and Pastor

HOLLEY, NY. Interim Pastor Fred Mashner baptized five adults, ages 17 to 77, at First Baptist Church, recently. They and three others were added to the Church membership.

The congregation of First Baptist Church voted to join the North American Baptist Conference and to call the Rev. David Vetter from Winburne, PA, as pastor, who was installed on May 17. Participants in this service were Pastor Mashner; the Rev. John Ziegler, area minister; the Rev. Fritz Goliath, St. Catharines, ON; and the Rev. Dennis Hoffman, Rochester, NY.

From September 1986 through April 1987, the Rev. Fred Mashner, pastor emeritus, Winton Road Baptist Church, Rochester, NY, served as interim pastor.

Prior to the action to join with the North American Baptist Conference, the Church had maintained an independent position but had frequent fellowship with churches of the North American Baptist Conference. The membership lists 121 members.

Two Baptized at Rowandale

WINNIPEG, MB. "Rowandale Baptist Church held a Mother's Day morning worship service with a difference," reports H. Kahler. "We celebrated the ordinances of baptism and the Lord's Supper." Both baptismal candidates, one a mother and the other a father, were received into the Church's membership.

Four Baptized at Plum Creek Church

EMERY, SD. Pastor Steve Vetter baptized four persons and welcomed them as new members of Plum Creek Baptist Church in April 1987.

The Church held a farewell for Pastor Vetter and his family in May. He now pastors Strassburg Baptist Church, Marion, KS. —Amanda Jucht

Underwood Baptist Church Welcomes Five New Members

UNDERWOOD, ND. Pastor Wesley Gerber baptized three people at Underwood Baptist Church, May 3, 1987. They and two more adults joined the Church fellowship.

—Gretchen Schafer

10 Welcomed into Salt Creek Church

DALLAS, OR. Pastor Perry Kallis baptized seven people at Salt Creek Baptist Church, May 31, 1987. "This service was made even more memorable by the reading of a scripture verse by a member of the congregation and the lighting of a candle for each candidate," reports Glenyce Hallberg. On June 7, these seven and three other persons were welcomed into the fellowship of the Church.

Three Join Onoway Church

ONOWAY, AB. Two persons were baptized at Onoway Baptist Church on Easter Sunday. They and another person joined the Church membership.

The Rev. Wenzel Hanik is pastor of the Church. —Mrs. Bonney Guidinger

Six Join Cleveland Area Church

PARMA, OH. Pastor Darrel McKay baptized three persons recently at Redeemer Baptist Church. They and a family of three were welcomed into the fellowship of the Church, June 7, 1987. —Gerda Markowski

Three Baptized at Balgonie Church

BALGONIE, SK. The Rev. Hans Serger baptized three persons at Balgonie Baptist Church recently. In addition, four new members were welcomed into the Church membership —Evangeline Wilson

10 Children Dedicated to the Lord at Temple Church

SWAN RIVER, MB. Ten young children were dedicated to the Lord by their parents at Temple Baptist Church on Mother's Day. The Rev. Neal Effa is pastor of the church.

—Lynn Patzer

Uhler Conducts Evangelistic Rally in Europe

EUROPE. Chaplain (CPT) Richard Uhler was part of a group of Baptist chaplains who planned and conducted an evangelistic rally in May. The emphases at these evangelistic meetings at a military base in Europe were directed toward Family, Youth and Single Soldier, and Black Gospel with an all-chapel worship service in the theater on Sunday morning. Chaplain Uhler visited his NATO soldiers deployed in eastern Turkey, about 100 miles from Mt. Ararat. "We were not allowed to go to Mt. Ararat, but it provided a good illustration for the field service which was attended by half the company," said Uhler.

New Members Welcomed at Sherwood Park Church

GREELEY, CO. Three persons have been baptized, and five new members welcomed into the Sherwood Park Church since the beginning of this year.

Pastor Mike Hodgin wrote a musical depicting the Lord's Last Supper, presented at Sherwood Park Baptist Church. The musical depicted what Jesus shared with His disciples the night before He died. Music Directors, Darlene James and Norm Spivey, the Church Choir, and twelve men, playing the disciples, participated in the musical.

Commanded to Care

Ashley Church Honors Pastor and Wife

ASHLEY, ND. The congregation of Ashley Baptist Church honored Rev. and Mrs. Allen Gerber for their 25 years of ministry, June 27, 1987, with a banquet and program. The Rev. Ralph Cooke, area minister, spoke. —Mrs. Henry Kranzler

Saskatchewan Association Acts on Capital Punishment and Pastors' Leaves

REGINA, SK. The Saskatchewan Association adopted several resolutions at its annual meeting in March. One encouraged Saskatchewan Baptist Association churches to communicate with their Member of Parliament, the Justice Minister, and the Prime Minister to support the reinstatement of capital punishment, especially in, but not necessarily limited to, cases of premeditated murder and murder of law enforcement officers. The Association also passed a resolution that churches be encouraged to offer their pastors a minimum of two weeks per year education leave, plus four months educational leave with full pay and benefits at the end of seven years of full-time continuous service.

Compelled to Serve

Olds Church Commissions Missionaries

OLDS, AB. East Olds Baptist Church held a farewell and commissioning service for the Brunner family who will serve in Gabon, Africa, under the Africa Evangelical Fellowship. This year's W.M.F. supper, an annual event supporting missions, was given to help the Brunners. —Trudie Schroeder

Hartland Hosts British Columbia Association

PRINCE GEORGE, BC. Hartland Baptist Church, a church extension church, took on a challenge and hosted the British Columbia Association meetings for 90 delegates and 100 guests, May 15-17, 1987. "We praise God for giving the Hartland congregation strength and unity with love as 17 committees worked together toward a common goal," states M. Krekoski, reporter.

With the theme, "Challenged to Aim Higher," in mind, special speaker Dr. John Binder, executive director, challenged everyone to be people with goals, commanded to care, and compelled to serve. He spoke of visualizing the possibilities around us and the new dimensions of witnessing today.

LaVerna Mehlhaff, women's work director, spoke to the women about taking a step of faith according to God's leading and then letting the Lord bless in the continued obedience.

Throughout the business sessions, new challenges were accepted. In 1988, the British Columbia Association proposed to start a church extension project in the White Rock area. At their business session, the ladies established a \$300 scholarship for national pastors in training at the Cameroon Baptist Theological Seminary in Ndu.

Fessenden Church Honors Two Missionaries

FESSENDEN, ND. First Baptist Church held special programs and dinners honoring two of our North American Baptist Conference missionaries for their years of service: Barbara Kieper (30 years), and Pat Lenz (15 years). "We thank God for them and for the opportunity we have to serve through them on the mission field," states Regina Pepple.

Kyle Women Celebrate 90 years

KYLE, TX. The Immanuel Baptist Women's Missionary Fellowship celebrated its 90th anniversary on April 5, with a fellowship dinner, around the theme, "It's a Small, Small World." Guest speaker was Janell Klingenberg of Anderson Road Baptist Church, Houston. Mary Smith is president of the fellowship. —Esther Lengefeld.

Committed to Give

Olds Church Provides Money for Two Homes in Cameroon

OLDS, AB. East Olds Baptist Church completed their "Project of Faith" recently. The project of \$40,000 was used to build two homes in Ndu to house missionaries or pastors in training at the Cameroon Baptist Theological Seminary. Rev. John Nfor of Cameroon and Prof. Willy Muller, North American Baptist College, Edmonton, AB, visited the Church to thank the congregation for this project of love and faith. —*Trudie Schroeder*

What's Happening

(Continued from page 29.)

Mr. Greg Hochhalter became youth minister at Harbor Trinity Baptist Church, Costa Mesa, California, on June 15, 1987. He has served on "New Day" during its 1986-87 tour.

The Rev. John Wilfong resigned as Director of Christian Education and School Administrator as well as interim pastor of Willow Rancho Baptist Church, Sacramento, California, to become a Christian school administrator in Barstow, California.



Major Daniel Leininger was presented the Air Force Commendation Medal and the Air Force Achievement Medal on June 7, 1987, in recognition of his outstanding service as a chaplain of the South Dakota Air National Guard. He was honored for his exemplary professional skills, leadership, and ceaseless efforts in the building of morale and motivation among the South Dakota Air National Guard. Leininger is the Associate Professor of Pastoral Care and counseling at the North American Baptist Seminary, Sioux Falls, South Dakota. He resumes his teaching position at the Seminary in August 1987, following completion of his sabbatical year at the Pastoral Care and Counseling Center in St. Louis, Missouri. Leininger (right) is congratulated by Chaplain Col. David Samf.

The Rev. Gerhard Poschwatta has accepted the call to Temple Baptist Church, Calgary, Alberta, effective September 1, 1987. He has served as pastor of Grace Baptist Church, Kelowna, British Columbia, since 1977.

Denis Friederich of Tripp, South Dakota, was ordained to the Christian ministry at the Memorial Baptist Church, Parkston, South Dakota, on May 3. Rev. Bert Itterman, Sioux Falls, gave the ordination message, and Rev. Richard Mayforth, Parkston, offered the ordination prayer. This is a first-time experience for Memorial Baptist to ordain one of its own men to the Christian Ministry. Friederich is a May 1987 graduate of the North American Baptist Seminary with the degree of Master in Christian Education. He began his ministry as Associate Pastor at Green Baptist Church, Glen Ellen, Illinois, the end of July.

The Rev. Doug Forrester is the new pastor of Beaconfield Baptist Church, Detroit, Michigan. This Church voted recently to ask for membership in the Great Lakes Association.

Mr. Graham Kern accepted the pastorate of the Nokomis and Raymore Baptist Churches effective September 1, 1987. He previously served as associate pastor at Century Meadows Baptist Church, Camrose, Alberta.

Mr. David Soldner, a student at the North American Baptist Seminary, Sioux Falls, South Dakota, is the pastor of Plum Creek Baptist Church, Emery, South Dakota.

Rev. Douglas Radke resigned as pastor of Hollyview Baptist Church, Boring, Oregon, to continue his M.A.

Donated Picnic Shelter Provides Opportunities for Outreach at Getzville Church

GETZVILLE, NY. Bethel Baptist Church is able to increase its outreach and fellowship with a donated picnic shelter. The 70' by 25' shelter, given as a memorial to loved ones by Wilfred Schultz and Eileen Weigand, is located in a parklike setting on newly purchased Church property. In addition, 23 tables were given by 23 people. The shelter is being used for VBS, evening services, family services, and outreach ministries. —*Joanne Colson*

studies in Speech Communications at Portland State University.

The Rev. Siegfried Hoppe accepted the pastorate of Grace Baptist Church, Kelowna, British Columbia, effective the end of September 1987. He has served as pastor of Mission Baptist Church, Winnipeg, Manitoba.

Daniel Branzai is pastor of the Romanian Baptist Church meeting in the Magnolia Baptist Church, Anaheim, California. The Church has 106 members with an attendance of 230.

Rev. Arthur Freitag of Medicine Hat, Alberta, has accepted the call to serve as pastor of First Baptist Church, McLaughlin, North Dakota.

The Rev. Loren Weber resigned as pastor of Temple Baptist Church, Medicine Hat, Alberta, effective July 31, 1987. He is awaiting the Lord's leading to another pastorate.

The Rev. John Neufeld became Associate Pastor at Sunshine Ridge Baptist Church, Surrey, British Columbia, effective September 1, 1987. He previously served as Associate Pastor at Steele Heights Baptist Church, Edmonton, Alberta.

The Rev. Larry Froese becomes pastor of the new church extension work in Devon, Alberta, on September 1, 1987. He has been pastor of Century Meadows Baptist Church, Camrose, Alberta.

in memoriam

ANNA (nee HART) POHL (88), Winnipeg, MB; born March 18, 1898, in Wolhynia; died Feb. 5, 1987; married Johann Pohl who predeceased her in March 1945; immigrated to Canada in 1948; faithful member, Mission Baptist Church, Winnipeg, MB; survived by five sons: Joe, Carl, Harry, Ruben, and Erwin, all of Winnipeg, MB; (two daughters: Adina (Mrs. Edmund Scheibler), Winnipeg, MB; and Erna (Mrs. William Fiks), Minitonas, BC; one daughter-in-law, Edelgard (Mrs. Walter Pohl), Clearbrook, BC; 19 grandchildren; and 12 great-grandchildren; Reverends Siegfried Hoppe and James Leverette, pastors, funeral service.

OLGA EFFA (95), Yorkton, SK; born Feb. 18, 1892, to William and Augustina (nee Gutknecht) Eichorst, in Lepulevak, Poland; died June 17, 1987; married Adolf Effa, who predeceased her in 1976, on June 26, 1914; immigrated to Saskatchewan, Canada in 1920; W.M.F., member, West Ebenezer (SK), Springside (SK), and Central, Yorkton, SK, Baptist churches; predeceased by one son, Ewald, in 1930, and an infant daughter, Joyce, in 1931; survived by two sons: Albert (Martha), Springside, SK; and Harvey (Jean), Fort Qu'Appelle, SK; one daughter Eileen (Mrs. John Minke), Yorkton, SK; 16 grandchildren; 20 great-grandchildren; three brothers: Rudolf Eichorst, Edward (Lori) Eichorst, and Benjamin (Helen) Eichorst; and two sisters: Otilie Webster and Lydia (Mrs. Otto Grill); Reverends Delvin Bertsch and Richard Grabke, pastors, funeral service.

RUDOLF FERCHAU (103), Edmonton, AB; born April 7, 1884, in Borysehewo, Poland; died May 30, 1987; married Martha Platt, April 29, 1913; member, Zion Baptist Community Church, Edmonton, AB; survived by five children: Frieda Ferchau, Edmonton, AB; Gerhard (Anni), U.S.A.; Maria (Mrs. Robert Steinhauer), Victoria, AB; Felix (Hilde), Edmonton, AB; and Erich (Waltraut), Edmonton, AB; his daughter-in-law Wanda, Germany; 12 grandchildren; and 3 great-grandchildren; Reverends Henry Goliath and Ernest Hoffmann, pastors, funeral service.

JACOB C. FISCHER (96), Aberdeen, SD; born Dec. 7, 1890, to Christian and Frieda (Drefts) Fischer in McPherson County, SD; died May 20, 1987; married Lydia Schauer, Oct. 27, 1914, who predeceased him Dec. 25, 1962; married Johanna Ehley, December 1963; deacon, trustee, Sunday school teacher, Baptist Brotherhood member, charter member, and one of the founding members, Calvary Baptist Church, Aberdeen, SD; predeceased by two sons, one daughter, two brothers, and one sister; survived by his wife Johanna; one son, Albert, Brooklyn Park, MN; three

daughters: Alice (Mrs. Milton Schrenk), Aberdeen, SD; Helen (Mrs. Jacob Ehman), Milwaukee, WI; and Esther (Mrs. Ray Hofman), Jamestown, ND; 10 grandchildren; 16 great-grandchildren; four brothers: Carl, David, Sam, and Emanuel; and one sister, Magdaline Haux; Reverends Robert Klein and Jacob Ehman, pastors, funeral service.

CHARLES FUHRMAN (80), Carrington, ND; born Sept. 14, 1906, to George and Charlotte (Shelske) Fuhrmann; died May 22, 1987; married Lillian Edinger, Oct. 11, 1941; member, trustee, Calvary Baptist Church, Carrington, ND; predeceased by two sisters and one grandson; survived by his wife Lillian; two daughters: Sharon (Mrs. E. W. Lentz), Circle, MT; and Marjorie (Mrs. Dan West), Montclair, CA; five granddaughters; five brothers; and five sisters; Reverends Dan Berger and N.E. McCoy, pastors, funeral service.

LEONA JANOT (75), Prince George, BC; born Dec. 11, 1911, to Johann and Bertha Batke in Zezulin, Poland; died May 16, 1987; married Leslie Janot in 1928 who predeceased her in August 1964; member, Bethel Baptist Church, Prince George, BC; predeceased by one son, Sivio, in 1968; survived by one son, Manfred, Prince George, BC; one daughter, Giesela (Mrs. Victor Vogler), Kelowna, BC; 8 grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren; Rev. Arthur Schlak, pastor, funeral service.

MRS. JOHN (KATIE) JERKE (82), Ashley, ND; born April 25, 1905, to Mr. and Mrs. Fred Wolf, near Ashley, ND; died June 16, 1987; married John Jerke in 1936; member, Ashley (ND) Baptist Church; survived by her husband John; and one sister, Mary (Mrs. Gideon Frey), Lehr, ND; Rev. Allan Gerber, pastor, funeral service.

WANDA (ROSSOL) SCHIENKA (90), Detroit, MI; born Nov. 14, 1896, in Kondracj, Poland; died June 8, 1987; married Ferdinand Schienke, Feb. 4, 1920; immigrated with six children to the U.S.A.; active member, Connors Ave. Ridgmont Baptist Church; survived by six children: Alfred, Elfrieda (Mrs. Rudolf Lindner), Oskar, Reinhard, Olga (Mrs. Fred Klein), and Gerhard; 14 grandchildren; 17 great-grandchildren; one brother, Emil Rossol; and one sister, Adeline Schulz; Reverends Douglas Timm and Herbert Hiller, pastors, funeral service.

EDWARD STRAUSS (84), Chilliwack, BC; born Feb. 6, 1903, in Tschernoglasovka, Russia; died June 13, 1987; immigrated to Canada (Yorkton/Springside Area, SK) in 1928; member, deacon, Sunday school, choir; Evergreen Baptist Church, Chilliwack, BC; predeceased by three brothers and four sisters; survived by his wife Frieda; two daughters:

Regena (Mrs. Jack Friesen), Chilliwack, BC; and Gertie (Mrs. Dale Cuthbertson), Chilliwack, BC; and four grandchildren; Rev. Len Strelau, pastor, funeral service.

DAVID SCHROEDER (82), Olds, AB; born Oct. 10, 1904, to Zacharias and Anna (Schmidt) Schroeder in Deutsch Wymyschle, Poland; died April 9, 1987; married Frieda Ratzlaff, May 12, 1928; immigrated to Canada in August 1928; faithful member, East Olds Baptist Church, Olds, AB; predeceased by an infant daughter, one brother, and two sisters; survived by his wife Frieda; three sons: Walter, Olds, AB; Harry, Calgary, AB; and Albert, Calgary, AB; one daughter, Anne Thompson, Edmonton, AB; five grandsons; and two sisters; Reverends J. Wollenberg and R. White, pastors, funeral service.

ELMER M. SCHAUER (66), Wishek, ND; born March 18, 1921, in Logan Co., ND; died May 20, 1987; married Irene Bender, Nov. 27, 1949; member, First Baptist Church, Wishek, ND; predeceased by his father, 10 sisters, and three brothers; survived by his wife Irene; his mother, Amelia Schauer, Wishek, ND; one daughter, Karen Handel, Christiansburg, VA; six sons: Bruce, Wishek, ND; Jeff, Wishek, ND; Russ, Wadena, MN; Randy, Fargo, ND; Kendall, Ione, WA; and Jody, Fargo, ND; five grandchildren; one sister, Verna Klein; and three brothers: Bert, Ted, and Milton; Rev. Gordon Huisinga, pastor, funeral service.

Memorial Service for Missionary Held in Salem Church

SALEM, OR. On May 3, Riviera Baptist Church gave a tribute service for the homegoing of Missionary Sylvia Reischke Auch, who was a former member of this Church. Her two sisters, Irma Reischke and Stella Harmon, her close friend, Lois Rand, and Pastor Perry Kallis, Salt Creek Baptist Church, participated in the service.

Young Teens Have Exciting Program Planned in Calgary 1988



All young teens are going to want to be in Calgary for the 42nd Triennial Conference of North American Baptist Churches, July 26 through July 31, 1988. From the minute the Conference begins to the closing activities, exciting activities are planned. Morning activities especially for young teens and a special shirt with our theme, "Out of the Chutes," are awaiting you. The young teens registration is \$20.00 in Canadian Funds.

Each morning will contain a time of getting acquainted and a challenge from Pastor Allen Kjesbo. The morning themes will center around "Out of the Chutes." Allen Kjesbo has something special to share with young teens. Not only will he share relevant truths that will strengthen teens in their walk with God, he will also share a love for them. In doing this, he will help them know that they are special and important members of the Kingdom of God. Together with the young teens' sponsors, Allen wants all young teens attending to know God's love in many ways. The week together is committed to demonstrating God's love to teens through all the activities and the relationships built between peers and their sponsors.

As young teens "Come Out of the Chutes," Allen believes it will be God's love in their lives that makes a difference. "We all know that life isn't always smooth sailing," says Allen. "The picture of a rodeo will provide many good illustrations for us. Sometimes the life for young teens resembles that of a bull rider when it seems at times everyone is out to get them. The Bible speaks to those kinds of pressures, and the time together with the young teens will give the youth a grip on their lives and the support to keep hanging on."



"As young teens 'Come Out of the Chutes,' I believe it will be God's love in their lives that makes a difference. We all know that life is not always smooth sailing. Our time together will help youth set a grip on their lives and the support to keep hanging on." - Allen Kjesbo

A full schedule of day trips will capture the excitement and the enthusiasm of young teens. Young teens should bring their swimming suits because Wednesday the teens are off to a great wave pool for "Surf Sensation." This will be a fun time of swimming, surfing, and a time in the sun to get acquainted with other young teens from all across North America.

No one knows the fun that will be waiting for the youth as they go on a Safari Scavenger Hunt. This will include a trip to the Calgary Zoo and more. Calgary hosts one of the finest zoos in Canada, and it will be even more fun with hundreds of N.A.B. Conference young teens.

"Friday, we will tackle a modern rodeo of sorts as we spend the afternoon at Callaway Park," says Allen. "There the teens can ride amusement rides that would have made the cowboys of old turn white."

On Saturday, young teens will sample the cowboys' life at its finest as the day is fully given to a wilderness Western Adventure. There will be horseback riding, rodeo events for the brave at heart, and authentic Western entertainment.

Young teens love being together. Come and join the celebration of life with hundreds of young teens as they prepare to come "Out of the Chutes." □

Allen Kjesbo was most recently youth pastor at Meadowlark Baptist Church, Edmonton, Alberta. He is now from Sioux Falls, South Dakota.



what's happening

Mr. Richard Gills of Maywood, Illinois, became the part-time youth director at First Baptist Church, Bellwood, Illinois, on June 1. He is employed full-time as a truant officer at Proviso East High School in Maywood.



The Rev. Adolph Braun (left) was honored for ten years of service at Sunkist Baptist Church, Anaheim, California, at a reception. Leonard Justus, (right) moderator, expressed appreciation on behalf of the church.

Dr. J. Gordon Harris, academic dean at the North American Baptist Seminary, Sioux Falls, South Dakota, has been selected for promotion to the rank of Major as an Army Reserve Chaplain. He participated in active duty for training at the Chaplains' School in June.

Mr. Scott J. MacDonald was installed as pastor of Tri-Community Baptist Church, Elk Grove Village, Illinois, on June 28, 1987. He is from Lodi, California, and a 1987 graduate of the North American Baptist Seminary, Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

The Rev. Raymond Dickau retired as chaplain at the Central Baptist Home, Norridge, Illinois, where he has served for the past 10 years. Prior to that he served as pastor of the following North American Baptist Conference churches: Venturia, North Dakota, 1949-57; Calvary, Parkersburg, Iowa, 1957-69; Grace, West Fargo, North Dakota, 1969-73; and East Side, Chicago, Illinois, 1973-77.

The Rev. R. I. Thompson completed his interim ministry at First Baptist Church, Steamboat Rock, Iowa, on June 30, 1987. He begins an interim ministry at First Baptist Church, Sumner, Iowa, on August 1, 1987.

The Rev. Walter L. Weber resigned from the pastorate of First Baptist Church, Eureka, South Dakota, effective July 12, 1987, after serving there

for nine and three-fourths years, to retire. Mrs. Weber and he will be retiring in Hillsboro, Kansas. He is available for pulpit supply and interim pastorates in that area. He served six North American Baptist Conference churches during his 35 and one-half years of ministry: Bethel, Ingersoll, Oklahoma, 1952-54; First of Dickinson County, Elmo, Kansas, 1954-59; Canaan, Crawford, Texas, 1959-63; First, Underwood, North Dakota, 1963-69; West Side, Beatrice, Nebraska, 1969-77; and First, Eureka, South Dakota, 1977-87.

The Rev. James Derman of Calvary Baptist Church, Stafford, Kansas, married Dawn Kruse of White, South Dakota, on June 28, 1987.

Mr. Ray Harris is part-time Minister of Music at Ebenezer Baptist Church, Vancouver, British Columbia, and a student at Regent College.

Martin Schmidt became pastor of Bethel Baptist Church, Cherokee, Oklahoma, effective July 5, 1987. He is a 1986 graduate of the North American Baptist Seminary, Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

Mr. Marlin Mohrman became interim pastor of Creston Baptist Church, Creston, Nebraska, on June 7, 1987. He previously served as Associate Pastor at the Bible Fellowship Church of Tulsa, Oklahoma.

The Rev. Loren Franchuk was installed as pastor of Calvary Baptist Church, Carrington, North Dakota, July 1, 1987. Rev. Ralph Cooke, area minister, was guest speaker.

Mr. Doug Schultz, a recent graduate of the North American Baptist College and Divinity School, has accepted the call as Director of Church Ministries at the Rowandale Baptist Church, Winnipeg, Manitoba, effective June 1, 1987.

Rev. Ed Quillin became Associate Pastor of Music and Family Ministries at First Baptist Church, Lodi, California, effective July 14, 1987.

Rev. Dale Fuchs is the new Associate Pastor of Ministries Department at Grace Baptist Church, Grand Forks, North Dakota. He is a former missionary to Cameroon.

Mr. Dale Hufnagel is youth pastor at Westland Baptist Church, Edmonton, Alberta, since August 1986.

Mr. Lloyd Harsch became pastor of First Baptist Church, Durham, Kansas, in July.

Mr. Gary McClenthen and Tami Parkhurst, a member of Bethel Baptist Church, Getzville, New York, where Gary is Associate Pastor, were married on June 13.

The Rev. Charles Davis, a student at North American Baptist Seminary, Sioux Falls, South Dakota, has accepted the pastorate of First Baptist Church of Emery, South Dakota, effective August 1, 1987. He has been serving this Church as interim pastor and youth director since February 1987.

Mr. Harry E. Anderson, Minister of Christian Education and Youth, was ordained by Faith Baptist Church, Minneapolis, Minnesota, on June 7, 1987. The Rev. Eldon Schroeder, his father-in-law, of Grace Baptist Church, Carpentersville, Illinois, gave the ordination sermon; with Rev. Ruben Herrmann, the charge to the church; Rev. Harvey Mehlhaff, the charge to the candidate and prayer of ordination, and Dr. Frank Veninga, welcome to the ministry.

The Rev. Wilmer Quiring began serving as interim pastor of Bethel Baptist Church, Missoula, Montana, effective August 1, 1987.

Mr. Richard Libby is serving as interim pastor of Grace Baptist Church, Ochre River, Manitoba.

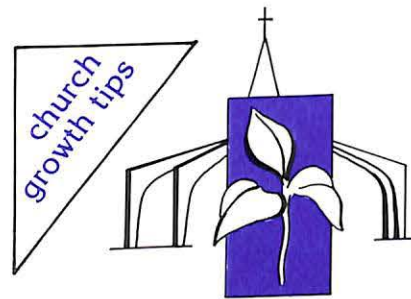
The Rev. Helmut Strauss became the pastor of Grace Baptist Church, Medicine Hat, Alberta, effective August 23, 1987. He has been pastor of Fort Richmond Baptist Church, Winnipeg, Manitoba.

The Rev. Myrl Thiesies has accepted the call of the Palouse Federated Church of Palouse, Washington, effective July 1, 1987. He formerly served as pastor of the Odessa Baptist Church in Washington.

The Rev. Edward Klingenberg, formerly pastor of College Heights Baptist Church, Prince George, British Columbia, became pastor of an independent church in Alberta on August 1, 1987.

The Rev. Ben Hulsing became pastor of Willow Rancho Baptist Church on August 16, 1987. He previously served as Director of Ministry Recruitment at the North American Baptist Seminary,

(Continued on page 26)



Concepts for Effective Church Growth

Let's talk about seven foundational concepts that are important to be a growing church.

Obedience to the Great Commission is God's plan for Church Growth to take place. The greater the commitment of the church members to the Great Commission, the greater the growth will be in that church. While it is possible for Church Growth to happen through a variety of methods, growth that has a lasting and continual effect comes about because believers are OBEДИENT to the GREAT COMMISSION.

A process of growth is more fruitful than an event. A well-thought-through plan coordinates all ministries of the church. The

result is that all that takes place in the church is related to and carries out the purpose of the church. Evangelism is then an activity and characteristic of every aspect of church life, not just an event.

A holistic approach to growth is more fruitful than a fragmented approach.

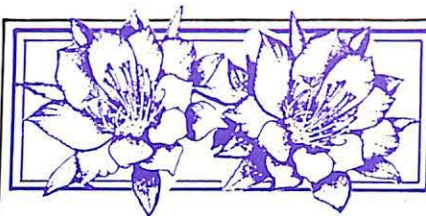
Growth plans based on accurate information are more fruitful than guessing. A church that knows itself and its community, as a result of gathering and keeping good records, is able to make plans that result in growth.

The use of effective growth resources will enhance the results. With a wealth of resources available, it is important to secure and use those that will cause your church to grow.

Growth demands accountability.

Different size churches grow in different ways. Arlin J. Rothauge says in his book, *Sizing Up Congregations*, "Any size church is the right size, and any size church can attract and assimilate new members." □

Ray Harsch
Acting Church Growth Director



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Help Plant a Church!



Hunger in Mozambique

Although drought has played a major part in the famine which grips Mozambique, civil strife is now the major cause of the hunger crisis. The war has disrupted the lives of millions of the population. It is now estimated that at least one third of the population is in danger of starvation. Farming has been disrupted. Many farmers have moved to the towns and cities for shelter and safety, joining the estimated 1.8 million displaced people within the country. The main transportation routes within the country have been cut making it virtually impossible to distribute food supplies to the hungry people.

Almost half a million people have fled Mozambique and are seeking shelter and food in neighboring countries.

Earlier this year, the Baptists in Zimbabwe, using funds supplied by Baptist World Aid purchased 20 metric tons of beans, which they were able to distribute to hungry people in Mozambique. Attempts are underway to try to take food to starving people in the country, but travel outside the main centers is hazardous. Negotiations are continuing to seek ways and means of helping to provide food supplies for the people at risk.

Plans are now underway to provide food and shelter for the refugees who have left the country and who are now living across the borders in Zimbabwe, Malawi, Tanzania, and South Africa. There are many problems in settling that many people in areas where food, water, shelter, medical, and other services are not

are not readily available.

Baptists are already involved in ministering to the people as they arrive in camps and refugee centers. Food and emergency supplies are being distributed. The program will continue for sometime to come. Please send funds designated to support the Mozambique Relief Project to Baptist World Aid, North American Baptist Conference, 1 South 210 Summit Avenue, Oakbrook Terrace, Illinois 60181.

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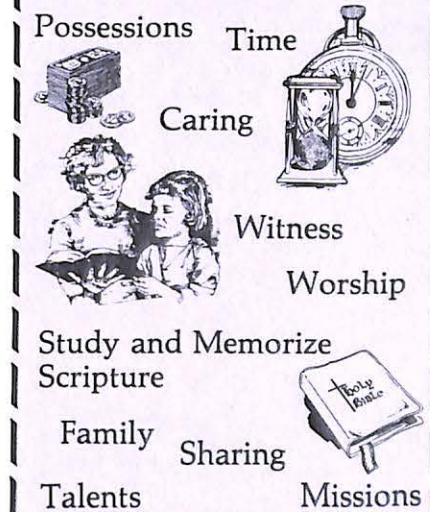
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Date of birth _____

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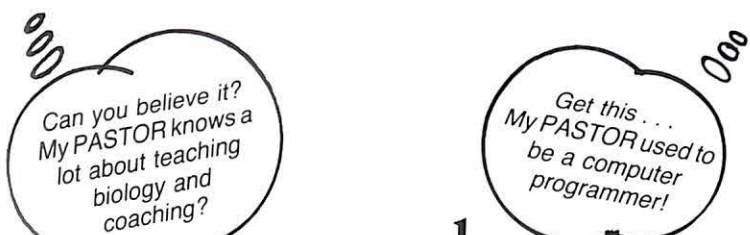
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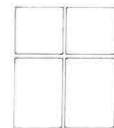
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